

Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See...
A Brief Look at the Life and Ministry of
Rev. Kurt J. Eggert

by
Peter J. Snyder

Senior Church History
Prof. John Brenner
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"Lord, when your glory I shall see and taste your kingdom's pleasure,
Your blood my royal robe shall be, my joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before your throne, your righteousness will be my crown;
With these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought, as your own bride I shall be brought
To stand in joy beside you."

(*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal*, #219)

Paul Gerhardt is known as one of the greatest Lutheran hymn-writers God gave to his church. The words quoted above are the last verse of his hymn, *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*. The latest generation of Wisconsin Synod Seminarians will very likely connect another great name in Lutheran music to those words. The name is Rev. Kurt J. Eggert and it is a great name not because of what he made of it but because of what the Lord did for his people through him. I'm sure Pastor Eggert, if he would even concede that his name might be considered great in Lutheran music circles, would agree with that assessment. He was not a man to take honor upon himself. Rather, he was more than willing to give God the glory for his accomplishments. That is why Paul Gerhardt's hymn verse is a fitting epitaph to Pastor Eggert's life. He wrote a new tune to Gerhardt's lyrics for *Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal*. When the Lord called Kurt Eggert home on June 22, 1993, as he stood before the throne of glory wearing the royal robe of Christ's blood, I can only imagine what things our Lord may have said to him. Most likely, "Well done, good and faithful servant," was one of them. Now is the time to look at the life of this good and faithful servant, to remember the grace of the Almighty in action.

I. Childhood and School Years

Kurt John Eggert was born May 8, 1923, the son of Pastor William and Paula (nee Kirchner) Eggert. His birthplace was Wausau, Wisconsin. There his father shepherded four congregations. Kurt was about five years old when the family moved to Watertown, Wisconsin, where his father had accepted a call to be pastor at St. Mark's.¹

Kurt and his three sisters, Ruth, Gertie and Hildie, grew up in Watertown. A love for music was natural in this family. Father was a violinist and also played the clarinet. Mother played the keyboard. Certainly there was a great deal of music in the home. There was more, though, than just the love for music. God had blessed these children with talent. Hildie would grow to become an accomplished organist. Gertie became a doctor in pathology. Ruth also had musical and scholastic talent. Then, there was Kurt. Kurt was a bright child who loved to read. Although of kindergarten age, he was immediately placed into 1st grade after the family moved. He started taking piano lessons around age seven. By the time he was in 8th grade, he could play Rochmaninoff's work in C# minor extremely well.²

The years Kurt spent in high school and college really served to shape his talent, desire and joy in music. He was often a piano soloist at Northwestern Preparatory School and at Northwestern College. He entered state competitions and although, according to his sister, he never won, he gained valuable experience. He was a choir director as a junior in high school. He also played with the Euterpe Club in Watertown, a musical organization which was part of the Lion's Club.³

It's important to point out that Kurt did more than just focus on music in his youth. He was a very well-rounded person. Although he never learned to play cards, something most Northwestern students would find hard to believe, he wasn't the timid virtuoso that one might expect, either. He was a normal kid in many ways. He delivered newspapers. He sold wooden lawn ornaments that he made with a jig-saw. In college, he and his friends enjoyed taking his motorcycle with side-car (an old police vehicle that his dad picked up), on camping expeditions. He also had a way with words. The following is a poem which he submitted to the Northwestern College publication *The Black and Red*:

A man is a man, when all has been said,
Who can shove his feet to the end of the bed.⁴

This wasn't exactly a Paul Gerhardt-type piece, but it showed his wit and sense of humor.

Although Kurt attended the synod's ministerial schools and was a PK (pastor's kid), this does not mean that it was an easy decision to become a pastor. There are many men who have been lured by other interests and Kurt was no exception. It is certainly not sinful to change one's mind about becoming a pastor, unless it is for sinful reasons. It would have been a loss for our synod, however, if Kurt had taken a different route in life. When he graduated from Northwestern College in 1944, he, along with several classmates, had an interest in the armed forces. It was natural at this time, during World War II, for young men to feel a sense of duty toward their country. About 20% of the class of '44 did enlist. Uncle Sam's army wasn't the only option for Kurt, however. Being the fine musician that he was, he had an interest in the music schools out east, especially the Julliard School of Music.⁵ Those who knew him had no doubt that he could have had a secular career in music, but the Lord led him to continue studying for service in his kingdom.

The seminary road was also a busy and winding one. His middler and senior years Kurt directed the St. Jacobi church choir of Milwaukee. Before the school year 1945-46, he was asked by our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), to serve as an instructor at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota, teaching english and speech. This was right after the war and the school year at the seminary was^a little different. According to Pastor James Schaefer, they cut off the school year in December of '45. After a few months the seminary got back on the regular schedule. Kurt made up the classes he missed in the summer and was able to graduate with the rest of his class in 1947.⁶

The Lord blessed Kurt in a special way during his year of teaching. It was at Bethany that he met his future bride, Ruth Westcott. Ruth, originally from Alabama, was from Watertown when they met. Her father was superintendent at Bethesda Lutheran

nursing home. Kurt and Ruth would often ride home together on weekends. Their relationship grew and they were married in the summer of 1948.⁷

There was still the lure to be a concert pianist as graduation from the seminary neared. Kurt intended at some time to gain his Master's degree in music. His father played another important role at this juncture. He encouraged Kurt to return this gift God had given him to the church by means of his ministry. Kurt's love and respect for his father caused him to take to heart this advice and, with guidance from the Holy Spirit, he became a minister of the gospel.⁸ He realized that music was really his second love, theology being number one. Although he would never gain his Master's, he would find ample opportunity to continue studying music.⁹

II. The Public Ministry

Pastor Eggert began his ministry as a tutor at Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw. He had the normal dorm duties of overseeing the study habits and cleanliness of the dorm students. He also taught typing and directed the mixed choir and the girls choir. It was after this first year that he and Ruth were married.¹⁰

From Saginaw Pastor Eggert went on to the bustling metropolis of Valley City, North Dakota. It was a mission congregation which he served for two years. Besides the normal pastoral duties, Pastor Eggert started a church choir and directed it. This was a natural thing for him to do. During those two years he was also able to take a class in music composition at the state teacher's college.¹¹ As one can see, the basis was continuing to form for the service which was to come. It was also at this time that the Lord blessed the Eggerts with their first child, son John, who was born in '49.

In 1950 came the call to pastor Immanuel Lutheran Church of Farmington, Wisconsin. It was during this ministry that Pastor Eggert's role as a leader in worship and music in the synod began to form. Farmington is a rural community near Watertown. Being so close to Northwestern College and having several churches nearby was a great

blessing. This gave him opportunity to fellowship with his brothers in the synod in very unique way. This will be considered more fully later. Suffice it to say that Pastor Eggert at this time had an impact on the worship life of much of our synod.

While Pastor Eggert was in Farmington, he led the congregation through many changes. Today's generation would find it hard to imagine experiencing something as drastic as a language change. What would it be like if we had grown up knowing and speaking English and then we moved to a country where Spanish was the common language? We would eventually have to learn Spanish in order to function. What if we even took it out of our worship services? This would not be an easy change. The church in Farmington was still worshipping in German. It took a constitutional change to mave to English services.¹² Pastor Eggert was able to make the transition smooth enough so that it didn't cause a great disruption in the congregation. Some of the other changes were the start of a Sunday School, a Vacation Bible School, and the use of offering envelopes.¹³

There were several changes in the Eggerts' family during these five years as well. Three children were born: Margaret ('51), William ('53), and Mark ('54). One change that was more difficult was the passing of Pastor Eggert's father. Pastor William Eggert had had a great, godly influence on the younger Pastor Eggert. He had even helped his son write his German sermons in the first years of this call.¹⁴ Although he would be greatly missed, the elder Pastor Eggert was fondly remembered for his love, guidance and Christ-like example.

In May of 1955 Pastor Eggert accepted the call to Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. This ministry would take him through to the year 1966 and see the birth of two more children: Christine in '59 and Linda in '62.

There were some major accomplishments while Pastor Eggert was here. A pipe organ was purchased and installed. In 1964 a school was opened. He was the influence behind a growing Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. He directed the Junior Choir. He helped foster fellowship among the youth of the congregation by directing the

young people's organization. This group would often be involved in activities. Some were secular, such as camping, while others were of a more spiritual nature, such as a Luther play which Pastor Eggert wrote and produced.¹⁵

Some of the activities outside of the Gethsemane call were: the formation of the Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee; the start of the Sunday morning television show *Lutheran Guideposts*, which was broadcast twice a month from 1963 to 1991 and featured pastors and choirs from the Milwaukee area; an appointment as a WELS representative, along with Prof. Martin Albrecht, to the Synodical Conference Hymnal Committee; the formation of the Milwaukee federation of WELS churches; and service as a member of the synod's Commission on Worship.¹⁶ Some of these activities will be considered further in the next sections. Pastor Eggert even directed the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary choir for a short time and also taught liturgics there, beginning in 1960.¹⁷ As we will see, these years saw the emergence of Pastor Eggert as a leader in worship and music in our church body.

In 1966 came a call from Wisconsin Lutheran College. This college was far different from the present Wisconsin Lutheran College. Formerly Milwaukee Lutheran Teacher's College, this school served to supplement the school teacher training in our synod. Pastor Eggert served as the head of the music department, taught music and directed the choirs.¹⁸ The transition to the college was not an easy one. The school could not find a new house for the Eggerts right away. They had bought a motel which they planned to convert into a dormitory. The Eggert family, all eight of them, had to live in three of the motel rooms until the school could find them a house. They finally moved out the week before Christmas.¹⁹

During Pastor Eggert's tenure at WLC the choir was involved in one rather extensive tour and they also made a record album. Apart from the college, he was able to spend several summers at Concordia Lutheran College in River Forest, Illinois, attending classes and seminars on music and liturgics.²⁰

The Eggert family joined Atonement Lutheran church in Milwaukee where Ruth taught kindergarten in '67.²¹ Daughter Jennifer was born in 1968. Shortly after this, in 1969, the synod passed a resolution which would affect the Eggerts. Because of expanding enrollments, the synod decided to expand Dr. Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota, rather than build a senior college in Milwaukee. As a result, WLC closed its doors in 1970.²²

It's always interesting the way the Lord guides his people in this life. In 1970 Pastor Eggert had some important decisions to make. He received a call to the music department at DMLC. It seemed like a likely transition after his tenure at WLC. But Pastor Eggert declined that call. Part of the reason may have been that the call didn't involve directing any of the choirs. Suffice it to say that the Lord led him to decline that call and accept a call to Atonement in Milwaukee. There he became an associate pastor with Rev. Kurt Koeplin.

These two men seemed to work well together and compliment each other. Pastor Eggert took special interest in the areas in which Pastor Koeplin didn't find as much enjoyment. Those areas included the Sunday School, the Christian Day School, and the Ladies Aid. Naturally, Pastor Eggert directed the Senior Choir. He also enjoyed teaching Bible Class.²³ Both men were also involved in areas outside of their calls. Pastor Koeplin was on the synod's Board for World Missions. Pastor Eggert was on the Board for Parish Education and chaired the Commission on Higher Education from 1971 to 1983. (This later became the Board for Worker Training and is now the Board for Ministerial Education.) Among the major decisions which this board was involved in was the decision to purchase the property at Prairie du Chien which became Martin Luther Preparatory School.²⁴ So Pastor Eggert was influential not only in the worship life of our church body but also in the area of pastor and teacher training.

After 14 years at Atonement, Pastor Eggert accepted a call to be Project Director for what eventually became *Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal*. Again, this is an

area which will be covered more fully later. Now would be a good time to look at some of Pastor Eggert's "extracurricular" activities.

III. *Viva Vox* and the Lutheran Chorale

One of the things which really put Pastor Eggert into the forefront of music and worship was his work with Prof. Ralph Gehrke while in Farmington. Prof. Gehrke taught at Northwestern College. Both had a love for music and worship. They both also "knew the importance of sound historical scholarship and sound theology."²⁵ They decided to attempt to hold seminars for the area pastors and church musicians in order to help further good, Lutheran music in the worship service. They also wanted to establish a greater understanding of the worship service.²⁶ In order to "chronicle the essays and discussions of the seminars,"²⁷ these men, with the help of many others, put together a series of circular letters, "to help stimulate...pastors and church musicians to fresh efforts to make the musical parts of our Sunday service ever more and more a living, gospel-centered experience."²⁸ The name of the circular was *Viva Vox*, "the living voice."

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Word of the newsletter and seminars spread in the synod and people sent in donations from fair distances, such as Nebraska, to receive the *Viva Vox*.²⁹ This work began around the year 1954 and continued after Pastor Eggert moved to Gethsemane. These newsletters and seminars went through the entire church year and gave suggestions for hymns and other music. They also gave advice on use of choirs in the worship service and explained the different parts of the service.³⁰ Pastor ^{Gehrke} Gerhardt, who accepted a call to teach at Concordia Teachers' College in River Forest, Illinois during these years, wrote a workbook entitled, "Planning the Service", in 1961. This book contains much of the same material and ideas which were discussed at the Wisconsin seminars.³¹

There was another blessing which came out of all of this. In 1957 a choir was formed for the purpose of presenting "selected Lutheran church music in a proper manner

at the church music seminars."³² This group became known as The Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee which Pastor Eggert directed and continued to direct for the rest of his life. The Lutheran Chorale has performed concerts two or three times a year for the last 37 years. It has also been involved in many joint concerts with choirs such as the Vesper Singers (a Watertown area group), the Seminary Chorus, the DMLC Treble Choir and the WLC choir.

In the Lutheran Chorale lay people have been given an opportunity not only to sing, but to sing the finest Lutheran music ever composed. They have learned of other, non-Lutheran composers who are also among the world's elite. They have learned to unite their hearts and voices with other Christians to give the best they have in music and worship to the glory of God and the edifying of his people. As a former member of the Chorale, I can say that Pastor Eggert was a demanding director, but he could bring out the best in people by showing them the beauty of the music, the importance of the words and the way each piece served to glorify God. It was an experience which the members of the choir (over 400 alumni)³³ appreciated and will never forget.

It should be noted that the above explanation of the founding of the chorale, which was Pastor Eggert's, is different from the explanation which was in the program of the 25th anniversary concert, dated April 17, 1983. In that program it says that Fred Bartel of DMLC gathered a group of singers for the installation of Pastor Werner Franzmann as editor of the Northwestern Lutheran. "The group, composed largely of day school teachers, found the experience so rewarding that they decided to continue meeting on a regular basis. Pastor Kurt Eggert, at that time pastor of Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Milwaukee, was asked to serve as director."³⁴ We must conclude that these two stories harmonize along the way.

Many more stories could be told about Pastor Eggert and the Chorale which would portray his talent, wit and grace under pressure. Just knowing that the man stayed with this group and the group with the man for so many years speaks volumes.

IV. The Commission on Worship

One of the two ways in which Pastor Eggert arguably had more impact on our synod than any other was in his work on the Commission on Worship. Originally called the Commission on Liturgy, Hymnody and Worship, it was formed in 1965 for the purpose of promoting and encouraging worship, that it might be a blessing for God's people.³⁵ The commission was chaired for several years by Prof. Martin Albrecht of the Seminary. Several years earlier, in 1959, Prof. Albrecht and Pastor Eggert were appointed by the synod to the Synodical Conference Hymnal Committee. After the WELS withdrew fellowship from the Missouri Synod, Pastor Eggert continued to attend the meetings, held in St. Louis, as an observer.³⁵ We can be sure that the knowledge gained in observing these meetings had a positive influence on the project which he oversaw two decades later. These two men, Pastor Eggert and Prof. Albrecht, although certainly not the only gifted music leaders in our synod, were generally considered the main leaders of music and worship in our synod.

The Commission on Worship did much to enhance worship in the WELS. Early in its existence it held worship seminars in each of the districts. In 1967 the commission invited people from all of the districts of the synod to the seminary in Mequon. There the members of the commission held a seminar "to stimulate the worship life of our congregations and the appreciation of our Lutheran heritage of hymnody and church music. The purpose of the institute (was) to train some thirty-five men from the various districts of the synod to conduct workshops on worship on a conference level."³⁶ This was just one of the ways in which careful worship planning was encouraged in our synod.

Beginning with the Advent season of 1971, the commission began to produce a newsletter entitled *Focus on Worship*. Pastor Eggert served as the editor. Volume I, number one began this way:

This little circular, FOCUS on WORSHIP...is designed especially for pastors, organists, choir directors, and others who may share a responsibility for planning the congregational worship. We hope that this little desk-companion, which will come to you three times a year, will help to focus attention on the need for worship planning, bring you some practical suggestions for your services, and provide some small encouragement as you face the steady, joyful challenge of getting ready for Sunday.³⁷

Pastor Eggert wrote for years, not only in *Focus on Worship*, but he also wrote essays and articles apart from it. All of his writings showed his talent for harmonizing theology and music in worship. They also served well those who read them and put his thoughts and suggestions to use.

By giving him musical ability and understanding, along with theological understanding, and the opportunity earlier in his ministry to work with others at enhancing worship, the Lord prepared Pastor Eggert for years of work on this commission. This has influenced thousands of people in our synod and will continue to do so for generations. However, a more monumental task still lay ahead for this servant of God.

V. Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal

In 1983, after years of thought and exploration on the subject, the Wisconsin Synod, in convention, resolved to begin the task of producing a new hymnal. It had been over forty years since the WELS had seen a new hymnal. The leaders of our church body had been considering this possibility for years. It was already mentioned how Pastor Eggert and Prof. Albrecht had been appointed to the Synodical Conference Hymnal Committee. The question of a new hymnal hadn't been adequately addressed until now. The synod felt that the time was right, even overdue, for a new songbook. The man whom they called to serve as project director in 1984 was Pastor Kurt Eggert.

Putting together a new hymnal for an entire church body, a hymnal which would please the majority of people yet remain true to the purpose of worship and be a useful

tool, is no easy task. It had been done before in other Lutheran church bodies. It had even been done before in the WELS (along with the Synodical Conference). Many of the older members of our church body, Pastor Eggert included, lived through that change. Most recently, it had been done by the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. They produced *Lutheran Worship* in 1982. Since there was no interest in reinventing the wheel, our church leaders felt it was wise to look carefully at every option. The Commission on Worship considered these options. They included:

- I. *Lutheran Worship*
- II. A WELS Hymnal
- III. Retain TLH (*The Lutheran Hymnal*)
- IV. Revise TLH
- V. Retain TLH and add a WELS Worship Companion
- VI. Revise TLH and add a WELS Worship Companion³⁸

As part of their study, the Commission on Worship took a survey of many organists and church musicians to get some reactions to *Lutheran Worship*. Although there were some positive comments, overall it was clear that this hymnal would not be an acceptable replacement for our beloved *The Lutheran Hymnal*.³⁹ It was decided that a new hymnal was the best answer.

In the 1983 resolution, the synod was quite specific about what type of hymnal it wanted. It was resolved,

That the Synod now begin work on a new/revised hymnal of its own, one that under the blessings of God will be Scripturally sound and edifying, welcomed and judged to be highly satisfactory for purposes of devotion and worship by a majority of our members, in harmony with the character and heritage of our church body, and will reflect the larger perspective and mainstream of the worship of the Christian Church.⁴⁰

Pastor Eggert was the director of the hymnal project, but he was not alone. He, along with the Conference of Presidents and the Commission on Worship, appointed several talented, highly qualified and yet diversified men to this new Committee. Their names can be found in the new hymnal.

Even before the synod resolution, Prof. Albrecht and Pastor Eggert had received letters which showed opposition and lack of understanding in the synod concerning a new hymnal.⁴¹ Despite this, the Commission on Worship continued its study and discussion of this possibility. It certainly wasn't that they didn't care about what people thought or felt. The majority of people, however, felt a new hymnal was needed.

Pastor Eggert and the men who formed the hymnal committee took great care to make sure they proceeded carefully and effectively in this venture. There had been many stories about *Lutheran Worship* concerning the way it was put together and presented. It is not the intent of this paper to spread rumors, but there were reliable reports by a Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary professor that in some instances people of the LCMS were not happy with their new hymnal. This was no secret. It would be an expected reaction. However, it has been speculated that much of the discontent could have been avoided with more careful and deliberate work and a well-planned introduction.

The committee did much to ensure that the new hymnal would be well-liked by the majority of WELS members. They did this in several ways. One way was to send out a survey to WELS pastors to see which were the most-used and least-used hymns in TLH. They asked for the pros and cons of TLH as well as suggested improvements. They also put out *The Sampler*, a compilation of twenty-one hymns not found in TLH and a revised liturgy. This also had a questionnaire with it. The hymnal committee used several questionnaires throughout the long process to gain input from as many people as possible.

There was much unsolicited input throughout the course of the project as well. Unfortunately, much of it wasn't very evangelical. Some of the letters could be seen in the *Northwestern Lutheran*. These letters did show, however, a lack of understanding of worship on the part of many in our synod. Pastor Eggert answered these letters kindly and the committee realized there was much education that needed to be done.

In the course of the hymnal project and throughout his life and ministry, Pastor Eggert had a great quality that made it possible to use his theological and musical abilities to

their fullest. That quality is organization. Pastor Eggert was a great organizer and it showed. From the *Viva Vox* days to the new hymnal, his organizational skills proved to be a blessing not just for those involved directly with him, but they were a blessing fo the entire church body.

VI. The Last Years

In 1986, just two years into the hymnal project, Pastor Eggert suffered a serious heart attack. Although he continued in his call, this heart attack "limited his capabilities after 1986."⁴² It is truly a wonder that Pastor Eggert also continued to direct the Lutheran Chorale after this time. His heart attack was not just a one time setback. His condition continued to cause problems the rest of his life. It was noticeable to those who worked with him and under him that he just wasn't quite the same. Yet his condition never dampered his desire to carry out his tasks nor did it affect the overall work of the hymnal project.

One of Pastor Eggert's colleagues made this remark,

"Kurt's primary gift (in his later years) was to obligate people to an intense loyalty to him. He never complimented people, but people always wanted to please him...People took care of him like a precious jewel."⁴³

It seems that people took special care to do whatever they could for Pastor Eggert. It wasn't because they felt sorry for him. It certainly wasn't because they feared him. Although it might at first seem inexplicable, the most likely reason people were so loyal to Pastor Eggert was the love and respect they had for him. He served his Lord and his church so well in so many ways throughout the years. He always was striving for the best in himself and in others, for isn't that what we want to give to our Lord, the best that we have?

Pastor Eggert lived to see the result of the hymnal project, but he wasn't able to present it officially to the synod. Instead, WELS President Carl Mischke presented Pastor

Eggert with the first hymnal in the latter's hospital room.⁴⁴ Without stretching comparisons too far, the last months of Pastor Eggert's life reminds one almost of Simeon, who was allowed to see his Savior before he died. It is indeed much greater to see the Savior than to see a completed hymnal, but like Simeon, the Lord in his grace allowed Pastor Eggert to see what he had longed for.

It was fitting that the last concert this servant of God would attend was the commencement concert at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. It is fitting because at that concert the chorus sang a special arrangement of Pastor Eggert's tune "Wedding Glory" which accompanies Paul Gerhardt's hymn *Lord When Your Glory I Shall See*. The Seminary commissioned Carl Schalk, an LCMS composer who knew Pastor Eggert quite well, to arrange this setting. This hymn verse was also sung on the 1994 Seminary Chorus choir tour. It emphasizes that no matter what we do in this life, it is our Savior who makes us worthy to enter heaven and see God's glory. This truth was a part of Kurt Eggert's life.

Although Pastor Eggert wrote several hymns and tunes, it would be fitting to close this brief look at his life with some other words which he spoke and which were quoted at his funeral:

"Worship is the most important thing that we can do in our life. God created us for worship. He created us to praise his name and to sound out his glory. Ultimately, that is our destiny and our purpose in life and in eternity. Just as the Lord created the sun to shine and the fish to swim and the birds to fly and fire to burn, so he created us to give glory to him, to praise the Lord."⁴⁵

Pastor Kurt Eggert has helped this church body praise the Lord. Thank God for this man, his gift to his people.

ENDNOTES

1. Interview with Mrs. Ruth Eggert, March 7, 1994
2. Interview with Rev. and Mrs. James Schaefer, March 10, 1994
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Interview with Mrs. Ruth Eggert, March 7, 1994
8. Interview with Rev. and Mrs. James Schaefer, March 10, 1994
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10. Ibid.
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12. Ibid.
13. Ibid.
14. Ibid.
15. Speech written on the occasion of Gethsemane Lutheran's 100th anniversary in 1993, author unknown
16. Interview with Mrs. Ruth Eggert, March 7, 1994
17. Ibid.
18. Ibid.
19. Ibid.
20. Ibid.
21. Ibid.
22. Ibid.
23. Ibid.
24. Ibid.
25. Letter from Dr. Ralph Gehrke, April 23, 1994
26. Ibid.
27. Autobiographical letter written by Rev. Kurt Eggert, date unknown, supplied by Mrs. Ruth Eggert
28. Viva Vox, Eastertide 1956, p.1
29. Letter from Dr. Ralph Gehrke, April 23, 1994
30. This is easily understood by reading through several issues of Viva Vox.
31. Dr. Ralph Gehrke, Planning the Service, copyright 1961, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO
32. Autobiographical letter written by Rev. Kurt Eggert, date unknown, supplied by Mrs. Ruth Eggert
33. The Northwestern Lutheran, vol. 70, no. 1; June 1, 1983
34. Ibid.
35. Interview with Mrs. Ruth Eggert, March 7, 1994
36. Letter from the Commission on Liturgy, Hymnody and Worship, May 20, 1967
37. Focus on Worship, vol: 1, no. 1; Advent '71, p.1
38. Minutes from a Commission on Worship meeting, Feb. 5&6, 1982
39. Compilation of letters from organists and musicians of the Michigan District of the WELS, Jan. 1983
40. Proceedings of the 47th Biennial Convention of the WELS, Aug. 1-5, 1983
41. Minutes from a Commission on Worship meeting, Sept. 17, 1982
42. Interview with Prof. James Tiefel, March 16, 1994
43. Ibid.
44. Address by President Mischke at the 1993 WELS convention upon

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45. From the funeral sermon for Pastor Eggert, June, 1993

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