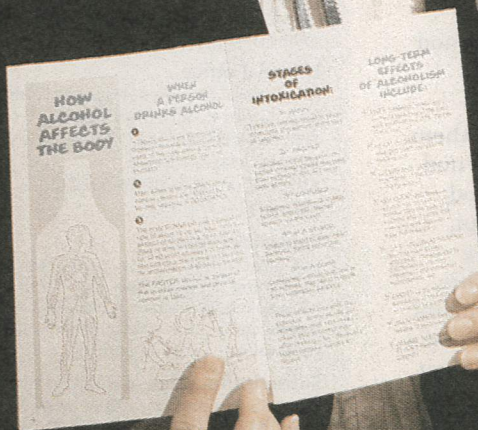


The Northwestern Lutheran

JANUARY 15, 1984



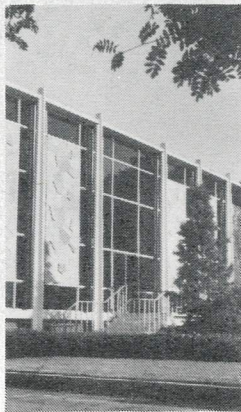
**Alcoholism —
that dreaded word**

PAGE 22

The only safe ground

PAGE 20

from this corner



One day later
we headed
for work
in a different
direction.

If you look at the masthead of the current Northwestern Lutheran, you will see that the editorial office of the magazine has been moved. We are now in our new office at 2929 N. Mayfair Rd., Milwaukee, Wis., 53222. If you are impatient with the mail, you may call us at 414/771-9357. Cleverly enough, the last four digits spell WELS.

To complicate matters, the move to the Synod's new office building will take place in two stages. For the time being — at least until February 15 and perhaps longer — the entire fiscal office and the General Board for Home Missions (including the mass media ministry) remained at the old address. All the other offices have been moved to the new location.

I am persuaded that the move was necessary. Not only was the office configuration at the old site inconvenient, it was inefficient and crowded — even without an evangelism executive and a world mission educational director.

But there was a wrench as we left the old building. It had been the synodical headquarters for 20 years. For 17 of those years it had sheltered my office. It was the first headquarters of our very own, a remodeled branch bank building. Before that we occupied an area on the second floor of the publishing house down the street. And before that the president's parsonage was headquarters, and the treasurer, the only full-time employee of the Synod, ran the business of the Synod from his dining room table.

The years in the old building were good years, "golden years" President Naumann liked to call them. There was an unprecedented expansion of the Synod. From its Midwest neighborhood in 1964 the Synod moved into every state. The last state, Mississippi, was entered in 1982. The move to the old building involved a dozen persons in four departments. This last move involved about 50 people in 11 departments. When we moved into the building in 1964, the Synod's annual budget was \$2.9 million. This year the budget is \$15 million. If money is the "tool of movement" in our society, there has been a lot of movement between then and now.

The move took place in the lull between Christmas and New Year. There was no party. No tears were shed. One afternoon we left the office. One day later we headed for work in a different direction. And that was that. It will be the last move of synodical headquarters, please God, for a long, long time.

COVER — Susan Zimmermann counseling at Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Service of Milwaukee, Wis.

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

The Northwestern Lutheran

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What a friend!

"On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding" (John 2:1,2).

What's a friend? Some might answer, "A friend is someone who likes you even after he knows what you are." Others might reply, "A friend is someone who is there when you need him." Still others might say, "A friend is someone who adds meaning to life, like salt on a potato or oregano on a pizza."

Our definition for a friend might vary, but hopefully when it comes to Jesus, all would exclaim, "*What a friend we have in Jesus!*"

He sanctifies our joys

That house in Cana of Galilee was the scene of a joyous wedding celebration. A man and a woman had come together to begin a new home. And Jesus was there! He has just begun his ministry, just been baptized in the Jordan, just been tempted in the wilderness, just called his first disciples, when we find him at a wedding celebration. He was busy as we can well imagine, but not too busy to accept the invitation of this bride and groom. As a friend he was there rejoicing with them and even increasing their joy with his first recorded miracle of changing water into wine.

Dare we speak about joy? Some would object when Christians use that word. They dress the believer in black and load him down with a frown on his face and an umbrella in his hand. But we know otherwise! Christians are the most joyful people on earth. In fact, is there anyone else who can have real joy in this sin-muddied world? Only a life which is faith-filled, love-filled, hope-filled, can be a joyous one. And such a joyous life is found only in Christ, our heavenly friend. When he is present at our weddings and other celebrations, when he is there in our daily lives, how smiles are heightened and joys brightened!

He satisfies our needs

In that Cana home it wasn't long before needs arose. To us the lack of wine may not seem so serious, but to the bridegroom it spelled embarrassment and an absence of good hospitality. The problem was quickly carried by Mary to her son Jesus, and when it was time, he did something about it. When the servants at his command dipped the cupful out of the freshly filled waterpots, it was obvious what Jesus had done. Miraculously that cup being carried to the caterer of the feast was now filled, not with water, but wine, excellent wine, far better wine than what the bridegroom had originally provided. Nor was the Lord Jesus stingy with his gift. The heavenly friend provided at least 120 gallons of this wine, more than enough for the occasion.

*He comes
not as a guest
who
wants to visit,
but a friend
who
wants to stay.*

Dare we speak about needs? How can we help it! Daily life is filled with so many of them. What can we do about those truly huge ones, like the stain caused by our many sins, the pressure of those special sins, the weakness when it comes to daily living? Where can we turn with those lesser and yet weighty cares, like that loved one in the hospital, that wayward child in our home, that problem in our marriage, that job or business which is on shaky ground, that future which looms so dark behind the threatening clouds of nuclear missiles and defense budgets? Where can we find the solutions to new problems, the patience to put up

with old ones, the courage even just to keep on living?

Let that miracle at Cana remind us what a friend we have in Jesus! He's a friend who satisfies all our needs. Perhaps that's why his first recorded miracle was not to stop a pain or heal a disease, but to make wine at a wedding so we might be reminded that all our needs, both big and little, are seen and satisfied by this heavenly friend.

He strengthens our faith

The greatest miracle that day was an invisible one. The final verse of the account reads, "This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed his glory and his disciples put their faith in him." Do we see what Jesus did for his disciples with that miracle? He strengthened their faith. He became closer and dearer to them, more precious and glorious than ever before.

Do we want faith and friendship with Jesus strengthened? There is a way, one which the world despises and which even some lukewarm friends of Jesus at times disregard. Through his Holy Word as we hear it in our churches and read it at home, through his holy communion as we receive it at his altar, through that miracle of holy baptism, Jesus enters our hearts. He comes not as a guest who wants to visit, but a friend who wants to stay. And when he comes, great are the blessings which this heavenly friend brings for our faith.

Honest-to-goodness, down-to-earth, twenty-four-hour friends are hard to come by. But that Savior Jesus is something else! □



Pastor Lauersdorf is at St. John's Lutheran Church, Jefferson, Wisconsin.

The only safe ground

Pope John Paul II is distressed by his American flock. He is concerned about their liberal views regarding such moral issues as artificial birth control, abortion, divorce, and premarital sex; and about their resistance to the Church's teaching concerning ecumenism, celibacy, and even the infallibility of the Pope.

Unsettling as these issues are for John Paul, they are not as vexing as is the problem of the role of women in the American Catholic church. As recently as 1976 the Vatican reaffirmed its decree that women could never be priests. Yet women now outnumber men in most Catholic divinity schools in the U.S. and even in the traditionally male seminaries, where they are teachers, spiritual directors, as well as students (more than half of the enrollment of many seminaries).

The harried Pope is struggling to keep the lid on rebellious women's religious orders and on the rising assertiveness and power of Catholic women in our country. Since late summer the Pope has been talking to a steady stream of Roman Catholic bishops from the U.S., pressing them to hold to the Church's historic teachings on sexuality and the role of women in the church.

What the Pope is urging upon these bishops is their obligation to the historic position of the Roman Catholic church. The Vatican still maintains that women cannot adequately "represent Christ," and that priests must exercise a "fatherhood" in their ministry.

The threat to the Catholic position is so formidable that the Roman Catholic theologian, Hans Kueng, predicts that John Paul II may "win some battles against women, but he will lose the war." If he does win the war, he will lose the women and their service to their church.

If the Pope is relying on tradition, or on historic "orthodoxy" to win his battles, he may well lose the war, because he is not resting his case on Scripture. Without the authority of Scripture the traditional position of the Roman church on the ordination of women in our country is at risk.

The position of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod on the ordination of women will be just as vulnerable if we support it as the Roman Catholic church does — on tradition, on historic practice, and on the synodical constitution (canon law, in Roman Catholic circles). In the face of a campaign by the determined women of N.O.W., in the face of the united voice of the press and the other media, of the penalties for violating Title IX, of the pressure for a sweeping equal rights amendment, and of the rising crescendo of demands for "human rights" and "public policy," the only solid ground on which to stand is the uncompromising Word of God.

There Luther stood at Worms as he declared, "Unless I am convinced by the testimonies of the Holy Scriptures . . . , I am bound by the Scriptures." There too the WELS must stand in the trying days before us.

Carleton Toppe



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

I would like to know

We are a mature Christian couple engaged to be married. We love one another deeply. We know that casual sex is wrong, but does God allow sexual intimacy to an engaged couple?

In Genesis 2 God describes the "one flesh" relationship of marriage as a man and woman leaving their parental families to establish a new family. In 1 Corinthians 6 St. Paul interprets that expression "one flesh" as also the act of sexual intercourse reserved for marriage. You have not as yet established the new family unit of marriage, either with public vows or by assuming the same name and address. It would be dishonest to consummate with sexual intercourse a marriage that has not yet occurred.

With your engagement I assume that you are expressing a lifelong faithfulness to each other in marriage God's way. And I assume that in filial love you have provided for a Christian departure from your parental families. Were there no civil laws regulating marriage or Christian rite publicly uniting couples in marriage, your commitment to each other before God would be sufficient basis for you to begin living together as husband and wife. However, the civil and religious expectations that prevail make it wrong for you to practice marriage without a license.

In your wedding ceremony you will be asking God to join you in marriage, and you will be testifying to state and church that this is the beginning of your marriage. While sexual intimacy during your engagement might not be fornication, it would certainly be civil disobedience and spiritual dishonesty. And that's wrong before God.

I share your joy at discovering in each other the marriage partner with whom to experience God's promise of blessing. But I must advise you to move up the wedding date rather than try marriage before the wedding.

In Matthew 23:23 Jesus says: "You should have practiced the latter (justice, mercy, faithfulness) without neglecting the former (tithing)." Doesn't Jesus here support tithing? Why doesn't our church encourage tithing?

Jesus' words are consistent with his mission, "I have not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets but to fulfill them" (Matthew 5:17). In perfect obedience to God's Old Covenant Law, Jesus observed and supported the tithe, sabbath laws, festival, sacrifice and ceremonial laws . . . "to fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15). But that covenant which had distinguished Israel as the bearer of God's promise and portrayed both sin and Messianic deliverance was fulfilled at the cross. On the eve of that historical divide Jesus instituted a "New Covenant" in his blood and issued a "new commandment" to love.

It is interesting that the only mention of the tithe in the Gospels is combined with scathing denunciation of the Pharisees for their self-righteous and ritualistic use of it. No wonder, then, that St. Paul so vehemently opposes the reimposition of any Old Covenant law on New Covenant Christians (cf. Galatians and Colossians). The apostles nowhere suggest the tithe, even as a giving guideline. Rather St. Paul encourages offerings that are weekly, proportionate, willing, generous, and a sincere expression of love for God and God's people (1 and 2 Corinthians).

Human nature too easily turns the question "how much" into either a selfish minimum or a self-righteous maximum. Unfettered love needs no bottom figure and wants no ceiling percentage.

We can learn something from God's Old Testament requirement of 10%. We *should* learn something from the way Israel ignored and then abused that tithe. But we will give best when we look at the cross rather than the tithe, at blessings rather than budgets.

What is our church's position on cremation? Is it permissible?

The Lutheran Church has avoided legislation on the subject of cremation. Scripture gives no explicit prohibition or approval.

That doesn't mean there haven't been strong sentiments expressed. At a time when cremation was a societal exception, easily associated with anti-Christian philosophy, many Lutherans opposed the practice. Oriental ancestor worship and belief in reincarnation rather than resurrection were expressed in cremation. Rationalists defied God to raise their bodies with cremation. The Judeo-Christian tradition of burial has been an expression of faith in the resurrection of the body.

Today the practice of cremation has been largely dissociated from religious implications. Limited burial space, disfigurement of the body, and health concerns are more practical reasons for cremation. With such reasons Lutherans have no argument. Some may even suggest that God and his resurrection promise are a more obvious focus of funeral worship when there is no embalmed body on display.

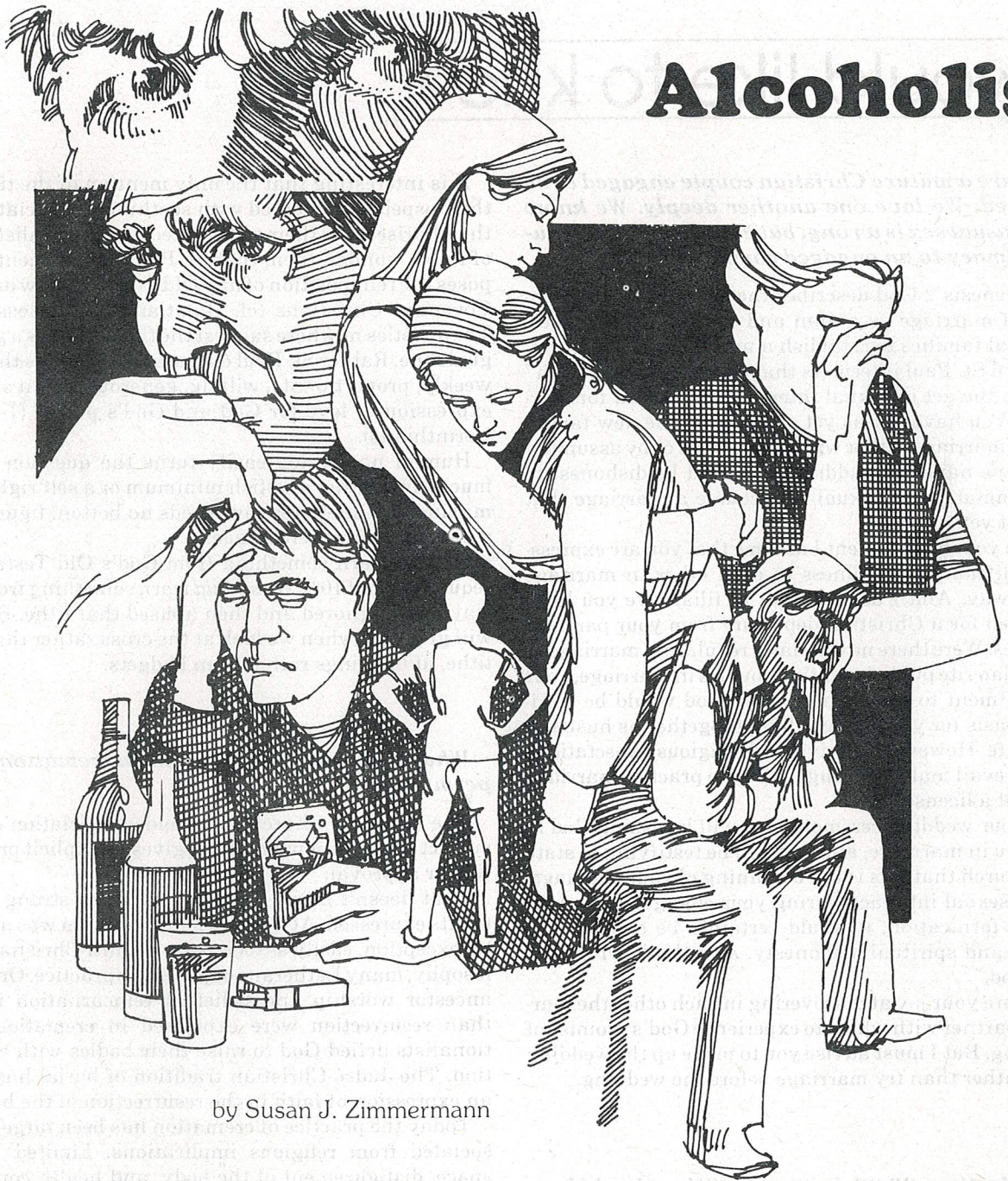
God will raise "cremains" as well as remains. □



Send your questions to *Questions, The Northwestern Lutheran, 2929 N. Mayfair Road, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53222*. Questions of general interest are preferred. Sorry, questions will not be answered by correspondence.

Professor Kelm is dean of students at Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Alcoholism



by Susan J. Zimmermann

“Alcoholism” is a dreaded word that strikes fear into the hearts of many people. And rightly so. Do you know any grownups who don’t drink, except possibly those whose health might be adversely affected? The use of alcohol has become synonymous with going out, having fun, socializing with other people, or relaxing alone. Media ads would have us believe you need a drink of alcohol to enjoy any activity.

Most people simply begin to use alcohol socially and find that they enjoy it. Some people find they really like the taste, or they really appreciate the way it makes them feel, or they are often in situations where drinking a considerable amount of alcohol is almost expected. Soon they find that they are no longer choosing when to drink or how much to drink — but the alcohol is now dictating

to them. This is alcoholism — the consistent loss of control over your drinking — when to drink, and the way you act as a result of your drinking.

Alcoholism has no preference as to age, sex, or job or religion as many of our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod families can verify. Following is the moving story of one such person.

Thanksgiving day by day

I’m an alcoholic. These three words were the hardest thing for me to say. Through my denial of these simple words, I spent most of my nine years of married life ruining any chance for a decent relationship with my wife, family or anyone else, for that matter. I lied, cheated and stole my way into holes so deep that drinking — I

— that dreaded word

thought — was my only way out. Until I turned my life over to God, there seemed to be no hope for me.

Thankfully, the Lord saw fit to stop me from continual digging of deeper and deeper holes of trouble. God turned me to him. With his guidance I was able to turn to my pastor, counselors at Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Service and the people in the WLCFS Alcoholism Awareness group. My personal life and habits changed and are continuing to change every day. Now, when I look at my life, I can find things to be thankful for and not just things from which to hide.

I was once blessed with a call to teach in our WELS school system. However, because of my alcoholic thinking I used this position for my own selfish gains. I tried to impress people with the talents God had given me. I cheated the children by not truly preparing for my classes. I squandered the pay the Lord had given me. I stole from the Lord. Mercifully for his lambs, he took the call away from me.

Today I serve the Lord by helping with the Sunday school, vacation Bible school and with as much work around the church as I am able. There is one big change now. I have the Lord helping me instead of me (and alcohol) fighting him and his will. For this I am thankful.

I was never much of a husband or father when I was drinking. I spent most of my time drinking, watching TV and sleeping, in that order. Making a simple lunch for the kids was a major task for me, and most of the time a couple slices of bread was their lunch. I spent as much time hiding dirty dishes and bills as most people spend washing dishes and paying bills. There was no way to pay bills because I drank up our money and was too drunk to find or hold a job. When my wife came home from work, she didn't know if she would find me passed out or in a fit of anger because I had run out of booze. (I always thought I could hide my drinking from her.)

Thankfully, I did not lose my wife or children, although many times they must have thought that I was trying to drive them away. Instead, the Lord has given me first, a loving, understanding wife who gave me an example of standing on my own two feet that finally got through this hard head of mine. Secondly, he gave me a wife whose faith in the Lord is evident in all she does. With the Holy Ghost working in my heart and the very evident example of my wife on the outside, my personal faith life is on the mend.

The Lord also blessed us with three loving children. Thankfully, nothing I did took away what he gave them — faith, intelligence and good health. In fact, sometimes I know they are smarter than I am. When a certain commercial comes on for one of our city's more prosperous products, our three-year-old runs up to turn off the television saying, "That's not good for daddy!" Thank you, Lord.

Don't get the wrong idea. Things are not perfect in my life. There are still bills, lack of a steady job, disagreements, crabby kids and dirty dishes. I have most of the same problems as before I quit drinking. There is one big difference. I now rely on God to help me through these rough times instead of jumping inside a bottle. I've found that when I let God's will guide my life, no matter how bad things seem to get, the result is always a blessing of some type. It may not be immediately visible to me, but God lets me see it when he decides I'm ready.

"There's nothing in an alcoholic's life for which to be thankful?" That's right — if he is still drinking. I have not had a drink today or for some days gone by. I thank the Lord for the strength he gave me in those days and for his guidance today. I also pray for his strength in my life still ahead of me. Well, maybe that's getting too much ahead of myself. We live our faith and our program one day at a time and with God's help and guidance I can continue to give thanks — day by day.

A recovering alcoholic
John C.
WLCFS Group

The first Alcoholism Awareness group meeting was held on May 12, 1979. At the present time, eight groups have been organized in various areas of the state under the sponsorship of WLCFS. These groups hold regular meetings for alcoholics (the recovery group) and their loved ones (the support group) with both groups working their separate 12-step program, but doing it within the framework of our Christian faith and sharing a devotion. As a further step in assisting alcoholics and their loved ones to achieve a God-pleasing and happy sobriety, WLCFS Alcoholism Awareness program will be sponsoring its first Recovering Individual/Family Retreat for Lutherans. Those who reside in Wisconsin or neighboring states are invited to participate. The retreat is designed for Lutherans who are recovering from alcoholism and/or their families. Children 10 and over will be accepted as active participants. Babysitting service will be arranged for younger children. It is expected that the adults who attend are active members of Alcoholism Awareness or Alcoholics Anonymous or Al-Anon. The retreat will begin at 7:00 p.m. Friday, March 30, 1984 and end at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, April 1, 1984.

It will be held in a retreat center in the scenic Kettle Moraine area near Hubertus. See future *Northwestern Lutheran* issues for further details and reservation information or contact Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Service, 6800 North 76th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53223, 414/353-5000. □

Susan Zimmermann is an alcoholism awareness program counselor at Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Service, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

I believe in God . . . almighty, maker of heaven and earth

Dear Ben,

Congratulations on your excellent grades! We can tell that you've not only been enjoying the exciting campus activities you've written about, but you've also been hitting the books!

We were naturally concerned that you expressed some doubts about creation, but we are glad you felt comfortable sharing them with us. I'll admit that I had some serious questions about it, too, in the past (in fact they have a way of recycling themselves), but I have some thoughts that might help you sort out your thinking and re-focus your faith.

LOVE LETTERS ON THE CREED by Richard H. Stadler

I can understand how your science classes and your roommate might tempt you to regard yourself as an intellectual dishrag if you admit a belief in creation. We have seen science accomplish so much, we are tempted to deify it and forget that it is merely a human enterprise. Its conclusions are reached by fallible human beings who do not speak with divine perspective or authority. Even Nobel prize-winning theories of the past have been disproved by recent experiments in outer space. That is the changing nature of science. Today's assumed scientific "truths" may be swept out with the trash in tomorrow's laboratories. There are some critical questions you can dare to ask about the assumptions every science must make in order to test its theories and models. Always make a clear distinction in your mind between evidence and the conclusions drawn on the basis of the evidence. The evolutionist has to assume he knows how much radioactive substance was in a material at one point in the past. He assumes the rate of radioactive decay has remained constant and the same as it is now observed to be without any major interruptions. But we have no historical records to prove that those assumed conditions actually existed. So recognize the limits of science and use that fine mind of yours to be as critical of what you are taught as others are urging you to be critical of your faith.

Even the creation scientists cannot prove that God created the whole world in six days. They can suggest an argument for a Grand Designer based on patterns observed in our world. They can pose tough questions which evolution either neglects or fails to answer. But they cannot empirically prove that God created the world. The writer to the Hebrews reminds us (11:3), "By *faith* we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible." The creation science literature has certainly helped me recognize some gaping holes in the

evolutionary theory, but no one has ever proven to me with scientific evidence that the creation took place.

I believe what the Creed says that God is "the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth," because the Word of God has revealed him to be exactly that. I know some people try to dismiss the Genesis record of creation as a poetic folk tale like the Babylonian creation myth, but the Word repeats the assertion of a God-wrought creation again in undeniable, concrete language in Exodus 20. There, in the midst of a law code, where God is requiring the Israelites to take their seventh day of the week (which in Moses' day was a 24-hour day just like ours) and set it aside as a day of rest (sabbath), he asserts that he created everything "in heaven and on earth in six days." This same Bible reveals that the Christ was active at creation since "without him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:3).

The same God who fathered me into the Christian faith opens my eyes to see that he fathered this whole world into existence. The same God who breathed the breath of life into the first human's nostrils also personally supervised the way my body developed in my mother's womb just as Psalm 139:13-14 asserts. So the creator of heaven and earth is a dimension of God's identity woven into the very fabric of my faith. Do you remember how when Luther explains the first article, he zeroes right in on the personal implications of God's creation of heaven and earth. "I believe that God has made me . . . and preserves me." If he isn't big enough to do what Exodus 20:11 reveals he did, how on earth can I expect him to even know that I exist, let alone listen to my prayers when there are over four billion people competing for his attention? I simply trust the same Word that reveals his creative activity, his virgin birth, his death on a cross and his resurrection. All of those events are mind-boggling challenges to reason. None of those can be documented with scientific evidence, but each is an indispensable, integral element in the full composite of God the Savior. If I divorce the creator from the Almighty Father, I end up with a crippled distortion of God, too puny to even notice when one of my thinning blond hairs falls to the ground. There are other important implications the creator has for us, which I'll pull together for you in my next letter. Keep giving him a chance to work with your doubts and questions.

Love from your mother and me,

Dad

Pastor Stadler is at St. James, West St. Paul, Minnesota.

Not the events, but the one who shapes them

According to most forecasters the outlook for 1984 is much brighter than it was a year ago. Unemployment is down, inflation is at its lowest rate in years, Christmas sales were never better. Granted there are still a few ominous clouds in the picture, not the least of which are some powder kegs on the world scene that could explode at any moment, but all in all they're predicting a good year.

Unfortunately, however, they're basing that prediction on a series of events, either real or anticipated, rather than on the one who shapes those events. According to that line of thinking we perhaps had no right to say "Happy New Year" a year ago, at least not with much enthusiasm. And we may well have no right to say it a year hence if the events do not live up to expectations.



Although I'm not a prophet, I'm also predicting a good year for our Synod, our congregations, our schools, our various agencies, for each individual member. And I'm basing my prediction not on a series of events that will happen (because I don't know what's going to happen), but on the one who shapes those events.

Remember Paul's triumphant declaration to the Romans, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" And God has demonstrated that he is for us, that he is forever on our side. He did it by shaping the event we have just celebrated. He did it by sending his own Son into the world. He did it by electing not to spare his own Son, but to deliver him up for us all.

Paul's inspired logic is not hard to follow. He reasons that if God thought enough of us to give his own Son to redeem us from sin, to win us back to eternal fellowship with him, then God can be trusted to shape the events of our individual and corporate lives in the way that is best for us. Held in the palm of his gracious hand all things will and must work together for our good. It is simply unthinkable that a God who loved us so much that he gave his only-begotten Son would ever send something into our lives that is not meant for our good and blessing.

That's why I do not hesitate to predict a good year. No, I don't know what the individual events will be like, nor do you. There may be some that will test our faith as never before. But we know who is shaping the events. We know who is in control. Bethlehem and Calvary, followed by the empty tomb, leave no doubt about that.

For that reason I say, without reservation, "Happy New Year," to each and all.

Carl H. Muschke

With the Lord

Elizabeth Frey
1892 — 1983

Elizabeth Frey was born April 23, 1892 in Olive Township, Mich. She died November 20, 1983 in Denver, Col. at the age of 91.

In 1913 she married Pastor Immanuel Frey, who served in Arizona, Minnesota, Nebraska and Colorado. For 65 years she served as church organist, playing for services past her 80th birthday.

Her husband preceded Mrs. Frey in death in 1964. She is survived by her sister, Lydia Frey, and her brother, Henry Janz; sons, Rev. Conrad, Rev. Immanuel, Paul, Philip and Marcus; daughters, Miriam, Naomi Cohoon, Lois Meister, Ruth Brenner, Eunice Smith and Esther Annis; 43 grandchildren and 50 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held November 25 at Christ our Redeemer, Denver, Col.

Looking back from The Northwestern Lutheran

50 years ago . . .

Grace, Burke, South Dakota, dedicated its new church home in November. A former hotel, it was remodeled into the new church home by volunteer labor. The purchase price is being paid for at the rate of \$3.00 per month with no interest charge.

25 years ago . . .

St. Stephen's at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin recently dedicated the new annex to its school, comprising six classrooms and a spacious fellowship hall. The total cost of the new addition and equipment is \$323,080. The present enrollment is 346. Nine members form the faculty.

10 years ago . . .

Over 100 worshipers gathered to dedicate the little church of Cristo Redentor (Christ the Redeemer), the first Lutheran church to be opened in Ciudad Juarez, the Mexican border city across from El Paso, Texas and a city of almost half a million souls. □

St. John's celebrates 135th

Historic St. John's Church of Milwaukee, whose pulpit was graced by three Wisconsin Synod presidents, celebrated its 135th anniversary on September 25. President Armin W. Schuetze of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary was the guest speaker. Also participating in the festival service was the Lutheran Chorale under the direction of Pastor Kurt J. Eggert.

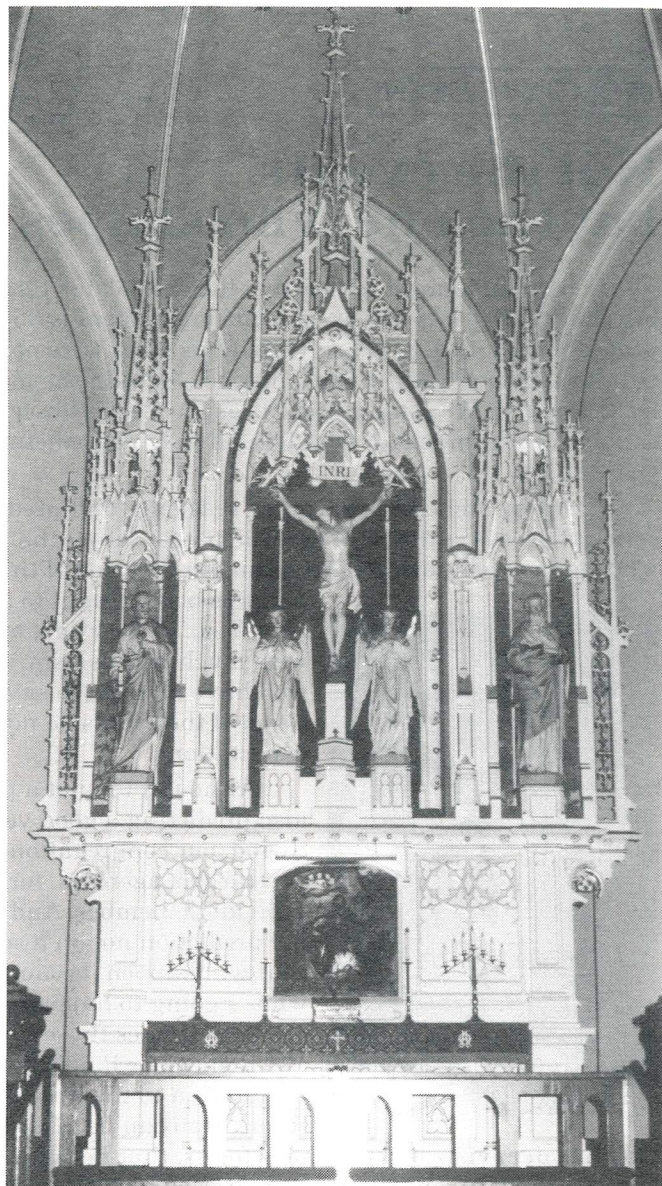
In the news

The beginning of the congregation dates back to 1847 when a group of Lutherans, largely from the Pomerania region of Germany, began meeting in private homes in downtown Milwaukee to hear readings of Martin Luther's sermons. The following year the group formally organized as St. John's Congregation. The Missouri Synod declined its request for membership because it was only six blocks from another Missouri Synod church. St. John's then joined the young Wisconsin Synod in 1858.

The first church, a former Episcopal mission, was located on 4th and Highland. This church, several times remodeled and enlarged, served the growing congregation until the present church, seating over 1000, was dedicated in 1890. A writer in the 1890 *Lutheran Witness*, a publication of the Missouri Synod, described the church as "the finest Lutheran church I have ever seen." The *Milwaukee Sentinel* estimated the value of the church, property, and school at \$150,000, a tidy sum in 1890.

Although the last years have seen the average Sunday attendance fall below 100, the church was twice filled to capacity on October 30 as the Milwaukee Federation of Wisconsin Synod Churches celebrated the 500th anniversary of the birth of Luther.

The delicate-looking altarpiece was custom-built in Germany. The statues are hand-carved wood originals. St. Paul, on the right, holds a sword which reminds us that he was executed for his faith, probably with a sword. St. Peter holds keys which are attributed to him and the other disciples. The book held by each apostle symbolizes the New Testament which they helped to write.



In the late 1800s St. John's operated as many as three parochial schools. A school was maintained at 4th street location, but was closed when a much larger school was opened in 1887 on property next to the present church on 8th and Vliet Sts. Branch schools were opened at N. Palmer and W. Garfield Sts. and N. 37th and W. Michigan Sts. These schools soon developed into independent congregations — St. Marcus and Apostles of Christ. The grandfather of two of Milwaukee's mayors, Carl and Frank Zeidler, taught at the Vliet Street school from 1872 to 1885. Gerhard A. Bading, son of St. John's third pastor, was mayor of Milwaukee from 1912 to 1916.

St. John's during its 135 years has been served by only six

pastors, three whose pastorates span a century were also presidents of the Wisconsin Synod. Wilhelm Streissguth, who served St. John's from 1856 to 1868, was president of the Synod from 1865 to 1867. John Bading, who served St. John's for 40 years, was president of the Synod from 1860 to 1889 with an interruption of three years. John W. Brenner, with a 50-year record of service at St. John's, was president of the Synod from 1933 to 1953.

Since 1977 St. John's has been served by Pastor Norman A. Engel. The congregation, described in the 1890 *Lutheran Witness* article as "the strongest Lutheran church in the Northwest," set in the center of the central city, closed its school in 1960 and now numbers about 100 communicants.

First full-time evangelist called at Grace, Hong Kong

In a long step toward an indigenous church, Grace Lutheran Church of Hong Kong recently called its first full-time evangelist, Lee Chun-Hong. The congregation will also be responsible for his support.

Lee, 27, is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. After returning to Hong Kong, he taught English, physics, mathematics, music and ethics at Immanuel Lutheran English Middle School, sponsored by the WELS Hong Kong Mission. Lee's wife, Lai Fung-Yin, teaches music at Immanuel Lutheran College, another school sponsored by the Hong Kong Mission.

Evangelist Lee will make evangelism calls, lead the liturgy for the worship services, occasionally translate for WELS missionaries, advise youth groups, and serve as assistant administrator. He is also a student at the Lutheran Bible Institute.



EIGHT LONG-TIME EMPLOYEES of Bethesda Lutheran Home, Watertown, Wis., attended a dinner in their honor November 13 and received 25-year plaques from Alexander Napolitano, executive director of the home. Receiving plaques were (standing from left) Emily Streich, Mrs. Rose McMullen, Mrs. Selma Nelson, Martin Lorenz and Edgar Schlee, (sitting) Mrs. Doris Witte, Bartley Overdahl, and Marylea Rehbaum. Unable to attend the ceremony were Christine Seckel and Harold Uttech. All are members of either St. John's, Watertown; St. John's, Juneau; or St. Mark's, Watertown.

Arizona

Deer Valley Lutheran dedicates

On September 30, 1979 the first service of Deer Valley Lutheran Church was held in a public high school gymnasium. Four years later — almost to the day — 153 members and friends gathered to dedicate the congregation's first worship facility.

PERSONALS. . . Elected to the board of Bethesda Lutheran Home, Watertown, Wis., was **William Mundt** of Madison, Wis. Mundt, a graduate of Northwestern Preparatory School, is a member of Eastside Lutheran Church in Madison. Mundt is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School and active on probate, trust, and estate committees of the American and Wisconsin Bar Associations. . . **Ernest Krueger** of Saginaw, Mich., a member of St. Paul's, was re-elected to his fourth one-year term as treasurer of Bethesda's board of directors. . . **Pastor James M. Mumm** of Onalaska, Wis., was elected secretary of the board.

During those four years the membership grew from 44 baptized members to 97 baptized members. For its first three years the congregation was served by Pastor John W. Berg. It is presently served by Pastor Philip C. Mischke.

Reported by William Schaefer

Fire at Good Shepherd, Phoenix

A smoldering fire was discovered recently at Good Shepherd Lutheran School in Phoenix. Before the fire was put out four hours later three classrooms had been extensively damaged.

By Tuesday morning its 85 pupils were in classrooms offered by a good neighbor, St. Thomas, and remodeling had begun at Good Shepherd.

God's good purposes were served by the fire, according to Pastor David Farley. "It was discovered," he said, "that termites had seriously weakened the roof supports. If there had been no fire, the roof may well have collapsed."

The remodeled school building, originally built in 1947 as the first church and used since 1949 for the Christian day school, was ready for occupancy in early November. The new facility was rededicated in January.

Teachers at Good Shepherd are Joel Mischke, principal, Janet Mischke, Carol Plath and Murial Tech. *Reported by William Schaefer*

Michigan

Dedication at Freeland

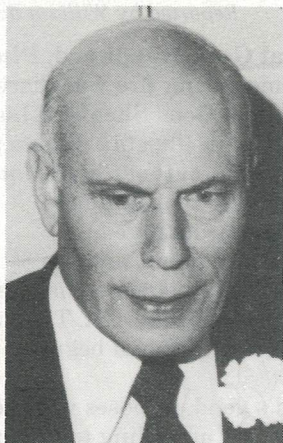
After 20 years of dreaming and planning, St. Matthew's of Freeland dedicated on October 9 a new entryway for their 70-year-old church.

The addition is carefully designed to match the "country church" appearance of the old church. The addition includes a spacious narthex, restrooms and mother's room on the upper level and a classroom and fellowship area on the lower level.

The rural Freeland congregation is 105 years old. The congregation has a baptized membership of 277 and is served by Pastor Robert W. Holtz, who spoke at the dedication service.

40th anniversary celebrated

On April 10 Mt. Olive of Detroit celebrated the 40th anniversary in the ministry of its pastor, Edwin A. Frey. Following the special service a congregational dinner was served.



Frey

Most of Frey's ministry has been spent in the Detroit area. In 1944 he accepted a call to Ascension and in 1950 a call to Mt. Olive, both in Detroit.

Born in a parsonage, Frey still has strong family ties to the WELS ministry. He is the brother of President George Frey of the Pacific Northwest District; Rev. Theodore Frey of Standish, Mich.; the late Rev. Raymond Frey; and Charlotte (Prof. Conrad) Frey. Three children — Rev. Thomas Frey; Rev. James Frey; and a daughter, Janet, married to Vicar Martin Schoell — are also involved in the WELS ministry.

Reported by Gloria Schmitt

Anniversary observed

Grace of Powers and St. Paul's of Hyde in the Upper Peninsula recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of their pastor, Philip W. Kuckhahn, in the ministry in a special service at St. Paul's.

A 1958 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, he served congregations in Hillrose and Fort Morgan, Colo. before accepting a call in 1961 to served Grace and St. Paul's.

Besides serving in several other offices, Kuckhahn has been a circuit pastor in the Lake Superior Conference for the last ten years.

Reported by Harlyn Kuschel

Tawas City school centennial

Emanuel Lutheran School, Tawas City, celebrated its centennial on September 25 with a special service. Pastor Walter Voss, a former pastor, was the guest speaker.

In 1883 the first school was erected by the congregation which had been organized in 1877. All subjects were taught in German until 1896 when English textbooks were introduced. In the early years the school was taught by the pastor.

A larger building was constructed in 1893. It was used until 1959 when the present school building was built. The present teaching staff is Mrs. Elaine Howell and Robert Kock, who is also principal of the school.

Emanuel's 564 baptized members are served by Pastor James F. Rockhoff. *Reported by Elaine Howell*

Minnesota

St. John's of Red Wing observes 125

On three Sundays in September and October St. John's of Red Wing celebrated its 125th anniversary. President Carl H. Mischke, Pastor Charles Degner, and Pastor John May spoke at the special services. Degner and May were former vicars of the congregation.

St. John's was organized in 1858 with 16 communicant members and today has 837. The Christian day school has an enrollment of 57 and Robert Waedekin is the principal. The congregation is served by Pastors Gerhard Horn and Loren Lucht.

Reported by Charles Degner

NORTHDAL LUTHERAN CHURCH of Northdale, Fla., dedicated its new church on May 22. The congregation, formerly Mt. Calvary of Tampa, relocated to an area of more rapid growth in 1982 and changed its name to Northdale Lutheran. Pastor Carl Leyrer, chairman of the Synod's Board of Trustees, was the guest speaker at the dedication. Norman E. Pommeranz is pastor of the 100-member congregation.



New Mexico

New facilities dedicated

After eight years of worshipping in St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Messiah of White Rock, a neighboring town of Los Alamos, dedicated its own worship/education/fellowship facility on May 22.

Guest speaker at the dedication was Pastor Wayne C. Vogt of Albuquerque. Vogt served the congregation until its present pastor, George P. Swanson, was assigned to the young congregation upon his graduation from seminary.

Messiah, organized in 1975, has a baptized membership of 78.

Wisconsin

School dedication at St. Peter's, Appleton

Under construction for two years, the new school at St. Peter's, rural Appleton, was dedicated in August. Many phases of the \$210,000 project were completed by the congregation which was its own general contractor.

The upper level has two classrooms and auxiliary teaching facilities. The lower level has a multipurpose room, kitchen and maintenance rooms. The building is designed to be energy-efficient, making use of passive solar energy and an earth berm.

St. Peter's has a baptized membership of 640 served by Pastor Ronald V. Ash. There are 37 students enrolled in grades one to eight. The teachers are Principal Royal Uhlenbrauck and Mrs. Sue Glasheen.

Reported by Harlyn Kuschel

David's Star dedicates

What does a congregation do to celebrate its 140th birthday? If it's a congregation vitally interested in Christian education, it might do what historic David's Star of Kirchhayn, Wis. did on October 9, 1983. A school addition of four classrooms, a shower/dressing/bathroom complex and an instructional media center were dedicated. Which is about what one would expect from a congregation whose forefathers conducted classes on board ship for their children on the way to this new land in 1843. About what one would expect from a congregation whose first building was not a church, but a log school.

Preaching for the joyous occasion was a person whose roots in the congregation could hardly run deeper, Pastor Gustav Frank of Ixonia. Both Pastor and Mrs. Frank were baptized and confirmed at David's Star. Both received their elementary education in its school. It was before David's Star's altar that they repeated their marriage vows, and in its cemetery rest their parents.

Among the worshipers was one of Pastor Frank's former teachers, still a member of the congregation, Mrs. Helen Volkmann, 83. Her former pupil surprised her in the narthex before the service, not with an apple this time, but with a beautiful corsage.

Reported by Martin Janke

60 years noted

At a special service at St. Paul's, Green Bay, attended by many of his former parishioners around the state, the 60th anniversary in the ministry of Pastor Melvin W. Croll was celebrated.

Croll, a native of Manitowoc, attended Northwestern Prep and College and graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 1923. After three years of service at the East Fork Apache Indian Mission he served congregations in Florence, Tipler, Greenleaf, Kasson, and Kekoskee.

Since 1973 he has served as part-time assistant at St. Paul's where Roy H. Rose is the pastor.

Reported by Harlyn Kuschel



"AT ST. LUKE'S IN OAKFIELD, Wis., we honored Luther's birth in a special way," writes Deborah Kecker, lower-grades teacher. "A Luther seal was made of cupcakes. It took seven and one-half hours and 148 cupcakes to complete the seal." After reviewing the significance of Luther's seal, the pupils had a second treat: they ate it.

Osceola notes anniversary

Trinity and Grace Lutheran Churches, Osceola, celebrated the 40th anniversary of their pastor, Frederic H. Tabbert, on November 13.

After graduation from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Tabbert served one year as tutor at Northwestern Lutheran Academy, Mobridge, S.D. Subsequently he served parishes at St. Croix Falls, Centuria, and Rock Creek, Wis. He also served parishes at Thiensville and Milwaukee before accepting the call to Trinity and Grace, Osceola.

Tabbert has held several district offices and served on district boards, as well as a term on the Synod's Board of Trustees.

Reported by Charles Degner

Retirement and anniversary noted

On June 29 Zion of Van Dyne noted the 40th anniversary in the ministry and the retirement of its pastor, Karl F. L. Mol Kentin, in a special service.

Mol Kentin, a native of Milwaukee, graduated from seminary in 1942 and taught at St. Paul's, Green Bay for one year. In

1943 he accepted a call to Chandler, Ariz. to a mission and also served an air force base, a prisoner of war camp, and a Japanese relocation center.

He has also served congregations at Mancos, Colo.; Valentine, Neb.; Oak Creek, Wis.; and Tampa, Fla. before accepting the call to Van Dyne in 1977.

Reported by Harlyn Kuschel

Prominent Manitowoc layman dies

Milton Detjen, 75, well-known musician and churchman in Manitowoc, died in November. In the 30s he had studied music in Italy and continued all his life to foster music in the Manitowoc area.

Detjen had his own printing company where he printed and published 31 organ music books which were used in more than 2,000 churches in the United States and Canada. He also transcribed music for the Northwestern Publishing House for a number of years.

Detjen was also organist of Grace Lutheran Church for 42 years and held the office of president and numerous other offices on the church council. □

Reported by Harlyn Kuschel

NOTICES

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

HANDBELL FESTIVAL

The 1984 handbell festival will be hosted by Dr. Martin Luther College March 31 and April 1. For registration information contact Prof. Wayne L. Wagner, Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN 56073. Registrations must be received by March 1. The festival concert will be presented on April 1 at 2:00 p.m.

CHAIRS WANTED

A mission congregation needs 10 to 12 small chairs for children 3-5 to be used for Sunday school. Contact Pastor Horneber, 615 W. Main St., Merrill, WI 54452; 715/536-3313.

ADDRESSES

PASTORS:

Hayes, Dennis A., 207 Jackson St., Prairie du Chien, Wis. 53821.

Jannusch, Alfred, R. 1, Box 353, Cambridge, MN 55008; 612/689-5333.

John, Hermann K., 1100 N. Midway Dr. Escondido CA 92027; 619/747-1390.

Kleist, Dennis A., 8637 Fernald Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053; 312/965-7340.

Lindloff, Thomas D., 614 S. Ferry Dr. Lake Mills, WI 53551.

Plocher, Karl em., 508 Hunter St., Saginaw, MI 48602.

TEACHERS:

De Voe, Linda, 202 1/2 N. Main, Jefferson, WI 53549.

Eggert, John, 5804 Ridge Rd., Stevensville, MI 49127.

Falk, Michael, 2945 N. 74th St., Milwaukee, WI 53210.

Haug, Nancy, 127 1/2 N. Washington, New Ulm, MN 56073.

Johnson, Sandra, 6824 Brian Dr., Racine, WI 53402.

Kaye, Donna, Box 141, Waco, NE 68460.

Oppermann, Karleen, 418 S. Braun Ave., Jefferson, WI 53549.

Proeber, Kevin, 3871 Meadow Lane, Grove City, OH 43123.

Rupprecht, Julie, 3455 E 71st St., Inver Grove Heights, MN 55075.

Seiltz, Janet, 6704 County T., Egg Harbor, WI 54209.

Straske, Karen, R. 1, Box 46, Reeseville, WI 53579.

Tank, James, 215 Mack Ct., Brillion WI 54110.

Unke, James, 1827 N. Garden, New Ulm, MN 56073.

Unke, Lori, 1827 N. Garden, New Ulm, MN 56073.

CHANGES IN MINISTRY

PASTORS:

Kovaciny, Roger, from St. John, Tappen, N. Dak., to Lamb of God, Gahanna, Ohio.

Palmquist, David A., from Shepherd of the Mountains, Reno, Nev., to St. John, Tarzana, Cal.

Scharrer, Paul A., from Mt. Olive, Lincoln, Neb., to St. Paul (associate), Fort Atkinson, Wis.

Turriff, Michael A., from Abiding Word, Somers, Wis., to Mt. Calvary, Waukesha, Wis.

Weimer, Robert L., from St. John and St. Martin, Watertown, S. Dak., to retirement.

CONFERENCES

Michigan District, Southeastern Conference, January 23-24 at Emanuel, Lansing. Agenda: Blessed are the Peacemakers, Dealing with Strife (Hartman); Romans 3:21-31 (Winterstein); Internal Revenue Service Presentation.

Minnesota District, Red Wing Conference, February 14 at Grace, Goodhue. Agenda: Zachariah 14; To Give Account (cf. Rom. 14:12); Punishment, Chastisement and Cross; When did Christ Descend into Hell?

Northern Wisconsin District, Fox River Valley Conference, January 31 at Trinity of Ellington (Appleton). Agenda: Acts 1-7 Isagogically (Rose); Neglecting All Things Equally (Berge).

Northern Wisconsin District, Rhineland Conference, January 20 at Redeemer, Tomahawk. Agenda: Gambling; The Use of Computers in the Church and School.

Northern Wisconsin District, Winnebago Conference, February 27 at Zion, Omro. Agenda: Augsburg Confession — Art. XX—XXII (Capek); Shepherd Under Christ (Kuschel); 1 Timothy 4 (Schroeder).

Southeastern Wisconsin District, Chicago Conference, January 9-10 at Christ the King, Palatine. Agenda: Hebrews 3; A Re-examination of Matthew 18 (especially in regard to the importance of the three steps of discipline).

NOMINATIONS

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

The following have been nominated for the professorship of pastoral theology with emphasis on evangelism and New Testament. This call will fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Dr. Siegbert Becker effective at the close of the 1983-84 school year.

Rev. Walter F. Beckmann Annandale, VA

Rev. Forrest L. Bivens Saginaw, MI

Rev. Joel C. Gerlach San Jose, CA

Rev. Robert C. Hartman Livonia, MI

Rev. Ronald K. Heins Wauwatosa, WI

Rev. Robert H. Hochmuth Sacramento, CA

Prof. Paul E. Kelm Wauwatosa, WI

Rev. James G. Kiecker Saginaw, MI

Rev. Paul H. Kolander Montello, WI

Rev. Roderick G. Luebchow St. Paul, MN

Rev. Ralph W. Martens Guayama, Puerto Rico

Rev. John P. Meyer Holiday, FL

Rev. Wayne D. Mueller Waukesha, WI

Rev. Winfred B. Nommensen Milwaukee, WI

Rev. Herbert H. Prah Milwaukee, WI

Rev. Ronald D. Roth Milwaukee, WI

Rev. Reuel J. Schulz West Allis, WI

Rev. Alan H. Siggelkow Milwaukee, WI

Prof. William E. Staab Oakdale, MN

Rev. Richard H. Stadler West St. Paul, MN

Rev. Duane K. Tomhave Genesee Depot, WI

Rev. David J. Valleskey San Jose, CA

Rev. David A. Witte East Troy, WI

The Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Board of Control will call a man from the above list of candidates in a meeting scheduled for February 13, 1984. Correspondence regarding the nominees should be in the hands of the undersigned by February 11, 1984.

Paul A. Manthey, Secretary

8419 W. Melvina Street

Milwaukee, WI 53222

NOMINATIONS WORLD MISSIONS

The following pastors have been nominated by the members of the Synod for the position of Executive Secretary of the Board for World Missions to succeed Pastor Theodore A. Sauer, who will retire.

Donald F. Bitter Fort Atkinson, WI

Forrest L. Bivens Saginaw, MI

John F. Chorowsky Riverside, CA

Rupert A. Eggert Tucson, AZ

Harold A. Essmann Waterloo, WI

Donald W. Fastenau Phoenix, AZ

Ronald F. Freier St. Joseph, MI

Joel C. Gerlach San Jose, CA

Karl R. Gurgel Lake Mills, WI

Martin P. Janke Jackson, WI

Harold R. Johnne Tsuchiura City, Japan

Kurt F. Koeplin Milwaukee, WI

Richard E. Lauersdorf Jefferson, WI

William A. Meier Phoenix, AZ

Richard A. Seeger Antigua, West Indies

Roger J. Sprain Denver, CO

Duane K. Tomhave Genesee Depot, WI

Carl W. Voss Green Bay, WI

Robert J. Weiss Brookfield, WI

Luther T. Wendorf Sylmar, CA

Ernst H. Wendland Mequon, WI

The Board for World Missions will meet on February 8, 1984, to call from this list of nominees. Correspondence pertaining to these candidates should be in the hands of the undersigned no later than February 1.

Duane K. Tomhave, Secretary

Box 267

Genesee Depot, WI 53127

125th ANNIVERSARY

First Lutheran of La Crosse, Wis., will observe the 125th anniversary of its founding in April 1984 with special services at 8:15 and 10:00 a.m. Schedule of services: April 1, Synod and Missions Sunday (Pastor Walter Beckmann); April 8, Christian Education Sunday (Pastor Edward Werner); April 15, Confirmation and Reunion Sunday (Prof. Paul Nitz); April 22, Easter Sunday (Pastor Karl A. Gurgel); and April 29, Anniversary Sunday (President Carl H. Mischke). A congregational dinner will follow the service on April 29. Former members, confirmands and friends of First Lutheran are cordially invited to attend. For further information contact Mr. Julius Kletzke, 2147 S. 23rd, La Crosse, WI 54601; 608/788-4685.

MISSION SEMINAR

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

The 1984 mission seminar is scheduled for January 25-26 with two morning and one evening session on the 25th and two morning sessions on the 26th. The emphasis on home missions carries the theme: "Compel them to come in... that my house may be full." Topics include: Exploring exploratory fields; Organizing outreach teams; Speaking through special groups; and Crossing cultural barriers.

Bruce A. Bitter

Seminar Secretary

APPOINTMENT

Pastor Douglas Hartley has been appointed to the South Atlantic District Board for Parish Education to replace Pastor Dennis Kleist, who has accepted a call to another district.

Raymond L. Wiechmann, President

South Atlantic District

AUDIOVISUAL AIDS

YOU SHALL BE MY WITNESSES

(FS-424-YSW)

1983 9 min. C & M color JSCA

This filmstrip is a general introduction to witnessing, both planned and random. It gives the scriptural motivation for evangelism. Although too general to be a training film, it could be used to introduce an evangelism program.

A LIVING WITNESS (FS-425-ALW)

1983 10 min. C & M color JSCA

This filmstrip focuses on the kind of Christian living that demonstrates Christian faith and creates opportunities for occasional witnessing. The theological background of the producers is different from our own and that is sometimes noticeable in the script. However, the film has value when presented with the proper emphases.

OUR SHIELD OF FAITH (FS-426-OSF)

1983 8 min. R & M color JSCA

An introduction to a course of instruction based on "The Small Catechism." It identifies four of the six chief parts and explains why such study is important.

THE STORY OF CHURCH CREEDS

(FS-428-SCC)

1983 16 min. R & M color JSCA

An excellent historical review of the three ecumenical creeds. It could be used to introduce a study of the three articles, or to provide information on an important part of church history.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (FS-427-TTC)

1983 10 min. R & M color IJSCA

A brief review of the purpose and content of the Law, showing that the Gospel is the only answer to the Law's demands. Good for an introduction or review of a more detailed study of the Commandments.

THE SACRAMENTS (FS-429-TSC)

1983 8 min. R & M color IJSCA

The Sacraments are neither magic tricks nor empty ceremonies. This message comes through clearly in this brief study of baptism and communion. A good introduction to the study of the sacraments.

GROWING IN CHRIST (FS-430-GIC)

1983 7 min. R & M color IJSCA

Instruction does not end with confirmation. A good message for recent confirmands and for all Lutherans. This filmstrip could also be used to encourage worship and Bible study as a part of a stewardship program.

MARTIN LUTHER —

AN EYE ON AUGSBURG (F-117-MLA)

1983 22 min. color SCA

This film presents an unusual look at the great reformer. Lacking safe conduct to Augsburg, Luther was forced to stand at a distance while his colleagues battled for the truths of the Augsburg Confession. The film presents a series of soliloquies based on items written by Luther during this time. This film should be ordered well in advance, since only a few prints are available.

Order from: Northwestern Publishing House

AUDIOVISUAL AIDS

3624 W. North Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53208-0902

SCHOOL DESKS

Desks (21) with storage under the flip tops are available from Mt. Olive Lutheran in Tulsa, Okla. Call Pastor Thomas R. Schmidt; 918/663-2356.

SUMMER QUARTER AT WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

During the summer of 1984 Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will again offer a number of graduate courses to men who are in the public ministry of the WELS or of churches in its confessional fellowship. In the schedule which follows, please note that Professor John Brug has replaced Dr. Siegbert Becker as instructor for the course *ST 430 — Doctrine of the Word*. This change is necessary because Dr. Becker has accepted the call of our sister church in Sweden to engage in literary work for one year and thus will not be available to teach in the summer of 1984.

**Summer Quarter Schedule
June 18 to July 6, 1984**

- 7:15 — 9:00 am (two hours)**
 NT 443 — Jesus' Withdrawals and Penance Ministry — Panning
 ST 430 — Doctrine of the Word — Brug
 CH 465 — The Mission Century — Wendland
- 9:05 — 9:55 am (one hour)**
 NT 420 — Exegesis of Philipians — Habeck
 OT 447 — Survey of Daniel — Jeske
 CH 487 — Lutheranism in America 1634-1820 — Westerman
- 10:15 — 12:00 am (two hours)**
 OT 440 — Exegesis of Isaiah 1-12 — Gawrisch
 PT 484 — Guiding the Religious Development of the Adolescent — Robert J. Voss
 ST 466 — History of Doctrine: Post-Apostolic Period — Dobberstein
- June 18 to June 22**
1:30 — 4:30 pm (one hour)
 PT 452 — Computer and Audio-visual Use in Christian Ministry/Workshop — Kuske

An off-campus extension of the summer quarter program is also available in the form of an eighteen-day tour in Germany and Switzerland. The *Reformationlands Study Tour*, offering 4 1/2 credits applicable to the seminary's graduate program, is scheduled for July 23, to August 10, 1984.

For further information address inquiries to: Professor Armin W. Schuetzke, President Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary 11831 N. Seminary Drive, 65 W Mequon, WI 53092

EXPLORATORY SERVICES

to determine the potential for establishing a WELS mission in the area. Services are held on Sundays.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA — Shepherd of the Hills, Huffman Elementary School, Lorraine St. and Huffman Rd. 10:00 a.m., Bible class: SS 9:00 a.m. Pastor Tom Liesner, Star Route, Box 1420-F, Anchorage, Alaska 99502, 907.345-6129.

WASILLA/BIG LAKE/PALMER, ALASKA — King of Kings, Wasilla Public Library, Main St., Wasilla, 10:00 a.m., Bible class: SS 9:00 a.m. Pastor Rick Johnson, P.O. Box 872765, Wasilla, Alaska, 99687, 907.376-7771.

THORNTON/NORTHGLENN (NE DENVER), COLORADO — Lord of Life, Leroy Drive Elementary School, 1451 Leroy Dr., Denver, 9:15 a.m., Bible class: SS 10:30. Pastor Mark Birkholz, 11120 Dahlia Dr., Denver, CO 80233, 303.457-2408.

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA — Cross of Glory, Millerville Academy School, 1516 Millerville Road, Baton Rouge, 10:00 a.m., Bible class: SS 9:00 a.m. Pastor Peter Kiecker, 15566 Marjorie Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816, 504.272-4334.

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO — Peace, Rio Rancho Senior Citizens Center, 206 Grande Blvd., Rio Rancho, 9:00 a.m. Pastor Stevens Wilkens, 10312 Delta Ct. NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87114, 505.898-4709.

CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO — Carlsbad Women's Club, 1100 N. Canal St., Carlsbad, 6:00 p.m., Bible class: SS following. Pastor Steven Blumer, 10232 Singapore, El Paso, TX 79925, 915.594-0556 or Mr. Robert Craig, 505.885-8040.

ABILENE, TEXAS — Holy Scripture, meeting at West Texas Rehabilitation Center, East Wing, 4601 Hartford, Abilene, 10:00 a.m. Pastor Jeff Londgren, 4633 Plover Lane, Abilene, TX 79606, 915.698-8053.

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA — Our Savior, Holiday Inn South, 1927 Franklin Rd. SW, Roanoke, 9:30 a.m., Bible class: SS 10:45 a.m. Pastor Rich Scheibe, 516 Greenwich Dr., Roanoke, VA 24019, 703.362-1198.

NAMES WANTED

Survey work preliminary to conducting exploratory services. People interested in WELS services, contact pastor noted.

CALIFORNIA AREA — Salinas and Monterey; Chico/Paradise; Livermore/Pleasanton/Dublin/San Ramon. Pastor Joel C. Gerlach, 360 Spode Way, San Jose, CA 95123; 408/629-2354.

LAFAYETTE, INDIANA — Pastor Lester Hieber, 121 Judson Dr., Mooresville, IN 46158; 317/996-3859.

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS — Pastor Jeffrey A. Weber, 2618 Junius, San Angelo, Texas 76901; 915/944-7261.

NEWPORT NEWS/WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA — Pastor Joel Luetke, 3229 Sandra Lane, Virginia Beach, VA 23464; 804/424-3547 or 420-9652.

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA — Pastor Richard A. Scheibe, 516 Greenwich Drive, Roanoke, Virginia 24019; 703/362-1198.

MARIETTA, OHIO/PARKERSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA — Pastor Richard A. Krause, 1313 - 17th St., Vienna, WV 26105; 304/295-8820.

NEW WELS CHURCHES

Names Requested

In recent months the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran 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
 2929 N. Mayfair Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53222

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

- Alaska Juneau*
 Kenai
 South Anchorage*
 Wasilla*
- Arizona Apache Junction*
 Green Valley*
- Arkansas Russellville*
- California Clovis*
 Poway*
 Rancho Cucamonga
 N. E. Denver*
 S. Denver*
- Colorado Cape Coral*
 Coral Springs
 Daytona Beach*
 Miami (Spanish)*
 S. Orlando*
 Lehigh Acres
- Florida Cape Coral*
 Coral Springs
 Daytona Beach*
 Miami (Spanish)*
 S. Orlando*
 Lehigh Acres
- Georgia N. Altanta*
 Warner Robbins/Perry
- Idaho Boise*
- Louisiana Baton Rouge*
- Maine Portland*
- Michigan Novi
 Traverse City*
- Mississippi Columbus*
- Missouri St. Charles County*
 Springfield*
- Nebraska Kearney*
- New Mexico W. Albuquerque*
- New York Poughkeepsie*
 Rochester
 Springville*
- North Carolina Charlotte
 China Grove
 S. E. Cincinnati*
- Ohio Worthington
- Oregon Medford
- South Dakota Milbank*
- Texas Allen/Plano*
 Arlington*
 Bryan/College Station
 Killeen
 Lewisville
 N. W. Houston*
 S. Austin*
 S.W. Ft. Worth*
 Sugarland/Stafford/Missouri
 City*
 Tyler*
- Vermont Barre
- Virginia Manassas
 Roanoke*
- Wisconsin Antigo*
 Chippewa Falls
 Hayward*
 Merrill
 New Richmond*
 S. Waukesha County*
- Wyoming Casper
 Gillette*
- Alberta Calgary
 Red Deer*
- Ontario Toronto*

*Denotes exploratory services.

CHANGE OF TIME OR PLACE OF WORSHIP

in the following exploratory areas or mission congregations.

VICTORVILLE/HESPERIA/APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA — St. John, 16700 Greentree Blvd., Victorville, 9:00 a.m.; Bible class/SS 10:30 a.m. Pastor Scott J. Stone, 16700 Greentree Blvd., Victorville, CA 92392; 619/245-9090.

BAYONET POINT, FLORIDA — Grace, 205 Beach Blvd., Bayonet Point, 9:00 a.m.; Bible class/SS 10:30 a.m. Pastor David Nottling, 706 Las Cruces Ct., Port Richey, Florida 33568; 813/863-3957 or 813/862-6031.

CAPE CORAL, FLORIDA — Abiding Love, meeting in chapel of Cape Coral Memorial Funeral Home, 3740 Del Prado Blvd., Cape Coral, 9:30 a.m.; Bible class/SS 10:30 a.m. Pastor Thomas Smith, 3227 SW 7th Avenue, Cape Coral, Florida 33914; 813/549-3363.

TOPEKA, KANSAS — Beautiful Savior, 5905 West Tenth Street, Topeka, 10:30 a.m.; Bible class/SS 9:30 a.m. Pastor Curtis Seefeldt, 1044 Lilly Cr., Topeka, Kansas 66604; 913/273-3127 or 913/272-2000.

ARLINGTON, TEXAS — Our Savior, 1506 W. Pioneer Parkway, Rm 222, Arlington, 9:30 a.m.; Bible class/SS 10:45 a.m. Pastor Stanford R. Espedal, 1500 Cherry Dr. #215, Arlington, TX 76013; 817/274-8919.

BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS — Beautiful Savior, South Knoll Elementary School, Langford and Southwest Parkway, College Station, 9:30 a.m.; Bible class/SS 10:30 a.m. Pastor Loren Fritz, 1008 Dominik, College Station, TX 77840; 409/693-4514.

FORT WORTH (SOUTHWEST), TEXAS — Abiding Faith, Seventh Day Adventist facilities (north wing), 7051 S. McCart, 10:30 a.m.; Bible class/SS 9:15 a.m. Pastor Ed Lehmann, 3732 Wilkie Way, Fort Worth, Texas 76133; 817/294-9303.

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(Left) Members of Grace Church singing in the evangelism concert. Guitarist Chung Seui-Geung is at the left. (Above) Evangelist Lee Chun-Hong. (Below) Lay leader Leung Chun-Sam.



生之希望

Sang ji paan

by Roger W. Plath

On an active mission field like Hong Kong, a lot is always happening. It is exciting to see new churches get started and grow. Grace Church is one of the WELS mission churches in Hong Kong. A recent evangelism concert at Grace Church marked a milestone in its development.

Sang ji paan was the theme of the concert. This is Cantonese Chinese for "Life's Hope." Members of Grace Church gave printed invitations to family and friends to attend the Saturday evening program. A large bright red banner in front of the church displayed the "Life's Hope" theme in three large black characters. Chinese Christian music played in the background until the concert began. By concert time the church was nearly full.

The concert was the first time that Grace's members themselves had put together such a well-organized program. The producer, Tang Wai-Yan, is a professional musician and member of the congregation. The program began with a member leading the congregation in *Keih Yuh Yandin*, the Chinese translation of "Amazing Grace." He was followed by soloists and various groups singing hymns in Cantonese, Mandarin or English to piano or guitar accompaniment. Between the songs members gave short evangelism talks. At the close of the evening, Lee Chun-Hong, the congregation-supported evangelist, a graduate of our Hong Kong Bible Institute,

gave his first sermon. He stressed how Jesus is our "Life's Hope" in every circumstance of life, the good days and the bad.

The evangelism concert was effective. Grace's members had used it to give witness to their faith. Their songs and messages edified the congregation. Thirty-three guests asked to learn more about Christ, Life's Eternal Hope. The response warranted all the effort put into the concert.

Perhaps most noteworthy about the concert for us missionaries was that it clearly showed the progress made in Grace Church. The members of Grace had organized the concert themselves. Pastoral help was only advisory. Missionary Gary Schroeder of Grace Church was especially pleased. "We are now one step closer to the day," he said, "when the Chinese members can take over completely. We can see that the Lord is blessing our efforts to prepare God's people for works of service." □



Missionary Plath is in Kowloon, Hong Kong.