

The
**Northwestern
Lutheran**

JULY 1985

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Northwestern Publishing House is Moving

On Tuesday August 6, Northwestern Publishing House will open for business at its new location. To facilitate this extensive move, the retail store and all departments will be closed for business from (Thursday) August 1 through (Monday) August 5. On August 6 the new address for NPH will be 1250 N. 113th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226.

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

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The Christian and the country

“Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” And Elisha prayed, “O Lord, open his eyes so he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha (2 Kings 6:16,17).

No tall ships this year. No national hype and hoopla this time around. No national telecasts with well-known anchor persons breathlessly describing the latest extravaganza with a cast of thousands. Just your average normal holiday weekend on the occasion of the country’s 209th birthday.

So what does this have to do with a Christian church body? Is it proper, is it correct, is it in keeping with our rather well-defined doctrine of “the separation of church and state” that we as members of the WELS take note of this civic observance?

Our Wisconsin Synod is made up of over 1150 congregations in which there are blood-bought souls, people, who have been chosen by God to function, work and witness in townships, villages, cities, metropolitan areas and commonwealths in a country called the United States of America. Among other things we are called citizens of this great land and as such we are expected by God to be “salt and light” in this society which desperately needs both.

If we would not take note of who we are and what we are and where we are to do our task for our Lord Jesus, then we would be giving aid and comfort to the enemies of our Savior who lyingly charge us as being useless drones and drains on our general citizenry.

The Bible does have something to say about our nation on its 209th birthday. God is speaking to us just as much as he spoke to Israel through Solomon when he said, “Righteous-

ness exalts a nation; but sin is a disgrace to any people” (Proverbs 14:34).

A decline of righteousness

Who will argue the fact that our nation has never seen before our day such a decline of righteousness? Who will argue that national sin has risen to such horrible heights that indeed it does rise up to “disgrace” us?

We seem to have corruption on every side, with drug scandals becoming so common that only the “big ones” make the media; outrageous crime growing by leaps and bounds; families crumbling at an unprecedented rate; a true holocaust being perpetrated upon the unborn; authority, discipline and respect for anything fast disappearing. “Happy 209 Uncle Sam!”

In the middle of this mess, Christians are to function. How can we possibly do it? On the one hand, if we don’t supply the righteousness to our nation, particularly the righteousness earned by Christ, who is going to do it?

Whoever said that witnessing for Jesus, standing up for his gospel, that living the Christian life was going to be easy? Jesus speaks of “cross bearing,” of men hating us for his name’s sake, of persecution, of “evil days.” Nowhere does he give us a blueprint for easy roads dotted with instant success and massive victories.

No time to quit

As difficult as it is “out there,” this is no time to quit. This is no time to lower our Lord’s banner and withdraw from the battle. When the war for men’s souls rages all the hotter, Christians should be found manning the ramparts, standing on the rooftops fearlessly proclaiming the gospel of eternal peace through the shed blood of our heavenly King.

While we may be fearful and hesitant, we must never forget that there are more with us than with them. Although it may appear to our human eyes that the odds are overwhelmingly in the enemies’ favor, it just is not so. God never abandons his people.

It truly is like the time of war between Aram and Israel. When Elisha’s servant looked to the hills in the morning, panic set in at the sight of the hostile host.

Is it much different for us? We can always see “Arameans in the hills.” There’s the Aramean of high interest rates, an astronomical national debt; the Arameans of apathy, ridicule and hostility. You name them, we got them.

We are free in Christ

Christians, who won on Calvary? Was Christ defeated on the cross? Do we yet stand condemned before God because of our sins?

Christ won! We are free in Christ. With that relationship straightened out, the rest falls into place. “If God be for us” (and he is in Christ), “who can be against us?”

O God, open our eyes so that we see your horses and chariots on fire around us. The odds only look bad. The truth is that there are always more with us than with them.

With boldness and confidence we are ready to redouble our witness in this next year. It may be the last chance, but in no case will fear of the Arameans hold us back.

Then with the eyesight of faith we say, “Happy birthday, beloved Uncle!” □



Pastor Koeplin serves at Atonement, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Patriotism is a demanding virtue

If being patriotic on the 4th of July means only to hoist the flag and to watch the parade, it doesn't require much effort to be patriotic. If, however, patriotism means loving one's country and zealously supporting its authority and interests, then patriotism is a demanding virtue.

It requires a kind of determination to be patriotic when we see our country doing many things wrong, and when it seems to be unable to control its direction and its destiny. Congress and the President do not face up to resolving the crisis of a huge national debt that, if it continues to mount, will rush our country, like an avalanche, to financial disaster. Washington appears to be helpless to manage the problem of surplus products, and to resolve our foreign trade deficit, that bleeds away our economic strength and has cost us 3,000,000 jobs. Our government fails to take effective steps to preserve our nation's most precious natural resource, the bounty of its fertile soil.

On the international scene our policy makers appear to bungle one initiative and one incident after another. Our security agencies appear unable to guard military and technological secrets that are a vital protection against our enemies.

Our nation's morals are at risk when two Supreme Court justices call a community prejudiced and immoral when it rejects homosexuality. Our nation's will to law and order and decency is weakening in the face of concentrated efforts of pressure groups to sway our government to sanction their selfish and even more immoral ends.

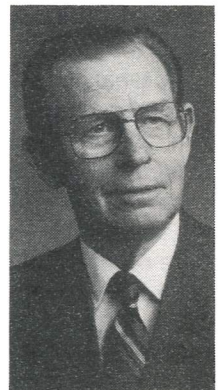
If it were not for the Christian in us, we might become cynical about patriotism when we see so much weakness and self-serving and even immorality in high places in our country. But because we are Christians, we strive to be patriotic and devote ourselves to our country's welfare. We remind ourselves to thank God for the many national blessings we still enjoy in large measure: the security that lets us walk our streets at night, the opportunities that we can still grasp to better our lot in life, the welfare that sustains us when we are down and out, the freedom to worship our God as he has directed.

The Christian in us also remembers our country in our petitions. The prayer of a righteous man "is powerful and effective" — more effective than statecraft or diplomacy or acts of Congress, more powerful than armed might. Christian patriotism calls for the persistence of an Abraham, who implored God that Lot's "homeland" might be spared.

The Christian in us will also recognize our duties as citizens of our country. We will "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's," even if we do not approve of everything that Caesar does with our denarii. Barring true conscience matters, we will serve and support our country as it asks us to do. As concerned citizens we will also make the effort to protest when we see our country embarking on a course that violates God's commandments or good sense.

Patriotism is a demanding virtue, even in America. But where is more at stake than in America, and where is more to be preserved than in America?

Carleton Toppe



Professor Toppe is president of Northwestern College, Watertown, Wisconsin.

LETTERS

More on Rock

I was pleased to read Pastor Westendorf's comment on the problem with rock music (May 15).

Although we cannot "condemn" all rock singers, I think the time has come for all Christians to stop and listen to what we've been buying.

Groups such as "Rush," "Duran-Duran," "Styx," and others can be shown to be into the occult (worship of Satan).

Others, such as "Queen," "Kiss," or "AC-DC" may or may not be in the occult, but are far from harmless. Many of their songs include references to sexual immorality, drugs and rebellion. And I'll note that rebellion is no less dangerous (1 Samuel 15:23: For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry).

As Christians, how can we say we love God, yet endorse things which he obviously hates?

The Apostle Paul tells us not to be conformed to this world (Romans 12:2), yet we so freely accept that which Satan wants us to have.

We know the intent of Satan (1 Peter 5:8) so when we see "his hand" we should not take it lightly.

Through all this, Christian music goes on relatively ignored. Contemporary singers such as "Petra," "Michael W. Smith," and "Amy Grant" may not even be familiar names to most people. Their music has a lot of "today's sound," but the lyrics are definitely Christian.

I'd like to close this with a quote from Christian singer "Joe English" (formerly of rock group "Wings"). Putting rock n' roll in a Christian perspective he sings: . . . "I've got my faith in the rock, and my name on the roll of life. . . ."

*Steven P. Herrmann
Indianapolis, Indiana*

The article, "The problem with rock" courageously and properly condemns the obscenities of rock and the performer's defiance of anything that is godly, but unfortunately it does not put rock music itself into a Christian perspective. Rock is certainly a musical art form, but since man has fallen, art can no longer be considered without any reservations as a gift from God.

What has helped me put this issue into clearer focus was a study of the two opposing views man holds of himself and of the world as well as a realization that all forms of art are primarily an expression arising out of these views. The Christian view puts God at the center; the pagan view puts man in the center as an autonomous independent creature.

Frances Schaeffer's historical review of these views and how they influenced the arts is enlightening. The Reformation view expressed music that possessed resolution, but modern music, shaped by humanistic values, reflected confusion.

Music had become a philosophic statement of meaninglessness, not art, rather anti-art. A whole generation has been subjected to all forms of art that is devoid of anything that would give meaning to the world or to man. It has no personal memory of the days when Christianity had more influence.

*Alfred W. Schoennauer
Mankato, Minnesota*

I am writing in response to an article on rock music by Pastor Westendorf in the May 15 issue of *The Northwestern Lutheran*.

To qualify myself on this subject, I would like to say that I am a Christian and I am a teenager and I do like rock music.

In his article, Pastor Westendorf states that rock music is not "well thought of" in parts of the Christian church for "obvious reasons."

As he goes on to some of these "obvious reasons," I can't help but notice he is very general. Here is an example of what I mean. He writes "some rock lyrics are pornographic in nature." What does he mean by "pornographic in nature?" The word rock can mean acid, pop (or popular), soul, black, or even some contemporary. For every song that is "pornographic in nature," how many are not? He is being just too general.

He writes rock also has a "bad reputation because of the public life and performances of the musicians." But he sparingly adds "with some notable and commendable exceptions." It is almost as if he is suggesting that the good is the exception to the rule. I think it is just the opposite.

When you realize that rock music is an expression of our generation, don't you think it would be better to use it to bring more young people into the church, rather than drive them away by attacking the subject? We must realize that the future of the church will be in the hands of our young people. Instead of attacking rock music let's use it to help spread the word of Christ.

*Jennifer Green
Phoenix, Arizona*

Variety in service music

I'd like to express a different viewpoint than the one stated in the letter "Select hymns carefully" (February 15).

One of my fondest memories of student life at DMLC is the wide variety of music we heard, sang and played in our worship services. New hymns from TLH, worship supplement and other sources soon became old favorites to treasure and love.

Admittedly our hymnal contains some hymns that are more difficult to learn than others. But let's not let our worship stagnate by bypassing some of these beautiful expressions of faith just because they may at first be unfamiliar. Many members would never know such hymns existed if some brave pastor did not dare to select them.

*Bonnie Paschal
Hartland, Wisconsin*

Be considerate of wedding party

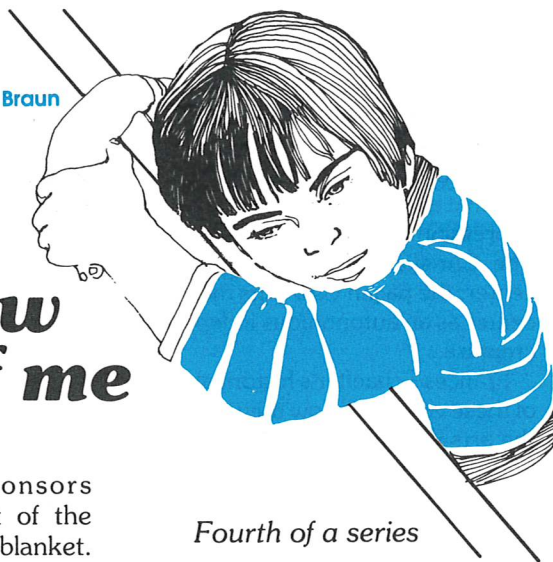
Summer weddings are coming up and my concern is for the attendants of the bride and groom who must stand up for the entire ceremony.

My sister recently stood up for a wedding. The pastor was asked beforehand if the attendants could sit down during the ceremony and he said no. It ended up that two men collapsed, one of them hitting his head on a pew. I have also seen attendants collapse or leave during the ceremony.

It's also unfortunate that many beautiful songs which enhance one's wedding won't be sung, out of concern for the well-being of the bridal party. I urge pastors to please allow the option of seating for the bridal parties at their weddings.

*Jane Lorch
Greenfield, Wisconsin*

The kids in the pew ahead of me



Fourth of a series

The parents and sponsors marched to the front of the church with a squirming little blanket. I looked in the bulletin for the name of the baby and watched. The pastor sprinkled water on the baby's head and said, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." The little baby was screaming. The sponsors were desperately trying to keep him quiet. It was difficult to hear the words of the pastor over the crying. Here was a miracle without outward visible proof. A child had been brought to faith in Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit through the water and the word.

I would rather have them in church

This was a different perspective for me. I was watching and listening, not doing and speaking. Moving from a pastorate to a teaching call had changed things for me. As I looked around me, I saw there were quite a few other kids in the pews with their parents. I was happy that the kids were there with their families. I would rather have them in church, even if they were noisy, than at home watching cartoons or reruns of "The Lone Ranger."

The following week I looked for the parents of the newly baptized infant. They sat down ahead of us. Everything was quiet until I heard him empty his bottle about half way through the sermon. When he reached the end of the bottle, there was a brief rhythmic sucking noise. I was momentarily distracted by the sound, but I was glad this newborn was in church. His parents were already continuing his Christian training.

There are some difficulties in bringing kids to church. The biggest seems to be finding a way to keep them quiet for an hour — or at least through the sermon. Mothers deserve special commendation. When the pastor finishes reading his text and the congregation sits down, many mothers quietly go to their purses. From it a mother can produce a small plastic bag of Cheerios for her child to munch on, a pencil and notebook for drawing, a small toy, or anything else that she has found to be successful in keeping her little one quiet. Her children are generally quiet so we can listen to the message of the pastor without disturbance.

It doesn't always work

It doesn't always work that way. I've witnessed a fidgety child discard every effort mom made to keep him quiet. He wouldn't read his book. He wouldn't page through the hymnal. He wouldn't draw. He didn't even want the Cheerios she brought. It seemed that he was determined to make a fuss. As the sermon went on, he got progressively more difficult. It was disturbing sitting in the pew behind them. I couldn't concentrate on the pastor's message. Finally the little boy received a rather strong warning from his mother and then from his father. Nothing worked. He started crying.

His mother took the only course left. She took him by the hand and removed him from church so that he

would not disturb the rest of the congregation any longer. It was quiet. I could listen attentively again. I'm sure the mother got less from the sermon than I did. She deserves praise for her effort to keep her child quiet. I was happy that she brought him to church with her. Training kids is never easy. Training them to worship God and listen to his word isn't easier than any other part of the training.

God makes no age distinction

One Sunday a little girl about three or four sat ahead of us. It was near the end of the service, and we were standing for the final responses and prayers. She was standing on the pew between her father and mother trying to peer over the people so she could see the pastor. She folded her hands during the prayer. While the pastor prayed, she alternately bowed her head and looked up out of curiosity to see what was going on. I confess; I did not pay attention to the prayer as I should have. I was so pleased to see her learning to pray that I prayed a different prayer than the pastor did that day. I prayed that the Holy Spirit would work his grace in her and all the other children in church.

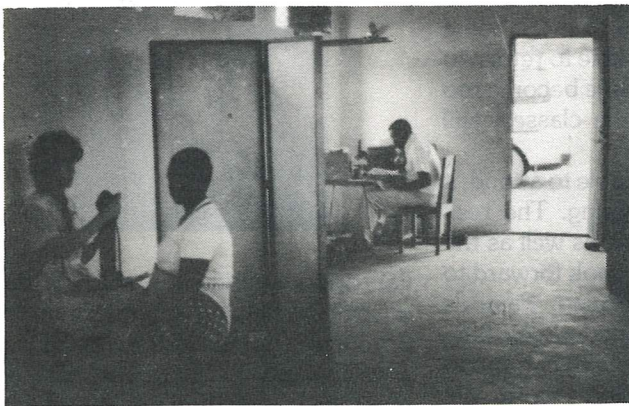
This little girl like a lot of other little girls and boys are going to be the adults in the pews in a few short years. I am glad that their parents bring them to church. Who is to say that children don't get anything out of the church service? It doesn't appear that they get anything out of their baptism. Many of them sleep through it. Some cry. Yet the Holy Spirit does work through the gospel in the sacrament as well as that in the hymns, liturgy, readings and sermon. God makes no age distinction. Surely he works in little children as well as adults during the Sunday morning worship □



Professor Braun teaches at Northwestern College, Watertown, Wisconsin.



Scenes of the Lutheran mobile clinic at Padzuwa Village.



Mobile clinic shows Christian concern

by Exon Sumba

Over 500 people witnessed the opening ceremony of the base of the mobile clinic at Padzuwa Village, in Chief Chimutu's area 22 miles outside Lilongwe when the missionary-in-charge for the Lutheran mobile clinic, Pastor M. Hintz, declared the building open to the public recently.

Arriving so early at 8:00 a.m., I did not expect the large crowd that welcomed the clinic van which arrived half an hour later. "They keep watch for this white van because they know it contains medicine," Village Headman Padzuwa, in whose village the clinic base has been built told me.

Time for the presentation ceremony was delayed to make way for first things first: teaching sessions for mothers of children under five, expectant mothers, and the treatment of outpatients.

"We can wait for the meeting," said Mr. M. Kamkwamba, who cycled all the way from Tsabango's area some 18 kilometers away, to have his six-year-old daughter treated.

For over one year the Lutheran mobile clinic has been visiting Chief Chimutu's area to teach health lessons to mothers and mothers-to-be. "We teach them disease prevention, proper nutrition, and offer suitable immunizations to children under five years old," said nursing sister Beth Ebert.

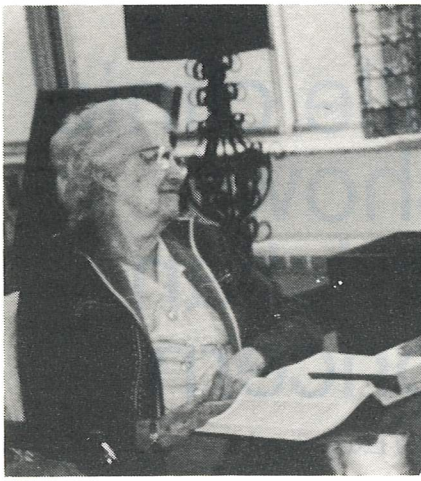
Showing me a place where she and her medical team have been meeting people under the shade of a tree next to Padzuwa shopping center, Miss Ebert said that it has been difficult to treat patients there especially when it rained. The unit treats an average of 1600 people per month.

Declaring the new clinic building open, Pastor M. Hintz told the gathering that the building has been made possible because of the generous gifts from the women of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod in America.

"They have done this out of love for Christ, who loves you," he said.

In clear Chichewa, Pastor Hintz told the attentive crowd that it was his earnest prayer that after the physical healing has been met they will thrive in spiritual healing as well. □

Exon Sumba is a staff writer for the Lilongwe Daily Times, Malawi's only daily newspaper.



The Ladies' Circle of Divine Grace, Lake Orion, Michigan, was looking for a meaningful way to help others and share the faith. The Oakland County Geriatric Village, a local nursing home, in turn, was searching for a church to serve the needs of its residents. With the encouragement of our pastor, Gary D. Richmond, we seemed to find one another.

Many of the residents in the home had no families and few had regular contact with a church. The only requirement was that once we started, we had to continue — the residents counted on us.

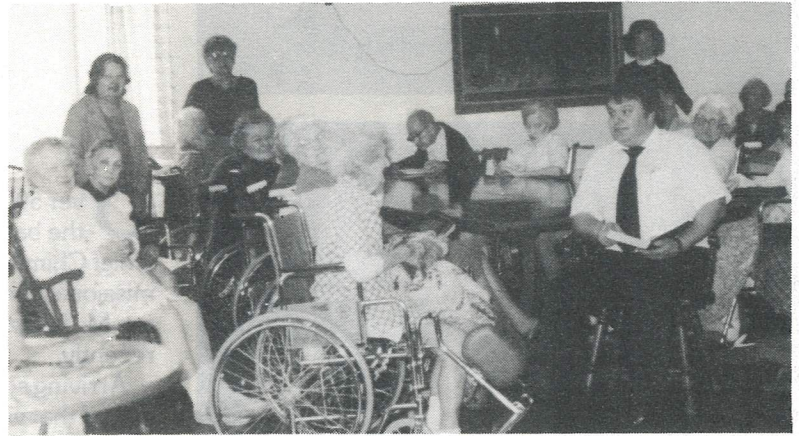
While we have a regular group of three volunteers who accompany our pastor on his weekly Bible class and visits, many others have contributed their time and talents. The women of our church have provided a variety of things. They have donated clothing and reading material for the residents as well as special "treats."

All of the residents are remembered at Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter with a party and a little remembrance. Last Christmas each person was given a pair of handmade quilted slippers and a tray favor. There were handmade baskets filled with candy for all at Easter. Throughout the year members of our church make lap robes for the residents in wheelchairs and occasionally provide toiletries — a real luxury for some.

Entire families have joined together to sing Christmas carols at the home and to share some of the meaning of Christmas. Every room in the home has a handmade seasonal decoration to brighten the surroundings.

The residents count on us

by Carolyn Schwartz



These material things are nice, but it is the spiritual help that the pastor gives that is the real gift. This is really why we are involved.

For the past two years our pastor has been teaching a Bible class which has been an informal presentation of a number of New Testament books. The faces have changed and the attendance varies from 15 to 25. Some residents have been able to return to their homes, other have become too feeble to come to the classes, still others have died.

For those who are able to attend, it has been a real blessing. The residents enjoy this class, as well as the personal visits. They look forward to every Thursday morning. Pastor's friendly, open style encourages them to share their feelings with him and to gain comfort from God's word. We hope that they will find an inner peace from knowing that God loves them and is their personal Savior.

The surroundings are not always pleasant as the residents doze or occasionally wander in and out of the room. Humanly speaking, we may doubt our efforts, but if even one soul finds new strength and salvation in God's word, we feel it is worth it.

We would like to encourage you and your congregation to consider doing the same. Most of you have sim-



ilar opportunities for sharing the gospel and helping others in your local nursing home. All it takes is love, a willingness to share the blessed message of salvation and a commitment of time and abilities. There is no greater feeling than knowing that in some way your Lord has used you to help in bringing Jesus Christ to someone he loves. □



Carolyn Schwartz is a member of Divine Grace, Lake Orion, Michigan.

“The Lord’s timing is always the best.” I couldn’t help thinking of those words of Mr. Chen as I sat next to him in church a few Sundays ago. At a time in life — 62 years old — when many are already retired, Mr. Chen was about to receive the office of the holy ministry. That day in Panchiao, a suburb of Taipei, Taiwan, about 70 Chinese worshipers, plus visitors from the United States, rejoiced at the Lord’s timing in the life of this his servant.

Pastor Chen’s walk with the Lord is not a typical Wisconsin Synod story. He was born to non-Christian parents and grew up in Taiwan, a small island 100 miles off the coast of China. At that time, Japan ruled Taiwan. The Japanese were soon to use Taiwan as a base of operations for war in Southeast Asia.

Incredibly, the Lord used World War II to bring Pastor Chen into the family of believers. Conscripted by the Japanese, he was sent to Shanghai on the Chinese mainland. Wandering around the city one day, he came in contact with the local YMCA. In classes held at the YMCA he heard the good news of the gospel and became a Christian.

A diligent student of the Scripture

Following the war, Mr. Chen returned to Taiwan. Eager to share his newfound faith, he worked to support himself and family, preaching the gospel as a layman. He received some formal theological education in a Protestant church, but also was, and remains a diligent student of the Scripture on his own.

As he studied Scripture, he became concerned about certain doctrinal errors in his church. While living in Taipei he came into contact with the Chinese Lutheran pastor carrying on our gospel work in Taiwan. Mr. Chen was found to be in agreement with our Lutheran teaching and practice. Eventually Mr. Chen became a full-time evangelist for our mission. He has since actively served in two of our three churches.

After our first WELS missionaries arrived in Taiwan in 1979 and were able to communicate in Mandarin Chinese, they began classes with Mr. Chen to give him a further knowledge of Lutheranism. He proved to be a model student. In fact, our missionaries have said many times that they feel like the students and he the teacher. With his intimate knowledge of both Scripture and Chinese customs he indeed is our teacher.

Language skills are unique

Pastor Chen’s language skills are unique. He is most comfortable with Japanese and Taiwanese, which is the native Chinese dialect. Mandarin Chinese is his third language. He uses all of them. Teaching Japanese, in fact, is a way of bringing the gospel to many in Taiwan. Because of business ties with Japan, many Taiwanese wish to learn Japanese. At the church he shepherds, Pastor Chen offers Japanese classes and uses the Japanese Bible as a textbook.

Because of Mr. Chen’s extensive training, proven understanding of Scripture and Lutheran teaching, and ob-



Pastor Chen receiving the benediction from Pastors Koeplin and Siirila.

The Lord’s timing

by Robert A. Siirila

vious love for the Lord’s work, he was ordained on May 5 as the first Taiwanese pastor of the Christian Lutheran Evangelical Church of Taiwan. The Chinese and Americans who were present will testify that day was extremely moving. As Pastor Kurt Koeplin of our Executive Committee for Southeast Asian Missions bestowed on Mr. Chen the office of the ministry, there were tears in the eyes of many. What joy there was in seeing the Lord’s timing in the life of this faithful servant.

A dream of Shanghai

Pastor Chen’s dream is that the Lord would allow him to return to Shanghai and share the good news in the city in which the Lord found him. Who knows what the Lord’s timing will bring? Pastor Chen’s plans for Taiwan, however, are not just a dream. Following the ordination service, Pastor Chen urged his congregation to redouble their efforts to let the people of Taiwan hear of the love of Jesus for them. We can be sure he will be leading them in that noble task.

The events that May 5th were a high point in the extraordinary life of this servant of God. They are also a turning point for mission work WELS does in Taiwan. Having our first national pastor is a big step toward making our Taiwan mission less dependent on us. We hope and pray many more Taiwanese men will follow Pastor Chen’s example.

Whatever the future holds in store for us on Taiwan, we won’t grow impatient. Pastor Chen’s life has taught us, “The Lord’s timing is best!” □

Missionary Siirila serves in Taipei, Taiwan.

131 graduate from DMLC

At a special service on May 18, one hundred thirty-one graduates received bachelor degrees in education at Dr. Martin Luther College of New Ulm, Minn. The 1985 graduates are:

Aday, Lorenzo Whiteriver, AR
 Babinec, Joel New Ulm, MN
 Bauer, Connie Appleton, WI
 Becker, Karen Youngtown, MN
 Behlmer, Lisa St. James, AZ
 Belongia, Renee Green Bay, WI
 Bender, Kim McHenry, IL
 Bennett, Christine Garden City, MI
 Berner, Nina Watertown, WI
 Bernier, Diane Torrance, CA
 Borgwardt, Rachel Waukesha, WI
 Boswell, Kristen Mesa, AZ
 Brandt, James Readfield, WI
 Brassow, Beverly Huntsville, AL
 Bredemann, Carol Chili, WI
 Brisso, Karyn Springfield, OR
 Buchberger, Beth Watertown, WI
 Bunkowske, Jonathan Norfolk, NE
 Cady, Coral Holmen, WI
 Callaway, Susan Green Bay, WI
 Carl, Sharon Janesville, WI
 Delikat, Judith St. Francis, WI
 Denninger, Ruth Fox Lake, WI
 Dettmann, Daniel Wausau, WI
 Dietrich, Adele Saginaw, MI
 Doelger, Bethany Caledonia, MN
 Doelger, David Caledonia, MN
 Dunn, Tammy Bainbridge Island, WA
 Falk, Jane Morrison, WI
 Favorite, Robert Eagle River, WI
 Filber, Patricia Allenton, WI
 Fritze, Mary Watertown, WI
 Grosse, Jane Morton Grove, IL
 Gunderson, Vickie Wood Lake, MN
 Gustafson, Linda Yakima, WA
 Hemphill, Lori Omaha, NE
 Henrickson, Cindy Bloomington, MN
 Herman, Karen Flat Rock, MI
 Hubbard, Patricia Fort Atkinson, WI
 Hunt, Timothy Bloomington, MN
 Hussman, James Crete, IL
 Jarcik, Kimberly Kingman, AZ
 Kapler, Lynda Redford, MI
 Kassulke, Timothy Milwaukee, WI
 Keske, Tina Robbinsdale, MN
 Kilber, Lori Minneapolis, MN
 Klug, Karen Warrens, WI
 Koeller, Carolyn Milwaukee, WI
 Koepke, Susan Kewaskum, WI
 Kohrs, Sandra Raymond, SD
 Kranich, Sarah Deerfield, IL
 Kurth, Jeanne Watertown, WI
 Laabs, Ann Belle Plaine, MN
 Lange, Jane Watertown, WI
 Lange, Katherine New Ulm, MN
 Lehman, Cynthia Randolph, WI
 Lehman, Diane Jefferson, WI
 Leins, Carol Lake Benton, MN
 Lindeman, Julie Brandon, WI
 Loescher, Cliss Bloomington, MN
 Luedtke, Lisa Jefferson, WI
 Luedtke, Sarah Plymouth, MI
 Luhman, Debra Goodhue, MN
 Mattek, Joel Sturgeon Bay, WI
 McClintock, Beverly Sitka, AK

McCullough, Ellen Winchester, IL
 McNeil, Timothy Winthrop Harbor, IL
 Meeboer, Mary Ellen Flint, MI
 Meyer, Jennifer Fox Lake, WI
 Miller, Brian Bay City, MI
 Mose, Sally Chesaning, MI
 Neuwirth, Sandra Brown Deer, WI
 Oldre, Sonja Rochester, MN
 Pappenfuss, Amy Appleton, WI
 Petermann, Ruth St. Paul, MN
 Petersen, Beth Hudson, WI
 Pitonak, Joseph Strongsville, OH
 Proeber, Gwen Cudahy, WI
 Ramick, Karen Swartz Creek, MI
 Redlin, Kristin Tucson, AZ
 Remmele, Steven Echo, MN
 Ring, David New Ulm, MN
 Rusch, Kathleen Jackson, WI
 Schaible, Martha Brooksville, FL
 Schaper, Blair New Ulm, MN
 Schimming, Sarah Beaver Dam, WI
 Schmiel, David Hiram, OH
 Schudlach, Scott Beaver Dam, WI
 Schneider, Elisabeth Prairie du Chien, WI
 Schroeder, David New Ulm, MN
 Schubkegel, Catherine New Ulm, MN
 Schuh, Cheryl New Ulm, MN
 Schuh, Timothy Isabel, SD
 Schultz, Amy Montello, WI
 Schultz, Jeffrey Fond du Lac, WI
 Schulz, Rachel New Ulm, MN
 Schwark, Bruce Manitowoc, WI
 Sebald, John Wauwatosa, WI

Siebert, Lisa Reedsville, WI
 Siegler, Rebecca Fallbrook, CA
 Smith, Karen Manitowoc, WI
 Snyder, David Milwaukee, WI
 Spaude, Eileen Watertown, WI
 Speidel, Tamara Menomonie, WI
 Spiaser, Jeffrey Livonia, MI
 Sprain, Deborah Madison, WI
 Steinberg, Wesley Manistee, MI
 Stob, Karen St. Paul, MN
 Straseske, Tiffany Reeseville, WI
 Tahaney, Timothy St. Joseph, MI
 Teuteberg, Beth Menomonee Falls, WI
 Timm, Jeffrey Milwaukee, WI
 Torgerson, Amy Woodville, WI
 Uhlhorn, Debra Pardeeville, WI
 Voigt, Susan Daggett, MI
 Watchke, Karie Blaine, MN
 Welch, Thomas Flint, MI
 Welke, Nancy Watertown, WI
 Wickert, Laurie Milwaukee, WI
 Wiebusch, Anne Vancouver, WA
 Winkler, Matthew Watertown, WI
 Wolff, Shelley Manitowoc, WI
 Wordell, Keith Sheboygan Falls, WI
 Yanggen, Tammie Lake Mills, WI
 Zabell, Amy Watertown, WI
 Zahn, Theresa Downers Grove, IL
 Zastrow, Noreen Watertown, WI
 Zeamer, Gerald Morrison, WI
 Zeitler, Annette Pound, WI
 Zimmermann, Susan Menomonee Falls, WI
 Zivko, Lou Ann Manitowoc, WI

73 graduate from Northwestern College

On May 22, seventy-three graduates of Northwestern College at Watertown, Wis. received their bachelor of arts degrees. The class of 1985 is the largest class ever graduated from the college in its 120-year history. The following are members of the graduating class:

Arndt, David Menasha, WI
 Bauer, Andrew Two Rivers, WI
 Buske, Mark Lansing, MI
 Cordes, Nathan Bend, OR
 Duford, Charles Oak Creek, WI
 Franck, Mark Livingston, MT
 Fromm, John Hitachi City, Japan
 Gauger, Timothy Monroe, WI
 Grams, Timothy Watertown, WI
 Grotelueschen, James Mayville, WI
 Haugly, David N. Mankato, MN
 Heitsch, Jeffrey Grandview, MO
 Helwig, Daniel Woodruff, WI
 Henning, Philip New Ulm, MN
 Hering, John Yukon, OK
 Hill, Timothy Owosso, MI
 Hirsch, Paul Prairie du Chien, WI
 Holtz, John New Berlin, WI
 Kapler, David Redford, MI
 Kluball, Gary Cedarburg, WI
 Knippel, Robert Menomonie, WI
 Koelpin, Paul New Ulm, MN
 Krauss, Mitchell Freeland, MI
 Kriewall, Earl Madison, WI
 Krueger, Robert Westwood, NJ
 Larsen, Todd Brookfield, WI
 Leyrer, Daniel Milwaukee, WI
 Liebenow, John Racine, WI
 Lillo, Joel Anchorage, AK
 Lindloff, Paul Thiensville, WI
 Lindquist, Daniel Menomonie, WI

Madson, Michael St. Peter, MN
 Maertz, David Marshall, MN
 Malchow, Philip New Berlin, WI
 Martin, Scott Mequon, WI
 McKenney, Kevin Marinette, WI
 Merten, Brent Waukesha, WI
 Mews, Scott Apple Valley, CA
 Meyer, Jerome Rogers, MN
 Mohlke, Howard Rochester, MN
 Moore, David Rhinelander, WI
 Mueller, Bruce Bloomington, MN
 Nelson, Todd W. St. Paul, MN
 Ott, Randall Hemlock, MI
 Pearson, Bradley Hanover, MN
 Raddatz, Kevin New Ulm, MN
 Rardin, R. Dennis Bolingbrook, IL
 Rauh, Matthew Benton Harbor, MI
 Reckzin, Dale Nepean, Ontario
 Rockhoff, David Tawas City, MI
 Rodewald, Duane New Ulm, MN
 Rosenberg, Ralph Tecumseh, MI
 Rothe, David Brown Deer, WI
 Satorious, Timothy Roseville, CA
 Schaewe, Paul Yale, MI
 Schlawin, Joseph Kirkwood, MO
 Schreiner, Keith Fort Atkinson, WI
 Schultz, Michael Durand, MI
 Schultz, Thomas Merrill, WI
 Schwab, Michael Kawkawlin, MI
 Seifert, Robert Eagle River, WI
 Sims, S. Gene Lima, OH
 Steinbrenner, Eric Fond du lac, WI
 Steinbrenner, Ethan Fond du lac, WI
 Stelljes, Ross New Ulm, MN
 Swafford, Shawn Antioch, IL
 Tackmier, Bill Peshtigo, WI
 Taves, Kristian Phoenix, AZ
 Unnasch, Peter Dakota, MN
 Walther, Karl Sturgeon Bay, WI
 Werth, William St. Peter, MN
 Windsperger, Donald Jr. Delano, MN
 Zietlow, Todd Anchorage, AK

NEWS around the world



Radio churches popular in the Soviet Union . . .

According to *Religious Broadcasting*, news out of the Soviet Union indicates that Far East Broadcasting Company (FEBC) religious broadcasts are "serving a great spiritual need." There are an estimated 39,750 "isolated radio churches" today in the USSR and 40 to 60 million radio sets. A Polish immigrant recently reported, "When I visited Moscow to attend the Union Baptist Conference, one of the conference officials told me they had baptized between 35,000 and 40,000 Christians in the last five years, and that 90 percent of the converts testified that they had accepted Christ because of the radio broadcasts." FEBC has been broadcasting religious programming to the Soviet Union since 1951. Currently, 26 hours of daily programming are received in the USSR from FEBC-owned and operated facilities in South Korea, the Philippines, Saipan and the United States. The three powerful beams from San Francisco reach over the North Pole, covering all 11 time zones in the Soviet Union. The Wisconsin Synod's weekly program, *Dies ist der Tag*, intended for Germans resettled in Siberia, uses transmitters owned and operated by FEBC.

Clergy malpractice suit dismissed . . .

A clergy malpractice suit brought by the parents of a suicide victim was dismissed in the fourth week of the trial in Glendale, Calif., when the judge said a ruling for the plaintiffs would have a "chilling effect on the exercise of freedom of religion." Superior Court Judge Joseph Kalin declared that "there is no compelling state interest for this court to interfere in the pastoral counseling activities of Grace Community Church. Such interference could result in excessive entanglement of the state in the church and religious beliefs and teachings." It was the second time in five years the suit has been dismissed. The earlier dismissal was overturned by the state Court of Appeals. The case was brought by the parents of Kenneth Nally, who fatally shot himself in 1979, at the age of 24, after receiving counseling from the pastors of Grace Community Church in Sun Valley. Much of the prosecution testimony focused on the church's alleged criticisms of psychiatry and psychiatrists. But church lawyer Samuel Ericsson said pastors had repeatedly advised young Nally against suicide and that he had been seen by eight physicians, psychiatrists and other mental-health professionals in the final two months of his life. "Ken liked to get advice, but he demonstrated an inability or lack of willingness to carry it out," said Pastor Duane Rea, one of the defendants.

Aid to Ethiopia makes a clear difference . . . The massive aid being sent by church organizations to drought-afflicted Ethiopia is "making a clear difference," Hans-Otto Hahn, director of the West German aid agency Brot fuer die Welt, said in Geneva following a recent trip to the country. "I spent a week talking with officials from the government and from the nongovernmental (NGO) aid agencies as well as visiting field programs trying to find out how well the aid was getting through," Hahn said. "The international help does reach the starving people. The death rate has decreased. The NGOs have been doing excellent work." He said he saw no evidence that the government was hampering aid operations or that the material was being sold at market. He said the government sometimes sells 10 percent of the food to raise money for transportation. "This is a direct result of giving food without providing for transportation. I think it is a reasonable solution to that problem, since the food does no good unless it is taken to where the people are."

A new Lutheran church in Canada . . .

A new Lutheran church in Canada voted itself into existence May 16, as the Lutheran Church in America-Canada Section and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada closed union negotiations which officially began in 1978. The new Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada — with 209,000 baptized members in 655 congregations — will be Canada's fourth largest Protestant denomination. Its headquarters will be at Winnipeg. Bishop Donald Sjoberg, 54, of the LCA's Western Canada Synod was elected president of the new church. The 500 delegates to the convention meeting in Winnipeg approved a \$2.8 million budget. The new church readily approved membership in the Lutheran World Federation, the Lutheran Council in Canada, the World Council of Churches and the Canadian Council of Churches. The merger did not fully unite Canadian Lutherans since the 100,000-member Lutheran Church-Canada, affiliated with the Missouri Synod, is not a party to the union nor are the nine congregations of the Wisconsin Synod in Canada.

Support for capital punishment rises . . .

Eight years after the U.S. Supreme Court permitted the resumption of capital punishment, both the number of people on death row and support for the death penalty have reached an all-time high. Before the Supreme Court outlawed capital punishment in 1972, there had been an average of 650 people per year on death row, according to the American Civil Liberties Union. Since 1977, the number of death sentences has averaged about 20 per month. Not only are more people being executed, but support for the death penalty is continuing to grow. Results of a Gallup survey that were released in March found that 72 percent of Americans said they favored executing murderers. This compared with 42 percent in 1966 and 66 percent in 1981 when Gallup had last asked the question. □

News items appearing in *News around the world* represent current events of general interest to the readers of *The Northwestern Lutheran* and should not be interpreted as representing the views of the editors. Since the items come from a variety of news sources, the editor does not assume responsibility for inaccuracies that might inadvertently be reproduced on these pages.



On Sunday, April 21, 275 WELS members gathered at Salem Landmark Church, Milwaukee, to dedicate the church as the official WELS museum. (Salem was the site of the organization of the Wisconsin Synod in 1850.) Robert B. Peregrine of St. Matthew, Oconomowoc, board member of Aid Association for Lutherans, congratulates Pastor Roland C. Ehlike (right), president of the WELS Historical Institute. The restoration project was made possible by a \$68,500 grant by Aid Association for Lutherans. Looking on is Pastor James P. Schaefer, guest speaker for the dedication.

New classes for mentally handicapped

New classes for the mentally handicapped will start this fall in Milwaukee at Fairview Lutheran Church, offering a variety of subjects for both the confirmed or non-confirmed. These classes are the first of their kind in the synod.

The classes will be held on Saturday mornings beginning September 7 and will include study of the Bible, learning how to witness, and becoming better acquainted with the basic church teachings and practices and sharing Christian fel-

lowship. The classes will run for an hour and one-half, and are intended for the mildly and moderately handicapped.

The pilot project is under the sponsorship of the Special Ministries Board of the Southeastern Wisconsin District. Carol Niedfeldt will serve as project coordinator.

There will be a registration fee of \$20.00 for the year and those who are interested are urged to contact Carol Niedfeldt at 9209 W. St. Paul Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226.

Youth workshop scheduled

The tenth annual Youth Counselor's workshop, sponsored by the Board for Parish Education, will be held October 11-13 at the Kettle Moraine Youth Camp, 50 miles north of Milwaukee. The workshop will be conducted by the board's Committee on Youth Ministry.

"This fast-moving, intensive weekend," says the committee, "will present a wide range of ideas which have been used in different areas. You will explore the importance of a balanced approach to youth ministry in a congregation."

It will be a down-to-earth workshop, the committee said. "You will be given time to ask your questions, to share your own ideas and to evaluate the suggestions which might work in your own local situation."

The cost is \$50.00 per person including meals and lodging, starting Friday night at 7:00 p.m. For further information write to Prof. Allen Zahn, 613 South 12th St., Watertown, WI 53094.

WITH THE LORD

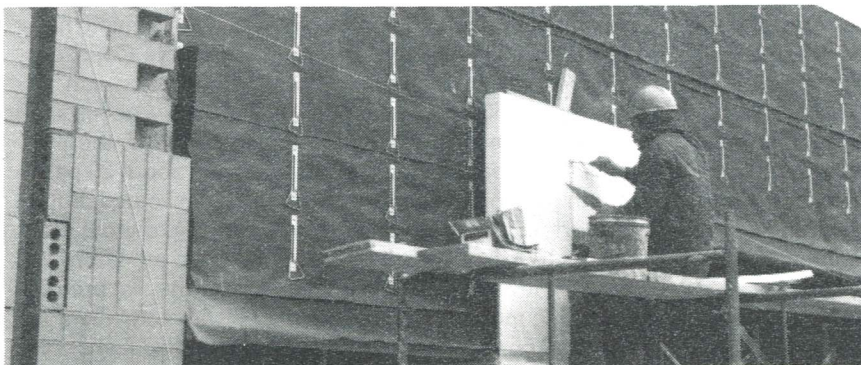
Paul Schliesser 1909-1985

Pastor Paul Schliesser was born June 5, 1909 in Jacksonville, Ill. He died May 12, 1985 at Tucson, Ariz.

A 1937 seminary graduate, he served congregations in Cibique, Canyon Day and Cedar Creek, Ariz.; Henry and Florence, S. Dak.; Withrow, Wash.; and Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada, where he served until his retirement in 1977.

In 1942 he married Elva Harder, who preceded him in death. In 1955 he married Helene Bowman. He is survived by his wife; daughters, Phyllis (Kenneth) Kesti, Phoebe (Dr. John) Lawrenz, and Sharon King; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held May 16 at Shepherd of the Hills, Tucson, Ariz.



Work on the new quarters for Northwestern Publishing House on 113th Street, one-half block north of Watertown Plank Rd., continues on schedule with occupancy promised on or about August 1. The 40,000-square-foot structure will contain a retail store, administrative and editorial offices, and a warehouse-distribution center. Total cost of the project is about \$1.5 million.

IN THE NEWS

Florida

Anniversary at Beverly Hills

St. Paul of Beverly Hills honored its pastor, Robert G. Johnston, on May 19 with a special service celebrating his 35th anniversary of ordination.

Pastor Raymond L. Wiechmann former president of the South Atlantic District and now a member of St. Paul, preached the sermon. A son, Mark Johnston of DeLand, Fla., served as the liturgist.

A 1950 graduate of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Ill., Johnston served congregations at New Hamburg, Ontario, and Pine River, Wis., before he was called to teach at Concordia, St. Paul, Minn., in 1957. In 1960 he was called as headmaster of Concordia Memorial College, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia.

In 1964 he returned to the United States, joined the Wisconsin Synod, and was called to St. Lucas, Milwaukee where he remained until 1976. For five years he served as principal of Michigan Lutheran High School, St. Joseph, Mich., before accepting a call to St. Paul of Beverly Hills.

The congregation presented Pastor and Mrs. Johnston with a trip to Germany where one of their sons, Pastor Timothy L. Johnston, serves as one of the synod's civilian chaplains.

— David Nottling

Minnesota

Administrator honored

Pastor Robert W. Schlicht, administrator of the Lutheran Home in Belle Plaine for the past 25 years, has been selected administrator of the year for 1985 by the American College of Health Care Administrators.

Schlicht is a former president of the 7000-member National Association of Health Care Administrators and is also a member of the American College of Health Care Administrators which named him administrator of the year. His book, "The Care of the Soul," was distributed



On March 24, St. Mark of Leesburg, Fla., dedicated its first worship facility. At the special afternoon service, attended by over 200 people, Pastor John W. Covach, the circuit pastor, preached the sermon. St. Mark was organized in 1978 as a daughter congregation of King of Kings, Maitland. The following spring the congregation called its first resident pastor, Earl W. Noffsinger, who still serves the congregation. The congregation numbers 60 baptized members.

to more than 1000 long-term care facilities in 41 states. He has authored numerous pamphlets on professional aspects of his field as well.

A 1957 graduate of the seminary, Pastor Schlicht served in Neillsville, Wis. until 1959 when he accepted a call to Trinity, Belle Plaine, where he also assumed responsibility for the Lutheran Home. In 1976 he became full-time administrator of the home.

Belle Plaine, owned by 114 congregations of the Wisconsin Synod, has 126 aged residents and 51 mentally retarded residents in its care at the present time and is staffed by 210 full- and part-time employees.

Texas

District honors long-time servants

Pastors Walter A. Diehl and Loyal L. Schroeder were honored by the congregations of the South Central District for their many years of service in the ministry. The special service of thanksgiving was held at Christ the Lord of Houston on January 24, 1985.

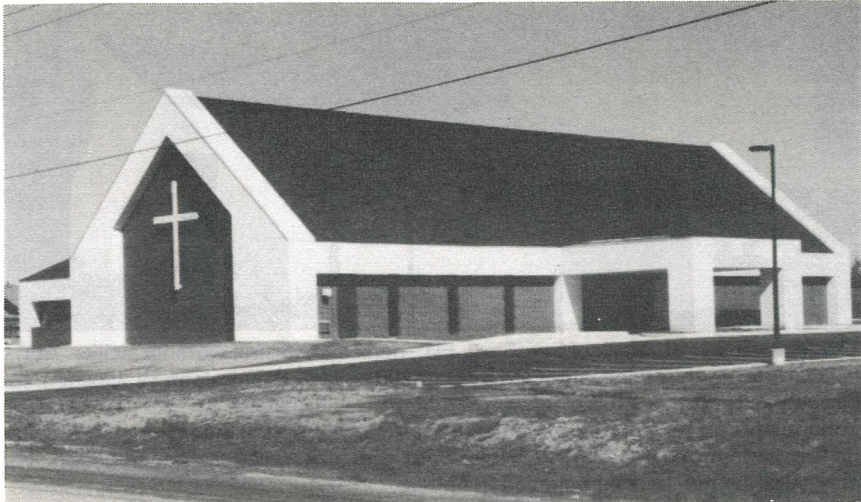
Pastor Diehl, now serving Abiding Savior of Weslaco, was ordained and installed into the ministry at Elkhorn, Wis., on November 8, 1934. On the same date in 1984 the members of Abiding Savior rejoiced with him over his 50 years of service in the ministry.

Pastor Diehl's long service to the church has led him to serve congregations at Elkhorn, Wis., Phoenix and Tempe, Ariz., Dallas, Texas and at Weslaco since 1976. While in Arizona, Pastor Diehl also helped to begin congregations in Tempe and Mesa.

He has served on the district mission board since 1952, and was a member of the General Board for Home Missions from 1956 to 1982. He continues to serve as the secretary of the South Central District Mission Board.

Following his graduation from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 1948, Pastor Schroeder was assigned as a tutor at Northwestern Lutheran Academy in Mobridge, S. Dak. He accepted a call to St. John, Loganville and Trinity, Lime Ridge, Wis. in 1951. He later accepted calls to St. Paul, Town Prairie Farm and St. Paul, Town Dallas, Wis. From 1967 to 1971 he served congregations at Hendricks, Minn. and Argo Township, S. Dak. He was called to St. John, Bowdle, S. Dak. in 1971. From 1978-83 he served as district missionary for the Dakota-Montana District. During this time he helped to begin congregations in Hot Springs, S. Dak.; Helena, Mont.; and Minot, N. Dak. From July 1983 until his retirement from the ministry on November 12, 1984 he served Good Shepherd, Midland, Tex.

— Charles Learman



Gethsemane, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Oklahoma

Church and school dedication

On March 24, Gethsemane of Oklahoma City dedicated its new church and school. The relocation project has established the congregation in one of the new, rapidly growing residential areas of the city.

The new church, seating 350, replaces the congregation's first church which had grown too small for the 200-member congregation. Included in the new building are three large classrooms for the parish school and two offices.

Gethsemane, the first WELS congregation in Oklahoma, was organized in 1967 and is presently served by Pastor Douglas L. Bode. Rupert W. Rosin has served as principal of the school and teacher of the upper grades since 1970. Gloria A. Dahlke teaches the lower grades.

— Charles Learman

THE BIBLE IN 365 READINGS

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

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

LOOKING BACK
from The Northwestern Lutheran

50 years ago . . .

A worthwhile definition — A young man, who sent the following definition of the word "money" to a London paper, won a prize. It may be well for us to memorize it: "Money is an article which may be used as a universal passport to everywhere except heaven, and as a universal provider of everything except happiness."

25 years ago . . .

Easter Sunday marked a milestone of progress for our Lutheran Church at Lumano in Sala-land (Rhodesia). On this day 25 African people were confirmed and the first communion celebration was held for the little congregation.

10 years ago . . .

The 50th anniversary of the ordination of Pastor Venus H. Winter was recently celebrated in our San Pablo Spanish Mission in Tucson, Ariz. Pastor Winter, our Synod's veteran missionary to the Spanish-speaking, began his work among the Spanish-speaking in 1948 in Tucson. Since then our work in Spanish has expanded to such an extent that we now have gospel launching pads in El Paso-Juarez, Puerto Rico, several locations in Mexico and Medellin, Colombia.

WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD CONVENTION

The forty-eighth biennial convention of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod will be held, God willing, August 5-9, 1985 at the Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw, Mich.

The opening communion service at St. Paul Lutheran Church will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 5, Pastor emeritus Edgar Hoenecke will preach the sermon. The closing service will be held immediately after the last session on Friday, August 9. The preacher will be Pastor Daniel Gieschen, chairman of the General Board for Home Missions.

The opening session of the convention will be held immediately following the opening service in the auditorium of Michigan Lutheran Seminary. Delegates are asked to arrive early to register in the lobby of the auditorium either on Sunday or before the beginning of the opening session.

There will be a special service at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 4, dedicating the additions and renovations at Michigan Lutheran Seminary, which were made possible by the Reaching Out offerings.

Mail sent to delegates during the convention should be addressed in care of Michigan Lutheran Seminary, 2777 Hardin St., Saginaw, MI 48602. Delegates may be reached by telephone at 517/793-1041.

David Worgull, Secretary
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

ONE ISSUE

There is one issue of The Northwestern Lutheran in July. The next issue will be dated August, 1985 and appear August 1.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 48TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

Saginaw, Michigan / August 5-9, 1985

BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following slate of candidates has been chosen by the Synod Nominating Committee to be presented to the delegates at the forty-eighth convention of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, August 5-9, 1985. The delegates will elect one for each position listed. The district affiliation of each candidate is noted in parenthesis. Incumbents are noted by an asterisk (*).

General Board for Home Missions, Chairman

- Rev. Daniel M. Gieschen, Adrian, MI (MI)
- * Rev. Karl R. Gurgel, Lake Mills, WI (WW)
- Rev. Robert H. Hochmuth, Sacramento, CA (AC)

Board for World Missions, Chairman

- Rev. Ronald F. Freier, St. Joseph, MI (MI)
- Rev. Richard E. Lauersdorf, Jefferson, WI (WW)
- * Rev. William A. Meier, Phoenix, AZ (AC)

Board of Trustees, Chairman

- Rev. Norval W. Kock, New Ulm, MN (MN)
- * Rev. Carl S. Leyrer, Milwaukee, WI (SEW)
- Rev. David M. Ponath, North St. Paul, MN (MN)

Commission on Higher Education, Chairman

- Rev. Paul W. Kuske, Grove City, OH (MI)
- Rev. Victor H. Prange, Janesville, WI (WW)
- * Rev. Robert J. Zink, Hales Corners, WI (SEW)

Executive Committee for the Lutheran Apache Mission, Pastor

- Rev. Mark L. Hallemeier, Tucson, AZ (AC)
- * Rev. Philip A. Koelpin, Flagstaff, AZ (AC)
- Rev. Daniel D. Pautz, Tempe, AZ (AC)

Executive Committee for the Lutheran Church of Central Africa, Layman

- * Jerome C. Brooks, Racine, WI (SEW)
- Roy A. Schneider, Scottsdale, AZ (AC)
- David E. Schweppe, Friendswood, TX (SC)

Executive Committee for the Lutheran Ev. Christian Church, Japan, Pastor

- * Rev. William F. Bernhardt, Milwaukee, WI (SEW)
- Rev. Milton W. Burk, Prescott, AZ (AC)
- Rev. Donald W. Stuppy, Newport News, VA (NA)

Executive Committee for Latin American Missions, Layman

- * Robert A. Grebe, Parrish, FL (SA)
- Kenneth R. Johnson, Grand Junction, CO (NE)
- Jonathan J. Scharlemann, Redwood Falls, MN (MN)

Executive Committee for Southeast Asian Missions, Layman

- Ronald C. Cooper, Houston, TX (SC)
- Steven D. Danekas, Naperville, IL (SEW)
- * James O. Haag, Muskego, WI (SEW)

Northwestern Publishing House Board, Seminary Professor

- * Prof. Richard D. Balge, Mequon, WI (SEW)
- Prof. John F. Brug, Mequon, WI (SEW)
- Prof. James J. Westendorf, Mequon, WI (SEW)

Northwestern Publishing House Board, Layman

- Ronald R. Jeske, Franklin, WI (SEW)
- * Duane W. Kuehl, Brown Deer, WI (SEW)
- Thomas L. Schultz, Watertown, WI (SEW)

Northwestern Publishing House Board, Layman

- * Mark C. Brunner, Waubeka, WI (SEW)
- Oscar G. Dick, Manitowoc, WI (NW)
- Philip H. Meister, Oconomowoc, WI (WW)

Special Ministries Board, Pastor

- Rev. Kenneth F. Lenz, Colgate, WI (SEW)
- Rev. Stephen P. Valleskey, Houston, TX (SC)
- Rev. John C. Zeitler, Fond du Lac, WI (NW)

Special Ministries Board, Teacher

- Richard E. Bakken, Mishicot, WI (NW)
- Kenneth H. Pahnke, Menomonie, WI (WW)
- * Theodore H. Zuberbier, Milwaukee, WI (SEW)

Special Ministries Board, Layman

- * Bruce C. Cuppan, Fond du Lac, WI (NW)
- Eugene O. Mencke, Oklahoma City, OK (SC)
- Dale A. Mueller, Hartford, WI (SEW)

Coordinating Council, Layman

- Marc L. Frey, San Antonio, TX (SC)
- Charles O. Schranz, Waupun, WI (NW)
- * Donald F. Schuppe, Memphis, TN (SA)

BY THE DISTRICTS

The following slate of candidates will be presented to the delegates at the forty-eighth convention of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, August 5-9, 1985, one to be elected to each position. The nominating district is indicated in parenthesis. Incumbents are noted by an asterisk (*). The order is determined by the districts and at times expresses preference.

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Board of Control Pastor (NW)

- * Rev. Paul Kolander, Montello, WI
- Rev. Arno Wolfgramm, Manitowoc, WI
- Rev. Eugene Ahlswede, Eagle River, WI

Layman (SEW)

- * Franklin Woldt, Lomira, WI
- David Fons, Jr., Milwaukee, WI
- Daniel Kannenberg, Waukesha, WI

Dr. Martin Luther College Board of Control Pastor (MN)

- Rev. Norval W. Kock, New Ulm, MN
- Rev. Roger E. Woller, Fairfax, MN
- Rev. James Liggett, Sleepy Eye, MN

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- Herbert A. Berg, New Ulm, MN
- David C. Lindemann, New Ulm, MN

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- * Ormal Kiesling, Jefferson, WI
- David Fritze, Watertown, WI
- Larry Stolzman, Madison, WI

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- Peter Westra, Beaver Dam, WI
- Kenneth Beyer, Watertown, WI

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**THE 48TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE
WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD
August 5-9, 1985 / Michigan Lutheran Seminary / Saginaw, Michigan**

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NOTICES

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

CONFERENCES

Northern Wisconsin District, Lake Superior Conference, July 2 at St. Paul, Oconto Falls. Agenda: Conference Reports.

South Atlantic District, South Central Conference, July 16-17 at Lake Gunterville, Ala. Agenda: 1985 Book of Reports and Memorials.

ADDRESSES**PASTORS:**

Froelich, Richard A., 3905 Toole, Bozeman, MT 59715; 406/587-4709.
 Johnston, Mark J., 1776 W. Acadian Dr., Deltona, FL 32725.
 Kauffeld, Shawn E., RR 1, Summit, SD 57266.
 Leerssen, William T., 802 Maple Grove Rd., Duluth, MN 55811; 218/722-4364.
 Manthey, Marcus P., 1969 Ixona Dr. W., Melbourne, FL 32901; 305/259-7303; Off. 768-1500.
 Neumann, Wilbert E., R. 1, Box 143, New Prague, MN 56071; 612/758-3245.
 Russow, William H., PO Box 98, Clear Lake, SD 57226.
 Schmelzer, Daniel E., 2199 Camino Brazos, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

TEACHERS:

Just, Dale F., 10965 Weyers Rd., Kaukauna, WI 54130.
 Kaiser, Paul H., 78 Cedar Point Dr., Williams Bay, WI 53191.
 Loescher, Heidi M., 1909 Madera St., Apt. 2, Waukesha, WI 53186.

CHANGES IN MINISTRY

PASTORS:

Gosdeck, David M., from Salem, Stillwater, Minn., to Northwestern College, Watertown, Wis.
Kurth, John H., from Michigan Lutheran High School, St. Joseph, Mich., to Board for World Missions worker training counselor.
Rouse, Wayne L., from Peace, Clark, S. Dak., to Immanuel, Elgin/Trinity, Carson, N. Dak.
Scheibe, Richard A., from Our Savior, Roanoke, Va., to Atonement, Baltimore Md.
Uhlhorn, Ronald W., from St. John, Pardeeville, Wis., to St. Paul, New Ulm, Minn.
Zuleger, Chester W., from Trinity, Lake City, Minn., to St. John, Wood Lake, Minn.

TEACHERS:

Anderson, Sandra, from inactive to Palos, Palos Heights, Ill.
Bain, Gary, from Messiah, Wichita, Kans., to Salem, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Bjorn, Barbara, from St. John, Goodhue, Minn., to Christ, Zumbrota, Minn.
Bonitz, Cheryl, from St. John, Sparta, Wis., to Trinity, Watertown, Wis.
Diener, Annette, to Salem, Stillwater, Minn.
Grabitske, Patricia, from inactive to St. Paul, Arlington, Minn.
Hinds, Margaret, to Crown of Life, Hubertus, Wis.
Hoff, Joanne, from inactive to Redeemer, Fond du Lac, Wis.
Koch, Barbara, from inactive to Jerusalem, Morton Grove, Ill.
Lanphear, Joan, from St. Peter, Schofield, Wis., to Salem, Milwaukee, Wis.
Leitzke, Debra, from Wisconsin Lutheran Elementary, Racine, Wis., to Grace, Glendale, Ariz.
Lembrich, Ericha, from inactive to St. Peter, Helenville, Wis.
Monke, Jennifer, from Peace, Livonia, Mich., to Emmanuel, West St. Paul, Minn.
Nielson, Carol, from inactive to St. Paul, Livonia, Mich.
Pautz, Kathleen, to St. Peter, Helenville, Wis.
Ring, Molly, from St. Mark, Lincoln, Nebr., to St. John, Lake City, Minn.
Schumann, Nancy, from inactive to Mt. Calvary, Waukesha, Wis.
Taylor, Kenneth, from Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School, Jackson, Wis., to Northwestern Preparatory School, Watertown, Wis.
Vetter, Susan, from St. Paul, Norfolk, Nebr., to St. Paul, East Troy, Wis.

NOMINATIONS DR. MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

The following have been nominated as possible replacement for Professor Dennis Gorsline for head football coach, physical education instructor and men's intramural program.

James Bauer	New Ulm, MN
Timothy Bentz	Appleton, WI
Stephen Berg	Garden Grove, CA
David Eberhardt	Waterloo, WI
Steve Gauger	Appleton, WI
Allen Greschner	Inver Grove Heights, MN
John Gronholz	Stellacoomb, WA
Robert Gruetzmacher	Phoenix, AZ
Steve Hahnke	Manitowoc, WI
Frederic Heiderich	Manitowoc, WI
Steve Lecker	Appleton, WI
Carl Lemke	Prairie du Chien, WI
Kent Meyer	Lexington, NE
William Plamann	St. Paul Park, MN
Mark Ricke	Lake Mills, WI
Paul Schultz	Longmont, CO
Armin Schwartz	Prairie du Chien, WI
Martin Schwartz	St. Paul Park, MN
Neil Scriver	Rapid City, SD
James Stueber	West St. Paul, MN
Mark Toepel	Lake Mills, WI
David Trautman	Bearsley, MN

Any correspondence regarding these nominees must be in the hands of the secretary no later than July 11, 1985. The board of control will meet July 12 to call a man from the above list.

Darrell Knippel, Secretary
 DMLC Board of Control
 4818 Garfield Ave. S.
 Minneapolis, MN 55409

REQUEST FOR COLLOQUY

Pastor Charles D. Lowry, Santa Barbara, California, formerly of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, has requested a colloquy for the purpose of entering the pastoral ministry of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Correspondence relative to the request should be addressed to the undersigned.

Marcus C. Nitz, President
 Arizona-California District

100TH ANNIVERSARY

Holy Cross, Daggett, Mich., will observe its centennial September 1 with services at 10:30 a.m. (Rev. Bernard G. Kuschel, preacher) and 3:30 p.m. (Rev. Richard R. Durow Jr., preacher). A catered dinner will be held in the Daggett School at 12:30 p.m. For reservations and information contact Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Durow, Sr., Rt. 3, Box 30, Stephenson, MI 49887 or Pastor Jerome R. Kingsbury, PO Box 67, Daggett, MI 49821; 906/753-4297.

LUTHERAN HOME AUXILIARY Anniversary

The 10th anniversary of the Lutheran Home Auxiliary will be celebrated July 24 in conjunction with the auxiliary's annual meeting, which will be held on the grounds of the Lutheran Home in Belle Plaine, Minn. Registration is 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. followed by a full day of activities. New members are welcome.

MICHIGAN LUTHERAN SEMINARY Anniversary Events

A festival service to dedicate the new and remodeled MLS buildings will be held Sunday, August 4 at 3:00 p.m. in the new gymnasium. Guest preacher is Rev. Robert P. Mueller, president of the WELS Michigan District.

Homecoming events scheduled for Saturday, September 28 will include the JV football game at 11:00 a.m.; varsity football game at 2:00 p.m.; and the anniversary homecoming banquet and program sponsored and planned by MLS alumni at 5:00 p.m.

On Sunday, September 29 an anniversary festival service will be held in the gymnasium commemorating the seminary's centennial as a worker training school and diamond jubilee as a preparatory school. Rev. Robert J. Voss, executive secretary of the Commission on Higher Education is guest preacher. The centennial mural will be dedicated at this service.

At 4:15 p.m. the WELS Historical Institute Society meeting will be held in the chapel/auditorium and at 5:30 p.m. an anniversary barbecue will be sponsored by the MLS Booster Club.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION Summer Conference

CESE will present "Motivating the Underachiever" featuring Dr. Wlodkowski, nationally known author on the topic of motivation. His presentation will be geared toward teachers who deal with students of all levels of learning in a self-contained classroom. The thrust of the presentation will be toward students with special needs.

The conference will be held at Channel 4 TV, 720 E. Capitol Dr., Milwaukee, Wis., on August 15 with session I (8:30-11:45); lunch (on your own); and session II (1:00-3:45). Cost is \$5.00 for CESE members and \$10.00 for nonmembers. Final registration date is August 1. Make checks payable to C.E.S.E., 6098 N. 35th St., Milwaukee, WI 53209.

NOMINATIONS GENERAL BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS

Since Pastor Larry Zwieg for personal reasons has resigned from his call as associate executive secretary of the General Board for Home Missions subject to acceptance of the call and assumption of the position by some person, or acceptance of another call by Pastor Zwieg, the General Board for Home Missions, in keeping with synodical bylaws, hereby requests the nomination of qualified candidates for the position of associate executive secretary of the General Board for Home Missions. The man shall be fully theologically trained. He will share in the duties and responsibilities of the executive secretary of the General Board for Home Missions under the direction of the executive secretary.

All nominations are to be received on or before July 21, 1985 by:

Howard W. Kaiser
 GBHM Secretary
 3051 North 73rd Street
 Milwaukee, WI 53210

NOTICE

The next regular plenary session of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for August 3-9

Business to be acted on is to be submitted to the executive secretary of the board, with copies to be furnished the chairman of the board, no later than ten days prior to the meeting date.

Ralph E. Scharf, Secretary
 Board of Trustees

FAMILY RETREAT

Sola Fide, Lawrenceville, Ga., will host a family and adult singles retreat August 31 through September 2 at Camp McIntosh, Carrollton, Ga. Cost for the three-day weekend is \$35 per adult, \$10 per child, with maximum cost of \$100 per family. All churches in the South Central Conference have been invited for this "1st annual." Anyone who will be in the area is welcome. For further information and registration forms contact Pastor Larry Zahn, 875 Highway 124, Lawrenceville, GA 30245; 404/963-4575.

ADDRESSOGRAPH AVAILABLE

Trinity, Crete, Ill., has a Stielow Addressograph available to any mission congregation for the cost of transportation. It is in working condition, comes with stencils and other related supplies and equipment. Contact Pastor H. Curtis Lyon, 448 Cass St., Crete IL 60417.

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FROM THIS CORNER

The biennial convention of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod will be held August 5-9 at Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, Michigan. It will be the 48th such convention. The first convention of the synod, under the name General Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Other States, was held October 11-13, 1892, at St. John (8th and Vliet) in Milwaukee. There was another name change before we ended up with WELS in 1959.

The 100-year-old Michigan Lutheran Seminary, site of the convention, is the original theological seminary of the old Michigan Synod, organized in 1860. The seminary was closed in 1907 and reopened in 1910 as a prep school within the Wisconsin Synod's academy system. The name "seminary" was retained, we are told, "for historical and especially sentimental reasons."

A good deal of the delegates' time will be occupied by consideration of the 67-page report of the Administration Survey Commission which was appointed in 1981 to review the synod's administrative structure.

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The report — as long as it is — does not recommend any substantial changes in the form and function of the synod's machinery. "There appears to be no need," the commission says, "for drastic overhaul of the synod's way of doing things. The synod's planning-programming-budgeting system, inaugurated at the time of an earlier Administration Survey Commission (1965-69), appears to be working well."

A few of the highlights of the commission's report. It recommends abolishing two of the present divisions: the division of administration and services and of benevolence. The benevolence division is folded into a new division — of fiscal affairs, including the group medical plan and the pension program.

A new division — of administration — is created into which is placed a number of activities clustered around the president's office, for example, stewardship and public relations. A third division is created, the division of parish services, in which are gathered all the units which have service to the parish as their prime responsibility.

The commission is recommending an increase where possible in the number of laymen and teachers serving on boards, commissions, and committees. Membership on these agencies is restricted to two consecutive terms. Finally, the district structure is simplified, permitting greater flexibility for the districts to shape their own organization.

Money is always a problem. It is not well understood that the Reaching Out offering is for capital projects. None of it flows into the operating treasury. While millions are being raised for bricks and mortar, the operating treasury languishes. This shortfall in offerings, reports the Coordinating Council, "has made intelligent planning on the part of the divisions virtually impossible and the subsequent budgetary reductions extremely frustrating."

In spite of budgetary vexations, the world mission board, designating Brazil as a "vast and promising mission field," is proposing that a five-man team be sent to Brazil to establish missions in Gravatai, a suburb of Porto Alegre, and in Dourados, capital of the state of Mato Grosso do Sul.

Such issues will occupy the time of our 350 voting and 100 advisory delegates for five days in Saginaw. The decisions made there will control, under God, our corporate religious life for the next two years and beyond that. Your prayers are invited.

James P. Schafer

The United States is the best country in the world

by Eleonore I. Jeske



It happened last summer on the main street of Erfurt, in East Germany. Almost 500 years earlier Martin Luther had come to the city of Erfurt to study law at the university. Now the Reformation Lands Study Tour of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary was visiting the city. A half dozen members of our group were windowshopping one balmy evening. Standing in front of a clothing store window one of us remarked: "Isn't \$25 pretty expensive for that cloth cap?" Another member of the group disagreed: "No, it isn't that bad a price."

"Yes, it is expensive, especially when you realize how little salary we get," said an eavesdropping young man nearby wearing the uniform of the East German army. He had drifted away from his soldier friends and, as we Americans moved down the street, he joined us obviously eager for conversation.

"How fortunate you are" he said, "to be able to travel to another country, and to leave any time you want and return to the United States." The young man was anxious to ask us about an America he would probably never see. "What part of America do you come from?" "Wisconsin." "Yes, where?" "Milwaukee." "Oh, Milwaukee — a German city!" Looking at another member of the group, the soldier asked "And where do you come from?" "Arizona." "Where, Phoenix?" (pronounced Fay-nix). "No, Tucson," was the answer. "Oh, in the desert."

The young man's knowledge of America and his interest in it were impressive. "What is it like" he asked, "to be free? To be able to go to church without fear of losing your job or the opportunity to attend the university or to be promoted to a better job? Here our movements are watched and our lives are controlled

by the government. We are like birds in a cage." There was a sad wistfulness in his look.

"Where did you learn so much about America?" we asked him. "I learn about America from radio broadcasts from the free countries."

"Aren't you afraid to be talking to us on a street corner, where many eyes could be watching?" "I must speak to you. I must tell you how I feel. You must try to understand how we East Germans long to be free, but under Communism we have no hope. The United States is the best country in the world."

Regretfully the time came when we had to leave our young friend on the streets of Erfurt. It was not safe to congregate in groups in public. In a few days we would cross over Norman's land into West Germany — and to freedom. Each of us would feel a load of heaviness and depression lifted from our shoulders after our bus made that border crossing. We were back in the free world.

How often do we Americans stop to thank our God for the blessing of being able to move about freely in a free country? Do we think about the privilege of being able to gather with fellow Christians in worship and even to choose which church we want to attend? Do we take for granted that we can come and go to our jobs, knowing that no secret police are observing our every step? Perhaps through our WELS radio broadcast to the Germans behind the Iron Curtain we can help people like this young soldier to know another kind of freedom, a freedom Jesus won for us. Our prayers and dollars are needed.

Think about one soldier's cry for freedom, and thank God for an America which, despite all its shortcomings, is still, as he said, "the best country in the world!" □



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