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GOD IN HISTORY:

BUSINESS CYCLES, IMMIGRATION AND THE WELS

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## GOD IN HISTORY:

### BUSINESS CYCLES, IMMIGRATION AND THE WELS

"The record of God in Christ administering His world for the purpose of gathering His elect" is our definition of history (Notes, CH 171, 1). If this is so, even if we can only read the record imperfectly, then one can reasonably expect to find some traces of God's activity in the record of his administration of the world. Further, it is the purpose of Christian history "to appreciate better that the Gospel is God's only power unto salvation; by observing this truth in the events since Pentecost to be better prepared to cope with today's tensions, movements, heresies, difficulties and apparent successes" (Notes, CH 171, 1). This being true, there ought to be observable phenomena in the history of the expansion and mission effort of our Synod. It is our purpose, then, to examine selected historical trends to determine their relationship to synodical expansion. The chief factors chosen as representative of secular trends are the business cycle and pattern of immigration. The factor chosen to represent our mission efforts and growth is the founding of congregations.

The classic definition of the business cycle is the record of the economic activity of a country characterized by expansion, peak, contraction and trough (Samuelson, 263). In English, that means the high point of the economic boom is often followed by crises such as panics, ruinous sales, bank runs and general fears of disaster (Klein, 712). This cycle has been

correlated negatively with intensity of churchly activities. Both Samuelson and Davies note that church activities tend to vary in reverse order to the boom (Samuelson, 253; Davies, 27). Now there are many theories that attempt to explain the variations in the business cycle. They range from some sort of cycle of inventions to sunspots. None of them have really been provable for causation (Burns, 3-51; Estey, 155-324). The reason none of these theories are validly causative for the variations in the business cycle is that they attempt to explain God's world in mechanistic clockwork terms. A more reasonable Christian understanding is that the business cycle is simply a reflection of God's activity for his own purposes. The theories propounded for cycle variation are simply examples of the fact that man can describe and illustrate but is not able to come up with definitive answers as to why men act the way they do or why the world is the way it is; yet God has given that answer in his Word. We can see his intervention in the record of the political and economic affairs of Israel. He promises also that he will continue to be active for those who love him according to his own good purpose. Clearly, the business cycle is but one evidence of God's activity in history.

Another reason for choosing the business cycle as one of the factors in our analysis is that one of the more common questions to come up in a congregational meeting or on Synod floor is "Can we afford it?" and that is usually followed by: "Should we worry whether we can afford it or not?" It is possible that this comparison of the business cycle and church growth may throw some light on these questions.

The second major secular factor in this analysis is our immigration history. Nelson's The Lutherans in North America tends to identify the growth of Lutheranism in terms of immigration. Essentially, he asserts

that the Lutheran Church has lagged in true mission zeal by choosing to serve our own people. Pastor Toppe, using some of the statistics from the recent surveys, has pointed out that our membership tends to be approximately 89% Germanic/Scandinavian (Toppe, V-6). Pastor Berg also points out that in much of our history the Synod's mission thrust has often been "to serve the children of our people" (Berg, 252).

In addition to these chief representative factors, we will briefly look at two other variables. The first of these is the general economic, social and political history of the United States taken from a general chronology of important events in American History (Van Doren, passim). Also superimposed as a variable is the mission technique categories established by Pastor Berg (Berg, passim).

The point of this paper then is to compare these trends and to see what relationships are shown. Based on the general literature and 'contemporary wisdom', it would seem that synodical WELS growth would be reasonably related to the secular factors that have been identified. A perfect correlation between those factors and WELS growth would imply mechanistic determinationalism which would not coincide with the Christian view of history. A positive correlation, however, would coincide with such a view because it would reflect a certain faith in action.

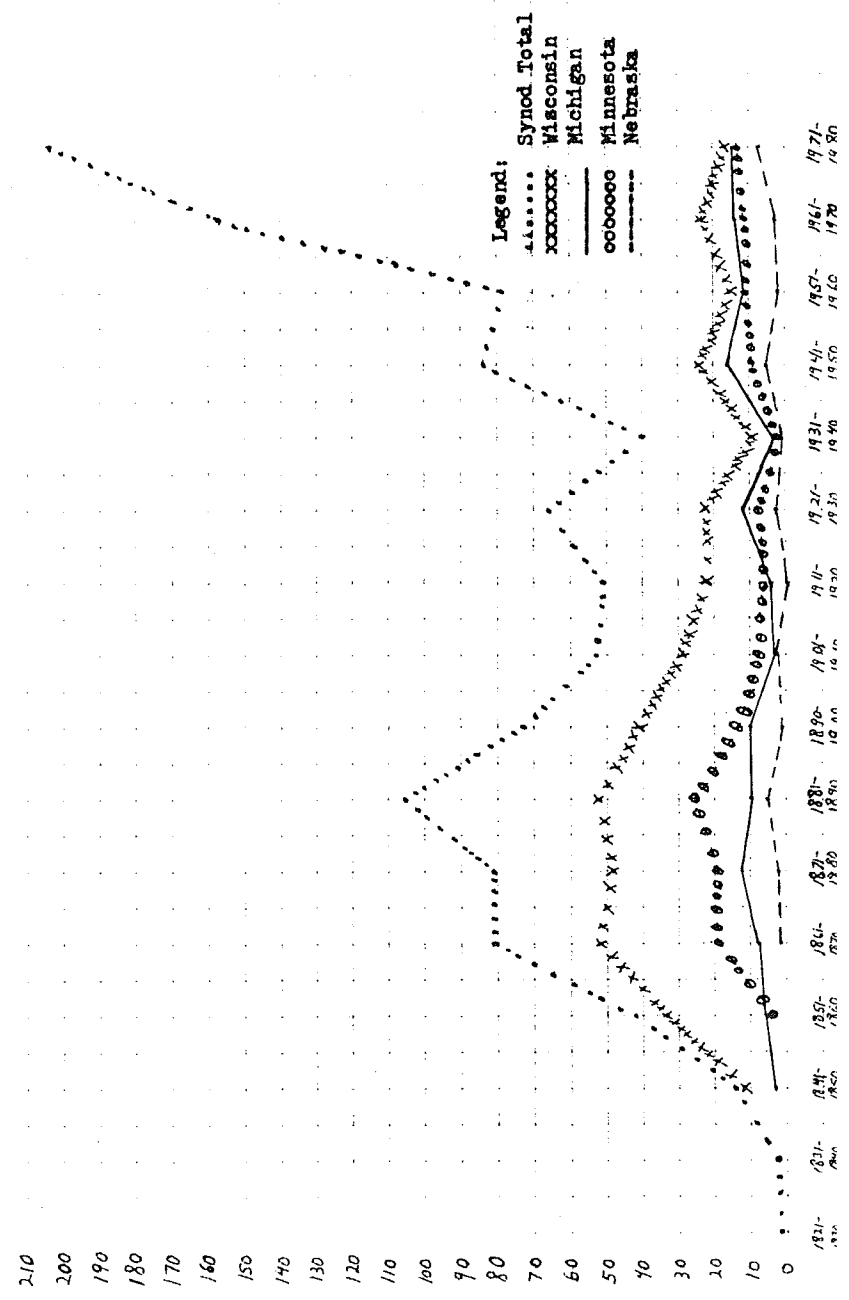
Before discussing the data in depth, it should be pointed out that there are some limitations to the following analysis. The business cycle is typically reported on a monthly percentage basis of a variety of weekly factors. For our analysis, these monthly factors have been further grouped into a yearly mean. In addition, to get a true correlation with the expansion factor, it would be necessary to have congregational foundings on

a percentage basis either by month or by year so that the reporting format of the data base matches. Further, our congregational data do not reflect the number of congregations started and since discontinued. This might or might not have an additional positive or negative effect on the correlations. As a result of these factors, no regression lines have been calculated for predictive value. Despite such limitations, our data show some interesting relationships which should be indicative for future historical work in the area. In addition, the correlations are sufficient to explore the concept of the hand of God in our WELS history.

Graph 1 represents congregational foundings by decade in the four original constituting states and throughout Synod (Wergull, passim; see also Table 1, Appendix). It is interesting to note that throughout the curve, the four constituting states are the main driving force of the total graph. One would expect more variation in the last four decades between total congregations founded and congregations founded in the four states. Yet the relationship is a relatively close one even in this period.

Graph 2 shows the business cycle and the cycle of congregational foundings superimposed one upon the other (see also Table 2, Appendix). The congregational cycle is interesting by itself. In the forty-year periods from 1860-1900, 1900-1940 and 1940-1980, there is a similar rise and fall in the pattern of congregational foundings. This is not an exact forty-year cycle; yet when the graphs for these years are superimposed one upon the other, note how closely the peaks and valleys align. The graph also shows the relationship of mission outreach method superimposed on the two cycles. The "Reiseprediger" Period would appear to have been

Graph 1. Congregational Foundings by Decade in the Four Original Constituting States and Total Synod



the most productive in congregational founding up until the final period of expansion, yet until percentage data is obtained to compare these periods and correlate them, this remains only an impression. There does appear, however, to be some correlation between the predominant method of outreach and the founding of congregations.

In general, it is also interesting to note that there is a close relationship between the peaks and valleys of the business cycle and the peaks and valleys of congregational foundings. As there appears some correlation between the business cycle and socio-political events, so also then there is a correlation between the general political, economic and social climate and the founding of congregations. Yet it would appear from the height of the peaks and the depths of the valleys that there is a great deal of room for human emotion and more importantly, faith in action. Where there is variation between a business cycle peak and a congregational cycle valley, there usually is a socio-political event which would be reflected in citizen attitude. For example, the war years usually show a depression in terms of congregational founding but a peak in economic prosperity. This is followed by a depression in economic prosperity and a rise in foundings, an easily-explainable variation.

The statistical correlation shows a positive correlation between the business cycle and congregational founding of 0.460. Further analysis shows this to be significant at better than the .01 level which indicates that there is only a very slight possibility (less than 1 in 100) that this could be a chance correlation (see also Scattergram 1, Appendix).

A 0.460 correlation between the two is indicative of a relatively close positive relationship so that when the business cycle tends to rise, the

founding of congregations has a tendency to rise. This does not necessarily indicate a predictive relationship between the two factors, but rather a relationship that is dependent. Clearly, God is active in our world providing the means for his plan of salvation.

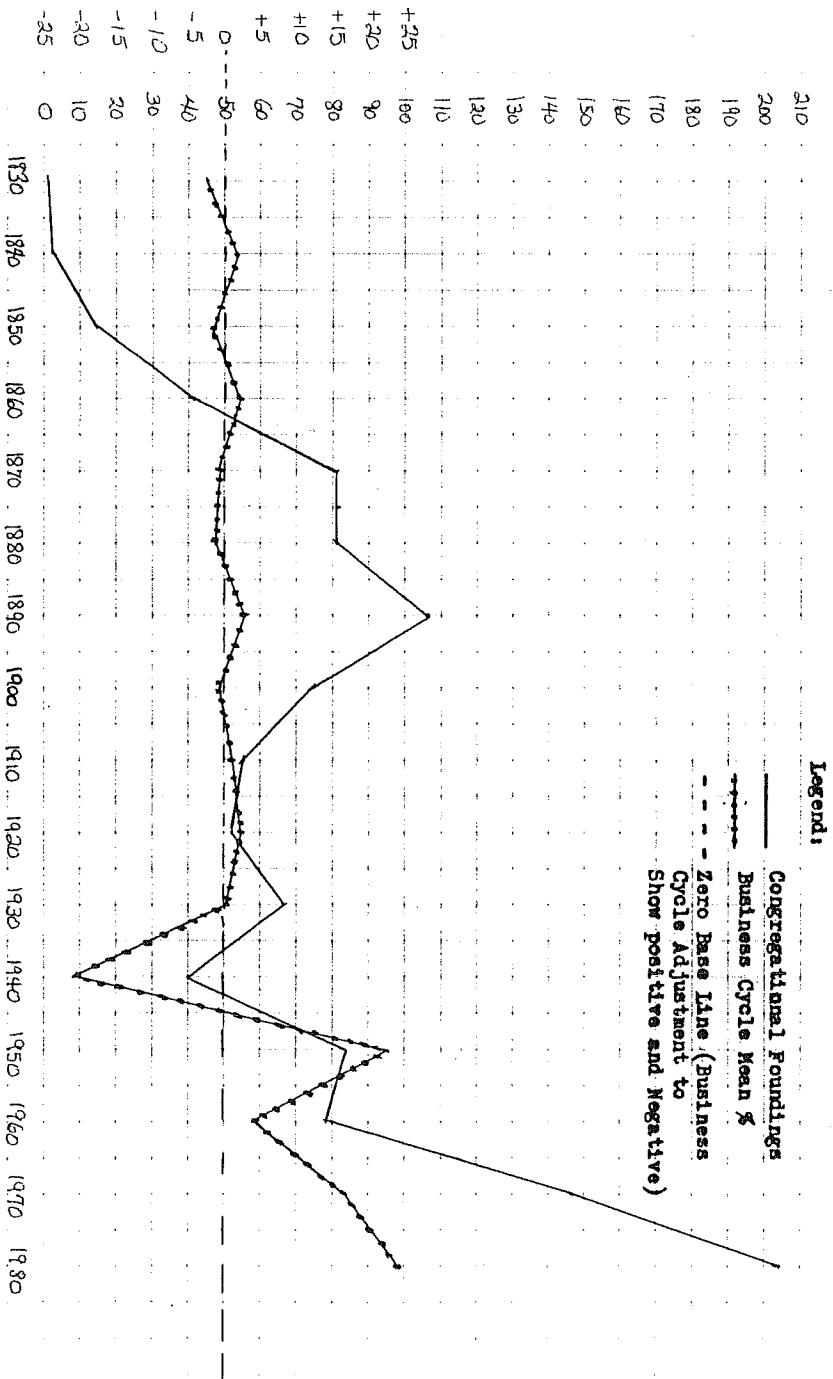
Graph 3 summarizes the data on Graph 2 by decade and brings some of the factors discussed earlier into sharper relief (see also Table 3, Appendix). When correlated, the data again show a positive correlation between the decade mean business and the decade mean congregational cycle (see Scattergram 2, Appendix). The two sets of data have a high positive distribution. The correlation factor is 0.660 with a significance at greater than the .01 level. The decade mean comparison has a higher correlation than the yearly comparison indicating again God's hand in the establishment of our congregations.

Even more interesting are the sub-correlations that can be made from the data. The period from 1850 to 1940 shows some visual similarities between cycles, but the correlation factor for  $r$  is only 0.308; which is to say, there is no significant relationship between congregational growth and business cycle functions in this period. The remaining portion of the 20th Century also shows no significant correlation between the business cycle and the congregational cycle. This is also visually certain. These indications are somewhat confusing. It is clear that God provides the economic means to fulfill his purpose as the correlations of the yearly business cycle and decade business cycle show, but the predictive value at least in this comparison would appear inconclusive.

How can one make sense out of such an apparent contradiction? Why should the total cycle correlation be significant while the sub-correlations



Graph 3. Business Cycle Mean % by Decade and  
Congregational Foundings by Decade



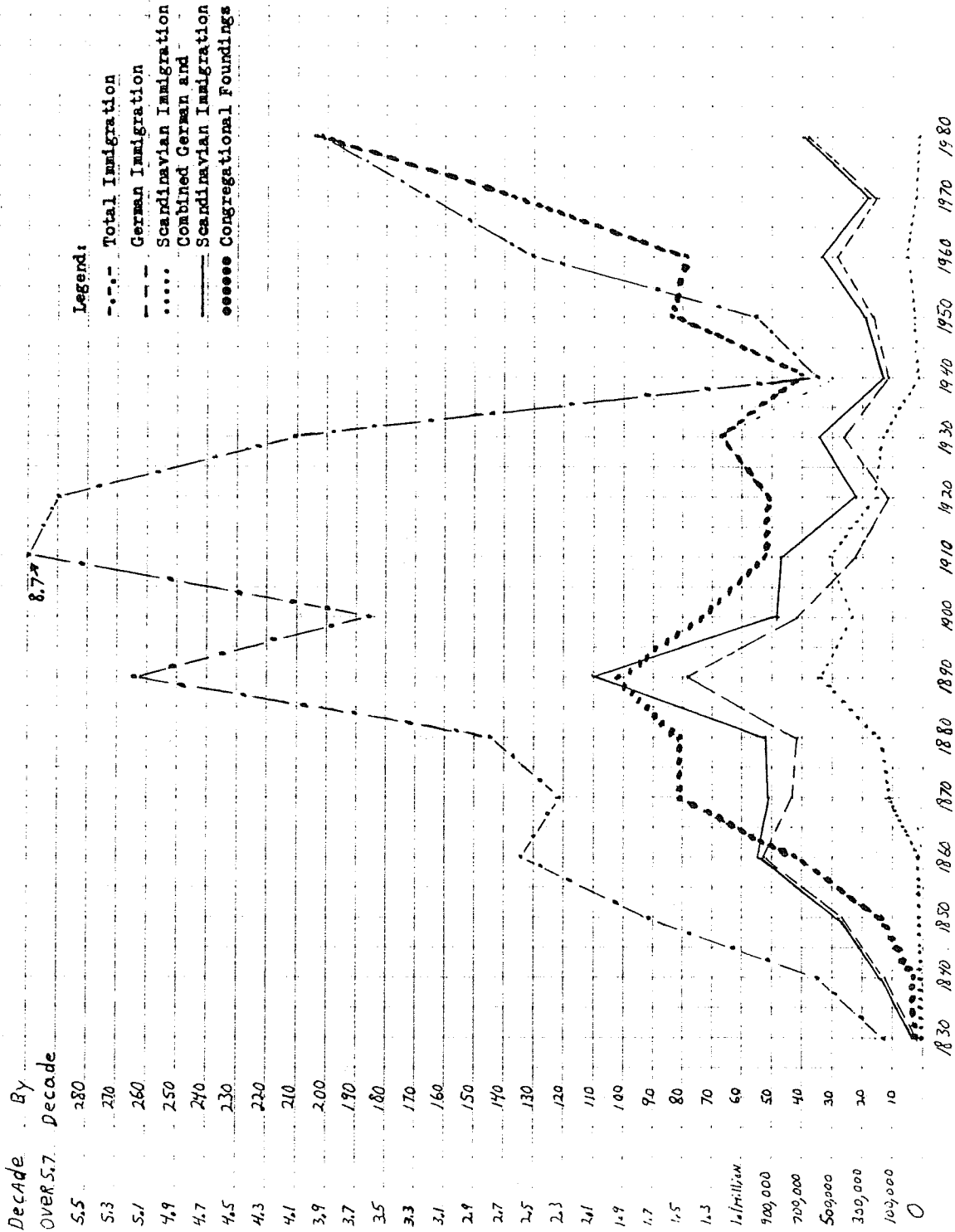
Legend:  
 — Congregational Foundings  
 - - - Business Cycle Mean %  
 - - - Zero Base Line (Business Cycle Adjustment to Show positive and Negative)

appear random? In this situation it is useful to remember C. Crane Brinton's analysis in The Anatomy of Revolution. Brinton essentially maintains that revolutions occur when things are in fact getting better, but the improvement is not as rapid as the people expect. The point of his analysis is that revolutions occur when there is a difference between expectations and action. That has some application to our analysis of the relationship between the business cycle and congregational founding. It is not that founding of congregations is such a revolutionary activity, it is a matter of expectations that has an effect here. It seems that human expectations based on what we experience from the business cycle and socio-political events affect the strength of faith required to found a new congregational enterprise. The relationship between the two cycles seems to be a relationship of expectation. When the popular (or synodical) expectation is positive, we tend (following Schaeffer's analysis of the factors influencing our mission work) to found more congregations (Berg, 266). When our expectations are negative and our faith is weak, we tend to found fewer congregations. Our expectations and the strength of our faith tend to be influenced by what we perceive to be the current socio-political and economic situation. This seems to be the most reasonable explanation for the interrelationship of these two curves.

Graph 4 visually represents the relationship between total immigration, German immigration, Scandinavian immigration, combined German-Scandinavian immigration and congregational foundings (see Table 4, Appendix). There is no significant relationship between the number of congregational foundings and total immigration ( $r = 0.318$ ). There is also no significant correlation between foundings and either Scandinavian immigration ( $r = 0.114$ ), German

IMMIGRATION CONGREGATIONS  
By Decade Founded

Graph 4. Immigration and Congregational Foundings by Decade



immigration ( $\underline{r} = 0.376$ ) or combined German and Scandinavian immigration ( $\underline{r} = 0.323$ ). However, when one follows the visual inclination for the period 1850 to 1940, there does appear to be such a relationship and in fact, the relationship between combined German-Scandinavian immigration for that period to number of congregations founded in that period shows a correlation of 0.672 which is significant at greater than the .01 level. This indicates that in fact there is a correlation between serving our own and the founding of congregations from 1850 to the Depression Era. The correlation of the relationship between the two is rather high and tends to confirm Berg's impression of this period of our mission work.

By implication, Toppe's article seems to indicate that the last forty years of our mission history is consistent with this earlier period, yet the correlation analysis between the immigration pattern and the number of congregations for these decades shows only an  $\underline{r}$  of 0.129. There is then no significant relationship between immigration and congregational foundings since 1941. There is also very little correlation between the business cycle and congregational founding in this forty-year period.

It would appear statistically that the contention that we have changed our thrust in mission foundings is correct. This is confirmed by the fact that we now have approximately 20% of our membership who are not of immediate WELS background. It would be interesting to find out what that 20% represents and how recent an addition it is. The 5% who join our congregations for reasons other than marriage, if they could be analyzed for ethnic background and recentness of membership in the Synod, might also confirm the contention that we are becoming "more open."

On the other hand, such an analysis might show only a change in thrust from searching out "our own" new immigrants to searching out "our own" transmigrants (i.e., mobile ex-WELS, ex-North Central groups). It may be that we have a follow-on factor in relationship to immigration. That is to say, we found congregations among those of like-heritage whether immigrant or transmigrant, in which case some of Pastor Toppe's contentions might bear further analysis by the appropriate officials.

What then have we discovered from this analysis? It is clear from the correlation of the yearly mean business cycle and the congregational founding cycle that the Lord provides the economic means for his plan of salvation. At the same time, he provides opportunities for an exhibition of strong faith which may or may not be met. Yet his plan goes on and the means to fulfill it through his instruments are given. The question of resources which Schaeffer raises is a question of judgment and a question of expectations. Clearly from the rise and fall of the business cycle, God does provide in his time the means to fulfill his commission. Ours is to do as reasonably as we can. The relationship that has been shown in our data does seem to indicate that we might be more optimistic in our expectations than we have been in the past.

In addition, the data presented show that the Lord provides opportunity. While one might argue that our slow growth rate has meant that our weak expectations of opportunity have been satisfied through immigration, yet one cannot deny that God's purpose in spreading his Gospel and preserving his Church has been fulfilled. This is reflected in the relationship between immigration and congregational foundings. The last forty years would appear to indicate that while our synod changes slowly as the mill

grinds fine, yet it does change and we are adapting to the newer situation. Again it would appear that the data point out that it is our faith or the expectations of our faith that need to be improved rather than God's provision of opportunity or resource.

As the purpose of this paper was to provide a preliminary analysis of selected historical trends in relation to synodical expansion, the analysis should conclude with an indication of other areas which could be profitably examined. The data indicate that it might be profitable to research and analyze the question of United States and/or Northern European emigration and the effects on our Synod. The world business cycle might then have an effect on synodical growth. In terms of the material dealt with in this paper, it might be of value to correlate much more closely the data of congregations and business cycle. It is suggested that a profitable avenue of approach would be to analyze the Proceedings to derive a percentage of congregational foundings by year (or month if possible) and compare that with the monthly/yearly business cycle data. This may show an even closer correlation between God's provision of resources and faith's response or lack of response. Furthermore, as indicated above, it might be useful to correlate the number of congregations we have founded and later dropped (ceased to exist within WELS) with the business cycle data. This data might change the relationships between the cycles. If such data could be found it might also be interesting to see the correlation between the "Go" and "No-Go" decision for a new congregation and the business cycle. Correcting the immigration with emigration and correlating that corrected data with the graph of congregational foundings might also provide some interesting relationships.

Another correlation that might produce some interesting results would be correlating the rise in founding of congregations with either synodical budget or synodical fundraising activities. The farm-to-city migration patterns and other transmigration patterns added to the "false start" data in the congregation foundings might provide some additional insights into our mission activity. A comparison of social class/ethnic background birthrate statistics and WELS growth could also be useful.

It would also be interesting to broaden the congregational data base by adding LCMS data to see what pattern developed in terms of the old Synodical Conference and then compare that with the post-Conference period. In examining such data, it might also be interesting to see what the ethnic background of the roughly 20% non-WELS background members of the Synod is. The relative recentness of this 20% could also be an interesting piece of data. Have we as a Synod begun to change from a German/German-Scandinavian synod to a more broadly ethnic group?

In any case, I believe the additional areas of recommended research will result in a conclusion similar to what we have stated above. The Lord provides us with both opportunity and resource, and provides us richly in those areas. It is our duty as instruments of his Great Commission to prayerfully consider the expectations of our faith and pursue the opportunities he presents with the resources he provides.

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**APPENDIX**

TABLE I

Congregational Foundings by Decade in the  
Four Original Constituting States and Total Synod

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MICH.</u>	<u>MINN.</u>	<u>NEBR.</u>	<u>WISC.</u>	<u>MISCELLANEOUS STATES</u>
1821	-	-	-	-	OH
22	-	-	-	-	-
23	-	-	-	-	-
24	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-
26	-	-	-	-	-
27	-	-	-	-	-
28	-	-	-	-	-
29	-	-	-	-	-
1830	-	-	-	-	-
31	-	-	-	-	-
32	-	-	-	-	-
33	1	-	-	-	-
34	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-
36	-	-	-	-	-
37	-	-	-	-	-
38	1	-	-	-	-
39	-	-	-	-	-
1840	-	-	-	-	-
41	1	-	-	-	-
42	-	-	-	-	-
43	-	-	-	2	-
44	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-
46	-	-	-	1	-
47	-	-	-	1	-
48	1	-	-	3	-
49	-	-	-	4	IL
1850	-	-	-	1	-
51	1	-	-	3	-
52	1	-	-	2	-
53	1	-	-	2	-
54	-	-	-	1	-
55	1	2	-	4	-
56	1	-	-	3	-
57	-	-	-	3	-
58	-	1	-	5	-
59	-	-	-	4	-
1860	1	-	-	6	-

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MICH.</u>	<u>MINN.</u>	<u>NEBR.</u>	<u>WISC.</u>	<u>MISCELLANEOUS STATES</u>
1861	-	-	-	6	-
62	2	-	-	5	-
63	1	1	-	7	-
64	-	2	-	4	-
65	2	3	-	6	-
66	-	4	1	5	-
67	-	3	-	7	-
68	1	-	-	4	-
69	1	3	-	2	IL
1870	1	3	-	6	-
71	1	3	-	3	-
72	1	5	1	7	-
73	2	1	-	7	-
74	2	1	-	6	1
75	-	3	-	5	-
76	1	-	-	2	-
77	1	-	-	8	-
78	1	2	-	6	-
79	1	4	-	1	-
1880	1	-	1	3	IL
81	-	1	-	1	-
82	1	3	-	8	-
83	-	2	2	4	OH
84	2	2	-	4	SD(2)
85	1	1	2	7	SD
86	1	2	1	7	SD(2)
87	1	2	1	3	SD
88	2	4	-	7	SD
89	1	3	-	9	SD(2)
1890	2	5	-	2	IL(2)
91	-	1	-	5	OH;SD
92	1	1	-	3	-
93	1	-	1	6	SD
94	-	-	-	4	SD;WA
95	1	2	-	4	-
96	-	2	-	7	IL
97	-	-	-	3	IL
98	1	2	-	2	SD
99	2	2	-	4	-
1900	4	3	-	3	-
01	-	-	-	8	OH
02	-	1	1	4	IL
03	2	-	1	1	-
04	-	1	-	1	IL
05	-	1	-	4	WA
06	-	1	-	4	-
07	-	2	-	-	-
08	-	-	-	3	ND(2)
09	-	1	-	3	ND;OR
1910	1	1	2	1	SD

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MICH.</u>	<u>MINN.</u>	<u>NEBR.</u>	<u>WISC.</u>	<u>MISCELLANEOUS STATES</u>
1911	-	1	-	2	AZ(2);SD(2);WA
12	-	3	-	1	SD(2);WA
13	-	-	-	2	WA
14	-	-	-	5	NJ;SD(2)
15	-	-	-	2	AZ;SD
16	1	-	-	3	-
17	-	1	-	5	SD
18	-	-	-	1	-
19	-	-	-	-	SD
1920	3	1	-	2	IL;SD(2)
21	2	3	-	4	SD
22	1	1	1	2	-
23	3	1	-	3	ND;SD(3)
24	-	-	-	2	ND;SD(4)
25	-	1	-	2	IA;SD
26	-	-	-	2	WA
27	1	-	1	4	SD
28	1	1	1	2	CA;SD
29	1	1	-	1	AZ;SD
1930	3	-	-	1	AZ;SD(2)
31	-	-	-	2	OH
32	-	-	-	-	IN
33	-	-	-	-	CO;MT
34	-	-	1	-	CO
35	-	-	-	1	ND(2);SD
36	1	-	-	-	CO
37	1	1	-	-	AZ;MT;SD(2)
38	-	-	-	3	WA(2)
39	2	1	-	2	SD
1940	1	1	1	1	AZ;CA;IL;KN;SD
41	-	1	-	3	AZ;CA;WA
42	1	2	1	4	SD(2)
43	-	1	-	2	-
44	2	1	1	1	AZ;IL
45	1	-	1	4	AZ;SD
46	3	-	-	2	IA;SD(2)
47	4	2	1	2	AZ(2);IA
48	3	1	-	-	AZ(2);CA;MT;WA
49	1	1	-	4	AZ(3);MT
1950	2	-	2	3	CA;CO
51	1	1	1	3	AZ;IA;IL;WA
52	1	2	-	2	CA;MO;OH;SD
53	2	1	-	1	IA
54	3	3	-	1	IL;ND;OR;SD
55	2	-	1	1	FL;OH;OR
56	2	-	-	1	AZ;CA;IA;MT;SD
57	-	1	-	2	CA;FL
58	-	-	-	-	AZ;CA;FL;MT(2)
59	-	3	-	3	AZ(2);CO;FL;MT;OH;WA
1960	1	-	-	2	AZ;CA(2);ND

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MICH.</u>	<u>MINN.</u>	<u>NEBR.</u>	<u>WISC.</u>	<u>MISCELLANEOUS STATES</u>
1961	1	-	-	3	AZ(2)
62	1	-	1	-	CA;CO;KN;OR
63	3	1	-	1	CA;FL;IL;OH
64	1	3	1	1	AZ;CA(3);FL;IL;MT;TX(3)
65	3	1	-	6	AZ(2);CA(3);CO(2);FL;IL;KN;MO;TX;VA;WA
66	-	1	-	7	CA;CO;IA;KN;NJ;NM;OH;TX(2);WA
67	1	-	-	3	AL;AZ;CA;FL;IL;KN;MD;OH;OK;OR;PA;SD;
68	-	3	-	-	AK;CA;DE;MA;SD(2);VA;WA
69	3	2	1	-	AL;AZ;CA(2);FL;IL(2);IN(2);MT;TX(2)
1970	1	-	-	2	AZ(2);CA(4);CO;FL;GA;IL;IA;MD;OH; SD;TX(4)WA
71	1	1	1	3	FL;HI;LA;NV;OH;OK;OR;PA(2);SC;SD;TN
72	2	2	-	-	AZ(2);CA(2);CO;FL;IL(2);IN(2);MO;MT; NJ;NY;OR;SD;UT
73	3	1	1	2	AZ(3);CA(2);CO;DE;FL;IL(3);IA;KY;LA; NC;TN;WY
74	2	-	-	-	AK;AZ;CA(2);CO;FL;ID;IL;MO;NY;OH;OK; TX;WA
75	2	4	1	2	AK;AZ(2);CA(3);CO;FL(2);IL(2);IN;IA; MO(2);NV(2);NH;NY;TX;WA(2)
76	2	2	1	4	AZ;CA(2);FL;IL(2);IN;NM;OH(2);PA;SC;WA
77	-	1	1	2	AK;AZ(2);AR;CA;CO;FL;GS;IA;ID;KN;MO; OH(2);PA;TN
78	1	2	2	1	AZ;CA(3);FL(2);MT;ND;OH
79	3	-	1	3	AK;AZ;CA;DE;FL(2);GA;KN;TX;WA
1980	1	1	-	-	AK;AZ;FL(2);OH;OK;SC;SD;TX(3)

TABLE II

Business Cycle in Yearly Mean Percent  
and WELS Congregations Founded 1821-1980

<u>Year</u>	<u>Business Cycle (Yearly Mean)</u>	<u>Congregation Foundings*</u>
1821	-9.5000	1.
22	1.5000	0.
23	-2.3000	0.
24	0.8000	0.
25	4.9000	0.
26	-2.6000	0.
27	-3.0000	0.
28	-5.6000	0.
29	-6.5000	0.
1830	0.6000	0.
31	4.3000	0.
32	4.3000	0.
33	3.4000	1.
34	-5.9000	0.
35	2.3000	0.
36	15.9000	0.
37	-3.3000	0.
38	-2.5000	1.
39	7.6000	0.
1840	-5.2000	0.
41	-2.8000	1.
42	-12.5000	0.
43	-13.4000	2.
44	-1.8000	0.
45	0.3000	0.
46	2.6000	1.
47	10.3000	1.
48	-0.1000	4.
49	-1.9000	5.
1850	3.3000	1.
51	5.2000	4.
52	4.3000	3.
53	8.9000	3.
54	6.5000	1.
55	2.3000	7.
56	7.8000	4.

\*This figure represents organized congregations  
existing in 1982.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Business Cycle (Yearly Mean)</u>	<u>Congregation Foundings</u>
1857	-0.4000	3.
58	-8.3000	6.
59	0.1000	4.
1860	1.3000	7.
61	-7.3000	6.
62	-2.8000	7.
63	2.0000	9.
64	5.2000	6.
65	-6.9000	11.
66	2.5000	10.
67	-0.8000	10.
68	0.2000	5.
69	2.3000	7.
1870	-0.3000	10.
71	4.3000	7.
72	10.7000	14.
73	6.8000	10.
74	-4.3000	8.
75	-9.0000	8.
76	-10.3000	4.
77	-10.6000	9.
78	-9.3000	9.
79	-3.0000	6.
1880	7.7000	6.
81	9.6000	2.
82	7.8000	12.
83	3.0000	9.
84	-6.3000	10.
85	-10.5000	12.
86	0.8000	13.
87	5.9000	8.
88	1.3000	15.
89	3.5000	15.
1890	9.8000	11.
91	4.7000	8.
92	7.3000	5.
93	-4.2000	9.
94	-11.5000	6.
95	-2.3000	7.
96	-9.2000	10.
97	-6.9000	4.
98	0.3000	6.
99	4.8000	8.
1900	3.3000	10.
01	2.8000	9.
02	3.3000	7.
03	1.2000	4.
04	-4.3000	3.
05	8.3000	6.
06	10.3000	5.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Business Cycle (Yearly Mean)</u>	<u>Congregation Foundings</u>
1907	6.3000	2.
08	-14.1000	5.
09	1.3000	6.
1910	1.3000	6.
11	-5.8000	8.
12	4.2000	7.
13	4.5000	2.
14	-5.3000	8.
15	-0.4000	4.
16	13.8000	4.
17	11.9000	7.
18	7.5000	1.
19	-0.3000	1.
1920	1.8000	9.
21	-23.9000	10.
22	-6.6000	5.
23	11.7000	11.
24	-0.2000	7.
25	6.7000	5.
26	8.1000	3.
27	3.8000	7.
28	5.6000	7.
29	10.3000	5.
1930	-13.2000	7.
31	-27.4000	3.
32	-43.3000	1.
33	-32.0000	2.
34	-31.8000	3.
35	-23.5000	4.
36	-10.8000	2.
37	-6.9000	6.
38	-28.7000	5.
39	-12.3000	6.
1940	1.7000	8.
41	27.2000	7.
42	32.0000	10.
43	37.9000	3.
44	34.3000	8.
45	22.3000	8.
46	14.3000	8.
47	26.4000	12.
48	30.8000	9.
49	-5.3000	10.
1950	10.9000	9.
51	8.3000	10.
52	13.8000	9.
53	-0.3000	4.
54	-1.9000	11.
55	8.1000	7.
56	7.9000	8.



<u>Year</u>	<u>Business Cycle (Yearly Mean)</u>	<u>Congregation Foundings</u>
1957	-5.2000	5.
58	7.6000	5.
59	7.4000	13.
1960	-2.5000	7.
61	7.3000	6.
62	7.5000	6.
63	8.5000	9.
64	12.2000	16.
65	18.8000	25.
66	32.0000	18.
67	11.2000	16.
68	34.2000	11.
69	33.7000	18.
1970	9.8000	22.
71	20.2000	18.
72	37.9000	21.
73	24.8000	30.
74	11.3000	17.
75	16.1000	31.
76	19.8000	22.
77	23.8000	20.
78	40.9000	15.
79	32.5000	18.
1980	12.5000	12.



Table 3. Business Cycle Mean % by Decade and  
Congregational Foundings by Decade

<u>Decade</u>	<u>Business Cycle (Decade Mean %)</u>	<u>Congregations Founded #/Decade</u>
1821-30	- 2.2	1
1831-40	+ 2.1	2
1841-50	- 1.6	15
1851-60	+ 2.8	42
1861-70	- 0.6	81
1871-80	- 1.7	81
1881-90	+ 3.3	107
1891-1900	- 0.4	73
1901-10	+ 1.6	53
1911-20	+ 3.2	51
1921-30	+ 0.2	67
1931-40	-21.5	40
1941-50	+23.1	84
1951-60	+ 4.3	79
1961-70	+17.5	147
1971-80	+24.0	204



Table 4. Immigration and Congregational Foundings  
by Decade

<u>Decade</u>	<u>Total Immigration</u>	<u>Scandinavian Immigration</u>	<u>German Immigration</u>	<u>Combined German- Scandinavian Immigration</u>
1821-30	151,824	283	7,729	8,012
1831-40	599,125	2,264	152,454	154,718
1841-50	1,713,251	14,442	434,626	449,068
1851-60	2,598,214	24,680	951,667	976,347
1861-70	2,314,824	126,392	787,468	913,860
1871-80	2,812,191	243,016	718,182	961,198
1881-90	5,246,613	656,494	1,452,970	2,109,464
1890-1900	3,687,564	371,512	505,152	876,664
1901-10	8,762,489	505,324	341,498	846,822
1911-20	5,735,811	203,452	143,945	347,397
1921-30	4,107,209	198,210	412,202	610,412
1931-40	528,431	11,286	114,058	125,344
1941-50	1,034,503	26,901	226,578	253,479
1951-60	2,519,363	57,101	477,765	591,967
1961-70	3,231,700	28,900	220,600	249,500
1971-80	3,962,500	9,700	681,700	691,400