

THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF
REV. NORMAN W. BERG

"BUT BY THE GRACE OF GOD, I AM WHAT I AM, AND
THIS GRACE TO ME WAS NOT WITHOUT EFFECT."
I CORINTHIANS 15:10

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I. INTRODUCTION

Who is Reverend Norman W. Berg? With that very broad question I began my research and study of this fascinating and extremely important man in the history of the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod. The vast array of answers, the accounts of his ministry, and the commentary of hindsight are documented here in the pages that follow. The life and public ministry of Rev. Berg is an exciting tale of God's guidance and grace. The accounts of some of the events are inspiring in and of themselves, but hindsight allows us also to see the guiding and preparing hand of the Lord. Along each step in Rev. Berg's ministry, the Lord prepared him for the next step or for a step farther down the road. It truly is the account of God's grace in using men to be his messengers to this sinful world. Not to be lost in all of this also is the man, Norman Berg. His style of leadership and guidance was a true blessing for our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod for more than fifty years. I gained valuable insights into pastoral leadership and evangelical ministry.

The focus of this paper will be to give the basic accounts of the life and public ministry of Rev. Berg, focusing on how his earlier ministry prepared him for his future service as the Executive Secretary (and later Administrator) of the General Board for Home Missions of the WELS. The pages spent recounting his time with the GBHM will focus on the tremendous impact this man and this Board had on the WELS, past, present and future. Certainly not to be lost in any of this is the style of leadership exhibited by Rev. Berg during a challenging and exciting time of our WELS history. It is my hope that I have been accurate to the accounts of history, charitable where at all uncertain, and thorough to satisfy the curiosity.

The words on the front cover of an anniversary booklet prepared for the celebration of Rev. Berg's Fortieth year in the public ministry read as follows: "Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of God's Grace in the Ministry of the Reverend Norman W. Berg."¹ The dedication on the inside cover provides an excellent beginning for our study: "This anniversary booklet is dedicated, not to the Reverend Norman Berg, but -as stated on the cover - to the grace of our God, as exhibited in Pastor Berg's forty years of ministry and in his entire life. When asked if there was a passage that he felt characterized his ministry or his outlook concerning that ministry, he recited the words of St. Paul in the first half of 1 Corinthians 15:10, By the grace of God I am what I am."²

II. THE CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATION YEARS: 1920-1944

Norman W. Berg was born March 29, 1920 in Saginaw, Michigan. He was the only son of the Rev. Ehrenfried J. and Lydia (nee Lehman) Berg.³ However, it is perhaps worthwhile to begin the story two generations before. Ehrenfried Seebach, the great-grandfather of Norman Berg and the namesake of Ehrenfried Berg, was a layman at Town Oakwood, WI. In the mid-1840s Seebach wrote to the Rhine Mission Society appealing for a pastor to come and serve them.

"(John) Weinmann was the man who was sent to the Milwaukee area to answer an appeal for a pastor that Ehrenfried Seebach, a layman at Town Oakwood, had directed to the Rhine Mission Society. Weinmann was really the pioneer pastor of the Wisconsin Synod in Wisconsin."⁴

The ties to the Wisconsin Synod, thus go back to one of the three founding fathers of our synod, and to an event which served as a catalyst for the founding of the synod. The family remains there to this day.

¹ Taken from Rev. Berg's Fortieth Anniversary booklet.

² Taken from Rev. Berg's Fortieth Anniversary booklet.

³ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.

⁴ Quoted from The Wisconsin Synod Lutherans by E.C. Fredrich, p. 7.

It is no surprise then that from this active Christian lay family would come several generations of pastors. Ehrenfried ^{Berg} Seebach, himself a pastor, was serving as a Professor at Michigan Lutheran Seminary when Norman was born. He attended St. Paul's Christian Day School in Saginaw, together with his two sisters. A third sister was killed tragically in a car accident. Edgar Hoenecke, a student at MLS at the time, recalls,

"At that time Norman's older sister, a sweet little girl, was one of the darlings of the campus. She was only in first grade when she was run down by a car on Court Street on her way to Saint Paul Lutheran School. After all these years the shock and sorrow of Bethel's death are still very clear in my memory."⁵

Already at this young age Norman Berg's paths were beginning to cross with people who would have tremendous impact on his life and ministry. Rev. Edgar Hoenecke, quoted above, would later be the first full-time Executive Secretary for the Board for World Missions of the Wisconsin Synod, during many of the same years that Rev. Berg served the GBHM. Rev. Hoenecke also recalls the young Norman Berg:

"Our relationship dates back to the days at Michigan Lutheran Seminary at Saginaw when Norman was a cute little toddler. His parents, Professor Ehrenfried Berg and his wife Lydia were our neighbors on Court Street. From the beginning little Norman was a very friendly, bright young lad who even then gave clear indications of great things to come. He was a little younger than I, but very alert and responsive when we were together."⁶

In 1933, Rev. Berg enrolled at Michigan Lutheran Seminary himself. He received a fine education there and graduated in 1937. He arrived at an important decision-making time. Where would he continue his studies and what would he study. By his own admission, the ministry was not his first choice at this time. His first choice was really to study chemical

⁵ Quoted from a letter to Michael Roth from Rev. Edgar Hoenecke, dated March 26, 1996.

⁶ Quoted from a letter to Michael Roth from Rev. Edgar Hoenecke, dated March 26, 1996.

engineering.⁷ His father, however, had been encouraging him for many years to study for the pastoral ministry. Under this influence, Rev. Berg decided to try Northwestern College for one year. Under the Lord's guidance, in the spring of 1938, just before the end of Norman's first year at NWC, his father received the call to serve as the Dean of Men (or Inspector) at NWC. It seemed natural then to Norman to remain at NWC with his family. It was not until the end of his Senior year at NWC, that the decision was final in his mind to be a pastor.⁸ He graduated from NWC in May of 1941 and enrolled at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary the following September.

It is important to take note of the tremendous influence Rev. Ehrenfried Berg had on his son. There was the encouragement and love typical of a father-son relationship, there was the modeling of a Christian life and Christian education in the home, but there was modeling of the ministry as well. He went and stayed at NWC because of his father, but he also learned how to be a pastor from his father. Rev. Norman Berg says of his father, "He taught me to be aggressive yet not in a proud way. To get something done you have to work and put in a lot of effort. He was an outgoing, friendly man who always had time ~~the~~ for the "common man." But more importantly, he had a very strong devotion to the matter of grace. He was filled with the spirit of the Wauwatosa gospel, having been influenced himself by J.P. Koehler, and it showed in the evangelical manner with which he lived his life."⁹ This is the same spirit and attitude toward ministry that Rev. Norman Berg took as well. With these early childhood and educational years the Lord had prepared Rev. Berg to go out and serve. He had prepared him well.

⁷ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

⁸ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

⁹ Taken from interviews with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13 and April 15, 1996.

III. EARLY MINISTRY: 1944-1950

Rev. Berg graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 1944. Due to World War II, classes went year round with no summer break. This created some unusual circumstances. For example, there were two graduating classes in 1944, of which Pastor Berg was part of the first. He was assigned to Northwestern Lutheran Academy in Mobridge, SD. He remained here teaching and working until January of 1946. Due to the unusual arrangements during the war, graduation schedules were still disorderly during the immediate years after the war. There would be no graduation in January, 1946. The next graduation (and also the next call day) after his assigned two years would not be until May of 1947. Instead of remaining as a tutor for three plus years, Rev. Berg requested to be re-assigned in, May, 1946.¹⁰

His request was honored. In 1946 he was assigned to St. Peter Lutheran Church in Globe, Arizona. St. Peter was a small congregation with thirty-nine baptized souls and twenty-seven communicant members.¹¹ But times were tough in Globe. In 1942 the mine had closed. Jobs were hard to find. Many of the members of St. Peter were Apache Indians. When the mine closed, many returned to the reservation.¹² From the human viewpoint, the four years spent in Globe were a "statistical failure."¹³ Rev. Berg "walked his shoes bare,"¹⁴ yet when he left in 1950 there were thirty-eight baptized souls and thirty-three communicant members.¹⁵ There was no real growth.

However, this time spent in Globe had a tremendous impact upon his life. For it was on October 6, 1946, that Rev. Berg married Eleanor M. Martin.¹⁶

¹⁰ Taken from interview with Rev. Berg on March 13, 1996.

¹¹ Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1946, p. 21.

¹² Taken from interview with Rev. Berg on April 15, 1996.

¹³ Taken from interview with Rev. Berg on April 15, 1996.

¹⁴ Taken from interview with Rev. Berg on March 13, 1996.

¹⁵ Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1950, p. 21.

¹⁶ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.

Eleanor proved to be an excellent spouse for Rev. Berg. She shared his same outgoing spirit as well as his love for the gospel ministry. She has been at his side for nearly fifty years now. Several people I interviewed commented on the importance of Eleanor to the life, ministry, and well-being of Rev. Berg. Pastor Robert Voss perhaps said it best, "You can't survive the pressures, challenges and frustrations without a good wife, and Norm has a very good wife. She also had a way of keeping him humble, too."¹⁷

The time spent in Globe also provided very valuable experience for his future ministry with the GBHM. He learned by very practical experience that the Lord has his time-table. He asks his ministers to be faithful in preaching the Word, but he alone can bring the results. In the future, Rev. Berg would have to share this with many young, struggling home missionaries (including the writer's grandfather¹⁸), and he would be able to speak from personal experience. Such experiences are not easy, but Rev. Berg learned from this one.

IV. THE TUCSON YEARS: 1950-1954

In 1950 Rev. Berg received and accepted the call to serve as^p pastor at Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church in Tucson, Arizona. From the human viewpoint, the years spent at Redeemer would be the exact opposite of the years at Globe. This was a boom period. The baby boom was hitting full stride, and with the population explosion came a boom in this congregation's growth. Upon his arrival in 1950, Redeemer had two hundred seventy-five baptized and one hundred twenty-nine communicant members.¹⁹ They also operated a Lutheran

¹⁷ Taken from interview with Rev. Robert Voss on April 12, 1996.

¹⁸ My grandfather, Rev. Reinhold Roth (WLS '33) served in Topeka, Kansas for three years (1967-1970), until Rev. Berg and the BHM closed the mission. It was not a lack of effort, just not the time-table the Lord had in mind. Several years later it was re-opened and remains operating to this day.

¹⁹ Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1950, p. 21.

Elementary School with seventy-seven students taught by three teachers.²⁰

By 1952, they had grown to three hundred ninety-five baptized and two hundred communicant members with a school of one hundred seventy-three students and five teachers.²¹ By 1954 those numbers had grown to four hundred ninety-five baptized and two hundred fifty-seven communicant members with a school of two hundred fifty-eight students and nine teachers.²² The membership had doubled and the school had more than tripled during these four years.

These were exciting times for the congregation. This was not yet the era of retirement communities in Arizona. Many of these people had come to Arizona because of health and / or economic problems. Many were displaced from their extended families. In many ways, Redeemer Lutheran Church became their new family.²³ This also gave Rev. Berg some exposure to a ministry to the economically deprived. Much time was spent functioning as a job finder and housing coordinator. But it was a very enjoyable time for Rev. Berg.

This was also a time of growth in the Berg family. Peter (now Rev. Peter Berg) and Mary (now Mrs. Sam Clemens) were born already in Globe. John (now Rev. John Berg) and Margaret (now Mrs. Paul Wendland) were born during the years in Tucson. The youngest child, Miriam, would wait for the move to Benton Harbor, MI to join the family.²⁴

1954 also brought the first of many elected positions in which he would serve. Up until 1954, the congregations in Arizona had been part of the Southeastern Wisconsin District of the WELS, the Arizona Conference. Rapid growth already then led to the forming of the Arizona-California District

20 Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1950, p. 14.

21 Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1952, p. 16.

22 Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1954, p. 16.

23 Taken from interview with Rev. Berg on April 15, 1996.

24 Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.

in 1954. Rev. Berg was elected to serve as the 2nd Vice President of the newly formed district.²⁵ He held this position for only six months, when he received a call and left for Michigan.

The Tucson years provided tremendous experience for his future ministry with the GBHM. He had been blessed to serve in a congregation at their time of tremendous growth. He was able to be involved with an elementary school and the working relations with a teacher staff. This was also his first involvement with administration, albeit on the district level. Hindsight does afford us opportunity to see how the Lord was preparing Rev. Berg in many different ways for his future ministry, while blessing tremendously his work in Tucson.

V. RETURNING HOME TO MICHIGAN: 1954-1960

In 1954 the opportunity came to return to his dearly loved home state of Michigan, when he received the call to serve as Pastor at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church in Benton Harbor, MI. There was an added "unusual" nature to this call. His father, Rev. Ehrenfried Berg had just passed away. Rev. Berg, Sr. died while still serving actively as the Pastor at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church in Benton Harbor, MI. Rev. Berg had been called to succeed his father.²⁶ For many pastors, the idea of succeeding their own father sounds too difficult. However, Rev. Berg, who had so deeply respected his father and been so richly blessed and influenced by his father, accepted this challenge to serve this congregation.²⁷

When he arrived at Grace in 1954, Grace numbered at seven hundred, fifty baptized and three hundred, eighty-five communicant members.²⁸ At that

²⁵ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

²⁶ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.

²⁷ Taken from interview with Rev. Harold Hagedorn on April 9, 1996, based on his recollection of conversations with Rev. Berg on this subject.

²⁸ Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1954, p. 14.

time, Grace had no Lutheran Elementary School of its own, and so sent their children to St. Matthews Lutheran School in Benton Harbor. In 1956, they opened a school of their own with fifty-eight students and two teachers.²⁹ This was still the middle of the "baby boom" era and with numerous baptisms taking place,³⁰ it was a natural decision to start a school. The fruits would continue to pay off. When Rev. Berg left in 1960, there were ninety students with three teachers.³¹

Benton Harbor was very much a blue collar town, a different atmosphere than that of Arizona. This was a union town, in an era in which the unions were just beginning to exert strong force. Besides becoming involved with starting a school, another major project was the search for and reclamation of many delinquent members.³² This was a difficult task, but also one which would serve to help him some twenty-eight years later as he would serve on the BHM's research committee on Backdoor Losses.

These years also began a time of change for the congregation at Grace. The neighborhood was an ethnically changing neighborhood. Many African-Americans began emigrating from the deep south to this area of southwestern Michigan. Many attempts were made to reach out cross culturally, but without much numerical success. It seems that the majority (as much as 90%) were active in the Southern Baptist Church.³³ It is interesting to note that these early cross cultural attempts were being made during the late 1950s an era better known for racial segregation and tension than for cross cultural efforts. However, in the end, after Rev. Berg left,

²⁹ Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1956, p. 14.

³⁰ From 1954-1960 two hundred thirty-four baptisms were performed at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church. That is an average of thirty-three per year. Taken from WELS Statistical Reports, 1954-1960.

³¹ Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1960, p. 16.

³² Taken from interview with Rev. Berg on April 15, 1996.

³³ Taken from interview with Rev. Berg on April 15, 1996.

the congregation decided to move out to South Haven, MI. "White flight," which had left very few members still living within the community, and unsuccessful attempts at outreach were the major reasons for the decision to move.³⁴

Hindsight allows us to see how the Lord was preparing Rev. Berg for his future work. Cross cultural mission work, dealing with "white flight," starting a school, and reclamation attempts of backdoor losses would all become integral parts of his work with the BHM. It was also during this time that Rev. Berg became involved with the Board for Information and Stewardship, on which he served as Chairman from 1955-1962.³⁵ This involvement with stewardship was coupled with work he did in the area of Evangelism with Pastor Valleskey of Detroit. They, working in connection with others, created an evangelism manual for the Michigan District.³⁶

VI. ONWARD TO PLYMOUTH, MI: 1960-1968

1960 brought another change of location, when Rev. Berg accepted the call to serve as Pastor at St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church in Plymouth, MI.³⁶ Rev. Berg was succeeding Rev. Edgar Hoenecke, his next door neighbor from childhood, who had just accepted the call to serve full-time as our synod's Executive Secretary for the Board for World Missions. Pastor Hoenecke wrote:

"When my Call to take over the world mission post full time brought my ministry at St. Peter, Plymouth, Michigan to a close, Norman Berg was called as my successor. And, some years later, he was also called into the same leadership position in home missions and the Plymouth congregation thus was twice faced with the loss of their pastor in the interest of the synod's mission program."³⁷

This certainly was an unusual situation for a congregation. It does however speak very clearly to the mission mindset of the congregation and pastors.

³⁴ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

³⁵ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.

³⁶ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.

³⁷ Taken from letter to Michael Roth from Rev. Hoenecke, March 26, 1996.

Rev. Berg had left the Union town of Benton Harbor to enter the management town of Plymouth. Upon his arrival in 1960, St. Peter was a rather large congregation with eight hundred thirty-two baptized and five hundred seventy communicant members. The school numbered eighty-one students with four teachers.³⁸ In 1960, Plymouth still had the "small town" feel. However, in just a few more years, as suburbs reached farther and farther out, it blended into that suburban scrawl.³⁹ This again was a time of growth for St. Peter. When Rev. Berg left eight years later, they had grown to nine hundred sixty-five baptized (+133) and six hundred sixty-five communicant (+95) members.⁴⁰ Rev. Berg's administration skills were honed in working with such a large congregation, as well as with the many "extra" opportunities which came to him during these years.

The eighty-first convention of the Michigan District convened at Michigan Lutheran Seminary on June 11, 1962. They entered this convention with the knowledge that District President Gerhard L. Pless was retiring.⁴¹ A new President was to be elected. It came as a surprise to Rev. Berg that he was elected and called to serve as the new District President.⁴² He held this position until accepting the call to the GBHM in 1968.

June, 1962, was a troublesome time for the Wisconsin Synod. For more than ten years the WELS had been in doctrinal discussions with the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, our big sister for the previous ninety years. Just one year before, at the Wisconsin Synod Convention of 1961, fellowship ties were formally broken with the LC-MS. Many wondered if "little Wisconsin" would survive or even be able to maintain the status quo.

³⁸ Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1960, p. 14.

³⁹ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

⁴⁰ Taken from WELS Statistical Report for 1968, P. 16.

⁴¹ Taken from Proceedings Eighty-First Michigan District Convention, p.29.

⁴² Taken from interview with Rev. Berg on April 15, 1996.

The doubts were not unfounded. Could a church take such a strong confessional position and be able to do mission work in the United States? Could the Wisconsin Synod, which had not been extremely mission minded in the past, do any more than just maintain what they had? Rev. Berg likes to use the picture of Linus and his blanket from the "Peanuts" cartoon. He said that many expected the WELS to take its blanket and sit in the corner and do absolutely nothing else, until they simply fell out of existence.⁴³ But that was not the case. History has shown that the Lord blessed the Wisconsin Synod and their doctrinal fortitude. He did this in many ways, but first of all by providing strong Christian leadership from the Conference of Presidents during this time. Rev. Berg was part of that leadership.

Former Synod President Carl Mischke joined the COP in 1964 as President of the Western Wisconsin District. He described those years as "exciting years." The spirit of fear did not fill the COP, but rather the spirit of confidence in the Lord and excitement at the challenge.⁴⁴ The spirit was not there to sit alone by ourselves, but rather the spirit of missions filled the next two decades of the Wisconsin Synod. Rev. Berg fit perfectly in that position. The election to be District President which had surprised him, was really God's placement of the right man in the right position at the right time.⁴⁵

In the 1965 synod convention, Rev. Berg was elected to be the Second Vice-President of the Synod, and in 1966 he assumed the position of First Vice-President.⁴⁶ He was now very heavily involved on the synodical

⁴³ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

⁴⁴ Taken from interview with Rev. Carl Mischke on April 10, 1996.

⁴⁵ Taken from interview with Rev. Carl Mischke on April 10, 1996, and numerous other interviews (Revs. Hagedorn, Kaiser, and Mr. R. Waldschmidt).

⁴⁶ Taken from Proceedings for the 1965 and 1967 Synod Conventions.

the district level and the congregational level. On the district level, Rev. Berg recalled that there were many shortages in manpower. He was preparing as many as eighty call lists per year.⁴⁷ Synod-wide attention was being called to this growing problem. If they were going to expand, they needed workers. This also brought attention to the needs at our synod schools. If they were going to increase enrollments to meet the manpower needs, there was a tremendous need for more buildings, upgrading of current buildings and additional staff.

These concerns led the 1963 Synod convention to encourage, and the 1965 Synod Convention to authorize the COP to collect a special synod-wide offering with the goal of raising \$4,000,000.⁴⁸ This offering was named Missio Dei. Rev. Carl Mischke (WW District President) was appointed as chairman of the Executive Committee. Rev. Berg and Rev. Adolph C. Buenger (SEW District President) were the other two members of the Executive Committee. They formulated three general principles for the offering:

- 1) The Offering is to be part of our Synod's total stewardship program in every respect possible.
- 2) Laymen are to be involved at all organizational levels in a responsible capacity.
- 3) A full time man⁴⁹ is to be engaged for a limited period of time to direct the program.

Principle number three was the first one met when Pastor James P. Schaefer was granted a ten month leave of absence by his congregation, Atonement Lutheran, Milwaukee, to serve as executive director of the offering from November 1, 1965 to July 30, 1966.⁵⁰ The other two principles were also met under the guidance of the executive director and the executive committee. The Missio Dei Committee Report to the 1967 Synod convention stated that 17,000 laymen had been involved at all levels.⁵¹ Also, a

⁴⁷ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

⁴⁸ Taken from Proceedings for the 1965 Synod Convention.

⁴⁹ Taken from the BORAM for the 1967 Convention, p. 227.

⁵⁰ Taken from the BORAM for the 1967 Convention, p. 227.

⁵¹ Taken from the BORAM for the 1967 Convention, p. 229.

national general chairman was chosen for the offering. He was Mr. Walter R. Bunge, a lay member from St. John's Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa, WI. He served together with nine other laymen who were the chairmen of their respective districts.⁵² This was very new and somewhat unusual for the Wisconsin Synod. Never before had such a large activity been led by laymen.

This offering also brought many other "new" ideas to the Wisconsin Synod. Many media forms were used, including a special production of a twenty-six minute color film entitled, "Tomorrow is Upon Us," also a special edition of the Wisconsin Synod Herald and a succession of articles in the Northwestern Lutheran.⁵³ Firm commitments to the offering leveled off at \$5.5 million (+ \$1.5 million than projected), and by the 1967 convention more than \$3 million had been collected with 95% of the congregations participating.⁵⁴ In the end, \$5,525,000 was collected by this offering, after extending the final date from July 31, 1968 to December 31, 1968.⁵⁵ This offering brought a deeper understanding of stewardship, a strong commitment to expanding worker training, and fueled the mission spirit of the Synod. It truly was a demonstration of the grace of God on his Church.

The years spent on the COP and involved with this Missio Dei offering really prepared Rev. Berg for his time on the GBHM. He now saw the need for mission expansion. He had been part of the planning and leadership guiding the Synod in that direction. His years on the COP had shown him to be an extremely energetic man, who was always on the go. He was becoming known as a man of vision and outreach. President Mischke recalled that he was always the "idea man." He was an innovator always searching for the solution. "It seemed sometimes that Norm already had the

⁵² Taken from the BORAM for the 1967 Convention, p. 229.

⁵³ Taken from the BORAM for the 1967 Convention, p. 228.

⁵⁴ Taken from the BORAM for the 1967 Convention, p. 228.

⁵⁵ Taken from the BORAM for the 1969 Convention, p. 171.

solution before others even saw the problem."⁵⁶ That was exactly the forward minded thinking that the Wisconsin Synod needed at the time.

VII. 1968: THE CALL TO BE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE GBHM

In 1968, Rev. Berg accepted the call to serve full-time as the Executive Secretary for the General Board for Home Missions. During his years on the COP he had come to really see the need and the challenge to the Synod to reach out and expand. He personally felt the zeal for outreach and saw the need to lead the Synod in that direction. It was time to take advantage of the opportunities set before the WELS. Rev. Berg succeeded Rev. Ray Wiechmann, who had been called to that position in 1963. Rev. Wiechmann had been the first full-time Executive Secretary for the GBHM. However, due to health problems of his wife, he was unable to continue in this position.⁵⁷

Rev. Berg summarized well the attitude and situation of the GBHM in the early 1960s:

"The preparation was the Lord's, now what would the mode of operation be? The nature of the requests coming from every side and the mood of resolute determination to respond is reflected in the strategy implied by the goals for home missions graphically stated (or maybe overstated) in the 1963 GBHM mottos: "Mission-a-month" and "Every State by '78." These catchy phrases were not motivational gimmicks but expressions of the realistic hopes the Spirit had raised in the hearts of the home mission leaders of the day."⁵⁸

This was the situation which Rev. Berg "inherited" in 1968 as he became the new Executive Secretary. He met that challenge for the next twenty years with his energetic enthusiasm and strong work ethic. Rev. Robert Voss referred to this time period as, "a time of excitement and challenge." WELS members were on the move all over the country as society had become extremely mobile, and now it was time for the WELS to be on the move.⁵⁹

⁵⁶ Taken from interview with Rev. Carl Mischke on April 10, 1996.

⁵⁷ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

⁵⁸ Taken from WLQ Vol. 73, p. 264, written by Rev. Norman Berg.

⁵⁹ Taken from interview with Rev. Robert Voss on April 12, 1996.

VIII. GO, GO, GO!! THE BHM 1968-1988

When Rev. Robert Voss was called to serve as Executive Secretary of the Board for Worker Training in 1970, he joined Rev. Berg and Rev. Schaeffer on the second floor in what was to be known as the Second Floor Triumvirate.⁶⁰ It was a good combination. Rev. Schaeffer led the growth in stewardship to help finance the mission expansion. Rev. Voss led the growth in worker training to provide the manpower for the mission expansion. Rev. Berg led the home mission expansion. There truly was a sense of unity in purpose and in mission. Rev. Voss referred to this time as a time to "Go, go, go! There never was a thought of where to cut back. It was always forward."⁶¹

"Go, go, go" first of all meant into all fifty states. The WELS was just a small midwestern synod with a few outer expansions to Arizona and Florida. Over three hundred fifty new missions were opened in forty-three different states, as expansion went from twenty-nine states in 1968, to all fifty by 1988.⁶² Mr. Duane Anderson of Bay City, Michigan, served as the GBHM's architect from 1969-1976 (and on/off again since then). He recalled that time period as one of incredible activity as they completed seventy-two buildings in six and one half years. They almost hit the average of one per month!⁶³ Throughout the 1970s they continued opening missions at the rate of more than twenty every year (except 1978, when only twelve opened), and highlighted by 1976, when thirty-nine new missions were opened!⁶⁴ This incredible pace was maintained until the mid-1980s, when the economy and financial pressures forced a slow-down in mission starts.

Rev. Berg was very much involved in every one of these mission starts

⁶⁰ Taken from interview with Rev. Robert Voss on April 12, 1996.

⁶¹ Taken from interview with Rev. Robert Voss on April 12, 1996.

⁶² See Appendices B and C.

⁶³ Taken from interview with Mr. Duane Anderson on March 26, 1996.

⁶⁴ Taken from records compiled by Mrs. Mary E. Butler. See Appendix B.

and building projects. He traveled all around the country inspecting building sites and meeting with home missionaries and their mission congregations.⁶⁵ While Rev. Berg did not regularly keep track of how much time was spent traveling, for one year his wife, Eleanor, encouraged him to do so. That year he was traveling away from home for one hundred working days.⁶⁶

To maintain that pace required a very high energy level and strong work ethic. Rev. Berg possessed both. He traveled with Mr. Duane Anderson for building sites. He traveled with Rev. Howard Kaiser throughout the Southeastern Wisconsin District looking at new mission opportunities. "It seemed he was always taking two steps at a time. You just couldn't keep up with the man."⁶⁷ All the people I spoke with in interviews commented on the high energy personality and hard work ethic of Rev. Berg. That too, was a special blessing from the Lord to Rev. Berg.

To keep that momentum going for almost twenty years required a lot of teamwork. I wrote earlier of the relationship between the Second Floor Triumvirate. There was, however, another man who played a role in this: Rev. Edgar Hoenecke, the Ex. Secretary for the Board for World Missions. He did not work in the Synod office building, rather in his home in San Diego, CA, Rev. Voss called him the "Rah! Rah! man of the mission movement. He was the motivator."⁶⁸ Rev. Hoenecke wrote about the relationship between the two boards:

"During all those years it was mutually evident to both Norman Berg and me that we were of one mind in missions, the primary motive which

⁶⁵ Mr. Richard Waldschmidt, the lay representative to the Executive Board of the BHM from 1972-1988, commented on the P.O.P. theology of Rev. Berg, which required him to "Pee On the Property" before it could be bought.

Taken from interview on April 3, 1996.

⁶⁶ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

⁶⁷ Taken from interview with Rev. Howard Kaiser on March 28, 1996.

⁶⁸ Taken from interview with Rev. Robert Voss on April 12, 1996.

activated us both was the urgent need to get the Good News out to those who had not heard of the victory Jesus our Savior had won over sin, death and hell. We were of one heart and soul when we presented both our going programs as well as our promotion for continuing and exciting expansion of the same in our own country and over all the world.

This also led to our happy cooperation, when our world field, as in Puerto Rico, was carried on almost side by side with the work of the home board at Antigua in the same Caribbean region. The same has developed harmoniously in the home mission work among some Spanish-speaking people and our world mission program among Latin Americans and South and Central Americans.

Those were happy years of collaboration in the Lord's vast global vineyard. And as a result both programs enjoyed the Lord's unusual blessing. The Wisconsin Synod which once was least among the Lutheran churches in per member contributions for world missions, while the home missions had begun work in all of the states of the Union."⁶⁹

Throughout its history, our Synod has been blessed with good leadership, this time period was no exception. They were completely unified in purpose. Certainly they disagreed in certain moments, yet they could resolve those disagreements and leave the room united in work and the closest of personal friends. Rev. Voss said, "We could fight like dogs over some things, yet always leave the room holding hands."⁷⁰ They were unified and greatly served also by unswerving loyalty and support received from both President Naumann and President Mischke.⁷¹

It would be very unfortunate and inaccurate not to make mention also of Rev. Daniel Gieschen. Rev. Gieschen served as the Chairman for the GBHM during all twenty years of Rev. Berg's tenure. There was absolute unity between these two workers for the Lord. This extended beyond the workings of the board and into their personal lives. There is a true bond of friendship forged over years of joint service.

IX. TIME FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

Rev. Harold Hagedorn said of Rev. Berg that, "The BHM was formless

⁶⁹ Taken from a letter to Michael Roth from Rev. Hoenecke, March 26, 1996.

⁷⁰ Taken from interview with Rev. Robert Voss on April 12, 1996.

⁷¹ Taken from interview with Rev. Robert Voss on April 12, 1996.

and void until Norm Berg. He gave form to the outreach of our Synod in both home and world missions."⁷² He was speaking of the fact that much of what is the "order of business" in the BHM today has some roots in the days of Rev. Berg.

Rev. Berg recognized the tremendous rate at which events were happening around him. There was rapid and tremendous growth, budgets in the millions of dollars, buildings and missions going up all around the country, and many new home missionaries working in connection with the BHM. There was a need for accountability. Rev. Berg recognized that the Synod had a right to know how their mission dollars were being spent. It was simply a matter of good stewardship.

It is from this background that "Norm's Forms" came into existence. Rev. Berg created numerous forms to be filled out by the missionaries and the district mission boards. These forms accounted for time, money, planning, building projections, current and future needs, current and future ministry. It seemed there was always a form for everything. Everyone interviewed commented on Norm's Forms. Many acknowledged the complaints that came with regard to the amount of time spent on forms, yet all also recognized the need for such forms. They provided pastors the opportunity to do some planning and some personal evaluation. They gave the synodical leaders adequate account and sufficient defense for the Home Missions department.

At the same time, all who worked with Rev. Berg knew of his deep love and concern for them as well. He instituted a Care Program for all the missionaries and all his staff. His heart always went out to people.⁷³

⁷² Taken from interview with Rev. Harold Hagedorn on April 9, 1996.

⁷³ Taken from interview with Mr. Richard Waldschmidt on April 3, 1996.

While he demanded high standards and hard work, he also saw to the needs of the people involved.

Accountability also applied to his own office. In 1973 he hired Mrs. Mary E. Butler to serve essentially as "Office Manager," although no such official position existed. What was at first a part time position quickly grew into a full-time position, and later a second full-time position. Those who commented about filling out all of "Norm's Forms" ought also to recall that it was Mary Butler who copied all those forms (at first using mimeograph), mailed them, received them and organized and filed them.⁷⁴ Many long hours and extra days were worked by all in the home missions department.

By the mid-1970s, expansion had reached annual rates of twenty plus, with some years reaching as high as thirty-nine. The work-load had become too much. There was a need for additional workers. A committee of the GBHM studied the situation and reported back to the November 1-2, 1976 meeting of the GBHM. They found the workload to be too much for one full-time administrator, and wrote a memorial for the upcoming Synod Convention in 1977 to seek approval for calling an associate to work full-time under the auspices of Rev. Berg. The full Memorial is printed as Appendix D to this document. However, it is worth highlighting some of the reasons given. Since 1963, there were large increases in annual mission openings (+86%), number of mission congregations (+42%), number of mission sites and chapels acquired annually (+152%), annual budget (+119%), and annual CEF allocation (+800%).⁷⁵ There were also numerous new programs and activities begun which

⁷⁴ Taken from interview with Mrs. Mary E. Butler on April 9, 1996.

⁷⁵ Taken from the GBHM Minutes, Nov. 1-2, 1976, p.7-8. See also Appendix D at the end of this document.

led to the impossibility of completing all the work. Unfortunately, not all the work was able to be done.

The 1977 Synod Convention approved this memorial to call a second administrator.⁷⁶ The calling process began quickly. The call for candidates appeared in the first December issue of the Northwestern Lutheran, and a special meeting of the GBHM was called for January 30-31, 1978 to call the Associate Executive Secretary. At that meeting, Rev. Robert Hochmuth was called.⁷⁷ Rev. Hochmuth declined the call, and the process was repeated several more times. Calls were extended on April 23 to Rev. Wayne Schulz,⁷⁸ on September 25 to Rev. Baur,⁷⁹ and finally on February 12, 1979 to Rev. Larry Zwieg.⁸⁰ Rev. Zwieg accepted the call and joined the staff in 1979.

While the work load certainly required the additional staff, nonetheless it took some adjustment time to establish the working relationship. Both gentlemen worked hard during the next six years together. In 1982, Rev. Berg had surgery on his hips, which slowed him down (just a little).⁸¹ They were grateful that Rev. Zwieg was there to keep the work going. Rev. Berg returned quickly to work. Rev. Zwieg recalled that Rev. Berg had a "strong personality and was used to working alone," yet "he was filled with an evangelical, personable spirit."⁸²

These years were noted by the continued rapid-fire openings of new missions, the foundation of the WELS Mass Media, and good efficient organization of the BHM.⁸³

⁷⁶ Taken from the Proceedings to the 1977 Convention.

⁷⁷ Taken from the Minutes to the GBHM, Jan. 30-31, 1978, p.1.

⁷⁸ Taken from the Minutes to the GBHM, Apr. 23-25, 1978, p.1.

⁷⁹ Taken from the Minutes to the GBHM, Sept. 25-26, 1978, p.1.

⁸⁰ Taken from the Minutes to the GBHM, Feb. 12-13, 1979, p.2.

⁸¹ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

⁸² Taken from interview with Rev. Larry Zwieg on March 26, 1996.

⁸³ Taken from interview with Rev. Larry Zwieg on March 26, 1996.

On September 16, 1985, Rev. Zwieg tendered his resignation to the GBHM in plenary session. His resignation was accepted and he was asked to continue serving until another pastor accepted the call to replace him. He agreed to do so.⁸⁴

At the same meeting of the GBHM, they called the replacement to Rev. Zwieg. Rev. Harold Hagedorn received this call and quickly accepted, leaving behind the mountains of Colorado to join Rev. Berg and the BHM staff.⁸⁵ Rev. Hagedorn remained as the associate to Rev. Berg until the latter's retirement in 1988.

X. THE CHURCH EXTENSION FUND AND OTHER BUDGET MATTERS: 1968-1988

Additional workers, twenty to thirty new home missions per year, building churches and parsonages - all these things require money. It is true that the Missio Dei offering together with Rev. Schaeffer in the new full-time position of Stewardship, raised the awareness and understanding of stewardship in the WELS. Yet, there was always a need for money. Rev. Berg had an excellent mind for numbers. He together with the Synod Treasurer Norris Koopman spent many hours searching to find room in the budget for missions. Together they worked with the Board of Trustees to realize the mission opportunities which were before them in any given year.⁸⁶ Rev. Zwieg recalled that Rev. Berg firmly believed that "to understand the organization you need to understand the budget."⁸⁷ And that Rev. Berg did understand.

By 1976, the annual budget of the BHM had risen to \$2,139,000 and the annual CEF allocations to \$5,000,000.⁸⁸ The CEF had become an incredible

⁸⁴ Taken from the Minutes to the GBHM, Sept. 15-18, 1985, p.3.

⁸⁵ Taken from the Minutes of the GBHM, Sept. 15-18, 1985, p.3.

⁸⁶ Taken from interview with Mr. Duane Anderson on March 26, 1996.

⁸⁷ Taken from interview with Rev. Larry Zwieg on March 26, 1996.

⁸⁸ Taken from the Minutes of the GBHM, Nov. 1-2, 1976, p. 7.

source of income and wonderful experience for many congregations in their building process. Originally organized in 1903,

"the underlying philosophy of the "Kirchbaufond" from its inception was to provide capital funding loans for mission congregations at no or very manageable interest rates. Its source of funds was to be gifts and loans, initially especially from "reiche Gleider," but later also from the general constituency, in its earliest years at no interest on loans to the funds to today's fairly competitive rates."⁸⁹

During the years Rev. Berg served there was a tremendous increase in activity in CEF. This was accomplished through communication to the synod members of the need for new chapels and parsonages. The stamp program was started in schools all across the Synod. Excellent management of the fund allowed it to grow. The formulas used to figure the interest subsidy, maintain proper reserves and to correspond with the Synod budget are beyond my understanding at this point in time.

What I do understand is the ultimate impact of this program ^{on} for our Synod. From 1967 through 1984, more than three hundred churches and parsonages were built with the help of the CEF, and these were located in forty-three different states and two foreign countries.⁹⁰ It provided the opportunity for many congregations to gain a facility, which in many cases could offer more stability and allow more time for outreach and nurture of the congregation. The financial forecasting done by Rev. Berg and others indicated that his system was not going to work forever. It was not the means within itself. However, for its time it provided for many of the needs of the WELS missions.⁹¹ It is also still one of the most popular recipients of special gifts in our WELS.⁹² Today, however, the operating control is divided and no longer the work of one man alone.

⁸⁹ Taken from CEF paper written by Rev. Berg, dated May 31, 1989.

⁹⁰ Taken from the BHM records gathered by Mrs. Mary Butler. See Appen. A

⁹¹ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

⁹² Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

XI. HANDING OVER THE REIGNS

Rev. Berg continued his faithful and tireless work with the BHM until 1988. As in all things on this earth, the end must come. At the GBHM meeting in September, 21-22, 1987, the board in plenary session went through the calling process to call Rev. Berg's successor as the Administrator of the BHM. In that meeting, Rev. Harold Hagedorn was called to move from Associate to Administrator.⁹³ Rev. Hagedorn accepted the call and Rev. Berg remained working with the BHM full-time until the successor to Rev. Hagedorn was called.

On January 23, 1988, the GBHM met for the first time with Rev. Hagedorn as the Administrator. They voted to extend the call for the new associate to Rev. Peter Kruschel.⁹⁴ That call would be accepted by Rev. Kruschel. At that same meeting, they issued "a limited vacancy call to Rev. Norm Berg to serve as Associate Administrator, not to exceed April 30th or upon the acceptance of the call." Rev. Berg responded, "I don't know if Pete can act this quick but I will humbly accept this call."⁹⁵

The April 11-12, 1988, brought a formal end to the service of Rev. Berg to the BHM. At that meeting, Rev. Kruschel was installed. After the meeting there was a retirement party and thanksgiving offered for the ministry of Rev. Berg. The closing words ^{of} to the minutes of that meeting read as follows:

"Recapitulation by Chairman Gieschen: "We are exuberant with the chance to make positive decisions during this meeting by God's grace and the installation of our new administrators, lifted to high spiritual plains with a personal satisfaction as we share in the carrying out of the Great Commission. I cannot leave without expressing my thanks to God in sharing 20 years of ministry with Norm. I've appreciated his continual joy, sincerity, honesty and hard work. God be with you, my friend."

Pastor Berg responded with thanks at God's bountiful blessings through

⁹³ Taken from the Minutes of the BHM, Sept. 21-22, 1987, p.3.

⁹⁴ Taken from the Minutes of the BHM, Jan. 23-26, 1988, p.6.

⁹⁵ Taken from the Minutes of the BHM, Jan. 23-26, 1988, p.6.

his service to Christ on the BHM. "It will be hard not to be involved," he said, as he encouraged the men to appreciate their wives and families and not take them for granted."⁹⁶

Rev. Berg did not cease serving the kingdom when he "left" the BHM. In late 1987, the Board for Evangelism resolved to conduct a study of the reasons and possible remedies for "back-door" losses. Rev. Berg was asked to chair the committee, and later to edit the book which reported their findings, My Brother's Keeper.⁹⁷ In the preface to the book it states:

"It was also intended to provide material for the last phase of the five-year cycle of evangelism workshops, Assimilation and Retention of Members. A Member-Retention Committee was appointed by the Board for Evangelism to conduct a two-year research project. The study was conducted from May 1988 to April 1990."⁹⁸

This was an eye-opening study which is still referred to by many today. It also kept Rev. Berg very much in contact with the BHM and evangelism outreach for the first two years of his "retirement."

With the retirement of Rev. Berg, an era ended. A style of leadership that had guided the BHM for twenty years was gone. It was time for a new leadership. Rev. Berg acknowledged this as did Rev. Hagedorn and Rev. Kruschel. It was time for a change.⁹⁹

XII. RETIRED BUT CERTAINLY NOT SLOWING DOWN

Finished with his research on "back-door" losses in February of 1988, he agreed to fill several vacancies, and thus travel around the country.

San Diego, CA	Feb. 14 - May 29, 1990
Houston, TX	Sept. 5 - Dec. 4, 1990
Kennewick, WA	Jan. 24 - Apr. 3, 1991
Dallas, TX	May 29 - Jul. 22, 1991 ¹⁰⁰

Serving these vacancies allowed him to return to the work in the congregation

⁹⁶ Taken from the Minutes to the BHM, April 11-12, 1988, p.12.

⁹⁷ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.

⁹⁸ Taken from the Preface to My Brother's Keeper, p.5.

⁹⁹ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

¹⁰⁰ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.

which he truly enjoyed and had not been a part of for twenty years. It was also a joy to serve in some congregations which had been founded during his tenure at the BHM.

As if this were not enough, in September of 1991, Rev. Berg received a "social security" or part-time call to serve Grace Ev. Lutheran Church in Scroggins, TX. He served there until September 15, 1994.¹⁰¹ Rev. Berg commented that as much as they tried to do outreach, they met with very few opportunities.¹⁰²

The later years in life have also met with some health problems. In 1982, as mentioned earlier, Rev. Berg had hip surgery. He regularly played tennis and racquetball up until that time, but continued to play softball even after the surgery. In 1991 he had surgery for ^{on the carotid arteries?} ~~corroded~~ arteries after suffering a mild stroke. Summer of 1995 brought more surgery on his hips, and December, 1995 brought a serious quintuple by-pass heart surgery.¹⁰³ Despite some of these problems, Rev. Berg remains very active and in good spirits.

"Remaining active" has been the dominant theme of his retirement years here in Milwaukee. He participates in Kingdom Workers activities, now serving as Spiritual Advisor. He regularly attends the Inner-City Pastors Conference meetings, while still remaining a member at Atonement Lutheran Church. Retired pastors group, activities at Atonement, family and friends have all kept him busy.¹⁰⁴ Those who know him wouldn't believe it to be any other way. He has always been a very high energy man. In particular, he has enjoyed the opportunity to be near his family and grandchildren.

101 Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.

102 Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

103 Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

104 Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

XIII. PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY AND LEADERSHIP

In every interview conducted for this paper, the matter of leadership and the leadership style of Rev. Berg was discussed. The most common statements given were these: "Strong leader." "The right man at the right time." "A perfect style of leadership for his time, but you couldn't lead in that way today." Rev. Berg was a leader. This was recognized early on in his days in Tucson and continued in Michigan. But what exactly was it like? Why couldn't we have leaders in that style today?

Rev. Berg said that his father had a tremendous influence upon him. He learned from his father what it meant to be aggressive, while remaining absolutely humble and evangelical.¹⁰⁵ That meant that Rev. Berg was not afraid to stretch his neck out and try something different. He wasn't afraid to do what he believed was needed to be done. He said, "If a pastor sees something which needs to be done, or which he feels would be good to be done, and this action lies within the sphere of the congregation's plan for ministry, go ahead and do it. There is no need to wait for permission. If someone asks, you will then have opportunity to explain."¹⁰⁶ Yet at the same time he had a heart for people that he was able to act in love and not in pride. He would fight hard for what he believed to be right, yet never destroy the friendship of the person with whom he was fighting. Rev. Voss said, "We could fight like dogs, but we always left the room folding hands."¹⁰⁷ With the missionaries, DMB chairmen, and the whole BHM he was in their faces at times, yet never left without establishing peace.

For some this may have been perceived as intimidation. Yet recall that this was also the Administrator who set up the missionary care program to

¹⁰⁵ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

¹⁰⁶ Taken from interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

¹⁰⁷ Taken from interview with Rev. Robert Voss on April 12, 1996.

look after the personal needs of the pastors, called workers and their families. And this was an Administrator who was motivated by the Gospel and a strong desire to share that Gospel. He was not willing to put outreach on the back burner because of finances or human failings.

There is no escaping the fact that his leadership style was very much from the top down. He was involved in all the decisions. That style is not very popular in today's world of consensus and "team" concept leadership. Today's world rallies around empowerment and personal involvement and ownership. Yet I will submit that in 1968 there were very few standing at his side, actively working in Home Missions to empower and share in the mission. At that time there was a need for strong leadership and guidance. There was no plan in place to guide them, he had to create the plan.

The very nature of the situation, the little synod standing alone without big sister Missouri, required this type of leadership. It also required the high-energy personality that was Rev. Berg. He had to be the "idea man."¹⁰⁸ He had to be the trouble-shooter and resolution man. He had to be the counselor, advisor, missionary, pastor, banker and real estate man - all rolled into one. It is obvious why this style of leadership and life would be all but impossible today - the BHM and the WELS are too big for one man to try to continue leading in this manner.

Finally, Rev. Berg really was a missionary at heart. What mattered was people and their eternal relationship with their Savior. He has a true love for people,¹⁰⁹ combined with the ability to talk and communicate which allow him to be a powerful tool in the Lord's plan.

¹⁰⁸ Taken from interview with Rev. Carl Mischke on April 10, 1996.

¹⁰⁹ Taken from several interviews, but especially Mrs. Mary Butler on April 9, 1996.

XIV. IMPACT OF HIS MINISTRY ON THE WELS

Humanly speaking, the impact of Rev. Berg on the WELS and upon the BHM in particular is incredible. Rev. Kaiser said, "The BHM is Norm Berg."¹¹⁰ Rev. Hagedorn said as quoted earlier, "Without Norm Berg, the BHM was formless and void."¹¹¹ From "Norm's Forms," to the CEF Interest Subsidy formula, to the orderly and accountable way in which the BHM is run to this day, much of it is Rev. Berg. Add to this the more than three hundred and ninety new mission starts during those twenty years,¹¹² and the three hundred and nine buildings built through CEF loans,¹¹³ and the visible impact grows.

However, the impressive numbers and the tremendous organizational skills are not the only impact. It was his leadership that stands out. His Gospel-oriented and Gospel-motivated evangelical leadership guided the WELS. While serving on the COP, he was part of the leadership which calmed fears and forged ahead with its "little" synod. He took that spirit to the BHM and led the WELS to be an extremely outreach-minded church body. That outreach spirit dominated the BHM for nearly twenty years, and now dominates the BWM, as missions and sharing of the Gospel remain high priority in the WELS. He was the "right man in the right place at the right time."¹¹⁴

Those who doubt the divine nature of the call need only to view in hindsight how the Lord guided Rev. Berg into every place where He wished him to serve. It becomes easy to see how the Lord was preparing him each step of the way for what was to come ahead. Rev. Berg's ministry is a powerful confirmation of the divine call and reminder that it is God who does the work through men.

¹¹⁰ Taken from interview with Rev. Howard Kaiser on March 26, 1996.

¹¹¹ Taken from interview with Rev. Harold Hagedorn on April 9, 1996.

¹¹² See Appendix B and Appendix C. Taken from BHM records.

¹¹³ See Appendix A. Taken from BHM records.

¹¹⁴ Taken from interview with Rev. Carl Mischke on April 10, 1996.

XV. CONCLUSION

"It is somewhat of a tradition in our WELS, when recounting the blessings received from the Lord to our church body, to refrain from mentioning much about the leaders under whose term of office these blessings were received. Certainly this is a healthy, and appropriate custom, for only our Lord is responsible for blessings, and only to Him we should offer our prayers of thanks. Yet, we must remember that these leaders were called by God, and these special blessings in our WELS were facilitated by their actions under and through God's grace."¹¹⁵

Thus as we recount the life and ministry of Rev. Berg, we offer our thanksgiving to the Lord for his amazing grace to permit such wonderful growth and expansion of the Gospel within our own nation during those years. We offer our thanks for sharing that grace with each of us, making us his children and heirs of salvation. And we offer our thanks for choosing to use us, frail and sinful people, to carry that message of reconciliation to all the world. That is the life and ministry of Rev. Berg - the ministry of reconciliation and the message of salvation. That God chose Rev. Berg to be his child is proof of his abundant grace. That he chose then to use Rev. Berg to lead others to him, is an over-abundance of his grace.

Therefore we offer our praise and thanks to God for his grace in giving Rev. Berg to our church. I offer this paper as a brief account of the many wonderful blessings bestowed on the church through Rev. Berg. Therefore I close with two offerings of thanksgiving to the Lord for the life and ministry of Rev. Berg:

"For those who know Norm Berg - who have lived with him or worked with him - that choice of passage (1 Cor. 15:10, "By the Grace of God I am what I am.") would probably be termed "expected." If there is pride to be found in Norman Berg, it is found in the fact that God graciously leads and allows him to work in His church. If there is ambition, it is for the advancement of the Kingdom. If there is glory to be given or sought, it is demanded for and directed to the Lord of the Church, the Savior Jesus Christ. The words, **By the grace of God I am what I am**, are not a motto or a standard, they are a fact of the heart."¹¹⁶

¹¹⁵ Taken from letter to M. Roth from Mr. Duane Anderson, April 16, 1996.
¹¹⁶ Taken from Fortieth Anniversary Booklet.

Finally, I close with the words from a letter received from Rev. Edgar Hoenecke:

"Much of the spirit of happy cooperation between the two mission boards was reflected in the hospitable attitude of Norman and his wife Eleanor when they frequently opened their Milwaukee home to the members of both boards for congenial evenings, "gemuetliche Abende." These sincere periods of Christian fellowship will never be forgotten.

Nor will those who worked in the synod's various areas of the Lord's Kingdom work forget the importance of Pastor Norman Berg's leadership activities during those formative years. At the very time when our synod was being tested by the Lord and given the spiritual strength to "continue in the Word," the true Scriptural teaching, the Lord also gave us men like Berg, Naumann and Lawrenz, who conscientiously applied such faithfulness also to the Lord's injunction, "You are My witnesses of these things. - Go ye, therefore, into all the world and preach the Gospel!"¹¹⁷

¹¹⁷ Taken from a letter to M. Roth from Rev. Hoenecke, dated March 26, 1996.

APPENDIX A

WORSHIP FACILITIES PROVIDED OR FUNDED BY CEF LOANS

1967 - 1984

ARIZONA (11)

1. Chandler
2. Phoenix (Deer Valley)
3. Phoenix (Par. Valley)
4. Phoenix (St. Thomas)
5. San Manuel
6. Sedona
7. Sierra Vista
8. Sun City
9. Tucson (Holy Cross)
10. Tucson (Sh. of Hills)
11. Yuma

ALABAMA (2)

1. Birmingham
2. Huntsville

ALASKA (3)

1. Anchorage
2. Eagle River
3. Sitka

ARKANSAS (1)

1. Little Rock

CALIFORNIA (31)

1. Alpine
2. Canyon Country
3. Carlsbad
4. Citrus Heights
5. Concord
6. Escondido
7. Fallbrook
8. Fremont
9. Fresno
10. La Habra
11. La mesa
12. Lancaster
13. Mission Viejo
14. Modesto
15. Penryn

16. Petaluma
17. Pomona
18. Redding
19. Riverside
20. Sacramento
21. San Diego
22. San Jose (Apostles)
23. San Jose (Mt. Calv.)
24. Santa Barbara
25. Santa Maria
26. Sierra Madre
27. Thousand Oaks
28. Torrance
29. Victorsville
30. Yorba Linda
31. Yucaipa

COLORADO (9)

1. Colorado Springs
2. Denver (Christ)
3. Denver (Zion)
4. Fort Collins
5. Grand Junction
6. Greeley
7. Longmont
8. Ordway
9. Westminster

CONNECTICUT (2)

1. South Windsor
2. Trumbull

DELAWARE (1)

1. Newark

FLORIDA (22)

1. Bayonet Point
2. Beverly Hills
3. Clearwater
4. Coral Springs
5. Englewood

6. Fort Meyers
7. Gainesville
8. Holiday
9. Jacksonville
10. Jacksonville (G.S.)
11. Keystone Heights
12. Leesburg
13. Lehigh / Acres
14. Maitland
15. Melbourne
16. Miami
17. Miami (II-B)
18. North Fort Meyers
19. Sarasota
20. Tampa
21. West Palm Beach
22. Zephyrhills

GEORGIA (4)

1. Atlanta
2. Lawrenceville
3. Martinez
4. Perry

IDAHO (1)

1. Nampa

ILLINOIS (15)

1. Aurora
2. Bellville
3. Belvidere
4. Crystal Lake
5. Downers Grove
6. Elgin
7. Loves Park
8. Marquette Heights
9. Normal
10. Palatine
11. Rockford
12. Sauk Village
13. Tinley Park

14. Urbana
15. West Chicago

INDIANA (5)

1. Crown Point
2. Fort Wayne
3. Granger
4. Indianapolis
5. Kokomo

IOWA (4)

1. Burlington
2. Cedar Rapids
3. Clinton
4. Davenport

KANSAS (7)

1. Norton
2. Overland Park
3. Russell
4. Salina
5. Stockton
6. Topeka
7. Wichita

LOUISIANA (3)

1. Alexandria
2. New Orleans
3. New Orleans (P/C)

MARYLAND (2)

1. Baltimore
2. Landover

MASSACHUSETTES (1)

1. Pittsfield

MICHIGAN (29)

1. Alma
2. Big Rapids
3. Detroit
4. Dexter
5. Eaton Rapids
6. Gaylord
7. Grand Blanc

8. Grand Ledge

9. Holland

10. Howell

11. Imlay City

12. Indian River

13. Jackson

14. Kalamazoo

15. Lake Orion

16. Lansing

17. Lincoln

18. Marquette

19. Midland

20. Montrose

21. Morenci

22. Mount Pleasant

23. Novi

24. Port Huron

25. Portage

26. Saint Charles

27. Sterling Heights

28. Taylor

29. Washington

MINNESOTA (22)

1. Alexandria

2. Bemidji

3. Bloomington

4. Brainerd

5. Cambridge

6. Coon Rapids

7. Duluth

8. Eagan

9. Eden Prairie

10. Excelsior

11. Forest Lake

12. Grand Rapids

13. Granite Falls

14. Inver Grove Heights

15. Lakeville

16. Moorhead

17. Owatonna

18. Plymouth

19. Prior Lake

20. Rochester

21. Sauk Rapids

22. Wilmar

MISSOURI (10)

1. Black Jack

2. Cape Girardeau

3. Columbia

4. Florissant

5. Harrisonville

6. Kansas City (North)

7. Kansas City (SE)

8. Owensville

9. Saint Joseph

10. Saint Louis

MONTANA (3)

1. Billings

2. Missoula

3. Wolf Point

NEBRASKA (6)

1. Columbus

2. Lincoln

3. Norfolk

4. Omaha

5. O'Neill

6. Scottsbluff

NEVADA (2)

1. Las Vegas

2. Reno

NEW JERSEY (2)

1. East Brunswick

2. Ramsey

NEW MEXICO (2)

1. Albuquerque

2. Los Alamos

NEW YORK (3)

1. Liverpool

2. Long Island

3. Schenectady

NORTH CAROLINA (2)

1. China Grove
2. Raleigh

OHIO (12)

1. Ashland
2. Centerville
3. Cincinnati
4. Cuyahoga Falls
5. Gahanna
6. Girard
7. Grove City
8. Hueber Heights
9. New Carlisle
10. Reynoldsburg
11. Willoughby
12. Worthington

OKLAHOMA (4)

1. Midwest City
2. Oklahoma City
3. Oklahoma City (H.C.)
4. Tulsa

OREGON (2)

1. Corvallis
2. Salem

PENNSYLVANIA (5)

1. Altoona
2. Bethel Park
3. Gibsonia
4. King of Prussia
5. Rostraver

RHODE ISLAND (1)

1. Providence

SOUTH CAROLINA (3)

1. Charleston
2. Columbia
3. Greenville

SOUTH DAKOTA (7)

1. Brookings

2. Huron
3. Mission
4. Mitchell
5. Pierre
6. Spearfish
7. Yankton

TENNESSEE (3)

1. Knoxville
2. Memphis
3. Nashville

TEXAS (18)

1. Angleton
2. Austin
3. Corpus Christi
4. Dallas
5. De Soto
6. Duncanville
7. Edna
8. El Paso
9. El Paso (Faith)
10. Fort Worth
11. Friendswood
12. Hillsboro
13. Houston (Ab. Word)
14. Houston (Ch.the Lord)
15. Lubbock
16. San Antonio
17. Temple
18. Weslaco

UTAH (1)

1. Salt Lake City

VERMONT (1)

1. Barre

VIRGINIA (1)

1. Virginia Beach

WASHINGTON (11)

1. Bremerton
2. East Wenatchee
3. Edmonds

4. Ellensburg
5. Kennewick
6. Kent
7. Pullman
8. Reiston
9. Spokane
10. Tacoma
11. Vancouver

WEST VIRGINIA (1)

1. Beckley

WYOMING (2)

1. Casper
2. Cheyenne

WISCONSIN (26)

1. Beloit
2. Brown Deer
3. Cedarburg
4. Eau Claire
5. Galesville
6. Genessee Depot
7. Grafton
8. Green Bay
9. Hubertus
10. Hudson
11. Little Chute
12. Middleton
13. New Berlin
14. Plymouth
15. Port Washington
16. Prairie Du Sac
17. Rice Lake
18. River Falls
19. Shawano
20. Sheboygan
21. Stevens Point
22. Suamico
23. Sussex
24. Waukesha
25. Waupun
26. Weston

FOREIGN COUNTRIES

TOTALS

(6)	# of Places	309
1. Antigua, West Indies	# of States	44
2. St. Albert, Alta, Can	# of Countries	3
3. Wetaskiwin, Alta, Can		
4. Kelowna, BC, Can		
5. Mississauga, Ont, Can		
6. Nepean, Ont, Can		

Information was gathered from two CEF pamphlets, the first dated 1974, and the second 1984. They were sent out by the Board for Home Missions of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

APPENDIX B

Exploratories Opened By WELS BHM - 1973-1988

1 = Winter Meeting 2 = Spring Meeting 3 = Fall Meeting

1973: (24)

Sacramento, CA II (1)
N. Denver, CO (1)
Syracuse, NY (1)
Cape Girardeau, MO (1)
Scottsbluff, NE (1)
Shenandoah, IA (1)

Louisville, KY (1)
Crystal Lake, IL (1)
Bloomington/Normal, IL (1)
Waco, TX (1)
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma II (1)

Mansfield, OH (2)
Owatonna, MN (2)

Vancouver, WA (2)
Fairbanks, AK (2)

Sacramento, CA (3)
N. St. Louis County, MO (3)
Corpus Christi, TX (English) (3)
Lubbock, TX (3)
Prairie du Chien, WI (3)

Edmonton Alberta, Canada (3)
Eagan Twp., MN (3)
Temple, TX (3)
San Angelo, TX (3)

1974: (22)

Greeley, CO (1)
Romeo, MI (1)
Long Island, NY (1)
St. Charles County, MO (1)
Mobile, AL (1)
Schaumburg, IL (1)
Middleton, WI (1)

Mitchell, SD (1)
Altoona, PA (1)
Rochester, NY (1)
Englewood, FL (1)
Milwaukee, WI [Store Front] (1)
Beaumont, TX (1)
Green Bay, WI (1)

Reno, NV (2)
Stockton/Modesto, CA (2)
Grand Ledge, MI (2)
N. Kansas City, MO (2)

Bayonet Point, FL (2)
Gaylord, MI (2)
Pembroke, ONT, Canada (2)
Santa Fe, NM (2)

1975: (23)

Yorba Linda, CA (1)
Charlotte, NC (1)
S. E. Columbus, OH (1)
South New Hampshire (1)
Lakeville, MN (1)
Burlington, IA (1)

Northfield, MN (1)
Norfolk, NB (1)
Daytona Beach, FL (1)
Sarasota, FL (1)
Northwestern, IN (1)
Pullman, WA (1)

Modesto, CA (2)
Port Huron, MI (2)
Hudson, WI (2)
Cambridge, MN (2)
Fremont, NE (2)
Eagle River-Wassila, AK (2)

Charleston, SC (2)
Clearwater, FL (2)
Westmont, IL (2)
Roanoke, VA (2)
Las Cruces, NM (2)

EXPLORATORIES CONTINUED

PAGE TWO

1976: (39)

Verde Valley, Az (1)
S. Tempe/Mesa, AZ (1)
Placer County, CA (1)
Harrisburg, PA (1)
Boulder, CO (1)
Beckley, WV (1)
Fenton, MI (1)
Rochester, MN (1)
Eden Prairie, MN (1)
Belleville, IL (1)

El Paso, TX II (2)
Bridgeport, CN (2)
Imlay City, MI (2)
Dayton, OH (2)
Fairmont, MN (2)
Grand Rapids, MN (2)
O'Neill, NE (2)
Lima, OH (2)
S. E. Kansas City, MO (2)
Prairie du Chien, WI (2)

1977: (20)

Sierra Vista, AZ (1)
San Luis Obispo, CA (1)
Chisago Lakes, MN (1)
Plymouth/Maple Grove, MN (1)
Salina, KS (1)

Helena, MT (2)
Big Rapids, MI (2)
S. W. Cleveland, OH (2)
N. Toledo, OH (2) (closed '79)
Joplin, MO (2) (Pr. Station '79)

1978: (12)

Sweetwater Area, CA (2)
Ashville, NC (2)
Jamestown, NC (2)

Gallup, NM (3) (disc. 2/80)
Toronto, ONT. Canada (3)
Mt. Pleasant, MI (3)
Augusta, GA (3)

Little Rock, AR (1)
Antigo, WI (1)
Vancouver, BC (1) (disc. 2/80)
Tillamook County, OR (1)
Montgomery, AL (2)
Fort Wayne, IN (1)
Germantown, WI (1)
Wichita F'ls, TX (1) (disc. 2/83)
Plymouth, WI (1)
Holmen/Galesville, WI (1)

Pocatello, ID (2) (disc 2/83)
Knoxville, TN (2)
Fort Myers, FL II (2)
Lakeland, FL (2)
Lincoln Estates, IL (2)
Clinton, IA (2)
Holmen, WI (2)
Rice Lake, WI (2)
Missoula, MT (2)

Moses Lake, WA (1) (closed '79)
Atlanta, GA (1)
Jacksonville, FL (1)
Muncie, IN (1) (disc. 9/80)
Midland/Odessa, TX (1)

Sitka/Ketchikan, AK (2)
Ft. Walton Beach, FL (Pr. Stat '79)
Abilene, TX (2) (closed '79)
Effingham, IL (2) (Pr. Station '79)
Genesee, WI (2)

Kerrville, TX (2)
Leesburg, FL (2)

Melbourne, FL (3) (dis. 9/79)
Wheeling, IL (3) (dis. 9/80)
Fergus Falls, MN (3) (disc. 9/79)
Decatur, IL (3) (disc. 9/79)

still open

EXPLORATORIES CONTINUED

PAGE THREE

1979: (21)

Perry-Laingsburg, MI (1)
N. W. Dayton, OH (1)
Topeka, KS (1)

Zephyrhills, FL (1)
Warsaw, IN (1) (disc. 2/80)
Cottage Grove, WI (1) (dis 9/81)

NW. Phoenix, AZ (2)
Charleston, WV (2) (disc. 2/80)
El Paso, TX* (2)
E. Oklahoma City, OK (2)

Greenville, SC (2)
Baton Rouge, LA* (2) (disc. 2/81)
Vermont* (2)

Rochester, NY (3)
Gresham, OR (3) (disc. 2/81)
Casper, WY (3)
Medford, OR (3)

Cambridge, OH (3) (disc 2/80)
Port Washington, WI (3)
York/Waco, TX (3) (disc. 4/80)
Keystone Heights, FL (3)

* = Dependent on acquiring manpower

1980 : (18)

W. El Paso, TX (1)
Rancho Cucamonga, CA (1)
Lehigh Acres, FL (1)

Melbourne, FL (1)
Tyler, TX (1)

Barre, VT (2)
Metro Detroit, MI (2)
Brooksville, FL (2) (dic. 2/81)

Killeen, TX (2) (sub. dis 4/86)
Daytona Beach, FL (2)
Calgary, ALT (2)

Miles City, MT (3) disc. (2/82)
Fredericksburg, TX (3) (disc 9/81)
Merrill, WI (3)
Sandwich/Plano, IL (3) (dis 4/81)

Charlotte, NC (3)
Jefferson Co., MO (3) (disc 9/81)
Pendleton, OR (3) (disc 4/82)

1981: (11)

Manassas, VA (1)
Bartlesville, OK (1) (disc 9/81)

Coral Springs, FL (1)
Chippewa Falls, WI (1)

Gillette, WY (2)
Minot, ND (2) (disc 9/82)

NW Columbus, OH (2)
Russellville, AR (2)

St. Charles County, MO (3)
Springfield, MO (3) (disc. 4/83)

Lewisville, TX (3)

EXPLORATORIES CONTINUED

PAGE FOUR

1982: (31)

Green Valley, AZ (1) (disc 4/83)	Traverse City, MI (1)
Portland, ME (1)	Orlando, FL (1)
Poughkeepsie, NY (1) (sub wd 1/87)	S. W. Fort Worth, TX (1)
Red Deer, ALT (1) (disc. 9/83)	Columbus, MS (1)
Springville, NY (1)	S. Denver, CO (1)
San Diequito, CA (2)	Antigo, WI (2)
Poway, CA (2)	Moses Lake, WA (2) (disc. 4/83)
N. E. Denver, CO (2)	E. Orlando, FL (2)
Milbank, SD (2)	Arlington, TX (2)
S. E. Cincinnati, OH (2)	Sugar Creek, TX (2)
Kearney, NE (2)	Apache Junction, AZ (2)
New Richmond, WI (2) (disc. 9/83)	Allen/Plano, TX (2)
S. Anchorage, AK (3) (disc. 9/86)	S. Austin, TX (3)
Miami, FL Spanish (3)	Hayward, WI (3)
Cape Coral, FL (3)	College Station, TX (3)
S. Waukesha County, WI (3)	

1983: (14)

Boise, ID* (1) (disc. 9/84)	N. Atlanta, GA* (1)
Baton Rouge, LA (1)	
Albuquerque, NM * (2)	Wasilla/Big Lake, AK* (2)
Clovis, CA* (2)	Juneau, AK (2) (disc 4/84) DMB/only
Roanoke, VA* (2)	N. W. Houston, TX* (2)
China Grove, NC* (2)	S. Waukesha (2) (closed 6/90)
Richmond, VA (3) (disc 4/84)	Madison Hispanic* (3) (disc 1/89)
Dickinson, ND (3) (disc 1/85)	

1984: (20)

N. Glendale, AZ (1) (disc 9/87)	S. W. Anchorage, AK (1)
N. E. Tucson, AZ (1) (disc. 9/86)	Deltona, FL (1)
Amador Valley, CA (1)	Jupiter, FL (1)
Aurora, CO (1)	Ocala, FL (1)
N. W. Toledo, OH (1)	N. E. San Antonio, TX (1)
Midwest Mission Counselor (1)	

Newport News, VA (2)

Gilbert, AZ (3)	Panama City, FL (3)
Cottonwood, AZ (3)	Sherman, TX (3) (disc. 9/86)
Fayetteville, NC (3)	Fayetteville, AR (3)
Juneau, AK (3) (disc. 9/86)	Portage, WI (3)

* = Resident Manpower

EXPLORATORIES CONTINUED

PAGE FIVE

1985: (16)

S. W. Tucson, AZ (1)
Irvine, CA (1)
Custer, SD (1)
Elk River, MN (1)
S. W. Omaha, NE (1)

Colorado Springs, CO (1)
Spokane Valley, WA (1)
Amarillo, TX (1) (disc 9/86)
Lafayette, IN (1)
N. E. Atlanta, GA (1)

None Requested (2)

New York, NY (3)
Everett, WA (3)
Roswell, NM (3)

Houston (Atascocita), TX (3)
Waco, TX (3) (disc. 1/87)
Streamwood, IL (3)

1986: (9)

New Market, ONT* (1)
Houghton/Hancock, MI (1)
Buffalo Grove/Wheeling, IL (1)

Bucks County, PA * (1)
Woodinville/Bothell, WA* (1)

Bakersfield, CA (2) (disc. 9/90)
Shoreview/Vadnais Hghts., MN (2)

Beaumont, TX (2) (disc. 9/87)
Waunakee, WI (2)

All Exploratories Deferred (3)

1987: (9)

Pembroke, ONT (1)
Cadillac, MI (2) (clsd. 12/88)

Owasso, OK (1) (cont. denied 9/90)

Prescott Valley, AZ (3)
Green Bay, WI (3)
Abilene, TX (3) (disc. 12/91)

Lindenhurst/Gurnee, IL (3)
Loudon County, VA (3)
Cherry Valley, IL (3)

*Manpower

1988: (11)

Deferred (1)

Las Vegas, NV (2)
Maple Grove, MN (2)
SE Appleton, WI (2)
Tallahassee, FL (2) (Lft Synod 5/93)

Petoskey, MI (2)
Brooklyn, NY (2)
Olympia WA (2)

Grand Rapids, MI (3)
Saskatoon. SAS. CAN* (3)

Essex, VT (3) (disc. 9/89)
Olathe. KS* (3) (closed 5/93 Group)

Information received from the office of the Board for Home Missions of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Gathered originally by Mrs. Mary Butler.

APPENDIX C

EXPLOR STATUS	MISSION STATUS	CITY	STATE/ PROV	NAME OF CONGREGATION	SYNOD DIST	PRESENT DMB
1965		MOORHEAD	MN	ASCENSION	DKMT	DKMT
1965		OVERLAND PARK	KS	MT OLIVE	NEBR	NEBR
1965		REDDING	CA	MOUNT CALVARY	AZCA	CALI
1965		SAN JOSE	CA	APOSTLES	AZCA	CALI
1965		ST CHARLES	MI	HOPE	MICH	MICH
1965		WETASKIWIN	ALB	ST JOHN	DKMT	DKMT
1965		WILLOUGHBY	OH	KING OF KINGS	MICH	MICH
1966		ALBUQUERQUE	NM	SHEPHERD	AZCA	AZCA
1966		BALTIMORE	MD	ATONEMENT	NATL	NATL
1966		CONCORD	CA	BETHANY	AZCA	CALI
1966		CUYAHOGA FALLS	OH	HOPE	MICH	MICH
1966		DAVENPORT	IA	GETHSEMANE	WEWI	WEWI
1966		DULUTH	MN	SHEP OF THE HILLS	MINN	MINN
1966		EAST BRUNSWICK	NJ	OUR SAVIOR	NATL	NATL
1966		GROVE CITY	OH	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	MICH	MICH
1966		HOUSTON	TX	CHRIST THE LORD	SCEN	SCEN
1966		LITTLE CHUTE	WI	ST LUKE	NWIS	NWIS
1966		MADISON	WI	WIS LUTH CHAPEL	WEWI	WEWI
1966		PRAIRIE DU SAC	WI	ST JAMES	WEWI	WEWI
1966		SAN ANTONIO	TX	OUR SAVIOR	SCEN	SCEN
1966		SHAWANO	WI	DIVINE SAVIOR	NWIS	NWIS
1966		ST ALBERT	ALB	ST PETER	DKMT	DKMT
1966		WAUPUN	WI	GRACE	NWIS	NWIS
1966		WICHITA	KS	MESSIAH	NEBR	NEBR
1967		BELVIDERE	IL	HOPE	WEWI	WEWI
1967		EAU CLAIRE	WI	ST MARK	WEWI	WEWI
1967		HUNTSVILLE	AL	REDEEMER	SATL	SATL
1967		KING OF PRUSSIA	PA	PEACE	NATL	NATL
1967		LANCASTER	WI	FAITH	WEWI	WEWI
1967		MAITLAND	FL	KING OF KINGS	SATL	SATL
1967		NEW BERLIN	WI	STAR OF BETHLEHEM	SEWI	SEWI
1967		OKLAHOMA CITY	OK	GETHSEMANE	SCEN	SCEN
1967		PHOENIX	AZ	ST THOMAS	AZCA	AZCA
1967		PORTAGE	MI	ST JAMES	MICH	MICH
1967		RUSSELL	KS	FAITH	NEBR	NEBR
1967		SALEM	OR	IMMANUEL	PACN	PACN
1967		ST LOUIS	MO	MARTIN LUTHER	MINN	MINN
1967		SUSSEX	WI	FAITH	SEWI	SEWI
1968		ALEXANDRIA	MN	ST PAUL	MINN	MINN
1968		ANCHORAGE	AK	FAITH	PACN	PACN
1968		FAIRBAULT	MN	(CLOSED)	MINN	MINN
1968		KELOWNA	BC	(CLOSED)	PACN	PACN
1968		PITTSFIELD	MA	FAITH	NATL	NATL
1968		PRIOR LAKE	MN	FAITH	MINN	MINN
1968		RENTON	WA	DIVINE PEACE	PACN	PACN
1968		SAUK RAPIDS	MN	PETRA	MINN	MINN
1968		SOUTH SHORE	SD	OUR SAVIOR	DKMT	DKMT
1968		SOUTH WINDSOR	CT	MESSIAH	NATL	NATL
1968		SPEARFISH	SD	HOPE	DKMT	DKMT
1968		THOUSAND OAKS	CA	PRINCE OF PEACE	AZCA	CALI
1968		VIRGINIA BEACH	VA	RESURRECTION	NATL	NATL

MISSION STATUS	CITY	STATE/ PROV	NAME OF CONGREGATION	SYNOD DIST	PRESENT DMB
1969	ANGLETON	TX	CHRIST OUR SAVIOR	SCEN	SCEN
1969	AURORA	IL	RESURRECTION	SEWI	SEWI
1969	BILLINGS	MT	APOSTLES	DKMT	DKMT
1969	BIRMINGHAM	AL	OUR SAVIOR	SATL	SATL
1969	BROOKINGS	SD	OUR SAVIOR	DKMT	DKMT
1969	CARLSBAD	CA	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	AZCA	CALI
1969	COLUMBUS	OH	LAMB OF GOD	MICH	MICH
1969	EL PASO	TX	TRINITY	AZCA	AZCA
1969	ESCONDIDO	CA	ASCENSION	AZCA	CALI
1969	EXCELSIOR	MN	FAITH	MINN	MINN
1969	FORT WAYNE	IN	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	SEWI	SEWI
1969	HOLIDAY	FL	PEACE	SATL	SATL
1969	HOWELL	MI	PRINCE OF PEACE	MICH	MICH
1969	INDIANAPOLIS	IN	DIVINE SAVIOR	SEWI	SEWI
1969	JACKSON	MI	ST LUKE	MICH	MICH
1969	MARQUETTE HEIGHTS	IL	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	WEWI	WEWI
1969	MONTROSE	MI	MOUNT SINAI	MICH	MICH
1969	ORDWAY	CO	CHRIST OUR SAVIOR	NEBR	COLO
1969	PALATINE	IL	CHRIST THE KING	SEWI	SEWI
1969	SEWARD	NE	GRACE	NEBR	NEBR
1969	TORRANCE	CA	ZION	AZCA	CALI
1970	AUSTIN	TX	HOLY WORD	SCEN	SCEN
1970	DANBURY	CT	(CLOSED)	NATL	NATL
1970	DECATUR	GA	SOLA SCRIPTURA	SATL	SATL
1970	FORT WORTH	TX	IMMANUEL	SCEN	SCEN
1970	FRESNO	CA	SHEP OF THE VALLEY	AZCA	CALI
1970	FRIENDSWOOD	TX	LORD OF LIFE	SCEN	SCEN
1970	FT COLLINS	CO	ST PETER	NEBR	COLO
1970	HOUSTON	TX	ABIDING WORD	SCEN	SCEN
1970	HUBERTUS	WI	CROWN OF LIFE	SEWI	SEWI
1970	JACKSONVILLE	FL	OUR SAVIOR	SATL	SATL
1970	KENNEWICK	WA	KING OF KINGS	PACN	PACN
1970	KINGMAN	AZ	CROSS OF CHRIST	AZCA	AZCA
1970	MILWAUKEE	WI	RISEN SAVIOR	SEWI	SEWI
1970	NEW ORLEANS	LA	CROWN OF LIFE	SATL	SATL
1970	PIERRE	SD	REDEEMER	DKMT	DKMT
1970	POLTIMORE	QUE	OUR SHEPHERD	NATL	NATL
1970	RIVERSIDE	CA	ST PAUL	AZCA	CALI
1970	SAN JOSE	CA	MOUNT CALVARY	AZCA	CALI
1970	YUMA	AZ	PRINCE OF PEACE	AZCA	AZCA
1971	ABITA SPRINGS	LA	TRINITY	SATL	SATL
1971	BEND	OR	CHRIST OUR REDEEMER	PACN	PACN
1971	CINCINNATI	OH	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	MICH	MICH
1971	GRAND BLANC	MI	GLORIA DEI	MICH	MICH
1971	HONOLULU	HI	ST PAUL	AZCA	CALI
1971	KENOSHA	WI	ABIDING WORD	SEWI	SEWI
1971	LARGO	MD	DIVINE PEACE	NATL	NATL
1971	LAS VEGAS	NV	MT OLIVE	AZCA	AZCA
1971	LEXINGTON	SC	HOPE	SATL	SATL
1971	LIBRARY	PA	(CLOSED)	MICH	MICH
1971	MADISON	TN	ROCK OF AGES	SATL	SATL
1971	McCOOK	NE	TRINITY	NEBR	NEBR
1971	NORTH FT. MYERS	FL	BETHANY	SATL	SATL
1971	PLOVER	WI	DIVINE WORD	WEWI	WEWI
1971	RIVER FALLS	WI	FAITH	MINN	MINN

PAGE 4
EXPLOR
STATUS

MISSION STATUS	CITY	STATE/ PROV	NAME OF CONGREGATION	SYNOD DIST	PRESENT DMB
1971	SIOUX FALLS	SD	ST PAUL	DKMT	DKMT
1971	TULSA	OK	MOUNT OLIVE	SCEN	SCEN
1971	WEST NEWTON	PA	FAITH	MICH	MICH
1972	BOZEMAN	MT	SHINING MOUNTAINS	DKMT	DKMT
1972	BREMERTON	WA	CHRIST THE KING	PACN	PACN
1972	CLIFTON PARK	NY	KING OF KINGS	NATL	NATL
1972	CORVALLIS	OR	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	PACN	PACN
1972	FOREST LAKE	MN	MARTIN LUTHER	MINN	MINN
1972	GAINESVILLE	FL	ZION	SATL	SATL
1972	GRAND JUNCTION	CO	ST PAUL	NEBR	COLO
1972	GRANGER	IN	PEACE	MICH	MICH
1972	GRANITE FALLS	MN	BETHANY	MINN	MINN
1972	JACKSONVILLE	IL	MOUNT ZION	WEWI	WEWI
1972	KOKOMO	IN	FAITH	SEWI	SEWI
1972	LOVES PARK	IL	PEACE	WEWI	WEWI
1972	MARQUETTE	MI	FAITH	NWIS	NWIS
1972	RAMSEY	NJ	TRIUNE GOD	NATL	NATL
1972	SALT LAKE CITY	UT	PRINCE OF PEACE	NEBR	COLO
1972	SANTA BARBARA	CA	OUR REDEEMER	AZCA	AZCA
1972	SUN CITY	AZ	OUR SAVIOR	AZCA	AZCA
1972	TAYLOR	MI	AMAZING GRACE	MICH	MICH
1972	VICTORVILLE	CA	ST JOHN	AZCA	CALI
1972	WEST PALM BEACH	FL	REDEMPTION	SATL	SATL
1972	YANKTON	SD	PRINCE OF PEACE	DKMT	DKMT
1973	ALEXANDRIA	LA	KING OF KINGS	SCEN	SCEN
1973	BEMIDJI	MN	ST MARK	MINN	MINN
1973	CAPE GIRARDEAU	MO	(CLOSED)	MINN	MINN
1973	CHEYENNE	WY	GOOD SHEPHERD	NEBR	COLO
1973	CHRISTIANA	DE	ST JOHN	NATL	NATL
1973	COLORADO SPRINGS	CO	SALEM	NEBR	COLO
1973	CORPUS CHRISTI	TX	GETHSEMANE	SCEN	SCEN
1973	DE SOTO	TX	GLORY	SCEN	SCEN
1973	ELGIN	IL	ST ANDREW	SEWI	SEWI
1973	GIRARD	OH	GOOD SHEPHERD	MICH	MICH
1973	HARRISON	MI	FAITH	MICH	MICH
1973	HOLLAND	MI	(CLOSED)	MICH	MICH
1973	HURON	SD	FAITH	DKMT	DKMT
1973	INDIAN RIVER	MI	HOPE	MICH	MICH
1973	LOUISVILLE	KY	HOPE	SEWI	SEWI
1973	MEMPHIS	TN	GLORIA DEI	SATL	SATL
1973	MISSION VIEJO	CA	LIVING WORD	AZCA	AZCA
1973	NAMPA	ID	MESSIAH	PACN	PACN
1973	RALEIGH	NC	GETHSEMANE	NATL	NATL
1973	ST JOHN'S ANTIGUA	ANT	ST JOHN	SATL	SATL
1973	ST JOSEPH	MO	(CLOSED)	MINN	MINN
1973	SUAMICO	WI	MOUNT OLIVE	NWIS	NWIS
1973	URBANA	IL	BETHLEHEM	WEWI	WEWI
1973	WESLACO	TX	ABIDING SAVIOR	SCEN	SCEN
1974	BEVERLY HILLS	FL	ST PAUL	SATL	SATL
1974	CRYSTAL LAKE	IL	LORD AND SAVIOR	SEWI	SEWI
1974	DIX HILLS	NY	GRACE OF GOD	NATL	NATL
1974	DUBUQUE	IA	(CLOSED)	WEWI	WEWI
1974	FLORISSANT	MO	REDEEMER	MINN	MINN
1974	FREMONT	CA	HOPE	AZCA	CALI

EXPLOR STATUS	MISSION STATUS	CITY	STATE/ PROV	NAME OF CONGREGATION	SYNOD DIST	PRESENT DMB
	1974	GIBSONIA	PA	BETHANY	MICH	MICH
	1974	LAKE ORION	MI	DIVINE PEACE	MICH	MICH
	1974	MITCHELL	SD	ASCENSION	DKMT	DKMT
	1974	MOBILE	AL	LIVING WORD	SATL	SATL
	1974	NORMAL	IL	ST MARK	WEWI	WEWI
	1974	OKLAHOMA CITY	OK	HOLY CROSS	SCEN	SCEN
	1974	ORLEANS	ONT	ABIDING WORD	NATL	NATL
	1974	OWATONNA	MN	EMMANUEL	MINN	MINN
	1974	SACRAMENTO	CA	ST ANDREW	AZCA	CALI
	1974	TEMPLE	TX	TRINITY	SCEN	SCEN
	1974	VANCOUVER	WA	PEACE	PACN	PACN
	1974	WASHINGTON	MI	CROSS OF GLORY	MICH	MICH
	1974	WESTMINSTER	CO	SHEP OF THE VALLEY	NEBR	COLO
1975	1975	AMHERST	NH	ST PAUL	NATL	NATL
	1975	BAYONET POINT	FL	GRACE	SATL	SATL
1975	1975	BURLINGTON	IA	OUR SAVIOR	MINN	MINN
	1975	COLUMBIA	MO	GRACE	MINN	MINN
1975	1975	CROWN POINT	IN	OUR SHEPHERD	SEWI	SEWI
1975	1975	DOWNERS GROVE	IL	GOOD SHEPHERD		
	1975	EAST WENATCHEE	WA	OUR SAVIOR	PACN	PACN
	1975	ENGLEWOOD	FL	TRINITY	SATL	SATL
	1975	FAIRBANKS	AK	SYNDOULOS	PACN	PACN
	1975	GAYLORD	MI	OUR SAVIOR	MICH	MICH
	1975	GREELEY	CO	SHEP OF THE HILLS	NEBR	COLO
1975	1975	HUDSON	WI	EMMANUEL	MINN	MINN
	1975	INVER GROVE HTS	MN	SHEP OF THE HILLS	MINN	MINN
	1975	KANSAS CITY	MO	ROCK OF AGES	NEBR	NEBR
1975	1975	LAKEVILLE	MN	BETHLEHEM	MINN	MINN
	1975	LANSING	MI	SHEP OF THE HILLS	MICH	MICH
	1975	LIVERPOOL	NY	CROSS OF CHRIST	NATL	NATL
	1975	LOVELOCK	NV	REDEEMER	AZCA	CALI
	1975	LUBBOCK	TX	SHEP OF THE PLAINS	SCEN	SCEN
	1975	MIDDLETON	WI	ST ANDREW	WEWI	WEWI
	1975	PETALUMA	CA	LIVING WORD	AZCA	CALI
	1975	PHOENIX	AZ	PARADISE VALLEY	AZCA	AZCA
	1975	RENO	NV	SHEP OF THE MNTNS	AZCA	CALI
	1975	SHIOCTON	WI	MESSIAH	NWIS	NWIS
	1975	SIERRA MADRE	CA	GLORIA DEI	AZCA	AZCA
	1975	TUCSON	AZ	SHEP OF THE HILLS	AZCA	AZCA
	1975	TWISP	WA	PRINCE OF PEACE	PACN	PACN
	1975	WEST CHICAGO	IL	HOPE	SEWI	SEWI
	1976	ASHLAND	OH	OUR SAVIOR	MICH	MICH
1976	1976	BELLEVILLE	IL	DIVINE SAVIOR	WEWI	WEWI
1975	1976	CAMBRIDGE	MN	CHRIST	MINN	MINN
1975	1976	CLEARWATER	FL	CHRIST THE LORD	SATL	SATL
	1976	COLUMBUS	OH	PRINCE OF PEACE	MICH	MICH
	1976	COOS BAY	OR	TRINITY	PACN	PACN
1976	1976	DOWNERS GROVE	IL	GOOD SHEPHERD		
	1976	EAGAN	MN	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	MINN	MINN
1975	1976	EAGLE RIVER	AK	PEACE	PACN	PACN
1976	1976	EDEN PRAIRIE	MN	CHRIST	MINN	MINN
	1976	FALLBROOK	CA	ST STEPHEN	AZCA	CALI
1976	1976	FORT WAYNE	IN	HOLY SCRIPTURE	SEWI	SEWI
1976	1976	GALESVILLE	WI	BETHEL	WEWI	WEWI

EXPLOR STATUS	MISSION STATUS	CITY	STATE/ PROV	NAME OF CONGREGATION	SYNOD DIST	PRESENT DMB
1975	1976	NORFOLK	NE	SHEPHERD OF PEACE	NEBR	NEBR
	1976	NORTON	KS	REDEEMER	NEBR	NEBR
1976	1976	PLYMOUTH	WI	GOOD SHEPHERD	NWIS	NWIS
1975	1976	PORT HURON	MI	HOLY REDEEMER	MICH	MICH
1975	1976	PULLMAN	WA	DIVINE SAVIOR	PACN	PACN
1976	1976	ROCHESTER	MN	ASCENSION	MINN	MINN
1975	1976	SE COLUMBUS	OH	PRINCE OF PEACE	MICH	MICH
	1976	SEDONA	AZ	TRINITY	AZCA	AZCA
	1976	SPRINGFIELD	IL	(CLOSED)	WEWI	WEWI
1975	1976	SUMMERVILLE	SC	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	SATL	SATL
	1976	WHITE ROCK	NM	MESSIAH	AZCA	AZCA
1975	1976	YORBA LINDA	CA	GRACE	AZCA	AZCA
1976	1977	BOULDER	CO	PEACE	NEBR	COLO
	1977	CANYON COUNTRY	CA	CALVARY	AZCA	CALI
	1977	CASA GRANDE	AZ	CALVARY	AZCA	AZCA
1976	1977	CENTERVILLE	OH	RESURRECTION	MICH	MICH
1976	1977	CHANDLER	AZ	CALVARY	AZCA	AZCA
1976	1977	CLINTON	IA	OUR SAVIOR	WEWI	WEWI
1976	1977	GRAND RAPIDS	MN	ST LUKE	MINN	MINN
1976	1977	HARRISBURG	PA	ASCENSION	NATL	NATL
	1977	HOLIDAYSBURG	PA	OUR SAVIOR	MICH	MICH
1976	1977	HOLMEN	WI	GOOD SHEPHERD	WEWI	WEWI
1976	1977	IMLAY CITY	MI	CHRIST	MICH	MICH
1976	1977	KANSAS CITY	MO	GETHSEMANE	NEBR	NEBR
1976	1977	KNOXVILLE	TN	SHEP OF THE HILLS	SATL	SATL
1977	1977	LAWRENCEVILLE	GA	SOLA FIDE	SATL	SATL
1976	1977	LIMA	OH	(CLOSED)	MICH	MICH
1976	1977	LITTLE ROCK	AR	KING OF KINGS	SCEN	SCEN
1975	1977	MODESTO	CA	ST PETER	AZCA	CALI
1976	1977	POCATELLO	ID	(CLOSED)	PACN	PACN
1977	1977	SALINA	KS	ST MARK	NEBR	NEBR
1975	1977	SARASOTA	FL	ASCENSION	SATL	SATL
	1977	SCOTSBUFF	NE	KING OF KINGS	NEBR	COLO
1976	1978	BECKLEY	WV	GOOD SHEPHERD	MICH	MICH
1977	1978	BIG RAPIDS	MI	REDEEMER	MICH	MICH
	1978	CHULA VISTA	CA	RISEN SAVIOR	AZCA	CALI
1976	1978	FAIRMONT	MN	SHEP OF THE LAKES	MINN	MINN
1976	1978	FORT MYERS	FL	CROWN OF LIFE	SATL	SATL
1975	1978	FREMONT	NE	CHRIST OUR SAVIOR	NEBR	NEBR
1977	1978	GENESEE DEPOT	WI	REFORMATION	SEWI	SEWI
1977	1978	JACKSONVILLE	FL	GOOD SHEPHERD	SATL	SATL
	1978	JAMESTOWN	ND	JAMES VALLEY	DKMT	DKMT
1978	1978	MARTINEZ	GA	PRINCE OF PEACE	SATL	SATL
1976	1978	MISSOULA	MT	MOUNT ZIO	DKMT	DKMT
	1978	NEPEAN	ONT	DIVINE WORD	NATL	NATL
	1978	OMAHA	NE	GARDEN/GETHSEMANE	NEBR	NEBR
1976	1978	O'NEILL	NE	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	NEBR	NEBR
	1978	PENRYN	CA	HOPE	AZCA	CALI
1977	1978	PLYMOUTH	MN	ASCENSION	MINN	MINN
1976	1978	PRAIRIE DU CHIEN	WI	GRACE	WEWI	WEWI
	1978	SANTA MARIA	CA	STAR OF BETHLEHEM	AZCA	CALI
1977	1978	SIERRA VISTA	AZ	TRINITY	AZCA	AZCA
1977	1978	STRONGSVILLE	OH	OUR SAVIOR	MICH	MICH
	1979	BEAVERTON	MI	GOOD SHEPHERD	MICH	MICH
	1979	HOT SPRINGS	SD	GRACE	DKMT	DKMT

EXPLOR STATUS	MISSION STATUS	CITY	STATE/ PROV	NAME OF CONGREGATION	SYNOD DIST	PRESENT DMB
	1979	LEESBURG	FL	ST MARK	SATL	SATL
1979	1979	MEDFORD	OR	SAVED BY GRACE	PACN	PACN
1978	1979	MOUNT PLEASANT	MI	FAITH	MICH	MICH
1979	1979	PERRY	MI	OUR SAVIOR	MICH	MICH
1976	1979	RICE LAKE	WI	REDEEMER	WEWI	WEWI
1977	1979	SITKA	AK	GRACE	PACN	PACN
1979	1979	TOPEKA	KS	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	NEBR	NEBR
1976	1979	TRUMBULL	CT	CHRIST REDEEMER	NATL	NATL
1976	1979	WICHITA FALLS	TX	(CLOSED)	SCEN	SCEN
76/79/80	1980	EL PASO	TX	FAITH	AZCA	AZCA
76/79/80	1980	EL PASO	TX	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	AZCA	AZCA
	1980	ENGLEWOOD	OH	(MERGED)	MICH	MICH
1979	1980	GREENVILLE	SC	ABIDING PEACE	SATL	SATL
1977	1980	HELENA	MT	VALLEY VIEW	DKMT	DKMT
	1980	HENDERSONVILLE	NC	OUR SAVIOR	SATL	SATL
	1980	KENAI	AK	GRACE	PACN	PACN
1979	1980	KEYSTONE HTS	FL	CHRIST	SATL	SATL
1977	1980	MIDLAND	TX	GOOD SHEPHERD	SCEN	SCEN
1979	1980	MIDWEST CITY	OK	DIVINE WORD	SCEN	SCEN
	1980	PAYSON	AZ	ROCK OF AGES	AZCA	AZCA
1979	1980	PHOENIX	AZ	DEER VALLEY	AZCA	AZCA
1979	1980	PORT WASHINGTON	WI	ST MATTHEW	SEWI	SEWI
	1980	WACO	NE	BETHEL	NEBR	NEBR
1980	1980	WEST MELBOURNE	FL	NEW HOPE	SATL	SATL
1979	1980	ZEPHYRHILLS	FL	EMMANUEL	SATL	SATL
1979	1981	BARRE	VT	CHRIST THE REDEEMER	NATL	NATL
1980	1981	BERLIN	VT	CHRIST THE REDEEMER	NATL	NATL
1979	1981	CASPER	WY	LORD OF LORDS	NEBR	COLO
1981	1981	MANASSAS	VA	BETHLEHEM	NATL	NATL
1980	1981	MERRILL	WI	CHRIST	WEWI	WEWI
1980	1981	NOVI	MI	GOOD SHEPHERD	MICH	MICH
	1981	PINEHURST	TX	ABIDING FAITH	SCEN	SCEN
1980	1981	RANCHO CUCAMONGA	CA	(CLOSED)	AZCA	CALI
	1981	WASHINGTON	KS	CHRIST THE KING	NEBR	NEBR
76/82	1982	ANTIGO	WI	ASCENSION	NWIS	NWIS
1980	1982	CALGARY	ALB	ST PAUL	DKMT	DKMT
1980	1982	CHARLOTTE	NC	GRACE	NATL	NATL
1981	1982	CORAL SPRINGS	FL	SHEP OF THE SPRINGS	SATL	SATL
1981	1982	FLOWER MOUND	TX	PRINCE OF PEACE	SCEN	SCEN
1980	1982	KILLEEN	TX	(CLOSED)	SCEN	SCEN
1980	1982	LEHIGH ACRES	FL	PRINCE OF PEACE	SATL	SATL
	1982	MATTHEWS	NC	GRACE	NATL	NATL
	1982	PERRY	GA	SOLA GRATIA	SATL	SATL
1979	1982	ROCHESTER	NY	PRINCE OF PEACE	NATL	NATL
1982	1982	SPRINGVILLE	NY	OUR SAVIOR	NATL	NATL
1981	1982	WORTHINGTON	OH	SHEPHERD OF PEACE	MICH	MICH
1982	1983	APACHE JUNCTION	AZ	KING OF KINGS	AZCA	AZCA
1982	1983	ARLINGTON	TX	OUR SAVIOR	SCEN	SCEN
1983	1983	CHINA GROVE	NC	GOOD SHEPHERD	NATL	NATL
1981	1983	CHIPPEWA FALLS	WI	OUR HOPE	WEWI	WEWI
1982	1983	COLLEGE STATION	TX	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	SCEN	SCEN
1982	1983	COLUMBUS	MS	FAITH	SATL	SATL
1981	1983	GILLETTE	WY	CHRIST OUR REDEEMER	DKMT	DKMT
1982	1983	HIGHLANDS RANCH	CO	ABIDING WORD	NEBR	COLO
1982	1983	MILBANK	SD	PEACE	DKMT	DKMT

EXPLOR STATUS	MISSION STATUS	CITY	STATE/ PROV	NAME OF CONGREGATION	SYNOD DIST	PRESENT DMB
1978	1983	MISSISSAUGA	ONT	(CLOSED)	NATL	NATL
1982	1983	ORLANDO	FL	CROWN OF GLORY	SATL	SATL
	1983	RIDGECREST	CA	TRINITY	AZCA	CALI
1981	1983	RUSSELLVILLE	AR	FAITH	SCEN	SCEN
1981	1983	ST PETERS	MO	GOOD SHEPHERD		
	1983	WILMOT	SD	CHRIST	DKMT	DKMT
1984	1984	ANCHORAGE	AK	SHEP OF THE HILLS	PACN	PACN
1982	1984	AUSTIN	TX	RISEN SAVIOR	SCEN	SCEN
1983	1984	BATON ROUGE	LA	CROSS OF GLORY	SATL	SATL
1983	1984	CLOVIS	CA	ST PETER	AZCA	CALI
75/80	1984	DAYTONA BEACH	FL	OUR SAVIOR	SATL	SATL
1982	1984	HAYWARD	WI	PEACE	WEWI	WEWI
1983	1984	HOUSTON	TX	PRINCE OF PEACE	SCEN	SCEN
1982	1984	KEARNEY	NE	GOOD SHEPHERD	NEBR	NEBR
1983	1984	MARIETTA	GA	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	SATL	SATL
	1984	PITTSBURG	KS	FAITH	NEBR	NEBR
1982	1984	PORTLAND	ME	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	NATL	NATL
1983	1984	RIO RANCHO	NM	PEACE	AZCA	AZCA
1982	1984	SAN DIEGO	CA	CHRIST OUR REDEEMER	AZCA	CALI
	1984	SUCCASUNNA	NJ	IMMANUEL	NATL	NATL
1982	1984	THORNTON	CO	LORD OF LIFE	NEBR	COLO
1982	1984	TRAVERSE CITY	MI	PRINCE OF PEACE	MICH	MICH
1980	1984	TYLER	TX	LONE STAR	SCEN	SCEN
75/83	1984	WASILLA	AK	KING OF KINGS	PACN	PACN
1982	1985	CAPE CORAL	FL	ABIDING LOVE	SATL	SATL
	1985	CHINO VALLEY	AZ	HOPE	AZCA	AZCA
1984	1985	COTTONWOOD	AZ	PEACE	AZCA	AZCA
1984	1985	DELTONA	FL	GOOD SHEPHERD	SATL	SATL
1982	1985	FORT WORTH	TX	ABIDING FAITH	SCEN	SCEN
	1985	MAINVILLE	OH	ABIDING WORD	MICH	MICH
	1985	MARIETTA	OH	CROWN OF LIFE	MICH	MICH
1982	1985	PLANO	TX	ATONEMENT	SCEN	SCEN
1982	1985	SE CINCINNATI	OH	ABIDING WORD	MICH	MICH
1882	1985	SUGARLAND	TX	REDEEMING GRACE	SCEN	SCEN
82/84	1985	WAUKESHA	WI	CROWN OF LIFE	SEWI	SEWI
	1986	FREDERICKSBURG	TX	SHEP OF THE HILLS	SCEN	SCEN
1984	1986	NEWPORT NEWS	VA	OUR REDEEMER	NATL	NATL
1984	1986	OCALA	FL	ABIDING HOPE	SATL	SATL
1984	1986	PORTAGE	WI	CROSS OF CHRIST	WEWI	WEWI
1984	1986	TOLEDO	OH	RESURRECTION	MICH	MICH
1985	1987	ALPHARETTA	GA	MESSIAH	SATL	SATL
1986	1987	BUFFALO GROVE	IL	NEW LIFE	SEWI	SEWI
1985	1987	ELK RIVER	MN	ABIDING SAVIOR	MINN	MINN
1984	1987	FAYETTEVILLE	NC	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	NATL	NATL
1984	1987	JUPITER	FL	SHEP OF THE PALMS	SATL	SATL
1975	1987	LAS CRUCES	NM	EMMANUEL	AZCA	AZCA
1985	1987	OMAHA	NE	LIVING HOPE	NEBR	NEBR
	1987	PLEASANTON	CA	GOOD SHEPHERD	AZCA	AZCA
1984	1987	SPRINGDALE	AR	GRACE	SCEN	SCEN
1985	1987	TUCSON	AZ	PEACE	AZCA	AZCA
1984	1987	UNIVERSAL CITY	TX	CROSS OF CHRIST	SCEN	SCEN
1985	1988	CUSTER	SD	SHEPHERD O/T HILLS	DKMT	DKMT
1985	1988	EVERETT	WA	CHRIST THE ROCK	PACN	PACN

EXPLOR STATUS	MISSION STATUS	CITY	STATE/ PROV	NAME OF CONGREGATION	SYNOD DIST	PRESENT DMB
1984	1988	PANAMA CITY	FL	PANAMA CITY	SATL	SATL
1986	1988	WAUNAKEE	WI	LORD AND SAVIOR	WEWI	WEWI
1985	1989	COLORADO SPRINGS	CO	FOUNT OF LIFE	NEBR	COLO
1984	1989	GILBERT	AZ	HERITAGE	AZCA	AZCA
1986	1989	HOUGHTON	MI	PEACE	MICH	MICH
	1989	IRON MOUNTAIN	MI	MT OLIVE	NWIS	NWIS
1985	1989	LAFAYETTE	IN	GOOD SHEPHERD	SEWI	SEWI
1985	1989	MANHATTAN	NY	PEACE	NATL	NATL
1986	1989	SHOREVIEW	MN	NEW LIFE	MINN	MINN
1985	1989	STREAMWOOD	IL	ABIDING PEACE	SEWI	SEWI
	1989	WISCONSIN RAPIDS	WI	GOOD SHEPHERD	WWIS	WWIS
1986	1990	BOTHELL	WA	(MERGED)	PACN	PACN
1988	1990	GRAND RAPIDS	MI	CHRIST OUR SAVIOR	MICH	MICH
1987	1990	GREEN BAY	WI	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	NWIS	NWIS
1988	1990	HENDERSONVILLE	NV	GREEN VALLEY	AZCA	CALI
1987	1990	LINDENHURST	IL	HERITAGE	SEWI	SEWI
1986	1990	MARKHAM	ONT	HOPE		
1987	1990	PEMBROKE	ONT	REDEEMER		
1987	1990	PRESCOTT VALLEY	AZ	CHRIST	AZCA	AZCA
1985	1990	ROSWELL	NM	REDEEMER	AZCA	AZCA
1987	1990	STERLING	VA	OUR SAVIOR	NATL	NATL
	1990	TALLAHASSEE	FL	GOOD NEWS	SATL	SATL
1987	1991	CHERRY VALLEY	IL	NEW LIFE	WWIS	WWIS
	1991	EL PASO	TX	SAN JUAN		
1988	1991	MAPLE GROVE	MN	REDEEMER	MINN	MINN
1982	1991	MIAMI-SPANISH	FL	CORDERO DE DIOS	SATL	SATL
1989	1991	MOUNTAIN HOME	AR	TRINITY	SCEN	SCEN
1988	1991	OLYMPIA	WA	MESSIAH	PACN	PACN
1988	1991	SASKATOON	SAS	ABUNDANT LIFE	DKMT	DKMT
1988	1991	SE APPLETON	WI	ETERNAL LOVE	NWIS	NWIS
1990	1991	THE WOODLANDS	TX	GOOD SHEPHERD	SCEN	SCEN
1990	1992	CHESAPEAKE	VA	KING OF KINGS	NATL	NATL
1989	1992	COTTAGE GROVE	MN	CHRIST THE LORD	MINN	MINN
1990	1992	FLORENCE	KY	AMAZING GRACE	MICH	MICH
1991	1992	JACKSONVILLE	FL	OUR SAVIOR	SATL	SATL
1988	1992	PETOSKEY	MI	BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR	MICH	MICH
1989	1992	RANCHO CALIFORNIA	CA	CHRIST THE VINE	AZCA	CALI
1990	1992	RICHMOND	VA	LIVING HOPE	NATL	NATL
1990	1992	SPRING HILL	TN	CHRIST OUR SAVIOR	SATL	SATL

Information received from the office of the Board for Home Missions of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

APPENDIX D

Memorial to the 1977 WELS Convention Regarding Establishment of New Associate Secretary Position to the Board for Home Missions

MEMORIAL TO THE FORTY FOURTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION of the
WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD in Convention
at Dr. Martin Luther College, August 3-10, 1977

Subject: Establishing Position of Secretary of Home Missions

- WHEREAS (1) A wide range of services was established for the one full-time General Board for Home Missions staff position of Executive Secretary (cf. Addendum below) which has resulted in profitable assistance to mission congregations, district mission boards, and the General Board for Home Missions, and
- WHEREAS (2) the Lord has richly blessed our Home Mission program with significant expansion since the establishment of the office of Executive Secretary in 1963 as seen in the following increases since 1963: Annual new mission openings from 14 - 26 (+86%), number of mission congregations from 168 to 239 (+42%) - number of mission sites and chapels acquired annually from 19 to 48 (+152%) - annual budget from \$976,000 to \$2,139,000 (+119%) - annual CEF allocation from \$540,000 to \$5,000,000 (+800%)
- WHEREAS (3) the activity required of the office of the Executive Secretary has been increased substantially by new General Board for Home Missions and other synodical programs initiated since 1963, including: Architectural Office - CEF Uniloon program - required church site surveys - preliminary chapel planning meetings - Inner-City Mission program - Lutheran Collegian Travel/Canvass/Witness Program - Coordinating Council -- advisory membership on Special Ministries Board -- proposed Radio Research Project, and
- WHEREAS (4) as a result opportunities for service to the church have had to be neglected, at least in part, for example, the Radio Research Project, the Inner-City Mission program -- liaison with the Special Ministries Board -- individual help to missions and missionaries in areas not related to sites and buildings -- and especially comparative on-site evaluation of new exploratory mission fields in cooperation with district mission boards, and
- WHEREAS (5) it is the conviction of the General Board for Home Missions that this increased activity in our Home Mission program has made it impossible for one man to provide the services required of the office of Executive Secretary of the General Board for Home Missions, and
- WHEREAS (6) the present opportunities to establish new missions in many cities (more than 50 current requests) indicate that this is a most critical time for home mission expansion and therefore adequate assistance to our district mission boards is required, humanly speaking, to assure maximum benefit from the manpower and money resources the Lord is granting us in bountiful manner, therefore be it

- RESOLVED (A) that the General Board for Home Missions be authorized to establish immediately the full-time position of a Secretary of Home Missions who shall share in all duties and responsibilities of the Executive Secretary of the General Board for Home Missions under the direction of the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Executive Committee of the General Board for Home Missions and be it finally
- RESOLVED (B) that the Secretary of Home Missions be a called minister of the Gospel, to be called by the General Board for Home Missions according to the usual synodical procedures for nominating and calling candidates for such full-time synodical positions.

Respectfully submitted,
GENERAL BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS

Information received from the Minutes of the GBHM, November 1-2, 1976, pages 7-8.
Board for Home Missions of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

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1. Interview with Rev. Norman Berg on March 13, 1996.
2. Interview with Rev. Larry Zwiieg on March 26, 1996.
3. Interview with Mr. Duane Anderson on March 26, 1996.
4. Interview with Rev. Howard Kaiser on March 28, 1996.
5. Interview with Mr. Richard Waldschmidt on April 3, 1996.
6. Interview with Rev. Harold Hagedorn on April 9, 1996.
7. Interview with Mrs. Mary E. Butler on April 9, 1996.
8. Interview with Rev. Carl Mischke on April 10, 1996.
9. Interview with Rev. Robert Voss on April 12, 1996.
10. Interview with Rev. Norman Berg on April 15, 1996.

LETTERS RECEIVED

1. Letter to Michael Roth from Rev. Edgar Hoenecke dated March 26, 1996.
2. Letter to Michael Roth from Mr. Duane Anderson dated April 16, 1996.

MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS OF THE GBHM (CITED IN THE PAPER)

1. Meetings on November 1-2, 1976.
2. Meetings on October 31 - November 1, 1977.
3. Meetings on January 30-31, 1978.
4. Meetings on April 23-25, 1978.
5. Meetings on September 25-26, 1978.
6. Meetings on February 12-13, 1979.
7. Meetings on September 15-18, 1985.
8. Meetings on September 20-22, 1987.
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10. Meetings on April 11-12, 1988.

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APPENDICES A - D

Sources of information for each appendix are listed at the end of each individual appendix.

Special thank-you to the staff of the Board for Home Missions for access to your office and records. Also to the many Pastors and laymen who gave of their personal time to answer my questions and provided me with the information necessary. Finally, also to Rev. Norman Berg for your willingness to share the events of your life and ministry.

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