

THE NORTHWESTERN

Lutheran

April 12, 1970

In This Issue —

- | | |
|---|----------|
| What about "The Establishment"? | Page 123 |
| Seminary Screen | Page 129 |
| Wisconsin Lutheran Campus House — Oshkosh | Page 132 |



BRIEFS by the Editor

Greetings! My first venture in "Briefs" will be in the nature of an editorial, since with the change of editorship the readers of *The Northwestern Lutheran* have a right to know how this editor looks at his job, and what they may rightly expect of him.

In the case of a secular publication, the publisher rightly expects his editors to agree with his policies. Whenever opinions are expressed in syndicated columns which disagree with these policies, the editor will be quick to state that they do not represent those of the publisher. What about the writers for *The Northwestern Lutheran*, and what about its editor?

The masthead of this publication reveals that our situation is one that allows for even less leeway. *The Northwestern Lutheran* is the "Official Publication, Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod." Neither the author of an article nor the editor in "Briefs" is thus in the position of speaking only for himself. Might a new editor, then, from the start feel frustrated, hemmed in, more like a

slave than a man, more like a parrot than a preacher?

It is true, the editor of *The Northwestern Lutheran* is a servant of WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod). He must seek to express the concerns of this church body. His "bosses" are many. From the President of the Synod and the Conference of Presidents who appointed him, to the pastors in its pulpits, the teachers in its classrooms, the professors at its schools for the training of future workers, the men serving missions in the United States and on foreign fields, the 372,000 saints who worship in our churches, the lonely Lutheran who writes for information and comfort. Their interests are to be met on the pages of this periodical. Would you think this intolerable, an infringement upon so-called "editorial freedom"?

The situation isn't intolerable at all. All of these "bosses," so-called, stand with me on the same platform where I took my stand many years ago when I entered the holy ministry, and even before that when the Lord God made me His child in Holy Baptism. Then

I promised to believe and teach nothing which did not agree with God's inspired, inerrant Word of the Old and the New Testaments. I promised to remain true to the Confessions of the Lutheran Church, not in so far as they agree with Scripture, but because they agree with Scripture. Nothing more—nothing less—is expected of me as editor. On these pages man is to be faced by God's Law, and the Gospel is to be proclaimed to him for his salvation.

Pray for me and for all those connected with *The Northwestern Lutheran* that its voice may remain that of a clear-sounding trumpet, a voice of authentic Lutheranism, true to the Scripture and motivated by the Gospel as we bring you reports from our congregations, our Synodical schools, our home and world mission fields, and seek to apply the Word to your situation in life. We on our part, pray that others may also be drawn into our fellowship so that we may confess our faith together and join hands in working for the Lord. Much of my work with *The Northwestern Lutheran*, I suppose, will be prosaic: adjusting manuscripts, selecting pictures, meeting deadlines. May even these serve my Lord and you, my brethren!

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

The Northwestern Lutheran

*

Volume 57, Number 8

*

April 12, 1970

Official Publication, Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Published biweekly by Northwestern Publishing House 3616-32 W. North Ave., Milwaukee, Wis. 53208. Allow four weeks for change of address and renewal order. Give your old address as well as the new. Send stenciled address from a recent issue or an exact copy.

THE EDITORIAL BOARD —

Rev. Harold E. Wicke, Editor
Rev. Walter W. Kleinke, Assistant Editor
Prof. Wilbert R. Gawrisch
Prof. Armin W. Schuetz

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS —

F. Blume E. Fredrich I. G. Frey P. Janke M. Lutz
J. Parcher P. Nitz C. Toppe K. Vertz

Mission Reporters: F. Nitz (World); O. Sommer (Home)
The deadline for submitting materials intended for publication in *The Northwestern Lutheran* is three weeks before the date of issue. When pictures are included, an additional 5 days must be allowed. Address all items intended for publication to:

COVER — Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Monroe, Michigan; Gerhard M. Cares, pastor.

Rev. Harold E. Wicke, Editor
The Northwestern Lutheran
3616-32 W. North Ave.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

All **BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE** is to be directed **not** to the above address, but to:

Northwestern Publishing House
3616-32 W. North Ave.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

Second-class postage paid at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Subscription rates, payable in advance:

One year \$ 2.50
Three years \$ 6.50
Five years \$10.00

A 20% discount is allowed on the one-year rate if 25 or more unaddressed copies are sent in a bundle to one address.

Editorials

The Age of Aquarius When the dignified *New York Times* interviews Sybil Leek, "perhaps the world's best-known witch," when New York University and the University of South Carolina offer courses in witchcraft, when there are computer horoscopes on 2,000 college campuses, when 1,200 of the nation's 1,750 daily newspapers carry astrology columns, when the "in thing" is to wear your sign of the zodiac, we should know that the Age of Aquarius is not only a song in a rock musical but that it is a social, economic, and spiritual reality. The occult is what's happening in 1970. Astrology, magic, tarot cards, Satan worship, seances are all a part of it.

This fascination with the occult and with the supernatural is rather bewildering. That a scientific age that produced the moon walk by a fantastic coordination of scientific devices and procedures should at the same time be an age that revives interest in divining the future from the entrails of animals and in medieval alchemy is almost incredible. Yet this cult of the occult is an international phenomenon. The zodiac has turned into a \$200-million-a-year business.

If the supernatural has seized the attention and faith of so many, why doesn't the supernatural in Scripture attract them? Why not a great return to spiritual values? An interesting answer has been given by a writer in *McCall's*: "Many organized religions have systematically avoided dealing with their own spiritual foundations. You get the feeling that they are even embarrassed by their own supernatural beginnings. Many churches today have become much more the offices of social change than the cathedrals of spiritual awakening. This, I believe, is one of the reasons so many of today's young have turned toward the occult in all its variety."

Our church has not forgotten its supernatural [i.e., divine] beginnings, we have not become embarrassed by the miracles of Scripture; but we do not expect that those who are now turning to the occult will embrace the supernatural message that is preached and taught in our midst. It is in Scripture that the true supernatural is to be found, but devotees of the occult will not be seeking it there.

It is inevitable that men will "regard them that have familiar spirits" and that they will run to "wizards that peep and mutter" rather than seek the truth that God has revealed in Scripture. The unconverted and the unregenerate will never, of themselves, turn to the revealed supernatural unless the Spirit of God seizes their hearts and rescues them from the follies of superstition and from demonic delusions.

"Be not dismayed at the signs of heaven," Jeremiah writes, "for the heathen are dismayed at them." That's

what the zodiacal Age of Aquarius is—heathen. And heathen have to be made over spiritually before they will embrace God's own supernatural as it is revealed in Jesus Christ.

CARLETON TOPPE

* * *

The Establishment The Establishment, in capital letters, has become a part of the popular vocabulary, and it appears to be making rapid progress up the popular list of "Things I Hate." Few terms evoke such negative response in certain quarters today, and few things are viewed with such animosity. The Establishment is frequently the victim of scattergun denunciation, and it is often blamed for all the ills afflicting mankind. The Establishment, from the viewpoint of its numerous opponents, puts brakes on the wheels of progress and obstacles in the path of truth and right.

Perhaps at this stage less emotion and a little more sobriety might be applied to the concept. The alternative to Establishment is anarchy. Anarchy won't work, as history has so often demonstrated. The only thing that will work is Establishment of some kind or other. If Establishment is overthrown, another must replace it. But Establishment there must be.

Establishment as a concept and as a practical method of operation in society is not of human origin. It was originated by God in His surpassing wisdom. He rules through His representatives on earth, in other words, The Establishment, as we understand the term; and He has quite a bit to say about it in His Word. Concerning government He says: "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers, for there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God." Concerning the home: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." Concerning the church: "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account."

At no time and in no area of human relations is The Establishment ever perfect. It is composed of sinful human beings who, at least at times, abuse their power and subvert their authority for selfish purposes. Lawful protest against abuse of authority, perversion of justice, or neglect of duty is always in order.

But let us not be carried away. Sin in high places warrants our condemnation, but that does not warrant tearing down the high places as we protest the sin that is committed in them.

There is a difference between The Establishment and those who compose it. Only disaster can follow if we fail to make a distinction.

IMMANUEL G. FREY



Studies in God's Word

Emulate the Faith of the Saints of Old!

Hebrews 11:1-3

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

From the very beginning the message of Christ's resurrection has been greeted with doubt, unbelief, and ridicule. When the women who had been at the tomb brought the news to the apostles, "their words seemed to them as idle tales" (Luke 24:11). When later the rest of the disciples told Thomas that the risen Savior had appeared to them, he refused to believe unless he would see in His hands the print of the nails and put his finger into the print of the nails and thrust his hand into Jesus' side. When Paul addressed the philosophers of Athens on Mars' Hill, they listened respectfully until he mentioned the resurrection of the dead. Then some began to scoff. That the dead should rise was simply incredible to them.

Modern man greets the fact of the bodily resurrection of our Lord with the same skepticism and cynicism. That a dead body should come back to life is regarded as altogether impossible. It's preposterous! Dead men do not rise again. Death is terminal. For a scientific age this is axiomatic.

The resurrection of Christ is not subject to scientific proof. The Easter Gospel calls for faith. When Thomas had finally been convinced, Jesus said, "Thomas, because thou hast seen Me thou hast believed: blessed are

they that have not seen, and yet have believed" (John 20:29).

Heroes of Faith

In striking contrast to the skeptics and scoffers of ancient and modern times, God's saints have always been men and women of faith. In the eleventh chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews the inspired writer calls the roll of a great number of heroes of faith. He reminds us of this great "cloud of witnesses" in order to inspire and encourage us to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (12:1).

Who the writer of this Epistle was is not known. An ancient tradition ascribes it to Paul, but Origen, who lived less than two hundred years after it was written, already confessed, "As to who actually wrote the Epistle, God alone knows the truth of the matter." Luther believed it was written by Apollos, who is described in the Book of Acts as a Jew, "born in Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the Scriptures."

Hebrews was addressed to Jewish Christians, probably living in Rome, who under the threat of persecution were in danger of giving up their Christian faith and returning to Judaism. The holy writer reminds them of their inheritance in heaven and urges, "Cast not away therefore your confidence" (10:35). Do not deny your faith! Do not discard your only hope of salvation! There is a gentle and loving appeal in his words as he includes himself with his readers and adds, "But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul" (10:39).

What Is Faith?

In the prologue of this notable chapter on faith the writer defines the faith which leads to the saving of

the soul as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Weymouth, a modern scholar, translates this passage: "Now faith is a confident assurance of that for which we hope, a conviction of the reality of things which we do not see."

It is important to note that faith is essentially assurance, confidence, trust. In Hebrews 3:14 the writer calls it "confidence": "We are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our *confidence* steadfast unto the end." He uses the same Greek word here as in 11:1, where it is translated "substance." The opposite of faith is therefore doubt, unbelief.

Faith takes God at His word. It relies on His promises. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the very foundation of our faith. "If Christ be not raised," Paul writes to the Corinthians, "your faith is vain" (I Cor. 15:17). Christ's resurrection is the assurance and guarantee of the things for which we hope: our own resurrection, our entrance into heaven, our life in everlasting joy and glory. We have not yet experienced the fulfillment of these promises. We are still waiting and hoping, but with confidence and certainty.

Faith, like an outstretched, open hand, simply receives God's wondrous gift of salvation. With childlike faith God's children believe His gracious promises. Whereas the unbeliever spurns God's grace, the believer has and enjoys God's free gifts. Thus faith saves. This truth runs like a scarlet thread through the entire Scriptures. The writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews emphasizes it also. "The just shall live by faith," he declares (10:38), echoing the words of the Prophet Habakkuk (2:4) and

(Continued on page 134)



Our District Mission Boards – *Called to Serve*

The Minnesota District
Missions Say:

“MISSIONS IS TEAMWORK”

Teamwork is a characteristic of work in mission congregations. Because their members are fewer in number than those in self-supporting congregations, they are compelled to take a more active part in the Lord's work. Though discouragement often runs high, the joy God grants them runs even higher. They experience a deep sense of teamwork between themselves and the Head of the Church, the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul writes about that in I Corinthians 3:9: "For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building."

I. The Most Blessed Teamwork

We today can be laborers together with God only because the three Per-

sons in the Holy Trinity so marvelously cooperated in the work of man's salvation. It may be a strange use of the word, but this is the most blessed teamwork of all. The Father so loved the world that He promised and sent His Son to be man's Savior. Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, suffered and died for the sins of man, so that we have an open door to the heart of the Father. It is, however, the Holy Spirit's sanctifying work which has drawn us out of the world of unbelief and made us children of God. Now we can labor together in the building of God's kingdom. This is God's doing, not ours. Praise be to the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

II. Teamwork in the Church

Faith in Jesus Christ, which has made us members of God's Church, also impels us to work together for the upbuilding of the kingdom. As laymen, teachers, pastors combine their efforts—as congregations work with congregations—this blessed teamwork builds that building of which Paul wrote in Ephesians 2:21, 22: "In (Christ) all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit." Evidence of this teamwork are all the mission congregations and preaching stations of the Minnesota District.

Right:

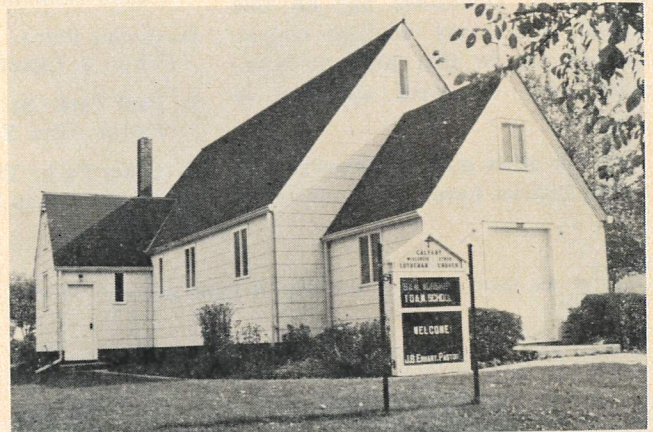
Calvary Lutheran of Glenwood, Minnesota.

Lower right:

Teamwork made this site possible for Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, Prior Lake, Minnesota.

Below:

Pastors and vicars serving missions of the Minnesota District—laborers together with Christ and Christ's members.



III. The Minnesota District Mission Team

Teamwork is always the key word in mission work. It is not uncommon to see members of a mission station gather for worship with every person teaming together to make the service possible. One family brings the hymnals. Another brings a tape recorder with a recording of the hymns selected for the Sunday. Others bring a card table and a linen cloth to set up as an altar. A fourth brings the cross and the candles. Others set up chairs. Finally the missionary drives up, having already conducted a service at another preaching station. And God is also present with His blessings. That's the story of many a Sunday at Martin Luther Church, St. Louis County, Missouri.

Or take the story of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, when they built their chapel. Where is the chairman of the building committee? Why he's on the roof with the other men, laying shingles! Women of the congregation are staining the inside woodwork. The pastor? He's in the trench, waterproofing the foundation. Teamwork put up this chapel, and many another chapel. There's joy in that kind of teamwork—joy on earth and joy in heaven.

All the other mission congregations of the District have similar stories to

tell — stories of teamwork blessed by God. You are invited to visit these missions on a vacation trip. In the meantime, study the pictures to become acquainted with some of them and the list of names to know where to go.

Northern Minnesota

- Duluth: Shepherd of the Hills
(Pastor Larry Cooper)
- Brainerd: Christ
(Pastor Larry Cooper)
- Alexandria: St. Paul
(Pastor J. B. Erhart)
- Glenwood: Calvary
(Pastor J. B. Erhart)
- Coon Rapids: Cross of Christ
(Pastor Dennis Kempf)

Central Minnesota and Twin Cities

- Shakopee: Mt. Olive
(Pastor LeRoy Lothert)
- Prior Lake: Faith
(Pastor LeRoy Lothert)
- Willmar: Immanuel
(Pastor Martin Sheele)
- Excelsior: Faith
(Pastor William Wiedenmeyer)
- St. Cloud: Petra
(Vicar T. Liesener)
- St. Paul Park: St. Andrew
(Pastor Allen Zenker)
- St. Louis Park: Timothy
(Pastor Marvin Hanke)

Bloomington: Bloomington
(Pastor Del Begalka)

Eastern Iowa and Missouri

- Charles City: Cross
(Pastor John Henderson)
- Cedar Rapids: Good Shepherd
(Pastor Donald Seifert)
- Mason City: Gethsemane
(Pastor Robert Uttech)
- Ballwin (Mo.): Trinity
(Pastor Lawrence Lillegard)
- Owensville (Mo.): Peace
(Pastor Roger Zehms)
- St. Louis (Mo.): Martin Luther
(Pastor Roger Zehms)

Also part of the team are the following pastors and vicars doing kingdom work at colleges and institutions in this geographical area: William Wiedenmeyer, Ralph Goede, Norman Sauer, Steven Stern, James Babler, Alfred Jannusch, Martin Birkholz, Raymond Haase, Daniel Westendorf, Richard Winters, Stephen Valleskey, Lawrence Lillegard, and Vicars Ibisch and Liesener.

There's joy in Mission Teamwork! The above missionaries, the members of the mission congregations and preaching stations, and the members of the Mission Board of the Minnesota District invite you to participate in the joy. Take your place on the Lord's' team by personal witness, prayer, and giving!

Right:
Some of the team of voting members at Cross Lutheran, Charles City, Iowa.

Below:
Vacation Bible school demands teamwork at Gethsemane Lutheran, Mason City, Iowa.



The Christian and the World

IN IT, BUT NOT OF IT

THE SCOUT LAW IN THE LIGHT OF SCRIPTURE

How the Scout Law Subverts the Way to Salvation

(The last in a series of three articles)

Two articles have appeared previously in this series scrutinizing the Scout Law in the light of Scripture. The first dealt with the Scout Law and its subversion of the function of God's Law. The second commented on the hopeless attempt of the Scout Law to produce moral righteousness, comparing it with the Spirit-produced moral righteousness which is a fruit of the Gospel. This final article hopes to draw on the facts already presented and show how the Scout Law undermines the whole way of salvation which God has revealed in Scripture.

How would you react if your pastor taught the Ten Commandments in Catechism class and gave every indication that each child had the inborn ability to keep them perfectly? If, while explaining God's Law, he never mentioned the word "sin" or its equivalent? Or suppose that your pastor in expounding the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed left your children with the impression that Christ's atonement was not necessary in their case because they could attain a level of conduct acceptable to God by merely trying hard. If such conditions prevailed in the Catechism classes of your church, you would be horrified and feel compelled to withdraw your children from such instructions immediately.

The Scout Law and its practical application in Scouting actually nullify God's Law and Gospel in the manner described above.

Scouting Undermines God's Holy Law

God's Law reveals sin: "By the Law is the knowledge of sin" (Rom. 3:20). It points out the dread consequences of sin: "The soul that sinneth it shall die" (Ezek. 18:20). It compels all men to see their common spiritual depravity: "For all men have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). It forces men to face the hard fact that, no matter what they do or how often they do it, they can never work out their own salvation: "Therefore by the deeds of the Law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight" (Rom. 3:20).

A previous article presented the subversive effect of the Scout Law upon God's Law. The Scout Law weakens God's Law, for it covers up sin. Sin is not mentioned once in connection with the Scout Law and its explanation. Rather, a Scout is drilled to believe that as long as he does his best, he is doing enough for God and country. "By doing your best to live up to the Scout Law, you are a Scout. If you should *willfully* break the Scout Law, you are not a Scout. It is as simple as that."¹ In other words as long as you do your best, you are really trustworthy, obedient, and reverent. A willful breaking of the Scout Law doesn't make you a sinner; you are just not a Scout!

Which child who has this teaching impressed upon him will feel the need for contrition or sorrow over sin? Which child will ever be led to repentance if he believes that he has no sins to repent of? Would that child feel the need to lament with St. Paul: "For the good that I would I do not, but the evil which I would not, that I do" (Rom. 7:19)? These questions give some indication of how the Scout Law thwarts the purpose of God's Law.

Scouting Undermines the Function of the Gospel

The Scout Law also thwarts the purpose of the Gospel. The Gospel declares that Christ kept the Law perfectly for all men. It announces that Good News that Christ took the sins of the world to the cross and there paid their penalty by shedding His blood and dying. Salvation stands as an accomplished fact. By faith a sinner makes these blessings his own.

The Scout Law, however, does not lead men to embrace the righteousness of Christ in faith. The Scout Law gives the false impression that a child can produce an acceptable righteousness of his own. A Scout promises that he will keep himself "morally straight" by observing the twelve points of the Scout Law. Scout literature gives the Scout every assurance that he can lead a morally good life and thus fulfill his duty to God.

Where does Christ's work of salvation enter the picture? There is no place for Christ—for His Passion and His Resurrection—in the religion of Scouting. As far as the principles of Scouting are concerned, there was no need for Christ to go to the cross. Scouting proposes a way to salvation quite apart from the Savior—a do-it-yourself method of salvation.

Scouting Leads to Pharisaism

The natural product of the religion of Scouting is a Pharisaic heart. Those who adhere to the Scout Law cannot but trust in their own outward moral righteousness, a righteousness apart from Christ. Each time a Scout does his good turn, he is strengthened in the belief that he is attaining a higher level of moral perfection.

The Scouting movement is not a new arrival on the American scene. However, its increasing popularity means that more parents throughout our Synod must be prepared to answer questions when their children become of Scout age. May each parent be guided by Scripture when he gives those answers!

¹ *Boy Scout Handbook*, January 1969, p. 38.

JERALD J. PLITZUWEIT

[The author is professor of Greek at Northwestern College, Watertown, Wisconsin.]

CHURCH DEDICATION

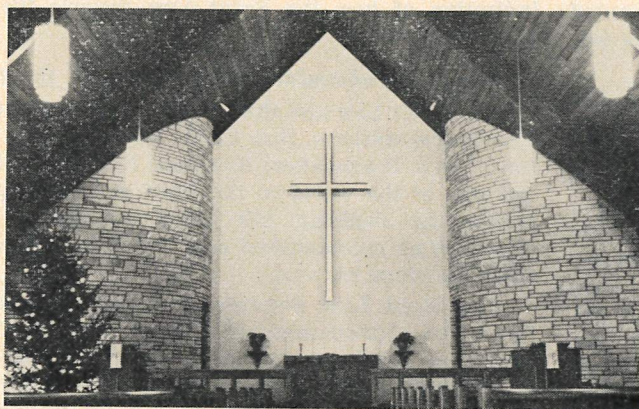
Orlando, Florida

After three years of worshipping in a dance hall, the members of King of Kings dedicated their new church and fellowship hall on November 16, 1969. Thanks to a loan of \$59,490 from the Synod's Church Extension Fund, 4500 square feet of worship and study area are now available for the promotion of God's kingdom in Orlando, Florida.

Pastor Raymond Wiechmann, chairman of the Mission Board, delivered the festival sermon. The pastors of the Florida Conference together with the men of the congregation formed a male chorus for the occasion to

sing Luther's "A Mighty Fortress." Two hundred fifteen worshipers remained after the service for refreshments and a tour of the building.

The church is of modern design. The ceiling consists of laminated beams with western red cedar decking; red carpeting and pews with red cushions add warmth; and the chancel area is highlighted by two striking towers of native Florida stone. Visitors have stated that King of Kings has a chapel of dignified beauty that would be hard to duplicate at any price. The chapel has a seating capacity of 240.



Christmas at King of Kings, Orlando, Florida.

King of Kings held its first service at the end of 1966 and organized in October of 1967. Blessed by the gracious hand of God, it has grown to 105 souls, of whom 60 are communicants. After the congregation worshipped in this new church for 14 weeks, it was reported that church attendance had increased by 40 per cent. Presently 10 adults are enrolled in adult information classes. Although the Lord can be worshiped on a dance floor—as He was here—a building conducive to worship is a tremendous asset to a congregation.

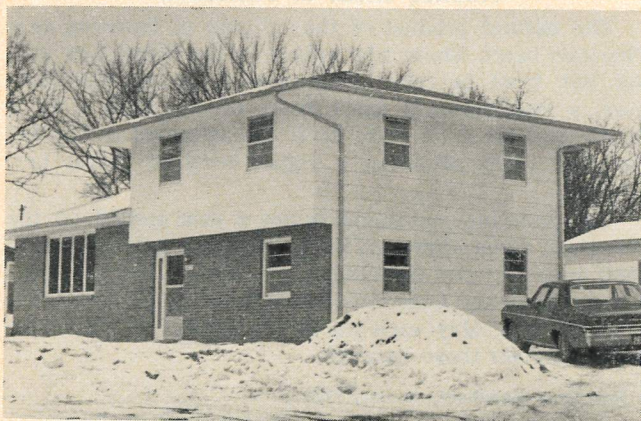
Orlando is a bustling, clean city of lakes in central Florida. Closely tied to the space program at nearby Cape Kennedy, Orlando is trying to become more stable in its economy through diversification. The opening of Disney World in 1971 will make Orlando one of the largest tourist centers in the world. Eight and one half million visitors are expected here each year. No doubt, many of you will soon find your way to our area. We invite you to worship with us. That will give us an opportunity to express our thanks to you for helping make our building possible, and together we'll worship Him who rules Zion, and who gives the increase to His coworkers here below.

RICHARD WIECHMANN, Pastor

PARSONAGE DEDICATION

Lincoln Heights Ev. Lutheran Church, Des Moines, Iowa

The members of Lincoln Heights Lutheran Church, Des Moines, Iowa, were privileged to dedicate a new parsonage on January 18 of this year. Pastor Charles



A loan from the Synod's Parsonage-Teacherage Fund enabled Lincoln Heights Ev. Lutheran Church of Des Moines, Iowa, to build this fine trilevel parsonage.

Flunker of Newton, Iowa, preached the dedication sermon on Nehemiah 4:14-21. Using this as his text Pastor Flunker spoke on the theme: "To Build with Two Hands." He pointed out that the Christian is to use one hand for offense and one hand for defense. We are to remember always that the goal of the congregation is not beautiful buildings but a much greater goal. Its goal is to *Preach the Gospel*. Pastor Flunker also pointed out that we are to have one hand for defense to ward off the enemies of the Church. That hand of defense is to be holding the sword of the Word of God for protection.

Following the dedication service, members of the congregation and visitors toured the house. An evening meal concluded the celebration.

The nine-room, trilevel home with basement and garage was built at a cost of \$19,600. The members by painting and finishing the woodwork helped to defray additional expense. Lincoln Heights is grateful to the members of the Synod for the loan from the Parsonage-Teacherage Fund which enabled it to build this new home.

Plans for the home were developed through the efforts of the building committee under the guidance of Pastor Flunker, who was the vacancy pastor at that time.

THOMAS F. ZARLING

Seminary Screen

Tying in a new building with an older structure can present some vexing architectural problems. One of an aesthetic nature presented itself when the new Seminary library was tied in with the chapel-gymnasium-classroom wing of the 1929 Seminary building complex. Open stairways going up to the chapel sacristy and down to the gymnasium had to be incorporated into the lobby, which leads both into the library and the classroom unit. At the time of the dedication of the new library the stairway railings still met the eye as a somewhat confusing maze of wrought iron bars.

Through a generous gift from Dr. and Mrs. Karl Schroeder of Livonia, Michigan, this maze has recently taken on the pleasing form of an artistic screen and has thereby be-

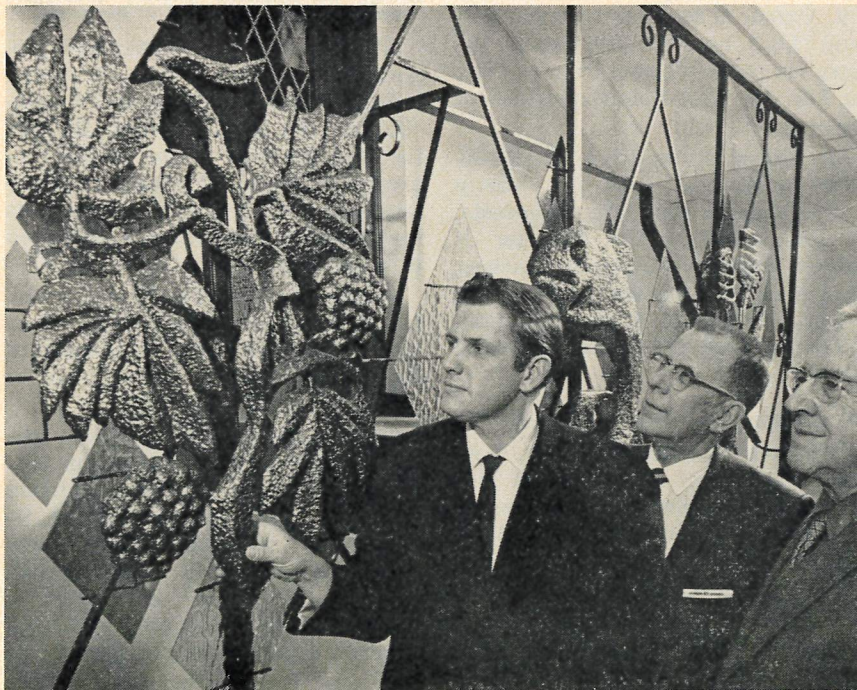
come a meaningful conversation piece. The symbol of the fish is a reminder that our new library facilities, too, are to serve us in confessing Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior. In days of persecution the early Christians confessed Him as such to one another by drawing the lines of a fish in the sand. In Greek the five letters spelling the word fish are at the same time the initial letters of the five words: Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior. As the Divine Savior and through His cross He is indeed the Bread of Life. Only as we abide in Him, the Vine, by faith as living branches, can we bear rich fruit that will abide.

Mrs. Schroeder is the daughter of Mr. Kurt Kneiske, Lannon, Wisconsin, who has for some time served faith-

fully and ably on our Seminary's Board of Control and its building committees. During their visits at Lannon Dr. Schroeder and his wife had become very much aware of their father's deep interest in the affairs of the Seminary, and especially also in its new library project. They felt that this screen was just the kind of gift with which they could acknowledge his untiring labors in behalf of the Seminary. Not too long after the dedication of the Seminary library the Lord called Mrs. Kurt Kneiske out of this life to her heavenly home. Memorial gifts from relatives and friends in excess of \$2100 were received by our library toward building up its book collection.

During January and February of this year the Seminary library again received more than \$3200 in special gifts and memorials. Among these contributions were several \$100 gifts, one of \$300, another of \$500, and one of \$2000. Special contributions and memorials of this kind permit our Seminary librarian, Professor Martin Lutz, to proceed with an accelerated program of book accessions as fast as his present library staff makes this possible. The new books entered into the library during 1969 number 1250 and were purchased at a cost of almost \$8000, a sum that far exceeds the Synodical Budget allotment. These accessions include expensive indexes, bibliographies, and encyclopedias, basic to a good theological library. The Seminary is very appreciative of all these special gifts, small as well as large, which make it possible to carry out the program of building up an adequate theological library as it was envisioned in the planning of our new library building.

CARL LAWRENZ



Christian symbols such as the vine with grapes, the fish, wheat, and the cross are silhouetted against the open areas and colored glass of this newly installed divider screen in the library lobby at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. The screen was executed by sculptor Paul Yank (left) who explained his technique to Professor Carl Lawrenz, President of the Seminary, and Mr. Kurt Kneiske, a member of the Building Committee.

Direct from the Districts

Dakota-Montana

80th Anniversary

June 16, 1968, was a memorable day for St. John's of Mazeppa Township, Grant County, Summit, South Dakota, when the members were privileged to observe the 80th anniversary of the congregation.

Festival speakers for the occasion were two former pastors: H. C. Schnitker, Plymouth, Nebraska, and O. W. Heier, Tomah, Wisconsin. An organ concert by Mr. Howard Nolte of Belle Plaine, Minnesota, followed the dinner hour.

During its 80 years, 15 pastors have served the congregation. Pastor Walter Herrmann came to St. John's in 1967.

May the Lord continue His blessings upon St. John's!

Young Peoples' Rally

The Dakota Lutheran Young People held their winter rally in Bowdle, South Dakota, on February 15, with more than 80 members attending. The topic for discussion: "Restlessness of Youth," was ably presented by Pastor Daniel Deutschlander of Akaska. A volley ball tournament was won by the Mound City group. Supper was served by the mothers of St. John's Youth Fellowship.

Resignation

Pastor W. Sprengeler of St. John's, Bowdle, South Dakota, has tendered his resignation effective June 1. Last November Pastor Sprengeler observed his 50th anniversary in the holy ministry. He and his wife plan to live in Henry, South Dakota.

GERHARD H. GEIGER

* * *

Northern Wisconsin

25th Anniversary in the Preaching Ministry

The members of the Manchester-Marquette parish surprised their pastor, the Rev. Lloyd Wenzel, on November 2, 1969, with a special service to commemorate his 25 years in the ministry. The speaker at the service was a classmate, Pastor Walter Schumann of Watertown, Wisconsin. Another classmate, the Rev. Arden Laper of Sun Prairie, was the liturgist. The

service was followed by a fellowship hour at which the Rev. Martin Janke of Fond du Lac served as toastmaster. Pastor George Kobs of Markesan was in charge of all arrangements.

After graduating from our seminary at Mequon in 1944, Pastor Wenzel was assigned to the Glendale, Arizona, parish as vacancy pastor. From 1945 to 1955 he served congregations at Winner and Witten, South Dakota, and then became pastor of the Renville-Winfield, Minnesota, parish from 1955 to 1964. Since 1964 he has served the congregations at Manchester and Marquette.

25th Anniversary in the Teaching Ministry

On Sunday, November 16, 1969, Mr. Myron Hilger was privileged to observe his 25th anniversary in the teaching ministry. A special service was held at St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, North Fond du Lac, where Mr. Hilger has taught since 1946. Pastor B. Kuschel of St. Paul's conducted the liturgy, and Pastor George Kobs, who confirmed Mr. Hilger, delivered the message based on Exodus 2:9. A choir of teachers from the area sang "Lord, Lead Us Still" under the direction of Mr. Gordon Pape of Fond du Lac. Mr. Earl Rolloff presided at the organ.

Mr. Hilger is a native of Markesan. After graduating from Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota, in 1944, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree at Concordia Teachers College in 1949. His teaching ministry began at Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church in the Township of Liberty near Manitowoc.

Educational Building Dedicated

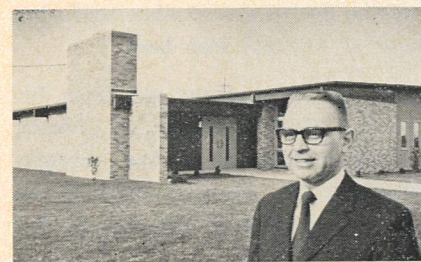
Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Coleman, Wisconsin, dedicated its new educational building on November 16, 1969. Pastor Clarence Koepsell, chairman of the Northern Wisconsin District Board for Parish Education, was the guest speaker. His message on "Christian Education—Training for Life" was based on II Timothy 3:14-17. Trinity's pastor is the Rev. Waldemar Zink.

In erecting this educational building members of Trinity gave not only of their treasures but also of their

time and talents. Plans for the building were drawn up by a member of the congregation, Mr. Carl Ziemer. Volunteers donated hundreds of hours in the construction of the building. The unit measures 60' x 52' and provides facilities for at least five Sunday-school classes, in addition to an office which also serves as a meeting room. The building is of block construction faced with brick.

Tenth Anniversary of Calvary, Sheboygan

Calvary Ev. Lutheran Church, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, celebrated the tenth anniversary of its organization on Sunday, December 14, 1969. The Rev. Eldon Bode, North St. Paul, Minnesota, was the guest preacher. Pastor Bode held the initial services in Sheboygan in 1958 and 1959 while serving at Cleveland, Wisconsin. Present pastor of Calvary is the Rev. Paul Borchardt.



Calvary Ev. Lutheran Church, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and Pastor Paul V. Borchardt.

At an anniversary dinner and program following the service, Professor Jerald Plitzuweit, Watertown, Wisconsin, was the main speaker. He was the first resident pastor of the congregation (1963-1967). During his pastorate the congregation erected its own house of worship and dedicated it in January 1966.

Others who served Calvary are Pastor Henry Meyer (1959-1961), Vicar Theodore Kretzmann (summer of 1961), and Pastor Samuel Kugler (1961-1963).

The congregation was received into membership with the Wisconsin Synod in 1960 and was granted mission status in 1961. At the time of its anniversary the congregation numbered 236 souls, 140 communicants, and 55 voters. It has 50 children in Sunday school. A class for special children is taught by the pastor.

1969 Reformation Services

In the Appleton area a Reformation Festival service was held on October 26 at Lawrence Memorial Chapel. Pastor Richard Balge, campus

pastor at the Wisconsin Lutheran Chapel, Madison, was the speaker. "Time for the Lord to Act" was the theme of his sermon based on Psalm 119:126. Pastor Marlyn Schroeder of Appleton was the liturgist, Mr. Kurt Oswald the organist. Mr. George Kiecker directed a choir of upper-grade pupils from Wisconsin Lutheran day schools in the Fox Valley area, and Mr. Gerhard Rolloff directed the Fox Valley Lutheran High School Chorus. The offering was sent to the Mexican and Indonesian missions of our Synod.

"Reformation in the Space Age" was the sermon theme for the service held at the Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Fond du Lac, on November 2. The Rev. Ernst Lehninger, executive director of the Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service in Milwaukee, served as preacher and the Rev. Howard Kaiser of Oakfield as liturgist. Participating in the service was a mixed choir under the direction of Mr. Robert Kuehn of Grace Congregation in Oshkosh. The choir was composed of choir members belonging to congregations of the Winnebago Lutheran Academy Association. A brass ensemble of the Academy band led the singing, and Mrs. George Hildebrant of Grace Church, Oshkosh, was the organist.

Area High Schools Music Festival

The Fox Valley Lutheran High School band of Appleton served as host for the annual band festival during the weekend of March 13-15. Participating besides the Fox Valley band were bands from Manitowoc Lutheran and Winnebago Lutheran. The weekend festival climaxed with a Sunday afternoon concert in the Fox Valley gym, at which an all-star band, made up of the top players from each school, also played.

Directors for the festival were Mr. William Fuhrman of the Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. Robert Sonntag of the Manitowoc Lutheran High School, and Mr. William Craig of Fox Valley.

Wedding Anniversaries

On October 12 Zion and Christ Congregations of Egg Harbor surprised Pastor and Mrs. Arthur Dobberstein on the occasion of their 35th anniversary. Pastor Ernst Lehninger, guest mission preacher on that day, had charge of the observance.

Mr. and Mrs. August Bley, lifelong members of Zion, Egg Harbor, cele-

brated their golden wedding on November 23 with a special afternoon service in the church.

Renovation

Christ Lutheran Church of Baileys Harbor recently renovated the interior of its church. All the work was done by volunteer labor. The renovation includes a new floor, wall-to-wall carpeting, and new colored windows.

PAUL H. KOLANDER

* * *

Pacific Northwest

Anniversaries:

This past fall marked the 40th anniversary of the ordination of Pastor Elmer Zimmermann of Trinity Congregation of Omak, Washington. Pastor Zimmermann's entire ministry has been in the Pacific Northwest District.

A special 30th anniversary service commemorating the ordination of Pastor T. R. Adascheck of Grace Congregation of Yakima, Washington, was held on December 28 with Pastor Arthur Valerio as the guest speaker. The first year of Pastor Adascheck's ministry was under the guidance of and as an assistant to Pastor F. Soll. After the latter's death, Pastor Adascheck has continued to serve the congregation until the present time.

We have in these two men 70 years of service in the Lord's ministry. Not only have the congregations served by these men benefited, but the church at large has been blessed through their service. "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and forget not all His benefits."

75th Anniversary

The 75th anniversary of the organization of St. Paul's Congregation of Tacoma, Washington, was observed on November 9, 1969. Records of the first pastor, Pastor Wolf, indicate that St. Paul's was the first Lutheran congregation organized among those of German extraction in Washington and Idaho. The congregation was begun under the auspices of the Ohio Synod, but it became a member of the Wisconsin Synod in 1895. It might be interesting for us to note that Pastor Wolf indicates that the salary at that time was \$25.00 per month. The congregation was served almost 30 years by Pastor Arthur Sydow. The present pastor, Pastor George Frey, has been at St. Paul's since the fall of 1959.

Services Begun

Services have been conducted in the Bremerton, Washington, area since September 7. A group of five families, formerly members of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, requested to be served by the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod after withdrawing from membership in their former congregation for confessional reasons. For the present, services are being conducted Sunday evenings in the Chico Community Club Hall, a few miles north of Bremerton. Attendance has averaged 27 for the first four months of the mission's existence.

KENNEWICK: Exploratory services began in November of 1968 and were conducted by Pastor Arthur Valerio of Zillah, Washington. Mission status was granted this group, which took the name of King of Kings in April of 1969. The District missionary, Pastor Warren Widmann, moved to the Tri-Cities in August of 1969. The nucleus of King of Kings is made up of five families, 10 communicants and about 20 souls. This nucleus has been very faithful. In recent weeks visitors have been more numerous, and expressions of interest by unchurched people have been coming in greater number. The future looks bright for this group, and the near future should find it organizing, purchasing land, and receiving its own permanent pastor.

BEND, OREGON: The first contact from Bend came in the spring of 1969, when a Wisconsin Synod member moved to Bend and began building homes for himself and other members of his family about 17 miles south of Bend. He informed the District Mission Board that about 25 souls, all with Wisconsin Synod background or interest, would soon be living in the Bend area. In September of 1969 the District Missionary began conducting services once a month for this group and made a general survey of this area. In November of 1969 the Oregon pastors helped the District Missionary do some canvassing in Bend. Quite a number of prospects and interested parties were turned up in this canvass, and plans are now under way to begin conducting exploratory services in Bend on a more regular basis. A funeral chapel has been made available for our use.

M. F. TESKE

(Continued on page 132)

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN CAMPUS HOUSE

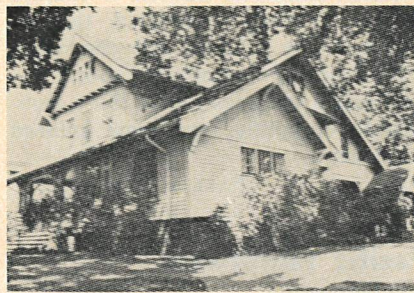
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

The history of the campus ministry at Oshkosh is a long one. For many years university students at Oshkosh regularly met at Martin Luther Church for Bible discussion, refreshments, and entertainment. In 1964 when Lutheran Collegians, our Synod's national association of college and university students, was formed, the group which met at Martin Luther became a chapter in this association. Even today, although the students enjoy a facility of their own, the tie between Martin Luther Church and the students remains strong. That church, together with the other Wisconsin Synod churches in Oshkosh, still sponsors a banquet for the university students each fall. Martin Luther's vicar, Roy Rose, also serves in the ministry of the campus house.

Purchase and Renovation of Campus House

Late in the fall of 1967 the students applied to the Synod for a facility of their own. They reasoned that they needed a campus house to reach the more than 450 Wisconsin Synod students on the WSU-O campus more effectively—a place where they could meet informally with fellow Lutheran students. In the spring of 1968 a meeting was held between the students and the Mission Board of the Northern Wisconsin District. Despite efforts on the part of the Mission Board to purchase a suitable house, it was not until June 1969 that the facility at 634 Wisconsin Street could be purchased. The campus house was dedicated in a special service at Martin Luther Church on November 9.

The initial growth of the campus ministry at Oshkosh was slow. The members of the campus ministry staff, Pastor John Ruege and the two vicars in Oshkosh, spent most of their time organizing the structure of the chapter and initiating basic projects for the campus ministry. The students meanwhile were busy cleaning, painting, and procuring furnishings. In October 1969, regular vesper services replaced the much shorter devotional



Campus House at 634 Wisconsin Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

services. In November a student council was elected to work with the ministry staff to coordinate activities. In December the first issue of the highly successful *Newsletter* appeared.

The year 1970 began with a flurry of activity, all intended to upgrade the vesper services and the chapel area. A student choir was formed, and has proved surprisingly successful.

Our Plea

The chapel area was completely redone: lighting was replaced, the seating capacity enlarged, altar furnishings purchased, and the strikingly beautiful cross, made by a member of Grace Congregation in Oshkosh, mounted behind the altar. Work was completed on the morning of Ash Wednesday, the day something totally unexpected happened. Prior to this the average attendance for our Wednesday vesper services were just under 20 people. The attendance on Ash Wednesday was 45, and has remained at that level since. Finally, it seems, the campus house has arrived!

We hope that this is just the beginning. Due to the part-time nature of the ministry, much work remains to be done. Under these conditions it is difficult for the ministry staff to visit dormitories and apartments in order to speak with the students personally, inform them of the campus house, and invite them to our services. While the attendance at our services has been gratifying, we know that there are still many students whom we are not reaching. It is estimated that there are some 600 Wis-

consin Synod students on campus. The students who have come have expressed a strong interest in a Bible class and in having a pastor available regularly for counseling. Those who are involved in the work at the house—the pastor, the vicars, and the students—all pray for the day when Oshkosh can have a full-time campus pastor.

Open House

Those of you who are interested in the Oshkosh campus ministry and live nearby will have an opportunity to visit our house and to learn more about the campus ministry at our first annual Open House Weekend, April 18 and 19. Over 200 invitations have been sent to congregations, to students at area Lutheran high schools, and to our campus houses at other universities. We invite all of you to attend, even if you have not received a special invitation. We promise you a most interesting and informative time.

ROBERT DIENER
ROBERT ZONDAG

* * *

(Continued from page 131)

DIRECT FROM THE DISTRICTS

Michigan

Sunday-School Teacher Honored

On November 23, 1969, the members of St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, Riga, Michigan, gathered to acknowledge the 40 years of faithful service rendered by Miss Helen Delker as a Sunday-school teacher in their midst. In the program which followed a dinner Pastor Floyd Mattek addressed the assembly, noting the blessed privilege that is ours in feeding the lambs of Christ. Congratulatory letters from former pupils were read and gifts from the congregation, the local branch of the Aid Association for Lutherans, and the Sunday school were presented. The gift from the Sunday school was an original painting befitting the occasion.

RICHARD W. MACKAIN

Dedication of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

Monroe, Michigan

The history of a congregation or the planning and building of a new church edifice in most cases follows a common pattern. To a great extent this was also true in the construction of the new church of Zion Congregation, Monroe, Michigan, and yet we wish to share our joy with our fellow Christians throughout the Synod and publicly acknowledge our thankfulness to our gracious God.

After being located in a neighborhood for over a century, the thought of relocating is disturbing, especially to those members who have worshiped there throughout their entire church life. However, in the late forties the members of Zion realized the need for relocating and at that time adopted a long-range program to effect it. The first step was the building of a new school. This was dedicated on March 20, 1955. The school consists of five classrooms, a library, a combination auditorium-

gymnasium, clinic, offices, and kitchen. In 1966, when the debt on the school was paid, plans were made to collect funds for a new church. That same year the Lord called a member of Zion to his eternal home who bequeathed all his earthly possessions to the congregation. The legacy amounted to almost \$90,000. With the cost of construction on the rise and the old church, built in 1883, in need of extensive repairs, the congregation on December 5, 1967, voted unanimously to accept the plans its architect had drawn for a new church. On November 24, 1968, the cornerstone was laid, and on November 9, 1969, the building was dedicated to the glory of the Triune God. Pastor Daniel Westendorf of Minneapolis, son of the late S. E. Westendorf, pastor of Zion when the plans for relocation were initiated, preached the dedicatory sermon in the forenoon, and Pastor W. J. Zarling, president of the Michigan District, ad-

ressed the congregation in the afternoon service.

The church, attached to the school, is of brick construction. From its free-standing steeple the favorite hymns of the Christian Church sound forth daily from carillons. The windows are of faceted glass, depicting important events in the life of the Savior and His Church. The nave seats 500, the balcony 100, and the spacious narthex has room for another 150. To incorporate the statues from the old church—statues of Christ, of Peter, and of Paul—a garden with a natural setting was designed for the narthex. Besides the worship area, the building provides a pastor's office, a secretary's office, conference room, and lounge. The cost of the church, complete with furniture and equipment, but excluding land and organ, was \$489,000. The indebtedness on the day of dedication was \$263,000.

We are thankful to our gracious God, who permitted us to build this house of worship and has blessed our efforts with a wonderful spirit of harmony and cooperation among our members.

GERHARD M. CARES, Pastor

25TH ANNIVERSARY — Christ Ev. Lutheran Church

Grand Island, Nebraska

On December 7, 1969, Christ Ev. Lutheran Church of Grand Island, Nebraska, was privileged to commemorate its 25th anniversary as a congregation. On hand to preach in special morning and afternoon services was Pastor L. A. Tessmer of Fort Collins, Colorado, the founder of the congregation.

Services were begun in Grand Island in November 1942 by Pastor Tessmer. In March of the following year he became the first resident pastor of the congregation. For a time services were held at various locations. In January 1945 a large house, later known as "the Castle Church," was purchased with help from the Church Extension Fund of the Wisconsin Synod. In November of 1955 the congregation dedicated its present church home, a chapel-school-parson-

age complex, to the service of the Triune God. The building program was carried out under the direction of Pastor W. R. Hoyer. In April of 1968 an addition to the parsonage was completed.

During the ministry of its third pastor, the Rev. W. F. Wichmann, the Christian day school was opened in September of 1958. With wholehearted support from the congregation the school has prospered. The enrollment has fluctuated from 40 to 60. Present teachers in the school are Mr. Daniel Hennig and Mrs. Janice Dyer.

Following the death of Pastor Wichmann in a car accident in June of 1965, the present pastor, G. E. Haag, came to serve the congregation.

During its first 25 years the congregation has seen two of its sons

enter the pastoral ministry: Pastor Robert Ehlers of Swartz Creek, Michigan, and Pastor Larry Cross of Sioux City, Iowa. Two of its members have entered the teaching ministry: Miss Mary Judy (Mrs. Bernard Bremer) and Mr. Steven Dankert, presently teaching in Kenosha, Wisconsin. It also is privileged to have seven of its young people enrolled in Synodical schools at Mobridge, South Dakota, and New Ulm, Minnesota.

On its 25th birthday Christ Lutheran numbers 221 souls, 155 communicant members, and 32 voting members.

The congregation begins the second quarter-century of its life under God with a prayer of thanks to Him for the grace so abundantly bestowed upon it for thus far and with the prayer that it may continue to grow in bringing forth the fruits of this grace in the hearts and lives of many sinners redeemed by the blood of Christ, to the eternal glory of His name.

GERHARDT E. HAAG

75th Anniversary, St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church, Warrens, Wisconsin

Not even the day-long rain could dampen the spirits of those who assembled for the diamond anniversary services of St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church, rural Warrens, Wisconsin, on October 12, 1969. The anniversary speakers were former pastors of the congregation. Pastor Gerhard Geiger of Roscoe, South Dakota, addressed the congregation on the basis of Psalm 7:17, 18 in the morning service. He encouraged them to continue to rejoice in God's mercy and grace in Christ that had been freely given them for the past 75 years.

Pastor Erling Carmichael of Fairfax, Minnesota, was the speaker in the afternoon service. He used the words of Moses in Deuteronomy 32:11, 12 as the basis for his sermon. He reminded the congregation that it was God who had preserved it through the years, and that even though His people often are faithless, He abides ever faithful and preserves His Gospel unto us.

Greetings were read from former pastors and from the conference visitor in behalf of member congregations of the Southwestern Conference of the Western Wisconsin District. Some 300 people were present for the dinner and lunch in the afternoon in the newly redecorated basement. Since the church seats scarcely 100 people, this too was a cause for rejoicing. The congregation also observed the 40th anniversary of its house of worship at the same time. The anniversary booklet includes a picture of the altar and the words of the 75th Psalm. The words of the Psalmist appropriately

give expression to the congregation's thankfulness for having reached this milestone in its history: "Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks, unto thee do we give thanks; . . . I will declare for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob."

HENRY H. KLUG



The altar of St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church, Warrens, Wisconsin.

Studies in God's Word

(Continued from page 124)

of the Apostle Paul (Rom. 1:17; Gal. 3:11).

By faith "the saints of old won God's approval" (verse 2, Weymouth). In this chapter the writer brings a wealth of evidence from the Old Testament to verify this statement. We reserve the details for a later study. Before citing numerous examples of heroic faith, however, the Holy Spirit through the inspired penman draws our attention to the doctrine of creation and reminds us that this is an article of faith.

Creation, A Matter of Faith, Not of Scientific Proof

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." We *believe* that God created heavens and the earth; we don't attempt to *prove* it. Faith bows in humble submission to the Word of God. It does not question that Word. It does not quarrel with that Word.

In simple, childlike faith Christians accept what God has to say concerning the origin of the world.

God, the Creator, informs us that He brought the whole universe of space and time into existence by His omnipotent word. Before He called it into being, there was nothing—nothing but God. Then God simply said, "Let there be!" and there it was! "By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. . . . For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast" (Ps. 33:6, 9).

Human reason rebels against this clear teaching of the Bible. A creation out of nothing is contrary to all human observation and experience. The holy writer does not deny this. "Through *faith*"—and only through faith—he insists, do we understand this. Like the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the fact that God created all things that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible (Col. 1:16), using no material of any kind out of which to fashion them but

merely speaking a word, is a divinely revealed truth. It is not subject to laboratory analysis or capable of scientific demonstration. To all who deny it, however, the Almighty issues the challenge He once addressed to Job: "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding" (Job 38:4).

Despite the fact that the principles of evolution are unreasonable and in direct conflict with established scientific laws, many accept it nevertheless. In the words of Paul, "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools" (Rom. 1:22). Many even among those who profess to be Christians have espoused it in a so-called theistic form, claiming that God created the world not in six days as Genesis teaches, but over a long period of time by an evolutionary process.

The saints of old, on the other hand, the men and women of God whose names are recorded in the Book of Life, some of whom this eleventh chapter of Hebrews mentions by name, and countless others whose

names are known only to God, did not attempt to effect a compromise between the Word of God and the word of man. They lived by faith. They died in faith. In this age of apostasy and unbelief in which we live we would be well advised to emulate their faith. Then we too will "obtain a good report" and the crown of eternal life.

WILBERT R. GAWRISCH

CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES

MICHIGAN

SOUTHWEST PASTORAL CONFERENCE

Date: Tues., April 14, 1970.
Place: St. Paul's, Hopkins, Mich.
Host pastor: R. Welch.
Time: 9 a.m. Holy Communion service, K. Vertz, preacher (R. Welch, alternate).
Agenda: Exegesis of Eph. 2, D. Krause; Exegesis of I Cor. 15:23-28, E. Schaeewe; Presentation on Child Welfare Work, M. Kujath (guest essayist); Marriage and Divorce, R. Freier.

R. Shimek, Secretary

* * *

FLORIDA CONFERENCE

Date: April 21, 1970.
Place: Peace Lutheran Church, Bradenton.
Host Pastor: J. Vogt.
Time: 9 a.m. Communion service.

M. A. Goeglein, Secretary

* * *

SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

Date: April 24, 1970.
Place: Emanuel First Ev. Lutheran Church, Lansing, Mich.
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Agenda: Visit to State Capitol; Tour of Oldsmobile Plant; Information on Field Trips (Ray Manthe); Business Meeting; Inspirational Address (host pastor).

Marie Spaude, Secretary

NORTHERN WISCONSIN

LAKE SUPERIOR PASTOR/TEACHER CONFERENCE

Date: April 14 and 15, 1970.
Place: St. John's, Peshtigo, Wis.; J. P. Sauer, host pastor.
Time: Opening Communion service on the 14th at 9:30 a.m. CST; Preacher, R. Steffenhagen (alternate, W. Steffenhagen).
Exegesis: I Pet. 3, W. Steffenhagen.
Papers: Sex Education, J. Sauer; Civil Disobedience, R. Frohmader; Evaluation of the Practice of Communing Children Before Confirmation, W. Zink; Isagogical Review of Haggai, P. Huebner.

Verne N. Voss, Secretary

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

METROPOLITAN MILWAUKEE LUTHERAN TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

Date: May 1, 1970.
Time: 9 a.m.
Place: Gloria Dei-Bethesda Lutheran School, Milwaukee, Wis.
Agenda: 1. The Fourth Commandment: Prof. John Chworowsky; 2. The Space Age as it Affects the Christian, Prof. Luther Spaude.
James A. Behmer, Secretary

WESTERN WISCONSIN

WISCONSIN RIVER VALLEY — CHIPPEWA RIVER VALLEY PASTORAL CONFERENCE

Date: April 21, 1970.
Time: 9 a.m. Communion service.
Place: St. John's, Rib Lake.
Speaker: B. A. Borgschatz (W. F. Frank, alternate).
Proposed Agenda: Synodical Information by President Oscar J. Naumann; Exegesis of

II Tim. by A. E. Schulz; Commercialism in the Church, by F. A. Kogler; Ministering to the Grief Sufferer, by J. P. Meyer; Lutheranism and Society, by R. P. Otto; The Message of the Minor Prophets for Today, by K. E. Schroeder; Mission Reports, by Wm. Lange and H. M. Schwartz; Questions of Casuistry.

Kent E. Schroeder, Secretary

* * *

DISTRICT TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

Place: Bangor, Wis.
Time: April 23 and 24, 1970.
Program: Practical Application of the Second Article, Pastor R. A. Schultz, Wausau, Wis.; Sex Education for Our Schools, Pastor R. Siegler, Bangor, Wis.; Public Relations — Panel Discussion by Faculty of Immanuel of Medford, Wis.; Sectional Discussions on Public Relations: Teaching Church History to Our Pupils, Mr. A. Moldenhauer, Baraboo, Wis.; Child Development, Mr. E. Arndt, Milwaukee Lutheran High School; Inspirational Address, arranged by host pastor.
Margot Schuetze, Secretary

* * *

SOUTHWESTERN COUNCILMEN'S CONFERENCE

Baraboo River Circuit

Place: Faith Church, Reedsburg, Wis.
Date: April 26, 1970.
Time: 8 p.m.
Speaker: Mr. Robert Adickes.
Topic: Is Man's Theory of Evolution the Answer?

Gerald Schulte, Secretary

* * *

CENTRAL PASTOR-TEACHER CONFERENCE

Date: May 4, 1970.
Place: Lakeside Lutheran High School, Lake Mills, Wis.
Time: 9 a.m.
Preacher: Gustav Frank (alternate, Darvin Raddatz).
Agenda: Exegesis of Acts 11:19-30, Pastor F. Mutterer; The Organ Program at New Ulm, Prof. Bruce Backer; Confirmation and First Communion, Pastor Darvin Raddatz.

Wernor E. Wagner, Secretary

* * *

SOUTHWESTERN PASTORAL CONFERENCE

Place: St. Paul's, Bangor, Wis.
Date: May 12, 1970.
Time: 9 a.m.
Host: Pastor R. Siegler.
Preacher: J. Schroeder (alternate, A. Schubring).
Exegesis: II Corinthians 11, Pastor J. Mumm.
Isagogics: Habbakuk, C. Nommensen; Doctrinal/Practical: Birth Control, F. Werner.
James M. Mumm, Secretary

DMLC CONCERT

Sunday, April 12, 8 p.m.

Homecoming Concert of Dr. Martin Luther College Choir, Auditorium Academic Center, Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn.

CHORAL FESTIVAL

Three hundred fifty voices in the combined choirs, the largest choir to sing at the Performing Arts Center in Milwaukee, will be involved in the first Wisconsin Lutheran Choral Festival May 3, 1970. The Festival Committee is pleased to announce that Uihlein Hall, a 2300-seat auditorium, has been completely sold out.

To accommodate the many more who wish to attend this Choral Festival, an evening concert is planned for the same day. This will include an identical program and will be held in the auditorium of Wisconsin Lutheran High School at 7:30 p.m.

The auditorium of Wisconsin Lutheran High School seats approximately 1,000 and all tickets will be sold in advance. The price of tickets for the evening concert is \$1.50. Please order your tickets at the following address:

Wisconsin Lutheran Choral Festival
3744 North 85th Street
Milwaukee, Wis. 53222

The Festival Choirs:

Wisconsin Lutheran High School Choir
Wisconsin Lutheran College Choir
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Male Choir
Northwestern College Male Choir
Dr. Martin Luther College Concert Choir
The Lutheran Chorale

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Dean of Students — English

Since Prof. Richard Buss has accepted a call to DMLC, the Board of Control of Northwestern Lutheran Academy herewith requests the constituency of the Synod to nominate candidates who possess the qualifications necessary for serving as Dean of students and teaching in the field of English. The candidate is to be a theologically trained man. Opportunity for further study in the field of English will be made available to the candidate called.

Nominations should include as much pertinent data as possible and should be in the hands of the undersigned by April 20, 1970.

NLA Board of Control
Pastor David Krenke, Chairman
620 Ninth St. West
Moberidge, S. Dak. 57601

WORKSHOP

The annual Campus Pastors' Workshop will be held April 21, Tuesday, 9 a.m., at Parkside Lutheran Church, Sherman Blvd. and W. North Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
LSWC Student Service
John Raabe

RESULT OF COLLOQUY

In a colloquy held on March 16, 1970, the Rev. Mark F. Bartling, Grant Park, Ill., formerly a clergyman of the Lutheran Churches of the Reformation, was found to be in agreement with the doctrine and practice of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod and is herewith declared eligible for a call into our Synod.

First Vice-President Carl H. Mischke
District President Adolph C. Buenger
Professor Heinrich J. Vogel

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Pastor

Schmeling, David G.
1212 Horace St.
Lake Geneva, Wis. 53147

NAMES REQUESTED

Austin, Texas, now has a resident pastor. Please send the names of WELS families or prospects living in the Austin, Texas, area to Pastor James Radloff, 1006 Colony North Dr., Austin, Texas 78758. Worship services are held each Sunday at 11 a.m. in the Canterbury Chapel, University Ave. at 27th. For more detailed information call 836-4264.

NEW PLACE OF WORSHIP Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church Birmingham, Alabama

Services are now being conducted at the BTNB Bank in the Vestavia Hills Shopping Center, 724 Highway 31 South, Birmingham. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study — 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service — 10:15 a.m.

A MISSION REQUEST

The following items would help to beautify our new place of worship: an altar cross, altar candelabra, flower vases, altar and lectern hangings, and a missal stand. If any used equipment is available, please contact:

Karl S. Peterson, Pastor
3140 P Napoleon Court
Birmingham, Ala. 35243

THE WELS FOUNDATION

was created to help you serve the Lord's work financially, through your Gifts of cash or other assets
Bequests in your will
Assignment of insurance
Life Annuities

For information or help write:
Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran
Synod Foundations, Inc.
3512 West North Avenue,
Milwaukee, Wis. 53208

1970 PREBUDGET SUBSCRIPTION OFFERINGS

	Two months ended February 28, 1970		
	Prebudget Subscription	Pension	Total
Arizona-California	\$ 24,539	\$ 767	\$ 25,306
Dakota-Montana	18,687	15	18,702
Michigan	104,852	1,099	105,951
Minnesota	150,684	3,421	154,105
Nebraska	22,471	305	22,776
Northern Wisconsin	153,809	4,039	157,848
Pacific Northwest	5,677	225	5,902
Southeastern Wisconsin	162,302	4,819	167,121
Western Wisconsin	159,683	9,565	169,248
Total — 1970	\$802,704	\$24,255	\$826,959
Total — 1969	\$837,307	\$32,633	\$869,940

1970 PREBUDGET SUBSCRIPTION PERFORMANCE

	Two months ended February 28, 1970			
	Subscription Amount for 1970	2/12 of Annual Subscription	Subscription and Pension Offerings	Per cent of Subscription
Arizona-California	\$ 152,855	\$ 25,476	\$ 25,306	99.3
Dakota-Montana	161,785	26,964	18,702	69.4
Michigan	789,414	131,569	105,951	80.5
Minnesota	845,967	140,994	154,105	109.3
Nebraska	154,802	25,800	22,776	88.3
Northern Wisconsin	953,436	158,906	157,848	99.3
Pacific Northwest	48,630	8,105	5,902	72.8
Southeastern Wisconsin	1,189,761	198,294	167,121	84.3
Western Wisconsin	1,030,763	171,794	169,248	98.5
Total — 1970	\$5,327,413	\$887,902	\$826,959	93.1
Total — 1969	\$5,270,810	\$878,468	\$869,940	99.0

CURRENT BUDGETARY FUND

Statement of Income and Expenditures

Twelve months ended February 28, 1970, with comparative figures for 1969

	Twelve months ended February 28			
	1970	1969	Increase or Decrease* Amount	Per cent
Income				
Prebudget Subscription Offerings	\$5,216,816	\$3,776,195	\$1,440,621	38.2
Gifts and Memorials	108,631	142,517	33,886*	23.8*
Pension Plan Contributions	92,078	106,127	14,049*	13.2*
Bequest	30,727	53,026	22,299*	42.1*
Income from NWPB	21,562	16,562	5,000	30.2
Other Income	5,160	1,782	3,378	
Total Income	\$5,474,974	\$4,096,209	\$1,378,765	33.7
Expenditures				
Worker-Training	\$1,303,626	\$1,367,816	\$ 64,190*	4.7*
Home Missions	1,027,453	978,920	48,533	5.0
World Missions	716,970	614,656	102,314	16.6
Benevolences	722,650	688,512	34,138	5.0
Administration and Services	359,283	336,558	22,725	6.8
Appropriations	537,127	320,396	216,731	67.6
Total Expenditures	\$4,667,109	\$4,306,858	\$ 360,251	8.4
Operating Gain	\$ 807,865			
Operating Deficit**		\$ 210,649**		

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

REQUEST FOR NAMES
Salt Lake City, Utah

The Colorado Mission District Mission Board is considering the possibility of exploratory services in Salt Lake City. If you know of persons in this general area who would be interested, please send their names to our missionary-at-large:

Pastor L. A. Tessmer
1304 Le May Ave.
Fort Collins, Colo. 80521

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

The California Mission Board is attempting to evaluate and compare various possible new home mission fields which come to our attention from references and requests. With commercial, chemical, and aircraft interests contributing to substantial growth in the Las Vegas area, we need to update all information regarding interested persons and potential prospects for possible WELS home mission work there. Send names, addresses, and pertinent information to:

California Mission Board, WELS
Pastor Robert Hochmuth, Chairman
3451 Eden Dr.
Santa Clara, Calif. 95051

WISCONSIN SYNOD LUTHERAN MISSION
OF PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Location:
Kenmoor Elementary School
3211 82nd Ave.
Lanover, Maryland
Services: 4 p.m. each Sunday (Sunday school at 3 p.m.)
Interested persons are encouraged to contact:

Mr. Jerald Kluckman
7809 Powhatan St.
New Carrollton, Md.
(301) 459-5687

LCDR L. J. Pingel
3105 Brinkley Road A-201
Oxon Hill, Md.
(301) 630-3687

NOTICE OF MEETINGS
THE SYNODICAL COUNCIL

The Synodical Council will meet, God willing, on April 29 and 30, 1970, at the Synod Administration Building, 3512 W. North Avenue, Milwaukee, Wis. 53208. The first session begins at 9 a.m. The meeting is set for the last week in April, because Ascension Day falls on May 7, the first Thursday in May.

Preliminary meetings of various boards, committees and commissions that plan to meet during that week should be scheduled by the chairmen.

All materials to be included in the Report to the Nine Districts are to be ready for presentation to the Council that week.

Oscar J. Naumann, President

THE ASSIGNMENT COMMITTEE

This year the Assignment Committee will meet, God willing, at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis., on May 19 at 9 a.m. to assign the ministerial candidates and vicars. On May 20 the Committee will meet at the Synod Administration Building to assign the teacher candidates. The preliminary meeting of the District presidents begins at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 18.

Oscar J. Naumann, President

NOTICE!

Pastor Waldemar R. Hoyer
Civilian Chaplain in Southeast Asia
Saigon, Vietnam

Servicemen may phone Saigon PTT 22429 or visit Chaplain Hoyer at 329 Vo Tanh.

Mailing address:
WELS Box 56, APO SF 96243