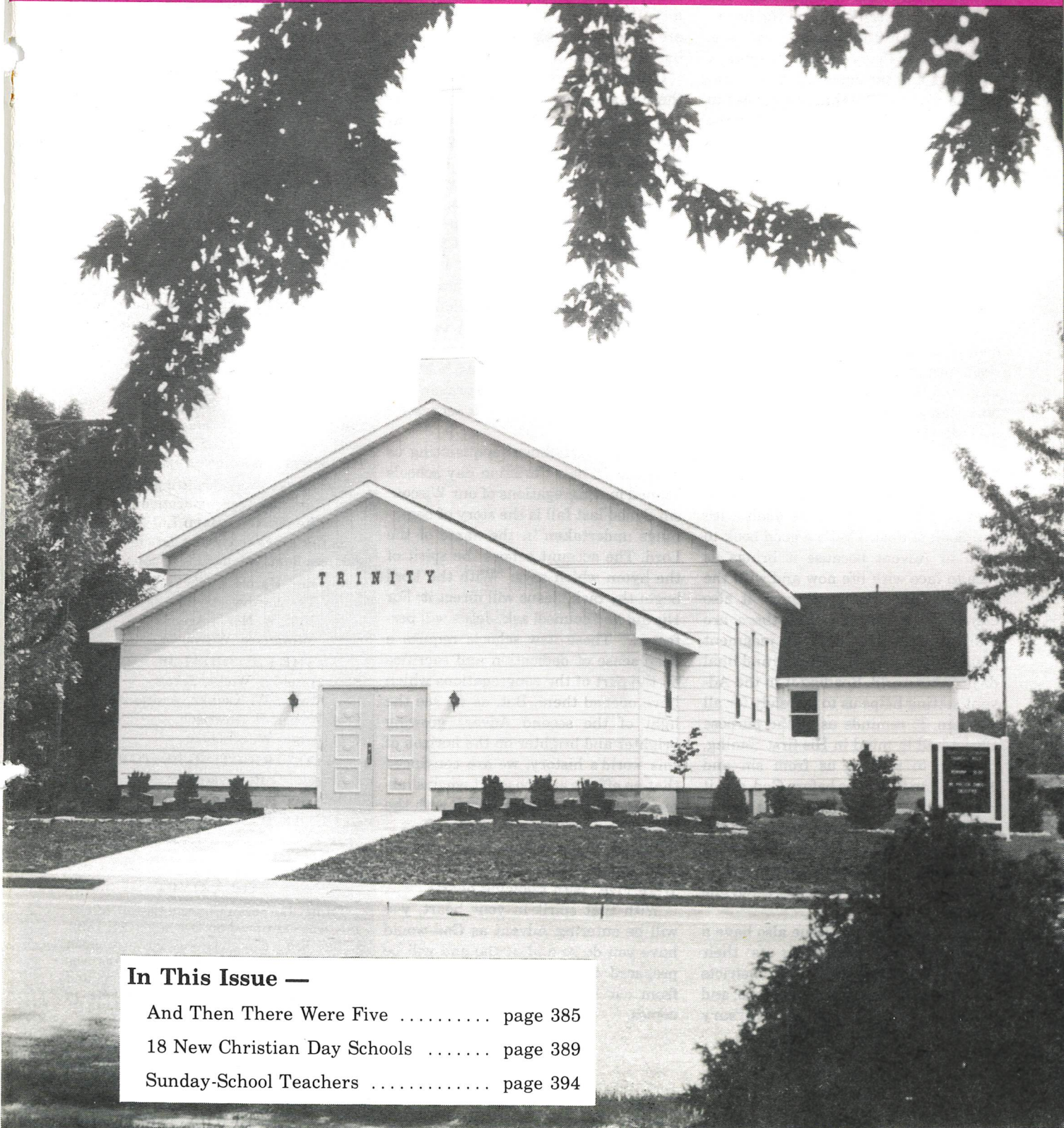


# *The Northwestern Lutheran*

November 27, 1977



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- Sunday-School Teachers ..... page 394



## Briefs by the Editor

To every beginning there is an end, and for every end a beginning. The close of the church year and the beginning of the Advent Season stress both. Their theme is very similar: the end of all things and the entrance into eternity. The Word of God that is preached in this season would prepare us for the changes all of us face.

The two Bible studies in this issue deal with the problem of the end and the beginning. The study on I John treats of "Our Fellowship With God." Fellowship with God is ours through Jesus Christ. It is not figured in hours, days, and years, but is something that begins in this life when the Spirit of God brings us to faith in Christ and continues in the next life as we take up residence in the mansions Christ has prepared for us. Advent tells us how He once came to prepare those mansions and informs us that He will come again to receive us unto Himself.

The study which leads you personally into the Scripture to mine the treasures found there this time deals with the Book of Joel. That's a good book to read in Advent because it brings us face to face with life now and with the judgment day that is to come. It also alerts us to the fact that there are many preliminary days of judgment before the coming of the great and final day of this world. Reading it in the Advent setting helps us to be ready for all of them. It reminds us of the purpose Christ had in mind in His first coming, namely, to redeem us from sin and guilt and to justify us before God, and it reminds us of the purpose of His second coming, namely, to take us out of the world of sin and to place us in that world where righteousness prevails. A beginning that ends that way is not one to fear.

Other items in this issue also have a beginning and an ending as their theme. The news from the Districts deals in anniversaries, dedications, and groundbreakings. An anniversary

places a person or a congregation so much farther along on the road to eternity. Dedications and groundbreakings are more in the manner of beginnings, but all of them have a goal in mind.

Other articles demonstrate that these beginnings and endings are universal. They are what the church experiences everywhere, not only here in the United States. They are what all members of the church experience, not only those getting older. Thus, the account of the radio mission in Japan tells about the efforts of our Christian people there to bring Christ into the lives of people for the very first time. It's mission work, and mission work will continue until the final trumpet sounds. The words may be spoken in a language that is foreign to us, but they are always spoken with the prayer that the beginning may lead to a successful close.

The first installment acquainting us with the 18 new Christian day schools opened in congregations of our Wisconsin Synod last fall is the story of beginnings undertaken in the name of the Lord. The account echoes the spirit of the hymn which says: "With the Lord begin thy task, Jesus will direct it; For His aid and counsel ask, Jesus will perfect it." These new schools require a deep sense of dedication and sacrifice on the part of the congregations which have opened them. But, as we see the light of the second Advent growing brighter and brighter on the horizon of this world's history, we are convinced that no efforts are too great when sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the generation to come, even as no effort is too great to share that saving Gospel with others. Read "And Then There Were Five" with rejoicing hearts.

With that spirit in your heart, you will be entering Advent as God would have you do so and at the end will be prepared to receive the crown of life from our Lord Jesus Christ when He comes.

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

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### The Cover

Trinity Lutheran Church, Elkton, Michi-  
gan, was organized on December 27, 1892.  
It has been a member of the Wisconsin  
Synod since 1929. Its church building was  
erected in 1910, enlarged in 1953, and  
renovated for the congregation's 85th in  
1977. See page 386.

THE NORTHWESTERN LUTHERAN

## Editorials

### The Third World and Thanksgiving

Our ears are becoming dulled to all the talk about the Third World. The wretchedness and misery of the hundreds of millions living in the have-not nations of the world leaves us largely unmoved. We hear and nod and then talk about our own problems in America.

Let us not shut this Third World out of our consciousness this Thanksgiving. Its stark reality should penetrate our cold and selfish natures.

Why were our children born in antiseptic delivery rooms, with the resources of medical science at hand for emergencies, instead of in a steaming hut in the rain forests of Zaire? Or, as Roger Thomas once asked the questions: "How does it happen that my children are tucked into a warm bed with clean, white sheets when millions of babies lie in their own filth and vomit while flies swarm over their bodies?"

"Why was I born in a land that I didn't build, to share in a prosperity that I didn't create, to enjoy freedom that I didn't establish? Why an American sitting comfortably in a warm house and not an Indian squatting in a dark alley of Calcutta shivering from the cold and rummaging through a garbage heap for something to eat? Why can I tranquilly know that my child is safe while another father must chase the rats away from his baby's crib?"

Need we ask more questions before the conclusion overwhelms us: "I haven't deserved it. I haven't earned the privilege of living in a land of more physical and material blessings than any other land on this globe"?

And then to remember that beyond all these creature comforts there is the blessing that God has opened my heart to know my Savior and to believe that He has saved me, body and soul, for eternity.

No one on the face of this earth has more reason to be grateful than the Christian in America. But what will he do about it?

Carleton Toppe

### Purebred Christianity

My neighbor has a beautiful French poodle. "This isn't just a dog," he informed me as he launched into a dissertation on purebred poodles. My neighbor keeps his female poodle in a fenced yard because he doesn't want to lose it, and he wants to avoid mixed breeding. He's so big on poodles that he wants me to have one of the purebred puppies he's expecting.

So I explained to my neighbor about my confessional Christianity, that it isn't "just a religion." I launched into a dissertation on God's forgiving love in Jesus Christ and the pure truth of inspired Scripture. I explained why our church body is so careful not to lose the truth, and why we

oppose religious "crossbreeding" with different denominations and organizations. Then I told him how much I wanted him to have eternal life, the "new birth" that Christian truth conceives. My neighbor doesn't think the Wisconsin Synod is such an offbeat church body any longer.

We don't have to be defensive about the Bible's position on church fellowship. You see, we aren't simply the church that's AGAINST lodges, scouting, and ecumenical worship. We are the church that is FOR truth and the preservation of divinely given truth amid indiscriminate attempts to compromise it.

God's Word isn't irrational, and neither is the desire to preserve and confess it. The real problem is that human reason is flawed by sin. The real problem is the ridiculous presumption that God and His revelation (Scripture) can be confined to or by human reason.

People will understand and appreciate our church's position when they discover how much the truth of Christianity means to us, when we enthusiastically talk about the Savior who is the only "Way, Truth, and Life," when in genuine love we want them to have that Way, that Truth, and that Life.

Paul Kelm

### Valid Distinctions

Years ago a certain congressman was engaged in a campaign for a seat in the U.S. Senate. His opponent, a clever politician, hit upon a scheme to win votes for himself in the less sophisticated areas of the state. In shocked tones he confided to the voters that the congressman was "a known extravert," that he "practiced celibacy before marriage," and that he indulged in "nepotism with his sister-in-law." The congressman lost the election. It wasn't what his opponent actually said that brought about his defeat; it was what the voters understood his opponent as saying that turned them against the congressman.

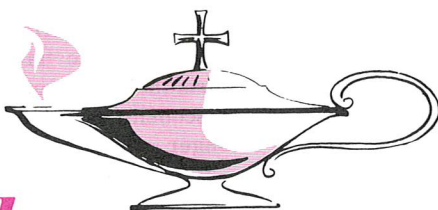
Not long ago an article which appeared in some newspapers spoke of a widening gap between "scholars" and "churchgoers." Now it may be true that there is such a gap. It may even be true that the gap is widening. But the misleading thing is the implication that there is a distinction between scholars and churchgoers; i.e., that churchgoers are not scholars and that scholars are not churchgoers. This implied distinction, if taken as valid, leads to the conclusion that churchgoers believe what they believe only because they are intellectually, or at least scholastically, inferior.

The fallacy lies in the implication that churchgoers are not scholars and that scholars are not churchgoers. This is simply not true. There are churchgoers who are scholars, and there are scholars who are churchgoers. A distinction *can* properly be made between scholars who in their religious beliefs rely on their scholarship and scholars who trust in God's Word.

An inspired Proverb enjoins: "Trust in the Lord with all thy heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding." This points to a valid distinction among people, "scholars" and "churchgoers" alike.

Immanuel Frey

## Studies in God's Word



### Questions About Our Fellowship With God

My little children, these things write I unto you that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous. And He is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. And hereby we do know that we have known Him if we keep His commandments. He

that saith, I know Him and keepeth not His commandments is a liar and the truth is not in him. But whosoever keepeth His word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him. He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk even as He walked (1 John 2:1-6).

It's Advent and time to prepare again for Christmas. Mothers are getting the cookie cutters out and fathers are balancing the checkbooks. Council members ask about the church tree and teachers about gifts for the Sunday-school and grade-school children.

More than this! Christians are preparing to kneel again at the manger and marvel at God's love. There lies God's Son, come to render full payment for all sin and restore fellowship with God. Of this blessed fellowship John writes often in his "Letter of Light, Life, and Love." In our verses he answers *Questions About Our Fellowship With God*.

#### What If I Sin?

Christians who think seriously about their fellowship with God are troubled by their sins. They know that sin destroys their relationship with God. They hear John urge: "My little children . . . sin not." They fight against and yet fall into sin. What can they do when they sin? Is there no hope for them? Is fellowship with God forever lost?

In answer, John points us beyond the

Bethlehem manger, past the Calvary cross, up to the throne room in heaven. There stands One who restores fellowship with God when we sin. His name is Jesus Christ the Righteous. Powerfully and personally He steps before our Father when we sin. As our advocate He pleads for us, and our loving Father listens willingly. Jesus is the propitiation, the payment-sacrifice for our sins. Behind His pleading stands the cross where He sacrificed Himself as the perfect payment for the world's sins. Through that perfect sacrifice we have fellowship again with God, and to that perfect sacrifice Jesus points when our sin threatens this fellowship.

Without Jesus Christ the Righteous the question, "What if I sin?" would be a horrible one, haunting us all the way to hell. Without Him each sin would be an impenetrable "Berlin wall" between my God and me, one I could neither blast through nor burrow under. So it's time to kneel at His manger-bed again where we hear the angels sing, "Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." It's time to walk to the cross behind that manger where "Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;

Jesus, my Savior, paid all I owed." It's time to raise eyes to heaven where the ascended Savior is at "the blest mercy seat pleading for me." In Him alone is the answer to the question, "What if I sin?"

#### How Can I Know?

Another question which troubles serious Christians is: "How can I know that I have fellowship with God?" John offers a simple test: "Hereby we do know that we know Him if we keep His commandments." In verse 4 John calls these commandments "the truth" and in verse 5 "His Word." When we ask about our fellowship with God, John simply points us to God's Word. What does that Word mean to us? Is it really that precious "Book divine, by inspiration given"? Is it really, "May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill and do on earth our Father's will"? For those who have fellowship with God, the Word by the Spirit's working is something precious in their heart and powerful in their life. The believer cannot despise any part of that Word or disregard any command of that Word for his life without being a liar. He who by the Spirit's working receives that Word into his heart and life will find God's love reaching its goal in him. More and more he will be led to walk in the steps of the Savior, who said of His Father, "I know Him and keep His saying" (John 8:55).

Here's a warning for us. A wise pastor said: "You can't talk Christianity by the yard and live it by the inch." He was referring not to the way to heaven which is perfectly prepared and paved by the Savior, but to the outward showing of our fellowship with that Savior. Such fellowship, John has again told us, shows in walking in the Savior's steps. True, this side of heaven the feet are feeble and the stride is woefully short, but the Christian strives to at least stumble after his Lord. What did our steps look like again this past week? What did they say about our fellowship with God?

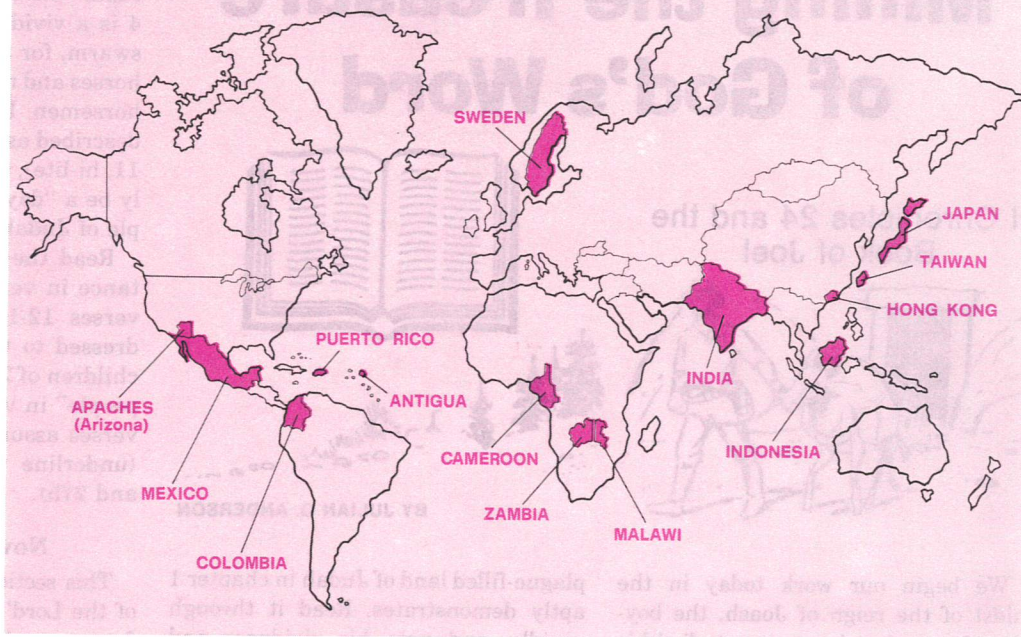
Here's also an encouragement for us. No fellowship with God can exist apart from the Word. Only the Gospel message can reach down to us, cleanse us from sin, and empower us for service — only that Gospel in Word and Sacrament. Advent urges us again as John does in our verses: "To the Word!"

Richard E. Lauersdorf

News  
from  
Pastor  
James P.  
Schaefer,  
Stewardship  
Counselor

## WORLD MISSION STATIONS

OF THE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD



## AND THEN THERE WERE FIVE

In a world where good news — any good news — is hard to come by, how would you like to hear some?

At its October 21 meeting, the Coordinating Council funded five of the ten missionaries authorized by the 1977 convention and gave preliminary approval to the funding of the remaining five.

This action means that the Board for World Missions is authorized to start calling the five missionaries immediately (everyone the board requested for this fiscal year). Two will be called for Indonesia. This will complete the three-man team for that country. Pastor Howard H. Festerling, a spring graduate from the Seminary, has already been ordained and commissioned for Indonesia.

### Indonesia — Malawi Japan — Colombia

One will be called to Malawi to begin the Bible Institute planned there. The fourth missionary will be called to Japan to work in the Tochigi prefecture, and the fifth man will be called to Medellin, Colombia, to strengthen our prospering mission in South America.

At the same meeting the Coordinating Council funded the Secretary of Home Missions, a new position author-

ized by the convention. Four professorships were also funded: one for Northwestern Preparatory School, Watertown, Wisconsin, and three for Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota. The latter three involve a conversion of three already funded instructorships to professorships.

### Full Financial Impact in 1978

The Coordinating Council was able to fund the positions and still maintain a balanced budget because of a fiscal year-end (6/30/77) balance. Since the calling schedule of the various boards involved is staggered, the full financial impact of the 10 positions will not be felt until the beginning of the next fiscal year (7/1/78). At that time the 10 positions for the full fiscal year will add \$191,000 to the adopted budget.

By giving its preliminary approval to calling the remaining five world missionaries, the Coordinating Council was indicating its priorities for the next fiscal year. If congregational subscriptions warrant it, the calling of the last five missionaries will add another \$123,000 to the budget of the next fiscal year.

In pre-convention planning for the

next fiscal year, the Coordinating Council estimated that congregational subscriptions would increase by 5 per cent in 1978 over 1977. By adding these 10 positions and giving preliminary approval to the remaining five world missionaries, the Council must project an 8.5 per cent increase in 1978 instead of a 5 per cent increase.

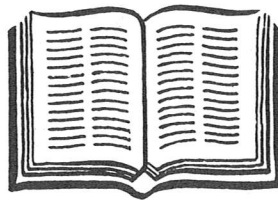
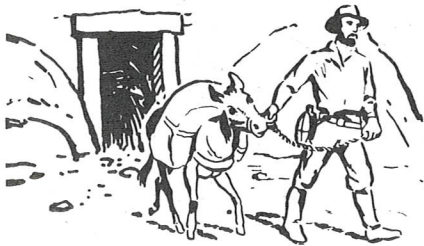
In giving his approval to the action of the Council, a member of the Board of Trustees called this "an act of faith in our congregations." Precisely so! The confidence was expressed by the Council that, recognizing the great opportunities in our world mission fields, our congregations would respond generously and sacrificially to these opportunities.

### Faith in Our Congregations

Can we do it? When the average communicant of the Synod is giving 50 cents a week for the Synod's ministry, the question sounds almost facetious. Will we do it? Here the vision blurs. It's simply a matter of priorities. How important is it to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with all people in God's world on the basis of the Holy Scriptures? Only God's saints in the Synod can answer that one.

# Mining the Treasure of God's Word

## II Chronicles 24 and the Book of Joel



BY JULIAN G. ANDERSON

We begin our work today in the midst of the reign of Joash, the boy-king. In our last lesson we studied his early years, when the real ruler was Jehoiada, the head priest, who brought about a reformation. To review all this briefly reread the last lesson. Then take up the story at

### II Chronicles 24:17-19

Note who sought an audience with the king after Jehoiada's death and what happened as a result (verse 18a, underline down to "idols"). Then note that God took the usual two actions that we have noted many times before (verses 18b and 19a-b, underline). And then mark the response of the people (verse 19c, underline), which shows how greatly the leadership of the noble families affected the behavior of the people.

The punishment God sent on Judah and Jerusalem (verse 18b), together with His action described in verse 19a, seem to point very clearly to the Prophet Joel, and therefore we shall turn our attention to

### Joel, Chapter 1

The Book of Joel is an excellent reminder that the "minor" Prophets were not men of less ability or importance than the "major" Prophets. The only difference is that we have far less of their recorded messages. In Joel's case we have only three pages, but in those few pages we meet a truly great Prophet. His language is picturesque and powerful, as his description of the

plague-filled land of Judah in chapter 1 aptly demonstrates. Read it through rapidly, and note his vividness and power.

Verses 2-4 can well refer to II Chronicles 24:18,19, as noted above (underline verse 4). This was the punishment God sent on His rebellious people — a fourfold plague of insects whose numbers were so large that they were spoken of as a "nation" (verse 6). The striking thing about them was their teeth (verse 6b), with which they devoured everything in their path. Note the vivid description of the land in verses 8-12, and hi-lite the adjectives *wasted*, *dried up*, *perished*, and *withered*. God's call for repentance is given in verse 14.

Now read verses 15-20, and hi-lite the phrase, "the day of the Lord" (verse 15) and the noun "destruction," which describes its affects on the unbelieving world, and the words "devoured" and "burned" in verse 19. This is a very important section for the proper understanding of the Prophets and the phrase "the day of the Lord," for it shows us that "the day of the Lord" is viewed as a day of judgment (destruction for the unbelievers), and that it was sometimes used of *present* events (in this case, the insect plague).

### Next Read 2:1-27

Verses 1-11 picture a *future* "day of the Lord" (verse 1), which was coming soon, and would be worse than the present plague, namely, another plague of locusts so great as to darken the sky (verse 2). As you read verse 3,

remember that the Romans called locusts "the burners of the land." Verse 4 is a vivid description of the locust swarm, for as they fly, they look like horses and move straight forward like horsemen. Here notice that they are described as "the Lord's army" (verse 11, hi-lite), and their coming will truly be a "day of the Lord" for the people of Judah.

Read the Lord's appeal for repentance in verses 12-17, and underline verses 12-14. Verses 21-27 are addressed to the believers, called "the children of Zion" in verse 23 and "My people" in verses 26b and 27b. These verses assure them of God's promise (underline verse 25 and verses 26b and 27b).

### Now Read 2:28-3:21

This section speaks of another "day of the Lord" (2:31) in the still distant future, specifically the days of the Messiah's kingdom to be ushered in by the birth of the Savior and to continue to the end of the world. The phrase "in those days" (3:1) is a regular prophetic formula for this last period in the world's history, in which we are now living. Chapter 2:28 is a prophecy which was fulfilled on Pentecost (Acts 2), in the early days of this period. Chapter 3:1 speaks of the work of the Church in this Gospel Age, and verse 2 speaks of the final judgment at the end (underline both verses 1 and 2).

Chapter 3:9-13 is an especially powerful passage, giving God's call to all the nations to prepare themselves for the final judgment. Verses 14 and 15 give one of the most vivid descriptions in Scripture of the final judgment and the end of the world preceding it. The thrice-repeated prophecy in 2:10, 2:31, and 3:15 is quoted in Matthew 24:29 and Acts 2:20. Chapter 3:16b,17 and verses 20 and 21 are beautiful passages, speaking of the final glory of God's people in the new Jerusalem (underline). The fountain spoken of in verse 18b is a prophecy of the living waters that Jesus gives us (John 4:10-14 and 7:37,38).

And now you can finish your work by reading II Chronicles 24:20-27, which give the details of the last years of Joash's reign, which were filled with evil, indicating that the people of Judah unfortunately paid no attention to the Prophet Joel.

A two-day workshop on the theme "Instructional Leadership" was held on Friday and Saturday, September 30 and October 1, 1977, at the Green Lake Center, Green Lake, Wisconsin. Total attendance at the workshop numbered 35 persons.

The purpose of the workshop was to help principals become more effective leaders in their respective congregations, expand their understanding of their role as principal, and to encourage leadership in curriculum activities within their own school setting.

The workshop, sponsored by and planned especially for the Lutheran principals of the Milwaukee area, was coordinated by Richard Scharf, Elementary-School Coordinator for the Wisconsin Lutheran High School Conference.

Workshop sessions began at 10:00 A.M., were interrupted only by short lunch and dinner breaks, and continued till 8:30 P.M. on Friday. On Saturday sessions began at 8:45 A.M. and continued to 3:00 P.M. Session topics included "Focus on Leadership," "The Emerging Role of the Principal," "Leadership in Action," "The Principal's Role in Staff Development," and "Leadership Responsibility — Approaches to Curriculum Study." Leaders of the workshop were Elmer Baacke, principal of Jordan Lutheran

## Instructional Leadership Seminar



Enjoying the Lectures

School, West Allis; Ray Dusseau, principal of Atonement Lutheran School, Milwaukee; Professors John Isch and Arthur Schulz of Dr. Martin Luther College; and Richard Scharf. The leaders varied their presentation techniques by incorporating a lecture, a filmstrip, role playing, brainstorming, situation analysis, decision-making exercises, and group discussions. They

succeeded in maintaining a high level of interest throughout.

Devotional leaders were LeDell Plath, Secretary of Schools of the Board for Parish Education; Daniel Gartner, principal of St. Marcus Lutheran School, Milwaukee; and Prof. Arthur Schulz of Dr. Martin Luther College.

R. C. Scharf

## First Anniversary Celebration at 85

### Elkton, Michigan

For the first time in the 85 years of its existence, Trinity Church of Elkton, Michigan, gathered to observe an anniversary. The day was July 10, 1977. The 85th anniversary was combined with the dedication of its newly restructured and refurbished church building.

The congregation's beginnings go back to September 23, 1892, when Pastor W. Schumacher of Kilmanagh conducted the first service. By the third service, conducted on December 27, the congregation was ready to organize. Pastor Schumacher served the congregation for the next 12 years, traveling the 26-mile round trip in horse-drawn vehicles. The congregation was served by pastors of the Missouri Synod until 1929 and has since been served by the Wisconsin Synod. In all, 18 pastors

have served Trinity. Present pastor is the Rev. Gerhard Struck, who came to Trinity in January, 1968. Trinity numbers 200 souls.

The newly renovated building was originally erected in 1910 and enlarged in 1953. In the present renovation, one wall of the church was removed and a new wall erected 12 feet to the north. The rest of the building was retained as is, except that the roof-line of the entire building was restructured to achieve a cathedral-type ceiling. The seating capacity was increased by 40.

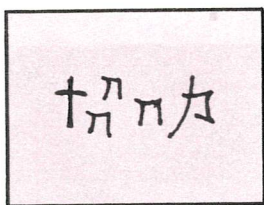
The outside walls are surfaced with white aluminum siding. The steeple is of fiber glass. The inside walls are covered with Candlelight Birch paneling. New windows portray Holy Baptism, Holy Communion, Marriage, the Resurrection, the Open Bible, and the Epi-

phany. All furnishings in the church also are new.

Cost of the project was \$55,000 in cash, plus a large amount of donated labor and materials. Funds were provided through a loan from LACE.

The presence of three former pastors added to the joy of the anniversary and dedication. Prof. M. Toepel of Michigan Lutheran Seminary, the first resident pastor (1941-45), was guest speaker in the morning service. Prof. R. Krueger of Dr. Martin Luther College addressed the worshipers in the afternoon service. He was pastor of Trinity from 1962 to 1965. Pastor E. Leyrer of Millville, Minnesota, who served Trinity from 1954 to 1960, served as liturgist in both services.

For a festive, memorable day, which impressed God's abiding grace upon all, the members of Trinity offer humble and joyful thanks.



# JESU TO TOMO NI AYUMI JIKAN

*(Together With Jesus Walking Time)*

A recent magazine article brought an interesting explanation of the *kanji* pictured above. As you may know, the Japanese *kanji* are not alphabetical letters but rather pictorial representations of the message being conveyed. The above *kanji* is pronounced "ky-or-yo-ku" and its meaning is cooperation. The first part of this character, the cross and the three figures that follow it, shows three men combining their efforts motivated by the Cross of Christ. The last, larger character means power.

This *kanji* describes almost perfectly how your radio program in Japan, *JESU TO TOMO NI AYUMU JIKAN*, operated throughout the last year. It has simply been a story of cooperation, cooperation of the radio committee with the entire *Lutheran Evangelical Christian Church* of Japan, the pastors writing and recording the sermons for the broadcast and our fellow Christians in Japan and in America providing the prayers and funds to sustain it.

Cooperation motivated by the Cross has made this broadcast one of the most effective means of taking the first steps to bring the Gospel to our fellowmen. The Lord has placed into our hands through the radio one of the least expensive means of sharing the Word of Life. In Ibaraki Ken (state) we broadcast on two stations with a listener potential of 823,200 per month. The cost is 91,000 yen per month, or \$305.33. In Tochigi Ken we broadcast on three radio stations at about the same cost. *JESU TO TOMO NI AYUMU JIKAN* goes on the air every Sunday for 15 minutes at 8:30 A.M. and is rebroadcast the same evening at 10:00.

In breaking down this cost, we arrive at a cost of one-tenth of a yen or \$.00037 per man per minute. For 150 yen, or 50 cents, we can reach a potential of 341 people. This makes our radio broadcast in Japan a tremendous bargain for our Gospel outreach. For this let each one of us thank God and pray that it may continue that way.



*The Japan Radio Committee  
Oshino Sensei, Habben Sensei, Iimura San*

Using the radio is also an effective means for reaching people in their homes, where they sit in darkness without Christ. This becomes evident from the questions on the 384 cards which we received from our listeners last year.

A Mito high-school girl wrote, "May anyone who wants to come to your church?" A young man from Gifu asked, "Who wrote the Bible? Is the Bible really necessary for living? What is the true teaching of Christianity?"

Through your cooperation, either through prayer or a gift, you also have helped to bring to these and many others the true teaching of Jesus Christ, the living Lord and Savior.

On behalf of the entire *Lutheran Evangelical Christian Church* of Japan we thank each of those who have helped to make our radio work a success, here in Japan and there in America. Especially are we mindful of the help we have received from several of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society groups and circuits.

Your Radio Committee in Japan again asks your cooperation for the coming season to help us carry out this vital function in your name and especially in the name of our Savior. Your voices through our agency must have sounded very lovely to the man who recently wrote in, "Why are we saved if we believe in Jesus?" We are privileged to be your spokesmen, humbly to carry out what the Lord Jesus has asked us both to do for Him in all the world. There will be a day when He will also show us the heavenly harvest in the souls He has rescued by means of our mutual witness. This will bring inexpressible joy to all of us as another worthwhile fruit of our *JESU TO TOMO NI AYUMU JIKAN*, our

*TOGETHER WITH JESU  
WALKING TIME!*

Respectfully submitted by  
Your radio committee,  
Oshino Sensei, Chairman  
Iimura San, Secretary  
Habben Sensei



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# 18 New WELS Schools in 1977

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Our Savior Lutheran School  
Longmont, Colorado  
Immanuel Lutheran School  
Appleton, Wisconsin  
Beautiful Savior Lutheran School  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
St. Peter Lutheran School  
Schofield, Wisconsin  
Christ the King Lutheran School  
Palatine, Illinois  
St. Mark's Lutheran School  
Mankato, Minnesota  
Our Savior Lutheran School  
East Brunswick, New Jersey  
St. Paul Lutheran School  
East Troy, Wisconsin  
Peace Lutheran School  
Holiday, Florida

Star of Bethlehem Lutheran School  
New Berlin, Wisconsin  
Cross of Christ Lutheran School  
Coon Rapids, Minnesota  
Living Word Lutheran School  
Mission Viejo, California  
Good Shepherd Lutheran School  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
Peace Lutheran School  
Santa Clara, California  
First Lutheran School  
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin  
Christ Lutheran School  
Zumbrota, Minnesota  
Good Shepherd Lutheran School  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
Gloria Dei Lutheran School  
Sierra Madre, California

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## Three New Classrooms, Not Only One!

*New Berlin, Wisconsin  
Star of Bethlehem*



Three and forty-two

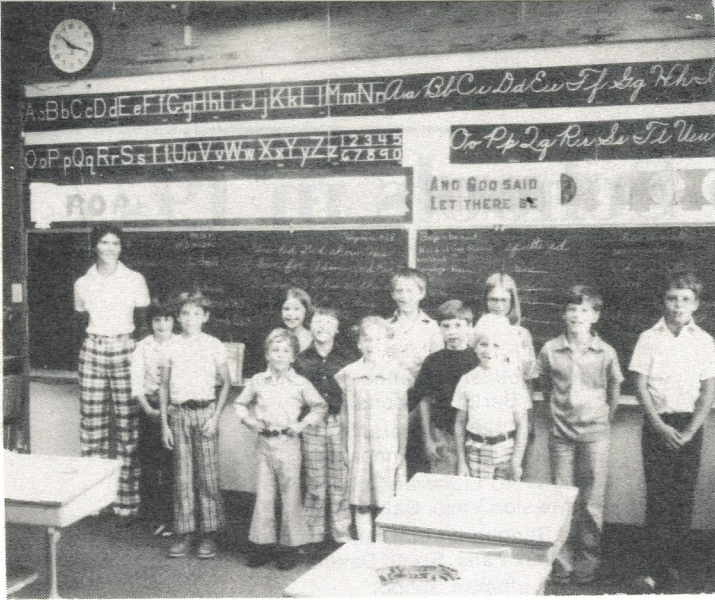
There was a special cause of rejoicing when Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church celebrated its 10th anniversary on September 25, 1977. Not only had the congregation grown from a handful of dedicated people to a communicant strength of 270, but September 1977 also marked the opening of the congregation's own Christian day school.

A move to open a school in 1972 did not materialize at the time. But with the dedication of a 1080-square-foot addition for educational purposes in June 1976, the congregation could take positive steps toward planning for a school. In the meantime, Star of Bethlehem had been sending its children to Woodlawn Lutheran in West Allis.

In the voters' meeting on October 19, 1977, the congregation voted to start a school in the fall of 1977 and to begin with one teacher and all eight grades and kindergarten. "The Lord must have laughed at our shortsightedness," reports Pastor Ronald E. Baerbock. "We had planned on 15 pupils and one teacher, but we ended up with 42 pupils and three teachers. It was either closing our doors to further enrollment, and thus defeating our purpose, or proceeding to call two additional teachers. We decided to do the latter."

Principal of the school and teacher of grades 4-8 is Mr. Michael Wiechmann, formerly of Tempe, Arizona. Miss Suzanne Kuhl accepted the call to teach grades 1-3. Mrs. Karen Baerbock, wife of the pastor, was also called to teach kindergarten.

September 6, 1977, was opening day. Forty-two pupils came to receive what the school's handbook puts in these words: "Religion, therefore, is not a separate and/or extra subject that is merely taught in addition to the secular subjects, but rather, the Word of God permeates and motivates all teaching, learning, and activities in Star of Bethlehem."



**Miss Reklau and her class**

better way to use the building than to give daily instruction there in God's Word.

But many obstacles had to be overcome. The state of Ohio, for example, requires a minimum enrollment of 25 students for every two grades, something that would have been impossible for a mission congregation. The Synod's Board for Parish Education helped the congregation overcome that hurdle. A Bible-based examination of the congregation's performance in the areas of stewardship and evangelism led to a renewed commitment on the part of the members, so that the mission board could grant the congregation's request with confidence. The congregation then extended a call to Miss Helen Reklau, who accepted.

## A Spark of Hope Became A Flame

*Cincinnati, Ohio  
Beautiful Savior*

When the faithful few who organized Beautiful Savior Congregation in 1971 gathered for worship in a public school gym, the possibility of establishing a Christian day school seemed very remote. They were an infant church. The nearest WELS sister congregation was 70 miles away and the nearest WELS school more than 100 miles.

When the congregation began its building program, a plot of land was purchased large enough to permit considerable expansion. The architectural plan included a fellowship wing which was ultimately transformed into a classroom. The worship facility and multipurpose wing were dedicated in June, 1974. The thought was immediately expressed that there would be no

With its immediate problems solved, Beautiful Savior Lutheran School opened its doors to 13 students in grades 1-5 on the morning of September 1, 1977. The opening was preceded by many man- and woman-hours of work that represented the conviction that there is no more worthy heritage than our children. We know God will continue to be good to us. Pastor of the congregation is the Rev. D. Koelpin.

## A New Garden in the Garden State

*East Brunswick, New Jersey  
Our Savior's*

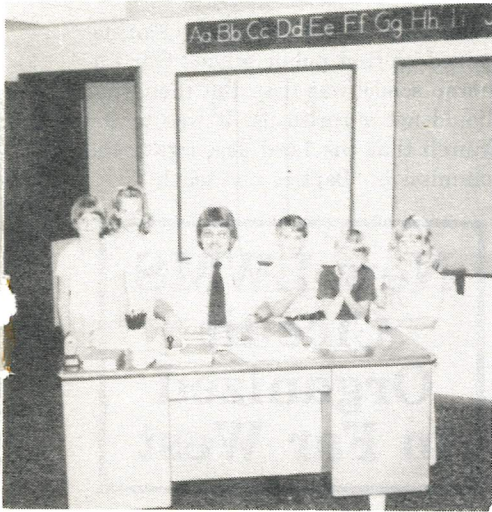
New Jersey bears the nickname, the Garden State, because of its many truck farms, orchards, and flower gardens. This past September a new kind of garden was opened in East Brunswick — not a garden of green plants, but of growing children. The water and the sunshine they receive in this garden is God's Word.

Planning for such a garden entails a good deal of hard work and prayer. In 1975 a committee, appointed by the congregation, polled other WELS schools on the East coast, developed cost figures, and investigated state and local regulations. It then transmitted the information to the members in a number of cottage meetings. In December of 1976 the congregation voted to open a school in the fall of 1977 offering all eight grades. When the District



**Yes, it's worth the cost!**

## A Family Affair



Teacher James Kuchenbecker and his pupils

## Teach Them All Things!

Mission Board and the General Board for Home Missions gave their approval, the garden began to take shape. Members donated much of the labor needed to convert the congregation's spacious fellowship hall into a classroom.

Eleven students in grades 1-7 now regard Our Savior's as their school and Miss Susan Bell as their teacher. Pastor James W. Tauscher assists Miss Bell by teaching catechism and Bible history in grades 5-7.

Our Savior's Lutheran School involves sacrifices for many. Students had to leave friends behind in other schools. Two families drive 50 miles per day to transport their children. Every day of the week a different mother comes in to supervise the noon lunch hour and assist individual students in their reading and math skills. The father of one of the students comes each day after school and cleans the classroom. The school means additional work and additional financial responsibilities for all members. But the new garden is well worth the cost!

## Cedar Rapids, Iowa — Good Shepherd

"All we need now is a Christian day school," a member of Good Shepherd Congregation remarked as he left the new three-classroom addition when it was completed in the fall of 1975. To him the use of the fully carpeted, soundproof classrooms for only one hour per week seemed like "burying the talents in the backyard."

To give focus to the question of a Christian day school, the congregation in 1976 held slide presentations, distributed informative literature, and sent out questionnaires. Only a few of the latter were returned, but these few overwhelmingly favored the establishment of a school. Winter brought returns for those that had remained silent. This was followed by cottage meetings in the homes of members, giving Pastor Robert D. Bushaw and the members of the Board of Education an opportunity to answer individual questions. Discussions always emphasized that the congregation as a family

of God is responsible for all the children of Good Shepherd and for those others who might come to hear the Gospel.

In March of 1977 the congregation voted to seek God's grace and guidance to open a Christian day school in the fall. Special meetings were held with state officials to surmount the hurdles of Iowa's unique requirements for private schools — successfully so.

On August 29, 1977, five students enrolled in grades 1-3 and their parents joined other members of Good Shepherd in worship to thank God that in one short, busy year He had answered the prayers of His family at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Teacher and principal is Mr. James Kuchenbecker, a member of the 1977 DMLC graduating class. He was installed exactly one year after the congregation had held its first formal meeting to explore the possibility of opening a Christian day school.

## Baptize and Teach!

### *Holiday, Florida Peace Lutheran*

The Lord Jesus not only said "Baptize," He also said "Teach them!" That's why the voting members of Peace Church in July 1976 authorized a committee to study the feasibility of starting a Christian day school. The following January the committee

recommended that a minister of education be called immediately and that a Christian day school be opened in the fall of 1977.

Would a congregation in the "Retirement Haven of the Nation," with over three-fourths of its members retired,



Line up, please!

## Holiday, Florida (Cont.)

accept such a recommendation? It did. It is convinced that Christian education is the work of the whole church, not just of the Christian parents within the congregation.

Peace Congregation then called Mr. Paul Jacobs and proceeded to ready the parish hall for use as a classroom. Since the building must also serve as

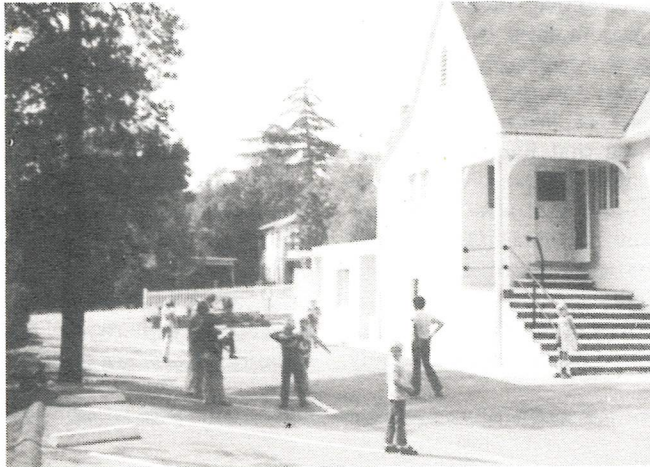
parish hall and during the winter tourist season provide space for overflow seating, everything had to be kept portable. Members and friends gave generously to provide the furnishings, including a number of anonymous donors whom we can hope to thank only through the pages of *The Northwestern Lutheran*.

Peace Lutheran School opened on August 29, 1977, with 15 pupils in

grades one through seven. Thirteen of these children are from the congregation. Prospects for the growth of the school look good, despite the retirement climate.

Later in 1977 Holiday, Florida, opened its first public school. Our Lutheran school was first. But then, that should not surprise us. It was to the Church that the Lord Jesus gave the commission, "Baptize and teach!"

## An Answer To A Concern



Sierra Madre, California  
Gloria Dei School

When a number of concerned parents drive 25 to 40 miles a day to place their children in a Christian day school, other members of a congregation as well as its church council are compelled to respond. That's true even if a congregation numbers only 75.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church began as a preaching station in 1970. At first the members met in private homes, a YMCA hall, and a lodge temple. In 1974, a year before they were organized as a congregation, the members bought an existing church building in Sierra Madre, California. In doing so, they not only had a church available for worship services, but also an attached room which could be converted into a classroom.

The first obstacle the congregation had to overcome after its organization was to convince the mission board that there was indeed a need for a congregation so small to begin its own school

and then that it was financially able to do so. This accomplished, the members remodeled the existing schoolroom, purchased equipment, ordered educational materials, and formulated policies and regulations. A great deal of the school equipment was donated.

Called as principal and teacher, Mr. Gary D. Gray, a 1977 graduate of DMLC, arrived in July and took an active part in the final preparations for the opening of the school. He was assisted in this by the pastor, the Rev. Allen K. Schroeder, parents, and other church members. Opening day, September 12, found 12 pupils (grades two to seven) ready to receive instruction in their Christian day school.

The parents and members of Gloria Dei Church are very thankful to the Lord for so guiding matters that they were able to open a Christian school for their children. Their prayers were answered.

To Be Continued

## New LWMS Circuit Organized in Far West

A bright Saturday morning in October in Vancouver, Washington, was made even brighter as 34 ladies from seven Washington and Oregon congregations gathered at Peace Lutheran Church to establish a circuit of LWMS groups in the Far West.

Pastor Warren Widman, vacancy pastor at Peace Congregation, led the opening devotion and served as temporary pastoral advisor. Miss Jackie Ensted, teacher at Grace Congregation, Portland, served as temporary secretary to record the founding of the new circuit.

### Named "Cascade"

When the vote was taken, the unanimous response was to become the "Cascade" Circuit. During the lunch break, the nominating committee went into action. Officers were elected: Alana Wood, president, Salem, Oregon; Anna Salzwedel, vice-president, Hillsboro, Oregon; Carol Mills, secretary, Vancouver, Washington; Emmy Baer, treasurer, Portland, Oregon; and Errol W. Carlson, pastoral advisor, Salem, Oregon.

The meeting was closed with a devotion by Pastor Darryl Bruemmer of Tigard, Oregon.

### Rally Planned

The newly elected officers immediately set about planning the spring rally which will be hosted by Immanuel Congregation, Salem, Oregon.

# *Looking at the Religious World*

## *information and insight*

### **Seminary Substitutes**

What does a church body do about clergy training when it has no seminary on which to rely? This problem, which plagued many church bodies in our land in their infancy a century ago, was the focus of attention at the summer convention of the Presbyterian Church in America.

The PCA was formed in 1973 by some 62,000 conservative Presbyterians who withdrew from the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (Southern). Lacking its own seminary, the PCA has developed a unique approach to ministerial training revolving around several options as to how the required four years are spent.

Those studying for the ministry have these choices: three years in an established seminary plus one year under a pastor's tutelage; two years in a seminary plus two years under a pastor's tutelage; two years under a pastor's tutelage studying academic subjects, followed by two years concentrating on practical subjects.

The PCA "approves" of four seminaries for its prospective pastors, Westminster, Covenant, Reformed of Jackson, and Reformed Presbyterian of Pittsburgh. The emphasis in its training plan, however, is working under an experienced pastor. The third option actually enables the ministerial student to avoid a seminary altogether.

As is evident, a church body that is serious about its doctrinal commitment and that has no seminary under its direct control will have problems to solve. The satisfactory solution is for such a church body to establish its own seminary and then control it carefully.

### **Oberammergau Rewrite**

Charges of anti-Semitism have prompted a rewriting of the text for the world-renowned Oberammergau Passion Play, which will next be given in 1980. First performed in 1633 after the German village was spared from a

plague, the Passion Play has been utilizing a text written in 1750 and revised in 1860.

The 1980 text puts the blame for the crucifixion of Jesus on the sins of mankind rather than on the Jews specifically, as did the previous version. Actually the Bible clearly indicates that there is blame enough for all, for mankind and for the Jews and for you and me.

While the Oberammergau Town Council was making its decisions, here in this land the Executive Committee of the Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship was acting on a similar problem in a similar way. At the request of two of the church bodies represented, the ILCW voted to delete from the Good Friday liturgy in the new Lutheran Book of Worship the "Reproaches."

In the "Reproaches" Christ laments the faithlessness of His people. The formulation was viewed as anti-Semitic by some and was consequently dropped.

A Christian will not approve of anti-Semitism in any form. He will, however, hope that such rewriting of play and liturgical texts is not prompted by or will not be productive of doubts about the verity of the Bible text.

### **Lutheran Losses Limited**

Membership statistics of all Lutheran groupings for the past year indicate that the downward trend of recent years may have been reversed. A slight increase of .74 of one per cent in baptized membership, up to 8,997,022, was registered in 1976.

How much of an effect the "dual membership" of many congregations in the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches, the breakaways from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, has on these statistics is impossible to ascertain with precision. It is to be hoped that this effect is not enough to change the plus reading to one of the minus variety.

In these statistics our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod stands at 400,201 baptized members. This puts us a distant fourth to the Lutheran Church in America, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and the American Lutheran Church who average almost 3,000,000 baptized members.

### **Lutheran Giving**

The 9,000,000 North American Lutherans contributed a total of \$1,001,481,170 for church purposes in 1976. The communicant average was just over \$150, with \$25 of this going for "work-at-large" or missions, to use familiar terminology.

Communicant averages in our Synod were \$176.57 in the all-purpose category and \$37.80 in the "work-at-large" category. Two Lutheran bodies topped the \$200 per communicant average, the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches with almost \$224 and the Church of the Lutheran Confessions with \$207.

The three large Lutheran synods were close to the average in both columns, with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod slightly above and the Lutheran Church in America and the American Lutheran Church slightly below the average figures.

The beginning of a new church year is a good time for us all to review our own personal share in such statistics and to make the appropriate adjustments.

### **Methodist Malaise and Medicine**

The new president of the Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church, Paul Milhouse, reacted recently to the denomination's ills with prescriptions that sound strange coming from a modern churchman but are based on sound diagnosis and offer some hope for relief. What Methodism needs, says Milhouse, is less social action and more evangelism.

To recognize that church's ailments does not require the expert insider's eye. Membership losses in a decade number over a million. Youth enrollment went down 25 per cent in five years. Methodist colleges and publications are hurting financially and in

(Turn to next page)

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## The Church's Unsung Heroes

### *Sunday-School Teachers*

"What would you like to be when you grow up?" The question was asked after the family had seen a stirring television program about a poor boy who had become a famous doctor. The question activated the imaginations of the five children.

"I want to be a doctor, too," said Jean, "because there aren't enough women doctors."

"I'd like to be an architect who dreams up those fancy buildings you see in big cities," was Richard's thought.

"Jet plane pilot—that's for me!" shouted Jimmy.

"You all know," asserted Karl very seriously, "that I've always wanted to be a missionary. I haven't changed my wish."

"Banker. I want to be a banker so that I can count money," exclaimed little Emily. At that everyone laughed; she was the most penny-pinching member of the family.

"Those are all very honest and useful occupations," commented the father of the family. "You will have to work hard to prepare for those vocations. And as Christians you would not have to be ashamed of them. But have you given any thought to your avocation?"

#### **A Spiritual Avocation**

"Avocation! What's that?" wondered Rich. "Some kind of fruit?" There was a twinkle in his eye.

With a smile the father said, "An avocation is a special interest you have outside your regular vocation. Perhaps you can't all be missionaries, pastors, or teachers. But I hope and pray that you will all have at least one avocation that serves the Lord in His Church."

That set the five youngsters off again. One thought he could be president of the congregation some day. His

mother reminded him that one really ought to start out with a lower position. Another thought of serving in some capacity in the women's organization. Another mentioned playing on the church softball team. That sent the father off on a tangent. It was one of his pet peeves that some church members consider it to be serving the Lord when they are really just playing games or visiting with friends. Another of the children said: "I could be a Sunday-school teacher."

"Sunday-school teacher?! You've got to be kidding!" was the reaction of the other children. But she was not kidding. In fact, she had chosen an excellent avocation. Very few of the jobs in the church that are open to lay people are as highly spiritual as teaching Sunday school. The Sunday-school teacher works directly with the Word of God.

#### **Being A Sunday-School Teacher Is Important**

The Sunday-school teacher often has the blessed opportunity to introduce an unchurched child to the love of Jesus. He or she gets to acquaint children with the God of heaven who made the world and all things. He or she can tell about the great plan of salvation in which God, with the greatest loyalty to His people, kept His promises and sent the Redeemer whom He had promised. He or she can lead teen-agers in Bible-centered discussions regarding the countless questions of life that they face. He or she can share with others the exciting discoveries of God's eternal truths.

True, being a Sunday-school teacher doesn't always appear that glamorous. Some children are unruly, some parents are ungrateful, and few churches are good at publicly remembering their Sunday-school teachers and thanking them for their services.

But none of that diminishes the importance of the Sunday-school teacher. Though humans may forget, the Lord does not. He knows by name every man and woman who quietly and humbly serves in His Sunday schools.

Let us take this opportunity to give encouragement to all who are serving as Sunday-school teachers in our congregations. Keep serving faithfully at your posts! Don't become slack in your preparations! Please don't give up your important work because so many of us fail to notice or show our gratitude!

Thomas B. Franzmann

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### **Religious World (Cont.)**

some cases are dying or already dead.

Milhouse feels that the church's national headquarters has failed to keep its finger on the grassroots pulse and has overindulged in social action. Calling for a return to the primary job of evangelism, he urges: "We're unique—the only institution which makes Christians. A church fully committed to social service loses the heart of its motivation."

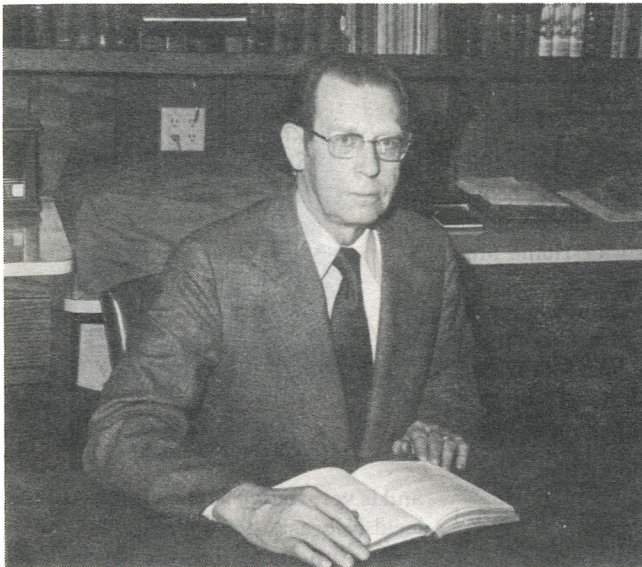
#### **Episcopal Division**

The three-million-member Episcopal Church in the U.S., which has escaped division for over a century since the Reformed Episcopal Church went its separate way in 1870, may suffer a formal split sometime next year. At a recent meeting in St. Louis some 1,750 dissatisfied members of the body began to lay plans to establish the Anglican Church in North America.

The issue is, so say the dissidents, traditional Anglicanism, which they claim is being cast aside by major decisions of recent conventions. Storm centers are ordination of women and the new prayer book. Unfortunately little attention has been given to Scripture teaching and much more to Anglican traditions.

This is demonstrated, for instance, by the fact that one reason for holding back the formal establishment of the new church body is the desire to enlist the support of three bishops. Thereby official requirements would be fulfilled for consecration of new bishops and claims could be made that the ties to the See of Canterbury are not broken.

E. C. Fredrich



Prof. Carleton Toppe

## President of Northwestern College Observes 40th Anniversary in Ministry

When a man has served in the public ministry for 40 years, that is surely a significant milestone, though not an altogether unusual one. When a man has served in one place for 30 years of that ministry, that, too, is a significant milestone — though, again, not altogether unusual. But when it can be said that a man has served the Savior and the Synod for nearly two decades in a position that has known only two predecessors in more than a hundred years, that's something a little bit out of the ordinary.

Such is the case with Prof. Carleton Toppe, president of Northwestern College, who observed the 40th anniversary of his ordination on October 9, 1977, in the chapel of the school he has served so well for so long. Only three men have served in the presidency of Northwestern College since 1872. They are Dr. August Ernst, 1872-1919, Prof. Erwin E. Kowalke, 1919-1959, and Professor Toppe, 1959 to the present.

In the anniversary service, Professor Toppe's longtime friend and classmate, Pastor Reginald Siegler, of Bangor, Wisconsin, preached the sermon on Isaiah 52:7: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of

good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" Another friend and classmate, Pastor Harold Wicke, editor of *The Northwestern Lutheran*, served as liturgist. The Northwestern College Male Chorus sang selections under the direction of Dr. A. O. Lehmann.

Professor Toppe was born on May 3, 1914, in the Town of Waterloo, Wisconsin, not far from Watertown. He was baptized and confirmed at St. John's Church on Newville Road. In 1926 he entered Northwestern Preparatory School and received his diploma from Northwestern College with the class of 1934. Three years later he was graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary as a candidate for the ministry.

His first call was an assignment as assistant to the Pastor Leonard Koeninger, Sr., at First German Lutheran Church in Manitowoc. It was there that he was ordained in September, 1937, with Pastor Koeninger officiating.

After spending two years in Manitowoc, Professor Toppe was called to a double parish near Bloomer, Wisconsin, where he served the congregations at Auburn and Brush Prairie. Four years later, he accepted a call to another double parish, the congregations at Elmwood and Ellsworth. After serving

this parish for five years, the call reached him that brought him to Northwestern.

He took up his work at Northwestern in September 1948 and his first years at the school were spent teaching Latin and English, for a time in the preparatory school and later in the college. During these years he also did graduate work at the University of Wisconsin, earning an M.A. in English. At the same time, he served Northwestern as Registrar. In 1959 he was elected to the presidency of Northwestern and since that time has been teaching courses in New Testament exegesis and the Lutheran Confessions.

On June 25, 1941, he was united in marriage with Violet Pleuss of Manitowoc. Again, Pastor Koeninger was the officiant. The Toppes are the parents of four children. They are Marilyn, Mrs. David Cole, Coon Rapids, Minnesota; Pastor Frederick Toppe, Kimberly, Wisconsin; Lois, Mrs. James Oblinger, Maribel, Wisconsin; and Karla, Milwaukee.

Professor Toppe's 18-year tenure as president of Northwestern has witnessed many blessings on the school. The years have been tranquil, yet productive. They have produced large improvements in the facilities and, best of all, a more than 100 per cent increase in the enrollment of Northwestern College.

In addition to his work in the parish and at Northwestern, Professor Toppe has given generously of his services to our Synod. For 14 years he served as a member of our Synod's Board for Parish Education. He was also involved in the work of the Catechism and Sunday School Review Committee. As president of Northwestern he became a member of the Synod's Advisory Committee on Education, a body which in 1969 was renamed the Commission on Higher Education. He still serves in that capacity.

During the last 20 years he has become well known throughout the Synod and beyond for his incisive articles as a contributing editor of *The Northwestern Lutheran*.

May the Savior grant to this humble, self-effacing, yet faithful and highly gifted servant of His many more years of service to Himself and to us.

James A. Fricke

## *Direct from the Districts*

### Michigan

#### "Missions" the Theme of Pastor Gieschen's Anniversary

On July 24, 1977, St. Stephen Congregation of Adrian, Michigan, held a service of thanksgiving honoring Pastor and Mrs. Daniel M. Gieschen. The occasion was a threefold one: Pastor Gieschen's 25th year in the ministry, his 20th year at St. Stephen's, and their 25th wedding anniversary. Speaker for the service was Pastor Norman Berg, executive secretary of the General Board for Home Missions. Using II Corinthians 5:18,19 as his text, he spoke on "The Sacred Trust Committed to Us." Liturgist was Mark Gieschen, student at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, and organist was Laurie Gieschen,



**Pastor D. Gieschen**

schen, teacher at Bay Pines Lutheran School, Seminole, Florida.

Pastor Gieschen is a 1952 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. His first assignment took him to the congregations at Clear Lake and Altamont, South Dakota. During his five years there, a realignment of parishes took place, so that he later served the Hidewood congregation instead of Altamont. In 1957 Pastor Gieschen accepted the call to St. Stephen's.

His has been a ministry active in home missions, both on the district and synodical levels. In 1954 he became a member of the Dakota-Montana Mission Board and shortly after became its chairman. In 1959 he was elected to the Michigan District Mission Board, which at the time supervised all states

south and east of Michigan. From 1960 to 1973 he was chairman of that board. In 1973 he was elected chairman of the Synod's General Board for Home Missions.

Pastor and Mrs. Gieschen were married on July 27, 1952. Mrs. Gieschen is the former Lorraine Witt of Watertown, Wisconsin. They have four children: Mark, Laurie, Cynthia, and Philip.

"Seeing we have this ministry, we faint not" (II Cor. 4:1) was the Word with which Pastor Gieschen began his ministry 25 years ago. It has guided him through years of faithful and dedicated service.

### Nebraska

#### Ladies' Anniversary

On October 2, 1977, St. John's Lutheran Ladies Aid, Stanton, Nebraska, was privileged to celebrate the 75th anniversary of its organization. It was observed with special recognition in the regular morning service and an open house in the afternoon at the day-school auditorium. Pastor Raymond F. Beckmann based his morning address on I Samuel 2:1-3 with the theme, "Sing With Hannah."

St. John's Ladies Aid was organized on October 2, 1902. Ten charter members adopted a constitution for the purpose of "furthering the welfare of church and school." After 75 years one charter member, Mrs. Ida Zander, still lives, a resident of the Stanton Nursing Home.

Membership grew from 39 in the first year to a high of 93 in 1952. Early recollections of the society include meetings at the homes of members. In addition to its afternoon meetings on the first Thursday of each month, an evening group was organized in 1975 to enable working members and those with small children to attend.

This women's organization is typical of similar groups in all of our congregations which support the church at home and at large with many worthwhile projects and activities. St. John's Ladies Aid is also a member of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society,



**Mrs. Ida Zander  
Charter Member**

and is very active in the business of the local Nebraska-Iowa circuit.

From the notes on this special day: "We offer thanks to God for 75 years of His gracious good will and guidance. Through His Word, the Holy Spirit continues to guide St. John's Ladies Aid 'in spirit and in truth.' Thus the existence of the society will remain a joy to St. John's Congregation and above all a joy to our gracious Lord. To His name belongs the honor, the praise, and the glory!"

### Northern Wisconsin

#### Dedication and Pastor's Anniversary — Oconto Falls

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Congregation of Oconto Falls, Wisconsin, was privileged to dedicate its new house of worship on Sunday, October 2. The Rev. Warren Steffenhagen, pastor of St. Paul's, read the rite of dedication. Pastor David Worgull of Manitowoc Lutheran High School preached on Isaiah 2:3, pointing out "The Real Purpose of a 'True House of God.'" Two sons of the congregation conducted the afternoon service. Pastor LeRoy Kaminski of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, read the liturgy and Pastor Wayne Rouse of Raymond, South Dakota, preached the sermon, expounding Revelation 3:8: "Why Did You Really Build 'This Church?'" Over 500 joined in the day's festivities.

St. Paul's of Oconto Falls was organized in September, 1950. Its first church was built in 1952. Ground was broken for the new church in June of 1976. The cornerstone was laid on October 10 and the first service held in the new church on December 12.

St. Paul's new church is a pleasing blend of traditional and contemporary





**St. Paul's, Oconto Falls, Wisconsin**

architecture. Its outside dimensions are 55 x 76. The main level features a nave seating 250, a pastor's sacristy, and a working sacristy. The narthex gives access to a mother's room and pastor's office. The lower level contains a large assembly area, 28 x 60, five classrooms, a large meeting room, a kitchen, and storage areas. The meeting room can also be divided into two classrooms. The belltower houses the 1435-lb. bell taken from the old church.

St. Paul's of Oconto Falls forms a triparish together with Our Savior of Lena and St. Mark, Town of Spruce. Pastors who have served during its 27-year history are H. Walther, W. Schmidt, A. L. Schmeling, V. Schultz, and, since 1967, W. Steffenhagen.

#### **Pastor W. Steffenhagen**

On June 26, 1977, the triparish was privileged to observe a triple anniversary, noting Pastor Steffenhagen's 25th year in the ministry, his 10th year as pastor of the triparish, and the 25th wedding anniversary of Pastor and Mrs. Steffenhagen. A special service to commemorate these anniversaries was held at St. Paul's, with the Rev. Robert Sievert of St. Croix Lutheran High School, a cousin of Mrs. Steffenhagen, as guest preacher. Pastor Sievert spoke on Philippians 2:29: "Rejoicing in the Lord on Your Pastor's Anniversary."

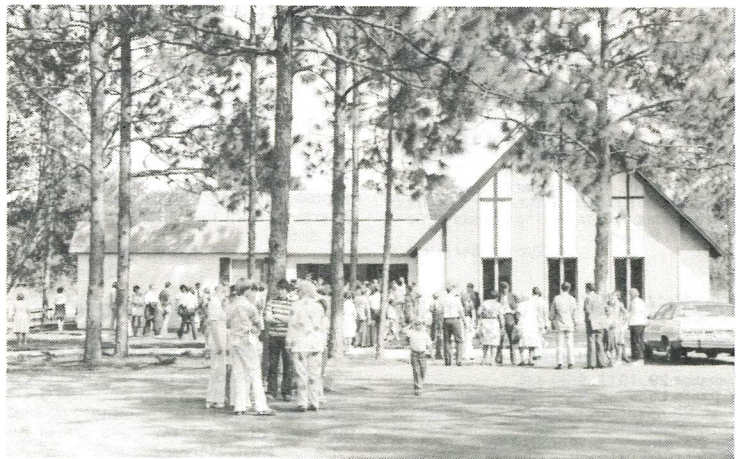
Pastor Warren Steffenhagen is a native of Hastings, Minnesota, and a graduate of Martin Luther Academy, Northwestern College, and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. He has served congregations at Moline, Illinois (1952-54); Dalton and Friesland, Wis-

consin (1954-58); Withrow, Washington (1958-62); Spokane, Washington (1962-64); Gary, South Dakota (1964-67); and the Oconto Falls-Lena-Spruce triparish for the past 10 years.

Pastor and Mrs. Steffenhagen, the former Mavis Sievert, were married June, 1952. They have four children: Martin, Deborah (Mrs. Roger Kane), Cynthia, and Catherine.

#### **Organ Dedication at St. John's, Two Rivers**

On June 19, 1977, the members of St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church of Two Rivers dedicated a new 16-rank pipe organ to the glory of God and the service of His kingdom. The organ was designed by Prof. Edward Meyer of the music department of Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota, and built by the Schantz Organ Company of Orrville, Ohio.



**Dedication at Beverly Hills, Florida**

## **South Atlantic**

### **Beverly Hills, Florida**

"This House of God!—Who Needs It?" With this as his theme, Pastor Mark Goeglein addressed the nearly 250 people who had come for the dedication of the new church and parish hall at Beverly Hills, Florida, on Sunday, September 18, 1977. Preaching on Acts 17:22-31, the guest speaker witnessed to the fact that the new church was not built to satisfy a need of the Almighty God, but rather to fill the needs of God's people. It was also built because the community needs it, for it stands as a token that God has revealed Himself to mankind in Jesus Christ.

The new church is the culmination of 3½ years of continued blessings from the Lord. St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church began holding services in January of 1974, with Pastors Mark Goeglein and John Lawrenz conducting the Sunday afternoon services. They served this exploratory mission until the first resident pastor, Dennis Lemke, was ordained and installed in July 1974.

The new church is built in the traditional A-frame design. It has a seating capacity of about 150, with the parish-hall wing serving as overflow area. The new complex also has a kitchen, utility room, office, workroom, and several storage rooms. It was built at a cost of \$105,000.

The members of St. Paul's Congregation wish to express their sincere thanks to their fellow members in the Wisconsin Synod, who through their gifts to the Church Extension Fund made this joyous day possible.

## Memphis, Tennessee Groundbreaking Step by Step

Perhaps it is a bit unusual for a congregation to have a groundbreaking ceremony after the ground has already been broken by bulldozers and forms have been put up for the foundation, but such was the case September 18, 1977, in Memphis, Tennessee.



Happiness at Gloria Dei

After having worked towards a chapel for four years, Gloria Dei Congregation was eager to have the contractor start the building as soon as possible, even before formal groundbreaking ceremonies could be conducted. The unusual circumstance afforded Gloria Dei an opportunity to review the reasons for its existence and to focus on the Biblical directives for its work. Moving through the laid-out building from the entrance to the altar, the chairmen of the various boards and committees turned over the ground while Pastor Rodney Busch read an appropriate reminder from God's Word about the work to go on in that specific part of the future building. Pastor Busch completed the service from the altar area, reminding the congregation that the building it is to be most concerned about is built out of living stones on Jesus Christ as the foundation.

Since the congregation recently com-

pleted a parsonage, the 80 baptized members of Gloria Dei are very much aware of and thankful for the spiritual and financial support of their synodical brothers and sisters. We hope that you will rejoice with us over the construction of our chapel and pray that we may use it as an effective tool for building Christ's kingdom here in the center of the Mid-South.



More Happiness

## MINNESOTA

### REDWOOD FALLS PASTORAL CONFERENCE

**Date:** November 29, 1977; at 9:00 a.m.  
**Place:** Christ Ev. Lutheran Church, 208 West Marshall St., Marshall, Minnesota 56258.  
**Preacher:** V. Starbuck; J. Stellick, alternate.  
**Agenda:** Exegesis of I Timothy 6: 11-21: W. Ziebell; Review of Luther's *Large Catechism: Baptism*: V. Starbuck; A Survey of the Beliefs and Practices of the Smaller Lutheran Bodies in the United States: R. E. Vomhof; Conference Business.  
**Note:** Please send excuses to Pastor William Ziebell, 404 North Third St., Marshall, MN 56258.  
L. A. Hohenstein, Secretary

### MANKATO PASTORAL CONFERENCE

**Date:** December 6, 1977; 9:00 a.m. Communion service.  
**Place:** St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Jordan, Minnesota; V. Voss, host pastor.  
**Preacher:** W. Wagner; D. Begalka; alternate.  
**Agenda:** Exegesis of I Corinthians 1: R. Reimers; Fund Raising Activities in the Church in the Light of Stewardship Principles: E. Noffsinger; Casuistry.  
**Note:** Please excuse to the host pastor.  
W. Wagner, Secretary

## SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

### DODGE-WASHINGTON PASTORAL CONFERENCE

**Date:** December 6, 1977; Communion at 8:30 a.m.  
**Place:** Bethany, Hustisford, Wisconsin; E. Froehlich, host pastor.  
**Preacher:** J. Castillo (E. Froehlich, alternate).  
**Agenda:** Exegesis of I Timothy 5:22 - 6:2: E. Weiss; Funeral Practices: H. Lemke; *The Formula of Concord*, Article I: P. Kante.  
A. Zenker, Secretary

## WESTERN WISCONSIN

### SOUTHWESTERN PASTORAL CONFERENCE

**Date:** November 29, 1977; 9:30 a.m.  
**Place:** St. Paul's Lutheran, Hustler, Wisconsin.  
**Preacher:** M. Herrmann (H. Hoepfner, alternate).  
**Agenda:** I Thessalonians 1: K. Gast; The Role of the Man in the Church: L. Martin; The Sermon, Its Theme and Parts: R. Siegler; Discussion on *Youth Rallies and Councilmen's Conferences*.  
R. Kloehn, Secretary

## AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS

### Lutheran Collegians — Because We Are His (FS-71-LCB) 1977 M&Cassette

This filmstrip tells the story of the work done by Lutheran Collegians on the university campus together with the campus pastors as they seek to build the Church. Illustrated are their activities in the areas of Bible study, Christian fellowship, and evangelism projects.

### SYNODICAL CERTIFICATION

Dr. Martin Luther College has arranged to offer an extension course, **Lutheran Confessional Writings**, at Wisconsin Lutheran High School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, beginning Saturday morning, January 28, 1978, and meeting regularly on Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. until May 20. Prof. Armin Schuetze of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary has consented to teach the course.

All enrollees must have earned a minimum of nine semester hours of credit required for Synodical Certification.

If you are interested, please contact the Director of Special Services, Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073; phone 507/354-8221 Ext. 231.

### NOTICE

The next regular plenary session of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for December 12-13, 1977.

Business to be acted on is to be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Board, with copies to be furnished the Chairman of the Board, no later than ten days prior to the meeting date.

Norval W. Kock, Secretary  
Board of Trustees

### CHOIR RECORD

#### "Christmas at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary"

A stereo recording, disc or cassette, of selections sung in the 1975 and 1976 Christmas Song Services at the Seminary is available at the price of \$4.50, postpaid. Order from:  
Prof. Martin Albrecht  
11820 N Luther Lane 65W  
Mequon, WI 53092

## ADDRESSES

### (Submitted through the District Presidents) Pastors:

**Buch, Donald R.**  
R. 2, Box 78  
Marshfield, WI 54449  
**Gabb, Prof. William R.**  
126 S. Concord Ave.  
Watertown, WI 53094  
**Koepsell, Clarence**  
1140 Westhaven Dr.  
Oshkosh, WI 54901  
**Neumann, Wilbert E.**  
1649 E. Cottage Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55106  
**Schulz, Alvin E.**  
P.O. Box 417  
Akaska, SD 57420  
Phone: 605/649-7792

## INSTALLATIONS

### (Authorized by the District Presidents)

#### Pastors:

**Buch, Donald R.**, as pastor of Trinity, Marshfield, Wisconsin, on October 27, 1977, by C. Mischke (WW).  
**Neumann, Wilbert E.**, as pastor of Divinity, St. Paul, Minnesota, on October 16, 1977, by E. Knief (Minn.).  
**Schroeder, Kent E.**, as pastor of St. Matthew's, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, on September 18, 1977, by D. Sellnow (WW).  
**Schulz, Alvin E.**, as pastor of Zion Lutheran, Akaska, South Dakota, on October 9, 1977, by J. Cloute, and as pastor of St. James, Tolstoy, South Dakota, on October 9, 1977, by L. Schroeder (Dak.-Mont.).

## THE LUTHERAN FESTIVAL CHORUS

The Lutheran Festival Chorus of the Chicago area will present two Christmas concerts on Sunday, December 11. There will be a concert at 3:00 p.m. at St. Paul's, Grant Park, Illinois, and at 7:30 p.m. at Jerusalem, Morton Grove, Illinois.

The Lutheran Festival Chorus is comprised of 30 mixed voices from WELS and ELS churches in the Chicago area. It rehearses two Sunday afternoons per month at St. Andrew's in Chicago. Members of our churches, 18 years and older, are invited to attend our rehearsals. For information contact: Mr. David A. Barth, director, 752 Chaucer Way, Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60090, phone 312/634-1233.

## NEW WELS CHURCHES

### Names Requested

In recent months the Wisconsin Synod began work in the states and cities listed below. Please send all names of members who moved into the general area of these cities, as well as names of people who may be interested in a Wisconsin Synod mission, to:

WELS MEMBERSHIP CONSERVATION  
3512 W. North Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53208

Names as well as pertinent information regarding members referred will be forwarded to the nearest pastor and/or mission board chairman.

Alabama	Montgomery
Alaska	Eagle River/Wassila
Arizona	Chandler
	Sierra Vista*
	Verde Valley
Arkansas	Little Rock*
California	Modesto
	Placer County
	San Luis Obispo*
Colorado	Boulder
Connecticut	Bridgeport*
Florida	Clearwater
	Ft. Meyers*
	Lakeland*
	Port Richey
	Sarasota
	Zephyrhills*
Georgia	Lawrenceville*
Idaho	Pocatello
Illinois	Belleville
	Downers Grove
Kansas	Salina*
Indiana	Merrillville
	Muncie
	S. Fort Wayne
Iowa	Burlington
	Clinton*
Michigan	Gaylord
	Imlay City
	Port Huron
Minnesota	Cambridge
	Chisago Lakes*
	Eden Prairie
	Fairmont*
	Grand Rapids
	Lakeville
	Northfield*
	Plymouth/Maple Grove*
	S.E. Kansas City
Missouri	Missoula*
Montana	Fremont*
Nebraska	O'Neill*
	Scottsbluff
New Hampshire	Nashua
New York	Syracuse
Ohio	Ashland
	Dayton
	Lima
	S. E. Columbus
Pennsylvania	Altoona
	Harrisburg*
	Lehigh Valley
South Carolina	Charleston
Tennessee	Knoxville*
Texas	Midland/Odessa
	Wichita Falls*
Washington	Moses Lake*
	Pullman
West Virginia	Beckley*
Wisconsin	Antigo
	Galesville
	Holmen*
	Hudson
	Plymouth
	Prairie du Chien*
	Rice Lake*
Alberta	Edmonton*

\*Denotes exploratory services.

## APPOINTMENTS

Pastor Gerhard P. Eckert of Hastings, Nebraska, has been appointed to the Board of Support to serve on behalf of the Nebraska District and the Pacific Northwest District. Pastor Eckert fills the vacancy created when Pastor Eugene Ahlswede accepted a call into the Northern Wisconsin District. The term runs to convention time in 1981.

Pastor Oscar J. Naumann, President Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod

Rev. Victor Prange has been appointed as chairman of the Western Wisconsin District Stewardship Board and as a member of the

## EXPLORATORY

### FT. MYERS/FLORIDA AREA

Exploratory services are being conducted in Ft. Myers, Florida, at the Villas Civic Association, 2306 Sunrise Blvd., every Sunday morning at 8:15. Sunday school and Bible class follow. The area served includes Ft. Myers Beach, Sanibel Island, Lehigh Acres, Bonita, as well as all of south Ft. Myers and Cape Coral. For information contact Pastor Robert Wendland, 266 Evergreen Road, North Ft. Myers, Florida 33903, phone 813/995-0988.

### PLYMOUTH/MAPLE GROVE, MINNESOTA

Worship services are being held Sundays at the American Legion Hall at the junction of Hwys. 55 and 101 (Hamel), at 9:00 a.m. Sunday school is at 10:00 a.m. Names of interested persons may be sent to the Rev. A. Lemke, 7595 Minnewashta Pkwy., Excelsior, Minnesota 55331; phone: 612/474-4966.

## TIME AND PLACE

### VANCOUVER, B. C., AREA

If you know of people interested in WELS church services in the Vancouver, B. C., Canada area, please send their names, telephone numbers, and addresses to: Pastor Steven Korth, 912 Berkley Rd., No. 211, North Vancouver, B. C., Canada, V7H1Y2.

Our mission at Vancouver is conducting services in the Pickwick Room of the Coach House Motor Inn. Sunday school and adult Bible classes meet at 10:00 a.m. The church service begins at 11:00 a.m.

### SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, which formerly met in San Luis Obispo, California, is now meeting in Santa Maria, California, at the Orcutt Recreation Center, 725 Foster Road. Sunday school and adult Bible class meet at 9:30 a.m. and the worship service is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Serving the congregation is District Missionary Hugo M. Warnke.

## Names

### FERGUS FALLS/BATTLE LAKE, MN

Please forward the names of WELS and ELS people living in the Fergus Falls and Battle Lake, Minnesota, areas to Pastor Gary A. Griep, 715 Scandia Street, Alexandria, Minnesota 56308.

Synod Stewardship Board, succeeding Rev. Robert Hartman, who accepted a call to another District.

Rev. Karl Bast has been appointed as circuit pastor of the Capitol Circuit, succeeding Rev. Robert Hartman, who accepted a call to another District.

Carl H. Mischke, President  
Western Wisconsin District

Pastor Donald Ninmer has been appointed to the Northern Wisconsin District Constitution and Legislation Committee to fill the unexpired term of Pastor Ronald Kaiser who has accepted a call to another District. Pastor James Diener has consented to serve as chairman of the committee.

Pastor Carl W. Voss, President  
Northern Wisconsin District

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS — SECRETARY OF HOME MISSIONS — GBHM

The 1977 Synod Convention authorized the establishment of "the full-time position of a Secretary of Home Missions who shall share in the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Secretary for Home Missions under the direction of the executive secretary." The man to be called is to be an ordained minister of the Gospel. The duties and responsibilities of the executive secretary are included in the 1977 Book of Reports and Memorials, pages 59-61.

In accord with prescribed procedures the General Board for Home Missions hereby issues a call for nominations for the office of Secretary of Home Missions from the Synod's membership.

Nominations with pertinent information shall be in the hands of the undersigned no later than December 1, 1977.

Pastor Howard Kaiser, Secretary  
607 N. Wauwatosa Road  
Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Prof. Carl J. Lawrenz, president of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, has asked to be relieved of his administrative duties at the close of the 1977-78 school year. He intends to continue teaching, however, as long as the Lord gives him strength and ability. In view of this, the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Board of Control requests nominations by the voting members of the Synod's constituency for the office of president of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Nominations, accompanied with pertinent information, should be in the hands of the secretary no later than December 5, 1977.

WLS Board of Control  
Pastor Paul A. Manthey, Secretary  
8419 W. Melvina Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222

## CONFERENCE PAPERS

New: No. 41: How Much Shall I Give? L. Retberg, \$0.18; No. 42: Foundation of Worship: B. Backer, \$0.25; No. 43: Redeeming the Time — An Essay on the Pastor's Stewardship of Time: V. Glaeske, \$0.30.

Still available in limited quantities: No. 18: The Treatment of Elders and Prospective Elders in the Church: R. Rose, \$0.22; No. 22: The Fifth Commandment: M. Janke, \$0.30; No. 23: Amazing Grace — 125 Years of It: J. Jeske, \$0.22; No. 24: A Review of What Scripture Says About Repentance Both in the Old and New Testament: J. Raabe, \$0.24; No. 28: The Lord's Word Concerning the Last Things: W. Gawrisch, \$0.42; No. 29: Pitfalls of the Modern Evangelistic Movements: D. Raddatz, \$0.29; No. 30: Revelation 20 — An Exegesis: K. Plocher, \$0.22; No. 31: Promoting Practical Evangelism Among Our Church Members: R. Roth, \$0.15; No. 32: The Formula of Concord: A Survey of Its History: H. Koch, \$0.15; No. 33: How to Keep Our Young People Moral in the Age of the New Morality: J. Stellick, \$0.15; No. 34: Exegesis of I Timothy 2 with Emphasis on Women in the Church: T. Henning, \$0.24; No. 35: A Definitive Study of Proselytizing: C. Lawrenz, \$0.24; No. 36: What Degree of Doctrinal Agreement is Necessary for Membership in the WELS? E. Frey, \$0.15; No. 37: Guidelines in Divorce Counseling with Special Emphasis on "What is Malicious Desertion?": E. A. Breiling, \$0.23; No. 38: Luther as Father and Teacher: A. Koelpin, \$0.25; No. 39: Adventism: Its History and Doctrine: J. Aderman, \$0.22; No. 40: Transcendental Meditation: L. A. Schroeder, \$0.28.

Place your orders with: Martin Luther Women's Circle, 10151 Sappington Road, St. Louis County, Missouri 63128. If you have your name placed on the permanent mailing list, you will receive each paper when it is printed and be billed once a year or when your amount reaches \$1.00 or more.

# Treasurer's Report

## PREBUDGET SUBSCRIPTION PERFORMANCE

Nine months ended September 30, 1977

	Subscription Amount for 1977	% <sub>12</sub> of Annual Subscription	Subscription and Pension Offerings	Per Cent of Subscription
Arizona-California .....	\$ 407,124	\$ 305,343	\$ 293,806	96.2
Dakota-Montana .....	227,147	170,360	166,256	97.6
Michigan .....	1,206,145	904,609	819,345	90.6
Minnesota .....	1,293,291	969,968	922,391	95.1
Nebraska .....	242,910	182,182	176,825	97.1
Northern Wisconsin .....	1,385,482	1,039,112	937,843	90.3
Pacific Northwest .....	116,740	87,555	85,399	97.5
Southeastern Wisconsin .....	1,685,132	1,263,849	1,106,620	87.6
Western Wisconsin .....	1,592,486	1,194,365	1,054,313	88.3
South Atlantic .....	90,875	68,156	70,691	103.7
Total — 1977 .....	\$8,247,332	\$6,185,499	\$5,633,489	91.1
Total — 1976 .....	\$7,511,540	\$5,633,655	\$5,344,351	94.9

## CURRENT BUDGETARY FUND

### Statement of Income and Expenditures

Twelve months ended September 30, 1977 with comparative figures for 1976  
Twelve months ended September 30

	1977	1976	Increase or Decrease*	
			Amount	Per Cent
<b>Income</b>				
Prebudget Subscription Offerings .....	031,382	\$7,554,845	\$476,537	6.3
Pension Plan Contributions .....	73,961	82,273	8,312*	10.1*
Gifts and Memorials .....	175,821	178,204	2,383*	1.3*
Bequests .....	142,203	118,617	23,586	19.9
Earnings from Fox Estate .....	61,857	42,239	19,618	46.4
Other Income .....	10,033	10,220	187*	1.8*
Transfers from Other Funds .....	119,982	87,216	32,766	37.6
Total Income .....	\$8,615,239	\$8,073,614	\$541,625	6.7
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Worker-Training — Expenses .....	\$5,050,652	\$4,609,475	\$441,177	9.6
Worker-Training — Income .....	2,159,501	1,966,411	193,090	9.8
Worker-Training — Net .....	\$2,891,151	\$2,643,064	\$248,087	9.4
Home Missions .....	1,633,714	1,515,958	117,756	7.8
World Missions .....	1,322,930	1,280,567	42,363	3.3
Benevolences .....	1,007,913	951,778	56,135	5.9
Administration and Services .....	765,515	708,282	57,233	8.1
Total Operations .....	\$7,621,223	\$7,099,649	\$521,574	7.3
Appropriations — Building Funds .....	202,494	200,000	2,494	1.2
Appropriations — CEF Program .....	619,196	549,612	69,584	12.7
Total Expenditures .....	\$8,442,913	\$7,849,261	\$593,652	7.6
Operating Gain .....	\$ 172,326	\$ 224,353		

Norris Koopmann, Treasurer & Controller  
Ronald H. Meier, Assistant Treasurer  
3512 West North Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

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

For the month of  
November  
December  
January  
February

Cutoff Date:  
December 7  
January 9  
February 7  
March 7

**CHAPLAIN E. C. RENZ**  
HOME ADDRESS  
6501 Gau-Bischofsheim  
Bahnhofstrasse 92  
West Germany  
Telephone: 06135-3249  
**MAILING ADDRESS**  
398-12-3568  
Gen. Del.  
APO NY 09185

**CHAPLAIN C. E. KRUG**  
HOME ADDRESS  
8524 Neunkirchen a. Br.  
Goldwitzerstrasse 31  
West Germany  
Telephone: 09134-5716  
**MAILING ADDRESS**  
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