

The Northwestern Lutheran



He took the young child and his mother by night
and departed into Egypt

December 14, 1975

AT CHRISTMAS

*At Christmas as a child I wept,
Lord, at Thy birth, for Thee.
But now I know that Thou didst come
In love to weep for me.*

*I pitied Thee Thy lowliness
In manger rude and bare;
But, oh, how wondrous is the love
And mercy I find there.*

*With gifts of gold I longed to ease
Thy noble poverty.
But kneeling at Thy manger there,
I found great gifts for me.*

*I truly longed in simple faith
To gladden Thy sad life.
Until I learned that Thou wast born
To cheer me in life's strife.*

*I thought about the painful path
Which led to Calvary,
And though I longed to break Thy bonds,
'Twast Thou who set me free.*

*I followed to the cross to curse
The hands they laid on Thee;
But there beneath the cross all find
Forgiveness full and free.*

*I longed to cheer Thee, dying Lord,
In Thy sad lonely death;
But Thou wilt be my faithful friend
In my last laboured breath.*

*No home was Thine — so then my own
I longed to share with Thee.
Soon at Thy throne with joy I'll find
A mansion waiting me.*

Ella Found

Through His Poverty We Are Rich!

The grace of God must be our theme during the Christmas season even as it has been our theme all year. In our richly blessed Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod we have been observing our Grace 125 jubilee for many months. At Christmastime this grace shines all about us even as the glory of the Lord shone round about the shepherds when the holy angels announced the long-awaited birth of the world's Savior.

The Apostle Paul, guided by God's Holy Spirit, worded the cause of our Christmas joy most forcefully in II Corinthians 8:9, "Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich."



You and I were conceived and born in sin. From our birth on we were not only poor, but spiritually bankrupt. Our natural attitude was one of hatred and enmity against the only Being who could help us out of our miserable condition. Scripture clearly teaches that the carnal mind is enmity against God.

Furthermore it teaches that no man could do anything about his lost condition. Only the God of heaven and earth, whom man had offended

time and again, and whose will man in his sinful state could not obey, could redeem us and rescue us from eternal damnation.

This God has done. He had promised our first parents in the Garden of Eden that He would send the Seed of the woman to crush the head of the serpent. This promise was repeated throughout the Old Testament. The many precious gems from Scripture are a rich heritage in these last evil days. They have made us rich beyond measure, for they have made us by faith the children and heirs of the God of grace.

"Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise up unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is His name whereby He shall be called, **THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**"

Of Him Isaiah wrote, "Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our

peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed."

Knowing and believing these saving truths by God's gracious dealings with us, we count it a privilege to join the angel of the Lord in announcing: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

This message is our source of comfort, peace, and hope at all times. We believe, teach, and confess that "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

God has entrusted us with this good news as a life-giving message to be carried to frightened sinners everywhere. For God's grace is so rich that it embraces all. He sent His Son as the Redeemer of all. Christ died for all and He invites all, "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

And to us in particular, to our highly-favored Synod and its richly-blessed members, He says: "Ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Entrusted with this precious truth and called into this soul-saving mission, we are truly rich despite our past sins and transgressions. What was ours, sin and guilt, He bore. What was His, grace, forgiveness, peace, and life eternal, He has given to us. Truly, through His poverty we are rich!

This wealth we can freely share with those who are poor and with those who are in suffering and pain. One example will suffice. Many pastors and doctors have no doubt been asked the question: "Will I see another Christmas?" The question undoubtedly referred to another Christmas in the midst of the worshiping congregation on earth and in the midst of family and friends.

By God's rich grace we, His children and heirs, can always answer this question with a firm "Yes, indeed, you will!" For even if it pleases God to call His ransomed child out of this vale of tears into the joys of heaven, His child will then be celebrating an eternal Christmas in heaven, in the very presence of our God and Redeemer, singing His praise and glory with all His saints and holy angels. Oh, that we were there!

As we, however, await His invitation to come home, let us count it a glorious privilege to bring not only an annual and seasonal Christmas message to frightened and despairing sinners, but to share with them the full riches of God's grace. That grace assures them and us of an eternal Christmas in the Father's house in heaven.

Oscar Mannam

Editorials

Nondiscrimination

If jolly old St. Nick really existed, and if he actually did distribute all those nice gifts free of charge around the world the night before Christmas, one charge could still be brought against him. He discriminates by race, by citizenship, and especially by economic level. He leaves less behind for the people of undeveloped countries, and he usually skips the very poor altogether.

Unlike the legendary Santa Claus, God does not discriminate. "God so loved the *world* that He gave His only-begotten Son." The "good tidings of great joy," announced first to the shepherds, were for "all people."

This includes you, whoever you are or whatever you have done. No one is in a better position to know your sins than you are. If you are honest with yourself, you see yourself as the "chief" of sinners, as St. Paul saw himself. You are guiltily aware that while many of your sins may be veiled from the eyes of other people, they are not hidden from God. The inescapable conclusion is that if God discriminates among sinners, you will be among the first to be excluded.

The Scriptures, thank God, teach otherwise. "Whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

Aside from the fact that it is the only gift that really meets our need, and aside from the fact that it is the only gift that does not lose its value through time and circumstance, the beauty of God's Gift lies in the fact that it is offered indiscriminately to sinners — like us.

Immanuel Frey

Childhood Christmas Faith

The language of Christmas is the language of childhood faith. The Christmas hymns and carols and recitations brought the Lord Jesus close to us, and we embraced Him in faith and love as a child embraces a baby brother. Christmas spoke to us of our Savior, and we understood and believed. Now when we hear the songs of childhood again, our faith remembers and relives its joy.

If that early Christmas language

was German, then that is still the language of childhood faith that is closest to the heart. It is not "Come hither, ye children," but "Ihr Kinderlein, kommet" that best recaptures the Christmas Eve procession. Better than "Silent night, holy night" it is "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht" that recreates the mood of hushed adoration. "Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her," "Alle Jahre wieder," and all the other German Christmas hymns and carols still bring us closest to what we felt and believed as little children.

We no longer have Christmas Eve services in German, but the voices of German children on the recordings we play at Christmas time transport us back in spirit to the simple piety and worship of childhood.

With the joy comes a pang. The people that gave us these beloved songs once cherished the simple, childlike faith they expressed. Now much of that faith is gone. The hearts of the German people are being beguiled by an abundance of this world's goods. From their pulpits the pastors preach to pathetically few, and even then their Gospel is tainted by the unbelief of science and the speculations of philosophy.

Our Lutheran Reformation Gospel was swaddled in their tongue, and many of our treasured Christmas hymns and carols sprang from their faith. May a merciful God restore in that erring land the simple, childlike faith of the blessed songs of Christmas their children sang!

Carleton Toppe

"Fear Not!"

It seemed such a slender thread upon which to hang the salvation of the world — the defenseless babe cradled in a manger, the feeble throb of an infant heartbeat, the insecurity of the cattleshed in Bethlehem.

Everywhere things were happening which seemed a million times more important and powerful. There was the relentless march of the Roman legions, the wreckage of the royal house of David, increased taxation and economic crises, political unrest and social disorder.

Today, too, God's work of salvation seems to hang from such a slender thread, the frail faith of His believing

(Continued on page 409)

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

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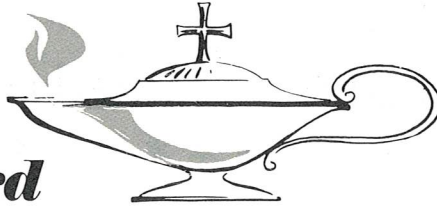
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THE NORTHWESTERN LUTHERAN

Studies in God's Word



The Child of God in the World

Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man (Colossians 4:5,6).

It has often been said, and correctly so, that the child of God is **in** the world but not **of** the world. It is important for us to remember that. Cautious as we try to be, we tend nevertheless to be influenced by our times and by the people around us. We stand in danger of being swayed by the world's judgments and by its sense of moral and ethical values. Hence we do well to remind ourselves constantly to stand clear of entangling alliances with the world. It is only consistent for us to do so, for we are, after all, not citizens of this world, but pilgrims on our way to heaven.

And yet, while we are not **of** the world, we are however **for** the present **in** it. And we are here because our Lord has put us here. If the only reason for our existence were our own salvation, then God in His grace might well have taken us out of this world the moment we came to faith. But He has not done so. He has left us in the world — and for a very specific reason. We have an obligation to the world.

An Obligation to the World

St. Paul felt keenly this obligation to his fellow men. In the verses im-

mediately preceding our reading he urged the Colossians, "Devote yourselves to prayer . . . and pray for us too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ. . . . Pray that I may proclaim it clearly" (v. 3,4). Paul felt himself a debtor to all men, compelled to share with them the knowledge of Christ Jesus, his Savior. And that feeling of indebtedness the Apostle would lay also on you and me. Not only to the Colossians but to everyone "within," i.e., to all members of Christ's Church, St. Paul says, "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without."

Christian Conduct

Christian conduct is important. For many people of this world, the only sermon that they may ever hear is the one written in the life and conduct of God's children. How vital that the message proclaimed there be a positive one, a clear testimony that we belong to the Lord and that it is Him whom we are serving! Those who "walk in wisdom" will realize that there dare not be one type of life and conduct for Sunday and another for the rest of the week. The world is quick to notice, and to scorn, such hypocrisy. The Savior says, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Not only is a Christian life important, but there is an urgency about it. "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without," St. Paul says, "*redeem-*

ing the time." Literally he says, "Buy up the time!" Get as much of it as you can! Make the most of every opportunity, for time is running out for this world. Surely that thought is brought home to us in every Advent season with its emphasis on our Lord's coming. He will return to judge the quick and the dead. The night is far spent. The day is at hand. Let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light (Rom. 13:12).

Christian Conversation

The child of God's testimony to the world, however, consists not only in what he **does** but equally in what he **says**. Hence St. Paul urges, "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt." Speaking "with grace" does not mean using gracious speech, i.e., clever and witty conversation, charming to the hearer. It is rather speech that the Apostle calls "seasoned with salt." Salt is a preservative. In writing to the Ephesians Paul warns against conversation lacking such preserving salt when he says, "Let no corrupt conversation come from your mouth, but such as is useful for edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers" (Eph. 4:29). Truly gracious speech is that which imparts grace to the hearer. To engage in such speech is the reason why we are still in the world.

As we again celebrate the birth of our Savior, let us resolve that this year we will do more than merely **wish** the world a Merry Christmas. Let us **give** them that which can make it a truly blessed Christmas. Let us share with them the message of Him who not only was born in Bethlehem but who died for all men on Calvary's cross and who rose again for their justification. The time is drawing late. For many, yes, perhaps for us also, there may not be another Christmas. Let us therefore "redeem the time." In our conduct and in our conversation let us seize every opportunity to give an answer to every man that asks us a reason for the hope that is in us (I Pet. 3:15). In Christ we have a glorious hope. It is only in order that we may share this blessed hope that our Lord is still letting us in the world.

Armin J. Panning



Shall We Celebrate Christmas?



Right or Wrong?

The coming holidays would be incomplete if we could not attend church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Besides, we thoroughly enjoy the social side of this festival honoring our Lord's birth, as our families get together for meals and visits. We feel sorry for those who cannot be home, and we miss those who have gone never to return this side of judgment. Christmas is important to us and our families in so many ways. The holiday is especially important, however, because it brings the Christian family together for worship.

It's difficult for us to understand that it could ever have been otherwise. But it was. Oh, we know that even today Jehovah Witnesses and a few other sects do not celebrate Christmas. But that's not surprising, for so many of their doctrines are unscriptural. What does surprise us is that in the past there were Christians who considered celebrating Christmas something wrong and sinful.

Forbidden by Law

With our nation observing its 200th anniversary, we naturally look back into history. We wonder how people lived in the days of the Revolutionary War and before. As we leaf through the dusty pages, we find to our surprise that Christmas was at times forbidden by law, and that there certainly was no uniformity of opinion on this matter in the colonies.

From 1659 to 1681, for example, it was unlawful for anyone to celebrate Christmas in Massachusetts. The Puritans, or those of a similar background, were inclined to consider amusements and celebrations of any kind sinful. Concerning Christmas one of their divines said, "Christ's mission on earth as the Savior of man was too serious a one to be cele-

brated by the fallen race He came to save." When some colonists later joined them who did not have that kind of a pietistic background, the General Court of Massachusetts passed a law forbidding the observance of Christmas. It read: "Whosoever shall be found observing such day as Christmas or the like, either by forbearing of labor, feasting, or any other way, as a festival, shall be fined five shillings."

It's true that any festival can be misused, yet their objections seem on par with those of the scribes and Pharisees who were quoted by Jesus as saying: "John (the Baptist) came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil. The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children" (Matt. 11:18,19). The great temptation of serious-minded people in the church is to make something a sin that is no sin. The Old Adam, on the other hand, would induce Christians to let anything pass.

New Amsterdam

The Dutch colonists, who settled New Amsterdam, displayed quite a different spirit from that of the Pilgrim fathers. In fact, they might be accused of turning Christmas into a totally secular celebration. Today we would perhaps remind them to put Christ back into Christmas.

For example, on December 14, 1654, the city officials in New Amsterdam passed the following motion: "As the winter and the holidays are at hand, there shall be no more ordinary meetings of this board between this date and three weeks after Christmas. The court messenger is ordered not to summon any one in

the meantime." It is evident that Christmas was a happier time for New Amsterdam back in 1654 than it is for New York officials in 1975, trying desperately to avoid bankruptcy.

German Traditions

It was principally the German settlers who made the Christmas observance in the colonies a distinctly religious experience. They brought their traditions with them, among others that of the Christmas Eve service. To hear the children recite the Christmas promises and fulfillments was always one of the highlights of the year for them. For the children, it was perhaps the sack of candy and nuts, a custom that prevails in our churches down to this day. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day have always been some of the most joyous festivals in the church. Who wouldn't shout for joy when hearing that God became man to save man from sin! That would be following the example of the Christmas angels with their "Glory to God in the Highest!"

Perhaps you have forgotten that it was a Christmas celebration that helped General Washington and his troops win one of the decisive battles of the American Revolution. The Hessians (German mercenary soldiers), housed across the Delaware in Trenton, were not about to omit celebrating Christmas that year. When on Christmas Eve Washington and his force crossed the Delaware and attacked the Hessians, they were completely surprised and gave up without a struggle.

Will your hearts be full of joy this Christmas? Can they be that even if everything earthly seems to be going wrong? Yes, indeed! Christmas is not eating and drinking, but tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. Christ was born!

Our New Christian Day Schools

Baltimore **DURAND** *Portland Hopkins* **JACKSONVILLE**

BEATRICE *South Windsor* **MUKWONAGO** *Oakfield Madison*

Minneapolis Egg Harbor Bangor **ANCHORAGE** *Flagstaff Marshfield*

**Part
III**

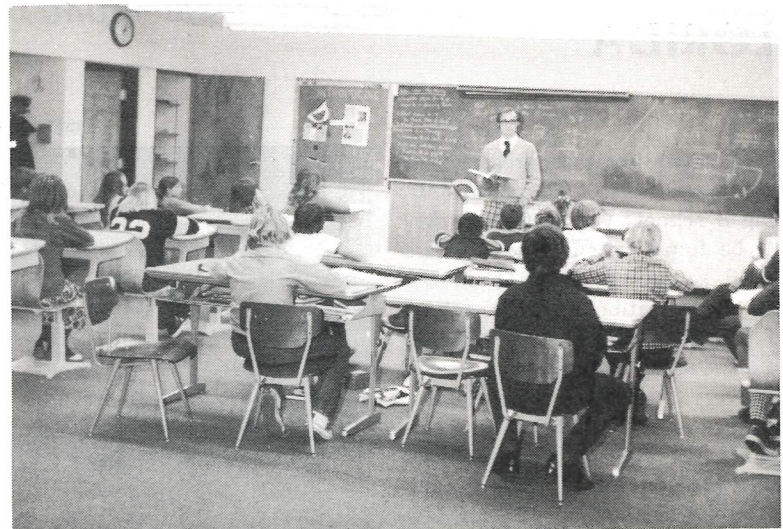
DURAND MICHIGAN

Grace 30 during Grace 125

For ten years Grace Lutheran Church, Durand, Michigan, transported its day-school children to Salem Lutheran School in Owosso. Car pools provided transportation for the 25-mile round trip. During that decade some parents drove a total of over 80,000 miles so that their children might be taught daily the truths which would make and keep them wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus.

"Grace 125" in our Synod was announced. The members were reminded that for our congregation it was also "Grace 30," our 30th anniversary as a congregation. What a wonderful year, said the voters of

Teacher Paul Kaiser and grades 5-8



Mrs. Laura Kitzerow and grades 1-4

Grace, to open Grace Lutheran School! Studies and surveys were completed by the spring of 1974. In June of that year this congregation of 280 communicants voted to open its own school, setting a target date of September, 1975. Salem Lutheran School in Owosso now had a daughter in Durand.

Grace also made the decision to build three classrooms, adding them to its present chapel. A member of the congregation, knowledgeable in the construction industry, served as construction manager; another member donated much of his time to the architectural phase of the construction. The result was a reduction in cost from an estimated \$110,000 to approximately \$90,000, including all

fees. It is interesting that in matters relating to the planning, staffing, and construction of the school, not one negative vote was recorded at a voters' meeting.

In January, 1975, the calling of three teachers was begun — one to serve as principal and teacher of grades 5-8; a second to serve as teacher of grades 1-4; and a kindergarten teacher. The Lord's grace was so very evident as He answered the prayers of His people, leading Paul Kaiser (5-8), Laurie Kitzrow (1-4), and Dorothy Plocher (K) to accept the calls extended to them.

On August 30, construction of the

3,400-square-foot addition was completed. On September 3 the opening service was held, and 54 children were enrolled. Of the total enrollment 10 are from a sister congregation, Hope in Swartz Creek. The Lord willing, in not too many years Hope will have its own school. When that happens, Grace School will have its own daughter school in Swartz Creek; Salem School will have a granddaughter.

What a challenge our Lord has placed before this gathering of Christians! A 70 per cent annual operational budget increase for the year 1975! The financing of the construc-

tion and equipping of a new school! But the joy evident on the faces of teachers, students, members; the happy response to the requests for volunteer labor; the increase in the offerings of God's people — all of this makes it very clear that the family of Christians at Grace Lutheran is realizing more and more that grace received is grace to share.

"Grace 125" and "Grace 30" — the happenings during this year have left an indelible mark on the hearts of the members of Grace. They know and are eternally grateful for the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Erhard G. Schultz

JACKSONVILLE FLORIDA

Answers were found

Is it realistic for a congregation of 70 communicants to talk about establishing a school? Can sufficient students be found when there are less than 30 school-age children in the whole congregation? Will a school help mission outreach or detract from it? Can we hope to pay for it? These very human, very real questions were on the minds of the members of Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church Jacksonville, Florida, for the past two years. When it's for His kingdom, however, the Lord has a way of making things possible.

The first exploratory services for Our Savior Church were held just six years ago in October, 1969. And from that day God has been showering His grace. Since Jacksonville has a large military population, the congregation has always had a high percentage of younger families with children. For this reason, a Christian day school has always been on the congregation's mind. When our chapel was constructed, even though Synodical guidelines limited the congregation to 3,000 square feet of building space, the members insisted that space be allotted for two full-sized classrooms. This was accomplished by using half of our total area for a large fellowship hall which could later be divided.

Pastor, teachers, pupils, and parents on opening day



No sooner was our chapel dedicated in October, 1973, when the congregation voted to take the next step toward a school. By January, 1974, an education committee was busy studying the possibilities and promoting the idea. And then on August 18, after vacation Bible school closing service in which nearly 50 children participated, the voters' assembly decided to take the big step and open a two-teacher school for grades 1 through 8 in September, 1975.

A big factor in the decision was the mission promise the school offered. In a city of nearly 600,000 with no eight-grade Lutheran school, Our Savior's voters were convinced that many unchurched families could be

reached with the Gospel through their children. From the beginning it was decided that tuition students from unchurched families would be actively sought out and a program to involve these students and their families in the spiritual side of the school would be developed.

With only 12 months available to prepare for opening day, there always seemed to be some project in the works. District and Synod Mission Board permission had to be secured, zoning had to be fought, teachers called, students enrolled, equipment gathered and prepared, a dividing wall built. A great many in the congregation naturally became actively involved.

Because the actual number of potential students was uncertain, the congregation at first was authorized by the mission board to call only one teacher and asked to wait until enrollment justified a second teacher. On assignment day, our prayers were answered when Mr. Kurt Troge was assigned to our school as teacher and principal. Mr. Troge had served for two years as instructor at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. The Lord also provided unexpected help in the person of Mrs. Debra Troge, who had previously taught in Pomona, California, and Saginaw.

Back in October, 1974, 15 students from the congregation committed themselves to enroll in the school. And from that time on, the enrollment steadily grew. By opening day, 27 students were signed up — 17 from the congregation and 10 tuition students — representing all 8 grades. Since then, two additional tuition students have entered.

Since the enrollment figures were not really certain until opening day, the congregation was unable to call the second teacher as it had hoped. The Lord provided again, however, by leading Mrs. Troge to accept a call as teacher's aide to assist her husband in the school on a temporary basis. On September 28, after only one month, the voting members requested permission from the mission board to call a second full-time teacher. The Lord is clearly making that teacher a necessity.

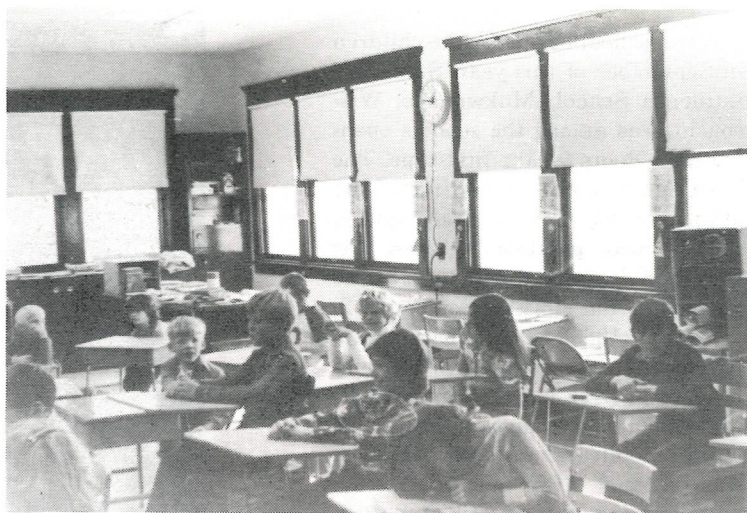
Our Savior Lutheran School has called for considerable special efforts on the part of many people. But there's no doubt in our hearts that it has been worth it. Already before the opening, the Lord had used the school to bring four families into membership with our congregation. Virtually all of the tuition families have also participated in congregational worship services or Bible studies. Most of all, you can see it's worth it in the children, on whom the Gospel is making its mark.

The members of Our Savior Lutheran Church want to thank God for letting them share the Good News with others who don't know it and for giving them a powerful aid to that end, their Christian day school.

Pastor John F. Vogt

BEATRICE *By unanimous vote*

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Joy in a rented school building

On April 6, 1975, the voting members of Christ Ev. Lutheran Church, Beatrice, Nebraska, arrived at a decision which will certainly have eternal benefits. By unanimous vote it was decided to open a Christian day school for the first time in the congregation's 24-year history.

It would be most difficult to pin down any factors that prompted the congregation to establish a school for its children. One could mention the increasing concern over the anti-Christian influence of the public schools, or a growing desire to better acquaint our "lambs" with their Savior, or an awareness of the fact that knowledge cannot be separated from the "fear of the Lord," but we would prefer to attribute the establishment of this school to the promised working of the Holy Spirit through the faithful ministries of the several pastors who have served this congregation.

Contrary to the current trend of consolidation and centralization, a two-room stucco school building 10 miles outside of Beatrice is being rented by the congregation. The building affords more than ample room for the 20 children in kindergarten through the sixth grade. Because of the efforts of the men, wom-

en, and young people of the congregation and the furnishings offered by sister congregations in South Dakota and Michigan, our children have a school that is both well equipped and well kept.

One of the chief concerns of the congregation in establishing a school was to procure a teacher with the experience needed to lead and lend stability to their new school. However, the Lord knew better. Through the assignment committee of our Synod He placed Miss Lynn Thumme, a June graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College, in our midst as the first called teacher of Christ Ev. Lutheran School. Miss Thumme gained prior experience in teaching on an emergency basis at Salem Lutheran School of Owosso, Michigan, during the 1973-74 school year.

Through the efforts of a dedicated young woman, the solid support of a rather small congregation, and the prayers of countless Christians for the growth of the kingdom of God, we have become very aware of what God in His grace can do. With a tear of joy and a word of inexpressible appreciation, we most humbly acknowledge that this is indeed a "day which the Lord hath made."

Pastor Verdell N. Tassler

MUKWONAGO WISCONSIN

At work since 1968

When school began for the children in September of this year, St. John's Lutheran School, Mukwonago, Wisconsin, was among the schools opening their doors for the first time. The Lord had so guided and directed the affairs of St. John's Congregation that it was possible to open our Christian day school with a service to His praise and glory on September 2.

Back in 1968, when it became apparent that the congregation would have to provide more room for Sunday-school classrooms, a project to build an educational-fellowship wing was initiated. After much discussion and planning with an architect, three plans were submitted by the building committee. The plan chosen by the congregation provided for four large classroom areas divided into smaller Sunday-school classrooms. Also included in the plan were offices and washroom facilities. This educational-fellowship wing was dedicated in January, 1970.

Four years later, in the July quarterly meeting, the question was raised about the feasibility of starting a Christian day school for the children of our congregation. Until then, some of the families of the congregation had been sending their children to Christ Lutheran School at Big Bend, Wisconsin, as tuition students. The thought was expressed that perhaps more of our members would be able to send their children to a Christian day school if we had our own. A committee was appointed to obtain the necessary information and report to the congregation.

The committee visited with the school boards and teachers of various congregations in the area and also obtained information and help from our Synod. Mr. Adolph Fehlauer, executive secretary of the Synod's Board for Parish Education, was invited to address the congregation. After a survey of the members of the congregation was conducted to determine how many children would be enrolled if a school were to be started



Teacher D. Leitz and grades 1-8

and how many favored starting the school at this time, the information was presented to the voters at the April, 1975, quarterly meeting. At this meeting it was decided to open our own Christian day school in the fall of 1975.

Much work still remained. The spring and summer were spent in preparing the room, obtaining and re-finishng used desks, and gathering the other necessary materials needed for opening our school. Many hours were devoted to meetings and volunteer work, and a number of generous contributions were given to make the opening of the school possible. But most important of all was obtaining a teacher for our school. The Lord answered our prayers when the assignment committee assigned Mr. Daniel Leitz, a summer graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College, to us. Mr. Leitz began his work among us in August and was installed as principal of our school on August 31. He is being assisted in his duties by four volunteer teacher's aides.

It was a memorable day in the history of St. John's Congregation when school began with 21 students enrolled in grades 1 to 8, a day to remember with gratitude and thanks-

giving the Lord's answer to so many prayers, a day for seeking the Lord's continued guidance and blessings!

Pastor John F. Murphy

GOD'S PEOPLE

Devotions for Home and School
By William A. Kramer

Christian children are *God's people*, and in this book of devotions they will learn what God does for His people, and what they can do for God and for other people. Although each of the 79 devotions is based on a Scripture text, they don't "preach down" to the children. Neither do they offer moralizing lessons for the day. The message of the devotions speak to God's people of every age. Their aim is stated in the very first devotion: "Trust and obey God. Tell people about His love. Live no longer for yourselves but for God, to whom you belong." They were written for parents to read in family devotions, for teachers in Sunday or day school, and for children of middle and upper grades. 160 pages; durable cloth cover.

06N0552 \$4.95
Order from: Northwestern Publishing
House, 3624 West North Avenue,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208.

ANCHORAGE ALASKA

A Letter tells a story of faith

Anchorage, Alaska
October 5, 1975

Dear Pastor Wicke,

Since you asked me to write about our school for *The Northwestern Lutheran*, I would like to share with you a story of faith.

Faith is the name which a small group of Christians in Anchorage, Alaska, chose for their congregation back in 1968. Faith was recognized as their greatest treasure, confidence in God for eternal salvation and reliance on Him for help in this world. With faith, everything was possible. In a short time a parsonage was built, a chapel followed, the congregation became self-supporting, and with only 115 communicants started a Christian day school.

Oh, there were questions — big ones! Can we afford it? Will we be able to make use of the lower level of our church? Where will we get school equipment? Will a teacher accept our call? But faith faced these questions — with an almost unanimous decision the congregation voted to begin a school. When the motion carried,

there was a spontaneous cheer in the voters' assembly, and the congregation president asked that all join in a prayer of thanksgiving and a prayer for help.

Our faith was justified. The contributions increased, and we could afford the school. The lower level of our church is working nicely for a one-room school. The local school district loaned us desks (almost new) and other educational equipment with the stipulation that the loan never be repaid. And a dedicated and experienced teacher, Mr. Lance Hartzell, accepted our call.

And with faith we continue. We have 16 students and all eight grades. Our teacher can transform a blank wall into a cheerful scene for our pupils. His wife, Annette, also a graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College, helps by taking the younger classes in religion three times a week. Someone is always donating playground equipment, library books, encyclopedias, typewriters. Our needs are taken care of.

With faith we face the future. Next

summer we'll add four classrooms to the church and build a triplex teacherage to house additional teachers. To house a growing congregation, we'll also have to expand our chapel very soon.

Now, will you share our faith with us?

Yours in Christ,
Pastor David Zietlow



Mrs. Hartzell assists



Faith Church and School



Teacher Lance Hartzell and students



Planning the conference

First WELS Conference on Aging

"Aging is no unique experience. We are all involved in the process, only some are farther along in it than others. In the case of the Christian, however, this process is accompanied by a wonderful gift, the grace of God. A Christian, moreover, is not a Christian in isolation. He is part of a community made up of those who like him by faith have been made partakers of grace. Their response to this grace controls and motivates their attitude also toward their aging fellows."

The above words are a quotation from the main essay presented at our Synod's First Conference on Aging, held at Ann Arbor, Michigan, on October 16-17, 1975. They clearly suggest the motive for this conference and the spirit in which it was conducted.

The Participants

The conference was hosted by the Martin Luther Memorial Home and Association, financed in part by a grant from the Aid Association for Lutherans, Appleton, Wisconsin, and sponsored by the Synod's Special Ministries Board. The 42 registered delegates and additional observers represented six WELS nursing

homes, a group planning a WELS home in Phoenix, Arizona, and the Special Ministries Board, particularly its Committee on Services to the Aging.

With the proportion of those over 65 rapidly rising in our society, the same situation also prevails in our churches. If anyone, it ought to be the church which should realize that people in that age bracket also need spiritual help, help to age with grace. Since no one bounces back from aging, these people need the constant grace of their Lord and the help of their fellow Christians. To find help in meeting their special concerns,



Pastor Frederick Jungkuntz and Chairman Robert Schlicht

"worries," and problems, they are encouraged by the Scripture to turn to their brothers and sisters in Christ.

A Bothersome Burden?

Sessions were opened with a devotion by Pastor Robert P. Mueller of Owosso, Michigan. Using II Samuel 19:33-38 as his text, he spoke on "Being a Bothersome Burden." The concern of 80-year-old Barzilai in Second Samuel that he might become a burden to King David is the same fear and concern evidenced by many of the elderly in our midst. But even as David continued to help Barzilai through the hand of Chimham, so Christians will react the same way in our day. Their motive will be the love they themselves have experienced at the hands of the Savior. It was recognized by all present that planning on how to help the feeble knees and feeble hearts was indeed sufficient justification for this and any subsequent meetings.

In the absence of Professor Habeck, his essay on "Aging With Grace," was read to the group by Pastor Frederick Jungkuntz. It was pointed out that not only children have a responsibility toward aging parents, but the church likewise. In fact, this obligation of love can run the full gamut from visiting the lonely, to financial assistance, to providing homes for the aged. Active concern for the aging is a fruit of the Christian faith.

The role of the Special Ministries Board in the ministry to the aging was outlined by its executive secretary, Mr. Alfons Woldt. His presentation was followed by a group discussion on three themes: 1) What programs have been developed by congregations for the aging; 2) How congregations involve the aging in activities; and 3) What aids are available for congregations to implement their programs for the aging.

"SMART"

The major portion of the first afternoon was given over to a discussion of problems faced by the retired and those about to retire. In this connection, Mr. Victor Zaremba and Mr. Richard Wittkopf explained the *Senior Member and Retiree Training (SMART)* program developed by the

Aid Association for Lutherans, a program which will shortly be available to congregations. The presentation included a sample workshop session. Information will be made available through branch secretaries or may be obtained from the Special Ministries Board.

Late that afternoon the conference participants toured the Martin Luther Home in South Lyon, and had dinner there. They were graciously hosted by Administrator Karl Otto.

The Chaplain

The next morning, sessions opened with a devotion by the Rev. Ernst F. Lehninger of the Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service. This portion of the conference was devoted to hearing and discussing a paper by the Rev. George Tiefel, chaplain of the Martin Luther Home. His topic was "Our Ministry As Nursing Home Chaplains." Highlighted in the subsequent discussion was the continuing importance to the nursing-home resident of the home-church ties, the importance of personal interest on the part of the home-church pastor, and the importance of a spirit of mutual confidence between the chaplain and the home-church pastor.

The two-day conference was chaired by Pastor Robert Schlicht, administrator of the Lutheran Home for the Aged, Belle Plaine, Minnesota. Since the conference left many questions untouched and unanswered, the participants plan to meet again in 1976. An invitation was extended by Pastor Schlicht in behalf of the home at Belle Plaine.

The subject of the aging is a vast one and will continue to grow as the proportion of the aging in the population rises. Though in a modern welfare state a great share of the financial burden in caring for the aged is born by the public, yet the congregations and the church-at-large — next to the children — have a definite obligation toward their aging members. However, retirees and other aged are not only a responsibility; they can also be a reservoir of time and talent which a congregation would be foolish not to utilize. Suggestions to our Synod's Committee on Service to the Aging are always welcome.

H. W.

Lutheran Pioneers In Hong Kong

Almost 25 years ago. Lutheran Pioneers, Inc. was organized to provide a Christ-centered program for our youth, a program which would help keep them in the companionship of their Lutheran youth. The organization was to serve as an arm of the local congregation and help parents help their youngsters along the godly road to adulthood. As time passed, it became obvious to some that the Lutheran Pioneer program might also be used as an evangelism tool to reach out to young people with the way of Christ and as a tool which might help keep some young people active in their congregations even after confirmation age.

And so it was, with these last two points in mind, that about one year ago Pastor John Chworowsky wrote to the undersigned, requesting information about the Lutheran Pioneers and expressing the desire to begin the program in the Hong Kong area. The request was forwarded to the Lutheran Pioneer National headquarters in Burlington, Wisconsin, and the wheels were set in motion. The result was the organization of Train number 380, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenrich Peterson and seven Chinese who serve as Councilmen and Senior Leaders are directing the program, which presently numbers 40 boys and girls. The Pioneer Council was organized last July. Members of the Council translated some of the material provided by the Lutheran Pioneers National,

changed some of the material so that it might apply to their way of life, trained the leaders, and then on Sunday, September 14, 1975, held their first organizational meeting.

As the youngsters are involved in the Lutheran Pioneer program, they will be learning about their Savior and the Christian way of living in a very practical way. They are also looking forward to camping trips on the islands in Hong Kong harbor. They will be learning about governments and about the flags of seven countries. They will learn about the flag of the Red Cross and about that organization, and about some of the signal flags. Hong Kong harbor has ships from many countries, flying the flags of these countries as well as signal flags. The young Lutheran Pioneers live daily with these things about which they will be learning. They will also be required to be able to pray from memory in both Chinese and English the Lutheran Pioneer prayer. Uniforms for the Train will be made in Hong Kong.

Please remember this new Train, its leaders and the boys and girls, in your prayers. May our Lord use this organization to His glory, keeping these young Chinese Lutheran Christians within their Lutheran companionship, using them as an evangelism arm of our missionaries in Hong Kong, and keeping them active in their congregations and close to their Savior!

Rev. David M. Ponath
Director of Public Relations

Grace 125 Collection

deserves a Christmas gift!

\$2,400,000 contributed ----- \$3,500,000 goal



Mrs. O. J. Naumann Dies
1910 - 1975



"A friend of Jesus because Jesus made her His friend!" That's how Prof. Irwin J. Habeck of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, spoke of Dorothy Naumann at her funeral on November 5, 1975. And because she was a friend of Jesus, she was also a true friend and helpmeet to her husband, the Rev. Oscar J. Naumann, supporting him in his duties as pastor and, for the past 22 years, as president of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod. Her family cherished her as their friend and counselor, and the many guests who entered her home found there a most gracious hospitality. All this, as Professor Habeck pointed out, was the fruit of that

faith which the Spirit of God had implanted in her heart in baptism and then continued to nurture throughout her life.

Mrs. Naumann, the former Dorothy Schwarz, was born on July 10, 1910, at La Crosse, Wisconsin. A 1929 graduate of Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota, she taught at St. John's, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and St. John's, St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1936 she was united in marriage with the Rev. O. J. Naumann. After coming to Milwaukee in 1959, she also taught for a year at Mount Lebanon School.

The Lord graciously took Mrs. Naumann to Himself on October 31

after a brief illness. She is survived by her husband; by a daughter Myrna, Mrs. Wayne Borgwardt of Appleton, Wisconsin; and by six sons: Philip, Martin, and Paul of Milwaukee; Thomas of Pomona, California; the Rev. James of Sterling Heights, Michigan; and the Rev. Peter of St. Cloud, Minnesota. Also surviving are one sister, Miss Gretchen Schwarz of La Crosse, and 14 grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted at Mount Lebanon Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with Pastor J. Mahnke officiating. Pastor M. Otterstatter, also of Mount Lebanon, read the committal on Graceland Cemetery.

Her soul has now entered the presence of her best Friend; her body awaits the day of resurrection. That is the great certainty which dispels our tears. "Oh, that we were there!"

News from DMLC

Faculty Orientation

The 1975-76 school year at Dr. Martin Luther College began with a two-day faculty orientation session. Prof. T. Hartwig read a paper on "The Christian Educator's Application of the Scriptural Terms for Knowledge, Teaching, and Learning." The entire faculty was involved in "A Study of Student Learning Styles." Seminars in which the faculty participated touched on six areas: effective use of textbooks, use of the library in the curriculum, fulfilling one's call as a minister of the Gospel through the courses taught, the instructor as a model for prospective Lutheran teachers both in the classroom and outside the classroom, and practicing human relations in the DMLC setting.

Opening

There was much hustle and bustle on the DMLC campus as 236 freshmen students enrolled, compared with some 190 in each of the three previous years. A final count revealed that the total enrollment jumped from 665 to 715. The annual lunch-



eon for new students, their families, and members of the faculty was served to more than 800 persons.

The opening service was held on Sunday, September 7, at 7:30 P.M. Pastor Douglas Engelbrecht of St. Paul's in North Mankato delivered the sermon. During the service, Prof. James Engel was inducted as a member of the DMLC music division. Two 1975 DMLC graduates, Miss Sharon Wolter and Mrs. Laurel Uher Proe-

ber, were also inducted as members of the same division.

Prof. James Engel came to DMLC from Fox Valley Lutheran High School, Appleton, Wisconsin, where he had served from 1972-75. Previously he had taught at Bethlehem in Milwaukee and St. John's in Racine and had served on the faculties of Concordia College in Milwaukee and the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He holds a Bachelor of Sci-

Direct from the Districts

Michigan

75th Anniversary Celebrated Twice

On Sunday, June 29, 1975, St. John's Lutheran of Riga, Michigan, gathered for the first observance of its 75th anniversary. President O. J. Naumann was the guest preacher in the two morning services. He based his exhortation on Psalm 100. Pastor W. Zarling, president of the Michigan District, addressed the congregation in the afternoon service on Exodus 19:3-6. Some 600 members and guests joined in giving thanks to God for His many blessings throughout the 75-year history of the congregation.

The second observance took place on October 12, 1975, when the congregation assembled in worship to mark the 75th anniversary of the dedication of its church building. The Rev. Floyd Mattek, pastor of the congregation since 1968, addressed the assembly on the words of Psalm 122.

Since its beginnings St. John's has been served by four pastors in addition to Pastor Mattek. They are: F. W. Krauss (1900-09), J. Nicolai (1909-14), O. Eckert (1914-29), and C. Schmelzer (1929-68).

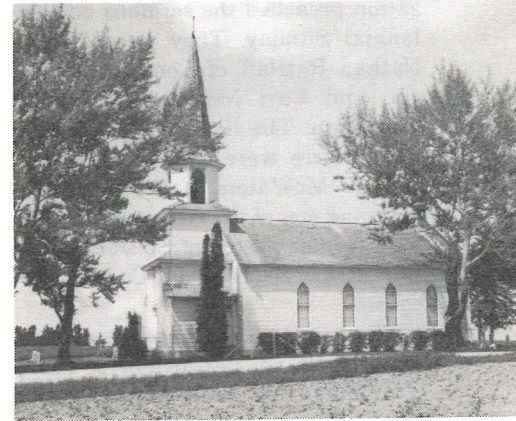
The anniversary prayer of the congregation is that of ancient Solomon: "The Lord our God be with us, as He was with our fathers; let Him never leave us, nor forsake us."

Minnesota

Centennial at Rural Goodhue

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Congregation, Minneola Township, Goodhue, Minnesota, observed its centennial on Sunday, September 14, 1975.

Early records of the congregation



St. John's, rural Goodhue

ence degree from Concordia College, River Forest, and Master of Music from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. He is presently

ing year are: Mrs. Oliver Lindholm of Delano, president; Mrs. Darold Marschel of Buffalo, first vice-president; Mrs. James Tjernagel of Cottage



Prof. James Engel
Miss Sharon Wolter
Mrs. Laurel Uher Proeber

working on a doctorate. His wife is the former Norma Hasz. They have four children, Kathleen, Mrs. Mary Poetter, Joan (a student at DMLC), and James.

Ladies Auxillary

On October 8, 1975, the sixteenth annual meeting of the DMLC Ladies Auxillary was held on the campus. Mrs. Ivan Enter of Nicollet presided at the meeting. Officers for the com-

Grove, second vice-president, Mrs. James Lillo of Buffalo, secretary; Mrs. Carl Quast of Goodhue, treasurer; and Pastor David Tiarks of Morgan, pastoral adviser. In addition to the standing projects of a donation of \$500 to the school library and \$700 for scholarships, about \$3,500 was allocated for other projects.

Reformation Service

Some 1,800 persons participated in the Joint Reformation Festival Service held in the Luther Memorial Gymnasium on Sunday, November 2. The preacher was the Rev. David Tiarks of Morgan, and the liturgist was the Rev. Roger Vomhof of Fairfax. Prof. O. Schenk presided at the organ, and the choirs were directed by Prof. E. Meyer, Prof. M. Zahn, and Mr. Merlin Kruse. The festival offering was designated for the Grace-125 collection.

Visitors

Seventy-two seniors from Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, together with their chaperons, arrived on the DMLC campus for a visit on Sunday and Monday, November 2-3. During their visit they enjoyed a campus tour, a presentation on DMLC, and the opportunity to visit classes. Such visits to our campus are worth the time and money expended to make them possible. DMLC is happy to extend an invitation to individuals, families, congregational or school groups. To make the necessary arrangements for such a visit, contact Prof. Delmar C. Brick, Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073.

were destroyed by fire, but the formal organization of the congregation apparently took place in the fall of 1875 under the leadership of Pastor William Lange of Pine Island Township. Twelve pastors have served St. John's during its century of existence.

Two former pastors of the congregation preached the sermons on Centennial Sunday. They were Pastors Nathan Retzlaff of Lomira, Wisconsin, and Carl Mischke of Juneau, Wisconsin. The liturgical portions of the services were conducted by Mr. Jerome McWaters, a Seminary student and son of the congregation, and by a former pastor of St. John's, the Rev. Roger Sachs of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

The congregation began a century ago with 18 charter members. Today it numbers 159 souls and 52 voting members.

Northern Wisconsin

New District Reporter

Pastor Harlyn Kuschel, 30, a native of the Northern Wisconsin District, has accepted the assignment as District Reporter. He takes the place of Pastor Paul H. Kolander of Montello.

Pastor Kuschel, a 1971 graduate of the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, is pastor of St. John-St. James Ev. Lutheran Church, Reedsville, Wisconsin. During his college days he served as reporter on the Watertown Daily Times.

Pastor Kuschel is married to the former Ellen Koch. They have two children, Ruth, 3, and Susan, 1.

We welcome Pastor Kuschel to the staff, and also express our thanks to the former reporter for his many years of faithful service.

Anniversary at Maribel

St. John's Congregation, Maribel, observed the 50th anniversary of the dedication of its church building on August 17, 1975, with special confirmation reunion services. Guests in St. John's pulpit for the day were former pastors of the congregation, Pastor emeritus Reinhardt Koch of Rhineland and Pastor Gerhard Struck of Elkton, Michigan. Former confirmands of St. John were exhorted to remain steadfast in their confirma-

tion faith. An overflow crowd enjoyed a noon fellowship luncheon, and 50 years of confirmation classes posed for pictures before the church later in the afternoon. Pastor Armin Engel is the current shepherd of St. John's.

Pacific Northwest

Joy at Christ the King, Bremerton, Washington

On July 27, 1975, a bright summer day, the Lord blessed Christ the King Congregation of Bremerton, Washington, with the privilege of celebrating two special events: the groundbreaking for the mission's first church, and the dedication of a new parsonage for its present and future shepherds.



Christ the King parsonage

Three months of construction were brought to a fitting conclusion as the Rev. G. Frey, president of the Pacific-Northwest District and the organizing pastor of the congregation in 1969, read the words of Deuteronomy 8:12-14 and reminded the congregation and its pastor, the Rev. T. Lambert, that a parsonage is more than just a building and just a home. A parsonage is a home in which God is remembered. The service and the groundbreaking ceremony were followed by an open house at the parsonage.

Many hours of donated labor went into the erection of the split-level, cedar-sided home of 2,750 square feet. Both the home and the future church look out across a beautiful bay on Puget Sound. On a clear day there is also a breathtaking view of Mount Rainier.

Christ the King Congregation wishes to express its thanks to the brethren of the Wisconsin Synod for the financial support which made

possible the erection of this home dedicated to the work of the Lord. We ask for your continued prayers as we now begin the construction of a house of worship to the glory of our God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Western Wisconsin

Organist Honored at Shennington

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, Shennington, Wisconsin, has been privileged to have the same organist for the last 55 years. She is Mrs. Emilie Guthrie. For her, these 55 years were also the busy years of being a farmer's wife and of raising a family of three daughters and four sons. Today a widow, she lives at home with her son Myron.

St. John's Congregation and its pastor, the Rev. H. Klug, take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Guthrie for her many years of able and faithful service to the congregation. During the last few years Mrs. Guthrie, at her own request, has continued to serve without remuneration.

In assisting and leading St. John's Congregation in its worship, Mrs. Guthrie has not only served the Lord's people, but has also been a dedicated servant of her Lord and Savior. May He continue to uphold and bless her!



Mrs. Emilie Guthrie

Christ Bless

**All
of You**

Editorials (cont.)

people, who have no weapons of defense or human refuge, no lasting home here or earthly security.

The funding of the nation's large cities makes the Church's program seem puny in comparison. The military build-up around the world makes it seem futile to plant a small band of missionaries on some lonely beachhead.

Grandiose social schemes appear to make the efforts of one individual believer unimportant. Raucous drinking songs and sounds of revelry from the inns of the world at Christmas time seem to drown out the simple message, "Unto you is born . . . a Savior which is Christ the Lord."

Ah, but salvation is God's gift. The work of salvation is God's work. "Fear not," the angel told the pitifully small band of shepherds. "Fear not, little flock," said Jesus whose hand still holds the slender thread, "for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

John Parcher

NEW WELS CHURCHES

EXPLORATORY SERVICES

SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Exploratory services are being conducted at the Recreation Hall of the Sarasota Mobile Home Park, 2100 E. Laurel, Sarasota, Florida, each Sunday at 12 Noon. Please send names and addresses of interested persons to Pastor James L. Vogt, 3012 — 18th Ave. W., Bradenton, Florida 33505; phone: (813) 748-7648, or (813) 747-2373.

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Exploratory services are being conducted in Syracuse, New York, at the Holiday Inn on Buckley Road at exit 36 on the New York State Thruway and Interstate Route 81. Services are biweekly at 3:00 p.m. followed by adult Bible class. For more information call Mr. Melvin Friske of Syracuse at (315) 472-0819 or Pastor Erich W. Waldek of Schenectady, New York, at (518) 399-3046.

WHITE ROCK, NEW MEXICO

Because of a more promising response from the Los Alamos-White Rock, New Mexico, area, it has been decided to move the exploratory services from Santa Fe, New Mexico, to White Rock. Services are being held there every Sunday evening, with Bible classes and Sunday school at 6:30 and family worship at 7:30. The place of meeting is the Catholic Parish Hall, 196 Meadow Lane. Visitors are always welcome.

WOOSTER, ASHLAND, MANSFIELD, OHIO

Exploratory services are being conducted in Wooster Township School in Wooster, Ohio. Services are being held Sundays at 4:00 p.m. Please send names of prospects, or requests for information, to: Pastor Kurt Grunewald, 328 Kathron Ave., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 44221.

TIME AND PLACE

ARVADA/WESTMINSTER, COLORADO Change in Worship Location

The WELS mission congregation in North Denver is now conducting its worship services at the Northwest State Bank, W. 80th Ave. & Yarrow St., Arvada, Colorado. Sunday school and Bible class begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by the worship service at 10:30 a.m. If you are in the north Denver area, please come and worship with us. Names of prospects should be sent to: Pastor James Kuehl, 9073 Kent St., Westminster, Colorado 80030; phone: (303) 429-8853.

EAGAN, MINNESOTA

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church of Eagan, Minnesota, is holding worship services at John Metcalf Junior High School, County Highways 30 & 13. Sunday school and Bible class are at 9 a.m. and the worship service at 10 a.m. For more information please contact Rev. David E. Koepflin, 1744 Meadowlark Road, Eagan, Minnesota 55122; phone: (612) 452-4126.

GREELEY, COLORADO CHANGE IN WORSHIP LOCATION

Shepherd of the Hills Ev. Lutheran Church, a WELS mission, is now holding its worship services at 2215 23rd Avenue in Greeley. Sunday school and Bible study begin at 9 a.m., followed by Sunday service at 10:15 a.m. We invite you to come and worship with us. For information, or if you have names of WELS members or prospects in our area, contact Pastor Larry G. Lemke, 2202 10th Street Road, Greeley, Colorado 80631. Phone: (303) 352-7320.

OWATONNA, MINNESOTA

Emmanuel Lutheran of Owatonna, Minnesota, is now worshipping in its own facility at 329 State Avenue. The time of worship is 10:00 a.m. Sunday school and Bible class at 11:00 a.m. The area served is Steele County, including — Blooming Prairie, Dodge Center, Faribault, and Waseca. For information, or if you have names of WELS members or prospects in the area, call (507) 451-8110, or write to Pastor Wernor E. Wagner, 1770 Parkside Place, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060.

VISITORS

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

Winter visitors to the Rio Grande Valley are invited to worship at Abiding Savior Ev. Lutheran Church, Weslaco, Texas. Our Sunday service is at 10:00 a.m., with Bible class at 9:00 a.m.. We are presently worshipping in the Weslaco Civic Center located at 520 S. Kansas Ave. For more information, contact Pastor Craig Weber, 1204 W. 6th Street, Weslaco, Texas; Phone: (512)968-5228.

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE WANTS NAMES

Wisconsin Lutheran College requests the names of high-school seniors who may be considered for recruitment into next year's freshman class. The school seeks those students who are WELS members in good standing, who possess the necessary academic gifts for college work, and who are not planning to become teachers or pastors in the Wisconsin Synod. Mail the names and addresses to:

Admissions Office
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE
407 N. Glenview Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53213
414-774-8620

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

(Submitted through the District Presidents)

Pastors:

Holub, Curtis J.
4104 Smithville Rd.
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827
Phone: (517) 663-8849

Seager, David R.
3800 W. Good Hope Rd.
Milwaukee, WI 53209

ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

(Authorized by the District Presidents)

Pastors:

Ordained and Installed

Holub, Curtis J., was ordained and installed as pastor of Calvary Lutheran, Eaton Rapids, Michigan, on July 13, 1975, by P. Seiltz (Mich.).

Installed

Seager, David R., as pastor of St. John's (Clinton Avenue), Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on November 9, 1975, by M. Braun (SEW).

Worgul, David, as principal of Manitowoc Lutheran High School, Manitowoc, Wisconsin, on November 2, 1975, by G. Unke (N.Wis.).

New Cassette for the Visually Handicapped

The *Wisconsin Synod Herald* is available in cassette (free of charge) to those who are visually handicapped. Pastors may order a copy for their members from: The Mission for the Visually Handicapped Workshop, 2534 1/2 East 7th Ave., North St. Paul, Minn. 55109.

AUDIO VISUAL AIDS

Pastors' Institute 1975 Cassettes

Lectures from the 1975 Pastors' Institute held at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in October and November, given by Professor Edward Fredrich and Professor David Kuske, both members of the Seminary faculty. The cassettes contain one lecture each, on both sides. You may order the lectures as a unit or individually. If you wish to order specific lectures, simply indicate the general title and the number of the individual lecture.

The Wisconsin Synod's Relations with Other Church Bodies — Fredrich

1. Wisconsin's Interchurch Relations; 2. Wisconsin's First Federation Memberships; 3. Interchurch Relations in the First Third of this Century; 4. The Great Debate with Missouri; 5. Interchurch Relations in Recent Years.

Hermeneutical Problems (Interpretation of the New Testament) — Kuske

1. Introduction: Presuppositions; 2. Figurative Language: Scripture interprets Scripture; 3. Allegory in the Middle Ages: Luther's "new" method of interpreting; 4. The Historical-Critical Method; 5. The Use of the "Best" of the Historical-Grammatical and the Historical-Critical Methods attempted by some in the Missouri Synod.

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (S-13-LWMS)

1975 30 min. S & C Color

The 98 slides tell the history, purpose, and accomplishments of the LWMS. Some of the national conventions are highlighted. The colorful display of flags from all countries where the Wisconsin Synod is preaching the Gospel is worth the viewing. Produced by the LWMS, and also available from that society. These are additional sets of slides made available through AVA.

AUDIO VISUAL AIDS
3512 West North Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

Treasurer's Report

PREBUDGET SUBSCRIPTION PERFORMANCE

Ten months ended October 31, 1975

	Subscription Amount for 1975	10/12 of Annual Subscription	Subscription and Pension Offerings	Per Cent of Subscription
Arizona-California	\$ 317,213	\$ 264,344	\$ 258,694	97.9
Dakota-Montana	209,992	174,993	175,127	100.1
Michigan	1,059,169	882,641	813,853	92.2
Minnesota	1,104,369	920,307	961,453	104.5
Nebraska	214,329	178,608	182,517	102.2
Northern Wisconsin	1,183,160	985,967	904,464	91.7
Pacific Northwest	86,485	72,071	75,147	104.3
Southeastern Wisconsin	1,434,614	1,195,512	1,108,220	92.7
Western Wisconsin	1,373,571	1,144,642	1,091,784	95.4
South Atlantic	59,461	49,551	49,535	99.9
Total — 1975	<u>\$7,042,363</u>	<u>\$5,868,636</u>	<u>\$5,620,794</u>	<u>95.8</u>
Total — 1974	<u>\$6,714,887</u>	<u>\$5,595,739</u>	<u>\$5,377,254</u>	<u>96.1</u>

Note: Subscription amount for Arizona-California was adjusted due to the addition of a new congregation.

CURRENT BUDGETARY FUND

Statement of Income and Expenditures

Twelve months ended October 31, 1975 with comparative figures for 1974

Twelve months ended October 31

	1975	1974	Increase or Decrease*	
			Amount	Per Cent
Income				
Prebudget Subscription Offerings	\$6,943,203	\$6,965,166	\$ 21,963*	0.3*
Pension Plan Contributions	83,782	91,761	7,979*	8.7*
Gifts, Memorials and Bequests	294,501	92,755	201,746	—
Earnings from Fox Estate	49,476	89,787	40,311*	44.9*
Other Income	17,254	13,277	3,977	30.0
Transfers from Other Funds	66,434	83,305	16,871*	20.3*
Total Income	<u>\$7,454,650</u>	<u>\$7,336,051</u>	<u>\$118,599</u>	<u>1.6</u>
Expenditures				
Worker Training — Expenses	\$4,329,801	\$3,997,185	\$332,616	8.3
Worker Training — Income	1,744,533	1,616,664	127,869	7.9
Worker Training — Net	\$2,585,268	\$2,380,521	\$204,747	8.6
Home Missions	1,412,091	1,292,974	119,117	9.2
World Missions	1,199,429	1,197,174	2,255	0.2
Benevolences	886,558	829,340	57,218	6.9
Administration and Services	642,237	508,030	134,207	26.4
Total Operations	\$6,725,583	\$6,208,039	\$517,544	8.3
Appropriations — Building Funds	191,328	210,328	19,000*	9.0*
Appropriations — CEF Program	733,048	807,968	74,920*	9.3*
Total Expenditures	<u>\$7,649,959</u>	<u>\$7,226,335</u>	<u>\$423,624</u>	<u>5.9</u>
Operating Gain/Loss**	<u>\$ 195,309**</u>	<u>\$ 109,716</u>		

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

Note: Future cutoff dates of PBS receipts in the Synod's Post Office Lock Box are as follows:

For the month of:	Cutoff Date
December	January 7
January	February 6
February	March 5
March	April 7

CONCERTS AT NWC

Christmas Concert .. Dec. . . 7, 1975 7:30 p.m.
Pop Concert .. Feb. . 15, 1976 3:30 p.m.
Easter Concert .. April . 4, 1976 7:30 p.m.
Commencement
Concert .. May . 18, 1976 7:30 p.m.

SEMINARY CHRISTMAS SERVICE

The Christmas Song Services at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will take place on Sunday, December 14, 1975, at 3:00 and 7:30 p.m. in the Seminary Chapel, Mequon, Wisconsin.

Prof. Martin Albrecht
Director of Music

APPOINTMENT

Pastor James J. Radloff, Austin Texas, has been appointed as a member of the Arizona-California District Board for Parish Education to fill a vacancy created by the death of Pastor William Krueger.

I. G. Frey, President

WANTED

Apostles Lutheran Sunday School desires to purchase five sets of the two-volume work, *Bible History References*, by F. Rupprecht. Anyone willing to part with these books is asked to write to: Apostles Lutheran Sunday School, 3240 Broadwater, Billings, Montana 59102.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The following constitute the Board of Trustees of WELS as recently organized:

The Rev. Elton H. Huebner, chairman
The Rev. Norbert E. Paustian, vice-chairman
The Rev. Norval W. Kock, secretary
The Rev. Eldon Bode
The Rev. Paul Stuebs
The Rev. W. A. Wietzke
Mr. Earl Eggers
Mr. Mel Koch
Mr. Norbert Loeper
Mr. Marvin Schwan
Mr. Wayne Traub
The Rev. Harold H. Eckert,
executive secretary

NOMINATIONS

The following pastors have been nominated by the members of the Synod as candidates for the position of executive secretary of the Board of Trustees, a position that became open when Pastor Harold H. Eckert announced his intention to retire effective with the installation of his successor.

Norman W. Berg, Milwaukee, WI
George W. Boldt, Morton Grove, IL
Milton Burk, Yucaipa, CA
Walter A. Diehl, Dallas, TX
Daniel M. Gieschen, Adrian, MI
Paul G. Hartwig, South Milwaukee, WI
Elton H. Huebner, Beaver Dam, WI
Carl S. Leyrer, Milwaukee, WI
David M. Ponath, North St. Paul, MN
James P. Schaefer, Milwaukee, WI
Robert W. Schlicht, Belle Plaine, MN
Erhardt G. Schultz, Durand, MI
Robert J. Voss, Brookfield, WI

Correspondence concerning these nominees should be in the hands of the secretary of the Board of Trustees no later than January 7, 1975.

Pastor Norval W. Kock, Secretary
715 Marshall St.
Manitowoc, Wisconsin 54220

CHAPLAIN E. C. RENZ

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6501 Gau-Bischofsheim
Bahnhofstrasse 92
West Germany
Telephone: 06135-3249

MAILING ADDRESS

398-12-3568
Box R
APO NY 09185

IN JAPAN

Members of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod and of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, either civilians or military personnel, in Japan's Kanto Plain area (Tachikawa-Tokyo-Yokohama-Yokosuka) are invited to attend English worship services on the first, second, and fourth Saturday afternoons, and on the third Sunday afternoon of the month at the Lutheran Church of the Atonement. Services are followed by a fellowship dinner (home cooking!). Overnight lodging is also available.

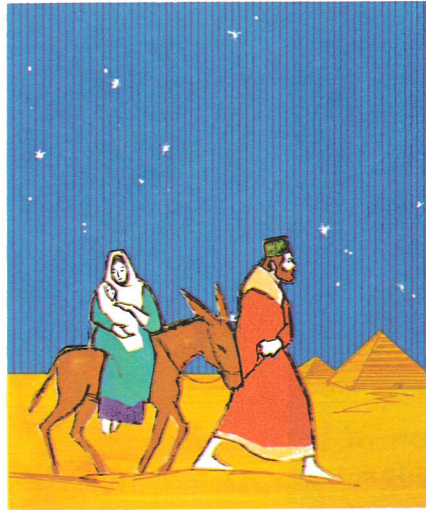
The Lutheran Church of the Atonement is located at 2-17 Saiwai-cho, 3-chome, Higashi Kurume Shi, Tokyo 180-03. From Ikebukuro take Seibu-Ikebukuro Line to Higashi Kurume Station. Welcoming you are Pastors Habben, Tel. (0424) 71-1855, and Roger W. Falk, Tel. (0424) 74-2125.

APPOINTMENTS

Pastor Wayne I. Schulz has been appointed second vice-president of the Dakota-Montana District and Pastor John M. Engel circuit pastor of its Alberta-Montana Conference to replace Pastor Daniel Deutschlander.

The Rev. Thomas F. Zarling has accepted the appointment as chairman of the Commission on Evangelism of the Dakota-Montana District.

Arthur P. C. Kell, President
Dakota-Montana District



Out of Egypt

You have read a great deal about Egypt in the newspapers lately; have you also read what the Bible says about Egypt? If so, then you know that Egypt has played an important role in the history of salvation ever since the day Abraham and Sarah sought refuge there in time of famine, to be followed years later by Jacob and his family.

It was in the rich Nile-delta country that Israel grew to be a great people. When after almost 400 years a Pharaoh arose who knew not Joseph and life became bitter for Israel, God raised up Moses and sent him to Pharaoh with the message: "Thus saith the Lord: Israel is My son, even My firstborn. And I say unto thee: Let My son go, that he may serve Me." Pharaoh refused; but God rescued Israel with His mighty arm.

What was God's motive? Did Israel perhaps deserve special consideration? Not at all! Rather, the Exodus was simply another step forward in carrying out God's plan of salvation for all men. He brought Israel out of Egypt that His promise to Adam and Eve might be fulfilled, the promise of the Seed of the woman who would crush the head of the serpent. It was a further step in fulfilling the promise to Abraham that in His Seed all the families of the earth should be blessed. He brought Israel out of Egypt so that Israel might become the cradle of the Lord Christ.

Israel often forgot, but God never did. Israel's history was a sad one. Civil war! A division into two kingdoms! But God sent prophets to both. When Israel made for itself its own gods and laws, as if God and His laws did not exist, God sent Hosea to them. It was God's last-ditch effort to bring Israel to repentance. But Israel, finally carried away by Assyria, became a dire object lesson for neighboring Judah who shared Israel's sin.

In the midst of his many words of reproof, Hosea was privileged to assure all those who would continue to follow the Lord, or would return to Him, that God had not changed. God was determined to carry out His plan of salvation at all costs. And so Hosea picked up where Moses left off and quoted God as saying: "When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called My Son out of Egypt." God was still the God who had called Israel out of Egypt, had made a covenant with Abraham, and had given a promise to Adam and Eve. Hosea thus took his place in the long line of those who pointed forward to the Savior. And the Exodus itself became a prophetic deed on God's part, assuring those who placed their faith in Him that His promise of the Savior would be fulfilled.

God fulfilled that promise not simply by sending the Savior, but by fulfilling this very word of Hosea in the Savior's life.

The Christmas Gospel not only records glad angel tidings, the worship of shepherds, the joy of a Simeon and of the prophetess Anna, and the gifts of the wise men. It also shows us a world lost in sin, a world needing the Savior. Herod seeks to kill the virgin-born Son of God, and his soldiers obey man rather than God.

But God — God thwarts Herod. He again makes use of Egypt. Not only because it was the nearest foreign state not under Herod's control, but also because His prophet Hosea had already pointed to Egypt. In a dream God orders Joseph: "Arise, and take the young Child and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him."

Joseph did as he was told. Egypt became our Savior's home, His place of refuge. What city? For how long? Scripture does not say. That would add nothing to the promise. But His sojourn in Egypt — that is an act of God's love for you and me, saving the life of His Son that He might lay it down on Calvary's cross for man's sin. That's why God sent Joseph, Mary, and Jesus to Egypt.

The family "was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called My Son."

"Out of Egypt have I called My Son" — those words let us look deeply into the heart of our God. He is the God of the Garden of Eden, of the call of Abraham, of the Exodus from Egypt. He is the God of grace who sent His Son to be our Savior. And He made use of Egypt because He had foretold it through Hosea!

H. W.

May our Lord Jesus, the Virgin-born Son of the Father, fill the hearts and souls of our readers, and of all who with us rest their hopes in Christ Jesus, with joy and peace in this holy season!

As you take your pilgrim way through this life, you not only have the assurance that God watches over you as He watched over the infant Savior, but that He watches over you for His sake. We invite you as the Lord's redeemed confidently to pray with us:

*Jesus, guard and guide Thy members,
Fill Thy brethren with Thy grace,
Hear their prayers in ev'ry place.
Quicken now life's faintest embers;
Grant all Christians, far and near,
Holy peace, and glad New Year!
Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness,
Christ hath done away with sadness!
Hence, all sorrow and repining,
For the Son of Grace is shining!*

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NORTHWESTERN PUBLISHING HOUSE AND ALL
ITS WORKERS**