

**A Summary of Two Interviews with Pastor
Daniel Malchow**

**CH 3031
Peter Korthals
12/13/2004**

[This paper is a summary of the material that was covered in my two interviews with Pastor Daniel Malchow at his home in Waukesha, WI on October 30, 2004 and December 4, 2004.]

The first interview with Pastor Malchow focused on his years of service in various synodical schools, including: Northwestern Prep, Northwestern Lutheran Academy, and Martin Luther Prep School. Pastor Malchow received the call to Northwestern Prep in 1955 after being out in the ministry only three short years. He was understandably nervous at the start of his professorship at Northwestern Prep. He would now be a colleague with many men whom he had sat at the feet of as a student. Pastor Malchow realized he was only eleven years older than some of his students. This had its advantages and disadvantages. The advantage was he could easily relate to the students, since he was a relatively young man at the time. But on the other hand, he worried about gaining the students' respect since he lacked in maturity and experience when compared to the other professors.

Pastor Malchow admitted that nothing from his Northwestern College or Seminary years really prepared him to teach high school students. But the Lord in his wisdom did prepare Pastor Malchow for his future service in our synod's high schools. In October of his junior year at the Seminary, Pastor Malchow was asked to teach and coach basketball at Winnebago Lutheran Academy (WLA). The teacher who served as basketball coach at WLA took a call at the beginning of the school year, so they needed someone who could step in to fill that void. This was a very valuable experience for Pastor Malchow and would prove to be useful for him in the not too distant future.

Pastor Malchow served at Northwestern Prep (NPS) until 1960. He described his years at Northwestern as being very enjoyable and yet very, very busy. Not only did he have a full teaching load, but he also coached year round. He coached Prep football in the fall, Northwestern College basketball in the winter, and Prep baseball in the spring. Also during his years at Northwestern he served as a class advisor, he was asked to go out as a guest speaker, and he filled a vacancy in Janesville, WI. Pastor Malchow was also busy at home with three young children. And in his final year at NPS his first wife was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, which led to some unusual and difficult living arrangements while his wife received treatment. But overall Pastor Malchow has a great fondness when he looks back on the years he served as a professor at his own alma mater.

After NPS Pastor Malchow served in two different parishes, one was in Caledonia, MN from 1960-1964 and another at St. Lucas in Milwaukee from 1964-1968. Then in 1968 he accepted the call to serve as president at Northwestern Lutheran Academy (NLA) in Mobridge, SD. In recounting this time in his life there were a number of factors that led Pastor Malchow to accept this call. One factor was that NLA had been calling for a president for two years already when he finally received the call. And this was also the second time he had been called by NLA. The first time he received the call he was in the hospital for an inflammation of his stomach lining. Obviously, he was in no condition to accept this call so he returned it. When he received the second call from NLA he thought to himself, "Maybe the Lord is trying to tell me something." After consulting with many brothers in the ministry, the Holy Spirit led him to accept the call.

One of the main topics in this interview with Pastor Malchow was the circumstances surrounding the closing of NLA. But before that matter is discussed, there

seemed to be some confusion on the purpose of NLA. Was it primarily a Christian high school, or was it one of our synod's feeder schools for worker training? Pastor Malchow believes NLA started out primarily as a high school that provided a Christian education for the people of the Dakota-Montana district. However, he also stated that this didn't mean they wouldn't encourage students to train for the ministry or that the classes needed to enter the ministry weren't offered. The formation of NLA was a result of "the Moussa Report" given at the 1927 synodical convention. In this report, they encouraged the building of more high schools, not only to provide more students for the ministry, but also to provide the laity with a solid Christian education. So Pastor Malchow's answer does appear to agree with the original purpose for starting NLA. However, he does think the original purpose of the school did change over the years. The school was aware of its role that it could and did send students to Northwestern College. But over the years the number of students who did continue on in ministerial education was almost nonexistent (cf. Addendum #1).

Pastor Malchow gave a number of factors, which in his mind contributed to the closing of NLA. One was the position of the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) that our synodical schools should strive to be a worker training school. He felt this view came about because of the large number of area Lutheran high schools that were opening. Pastor Malchow believes that at this time people began to see our synodical schools primarily as training schools for ministerial education. And as a result more pressure was put on the synodical schools to produce students who were training for the ministry. NLA was only putting out one or two students a year who continued on in their ministerial education. Another factor, which was also caused by the development of area Lutheran

high schools, was a lower enrollment. At one time, NLA received a substantial number of its students from the Pacific Northwest district, the Arizona-California district, and the Nebraska district. But with the emergence of schools like Evergreen Lutheran High School, California Lutheran High School, Arizona Lutheran High School and Nebraska Lutheran High School, the number of students NLA received from these districts declined dramatically (cf. Addendum #2). Another factor that only added to this problem was the lack of interest in NLA from families within the Dakota-Montana district. Pastor Malchow gave a personal opinion on the reason why this was happening. The Dakota-Montana district is made up of many small communities. The high schools in these small communities were often the pride and joy of these communities. They didn't want to see kids from their communities going to other high schools. So there seemed to be a lot of pressure to send your child to the local public high school. This then goes back to one of the original reasons why NLA was founded, to provide a Christian high school education for the people of the Dakota-Montana district. Unfortunately they didn't appear to make much of an effort to support NLA. This, of course, could not be said about the entire district but it did seem to be the prevailing spirit of the district as was evident by the number of children they sent to NLA.

This lack of support for the district's academy could also be seen in the people's response to the talk of closing the academy that was floating around. In the fall of 1978 the CHE said they were going to bring a report to the synod that recommended closing NLA. Upon hearing this President Malchow suggested trying to gain direct support from the Dakota-Montana district in order to keep NLA open. But he was greatly disappointed when he placed this proposal before the people of the district. For the most part there was

no enthusiasm in the district or evidence that they were interested in directly supporting NLA.

Right about this time, it started to become very evident that NLA would not be able to keep its doors open much longer. A number of professors from NLA's faculty began taking calls. And when President Malchow put in the request for calls to replace them, the Conference of Presidents told him they couldn't call anyone to NLA under these conditions, with the possibility of the academy closing. Soon it became obvious with all these professors taking calls that the school was going to close. At the end of the 1978 school year, the faculty of NLA consisted of one tutor and two professors, one of whom was President Malchow. With only three teachers for the next school year, there was no way they could keep the school open.

Unfortunately many of the people in Mobridge did not look at all these factors as the reason for NLA closing, rather they blamed President Malchow and held him personally responsible. This skewed view of the reason why NLA closed came about in part because of four men from Mobridge. These four men hopped on a private plane and flew to Watertown for the convention that summer in hope of saving NLA. At the convention a sub-committee had been put together to deal with the matter of NLA. When President Malchow took the floor to discuss the matter, he plainly said that under the current conditions there was no way they could enter into another school year. They could not run a school with one tutor and two professors. Where would they get the personnel they needed before the start of the school year that fall. When those four men from Mobridge heard this, they said nothing. They got on their plane flew back to Mobridge and told the people that President Malchow had closed the school. As a result,

many people felt he sold out on the academy. There were many bitter feelings. When President Malchow and his family attended church hardly anyone would talk to them. The people were obviously upset about losing NLA, which had been sort of the hub of their district. Unfortunately they made President Malchow their scapegoat and blamed him for the school's demise.

But lest anyone should think Pastor Malchow has only hurt feelings when he thinks about NLA, he did recall a number of positive things regarding his years at NLA. In his own words he thought NLA was a "great school". He was very happy to report that three of his daughters, who had attended and graduated from NLA, received an outstanding education. Pastor Malchow also spoke highly of his colleagues on the NLA faculty. He referred to them as an excellent faculty and wonderful people to work with. Finally, he has fond memories of the close-knit student body, which was proud of their school and continues to get together for reunions.

Pastor Malchow then took the call in 1980 to serve as a professor at our synod's new prep school, Martin Luther Preparatory School (MLPS) in Prairie du Chien, WI. But before he moved to Prairie du Chien he stayed in Mobridge an extra six months to tie up the loose ends with closing the academy. However, during those six months he and his wife, Ruth, made a number of trips to Prairie du Chien to watch their son, Phil, play football.

The atmosphere around this new campus was, for the most part, exciting. The faculty and students enjoyed their new, larger campus with its bigger buildings. Adding to this excitement was the MLPS football team, who won the state championship in their first year of existence. But along with this excitement there were also some feelings of

disappointment. In those early years of MLPS, there was a distinction made between the students of NLA and those of Martin Luther Academy (MLA) from New Ulm, MN. It was made clear that MLA had moved to this new campus, but NLA had closed.

Therefore, the NLA students were sometimes looked at as “add-ons”. All the athletic records from MLA were retained at MLPS, but the NLA records were discarded.

Obviously, there was some tension between the students from the two different schools. I can appreciate those tensions having experienced a similar situation myself when MLPS and Northwestern Prep amalgamated to form Luther Prep. However, even though these feelings of loyalty towards my old school may always remain with me, a loyalty towards my new school did develop.

Finally, at the end of this first interview Pastor Malchow was asked this question regarding the current worries surrounding our prep schools: “During your years of service in our synodical high schools you were involved in the closing of a synodical school as well as the opening of a new prep school. How do our current questions and concerns with keeping both of our prep schools open compare to those in the 1970’s? What do you see as the answer to our problem?” Pastor Malchow initially answered by saying, “I wish I had a solution.”

Pastor Malchow believes our current situation today is much more serious than ever before. In the 1970’s the closing of NLA, even though it was difficult for him, had no major affect on the ministerial education of our synod. But closing one of our current prep schools, he believes, could have an impact that would reach far into the future.

Once again he wishes he would have an answer. But just because Pastor Malchow doesn’t have the answer, doesn’t mean he has no suggestions. What he sees as the main

problem is finances. He was bold enough to share his “pipe dream” of how to save our prep schools. Pastor Malchow pointed out that Wisconsin Lutheran College and many area Lutheran high schools receive direct support from individuals or conferences. As a result of this support, the schools are self-sufficient and usually have rather nice campuses, or facilities. The synodical schools, however, have never had direct support. If we would start offering direct support to our synodical schools there might be a problem with competition among our synodical schools to convince the wealthy WELS members that they should contribute to their school. Obviously, there would need to be some organization if something like this was to be set up. Pastor Malchow also pointed out that the logical man to begin something like this is the president of the school. In public colleges and institutions, the primary duty of the president is to promote the school and raise money for the school. Pastor Malchow believes that President Wendland would have no problem receiving financial support for Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary if he went out and asked people for it. But he does think the prep schools would have a more difficult time getting support this way.

The second interview focused on Pastor Malchow’s work in the administration building for the Wisconsin Synod from 1982 until his retirement in 2001. His first call to the Synod Administration Building landed him as the director of a large WELS funding effort, which was titled “Reaching Out”. Pastor Malchow had no previous experience in stewardship programs on the synod level before this call and felt a bit overwhelmed. He admitted he wouldn’t have taken the call if they hadn’t assured him that he would be receiving help from an outside source. The outside source was a professional consultant

company based in New York called Community Counseling Service, Inc. (CCS). This company provided Pastor Malchow with the methodology, organization and structure that would be needed for this large undertaking, as well as many training materials and a set schedule to follow.

CCS was a Catholic based institution, which caused eyebrows to be raised among some pastors in the WELS. There were a number of concerns that were brought up by some pastors, one such concern was gospel motivation. A number of pastors were concerned that this business company would be encouraging our members to give based on law motivation. Pastor Malchow and the other men who served on the Reaching Out board took these matters into consideration, but assured the pastors that they would review all material given to them before distributing it among the congregations, and assured them that this entire program would be gospel based. As Pastor Malchow hinted at, there always seem to be people who feel there is not enough gospel in any of the stewardship programs our synod puts out.

Others wondered if Reaching Out was only interested in the rich members of the WELS, since the poor wouldn't be able to give a lot. But this was not the case at all. Reaching Out wanted all WELS members to think carefully about how the Lord has blessed them, and then to give what they could towards this offering. Pastor Malchow provided a concrete example of including the less wealthy in this offering, when President Carl Mischke visited a less fortunate family and explained the program to them and asked them to give what they could.

Another concern that stemmed from the use of CCS was whether or not they were manipulating people to give. We were working with a professional business company

who knew all the tricks in the book to get people to give. Pastor Malchow assured these concerned pastors that if any of their members felt manipulated to give toward the offering they should contact him. He would then personally call or write these people, apologize, and offer to refund the money they had given toward the offering. Pastor Malchow was happy to report that this never happened throughout the duration of the Reaching Out program.

Another issue that caused alarm among some members of the synod was the cost of hiring a professional consultant company. Imagine telling people that you were going to spend \$400,000 to hire a company who would help you set up a large-scale capital funds offering to ease the synod's current financial problems. They might laugh in your face, or say, "You must be kidding!"

Finally, there was just a lack of belief that this program could be successful. Pastor Malchow commented that many people expressed their sympathy towards him for receiving this call. They felt he had received a call that had no chance of being successful. A number of WELS pastors and laymen seemed to write off Reaching Out as a failure before it was even underway. But the Lord showed that he is the one who is in control of all things. He moved his people to reflect the love of their Savior by responding to the Reaching Out offering with the biggest fund raising effort on record in the WELS. When thinking back on the success of this program, Pastor Malchow says, "This was a miracle!" Given all the doubts people had and concerns about the methodology, the fact that this program was faithfully carried out in a God-pleasing way and was as successful as it was, was truly a miracle from God.

An amazing part of the Reaching Out program was the complex structure that was put in place. Literally thousands of WELS pastors and laymen were involved in this immense undertaking. This structure takes on the shape of a pyramid with the Reaching Out Steering Committee at the top. Underneath the Steering Committee was a group of ten District Directors. At the time of the Reaching Out program there were only ten districts in the WELS, so each district was represented with a District Director. The District Directors were laymen who were appointed by the District President and were responsible for activity in their district. Underneath the ten District Directors was a group of ten Directors of Education and Inspiration. The original title that CCS gave to this position was Directors of Education and Motivation, but wisely we changed that red-letter word “motivation” to “inspiration”. The Directors of Education and Inspiration received information and then distributed that information to the congregations in their district and tried to add some “district flavor” to the information. There was also a National Director of Education and Inspiration who was in charge of producing materials for Sunday services, which shared information about Reaching Out in the service and the sermon. Underneath the Directors of Education and Inspiration were fifty-four Area Directors. These Area Directors covered areas that are comparable to our current conferences. Both laymen and pastors served as Area Directors. Underneath the Area Directors were 202 Action Group Directors. The Action Group Directors were responsible for keeping an eye on five or six congregations. And finally each congregation had a layman, and of course the pastor, to oversee the gathering of the offering in each congregation. Wow! You can see why a WELS pastor might feel overwhelmed to take on a call like Director of Reaching Out on his own. This is why

Pastor Malchow was very grateful for the help of CCS in setting up the Reaching Out program.

Pastor Malchow's role in the Reaching Out program was largely occupied with reviewing and editing the constant stream of materials he was receiving from CCS. He saw this as a very important job, because he was the only line of defense that kept any unscriptural material from getting to our congregations. Pastor Malchow was constantly worrying that a tract or some training materials would get by him that went against the biblical doctrine of stewardship. He prayed every night that the Lord would help him in this task. Pastor Malchow was thankful to the Lord that he never received a complaint that such materials had slipped by him unnoticed. Another important role he played throughout the gathering of the offering was producing monthly updates that informed the members of how much money was gathered, and how the money was being used. The monthly updates will be discussed more in depth later on.

The results of the Reaching Out program were immense. Pages could be filled with all the buildings that were constructed as a result of this offering. Instead I will offer a summary of the dollar amounts given to various fields of ministry. First, it should be noted that almost all of the money went to building projects, which was really the purpose for the program. However, some money did go to pay off all the synod's short-term, high interest loans (cf. Addendum #3, pg. 3). The rest of the money was divided up between four different building funds: \$8,000,000 to the Church Extension Fund, \$6,536,000 to Educational Institution Building Fund, \$3,464,000 to Educational Development Fund, and \$2,000,000 to World Mission Building Fund. In all the Reaching Out offering brought in over \$21,000,000 which was more than double the original goal.

So why was this program such a large success? Pastor Malchow stressed the working of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of the members. The Holy Spirit working through the gospel led the people to find joy in giving towards the ministry of the church. When many pastors are afraid to talk about money from the pulpit, this offering can serve as an example of the Holy Spirit's work through the gospel to make God's people cheerful givers. Another minor factor that Pastor Malchow saw as beneficial towards this program was once again the complex structure that was in place. There were people who were responsible in every district for keeping on top of the congregations. Also the CCS men stayed on top of our leaders to keep on schedule, Pastor Malchow referred to them kindly as "naggers". Something else that he saw as beneficial and that the people seemed to appreciate was that a thank you letter was mailed to the person after the gift was received along with another envelope for their next offering. This not only showed the synod's appreciation for the gift, but also then reminded the people to give another offering. Another factor was that the people could see their money in action. Every month Pastor Malchow was responsible for putting out an update that informed the congregations of what the collected money was being used for (cf. Addendum #4). The final update that was sent out for Reaching Out does a good job of summarizing the purpose for these monthly updates:

This then concludes the Reaching Out updates that have gone out over the past several years. There were thirty-seven in all. We pray that they were informative and that they demonstrated the marvelous way in which God has used our offerings for his glory and for the extension of his kingdom. Reaching Out has enriched us. We pray for all those who will be enriched through its fruits! (cf. Addendum #4, January 1987 update)

Pastor Malchow personally believes these updates helped the members to continue giving their pledges, and to give above and beyond their pledges as the people saw on a regular basis the fruits of this offering.

Another position in which Pastor Malchow served, was the Stewardship Counselor for the WELS. He made sure a stewardship program was put out every year. When asked, "How many congregations actually used these programs at that time," he guessed, "less than fifty percent". Pastor Malchow saw this as being very unfortunate. The problem is many pastors do not like to talk about money, especially from the pulpit.

Near the end of this second interview, Pastor Malchow was asked, "Do you think our financial problems are due to social issues of our time, or is the problem directly connected to our people's giving?" He stated that our people are not hard up for money. The Lord has blessed our people very richly. The problem is they feel they need all this "stuff", the latest gadgets or the newest cars, and giving to the church then gets the leftovers.

Finally Pastor Malchow gave a possible solution to get our synod out of debt. He noted that these financial problems appeared quite unexpectedly for our laymen, the pastors and even the administration building. He feels the administration building had to make the cuts they did because they saw no other possible solution. But could more be done? Yes. However, we can't leave it with the vague and general suggestion that something needs to be done, and then not give a specific plan of action. Pastor Malchow believes many WELS people are becoming frustrated because nothing is being done. But in spite of all this, he commented on how richly the Lord continues to bless us as he has in the past.

Overall Pastor Malchow had a very diverse ministry (cf. Addendum #5). He served not only as a parish pastor, but also as a professor for our synod's schools, and finally he served a number of positions in the WELS administration building. The Lord has truly blessed him with many gifts, and the Lord also made ample use of those gifts. I thoroughly enjoyed hearing Pastor Malchow's numerous experiences and was encouraged by the joy in his voice and the tears in his eyes as he shared them with me.

Addendum #1

NLA Graduates - 2

| | <u>Number of Graduates</u> | <u>Entered NWC</u> | <u>Entered DMLC</u> | <u>Became Pastors</u> | <u>Became Teachers</u> |
|------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1932 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1933 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1934 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1935 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1936 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 1937 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1938 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1939 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1940 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1941 | <u>6</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> |
| | 47 | 11 | 2 | 9 | 2 |
| | | Ave.-1 | Ave.-0.2 | Ave.-1 | Ave.-0.2 |
| 1942 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1943 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1944 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1945 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 1946 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1947 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1948 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| 1949 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 1950 | 13 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 1951 | <u>9</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| | 88 | 8 | 14 | 3 | 2 |
| | | Ave.-1 | Ave.-2 | Ave.-0.3 | Ave.-0.2 |
| 1952 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| 1953 | 16 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| 1954 | 15 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 |
| 1955 | 16 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| 1956 | 21 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 0 |
| 1957 | 16 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| 1958 | 25 | 2 | 9 | 2 | 2 |
| 1959 | 17 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| 1960 | 23 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| 1961 | <u>14</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> |
| | 174 | 14 | 58 | 12 | 8 |
| | | Ave.-2 | Ave.-6 | Ave.-1 | Ave.-1 |

| | <u>Number of Graduates</u> | <u>Entered NWC</u> | <u>Entered DMLC</u> | <u>Became Pastors</u> | <u>Became Teachers</u> |
|------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1962 | 14 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 1 |
| 1963 | 24 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 5 |
| 1964 | 15 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 3 |
| 1965 | 13 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 1966 | 18 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 5 |
| 1967 | 17 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| 1968 | 20 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 3 |
| 1969 | 20 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 1970 | 23 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 1971 | <u>18</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> |
| | 182 | 13 | 60 | 11 | 24 |
| | | Ave.-1 | Ave.-6 | Ave.-1 | Ave.-2 |
| 1972 | 21 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 5 |
| 1973 | 31 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| 1974 | 27 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 2 |
| 1975 | 24 | 1 | 15 | 1 | 6 |
| 1976 | 25 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 3 |
| 1977 | <u>24</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>2</u> |
| | 152 | 18 | 47 | 14 | 23 |
| | | Ave.-3 | Ave.-8 | Ave.-2 | Ave.-4 |

Addendum # 2

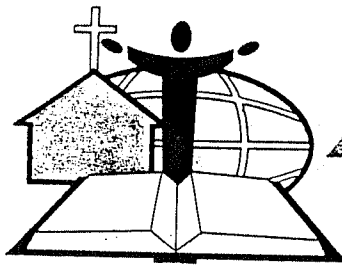
NLA Graduates

| | <u>Number of Graduates</u> | <u>Entered NWC</u> | <u>Entered DMLC</u> | <u>Became Pastors</u> | <u>Became Teachers</u> |
|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1932-1941 | 47 | 11 (Ave.-1) | 2 (Ave.-0.2) | 9 (Ave.-1) | 2 (Ave.-0.9) |
| 1942-1951 | 88 | 8 (Ave.-1) | 14 (Ave.-2) | 3 (Ave.-0.3) | 2 (Ave.-0.2) |
| 1952-1961 | 174 | 14 (Ave.-2) | 58 (Ave.-6) | 12 (Ave.-1) | 8 (Ave.-1) |
| 1962-1971 | 182 | 13 (Ave.-1) | 60 (Ave.-6) | 11 (Ave.-1) | 24 (Ave.-2) |
| 1972-1977 | 152 | 18 (Ave.-3) | 47 (Ave.8) | 14 (Ave.-2) | 23 (Ave.-4) |

Students Attending NLA from the Pacific Northwest, Nebraska, and Arizona-California Districts

The 1973-1974 attendance was the largest in the school's history.

| | <u>1973-1974</u> | <u>1978-1979</u> | <u>1978-79 9th Grade</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Pacific Northwest | 23 | 7 | 1 |
| Nebraska | 15 | 9 | 5 |
| Arizona-California | <u>13</u> | <u>12</u> | 0 |
| Total | 51 | 28 | |
| Total School Attendance | 133 | 117 | |



THE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

REACHING OUT

4914 W. NORTH AVENUE, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53208

Rev. Daniel W. Malchow, director

August 1, 1983

Addendum # 3

Forty-Seventh Biennial Convention
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
New Ulm, Minnesota

Dear Delegates:

Over the past few months a multitude of special prayers have ascended to the throne of God. These have been prayers of thanksgiving, expressing to our gracious God heartfelt gratefulness for the immense blessings showered upon the REACHING OUT offering. We stand in awe of God's power and God's grace.

Two years ago, at the Synod's 46th biennial convention, the decision was made to embark upon a large-scale capital funds offering. To find relief for a crippling financial exigency it was decided to seek from members of the Wisconsin Synod a large outpouring of gifts.

A Synod-wide plan was designed. An invitation to participate in this monumental undertaking was brought to every congregation of the Synod. Today at this convention session you are receiving a report on the heartening response which was forthcoming from the congregations of the Synod.

The report is entitled "A Report to the Synod." It is a vivid illustration of the power with which God has worked in the hearts of our members. "A Report to the Synod" reflects the grace and the goodness which God has bestowed upon us.

At the 1981 convention a small debate occurred on the floor. The debate centered about the question of whether \$10 million should be the minimum or the maximum goal for the proposed capital funds offering. Could we set \$10 million as a minimum goal and realistically expect that God would carry us over that amount?

In his grace our almighty God has carried us far beyond all dreams and expectations. The minimum goal of \$10 million has been more than doubled.

A breakdown of statistics as of July 25, 1983, follows.

TO THE WORLD WITH THE WORD

RECEIPTS

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Unofficial Commitments (oral reports) | \$23,779,728 |
| Documented Commitments. | 22,307,398 |
| Cash Received | 6,598,129 |
| Cash Distributed. | 5,450,000 |
| Educational Institution Building Fund (50%) - | 2,725,000 |
| Church Extension Fund (40%) - | 2,180,000 |
| World Mission Building Fund (10%) - | 545,000 |
| Congregations Using Centralized System. | 631 |
| Congregations Handling Own Collection | 290 |
| Congregations with no Remittances to Date | 261 |
| Total Entries into Computer | 33,460 |

EXPENSES

January 1, 1982 - June 30, 1983

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Preliminary Study | \$ 16,000.00 |
| Salaries. | 83,802.52 |
| Director, secretaries, housing, benefits | |
| Travel - Accommodations - Meetings. | 201,451.09 |
| All expenses of professional and volunteer staff | |
| Facilities and Equipment. | 49,788.75 |
| Rental, Maintenance, Supplies | |
| Printing and Duplicating of Materials | 156,419.03 |
| Postage and Telephone | 46,425.41 |
| | <u>\$553,886.80</u> |
| Purchased Services | 402,960.00 |
| (Community Counselling Service, Inc.) | |
| | <u>\$956,846.80</u> |

Expenses for the REACHING OUT offering were substantial. To coordinate and implement an offering which has been directed at over 1,150 congregations, over 312,000 communicants and over 413,000 souls is a monumental organizational task. Professional consultants affirm that usually the costs for major national funding appeals run from 16 percent to 29 percent of the amount received. Expenses to date for REACHING OUT come to slightly less than 4.3 percent of documented commitments.

Early blessings from REACHING OUT have already been in evidence.

- * All short-term, high-interest loans have been eliminated. What a marvelous blessing it is to have this burden removed! The elimination of these high interest payments has provided welcome relief to the operating budget.
- * The moratorium on parsonage construction in our home mission fields has been completely lifted. The General Board for Home Missions expects to build about seventy parsonages over the next two years.
- * REACHING OUT dollars flowing into the Church Extension Fund will make it possible for Home Missions to increase the number of new mission openings. Sixteen new openings are planned for 1983-4, and 20 are scheduled for 1984-5. Coincidentally sixteen 1983 graduates from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary received calls into exploratory mission fields.
- * The World Mission Building Fund will be supporting seven projects in six world fields for 1983-4. The cost of these projects is \$495,900. The WMBF has already received \$545,000 from REACHING OUT.

The REACHING OUT offering has once again made it evident that God has placed into the hands of Wisconsin Synod members a wealth of material resources. It is equally evident that once again God's people in our Synod have shown a ready willingness and desire to put these resources to work for the spread of the Gospel message.

"Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear" (Isaiah 59:1). May the blessings of the LORD upon REACHING OUT encourage us to never underestimate his power and his grace!

"Praise be to you, O LORD, God of our father, Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name" (1 Chronicles 29:10-13).

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Daniel H. Malchow

Rev. Daniel W. Malchow
Synodical Director

Addendum #5

The following is a summary of Pastor Malchow's service in the public ministry.

Following his graduation from the seminary, he was assigned to:

1. Organize a mission congregation in Eugene, OR. 1953-1955. (Pastor)
2. 1955-1960. Northwestern Prep School, Watertown, WI. (Professor)
3. 1960-1964. Caledonia, MN. (Pastor)
4. 1964-1968. St. Lucas Lutheran, Milwaukee, WI. (Pastor)
5. 1968-1980. Northwestern Lutheran Academy, Mobridge, SD.
(President/Professor)
6. 1980-1982. Martin Luther Preparatory School, Prairie du Chien, WI. (Professor)
7. 1982-1983. Director of "Reaching Out".
8. 1983-1987. Stewardship Counselor for the WELS.
9. 1987-1995. Administrator for the Commission for Communication on Financial Support.
10. 1995-2001. Director of WELS Capital Funding Services.
11. In his retirement he has continued to work with congregations desiring capital funding services.

Interview with Pastor Daniel Malchow
Part 1: Prep Schools

Northwestern Prep

1. How did you feel when you accepted the call to be a professor at Northwestern Prep after being out in the ministry only three years?
2. What, if anything, in your pastoral education, either at Northwestern College or the Sem, did you find helpful in preparing you to teach high school students?
3. Did you find that being a relatively young professor was to your advantage or disadvantage during your first years at Prep? (Considering you weren't much older than a tutor when you first arrived.)
4. You served at Northwestern Prep from 1955 until 1960, how would you summarize your experience there?

Northwestern Lutheran Academy

1. After about eight years back in the parish ministry, since your time at Prep, you received another call to a synodical school, Northwestern Lutheran Academy. Can you recall some of the factors that led you to move your family to the somewhat "desolate" Dakota-Montana District?
2. During the last years of NLA's existence there seemed to be some confusion concerning the primary purpose of NLA. Was it originally established to primarily provide a Christian education on the secondary level or to be one of Synod's "feeder" schools for our worker training colleges? And had this original purpose changed over the years?
3. In the late 1970's there was talk about whether the Synod should continue to support NLA since it was not turning out a large number of students who continued on to Northwestern College or Doctor Martin Luther College. Back in the late 1930's NLA was faced with a similar dilemma. I would like to share with you a part of the District President's report to the Twenty Seventh Biennial Convention of the Dakota-Montana District.

By the year 1939, when the General Synod met at Watertown, Wisconsin, there was an organized attempt to close NLA and save the rest of the synodical schools. When the debate was going more and more in that direction, the General President (John Brenner) took the floor single-handedly, but successfully, defended the existence of Northwestern Lutheran Academy and passionately pleaded for its continued support by the

Synod, using as his theme the words of the Savior in Matthew 11:5, "The poor have the gospel preached to them." In the vote which followed the debate, the synod upheld its President and granted the pleas of the Dakota-Montana delegates and the representatives of the Academy to continue the operation of the school.

In your opinion, in the late 1970's why weren't the members of the Dakota-Montana District and the faculty members of NLA able to convince the Synod to keep supporting NLA?

4. What do you see as the major factor that led to the closing of NLA?
5. From your knowledge, was the Synod at large aware of the circumstances that led to the closing of NLA?
6. How did the closing of NLA affect the morale of the Dakota-Montana District? Did the District feel responsible for the closing of NLA, or did they feel the Synod at whole was responsible?
7. I have focused a lot on the closing years of NLA and what may seem to be some negative experiences for you, would you please comment on some of the positive experiences you had while serving as the president of NLA?

Martin Luther Preparatory School

1. Can you comment on the atmosphere surrounding the beginning years at MLPS?
2. After those opening years at MLPS, did you feel the Synod had made the right move by combining NLA and Martin Luther Academy and moving them to Wisconsin?

Closing Question

During your years of service in our synodical high schools you were involved in the closing of a synodical school as well as the opening of a new prep school. How do our current questions and concerns with keeping both of our prep schools open compare to those in the 1970's? What do you see as the answer to our problem?

Interview #2

1. What were the tactics used for raising funds for the "Reaching Out" program? Were special stewardship programs written? Did your committee go out to various congregations to make presentations or did you leave this to the responsibilities of the individual pastors? Were outside sources (organizations outside of the WELS) used?
2. Outside of the work of the Holy Spirit in our members' hearts, what else do you think contributed to the success of this program?
3. Why was the largest portion of the offering given to ministerial training rather than home missions, world missions, or even the synod debt?
4. When you were the Stewardship Counselor for the WELS you were responsible for producing stewardship programs and materials for use in the synod. How often were these programs put out? Did you have any idea of what percentage of the congregations actually used these programs?
5. You were also involved in starting capital funding programs for congregations. In spite of our synod's financial difficulties, a number of congregations have had some rather large building projects. Does there seem to be an imbalance between contributions given to congregations as opposed to the synod?
6. Do you think our financial problems are due to social issues of our time, or is the problem directly connected to our people's giving?
7. Our Synod's solution, in recent times, to our budget debt has been to cut some of our foreign missions and teaching positions at our ministerial education schools, do you think this was the proper approach to take? If not what are some other possible solutions?