

70th Annual Convention of the E.L.S.

Children of the Heavenly Father

ESSAYS:

*"How the Church Can Deal with the
Crisis Facing Our Young People"*

"Christian Education"

ESSAYISTS:

*The Rev. Charles Keeler
Principal Ray Diepenbrock*



BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

MANIKATO, MINNESOTA

JUNE 14-19, 1987

**70th REPORT
REGULAR CONVENTION
of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**

**and the
31st Annual Meeting of the
BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE
CORPORATION**

Convention Theme:
**"CHILDREN OF THE
HEAVENLY FATHER"**

Essays:
"How the Church Can Deal with the
Crisis Facing Our Young People"
"Christian Education"

Essayists:
The Rev. Charles Keeler
Principal Ray Diepenbrock

**Compiled by
Alf Merseeth, Secretary**

**Held at
BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE
Mankato, Minnesota 56001
June 14-19, 1987**

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CONVENTION FOCUS

Children of the Heavenly Father

"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." Psalm 103:13

These words of the great King David, written by him to exhort God's people to praise Him for His mercy, are the scriptural basis for the hymn of Linda Sandell Berg of which the first line was the theme of the Synod's 70th annual convention.

"Children of the heavenly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given."

The year was 1858 and Miss Sandell was 26 years old. She was traveling with her father who was a parish priest at Fröderyd in Sweden. Their destination was Gothenberg. They never reached their destination because during the journey the ship on which they were sailing gave a sudden lurch and the father fell overboard and was drowned before the eyes of his devoted daughter. She sought her comfort in the writing of hymns of which "Children of the Heavenly Father" is but one of the 650 that she penned during her lifetime. The third verse of that hymn expresses the faith in which she found her comfort following her father's accidental death.

"Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth
And their sorrows all He knoweth."

The focus of this year's convention was on our children and on our youth who, along with all the believers in Christ, are "Children of the Heavenly Father."

The morning devotions at the convention emphasized the need for the use of the Word of God as we instruct the youth,

preserve and strengthen their faith and give them strength in time of temptation.

This year we had two shorter essays. The first entitled "The Church Can Meet the Present Crisis Faced by Teenagers" was presented by the Rev. Charles Keeler. He reminded the Synod that "Confirmed teenagers are much more than the church of tomorrow. They are an important part of the church of today." He discussed the crises that our teenagers face and he said "No one in the world can offer them solutions to their unique problems better than we who are equipped with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

The second essay entitled "Christian Education" was presented by Principal Ray Diepenbrock. In defining Christian education, which, he said, "to us . . . must be Lutheran education," he stated that its goals should be

"(1) The student is to become fully convinced and convicted of his sinful nature and his status as a lost and condemned creature;

(2) is to be assured and comforted by the knowledge and belief of this forgiveness and redemption through Jesus Christ;

(3) is to grow in a life of sanctification and Christian maturity."

Both these essays are printed in their entirety in these proceedings.

Alf Merseth, secretary
Evangelical Lutheran Synod

THE CONVENTION DAY BY DAY

SYNOD SUNDAY June 14, 1987



Synod Sunday Service

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

In harmony with the theme of the convention, "Children of the Heavenly Father," Dr. William Kessel used the above words of wise Solomon as he addressed the well filled auditorium at the Synod Sunday morning service.

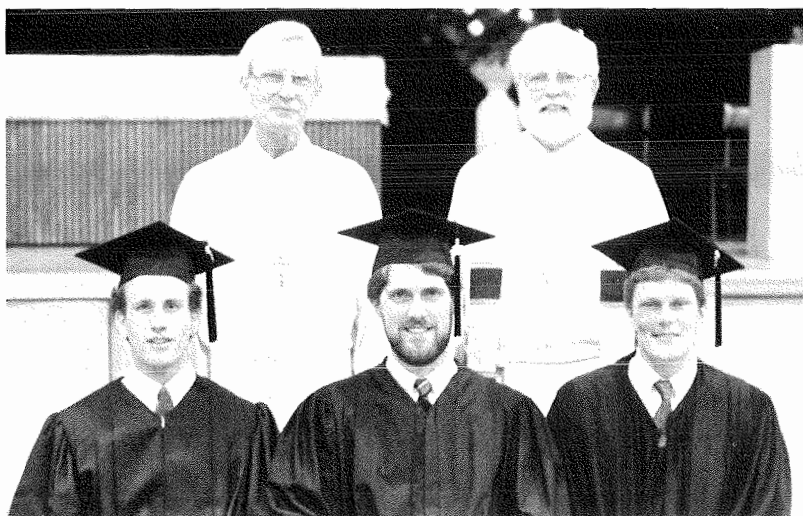
Using as his theme "The Training of Christian Youth," Dr. Kessel posed and answered four questions.

1. Why do youth need Christian training? Because of original sin all youth are doomed without saving faith.

2. Who is to do the Christian training of youth? Parents and the Christian Church have been given the responsibility.

3. Of what does Christian training consist? It starts with the gift of salvation given in baptism, continues with the proclamation of the Gospel and the Lord's Supper and involves education in sanctification.

4. What are the results of Christian training? Our Synod pastors, convention delegates, their spouses and the faith filled youth of our Synod are examples of the results realized through Christian training.



Front row: Paul Hintz, Michael Smith, Mark Bartels. Back row: the Rev. Harry Bartels, and the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith.

At 2:30 p.m. on Synod Sunday afternoon THE GRADUATION SERVICE FOR BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY was held in the auditorium.

The Rev. J. Kincaid Smith served as liturgist and the Rev. Harry Bartels was the speaker. These officiants are the fathers of two of the graduates.

The Rev. Harry Bartels used 2 Corinthians 4:7 as his text and addressed the theme "Preparing Earthly Vessels For Dispensing Heavenly Treasures." He discussed four points.

1. The earthen vessels: God will make them as He wants them.

2. The Heavenly Treasure: This is God's Gospel which tells of Jesus Christ.

3. The work of the seminary in teaching the students to rightly proclaim the whole counsel of God which is found in the Gospel.

4. The work of dispensing: It is hard, pressure packed work, but God is always present with His help because it is His work.

The Rev. M. E. Twit, representing the Board of Regents, presented diplomas to Mark Bartels, Paul Hinz and Michael Smith.

President Orvick spoke on behalf of the Synod.

MONDAY June 15

The first working day of the 70th Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod was opened with a devotion conducted by the Convention Chaplain, Prof. Erling Teigen. He used 1 John 3:1-3 as his text and addressed the theme "Young and Old—Children of God." All believers in Christ are children of God solely by His grace. The church serves these adopted children of God with the Gospel of salvation found in Christ Jesus.



Sec. the Rev. Alf Merseeth and Pres. George Orvick

President George Orvick welcomed the pastors, delegates and visitors to the convention. Secretary Alf Merseeth called the roll to which 62 permanent voting members either responded or were present by the end of the first working day. 26 permanent advisory members responded to the roll call.

The Credentials Committee represented by C. Wosje recommended the seating of 45 delegates who had been elected and certified by their congregations. The assembly resolved that these be seated as delegates and President Orvick declared the 70th Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 31st Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation to be in session in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

President Orvick presented his message and report to the convention for its consideration. Greetings were read and the convention elected its working committees.

The afternoon devotion was conducted by the Rev. Daniel Larson. He read Mark 10:13-16 and led the assembly in prayer.

The Credentials Committee recommended the seating of an additional 49 delegates. These were seated bringing to 94 the number of delegates seated on the first working day of the convention.

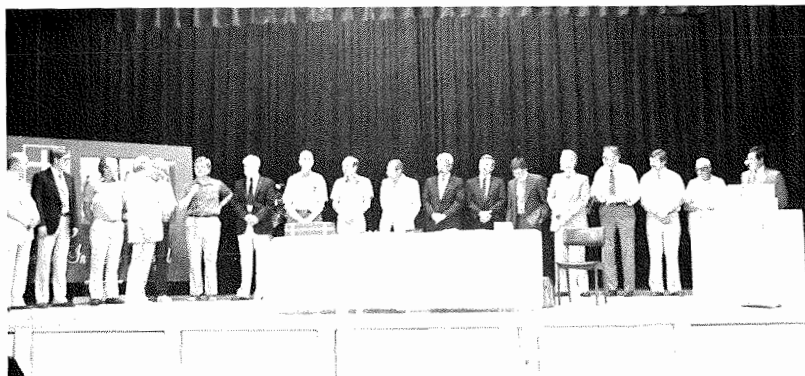
The work of the convention from the Book of Reports and Memorials and from the Convention Handbook was assigned to the appropriate working committees. The convention recessed to allow the working committees the time to prepare resolutions for the convention's consideration and action.

TUESDAY June 16

Using 1 John 2:12-15 as his text for the morning devotion, the Rev. Kenneth Schmidt addressed himself to the theme "Building Faith in our Youth." It is important to build faith in our youth because they need it for the salvation of their souls and to successfully battle the enemies of their souls. We must support every effort to reach our youth with the Gospel because that is the means by which faith is strengthened.

The Mt. Olive Children's Choir sang for the morning devotion.

After the usual preliminaries the order of the day called for the consideration of the report of the Committee on Synodical Membership. The convention accepted eight pastors as permanent members of the Synod and also received five congregations into membership in the Synod.



Welcoming New Members

During the Tuesday morning session the convention also began consideration of the report of its Committee on Doctrine.

The afternoon devotion was conducted by the Rev. Donald Moldstad. He read Matthew 18:1-9 and led the assembly in prayer.

During the afternoon session the convention completed consideration of the report of its Committee on Doctrine. It also completed consideration of the reports of its committees on Education and Youth, Christian Service and Publications and began considering the report of the Committee on Miscellaneous Matters.

WEDNESDAY June 17

The Rev. Frederick Stubenvoll conducted the Wednesday morning devotion. His text was 1 John 4:4-6 and he spoke on the theme "Temptations for our Youth: Lord Keep them Steadfast." Our youth of today perhaps face more difficult temptations than any other generations. The one and only solution is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This must be the center of our ministry to our youth in our church and in our homes.

President Carl Mischke of the Wisconsin Synod brought greetings to the convention. He spoke of the truths of our heritage and the fact that we are to spread that truth. We pool our resources so that we may better accomplish that assigned task.

The Rev. Charles Keeler presented his essay entitled "The Church Can Meet the Present Crisis Faced by Teenagers." Discussion followed until recess.

After recess the convention heard an address by Stewardship Counselor, the Rev. Paul Schneider, and began the consideration of the report of its Committee on Finance.

The afternoon session began with the singing of the hymn "Lord Jesus Christ, My Savior Blest."

At the memorial service for Olivia Teigen, Alice Faye, Ada Tjernagel, Gudrun Moldstad and Leona Kuster the Rev. G. A. R. Gullixson used 2 Timothy 3:14-15 and addressed himself to the theme "Calling to Remembrance." It is proper that we remember those who have been called home during the last year. They were all mothers who taught their children the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ and labored alongside of their husbands in the work of the Lord.

The assembly heard a presentation by the Committee for the Special Offering—"Partners in the Gospel."

The convention considered some of the report of its Committee on Missions and its Committee on Finance and elected its Nominations Committee for the 1988 Convention.

THURSDAY June 18

The Thursday morning devotion was conducted by the Rev. Wayne Halvorson. 1 John 3:7-10 was his text. The theme was "Leading Our Youth to Live as Children of God." Often youth and adults bring dishonor to God the Father by the way they live. Cain and Absalom are good examples of this. When we stray the Father always welcomes us back with open arms. The Holy Spirit wishes to guide us and our youth to honor God with our lives.

Principal Ray Diepenbrock presented his essay entitled "Christian Education." Time was allowed for discussion.

After the recess the convention heard addresses by President Wilhelm Petersen of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary and President Marvin Meyer of Bethany Lutheran College. It also considered the report of its Committee on Higher Education.

The Thursday afternoon session was opened with the singing of the hymn "Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain."

Consideration of the report of the Committee on Finance was completed.

The Anniversary Service honoring the Rev. M. E. Tweit and the Rev. E. G. Unseth for 50 years of service, the Rev. Alf Merseth for 40 years of service and the Rev. David Lillegard for 25 years of service was conducted by the Rev. Herbert Larson. On the basis of 1 Corinthians 4:1-2 he spoke to the assembly on the theme "Ministers of Christ." All Christians are blessed by God's grace which comes through the Word and Sacraments. He has called men into the ministry for the preaching of the Gospel and the administering of the Sacraments. The mercies of God brought through these Means of Grace are more than anyone can count.



The Rev.
E. G. Unseth



The Rev. M. E. Tweit



The Rev. Alf Merseth



The Rev. David Lillegard

After recess the convention completed its business and at 4:35 p.m. a resolution to adjourn prevailed and President Orvick declared the 70th Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 31st Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation to be adjourned. He asked God to bless our future as a Synod and to be with all pastors, delegates and visitors on their homeward way.

The closing devotion was conducted by the Rev. David Thompson. On the basis of 1 John 2:28 the Rev. Thompson addressed himself to the theme "For Our Youth—Living in Hope." All Christians, including children and youth, are encouraged to remain in the Lord that they might be confident and unashamed at the coming of Jesus. His coming is to serve as motivation for all of us to remain in Him.

Alf Merseth, secretary
Evangelical Lutheran Synod

ROLL CALL

A. PERMENENT MEMBERS (Pastors serving member congregations)

Present at this convention:

H. Abrahamson, P. Anderson, T. Bartels, R. Branstad, E. Bryant, J. Burkhardt, R. Dale, J. Dalke, M. DeGarmeaux, M. Doepel, J. Dukleth, E. Ek-hoff, R. Fehr, F. Fiedler, T. Fox, W. Frick, W. Granke, R. Gudgeon, G. Guldberg, T. Gullixson, D. Haeuser, R. Halvorsen, W. Halvorsen, H. Handberg, A. Harstad, N. Harstad, G. Haugen, P. Haugen, D. Hoyord, C. Keeler, M. Krentz, J. Krikava, J. Krueger, D. Larson, H. Larson, R. Lawson, R. Long, M. Luttman, W. Mack, J. Madson, N. Madson, P. Madson, M. Marozick, R. McMiller, W. McMurdie, K. Mellon, A. Merseth, D. Moldstad, J. Moldstad, Jr., J. Moldstad, Sr., D. Nelson, R. Newgard, G. Obenberger, J. Olsen, J. Petersen, P. Petersen, S. Petersen, T. Petersen, T. Rank, D. Schlicht, G. Schmeling, D. Schmidt, J. Schmidt, K. Schmidt, P. Schneider, T. Skaaland, J. Smith, R. Smith, S. Sparley, E. Stubenvoll, F. Stubenvoll, F. Theiste, D. Thompson, O. Trebelhorn, H. Vetter, R. Waldschmidt, J. Wilde, C. Wosje

Absent:

H. Behrens, C. Ferkenstad, H. Gieschen, B. Homan, P. Jecklin, R. Mathison, N. Merseth, H. Mosley, A. Wagner

PERMANENT MEMBERS (Accepted at this convention)

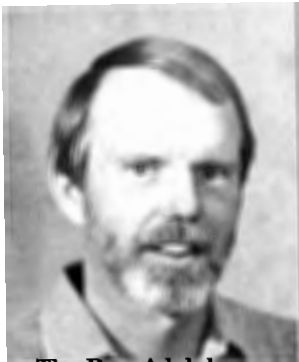
H. Abrahamson, D. Hoyord, A. Harstad, Jr., R. Lawson, J. Madson, D. Schmidt, P. Lehenbauer, J. K. Smith



**The Rev. Harvey
Abrahamson**



The Rev. David Hoyord



**The Rev. Adolph
Harstad, Jr.**



The Rev. Robert Lawson



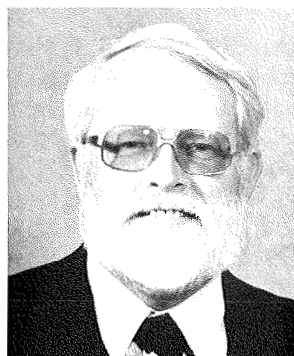
**The Rev. Jonathan
Madson**



The Rev. Dennis Schmidt



**The Rev. Paul
Lehenbauer**



**The Rev. J. Kincaid
Smith**

B. PERMANENT ADVISORY MEMBERS (Not eligible to vote)

Pastors serving non-member congregations:

Present: P. Lehenbauer, D. McMiller, J. K. Smith,
L. Vinton

Absent: G. Faleide, D. Lillegard, T. Erickson, M. Teigen

Pastors not serving congregations at this time:

Present: T. Aaberg, G. Orvick, F. Schmugge, J. Shep

Absent: D. Bakke, E. Buhr, R. Carter, D. Faugstad

Pastors Emeriti:

Present: G. Gullixson, W. Gullixson, A. Kuster, M. Tweit, E. Unseth,
J. Petersen, B. Teigen

Absent: L. Gerbhardt, A. Harstad, Sr., D. McElwain, C. Rusch,
N. Tjernagel, W. Werling

Professors:

Present: M. Harstad, N. Holte, R. Honsey, W. Kessel, T. Kuster, S. Lee,
J. Madson, D. Marzolf, M. Meyer, D. Metzger, W. Petersen, S. Reagles,
G. Reichwald, E. Teigen, R. Weichmann

Christian Day School Teachers:

Present: D. Dahlke, R. Diepenbrock, L. Engel, D. Roembke, L. Rude
Absent: S. Born, D. Madson, J. Treder

CONGREGATIONS ADMITTED INTO MEMBERSHIP

Christ Lutheran Church, Klamath Falls, Oregon
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Grass Valley, California
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Port St. Lucie, Florida
Oak Park Lutheran Church, Oklee, Minnesota
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Warroad, Minnesota

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Pastors and Permanent Members Absence, Late Arrival and Early Departure

WHEREAS, Requests to be excused have been filed with the credentials committee by the following for full-time or part-time absence from the 1987 Convention of the ELS, and,

WHEREAS, these excuses appear to be valid,

Full-time absence: Craig Ferkenstad, Carl Rush, Darryl Bakke, Homer Mosely, Jr., Howard Behrens, Donald McElwain, Bradley Homan, Nile Merseth

Late Arrival: Jonathan Madson, Frederick Schmugge, Matthew Luttman

Early Departure: Gregory Haugen, John Krueger, Steven Petersen, William McMurdie, Larry Vinton

BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.

Resolution No. 2: Delegates' Late Arrival or Early Departure

WHEREAS, The following delegates have notified the credentials committee of their part-time absence from the convention: Paul Chamberlin, Lawrence Tyler, Paul Gallon, Erwin Stoppelman, Eugene Schiller, Gary Carlson, for early departure,

BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.

Resolution No. 3: Congregations Having No Representative at the Convention

WHEREAS, The following congregations have communicated their failure to send delegates: St. Matthew Lutheran Church (Myrtle Creek, OR) and Christ Lutheran (Sutherlin, OR), and,

WHEREAS, Their excuses appear to be valid,

BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused from sending delegates this year, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That they be encouraged to have representation at future conventions.

1987 REPRESENTATIVES ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

Pastor	Address	Congregation	Delegates
H. Abrahamson	Princeton, MN	Our Savior's	Erik Soule Robert Soule
P. Anderson	Yelm, WA	Our Redeemer	Nathan Radichel Paul Nielson Steve Hotchkiss
T. Bartels	Eau Claire, WI	Pinehurst	
H. Behrens	Chicago, IL	St. Mark's	
R. Branstad	Mayville, ND	First American	Michael Osland
J. Burkhardt	Richardson, TX	Good Shepherd	Charles Fiedler
E. Bryant	Port Orchard, WA	Bethany	John Surrence James Walberg William Overn Dan Malsch Willard Leiran Norman Leiran
R. Dale	Apple Valley, MN	Heritage	
J. Dalke	Mt. Vernon, WA	St. Luke	
M. DeGarmeaux	Waterville, IA	East Paint Creek	
	Waukon, IA	West Paint Creek	
M. Doepel	Audubon, MN	Immanuel	Gerhart Becker
J. Dukleth	Scarville, IA	Center Scarville	Erling Brudvig Arnold Faugstad Norman Werner Donald Larson
E. Ekhooff	Golden Valley, MN	King of Grace	
R. Fehr	Oklee, MN	Clearwater	
	Warroad	Ev. Lutheran	Verner Samuelson
C. Ferkenstad	Hesperia, MI	Hesperia	
	Holton, MI	Holton	Edwin Gibson Walther Hansen
F. Fiedler	The Dalles, OR	Bethany	
T. Fox	Ames, IA	Bethany	Martin Tjernagel
W. Frick	Parkersburg, IA	Faith	Alvin Schuck Anton Rieken Amos Basel
H. Gieschen	Hillman, MI	Faith	
	Alpena, MI	Faith	
W. Granke	Madison, WI	Grace	Roland Reinholtz A. V. Kuster
R. Gudgeon	Rochester, NY	Indian Landing	
	Scottsdale	Redeemer	
G. Guldberg	Thornton, IA	Richland	Laverne Hiller Edward Schermer
T. Gullixson	Bishop, CA	Our Savior	
D. Haeuser	Bell Gardens, CA	Christ the King	Gordon Dally Wilbur Hade
R. Halvorson	Sioux Falls, SD	Bethel	Arthur Anderson
W. Halvorson	Luverne, MN	Bethany	Jurgen Oding Otto Houg Lloyd Marrow Ron O'Neil
	Jasper, MN	Rose Dell Trinity	
H. Handberg	Tacoma, WA	Parkland	
A. Harstad	Escondido, CA	St. Paul	
N. Harstad	Ashland, WI	First English	
G. Haugen	Myrtle Creek, OR	St. Matthew	
	Sutherlin, OR	Christ	
P. Haugen	Belview	Our Savior's Rock Dell	
B. Homan	Madison, WI	Our Saviour's	Robert Edwards
D. Hoyord	Waterloo, IA	Pilgrim	Rollo Pietan
P. Jecklin	Savannah, GA	Christ	
C. Keeler	Port St. Lucie, FL	Christ	Richard Backus
N. Krause	Crookston, MN	Grace	
	Fertile, MN	First Evanger	

Pastor	Address	Congregation	Delegates
M. Krentz	Tacoma, WA	Lakewood	Clifford Lloyd Paul Chamberlin
J. Krikava	Brewster, MA	Trinity	
J. Krueger	Piedmont, MO	Grace	Alfred Fenger Julius Rialson
D. Larson	Cottonwood, MN	English	
	Tracy, MN	Zion	Gordon Wendorff
H. Larson	San Antonio, TX	Faith	
R. Lawson	Bagley, MN	Our Savior's	Melvin Johnson
	Lengby, MN	St. Paul's	Alfred Olson
R. Long	Marietta, GA	Resurrection	Hillard Granne- mann
M. Luttman	Lombard, IL	St. Timothy	Leroy Meyer David Meyer
W. Mack	Klamath Falls, OR	Christ	Robert Ore
N. Madson	St. Peter, MN	Norseland	Eric Annexstad
	Gaylord, MN	Norwegian Grove	Elroy Wolle Howard Hanson
P. Madson	Hawley, MN	Our Savior's	David Gallon
	Ulen, MN	Calvary	
M. Marozick	Burlington, MA	Pinewood	Erwin Stoppelmann
R. Mathison	Minneapolis, MN	Hiawatha	
R. McMiller	Phoenix, AZ	Christ	Leonard Kurczewski
W. McMurdie	Tustin, CA	Faith	
K. Mellon	Lakeland, FL	Our Savior	Orville Stromley
A. Merseth	Northwood, IA	First Shell Rock	
	Lake Mills, IA	Lake Mills	Obert Harmon
	Lake Mills, IA	Lime Creek	Lawrence Levorson
		Somber	Leighton Humphrey
	Riceville, IA	Immanuel	Paul Dahle
			Swen Hanson
			Albin Levorson
			Marvin Gronwoldt, Sr.
N. Merseth	Grass Valley, CA	Shepherd of the Hills	Herb Fisher
	Yuba City, CA	Bethel	Louis Wang
D. Moldstad	Naples, FL	Our Savior	Ed Williams
J. Moldstad, Jr.	Lake Havasu City, AZ	Our Saviour	Clyde Miller
			William Kruchenberg
J. Moldstad, Sr.	Vero Beach, FL	Grace	Robert Ude
H. Mosley	Grants Pass, OR	Our Savior	Andrew Pike
			Walter Preodehl
D. Nelson	Princeton, MN	Bethany	George Wyckhuysen
			Clarence Cook
R. Newgard	Mankato, MN	Mt. Olive	Gordon Scharping
			N. Holte
G. Obenberger	Lawler, IA	Jerico	Ray Diepenbrock
		Saude	David Anderson
			Orville Roberson
			Larry Benz
J. Olsen	Cottage Grove, WI	W. Koshkonong	Milton Tweit
			Philip Nordlie
John Petersen	E. Grand Forks, MN	River Heights	Al Wollenzien
			Robert Bernard
P. Petersen	Oregon, WI	Faith	Gary Carlson
S. Petersen	Madison, WI	Holy Cross	Sherman Orvick
			Eugene Schiller

Pastor	Address	Congregation	Delegates
J. Madson			Lawrence Tyler
T. Petersen	Bloomer, WI	Good Shepherd	
T. Rank	Oklee, MN	Nazareth	Randy Mostrom
		Oak Park	Lonnie Burrack
			Russ Culkins
D. Schlicht	Forest City, IA	Forest	Orlando Chervestad
	Thompson, IA	Zion	Robert Clark
			Reuben Sandell
G. Schmeling	Okauchee, WI	Holy Trinity	Irwin Erickson
D. Schmidt	Hartland, MN	Hartland	Dale Dahlke
			Harvey Bell
			Leslie Olson
J. Schmidt	Manchester, MN		
K. Schmidt	Santa Rosa, CA	Our Savior	
	West Bend, WI	Trinity	Ellsworth Butt
			Leonard Engel
P. Schneider	Midland, MI	Holy Scripture	Robert Keeley
			Otto Henning
T. Skaaland	Elderon, WI	Our Savior's	
J. Smith	Clintonville, WI	St. Paul	
	Shawano, WI	St. Martin	
M. Smith	Suttons Bay, MI	First	Ernest Johnson
			James Scherf
S. Sparley	Colorado Springs, CO	St. Andrew	
E. Stubenvoll	Marinette, WI	Trinity	
F. Stubenvoll	Calmar, IA	Trinity	
	New Hampton, IA	Redeemer	Wilmer Broer
F. Theiste	Eau Claire, WI	Concordia	Nanian Thompson
			Gary Peterson
D. Thompson	Albert Lea, MN	Our Savior's	John Dale
			Benjamin Anderson
H. Vetter	Iola, WI	Redeemer	Lenwick Hoyord
			John Mikels
A. Wagner &	Ventura-Fillmore, CA	Wayfarers' Chapel	Ross Thompson
R. Wald-			
schmidt			
J. Wilde	Sebastian, FL	Trinity	Bruno Bova
			Carl Albers
J. Willitz	Portage, WI	St. Paul's	
	Wisconsin Dells	Newport	
C. Wosje	Chicago, IL	Emmaus	John Dean
			David White

CONVENTION COMMITTEES

1. **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND REPORT**
Pastors—W. Frick, F. Fiedler, W. Gullixson
Delegates—Edwin Gibson (Holton), Harvey Bell (Hartland), Nanian Thompson (Concordia, Eau Claire)
2. **NOMINATIONS (Elected at the 1986 Convention)**
Pastors—M. Tweit, M. Luttman, P. Anderson, S. Petersen
Delegates—R. Olson, W. Overn, L. Hoyord, A. Holman
3. **CREDENTIALS**
Pastors—G. Reichwald, C. Wosje, J. Smith
Delegates—Howard Hanson (Norwegian Grove), Otto Henning (Midland), Robert Soule (Our Savior's, Princeton)
4. **PROGRAM**
Pastors—M. Luttman, R. Long
5. **PUBLIC PRESS AND CONVENTION SENTINEL**
Pastors—E. Teigen, D. Larson
6. **DOCTRINE**
Pastors—K. Schmidt, E. Bryant, T. Gullixson, H. Handberg, P. Madson, J. Schmidt, J. Wilde, G. Obenberger, R. McMiller, F. Stubenvoll, A. Harstad, Jr.
Delegates—Ed Williams (Our Savior, Naples), Howard Hanson (Norwegian Grove), James Scherf (Suttons Bay), Laverne Hiller (Thornton), Sven Hanson (Somber), Larry Benz (Saude), Ben Anderson (Our Savior's, Albert Lea), Sherman Orvick (Faith, Oregon), Louis Wang (Bethel, Yuba City), A. V. Kuster (Grace, Madison), Norman Werner (King of Grace, Golden Valley), Arthur Anderson (Bethany, Luverne), William Overn (Heritage, Apple Valley), Gordon Dally (Christ the King, Bell Gardens).
7. **MISSIONS**
Pastors—S. Petersen, D. Haeuser, D. Thompson, G. Schmeling, S. Reagles, M. Marozick, J. B. Madson, P. Jecklin, D. Metzger, J. Moldstad, Sr., D. Moldstad, Jonathan Madson, P. Lehenbauer
Delegates—Robert Clark (Forest), Gary Peterson (Concordia, Eau Claire), James Walberg (Bethany, Port Orchard), Elroy Wolle (Norwegian Grove), Hillard Granneman (Resurrection, Marietta), Clyde Miller (Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City), Orville Stromley (First Shell Rock), Anton Rieken (Parkersburg), David Anderson (Jerico), Paul Gallon (Faith, Tustin), Andrew Pike (Vero Beach, Grace), Melvin Johnson (Our Savior's, Bagley), Jurgen Oding (Bethany, Luverne), Walter Preodehl (Our Savior, Grants Pass), Russ Culkins (Oak Park, Oklee)
8. **HIGHER EDUCATION**
Pastors—E. Ekhooff, M. DeGarreaux, M. Luttman, C. Keeler, W. McMurdie, J. Olsen, J. Burkhardt, R. Dale, J. Shep, E. Stubenvoll, H. Vetter
Delegates—Norman Myre (Forest), Robert Soule (Our Savior's, Princeton), Lloyd Morrow (Parkland), John Mikels (Redeemer, Iola), Walter Hanson (Holton), Leonard Kurczewski (Our Savior, Lakeland), Gordon Scharping (Bethany, Princeton), Al Wollenzien (Western Koshkonong), Eugene Schiller (Holy Cross, Madison), Roland Reinholtz (Grace, Madison), Erling Brudvig (Scarville)
9. **EDUCATION AND YOUTH**
Pastors—N. Madson, John Petersen, R. Long, J. Krikava, D. Larson, W. Granke, T. Bartels, J. Dalke, T. Skaaland, L. Vinton, R. Lawson
Delegates—John Surrette (Bethany, Port Orchard), Leonard Engel (Trinity, West Bend), Erik Soule (Our Savior's, Princeton), Ron O'Neil (Parkland), Gerhart Becker (Immanuel, Audubon), Edwin Gibson (Holton), Alfred Olson (St. Paul's, Lengby), Charles Fiedler (Good Shepherd, Richardson), Phil Nordlie (Western Koshkonong), Carl Albers (Trinity, Sebastian), David Meyer (St. Timothy, Lombard), Nathan Radichel (Our Redeemer, Yelm), Richard Backus (Christ, Port St. Lucie)
10. **PUBLICATIONS**
Pastors—P. Schneider, W. Mack, M. Krentz, N. Harstad, T. Aaberg, S. Sparley, R. Waldschmidt, H. Abrahamson, D. Schmidt
Delegates—John Dean (Emmaus, Chicago), Eric Annexstad (Norseland),

- Robert Keeley (Holy Scripture), Norman Lierand (East Paint Creek), Obert Harmon (First Shell Rock), John Dale (Our Savior's, Albert Lea), Clifford Lloyd (Trinity, Brewster), Dale R. Dahlke (Holy Trinity, Okauchee), Dan Malsch (St. Luke), Gary Carlson (River Heights), Wilbur Hade (Bethel, Sioux Falls), Michael Osland (First, Mayville), Orlando Chervestad (Oak Park, Oklee)
11. FINANCES
 Pastors—J. Moldstad, Jr., D. Nelson, R. Newgard, W. Kessel, K. Mellon, T. Petersen, W. Petersen, J. Smith, O. Trebelhorn, M. Tweit
 Delegates—Ellsworth Butt (Trinity, West Bend), Wilmer Broer (Redeemer, New Hampton), Otto Henning (Midland), Leslie Olson (Hartland), Lenwick Hoyord (Redeemer, Iola), Martin Tjernagel (Bethany, Ames), Leighton Humphrey (Lake Mills), Orville Roberson (Jerico), Norman Holte (Mt. Olive, Mankato), Steve Hotchkiss (Pinehurst), Larry Rude (advisory), Lonnie Burrack (Nazareth)
12. CHRISTIAN SERVICE
 Pastors—M. Doepel, T. Kuster, J. Krueger, R. Halvorson, M. Harstad, T. Rank, F. Theiste, E. Teigen, D. Hoyord, J. K. Smith
 Delegates—David White (Emmaus, Chicago), Nanian Thompson (Concordia, Eau Claire), Ross Thompson (Wayfarers', Ventura), Paul Nielson (Our Redeemer, Yelm), Rollo Pietan (Pilgrim), Erwin Stoppelman (Faith, Tustin), Lawrence Tyler (Holy Cross, Madison), Robert Bernard (River Heights), Bruno Bova (Trinity, Sebastian), Otto Houg (Trinity, Jasper), Leroy Meyer (St. Timothy, Lombard), Herbert Fisher (Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley), Verner Samuelson (Ev. Lu. Ch., Warroad)
13. MISCELLANEOUS
 Pastors—H. Larson, W. Frick, R. Fehr, R. Gudgeon, P. Haugen, P. Anderson, J. Dikleth, D. Marzolf, D. Schlicht, G. Reichwald, G. Haugen
 Delegates—Irwin Erickson (Zion, Thompson), Harvey Bell (Hartland), Edward Schermer (Thornton), Albin Levorson (Somber), Marvin Gronwoldt, Sr. (Immanuel), Gordon Wendorff (Zion, Tracy), Paul Chamberlin (Trinity, Brewster), Robert Ude (Grace, Vero Beach), Paul Dahle (Lime Creek), Arnold Faugstad (Scarville), Randy Mostrom (Nazareth), Bob Ore (Christ, Klamath Falls)
14. SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP
 Pastors—P. Petersen, F. Fiedler, G. Guldberg, W. Gullixson, C. Wosje, W. Halvorson
 Delegates—Reuben Sandell (Zion, Thompson), Ernest Johnson (Suttons Bay), William Kruckenberg (Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City), Alvin Schuck (Parkersburg), Clarence Cook (Bethany, Princeton), Julius Rialson (Zion, Tracy), Robert Edwards (Our Saviour's, Madison), Donald Larson (King of Grace, Golden Valley), George Wyckhuyse (Our Savior, Grants Pass)
15. MINUTES
 Pastors—J. Smith, D. Schlicht
 Delegates—John Dale (Our Savior's, Albert Lea), Amos Basel (Faith, Hillman)
16. PASTORAL CONFERENCE RECORDS
 Pastors—J. Petersen, G. Gullixson, A. Kuster, R. Branstad
17. RESOLUTIONS
 Pastors—W. Gullixson, F. Schmugge, B. Teigen
18. TELLERS
 Pastor—D. Hoyord, H. Abrahamson, J. Madson
 Candidates—M. Bartels, M. Smith
19. CHAPLAIN
 Pastor—E. Teigen
20. HEAD USHER
 Pastor—T. Fox
21. PARLIAMENTARIAN
 Pastor—M. Tweit
22. ORGANIST
 Pastor—D. Marzolf

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 1987

ESTEEMED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF OUR EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD: GRACE BE UNTO YOU AND PEACE FROM GOD OUR FATHER AND FROM THE LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. AMEN.

We gather this week for the 70th Annual Convention of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The first convention was held on these same dates—June 14-19—in the year 1918. We meet under comfortable, air-conditioned, spacious and attractive surroundings on the lovely campus of Bethany Lutheran College. Our forefathers met for the most part in a tent which had been set up one mile north of the Lime Creek Church just over the Iowa-Minnesota border. Since they were not allowed by law to speak any language but English in the state of Iowa, they found it necessary to cross the state line into Minnesota in order to carry on their Norwegian services and sessions. We meet this week as a church body that has become well established over the years and has stood the test of time. They met as a small but determined group that faced the enormous task of organizing a new church body with very little outward strength.

But while the circumstances of that first meeting in 1918 are vastly different from those under which we gather this week, the fact remains that our objectives and our convictions remain the same.

What are these objectives and goals which our Synod seeks to accomplish as we complete our 70th year? Let me set forth some unchangeable truths which the church must ever hold fast.

We are here to proclaim the EVERLASTING GOSPEL. In the wondrous Revelation received by the Apostle John we are told that John saw "Another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting Gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." (Revelation 14:6) The crying need for the proclamation of this Gospel will never change. The reason it will not change is that human nature never changes. Article II of the *Augsburg Confession* sums it up in these words, "It is also taught among us that since the fall of Adam all men who are born according to the course of nature are conceived and born in sin. That is, all men are full of evil lust and inclinations from their mother's wombs and are unable by nature to have true fear of God and true faith in God. Moreover, this inborn sickness and hereditary sin is truly sin and condemns to the eternal wrath of God all those who are not born again through Baptism and the Holy Spirit." The sin which we see in the world around us is not new. Adultery, fornication, homosexuality, dishonesty, slander, and all the other evils may receive more public attention, they may be practiced more openly and shamelessly but they have been in man's heart ever since the fall. When the Apostle Paul wrote about "men burning in their lust towards one another" (Romans 1:27) and "women changing the natural use into that which is against nature" (Romans 1:26) he could very well have been writing in today's newspaper. But instead of approval of such "alternate life styles," as we see today, the Apostle issues a harsh condemnation of those who practice such vices.

But in the midst of this fallen and corrupt world there has come a message. It is a message of hope. It is a message of salvation. It is the EVERLASTING GOSPEL. Again the *Augsburg Confession* sums it up in these words, "It is also taught among us that we cannot obtain forgiveness of sin and righteousness before God by our own merits, works, or satisfactions, but that we receive forgiveness of sin and become righteous before God by grace, for Christ's sake, through faith, when we believe that Christ suffered for us and that for his sake our sin is forgiven and righteousness and eternal life are given to us. For God will regard and reckon this faith as righteousness." (A.C. Art. IV)

Let it ever be the mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod to spread this message far and wide and to teach it diligently unto God's people. There are countless souls wandering about in the wilderness of sin on the way to eternal perdition who desperately need to hear the saving message. There are troubled souls who have been scarred and injured by Satan's hosts and who are living lives of spiritual pain and misery. They need our help. There are souls who are deeply concerned about the liberal direction which their church bodies have taken and are searching for a place where the truth is proclaimed and God's Word is upheld in its truth and purity. They are looking for direction and leadership.

May our Evangelical Lutheran Synod ever be filled with a desire to do mission work. How encouraging it is that our "Partner's in the Gospel" offering is enabling us to begin reaching out to more and more souls. Even as there is "joy amongst the angels of heaven over one sinner that repenteth" so there ought to be real joy in our hearts as we see the establishment of new congregations.

And how glad we are to welcome into our midst those congregations who are searching for a church body which continues to adhere to the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. Again this year we receive several pastors and congregations who want to continue in the truth.

A SECOND OBJECTIVE of our Synod must be to hold fast to the Holy Scriptures as the inspired and inerrant Word of God. Over the past several decades there has arisen an increasing attack upon the inspiration and inerrancy of the Bible. Way back in the 1930's so-called Lutheran theologians were already attacking the doctrine of verbal inspiration. Dr. E. H. Delk wrote in the *Lutheran Church Quarterly* in 1936 that those who hold to verbal inspiration "think in the forms and categories of an age long past for the modern mind. Their position is outmoded." (*Lutheran Church Quarterly*, 1936, p. 334) Today the situation has gotten increasingly worse. The new Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will be formed on January 1, 1988, by the merger of the American Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Church in America, and the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches. Judged in the light of the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions the theology of this church body can no longer be called Lutheran. The doctrine of the inerrancy of Scripture is denied and ridiculed by the leading theologians of the new body. The newly elected bishop, Dr. Herbert W. Chilstrom, was asked if he would advocate employment of theologians who affirm the inerrancy of Scripture in seminaries or colleges of the new body. He answered, "It is well and good for our seminary students to be exposed to the fact that there are some who hold this opinion. But it is quite another thing to advocate this view in our seminaries. It would be out of character with any of the churches which are identifying with the new Lutheran Church." (letter to Robert Jensen, MD, Feb. 27, 1985, quoted in David R. Barnhart's "The Church's Desperate Need for Revival," 1986, p. 86) The method of interpreting the scriptures which is employed today by the liberal seminaries is known as the Historical-Critical method. With such an approach the Bible is viewed from the standpoint of human reason. It is judged critically as any other book. Those elements which deal with supernatural events are conveniently explained away and are regarded as mythological.

Dr. Carl E. Braaten, a professor at the LCA's Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, and Dr. Robert W. Jenson, professor of the LCA's Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania are the authors of a two-volume work entitled "*Christian Dogmatics*." (Published in 1984) In these volumes not only is the doctrine of the inspiration and inerrancy of Scripture clearly denied, but the very fundamentals of our faith, such as are contained in the Apostle's Creed, are called into question. Thus Braaten can write in *Christian Dogmatics* that:

The history and phenomenology of the religions have called our attention to the mythic character of the incarnation. The notion of the pre-existent Son of God becoming a human being in the womb of a virgin

and then returning to his heavenly home is bound up with a mythological picture of the world that clashes with our modern scientific world view. (Vol. I, p. 527)

In like manner the doctrines of the Trinity, the Two Natures in Christ, the bodily resurrection of Christ, and the very atonement itself are explained in a way that places them in the realm of myths rather than historical facts and eternal truths.

The sad thing about all of this is that most of the lay people of the new body are not aware of what is being taught. They are deceived by the fact that the new body still uses for the most part, the same language in their confessions of faith as has been common to Lutheranism. But the loopholes are such that theologians can teach whatever form of modern religious liberalism suits their fancy.

Pastors and lay people of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod should be fully informed concerning the terrible denial of Christian truth that is taking place. We should be ready and willing to testify to our concerned neighbors about what is really happening in the so-called new Lutheran Church. Heroic efforts, such as Lutherans Informed for Truth, are no doubt very influential in testifying to the errors, but each and everyone of us needs to be aware of the crisis that is taking place in Lutheranism. The prospect of future union with the Roman Catholic Church and the Reformed Churches is certainly a possibility and a goal for many in leadership positions in the new church. One wonders what the Great Reformer, Martin Luther, would say if he could view the state of Lutheranism today.

A THIRD OBJECTIVE of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod ought to be that we remain truly "evangelical."

While it is our duty to expose false doctrine and to warn against it, yet we should remember that the old evil foe will continue to tempt us also to walk in paths that are not truly scriptural. There are dangers that beset orthodox churches as well. One of these is that of sinful pride in our orthodoxy. It is only by God's grace that we walk in the truth and not by reason of our own virtues. Let us exercise caution so that we do not lose the true spirit of the Gospel and fall into legalism. Let us also beware that we do not develop a contentious spirit which delights in controversy and thus brings ruin to the unity of the church. The Apostle Paul writes to the Philippians, "Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves" (Philippians 2:2-3). In order to remain truly orthodox and truly evangelical we need to remember our own weaknesses and frailties. We are after all "frail children of dust" like all others in this world and have nothing in which to glory except the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

How will a truly evangelical spirit manifest itself in a church body? It will be demonstrated first of all in what is preached and taught from our pulpits. Here the pastor, after he has effectively preached the Law, will not just talk about the Gospel, but will apply its rich comfort to the lives of his hearers. He will assure troubled souls that "though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:18) He will encourage those who are beset by trials, doubts, temptations and sorrows with the gracious promise, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea I will help thee; yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." (Isaiah 41:10) He will comfort each one with the message that there is a glorious life to come, that when this life is over we shall hear the voice of Jesus saying, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." (Matthew 25:34). His Gospel presentations will have a triumphant ring as he proclaims with the Apostle, "I am persuaded that neither death,

nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39) This will be the chief characteristic of an evangelical spirit in a church body.

Few have understood real Law and Gospel preaching better than the sainted Dr. C. F. W. Walther. This year we are especially mindful of the rich legacy which he left to the Lutheran Church as we observe the 100th anniversary of his death. In order to "catch the spirit" of a true minister of the Gospel we can do no better than to study his well known book on the "Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel" and to read his marvelous sermons.

The same evangelical spirit will demonstrate itself in congregational life. People will be motivated by the love of Christ to love each other. They will delight in doing the Lord's work because they have seen that He first loved them. Their stewardship will be governed by the Gospel and their hearts and pocketbooks will be opened, not by the threats of the Law but because they love a Saviour Who gave His life for them.

An evangelical spirit will manifest itself in our synodical lives. We will grow in our love and understanding of each other. We will recognize more fully that we are partners in the Gospel, and that the work we do together in the Synod is the same work we do at home. It is the Lord's work of saving souls and it is the most glorious in the world! When we attend conventions it will be for the purpose of being enriched and strengthened by the fellowship which we experience. We will not look upon them as a political arena where opposing factions plot and plan as to how to get their way. No, together we will restate our doctrine. Together we will plan our work. Together we will praise and glorify our gracious God. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

This convention has been designated as one in which we will give special thought, study and prayer on behalf of our children and youth. How timely and necessary is such consideration. While the world has always been hostile to children, it seems that today the little ones and the youth are subject to more stress and temptation than ever before. How they need to learn to know their Saviour Who said "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God." (Mark 10:14) Christian children and young people long for the assurance that Jesus is their Saviour, friend and companion throughout life. Growing up in today's world is not easy. Broken homes, the drug scene, television violence, humanistic education are all forces which impact upon the lives of our youth. We as a church body need to be fully committed to the Christian training and tender, loving care of those little ones of whom Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." How blessed we are to have a Christian college like Bethany where our youth may learn the one thing needful. The brave venture of faith undertaken by our fathers 60 years ago has proven to be an invaluable instrument in shaping the lives of the hundreds of young people who have been privileged to attend our school. Providing a thorough Christian education on every level should ever be one of the goals and objectives of our Synod today as it was with our fathers.

As we meet together for the 70th time may we give praise, honor and glory to our blessed Saviour Who has redeemed us to God by His blood and has made us heirs of eternal salvation. And may the dedication and determination of those brave souls who met for the first time in the tent at Lime Creek be an inspiration to us all as we go about our work. The words of the hymnwriter describe the riches of our lot in life as God's dear people.

There is a safe and secret place
Beneath the wings divine,
Reserved for all the heirs of grace;
O be that refuge mine!

The least and feeblest there may bide
Uninjured and unawed;
While thousands fall on every side,
He rests secure in God.

He feeds in pastures large and fair
Of love and truth divine;
O child of God, O glory's heir,
How rich a lot is thine!

A hand almighty to defend,
An ear for every call,
An honored life, a peaceful end,
And heaven to crown it all!
(Lutheran Hymnary, No. 70)

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

The Rev. Robert McMiller was installed as pastor of Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona on June 29, 1986. The Rev. John Moldstad, Jr. preached the sermon and Circuit Visitor William McMurdie performed the rite of installation.

Candidate of Theology Harvey S. Abrahamson was ordained and installed as pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, rural Princeton, Minnesota on July 11, 1986. The Rev. David Nelson delivered the sermon and the Rev. Paul Schneider performed the rite of ordination and installation. The Rev. Norman Madson served as liturgist.

Candidate of Theology Robert Lawson was ordained and installed as pastor of the tri-church parish at Lengby, Minnesota on July 20, 1986. The ordination sermon was delivered by the Rev. W. E. Schulz (WELS) of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. The Rev. Charles Keeler performed the rite of ordination and installation and also served as liturgist.

Candidate of Theology David Hoyord was ordained and installed as pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Waterloo, Iowa on July 27, 1986. Seminary president Wilhelm Petersen preached the sermon and performed the rite of ordination and installation. The Rev. Elroy Buhr served as liturgist.

The Rev. Gaylin Schmelling was installed as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Okauchee, Wisconsin on August 3, 1986. Prof. James Korthals of Northwestern College preached the sermon and the Rev. Kenneth Schmidt conducted the liturgy and performed the rite of installation.

On August 17, 1986 Miss Kathleen Stein was installed as teacher of Scarville Lutheran School, Scarville, Iowa.

The Rev. Charles Keeler was installed as the first pastor of Christ Lutheran Church of Port St. Lucie, Florida on September 7, 1986. The Rev. John Moldstad, Sr. delivered the sermon and performed the rite of installation. The Rev. Lewis C. Gerhardt served as liturgist.

Candidate of Theology Jonathan Madson was ordained and installed as associate pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin on September 14, 1986. Seminary president Wilhelm Petersen preached the sermon. Prof. Juul B. Madson, father of the ordinand, performed the rite of ordination and installation. Your synodical president served as liturgist and the Rev. Steven Petersen as lector.

The Rev. Adolph Harstad, Jr. was installed as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Escondido, California on October 12, 1986. The Rev. Ronald Waterstradt (WELS) preached the sermon. Circuit Visitor William McMurdie conducted the service and performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Martin Doepel was installed as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Audubon, Minnesota on November 9, 1986. Seminary president Wilhelm Petersen preached the sermon, the Rev. Raymond Branstad performed the rite of installation and the Rev. Paul Madson conducted the liturgy.

Dr. William Kessel was installed as academic dean of Bethany Lutheran College on November 11, 1986. Also installed as professors at Bethany were Barbara Schoenbaum, Dennis Becker and Kenneth Rupnow. The Rev. Norman Madson preached the sermon and the Rev. John Moldstad, Sr. performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. William Mack was installed as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, Klamath Falls, Oregon on January 4, 1987. The Rev. Greg Haugen preached the sermon and the Rev. Homer Mosley performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Daniel Larson was installed as pastor of English Lutheran Church, Cottonwood, Minnesota and Zion Lutheran Church, Tracy, Minnesota on January 11, 1987. Seminary president Wilhelm Petersen was the guest preacher

for the afternoon service at Cottonwood and the Rev. Wayne Halvorson performed the rite of installation. The Rev. Paul Haugen served as liturgist. An evening installation service was held at Zion in Tracy with the same guest pastors conducting the service.

The Rev. Dennis Schmidt was installed as pastor of Hartland and Manchester parish on March 29, 1987. Your synodical president preached the sermon and Circuit Visitor Wilfrid Frick performed the rite of installation and served as liturgist.

The Rev. Bradley Homan was installed as pastor of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin on April 5, 1987. The Rev. Gary Faleide preached the sermon. Circuit Visitor Kenneth Schmidt performed the rite of installation and the Rev. Warren Granke served as liturgist.

MEMBERSHIP REQUESTS

The following pastors have applied for membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The proper letters of request are on file.

The Rev. J. Kincaid Smith, pastor of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church of Saginaw, Michigan. The Colloquy Committee has found him to be in doctrinal agreement with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and recommends him for membership.

The Rev. Harvey Abrahamson, pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, rural Princeton, Minnesota.

The Rev. Jonathan Madison, associate pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison Wisconsin.

The Rev. David Hoyord, pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Waterloo, Iowa.

The Rev. Robert Lawson, pastor of the Lengby Lutheran Parish, Lengby, Minnesota.

The Rev. Paul M. Lehenbauer, pastor of Peace Lutheran Church, Deshler, Ohio. The Rev. Lehenbauer was found to be in doctrinal agreement with our Synod by our Colloquy Committee several years ago and has been in fellowship with our Synod for more than ten years.

The Rev. Dennis Schmidt, pastor of the Hartland-Manchester Parish, Hartland, Minnesota by transfer from the WELS.

The Rev. Adolph Harstad, Jr., pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Escondido, California, by transfer from WELS.

The following congregations have applied for membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The proper documents have been submitted.

Christ Lutheran Church, Klamath Falls, Oregon

Oak Park Lutheran Church, Oklee Minnesota

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Grass Valley, California

Christ Lutheran Church, Port St. Lucie, Florida

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Warroad, Minnesota

DEDICATIONS



Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Hawley, MN

Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Hawley, Minnesota dedicated its new house of worship on Sunday, August 17, 1986. The Rev. G. F. Guldberg was the guest speaker for the morning service. Your synodical president was the speaker for the service of dedication in the afternoon and also performed the rite of dedication. The Rev. Paul Madson, pastor of the congregation served as liturgist.

A service was held in the Bethany Lutheran College Chapel on October 12, 1986 to dedicate Bethany's newly remodeled classroom building. Seminary president Wilhelm Petersen preached the sermon and your synodical president performed the rite of dedication and Chaplain Erling Teigen was liturgist.



Holton Evangelical Lutheran Church, Holton, MI

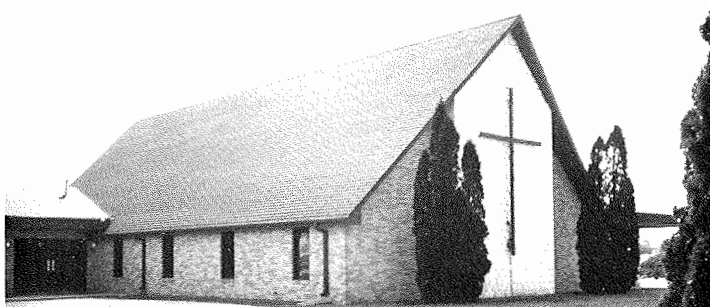
On Sunday, October 19, 1986 the Holton Evangelical Lutheran Church dedicated its new church building. The Rev. James Olsen, former pastor, was guest speaker for the morning service and your synodical president delivered the sermon at the afternoon service and performed the rite of dedication. Pastor Craig Ferkenstad served as liturgist.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Yelm, Washington held a special service on October 19, 1986 to dedicate its new Christian Day School building. The sermon for the occasion was brought by the Rev. William Stuebs from Evergreen Lutheran High School, Tacoma, Washington.

A new parsonage has been built at Ulen, Minnesota. It was completed and occupied by December 1, 1986.

A new parsonage has been built on the church property at Audubon, Minnesota with completion date scheduled for May 31, 1987.

ANNIVERSARIES



Immanuel Lutheran Church, Audubon, MN

On July 6, 1986 Immanuel Lutheran Church of Audubon, Minnesota celebrated its 100th anniversary. Your synodical president was the speaker for the morning service and the Rev. Wayne Halvorson for the afternoon service. The Rev. Tosten Skaaland and the Rev. G. F. Guldberg served as liturgists.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Portage, WI

On September 7, 1986 St. Paul's Lutheran Church of rural Portage, Wisconsin celebrated its 135th anniversary. Seminary president Wilhelm Petersen was the guest speaker for the afternoon service. Pastor Daniel Larson served as liturgist.



**East Paint Creek Lutheran Church,
Waterville, IA**



West Paint Creek Lutheran Church, Waterville, IA

The East and West Paint Creek Synod Lutheran Churches of Waterville, Iowa celebrated their centennial anniversaries on Saturday and Sunday, September 20 and 21, 1986. Guest speakers for the occasions were former pastors W. C. Gullixson and M. E. Tweit and also the Rev. E. G. Unseth, son of J. B. Unseth who served the congregations for many years. Your synodical president spoke on behalf of the Synod. Liturgists were, the Rev. Otto Trebelhorn, the Rev. John Smith and the Rev. Theodore Gullixson.

**Newport Lutheran Church,
Wisconsin Dells, WI**



On September 28, 1986 Newport Lutheran Church of rural Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin celebrated its 135th anniversary. The Rev. Warren Granke was the guest speaker at the afternoon service. The Rev. Daniel Larson served as liturgist.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Madison, Wisconsin celebrated the 60th anniversary of its organization on September 28, 1986. President Orvick was the guest preacher for the anniversary. Pastors Steven Petersen and Jonathan Madison served as liturgist and lector respectively.



Norseland Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Peter, MN

Norseland Evangelical Lutheran Church of rural St. Peter observed the 75th anniversary of its church building on Sunday, October 12, 1986. Pastor Norman A. Madson conducted the service.

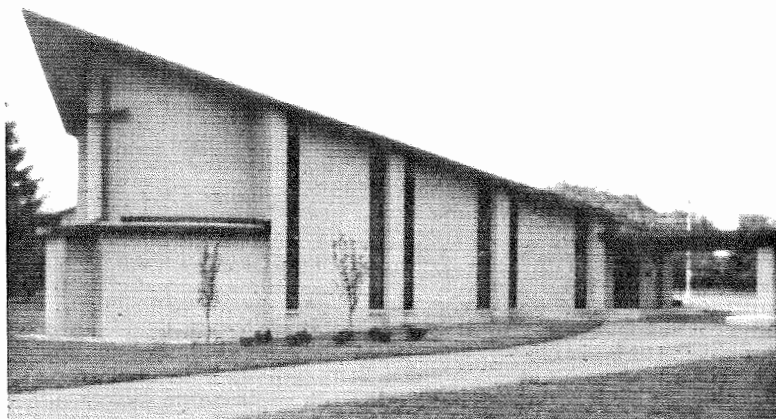
Lakewood Lutheran Church, Tacoma, Washington observed the 40th anniversary of its first worship service on Sunday, November 16, 1986. The Rev. Michael Krentz served as liturgist and speaker for the occasion.

On November 23, 1986 Our Savior Lutheran Church, Bishop, California celebrated its 15th anniversary.



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Madison, WI

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Madison, Wisconsin celebrated its centennial anniversary on March 29, 1987. Guest speaker for the service was Dr. Thomas Kuster. The Rev. Warren Granke served as liturgist and former pastor, the Rev. A. V. Kuster as lector.



St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lombard, IL

St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lombard, Illinois celebrated its 30th anniversary on May 3, 1987. Former pastor, John K. Schmidt was the guest preacher for the occasion. The Rev. Matthew Luttman served as liturgist.

The following have observed anniversaries of ordination or of service.

The Rev. David Lillegard—25 years

The Rev. Alf Merseth—40 years

The Rev. M. E. Tweit—50 years

The Rev. E. G. Unseth—50 years

On August 10, 1986 the Rev. Adolph Harstad celebrated the 60th anniversary of his ordination. The Rev. and Mrs. Harstad also celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

The Rev. Orlin Wraalstad resigned as pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Blythe, California and from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod on September 5, 1986.

The Rev. Michael Elliott resigned from his pastorate at Faith Lutheran Church, Camarillo, California and from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The Rev. Richard Smith resigned as pastor of the Fertile-Crookston parish.

The Rev. Philip Vangen resigned as pastor of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin on December 31, 1986 and from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in March.

The Rev. Steven Quist resigned as pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Naples, Florida and from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod on March 1, 1987.

The Rev. Charles Keeler resigned as visitor of Circuit No. 7 and was replaced by alternate, the Rev. Raymond Branstad. The Rev Paul Madson was appointed as alternate. The position should be filled by election at this convention.

The Rev. Robert McMiller resigned as visitor of Circuit No. 9. The Rev. William McMurdie was appointed to take his place. This position should be filled by election at this convention.

Mr. Bill Curtis resigned as a member of the Board for Christian Service. This position should be filled by election at this convention.

The congregation at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Blythe, California disbanded on September 18, 1986.

The congregation of Faith Lutheran Church, Camarillo, California disbanded on August 3, 1986.

Concordia Lutheran Church, Clearbrook, Minnesota was destroyed by fire on Sunday, June 14, 1987.

The following have been appointed to a two-year term as members of the Self-Study Committee with the Rev. Alf Merseth serving as chairman: the Rev. Alf Merseth, the Rev. David Nelson, the Rev. Richard Newgard, the Rev. M. E. Tweit and Prof. Sigurd K. Lee.

DEATHS

Mrs. Olivia Teigen, widow of the Rev. Torald Teigen, passed away on June 25, 1986. Christian burial services were held at First English Lutheran Church, Ashland, Wisconsin on June 28, 1986. Pastor Norman Harstad officiated.

Mrs. Alice Faye, widow of the Rev. C. U. Faye, passed away on July 15, 1986. Christian burial services were held at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Mankato, Minnesota on July 19, 1986. Pastor Richard Newgard officiated.

Mrs. Ada Tjernagel, wife of Dr. Neelak Tjernagel, passed away on October 12, 1986. Christian burial services were held at Saude Lutheran Church, Lawler, Iowa on October 16, 1986. The Rev. Norman Madson preached the sermon and the Rev. Glenn Obenberger conducted the service.

Mrs. Gudrun Moldstad, wife of the Rev. John A. Moldstad, Sr. passed away on January 30, 1987. A memorial service was held at Grace Lutheran Church in Vero Beach, Florida, with the Rev. Charles Keeler officiating. A second service was held at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Mankato, Minnesota on February 3, 1987. The Rev. Milton Tweit preached the sermon and the Rev. Richard Newgard conducted the services. President Orvick spoke on behalf of the Synod.

Mrs. Leona Kuster, wife of the Rev. Arnold V. Kuster, passed away on April 24, 1987. Christian burial services were held at Grace Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin on April 27, 1987 with the Rev. Warren Granke officiating. President George Orvick spoke on behalf of the Synod.

INTER-SYNODICAL MATTERS

THE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

The 49th Biennial Convention of our sister synod will be held August 3-7, 1987 at Northwestern College, Watertown, Wisconsin. I will bring greetings on behalf of the Synod.

On January 9, 1987 representatives of our Doctrine Committee met with the WELS Committee on Inter-Church Relations. The chief topic of discussion was the WELS proposal for the establishment of a new Synodical Conference. A proposal from the Doctrine Committee will come before this convention calling for the formation of a committee to begin to lay the ground work for such a conference. We reported to the last year's convention the complete proposal. We include it here for the information of this year's delegates. Since the term "Synodical Conference" carries with it such great historical testimony and significance the formation of such a conference would certainly strengthen confessional Lutherans in the USA during this period of turmoil.

The WELS Proposal for a New Synodical Conference

"A number of factors have led the Commission on Inter-Church Relations to conclude that the time has come for those who continue to uphold the confes-

sional positions in doctrine and practice of the former Synodical Conference of North America to again establish such a federation. It would, however, be international in scope. The position taken by the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in the DDR, the isolation of the Lutheran Confessional Church (Scandinavia) and the needs of other churches that are concerned about upholding the sound confessional position of the former Synodical Conference are among these factors. The Board of World Missions of our Synod likewise has been advocating for some time the formation of such a conference which could include in its membership the more organized of the WELS mission churches. We present here some thoughts on how we conceive of such an organization especially in regard to its purpose, confessional basis, membership and activity.

Purpose: The purpose of such a conference would be predominantly confessional. It would aim to bring together churches or synods so that they might strengthen one another in their confession to Scripture and to the Lutheran Confessions and present to the world (religious and otherwise) a united confession of faith on a sound scriptural basis.

Confessional Basis: The confessional basis would in essence be the same as that of the former Synodical Conference. This basis would include a clear confession to the Bible as the inspired and inerrant Word of God, to all Scripture doctrine and to the Lutheran Confessions as a true exposition of Scripture in the doctrines therein confessed. It would call for doctrinal discipline to be practiced in accordance with this doctrinal basis.

Membership: Those synods or churches, including WELS mission churches, would be eligible for membership who are in full agreement on the confessional basis of the conference and are not involved in fellowship with churches that in any way deviate from the confessional standard of the conference. This would eliminate the problem of triangular fellowship relations that has arisen since the demise of the former Synodical Conference. It should be noted that this would also require action on the part of our Synod, terminating the triangular fellowship relations in which we are still involved.

Activity: At periodic intervals representatives of the member synods would meet to consider matters of doctrine and practice. In the interest of its united doctrinal position the conference could set up the procedure for jointly producing doctrinal statements that address those issues that have arisen and troubled the church in recent years and that are not treated specifically or adequately for our time in the Book of Concord. Examples would be a statement on Scripture, on its proper interpretation (hermeneutics) and on fellowship.

We present this proposal to the districts for their reaction with the intention of presenting it to our synodical convention in August 1987. We will present it to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in the hope that it will join us in implementing this proposal.

We would hope that under God's gracious blessing such a conference could be a means of drawing closer together for mutual strength and encouragement confessional Lutheran churches which are already united in doctrine and practice."

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH-SYNOD OF FRANCE AND BELGIUM

Every year I have been in communication with the Evangelical Lutheran Church-Synod of France and Belgium. They have been fully informed of our concern over the triangular fellowship relationship which exists between their church body, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELK of West Germany) and our Synod. In spite of our concerns the ELC-FB has removed its state of protest in its relationship with the LC-MS, and has entered more fully into joint church work in Zaire with that body. They continue in fellowship with the SELK which in turn supports the position of the "Alt-lutherische Kirche" (Old Lutheran Church) in East Germany. Our brethren in the Eastern Zone, namely the Saxon Free Church, have

suspended fellowship with the Aklutherische Kirche. We therefore are of the conviction that the ELC-SFB has chosen to walk with those with whom we are not in fellowship rather than with us and the WELS. We are therefore left with no alternative but to suspend our fellowship relations. We recommend this with sorrow because of the years of church fellowship we have enjoyed.

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN FREE CHURCH (East Germany)

Recent communications from President Gerhard Wilde and Pastor Gotthilf Dohler of the Lutheran Free Church in East Germany inform us of the continuing struggle of that body to uphold the truth. We have reported their suspension of relations with the Aklutherische Kirche because that body tolerates in its midst the historical-critical method of biblical interpretation which allows for unscriptural principles to be taught. I had an opportunity last July to visit with Pastor Dohler at the annual convention of the Lutheran Confessional Church in Ørje, Norway. Our Synod has by resolution encouraged this church body to remain steadfast. Such encouragement is much appreciated by these brethren behind the iron curtain. Life there is not easy for confessional Lutherans nor for any sincere Christian. They are in great need of our prayers and concern. May the Lord continue to strengthen them in their confessional stand.

THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONAL CHURCH (Sweden and Norway)

The annual convention of this sister church body was held in Ørje, Norway, July 16-20. The theme of the convention was "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation. . ." It was my privilege to attend the convention and to enjoy fellowship there. We brought greetings from our Synod and encouraged the church body in its confession and work. I had the opportunity to preach at one of the devotions using a sermon written in the Norwegian language by one of our church fathers. (The visit was made at no cost to the Synod.)

At the present time, however, all is not well in that church body. A serious division has arisen in its midst over doctrinal and procedural matters. Delegates from WELS and I will meet with the pastors during their next convention to work for a settlement of the problem. The convention meets July 24-26 in Uppsala, Sweden. Let us remember this small church body in our prayers that the work which was begun for the purpose of re-establishing confessional Lutheranism in Scandinavia may not come to naught.

THE LUTHERAN FORUM FOR CONFESSIONAL CONSULTATION

The proposal of our Synod in 1984 that there be an exchange of specially prepared theological essays between church bodies interested in preserving confessional Lutheranism did not meet with success. The Continuation Committee of the International Lutheran Conference has declined to promote it. The proposal did, however, have this possible effect that the sincere desire of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod to promote true Lutheranism on the basis of God's Word was clearly demonstrated. The AAL grant for this proposal did give us the opportunity to have a face to face discussion with 21 Lutheran Church body presidents in Obot Idim, Nigeria and to testify for the cause of confessional Lutheranism.

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFESSIONAL FORUM

The 19th meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum (ELS and WELS) met in Milwaukee, October 20-21 with the WELS as hosts. Thirteen representatives of each church body attended. Doctrinal and practical matters were

discussed. The Forum meets every other year and is our official contact with our sister synod. It is divided into four divisions: Administration, Doctrine, Education, Missions, and Worship. Information was exchanged in all of these areas.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

No meetings were held this year with representatives from the LC-MS. We now have an invitation from President Bohlmann for a joint meeting of WELS-ELS-LCMS representatives to take place this fall. The purpose would be to exchange information and discuss relationship.

CIRCUIT VISITORS' CONFERENCE

The 1986 Circuit Visitors' Conference was held on October 16-17 at the Sheraton Airport Inn, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Visitors or alternates from the ten circuits of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod reported on church conditions in their respective areas.

Official visitations were conducted as follows: Visitor Mark Marozick at Trinity, Brewster, Massachusetts; Visitor Kenneth Schmidt at Good Shepherd, Bloomer, Wisconsin; Visitor Charles Keeler at First American, Mayville, North Dakota; Alternate Visitor Raymond Branstad at Immanuel, Audubon, and Calvary, Ulen, Minnesota; and Visitor Paul Anderson at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Myrtle Creek, Oregon and Christ Lutheran Church, Sutherlin, Oregon. All visitors have been busy with encouraging and counseling pastors and congregations, with conducting call meetings, installations and ordinations, etc. Reports were given by the presidents of the college and seminary. Doctrinal and practical matters were discussed. Such topics as: The importance of the vicarage program; how to help pastors assume their responsibilities to the Synod; mental and emotional health of pastors; the pastor's wife; conducting a visitation; etc. were given much thought and discussion. The results of the visitations were positive from both the visitor, the pastor and the congregation. We would like to encourage both pastors and congregations to contact our visitors for arranging a parish visitation. The conference was funded by a generous grant from Aid Association for Lutherans. We appreciate their generosity. The president wishes to express public thanks to the visitors for all the help they give in the service of the Lord and of the Synod. Another conference is planned for this fall.

HOME MISSION EXPANSION

We are grateful to the Lord for moving the members of the Synod to open their hearts and pocketbook for the cause of spreading the Gospel. Our "Partner's in the Gospel" offering for home mission expansion, which began at last year's convention, has now surpassed the \$700,000 mark in cash and pledges and may well reach \$800,000. What a wonderful blessing this is for the expansion of our Gospel ministry! This is the first offering we have had in many years devoted exclusively to home mission expansion. Already our gifts are at work! Land has been purchased in Port St. Lucie and Lakeland, Florida for the eventual erection of new church buildings. A new missionary has been called to begin work in Stuart, Florida. Our Evangelical Lutheran Synod is finally able to reach out more vigorously with the pure Gospel to gather in the harvest of souls. It has been very heart warming to receive letters from elderly people in nursing homes and elsewhere who send \$2 or \$5 at a time because they want to be a part of this outreach. Their conviction that this is an important cause makes me think of the widow's mite and how the Lord praised this woman for her devotion. The Board for Home Missions is excited over the prospect of having the money to press forward in spreading the Gospel. Our sincere thanks to every member of the Synod for their gifts and to the committee members for their hard work. If your congregation has not yet decided to participate, please do so at once. Don't be left out of the opportunity to bring the blessed Gospel to others.

FINANCES

The stewardship of the members of the ELS ranks near the top amongst Lutherans. For this we are grateful to the Lord. There are many people who are giving a generous portion out of the blessings the Lord has given them to help carry on the Lord's work. On top of our regular synodical budget people are contributing to the "Partner's in the Gospel" home mission offering. We are, however, already short of our budget needs by \$14,276 at the end of April and this is based on the budget of \$729,500 as revised by the trustees. As we decide what to do about the 1987 and 1988 budgets we will have to realize that we will all have to go back home and do something about increasing our giving. It would take so little extra per family to keep all of our programs going so that we do not have to cut back in any area. Surely with a little extra effort we can do just that. It won't happen, however, unless pastors and delegates return home determined to support that work of the Lord which we have agreed to do together as a Synod.

The Board of Trustees has made some vital decisions this year which should result in the elimination of our deficit of \$571,000. We can thus eliminate large interest payments and have more money available for current operations. Our special offering for the 75th anniversary will not have to go to debt retirement but can go for expansion and improvement. In order to avoid accumulating another deficit we must be careful not to adopt budgets which exceed our expected income and also not to undertake projects without available funds.

We rejoice and praise the Lord for the generous gift of \$1,000,000 received from Schwan Sales Enterprises for the purpose of building a new fine arts building at our Bethany College. Such a building would surely improve our facilities so that we could enhance our ability to provide a complete liberal arts education for our students. Bethany is increasing in enrollment because of its reputation for quality education and such a new building would do much to further this cause.

PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES

The creation of the office of full-time president has given me much more opportunity to serve the Synod. Under the Lord's guidance and blessing we are trying to accomplish certain goals which have not been possible in the past. Some of these goals are as follows:

a) Improving communication to the members of the Synod about our joint work. We are now sending Christmas and Easter letters to all members of the Synod bringing encouragement and information. Newsletters are sent every other month to all pastors, professors, teachers, board members and delegates to the previous Synod convention. These letters contain news of general interest, reports on our financial progress, etc. A videotape of last year's convention was produced and mailed to every congregation.

b) Helping to strengthen the parsonage by conducting "Life in the Parsonage" seminars. Such seminars have been conducted in Madison, Wisconsin; Mason City, Iowa; and Gainesville, Florida. About forty pastors and their wives have attended. Two of them were conducted by representatives of the Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service. They are two-day meetings with expenses paid by grants from AAL and from the Siebert Foundation. The pastors' wives have especially appreciated the opportunity to discuss the blessings, issues, and concerns which those who live in the parsonage have. They have also enjoyed getting to know other pastors' wives in their respective circuits. A happy and healthy life in the parsonage will enhance the entire work of the parish. Future meetings are being planned so that all of our pastors and their wives may have this opportunity.

c) Being able to speak in congregations and at circuit meetings to promote the work of the Synod. In the past year I have preached or spoken at the following

congregations: Port St. Lucie, Vero Beach and Naples, Florida; Rochester and Scottsville, New York; Holton, Michigan; Bloomer, Wisconsin; Holy Cross and Our Saviour's, Madison, Wisconsin; Hartland, Audubon, Trail, Ulen, Oklee (Clearwater and Oak Park), Fertile, Crookston, Hawley, Jasper, Luverne, (Hiawatha) Minneapolis, Minnesota; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Richardson, Texas; Bishop, Tustin, Santa Rosa, Fillmore, Grass Valley, California; The Dalles, Oregon; Parkland, Washington; Jerico, East Paint Creek, West Paint Creek, Iowa. Opportunities have also been afforded me to speak at circuit rallies at Tustin, California; Hawley, Minnesota; Vero Beach, Florida (Women's Missionary Society); Our Saviour's, Madison (Women's Missionary Society), Luverne, Minnesota (Women's Missionary Society). I have also attended the following Pastoral Conferences: General Pastor Conference, Lake Michigan area, California-Arizona, Florida-Georgia, Circuit 6 and 8 and Circuit 10 Pastoral Conferences.

d) Being available to speak to individuals and congregations outside our Synod. I have thus presented the Evangelical Lutheran Synod to congregations at Klamath Falls, Oregon; Lodi, California; Jefferson City, Missouri.

e) Being available to counsel with pastors and congregations regarding concerns and problems. We find that this becomes more and more important as the stresses and strains of the ministry take their toll, and as congregations face difficult decisions.

We intend to plan for the future, to continue to develop these goals and to establish new ones. A "Team Building Grant" of \$5,000 from AAL will help to work with special ad hoc committees in the areas of organization, communication, finance, counseling, etc.

We thank the Lord for the opportunity to serve in this position and we welcome suggestions from pastors and congregations concerning effectively planning and ministering to various needs. We wish to thank the Board of Trustees for providing a fine home at 1117 Lori Lane for our use and for establishing an office in the seminary building. We also thank the Holy Scripture congregation at Midland, Michigan for a gift which provided office and conference room furniture.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

This year we shall welcome home Missionary David Lillegard. He has served on the Peru mission field for nine years. We should express our thanks to the Rev. Lillegard and his wife, Ione, for giving such a portion of their lives in the service of our Saviour for the cause of the people in Peru. We should also express sincere thanks to Missionary Martin Teigen who will come home for a year's sabbatical after serving on the field for eleven years. He and his wife have been faithful servants of our Lord and of our Synod. We wish them God's richest blessings as the Rev. Teigen spends a year in study before returning to the field.

PRAYERS AND GIFTS

Let us continue steadfast in prayer for all of our workers at home and abroad and then let us give generously so that we will not have to cut back on our work in any area.

ASSIGNMENT COMMITTEE

Our Assignment Committee met last June and made the following assignments:

Candidate of Theology David Hoyord to Pilgrim, Waterloo, Iowa

Candidate of Theology Robert Lawson to the Lengby Parish, Lengby, Minnesota

Candidate of Theology Harvey Abrahamson to Our Savior's, Princeton, Minnesota

Candidate of Theology Jonathan Madson to be associate pastor of Holy Cross, Madison, Wisconsin

Vicar Mark Bartels will serve the Northwood, Iowa parish.

The Assignment Committee met in May of 1987 and made the following assignments:

Candidate of Theology Mark Bartels as associate pastor at King of Grace Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, Minnesota

Candidate of Theology Michael Smith as pastor of First Lutheran Church, Suttons Bay, Michigan

Two candidates from the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod were assigned as follows:

Candidate of Theology Nathan Krause to the Fertile-Crookston, Minnesota parish

Candidate of Theology Joel Willitz to the Portage-Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin parish

PASTORS' WIVES

What a wonderful blessing is a pastor's wife. She encourages and upholds her husband and makes it possible for him to carry on his ministry. She serves the congregation in many capacities. She sets an example in her home to other members of the flock. And she may have a profound influence upon the church for generations to come because oftentimes future pastors and teachers come from the parsonage.

This has been forcibly impressed upon us this past year as five pastors' wives have been called to the church triumphant. They are: Mrs. Olivia Teigen, Mrs. Ada Tjernagel, Mrs. Gudrun Moldstad, Mrs. Alice Faye, and Mrs. Leona Kuster. We thank the Lord for their faithful service in His Kingdom.

PASTORS' ANNIVERSARIES

We also thank the Lord for the faithful service of our pastors who have celebrated anniversaries in the past year. They are: the Rev. David Lillegard—25 years, the Rev. Alf Merseth—40 years, the Rev. M. E. Tweit—50 years, the Rev. E. G. Unseth—50 years.

CONCLUSION

In this time of turmoil when so many are forsaking the pure doctrines of God's Word for the sake of outward union and worldly impact let us resolve ever to stand firm upon the faith of our fathers. What a brave and courageous lot they were who gathered at Lime Creek in 1918. Bereft of all the outward glory of a large and prosperous church they bravely went forward to reorganize on the old foundation. The pure doctrine of God's Word meant more to them than a grandiose union which was not based upon the truth. Let us not give in to the temptation to compromise God's truth for the sake of earthly progress. The Lord holds His church in His hand. He will truly bless us in the future as He has in the past. We commit ourselves and our Synod into His keeping, confident that as long as we preach and teach His Word in its truth and purity we shall not fail.

Soli Deo Gloria!
George M. Orvick, president

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND REPORT ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: President's Message

WHEREAS, President Orvick called our attention to the fact that many people are still without the knowledge of Christ as their personal Savior, and,

WHEREAS, Many Lutherans no longer uphold true spiritual teaching and practice, and,

WHEREAS, There are many spiritual dangers facing our children and youth,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the Lord for preserving the pure Gospel unto us as a Synod, and,

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we pray the Lord to enable us to continue to proclaim the true teachings of His Word in our midst and in our mission endeavors.

Resolution No. 2: President's Activities

WHEREAS, President Orvick spoke to or met with many congregations both within and outside the Synod, and,

WHEREAS, He also spoke at many other gatherings,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we commend President Orvick for his full-time activities in behalf of the Synod.

Resolution No. 3

BE IT RESOLVED, That the President's Message and Report be printed in the 1987 Synod Report.

SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Membership Application of Pastor

WHEREAS, It has been established that in each application for synodical membership the requirements of the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod have been met,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following pastors be received into permanent membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod:

1. The Rev. Harvey Abrahamson, pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, rural Princeton, Minnesota;

2. The Rev. Jonathan Madson, associate pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin;

3. The Rev. David Hoyord, pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Waterloo, Iowa;

4. *The Rev. Robert Lawson, pastor of the Lengby Parish, Lengby, Minnesota.*

Resolution No. 2: Membership Application of Pastor

WHEREAS, The Colloquy Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod has approved the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith, pastor of the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church of Saginaw, Michigan, and,

WHEREAS, It has been established that in his application for synodical membership the requirements of the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod have been met,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith be received into permanent membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Resolution No. 3: Membership Application of Pastor

WHEREAS, The Colloquy Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod has approved the Rev. Paul M. Lehenbauer, pastor of Peace Lutheran Church of Deshler, Ohio, and,

WHEREAS, It has been established that in his application for synodical membership the requirements of the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod have been met, and,

WHEREAS, He has been in fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for more than ten years,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Rev. Paul M. Lehenbauer be received into permanent membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Resolution No. 4: Membership Application of Pastor

WHEREAS, It has been established that in the applications for synodical membership of the Rev. Dennis Schmidt, pastor of the Hartland-Manchester Parish, Hartland, Minnesota, and the Rev. Adolph L. Harstad, Jr., pastor of the St. Paul Lutheran Church of Escondido, California, the requirements of the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod have been met,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Rev. Dennis Schmidt, be received into permanent membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Rev. Adolph L. Harstad, Jr., be received into permanent membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Resolution No. 5: Membership Application of Congregations

WHEREAS, It has been established that in each application for synodical membership the requirements of the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod have been met,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following congregations be received into membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod:

1. *Christ Lutheran Church, Klamath Falls, Oregon*

2. *Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Grass Valley, California*

3. *Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Port St. Lucie, Florida*

4. *Oak Park Lutheran Church, Oklee, Minnesota*

5. *Evangelical Lutheran Church of Warroad, Minnesota.*

Resolution No. 6: Constitution Review

WHEREAS, Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Lake Havasu City, Arizona has submitted its newly adopted constitution for review, and,

WHEREAS, The Synodical Membership Committee has reviewed it and has found it to be in agreement with the constitution and doctrinal position of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank them for submitting it and remind other congregations that adopt new or revised constitutions to also submit theirs for review.

ESSAYS PRESENTED AT THE 70TH CONVENTION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

THE CHURCH CAN MEET THE PRESENT CRISIS FACED BY TEENAGERS

by
Charles J. Keeler



The church is getting older, not so much in years, but in the average age of her members. Some have expressed the fear that she will cease to exist by the year of our Lord 2000 because the present membership is being called home at a rate faster than new and younger souls are being assimilated into the church. A recent Gallup poll reported,

One striking feature about Lutherans today is that they are considerably older than the general population. While 35 percent of the total population is over 50, 46 percent of all Lutherans and 49 percent of those in the A.L.C. are over 50.

At the same time, while 27 percent of the general population is 19-29, only 17 percent of Lutherans—and only 11 percent of those in the American Lutheran Church—fall within this group. This pattern could reflect differences in birth rates, but it also suggests that Lutherans are having a problem keeping young people involved in their church.

Estimates of young souls lost to the church after confirmation day range between 50 and 75 percent. Most any congregation in our fellowship expects to lose half of the young folks who are even somewhat faithful until their day of confirmation.

At the same time, Americans claim to be very religious. Most polls indicate that the majority of Americans believe in God and consider themselves to be religious. Many young families see themselves as becoming church members some-

day, but they are looking for congregations which have strong and active programs for teens. Call committees list as a high priority, a pastor who is young enough to be "good with kids."

These facts might be our motivation for developing good, successful programs for youth. Resolution No. 3: CRISIS IN YOUTH WORK from last year's convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod began, "Whereas, the future of the church is its youth." All too frequently children are described as being the church of the future. *Confirmed teenagers are much more than the church of tomorrow. They are an important part of the church of today.* The teenagers of our land need us and we need to serve them. They are a part of "all nations" mentioned in the Great Commission of our Lord. And we need them too.

No one in the world can offer them the solutions to their unique problems better than we who are equipped with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The solutions offered by the world for teen problems always fall flat and are inadequate. The world views people as being little more than animals whose behavior can be modified if one uses the proper stimulus.

The church should know the truth. All people are sinners in need of salvation and peace with God through the Redeemer, Jesus Christ. The church alone knows how to change people. The church values its young because they are precious creations of God, redeemed by the holy, precious blood of Christ.

There can be no question that modern teenagers experience many crises, some of which are life-threatening. All of these crises have the potential to destroy souls. All one need do is read a daily newspaper or watch a television news broadcast to be reminded of the troubles suffered by the teens of this land. Television documentaries present specific problems endured by teens.

Today we shall consider how the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod can help. We shall consider how this Synod can assist young people in meeting and overcoming their crises. We shall direct our attention to the efforts of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod with this thought,

THE CHURCH CAN MEET THE PRESENT CRISIS FACED BY TEENAGERS!

Before we presume to solve teenage problems, we must consider who the teenagers are. Understanding adolescence is a major step in solving the problems of the adolescent. Then we shall consider what we, as a Synod, have done and are doing. We shall consider what more we could do and we shall conclude by listing major crises endured by teens with some suggestions as to how to turn these problems into opportunities for growth.

I. Understanding Adolescence.

Kids are, basically, immature human beings. Many psychologists believe kids are different today from what they were three, two, or even one decade ago. However, a number of teenagers were asked about their hopes for the future. A strange trend was revealed. Their answers were predictable, at least from the church's perspective. Most of them were very pessimistic about the future of the world while being very optimistic about their own future. Most of them believed they would have a great opportunity to succeed financially and to have the things of which every American dreams. Kids live under the perceived threat of nuclear devastation. They live in the age of instantaneous gratification. A push of a button gives them instant music and entertainment while at the same time they fear a push of a button could wipe out their existence. Living in dread of such a future, they still are concerned, as good children of Adam, with their own pleasures.

Before we can effectively minister to anyone, we need to understand them. This is more necessary in ministry to teens because we are not teens ourselves. Our thoughts, our problems, our pressures are not the same as those of teenagers. To be successful with modern kids we must give them what they need. If we do not, they will have their needs met some other place. We need to get into the minds and hearts of God's kids and supply them with the food which will satisfy their hunger.

This will be most difficult if there is such a thing as a generation gap. If modern kids are living in times which are unique, facing problems we did not experience, given choices which were once unknown, their needs will be different as well. Therefore, it is necessary to get inside the head and heart of the modern adolescent and let him supply us with insight as to where he is today and what needs he has which the church should meet. This is the beginning of helping the youth with their problems.

In this section, two seemingly contradictory points will be made: Modern kids are not really so different and yet the crises they face are unique. Kids are people, and people have common problems. Kids are people who are growing up in the time of heavy metal, crack cocaine, the threat of nuclear annihilation, the new morality, and the deadly wave of adolescent suicide. Thus we see the reason for the contradiction.

Let us hop into a time machine and remember how different we were. The years to which the essayist can best relate are those of the late fifties and early sixties. Many here endured adolescence then also. What was going on in the world? How different was adolescence then from now? A Republican was presi-

dent. He was a nice old guy who had the image of an active grandfather. The Soviet Union was considered a deadly enemy. The nuclear threat was so real that our moms and dads were building and stocking bomb shelters. Elvis Presley was shaking, rattling and rolling while teenage girls screamed and fainted as his feet. We did not look like "punk rockers," but the term "punk" was often applied to those who greased back their hair into a ducktail. We had our uniforms too: black leather jackets and blue jeans.

During the sixties, the Cuban missile crisis was such a real threat, for days we believed it was pointless to study or even attend classes. We felt insecure and uncertain while living with great expectations for our own personal futures. We struggled with our identities and our futures. We wondered if we really believed the faith in which our parents raised us. We were typical teenagers.

The crises in the world today are not too much different from any other period in history. The temptations are not much different. Humanity is not much different. Teenagers are not much different.

The best way to understand adolescence is to remember. Teens tend to behave like teens, no matter what year it is. We can be most effective in helping teens, when our hearts are full of understanding and concern and empathy and not judgment and inflexibility. Maybe if we could treat them as grandparents do, we would be more helpful. Of course, grandparents do not have to live with them.

As people have common needs, kids have common needs. We should not forget the basic need of all humanity, the reason God sent His Son into the world. The Church of Jesus Christ is the most effective solution to all crises because Scripture knows man inside and out.

The present tension between Christians and the secular world gives proof. Secular man is very much aware of the tragedies experienced by young people, but it cannot agree to the solution. The world would like to deal with the symptoms of the problems instead of the causes. Rather than trying to influence behavior, it would try to keep the behavior from causing expensive problems. As an example, the solution to AIDS will be found in a cure rather than an end to homosexuality.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod should be able to go to the root of all problems. There are crises because people sin, because this world is sinful. Children, teenagers, adults, all suffer because we all sin. Any solution which does not go to the root of the problem will fail. We dare not forget this. Everywhere we

turn, this truth is denied. Even within the Christian Church, it is taught that we fail with kids when we preach to them, especially about sin. Moms and dads throw up their hands in frustration, believing, "You can't tell these kids anything nowadays!" The church's record of success with kids tempts us to seek other means to reach them in place of this truth.

Our lack of success does not change the truth. All people need to be made aware of their common need for salvation through Christ. The church has no other reason for existing than to preach the truth. Only the Holy Spirit, working through the law, brings this knowledge. In the schools the cry is made, "Back to the basics." The law and the Gospel of unmerited love and forgiveness through the Son of God are the real basics for all meaningful life. Perchance we could prevent teenage suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, sexual promiscuity, and any other problems, what have we accomplished? We would have only bandaged the sores. The wounds underneath would continue to fester until the healing balm of the Gospel, the blood of Jesus, closed the wound and healed the sore. Kids are not too different from kids of any age. They certainly have the same basic needs.

Nonetheless, there are clear and unique causes for the present crisis. Humanity has not changed but the modern age is unusual. Dramatic changes have occurred in the post-war era. The world changes before our eyes so quickly we do not have time to adjust. These changes have bewildered and dismayed people of all ages and the young suffer the most. They have not matured enough to adjust. These changes affect the most basic aspects of life.

The first change has been the subtle but perceptible erosion of adolescence.¹ Kids no longer are allowed to be kids. They are expected to be adults before they mature. This causes stress and confusion. They receive conflicting signals, some telling them to act like children, while others demanding that they act like adults.

The most basic causal change has occurred in the structure of the family.² Dr. James Dobson, in a television special, discussed the question "Where have all the fathers gone?" Scripture describes the father as being the head of the family. One could argue that modern fathers are no better or worse than their predecessors were, but the change from a rural America to an urban America has caused a change in the role of the father. The demands of modern society, the high cost of living, have taken more and more of father's time. He is not there when the children need him. He is used as a club to intimidate the children into obedience. "Just wait 'till your father gets home!"

At the same time, the past score of years has witnessed the birth of a new phenomenon, the latchkey kid. While we ask, where have all the fathers gone, the mothers have escaped to the workplace too. There is today, in Florida, a severe shortage of day-care centers. No one is at home to take care of the children. The government is expected to babysit.

The results of such changes in family structure are dramatic. The loss of family causes children to feel a loss of protection. To make up for not being there, parents may well give their children anything and everything they want. When materialism is the god of the parents, it becomes god for the children also. Kids are spoiled with material possessions and enjoy every kind of experience and pleasure before they mature, every pleasure except the presence of their parents.

And so kids lack proper adult examples. A five-year-old who wants to grow up to be like his daddy becomes the fifteen-year-old who doesn't really know who his daddy is. Others take the place of parents and become role models; others, such as rock stars, football players, and their own teenager peers.

Modern kids have also lost the most basic need, the need for security. Many families have become battlegrounds. The most violent place in America is not "crack street" or dark alleys. Violence is commonplace in the home. The insecurity of children who live in violent homes has an effect on children who live in secure homes. They think, "If it can happen at my friend's home, when will it happen in mine?"

Kids have experienced the loss of authority. Secular humanism, which sets man as the measure of all things, has successfully attacked absolutes. What is right depends on what one thinks. Public opinion polls determine what America thinks. What America thinks determines morality. And so if the majority changes its collective mind, morality changes. Then the adolescent asks, "Why listen to the majority of adults who do not understand kids?" The peer group sets the standards.

Kids have lost their heroes. Their teachers, their family members no longer fit the bill. If the one who has the most toys wins, the celebrity must be the hero. And the celebrity is usually on his way to, or just getting out of, the drug and alcohol rehabilitation facility.

Kids have lost their ability to play. It is not unusual to see a three- or four-year-old girl with pierced ears, makeup and a very adult-looking dress. Sex education is being urged on the grade school. What is left for the kid to experience when he becomes an adolescent? Television presents eight- and nine-year-olds as if they were adults, using adult innuendo, being much more

sophisticated than their parents. In fact, our children can see on television things that adults may not have been able to imagine fifty years ago.

These are just some of the changes which make adolescence different today. These are some of the contributing factors which build to crisis in young lives.

II. What have we done in the past?

What are we doing now?

In the past our Synod has been active in the area of youth work. It has always been a struggle, but the Evangelical Lutheran Synod did not shrink back in fear. Pastors may not always have felt successful, but they tried. Modern "youth experts" brag that, before Group Magazine, Youth Specialties, etc., came along, no one was doing effective work among teens. Obviously, those people who make such claims were not raised in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

For the first fifty years of this Synod, one paper read each year at convention had youth education for its theme. We ran a high school. Teens were eager to participate in the annual convention of the Lutheran Youth Association. The essayist is grateful to those pastors and lay people who conducted events such as these as well as summer camp. They made a great impact on his life. We need not be ashamed of the past efforts of our Synod.

Recent history is not so beautiful though. The last convention of this Synod declared that the crisis is not only among the youth, but affects youth work in general. "Whereas, The annual budget of the Board for Education and Youth has in recent years been decreased, and whereas, This decrease in budget is indicative of waning interest in youth work, parish education, and Christian education, therefore, A. Be it resolved, That the Board for Education and Youth undertake a one-year study commencing in the fall of 1986 to analyze this trend, and, B. Be it resolved, That the Board for Education and Youth implement a two-year program to reverse this trend on the basis of the aforementioned analysis."³ The theme of this convention is meant to change the trend. A recent survey by the Board for Education and Youth was answered by only 32 of the congregations in our Synod. Of the responses, 18 congregations stated that nothing was spent each year on youth work. These congregations lag behind the Synod only by a dollar or two per teen per year.

It is simple to lay the blame. Those surveyed listed the following as barriers in dealing with youth: "Attendance, lack of inter-

ested adults to act as leaders, competition with the public schools, lack of parental cooperation, worldly activities, work schedules, youth events which cost too much, kids come from different schools and don't know each other, unbelief, too few kids in the church, apathy, and boredom."⁴ If the teens are in crisis, our congregations are at least nearing crisis in youth work.

Our Synod is small. It is composed of many small congregations. We have fewer teenagers. It should not be surprising that their cooperation will not be enthusiastic toward our efforts. Teenagers do not like to appear enthusiastic about anything. It is easy to get frustrated, to give up. It is easy to succumb to the thought, "Since the kids don't seem to care, why should I?" There are other areas of church work that are easier on our egos and self-esteem.

The essayist has talked with few pastors who really want to give up on teenagers, however. It would be difficult to believe that congregations want the church to give up. Parents live in fear of what may happen when their children become teenagers. And as hard as it is to believe, kids do not want us to give up on them, either.

III. What can we do?

The best place to begin is to remember that our work is with young people, and not programs for young people. The youth group may fail, but that does not mean we dare give up on the kids.

We can begin by trying to understand the kids we serve. There are books written which explain adolescence. Remembering our own adolescence may be helpful. Of course, when we were kids, we were not as bad as kids are today. Understanding adolescence in general is important, but our children are more than just adolescents. They are individuals.

Get acquainted with the teenagers in the church. Listen to what they are saying, if you can understand them. If you cannot, learn. Listening is as important as having the answers to their problems. Sometimes, to have someone to talk to who cares is more important than having answers. One youth group expressed unanimously an unwillingness to talk to parents about problems. They thought parents would get angry or parents would not understand or worse, parents would expound on what life was like when they were kids.

One popular Methodist youth leader guarantees at least a 50 percent increase in attendance in your youth group by following his method. J. David Stone suggests the secret is home visitation of the teens. Visit every kid for whom you are respon-

sible. Visit him or her, not his or her parents. Just a short visit is all that is necessary. Tour the teenager's room if you can get into it. The key to this "secret" is concern and growth in understanding the person. The sainted Dean Milton Otto liked this quote, "The house-going pastor makes a church-going people." Kids are people too.

As you get to know kids, do so with commitment. Make up your mind that you are not willing to give up on them no matter how tempting it may be. They will certainly let you down, sometimes as a test of your reliability, and sometimes because something more important to them occurs. Their commitment to your efforts will grow only as they learn how trustworthy and committed you are. Don't give up on them.

They need adults they can trust. The adult they look up to now, rock stars and the like, are not always such good examples. Kids need to see Christian men and women who are real people, who, like them, struggle with sin and problems, but overcome in Christ. They need to see married couples living as Christ commands them in a troublesome world. Whether it be a pastor or lay leader or interested lay person, these examples make deep impressions on young minds. The essayist believes that these heroes need to admit to being human. It is not all that comforting to a teenager who is struggling with all kinds of temptations to think his or her pastor never had such problems. Even the Son of God was tempted like as we are, yet without sin, to convince us that He will understand our struggles.

Another important thing to do to help overcome the crisis in youth and youth work is to remember that teens are a part of the church now. They are not just the future of the church. They are Christians today, with special needs.

The message of the church should be directed to all the members. Preaching should reach people where they live, in their own unique circumstances. The preacher sits in his study with a mental picture before him of the people to whom he will preach. He fashions God's message to the problems people endure and the lives people are living. And there, on occasion, he sees a teen. In his mind he may see the teen disobeying authority, having illicit sex, using drugs or contemplating suicide. And he makes the teen a target of his sermon by shooting piercing arrows of law at his heart. Or he may include young people in sermons only as examples of the evil in the world and the power of temptation. How simple it is to leave them out when it comes time to salve the wound with the balm of Christ's blood.

Teenagers may be encouraged to think of themselves as second-class Christians, not yet fit for the real church. If they

are only the church of the future, we should not be surprised if they decide to wait for that future to take seriously their Christianity.

We all know and believe that Christ's atonement, His forgiveness, motivates His people to change, to serve the Lord. The Gospel is the constant need for all of God's people, young and not-so-young. Gospel sermons, Gospel Bible studies, with the young in mind will help kids through trying times. It was only the unequivocal Gospel, pounded into the essayist's heart, that kept him from despair over the sins of his adolescence, that called him back from the darkness of the lost. The fact that God through Christ forgives sinners, a fact regularly preached to him by his pastor, convinced him of his place in the church, even at those times when the devil worked overtime to make him qualified as a sinner.

Young Christians need to feel important in the church. They need to be integrated gradually into church life through significant responsibilities. At an age when the future is unclear, when they are searching for their purpose in life, the church can give them an eternal reason for living. Stewardship, in the wide sense of the term, is for the young too. Meaningful service to the Lord is healthy and invigorating for the faith of the young.

Few kids believe they can make a difference. "The latent idealism of their youth has been tainted and some researchers are speculating that the nuclear threat (among other things) may be saddling developing egos with despair, producing a sense of powerlessness, cynical resignation, impulsive behavior, and anger at the adult generation."⁵

Christians can make an eternal difference. Teenagers long for this feeling of purpose. They long to be involved in something that really matters. Youth work can, and should, move beyond car washes and pizza parties to real works of service. Faith becomes more meaningful when it is put into practice. Kids can be taught to put their faith into practice.

Children are not alone in their need for education. Many of the children we are trying to help come from disrupted families, as has been shown. Families which escaped divorce, addiction, abuse and incest, nonetheless struggle with communication problems, anger, and disobedience. While it is easy to pass judgment and inflict blame, the point is that families need help from the church. These problems are not going away. They will only get worse. The church needs to become expert in the education and support of families. Parenting and family life should be a part of sermons and Bible studies.

When it is not possible to help the family itself (because the

family is not involved with the church) the church can provide the warmth, acceptance, and love children from disrupted families lack. Christians who simply take time to be interested in a particular child, who talk to him or her on Sunday morning, make a lasting impression on the child. Kids enjoy having adults as friends and they feel special when adults expend the effort to care about them.

These are just a few simple but practical ideas to answer the general question, "What can we do?" If these suggestions do not work in your situation, find another way. Add each teen in your congregation to your daily prayer list. Find a way to befriend and help those teens. They will not forget.

IV. Specific Crises Endured by Youth.

The last section of this paper will discuss specific crises faced by our teens and what we can do to help. The most deadly problem is suicide. The epidemic nature of suicide is documented in newspapers and television news reports throughout the land. Teenage suicide has become national news. Sadly, there are many suicides and suicide attempts which are not reported.

Suicide has been defined as, "Any deliberate, self-damaging act from which the chance of survival is uncertain."⁶ Karl Menninger divides suicidal behavior into three categories: "Chronic suicide, which includes asceticism, alcohol and drug addiction, antisocial acting out and psychoses; focal suicide, which includes self-mutilations, and intentional accidents; and organic suicides, which relate to psychosomatic illnesses."⁷

It is difficult for the essayist to understand what could cause a child to consider self-destruction, but the facts are plain. The following list of motivations will help spot possible victims: "Escape, physical illness, death and loss, avoiding being a burden, revenge, guilt, attention, manipulation, impulse or whim, reunion with a deceased loved one, delusions, mastery over fate, and as an expression of love."⁸ Reasons given for the dramatic increase of adolescent suicide are: "Changing moral climate, society's high mobility, high divorce rate, frequent alcohol and other drug abuse, popularization and glorification of violence in the mass media, easy availability of guns and the already high suicide rate."⁹

A caring church will want to join the rest of the country in awareness of the problem, alertness for possible victims, and knowledge to help stop these tragedies. The end notes contain a list of warning signs for which to look for potential victims.¹⁰

The secular world attacks this epidemic with education and counseling. Certainly this is part of the answer. A list of dos and

don'ts is also given in the end notes.¹¹ The church has additional and powerful resources at her disposal, beginning with understanding. If the kids quoted earlier are typical of teens, i.e., reluctant to speak to parents about problems; someone in the church, (pastor, youth leader, elder, or caring friend) must open doors of communication with the teens. Understanding and empathy will also help. Being there for kids will help. Caring and loving kids will help. Being willing to listen without being shocked at what the kids may say, will help.

We also teach the truth about death and suicide, a truth the world does not understand. We can frequently emphasize the value all people have in God's eyes, since He redeemed us all, as we are, with the holy, precious blood of His only-begotten Son. We can emphasize the concern of our God for all our problems, (Matthew 10:28-31, Hebrews 4:15) and His power to overcome them (Romans 8:35-39, I Corinthians 10:13). We can overwhelm the teenagers with their importance in the eyes of the Holy God. The world may have suggestions to help us open communications with troubled kids, but only the Gospel can give them an eternally significant reason for living, along with the hope necessary to overcome seemingly overwhelming problems.

Substance abuse has become a national concern also. This problem has been with us longer than the teenage suicide epidemic. Some pietistic sects might point their finger at us in this area. After all, where would we be as a Synod without our caffeine? Our children are not immune to drug and alcohol problems. All too readily we categorize abusers as delinquents, the kids we do not have to deal with in our circles. The essayist has served parishes in rural America and now urban America. The kids in country and small town congregations are not immune to abuse. It is a myth to think that growing up in the country is the answer to drug abuse. The essayist remembers teens in a small northern farm community who had planted acres of marijuana for their own use and sale.

How difficult it is to deal with substance abusers! What can we do as parents? What can I do as a youth worker or pastor? It might be surprising to some of us, but some of our children may not be aware that drug abuse is a sin. The Bible condemns drunkenness, but what does it say about marijuana, heroin or crack cocaine? But we know that simply talking about the problem will not make it go away.

The essayist has had extensive experience, both personal and professional, in dealing with alcoholic teens and drug-abusing teens. He has relied heavily on organizations such as A.A. as well as treatment centers for abusers. He believes strongly in

encouraging addicts to submit to such treatment. There is no question that the power of God overcomes sin. This sin needs extra work because it is a life-dominating sin.

There is something the church can do in addition to this. We can learn a lesson from the prodigal father of Jesus' parable. We can tell our children we love them no matter what they do. We can convince them that even though they stray, we will be waiting with open arms to receive them when they return. We can lavish them with the same undeserved love of our heavenly Father in which we rejoice.

It is heart-rending to witness our children and the children of our church frying or pickling their brains, slowly killing themselves. Our frustration may lead to pent-up anger, which is unleashed at the smallest problem. Our anger is justified and it is honest. But through our anger, love and acceptance should shine forth. The child should know we care and are waiting to help. We are not willing to become a part of the problem. We will not be permissive and enable the abuser to continue abusing. We will be there to help when they are ready.

The final specific crisis to be considered is the new morality.¹² Again, the church approaches the problem from a different perspective than the world does. The world is concerned about unwanted results of sexual conduct, namely venereal disease, unwanted pregnancy, the expense of caring for poor teenage mothers and their babies. The world would solve the problem by means of education concerning biology and birth control devices.

But has it worked? Does it solve the real problem or has this education become a part of the problem? One study, admittedly biased, argues, "The evidence shows then, that increased exposure of teenagers to contraception, at least during this five-year period, has led to more premarital pregnancies, more illegitimacy, more abortion, more promiscuity, more venereal disease and more cervical cancer. The obvious cause of all these problems has been the enormous increase in sexual activities among teenagers during this period."¹³ Another study, quoted by this same study, states, "The current belief that illegitimacy will be reduced if teenage girls are given an effective contraceptive is an extension of the same reasoning that created the problem in the first place. It reflects an unwillingness to face problems of social control and social discipline, while trusting some technological device to extricate society from its difficulties. The irony is that the illegitimacy rise occurred precisely while contraception was becoming more, rather than less, widespread and respectable."¹⁴ Many of the less popular politicians of the day have been saying much the same thing to deaf ears.

The authors of this study conclude, "For generations, parents taught their children moral responsibility and gave them the foundation on which to build their own families. This system was not perfect, but it produced infinitely better results than the current programs. It gave children reasons for preserving their chastity and it supported them in doing so until they were mature enough to make responsible use of their sexual faculties. Indeed many parents still are doing it, in spite of the general permissiveness around them. But if parents are to be effective in giving their children the moral training they so desperately need, they will have to be supported, not undermined, by their churches, schools, government agencies, and the medical profession."¹⁵

Children are sexual, but they need not be sexually active. While the rest of the country has surrendered their children to sexual promiscuity, we need not and should not surrender the children of God to this sin. We could assume that worldly children have few reasons to remain chaste, but our children have very significant reasons for doing so. Many of them want help and support in their struggle to remain pure.

Scripture abounds with instructions, commands, and encouragements in this area.¹⁶ Scripture is open and honest about sexual matters. The church need not fear teaching the truth about sex as well as giving proper and effective motivation for chastity; i.e., the love of God which constrains us. We can encourage our teens that they are not freaks just because everyone else seems to be promiscuous. And even more importantly, we can still love them and forgive them with the divine love and forgiveness of Christ when some of them fail, when some of them get caught in this tempting trap of the evil one.

The church which dares to tell the kids the truth about sex will help those children. The church which declares clearly God's will and way, which clearly teaches why God gave these laws, will serve its youth. The same church will strive to give teens the good example of marriages which are blessed because they followed the will of the Lord.

Conclusion.

The Church of Jesus Christ is well-equipped to help its members face any crisis. The power of God stands behind us. The grace and mercy of God encourage us. The Word of God guides us. The church has always faced difficult tasks. Helping teenagers meet and conquer their crises is no more difficult than the assignment Jesus gave to His church in the Great Commission. It is no less important either. Those teens are a major object of the mission work of the church.

While we busy ourselves with mission work in foreign lands, while we work to spread the Gospel in this country, while we continue to support higher education in our excellent institution, may we also fight to keep our kids as a part of the church of today. May we expend as much energy and time with kids as we do with adults. May we love them and be there for them. May we find a way, any God-pleasing way, to serve them.

These words of Dr. Luther serve as an unofficial theme for our Synod's youth letter, "Youth Branches." "If an injury that really hurts is to be done the devil, it must be done through the young people who are reared in the knowledge of God, spread God's Word and teach it to others."

Soli Deo Gloria!

END NOTES

1. David Elkind, *All Grown Up and No Place To Go* (Addison-Wesley).
2. One out of every three marriages ends in divorce today, and between 1966 and 1976, the rate of divorce in the United States increased 113 percent.
Nearly 1 million couples divorce each year, and about 65 percent of all divorces and annulments occur in families with children under eighteen.
Since 1960, the proportion of children who live with only one parent has doubled.
1 out of every 6 children in the United States is living in a family in which the father is absent.
About half the children under eighteen living in families headed by the mother had a standard of living below the poverty level.
Since 1960, families headed by the mother living alone with her children have increased by 81 percent.
Some 6.4 million children live in stepfamilies.
1 out of every 100 adult women was sexually molested as a child by her father or stepfather.
1 out of every 10 families may be involved in various forms of incest.
At least 20 million children live with at least one parent with a serious drinking problem.
Alvin Rosenbaum, *The Young People's Yellow Pages*, Perigee Books, 1983.
3. Report of the 69th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, p. 84.
4. 1987 survey taken by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Board for Education and Youth.
5. Psychology Today, *When Kids Think The Unthinkable*, April 1984.
6. Dr. G. Keith Olson, *Counseling Teenagers*, (Loveland, CO: Group Books, 1984) p. 368.
7. *Ibid.*, p. 368.
8. *Ibid.*, pp. 370-373.
9. Bill Blackburn, *What You Should Know About Suicide*, Word Books, Waco, Texas 1982, p. 24.
10. Warning signs of adolescent suicide by Joseph Teicher, M.D. and Jerry Jacobs, M.D.

- A. Abrupt changes in personality
 - B. Giving away of prized possessions
 - C. Previously attempted suicide
 - D. Increased use of alcohol and drugs
 - E. Eating disturbances and significant weight changes
 - F. Sleeping disturbances
 - G. Inability to tolerate frustration
 - H. Withdrawal and rebelliousness
 - I. Inability or unwillingness to communicate
 - J. Sexual promiscuity
 - K. Neglecting personal appearance
 - L. Theft and/or vandalism
 - M. Depression
 - N. Exaggerated and/or extended apathy
 - O. Inactivity and boredom
 - P. Carelessness and/or accident-proneness
 - Q. Unusually long grief reaction
 - R. Sadness and discouragement
 - S. Hostile behavior—unruliness in school
 - T. Neglect of academic work
 - U. Truancy
 - V. Difficulty concentrating
 - W. Family disruption (divorce)
 - X. Running away from home
 - Y. Abrupt ending of romance
11. Some dos and don'ts in working with suicidal adolescents
- Dos
- 1. Always try and take away accessibility to means person has chosen to kill oneself.
 - 2. Be positive—suggest most desirable alternatives.
 - 3. Remain calm and work at being "empathetic"—feeling your pain in my heart!
 - 4. Use constructive questioning to help separate and define person's problems and remove confusion.
 - 5. Emphasize that suicide is a *permanent* solution to a *temporary* problem.
 - 6. Stay in touch—literally and figuratively.
 - 7. Urge professional help when beyond your ability—know your limitations.
- Don'ts
- 1. Don't sound shocked by what the person tells you.
 - 2. Don't stress the kind of pain it would cause the suicidal person's family or friends—or even yourself.
 - 3. Don't call the person's bluff. It may work on T.V. but this is real life.
 - 4. Don't get in a philosophical debate.
 - 5. Don't belittle or try to shame.
 - 6. Never try to physically remove a weapon from a suicidal person.
- Remember—In order to effectively commit suicide, you must have a:
- 1. Time
 - 2. Place
 - 3. Method

If all three are present, the person is lethal and must be helped! Taken from Seminar on Youth Leadership by Youth Specialties, Inc.

12. "The facts"

Nearly 6 out of 10, 16-18-year-olds have had sexual intercourse.

Nearly 1 out of 3, 13-15-year-olds have had sexual intercourse.

The average age for first sexual experience is between 15 and 17.

Nearly 6 out of 10 sexually active teenagers do not use birth control methods, or use them only some of the time.

Nearly three-quarters of today's teenagers have never discussed birth control with their parents.

Almost all teenagers want more information about intercourse, birth control, and venereal disease (in that order).

Only 13 percent of teenage girls would marry the father of the baby if they became pregnant. Nearly 3 out of 10 would get an abortion, and the rest would keep the baby or give it up for adoption.

90 percent of teenagers surveyed believe in marriage, and 74 percent say they would live with someone before or instead of marriage.

Twice as many girls as boys fear that marriage would interfere with the freedom and career plans.

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By Ray L. Diepenbrock



- I. Introduction
- II. Definition of Christian Education
- III. God's Standards for Education
- IV. Luther on Christian Education
- V. Agencies of Christian Education
- VI. Lutheran Christian Education
- VII. Conclusion

What mental image does the term "Christian education" bring to you? Does it mean something related to the Bible? Is it somehow connected to the church? Do you get the image of a teacher and pupils? Does it imply the opposite of "secular educa-

tion?" Could it mean something set apart from the world, embodying a philosophy different from worldly philosophies?

No matter what images come to your mind or to that of the person sitting next to you, one thing we can agree on is that *Christ* must fit in that mental picture, for Christ is the foundation in Christian education. The purpose of this essay is to narrow the focus of this term and to sharpen the image this phrase should bring to the minds of conservative Lutherans. We need to define this term as it is derived from Scripture and the writings of Martin Luther and to bring it into the context of its proper application to our present day situations, as members of congregations striving to meet the demands and conflicts of the age.

DEFINITION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian education can be defined as comprising two basic concepts: (1) The efforts of Christians to transmit their Scriptural beliefs and practices to the next generation, and (2) the efforts of Christians to nurture and edify one another spiritually. This is done, as St. Paul affirms in Ephesians 4:13

"until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

We can look to the program of Christian education offered by Moses in Deuteronomy 4 as a model.¹ He proposes that we (1) Let children hear God's saving acts from the past, and (2) Let children keep God's ten commands for their future.

In our definition, it is proper to determine what Christian education is *not*. Christian education is *not* only for the young. The children of the Heavenly Father are not only children of tender age, but includes everyone. Look at the average Bible class in your congregation and count the gray-haired participants, often a majority. It is to be a life-long process:

"But grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18)

Likewise, Christian education does not promote isolationism from the world, a modern day monasticism. We must avoid the premise that the primary purpose of Christian education is to produce a model Christian who is better than those who have not had such an education. This Reformed approach will only produce "little Pharisees" and when these little Pharisees fall short of the expectations set for them, the fall may be faith-destroying.

There are an abundance of publishers of so-called Christian textbooks and other instructional materials out there that we as Lutherans cannot accept, for their definition of *Christian* is not the same as ours and the use of *Christian* as the name for the product they market is as deceptive and devious to the Lutheran Christian as anything that is advertised in the commercial marketplace. To us, *Christian* education must be *Lutheran* education. At the core of Lutheran education is the concept of sin and grace. A number of Lutheran writers have defined the goals of Christian education. These statements of goals generally include the following: (1) The student is to become fully convinced and convicted of his sinful nature and his status as a lost and condemned creature; (2) is to be assured and comforted by the knowledge and belief of this forgiveness and redemption through Jesus Christ; (3) is to grow in a life of sanctification and Christian maturity.²

GOD'S STANDARDS FOR EDUCATION

Christians are under a sacred obligation to educate as God directs. Holy Scripture specifically spells out the responsibility of the Christian to teach the Word. Just being a Christian involves an educative function:

"Feed my lambs . . . feed my sheep" (John 21:15, 16)

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3:16, 17)

"These commandments that I give you this day are to be upon your hearts and you are to impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." (Deut. 6:6, 7)

"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

God directs that such education is to be comprehensive:

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey *everything* I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19, 20)

It should be effective, emphasized in the command in Deuteronomy 6:6 ". . . teach them *diligently* . . ." (KJV). Christian education is to be nurture and admonition "in the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). This involves instruction and disciplinary guidance. The Church is the educative community which

makes the educational program functional within the circle of the home and the local congregation:

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" (Romans 10:14)

LUTHER, ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Luther indeed had much to say about education, and though his views on the government's role in Christian education were flavored by the times in which he lived, he is highly respected yet today by contemporary educators, especially for his views on compulsory education. Luther was centuries ahead of his time as a proponent of government supported schools and the formal education of girls as well as boys.

Here we focus our attention on Luther's emphasis on the Christian training of children. In 1529, Luther, who was now a father, chided parents in the society at that time who did not believe it was their God-dictated responsibility to see to the religious training of their children. He scolded,

"No one wants to see that educating or training is the command of the Supreme Majesty, who will strictly call us to account and punish us for its neglect, or that the need to be seriously concerned about young people is so great. For if we want to have good and capable persons for both temporal and spiritual leadership, we must certainly spare no diligence, effort, or cost in teaching and educating our children that they may be able to serve God and the world . . . But He has given and entrusted children to us that we should train and govern them according to His will; otherwise He would have no need of father and mother. Let everyone know, therefore, that it is his duty, on peril of losing the divine favor, to bring up his children above all things in the fear and knowledge of God, and, if they are talented, to let them learn and study so that they may be of service wherever they are needed.

If this advice were put into practice, God would also richly bless us and give us grace to bring up the sort of people who might benefit the country and its inhabitants, likewise well-trained citizens, chaste and domestic women, who in turn might rear godly children and servants. Now think for yourself what deadly damage you are doing if you are negligent in this respect and fail on your part to train your child to usefulness and piety."

In a letter to the councilmen of Germany in 1524, Luther wrote about the importance of religion in education:

"But where the Holy Scripture does not rule I certainly advise no one to send his child. Everyone not unceasingly occupied with the Word of God must become corrupt; therefore we must see what people in the higher schools are and grow up to be . . . I greatly fear that schools for higher learning are wide gates to hell if they do not diligently teach the Holy Scriptures and impress them on the young folk."

Once, in autographing a Bible, he wrote thus:

"True it is that human wisdom and the liberal arts are noble gifts of God, good and useful for all kinds of things, wherefore one cannot do without them in this life. But they can never thoroughly tell us what sin and righteousness are in the eyes of God, how we can get rid of sins, become pious and just before God, and pass from death into life."

Luther thought highly of teaching and teachers, and this remark in 1530 he compared the relative merits of being a minister or a schoolmaster:

"In fact, I do not know which of the two is the better; for it is hard to tame old dogs and to make old rascals pious. Yet this is the task at which the preacher must labor and often labor in vain. But one can bend and train young trees more easily even though some of them break in the process."

He also thought that this education could not begin too early:

". . . if the kingdom of God is to come in power, we must begin with children and teach them from the cradle. What would it avail if we possessed and performed all else and became perfect saints if we neglect that for which we chiefly live, namely, to care for the young? There is no outward offense that in the sight of God so heavily burdens the world and deserves such heavy chastisement as the neglect to educate children."³

AGENCIES OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We tend to think only of the Church and the agencies within the Church when we think of Christian education. However, the family is the initial agency of Christian education and remains so for a lifetime. Just as in Bible times, the home of today bears the greatest responsibility (yea, even challenge) to carry out Christian education. The family is the child's first school. His parents are his first teachers and the teachers who have the most lasting impression. The child learns more in those first five years at home than he does during any other equal span of time. He acquires a language, he begins to actively explore his environment, and he has begun to practice social skills. Long after he has become an adult, that first school and those first teachers are very much a part of him.⁴

The changes facing the structure of today's family presents both a challenge and an opportunity to the Church which is to lead, support, and reinforce the Christian training given at home. In this day of working parents and single-parent families, the agencies of the church must adjust to fill the void caused by less time devoted to the parent-child relationship at home. Consider these statistics on the family in the United States:⁵

One out of every five children lives in a one-parent household.

Families are begun later and are smaller.

One out of every four Americans is over the age of 50. There are now more persons over 65 than there are teenagers.

Single persons now account for nearly 1/4 of the households. As many as 8% of today's adults will never marry.

The average American family moves once every five to six years. (nearly 20% each year)

The obvious implication of these statistics is that the proportion of persons in the various age groups who receive Christian education has changed and will continue to be subject to change. While we hear of high schools cutting back on faculties and even closing, kindergartens and primary grades in elementary schools are hard-pressed to find enough space to handle the boom arriving on the formal education scene. And though it is commonly agreed that the concept of pre-kindergarten programs are counter-productive to the role of the home in the lives of four-year-olds, in the real world that is no longer considered a viable option.⁶ Since pre-school programs and day-care centers are a "necessary second choice," the Church (by means of its local congregations) should stand ready to make it an avenue of Christian education. At the other end of the spectrum, the increasing numbers of senior citizens need to continue to grow in grace, to be edified, to be nurtured through Christian education.

In Christian education the cooperation between home and Church should be a two-way street: there should be no contention between the family and the Church concerning this nurture. The gifts and responsibilities of the home and the Church are inter-related. Luther says, in a sermon on the First Commandment in 1528:

"Every father of a family is a bishop in his house and the wife a bishopess. Therefore remember that you in your homes are to help us carry on the ministry as we do in the church."⁷

The church and its educational agencies, therefore, cannot replace the home or be as effective as the home in Christian education. The Church *can* and should provide assistance to parents in their work of nurture, however. This is often best accomplished by serving as a resource and reference center and in an ever-increasing way, as a provider of child development knowledge and parenting skills acquisition. This service may include the formation of "support groups," a catch-word of growing proportions in society today. A support group is based on the assumption that the membership provides the resource of wisdom and experience which can guide and assist the individual

member on a continuing basis. Discussion and the sharing of experiences and techniques are the major activities of such groups. It is also intended that such groups provide reassurance and emotional help to the members by helping them realize that the problems they face are similar to those faced by others in the group. Church-sponsored support groups also help create a fellowship which shares not only a common situation but also a common faith.⁸

I must put in a plug here for the Christian Day School. Many Lutherans are convinced that the mutual obligations of the home and the Church are best discharged in the full-time Christian school, the most effective *agency* available. Because of their theological base, the goals of Lutheran schools have always been different from those to which the public schools aspire. Though the public school may take a positive attitude toward religion and toward moral and spiritual values, it cannot give a positive Christian education. The public schools do not teach that positive Christian truth which rightly motivates moral and spiritual values and conduct. Obviously, they cannot substitute for the task which home and Church must do in Christian education. The church-related school, which does not face the problem of religious pluralism and is free to teach Biblical doctrines, can do much more specific work in Christian education.⁹ Removing children from the conflicting influence of the public schools to be with teachers and other students who share a common Christian faith and where there exists a Christian atmosphere in conduct, goals, and discipline greatly aids the work of Christian education in the home and Church. This school enables the child to experience a totally Christ-centered program, a program which focuses the application of God's Word on him and on all areas of his life. Daily instruction in God's Word encourages him to struggle against sin, to seek forgiveness in Christ, and to grow in love and service to God and man.

The relationship of science, social studies, language, art, music, and other subjects to Biblical truth may be taught without limitation. The absence of any formal educational influence that is strange, foreign, or antagonistic in any way to the positive Christian educational process permits the building of one stone on another without destructive influence. Time and opportunity are available to study the needs and activities of the Christian church and to prepare the individual to be an intelligent, active member of a Christian congregation or a full-time servant in the Church's public ministry. Time and opportunity are also available to study the Christian's role in occupations and civic affairs, thus undergirding society and public welfare with intelligent, righteous, Christian citizenship. Luther said:

"In order outwardly to maintain its temporal estate, the world must have good and skilled men and women, that the former may efficiently rule the country and its people, and the latter may efficiently keep house and train children and servants aright . . . Above all things, the principal and most general subject of study, both in the higher and lower schools, should be the Holy Scripture."¹⁰

Whether or not you have a day school in your congregation, whether your congregation is large or small, its membership comprised of a majority of young people, or of senior Christians, whether situated in a rural or urban area, whether you have many different agencies within the congregation for the Christian education of the membership or just a few, it is how you use what you have that is important (Matthew 25:15). The agencies of Christian education in your congregation are only the vehicle whereby you carry out God's commands to educate; the means whereby your zeal is put into action and, through the Holy Spirit, yields results.

LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I am sure that you have understood that, up to this point, when I used the word *Christian* I intended it to be synonymous with *Lutheran*. But as conservative Lutherans, you know as well as I that we cannot assume others who would use this term as it relates to themselves, to their church or to its teachings are speaking about the same things or from the same Biblical perspective. Do Billy Graham, Jerry Falwell, or Pat Robertson speak for you? The term "Christian" has become too generic. If we as Lutherans are truly convinced that our beliefs are Bible-based and context-correct dogma, should we not then be willing and outspoken in extolling them? This, too, makes us Christians, and doesn't diminish our effectiveness as we witness to the world around us, plus it will embolden others within our midst for the role they must play in the Christian life. We must give special attention to the role we and our children must play as *LUTHERAN* Christians in this world. This role is never one that is assumed by accident.¹¹

"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ." (Romans 10:17)

"We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works." (Ephesians 2:10)

It must be our job as Lutheran Christians to tell others exactly what we believe and just how we came to believe it. This is especially important as we seek to properly equip our members to

deal Scripturally with the issues of the day. For example, when others claiming to be Christian, improperly refuse to denounce homosexuality, they are not cognizant of what Scripture states on the matter. A common argument is that being a Christian is loving your fellow man, therefore it follows that any condemnation of another's sexual orientation is hatred (that antithesis of love), hence to condemn unequivocally such a lifestyle is not Christian. We scoff at such logic, yet are we doing anything about it within the agencies of education in our churches?

Medical research concludes that the best safeguard against contracting AIDS is to follow God's command for a heterosexual and monogamous relationship within the bonds of marriage, but are we proclaiming that Bible truth adequately from our pulpits, in our classroom, in Bible classes, and at youth meetings?

It seems that much of the world and even most Christians today equate being Christian with being permissive. As modern day Christians, we are to be tolerant of others and to be reconciled with all of society. The television evangelists would have everyone put aside denominational differences and join in being one big happy family. When you hear their preachings, do you inwardly (and outwardly) bristle? If you do, are you doing something about it, both in your home and in your church?

Do your children pressure you to allow them to go to 'R' rated movies or to bring them home for the VCR? Are you saying NO! Are you explaining why they as Christians cannot indulge in such, even though they may say *all* of their friends are doing it and *their* parents don't see anything wrong with it? Do you consider carefully what you and your family watch on TV? When situations arise in the course of a TV program that promote or condone practices contrary to your Christian beliefs and practices, do you just slouch down in your favorite chair, grit your teeth, and bear it, or do you witness to your faith by taking a stand, making sure your family doesn't miss the fact that the world and its entertainment industry are not the ways of a follower of Christ? The computer-age axiom "Garbage in; garbage out" will surely come to pass among us unless deliberate and constant Christian witness alters it.

It would appear that the most effective weapon in the arsenal of the Great Deceiver today is secular humanism. Though secular humanism is nothing new, the technology of today makes it easier to promote and for society to accept. It is a religion of itself. As Christians, we know it is there, we recognize the inherent dangers in it (though we may not always immediately recognize the "face" in which it is presented), and

we know we must do something to combat it. It is in the battlefield strategy that we find so much difference of opinion. Some would argue that it is best fought by treating it as we would treat a contagious virus, by isolating oneself from it. This idea would be carried out by teaching the young from textbooks which have no reference to any of the tenets of secular humanism. The obvious shortcoming of this approach is that one cannot remain isolated from the philosophies of secular humanism indefinitely and the clash of Christian beliefs and humanist philosophies could be faith-destroying.

Others (I include myself in this group) believe that we can best deal with humanism by informing ourselves and those we are teaching about its creed, methodologies, and implications, and then being equipped with the message of the Word, we may evaluate each form and facet of secular humanism as we come face to face with it in our daily lives. We must keep in mind, however, that when we teach God's Word, every word must be seen in our actions. When Christ is not proclaimed in our daily and personal and professional routines by the confession of our lips as well as the example of our lives, then our stance against humanism loses its substance. Though an unbelieving world prefers to be placed on that pedestal which makes man the measure of all things and casts God and his Word aside, we Christians are on a pedestal of far greater worth—God's Word. From there we can boldly confess, "On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand."¹²

CONCLUSION

The painting we all know so well of Christ with the children requires no caption to express its meaning. The picture is one that expresses well the theme of this convention, a perfect model for Christian education. I encourage you to keep this mental image as you return to your congregations and strive there to carry out your God-assigned task of educating your members for time and eternity. If the job seems overwhelming and you have trouble determining which way to go or how to proceed, perhaps you could print out and put in a conspicuous place this little motto which a colleague of mine in California had taped to the desk in her classroom, "Only that is important which is eternal." May God bless your every effort in the cause of Lutheran Christian education.

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REPORT OF THE DOCTRINE COMMITTEE TO THE 1987 ELS CONVENTION

Since the 1986 convention no change has occurred in the elected membership of the Doctrine Committee; Pastor Herbert Larson, who had been appointed to the committee by the president to fill a vacancy, was elected by the 1986 convention to a full three-year term. Members whose terms of office now come to an end with this convention are Mr. Harvey Bell and the Rev. Gary Faleide. Synodical guidelines instruct that the committee is to consist of two lay and four clergy members in addition to the president of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, who is a permanent voting member of the committee—and its current chairman. Because of the heavy work load of the committee, Pres. Geo. Orvick, in accordance with the guidelines for said committee, also appointed John A. Moldstad, Jr., as an advisory member of the committee.

In seeking to carry out its work, the committee again held its four regularly scheduled two-day meetings during the year. Besides continuing to study topics assigned to it by the Synod and by itself, it dealt with matters directed to it by the assembled Synod, by the synodical president, and by congregations and individuals of the Synod.

ELCF

Several members of the committee also attended the biennial meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum (ELCF), a forum intended to express the fellowship enjoyed by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and consisting of twelve representatives of each synod. The doctrinal division of the Forum (consisting of three members from each synod) naturally discusses primarily doctrinal matters in its divisional session, and then joins the other divisions in a plenary session that gives attention to reports from all the divisions of the Forum.

DC-CICR

In January several members of the Doctrine Committee accepted an invitation to meet with the Commission on Inter-church Relations (CICR) of the WELS. The primary purpose of this joint meeting was to consider implementation of the proposal for a new international synodical conference. (See 1986 SR, p. 62) After considerable discussion of the many factors involved in trying to establish such an organization, the joint committee adopted the following resolution for the recommendation to their respective church bodies:

RESOLVED, That the Doctrine Committee of the ELS and the Commission on Inter-church Relations of the WELS seek approval from their respective synods in 1987 for the appointment of a committee of six (three to be appointed by the DC of the ELS and three to be appointed by the CICR of the WELS) to begin preliminary planning for a new synodical conference and to present its recommendations to the ELS Doctrine Committee and the Commission on Inter-church Relations of the WELS.

The joint committee also considered the matter of how best to resolve the continuing problem of triangular fellowship relations (where church A is in fellowship with church B, but only A or B is in fellowship with church C). In a discussion of the matter of the Lord's Supper, particularly the role of the words of institution in effecting the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the Sacrament, the two committees reaffirmed their agreement with both the respective sets of theses produced by the committees in 1981. (See SR 1981, pp. 75-77) These two statements acknowledge that the words of institution repeated at Christ's command effect the real presence.

ELC-SFB

Because of the need for the ELS to resolve a particular triangular fellowship relation in which we have for some time been involved by our association with the Evangelical Lutheran Church-Synod of France and Belgium, the committee recommends to the convention the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod has for many years enjoyed church fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church-Synod of France and Belgium; and,

WHEREAS, We recognize that this small body of confessing Christians has endeavored valiantly to uphold the truth of God's Word; and,

WHEREAS, However, in recent years we have had to express to them our deep concerns over their departure in practice from the principles of fellowship which we have shared, e.g., in remaining in fellowship with the LCMS and the Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELK) of West Germany—in fact, having removed its state of protest in its relationship to the LCMS and having entered more fully into joint missionary work with that body; and,

WHEREAS, We are thereby involved in a triangular church fellowship which compromises our testimony and our confessional position; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That we regretfully declare the severance of our long-standing fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church-Synod of France and Belgium; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we earnestly beseech the Lord of the Church for restoration of the desired unity through the power of His Gospel.

ST. LUKE MEMORIAL

In response to the St. Luke Memorial which was submitted to the 1986 ELS synodical convention, the convention adopted this resolution:

RESOLVED, That the "World Needs Guidelines" of the Board for Christian Service and the present Memorial from St. Luke's congregation be directed to the Doctrine Committee for further study, and that the Doctrine Committee be asked to come with a report to the 1987 Synod Convention. (Synod Report, 1986, p. 63, Res. 6)

On the basis of its study the Doctrine Committee submits the following:

1. It is important to distinguish between works of charity, or humanitarian acts, done outside the framework of fellowship by those not in doctrinal agreement and those works of charity, or humanitarian acts, done within the framework of church fellowship by those not in doctrinal agreement, the latter activity being unionistic and the former a legitimate cooperation in externals.
2. The ELS throughout its history has made this distinction and practiced accordingly. In the 1921 Synod Report there is an essay by Pastor M. K. Bleken on *Unionism*. In this essay the author states "that cooperative work in purely external, worldly things is not unionism." (Synod Report, 1921, p. 18) He goes on to say that there is a danger that it can lead to unionism and that therefore we should be careful. However, he does not condemn cooperative work in external matters as unionism.
3. In the 1949 Synod Report there is an essay by Prof. George Lillegard entitled "Cooperation in Externals." This article was written in response to those Lutherans who used cooperation in externals as a smokescreen for practicing fellowship with those not united in doctrine. He begins this essay with a definition of unionism and submits examples of unionism. But then he goes on to say,

One touch-stone, by which we can determine whether a certain activity concerns the "spiritual program" of the church or not,

may be found in this: Does it involve "prayer fellowship?" The cases referred to above, and many like them, would do so. Hence, those who insist on practicing what they call "cooperation in externals" with heterodox Lutherans will be found defending "prayer fellowship" with them also. (Synod Report, 1949, p. 42)

Prof. Lillegard goes on to develop his thesis that "joint church work with false teachers is unionism just as much as is joint worship," but then qualifies a legitimate "cooperation in externals" by saying, "This is not to say, however, that there are not cases where we in our church work may come in contact with other churches in such a way as to cooperate with them to an extent without any unionism involved." (Synod Report, 1949, p. 44) He, then, submits an example whereby he and a group of Catholic leaders appeared together before the Massachusetts legislature in opposition to a Child Labor Amendment which would have affected parochial schools. Prof. Lillegard defends his cooperative effort by saying, "neither was there any prayer fellowship involved, as there always is in the type of cooperation in externals to which we object." (Cf. Synod Report, p. 44)

4. Our sister synod, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, issued a tract on *Cooperation in Externals* at a time when this was being discussed in the Synodical Conference. This tract addresses the same concerns as those of Professor Lillegard. Proceeding in the same manner as Lillegard, the tract says:

On the other hand, we do not go so far as to insist that every kind of intersynodical cooperation among Lutherans of other synods must be ruled out. We have employed a non-Synodical Conference Lutheran welfare organization in Pennsylvania to distribute clothing to war sufferers in Europe. A congregation of our Synod and a congregation of the American Lutheran Church could own a burial plot jointly and share the responsibility for its upkeep. As American citizens, we could work together with other Lutherans to defend religious rights which we have under the Constitution, and oppose legislation that would discriminate against our Lutheran churches and schools. Such cooperation does not involve pulpit and altar fellowship. It is not joint Gospel work. In such "externals" all of them purely business arrangements or undertakings in defense of our civic rights, we may cooperate if need be.

In view of the above it is our judgment that the St. Luke Memorial fails to make the necessary distinction between what constitutes unionism and what is a legitimate cooperation in externals. Failure to observe this distinction can lead to an abuse of Christian freedom and make an adiaphoron into a divine command.

Our answer to the St. Luke Memorial is as follows:

- WHEREAS, Scripture commands "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 6:10) and "Thou shalt love thy neighbor" (Matthew 19:39) and "If thine enemy hunger, feed him" (Romans 12:20, and,
- WHEREAS, Support for the World Needs Fund is a humanitarian act and a work of charity, and,
- WHEREAS, Such acts may be carried out with those with whom we are not in fellowship because no spiritual fellowship (such as prayer) is involved, and,
- WHEREAS, The church in Christian liberty may set up machinery to administer welfare work and thus assist its members in carrying out the command to love one's neighbor, therefore,

- BE IT RESOLVED, That we reject the charge of the St. Luke Memorial that our Synod is guilty of unionism by its distribution of the World Needs Fund, and,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we reject any implication that the church may not in Christian liberty assist its members in helping to feed the hungry, and,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we commend the Board for Christian Service for the diligent manner in which it has carried out its assignment, and,
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That the Board for Christian Service continue to seek the best possible agency for the distribution of such aid.

LCMS

Chairman W. Petersen, as an official observer appointed by the president, attended the biennial convention of the LCMS held at Indianapolis, Indiana in the summer of 1986. Upon request by the presiding officer of the convention, he unofficially addressed the convention, particularly informing the delegates of the history of the ELS and of its confessional stance in the current Lutheran milieu.

For other matters of doctrinal import the committee refers the convention to the annual message and report of the synodical president. Aware of the manner in which the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is being assaulted in our day by the visible church's deterioration in concern for doctrine and life as set forth in the Holy Scriptures, the committee exhorts the members of the Synod to renewed devotion to the Word of God and prays the Lord of the church for both the grace and strength to follow His will in all things.

God's Word is our great heritage
And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way,
In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure,
We keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations.

TLH 283

W. W. Petersen, chairman
J. B. Madson, secretary

DOCTRINE COMMITTEE ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church (East Germany)

WHEREAS, The Pastoral Conference of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in its battle to uphold the truth, has suspended relations with the Altlutherische Kirche, and,

WHEREAS, It needs the Lord's strength to stand firm in the truths of Scripture, maintaining Confessional Lutheranism, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church be encouraged to remain steadfast in its confessional stand, and,*

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That our people pray the Almighty God to strengthen those in the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in its battle for the truth.*

Resolution No. 2: New Synodical Conference

WHEREAS, *Our Synod has resolved to support the formation of a new Synodical Conference (cf. Synod Report 1986, p. 62, Res. 2), and,*

WHEREAS, *The proposed next step toward this goal is the forming of a committee of six (three to be appointed by the Doctrine Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and three to be appointed by the Commission on Interchurch Relations of the WELS) to begin preliminary planning for a new Synodical Conference, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That we approve the Doctrine Committee's proposal.*

Resolution No. 3: The Evangelical Lutheran Church-Synod of France and Belgium

WHEREAS, *The Evangelical Lutheran Synod has for many years enjoyed church fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church-Synod of France and Belgium, and,*

WHEREAS, *We recognize that this small body of confessing Christians has in the past endeavored valiantly to uphold the truth of God's Word, and,*

WHEREAS, *However, in recent years we have had to express to that church body our deep concerns over its departure in practice from our principles of fellowship in that it practices fellowship with the LCMS and the Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELK) of West Germany, in fact, it has removed its state of protest in its relationship to the LCMS and has entered more fully into joint missionary work with that body, and,*

WHEREAS, *We are thereby involved in a triangular church fellowship which compromises our testimony and our confessional position, be it,*

A. RESOLVED, *That we regretfully declare the severance of our long-standing fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church-Synod of France and Belgium, and,*

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That we earnestly beseech the Lord of the Church for restoration of the desired unity through the power of His Gospel.*

Resolution No. 4: St. Luke Memorial

WHEREAS, *Scripture commands "As we have therefore oppor-*

tunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 6:10) and "Thou shalt love thy neighbor" (Matthew 19:39) and "If thine enemy hunger, feed him" (Romans 12:20) and,

WHEREAS, Support for the World Needs Fund is a humanitarian act and a work of charity, and,

WHEREAS, It has been our historical position that such acts may be carried out with those with whom we are not in fellowship when no spiritual fellowship (such as prayer) is involved,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we reject the charge that our Synod is guilty of unionism by its distribution of the World Needs Fund.

Resolution No. 5: Guidelines for the Christian Service Committee

WHEREAS, The "Guidelines for the World Needs Fund" were committed to the Doctrine Committee along with the St. Luke Memorial so that the results of the study of the Doctrine Committee could be "reflected in the World Needs Fund guidelines" (cf. Synod Report 1986, p. 89, Res. 2), and,

WHEREAS, The work load of the Doctrine Committee was very great during the last year and such results were not included in the Doctrine Committee Report, and,

WHEREAS, The Guidelines for the World Needs Fund do not address circumstances in which World Needs Funds should NOT be distributed through particular agencies (e.g., sectarian agencies which distribute the funds to further sectarian purposes, agencies which distribute funds for a political purpose or objective, agencies which clearly show poor stewardship or negligence in use of funds or heavy administrative loading, etc.), and,

WHEREAS, Such guidelines should be based on scriptural principles which define the limits within which we exercise our Christian liberty (such principles include the doctrine of the two kingdoms, giving appearance of evil, fellowship principles, stewardship principles, giving and taking of offense, etc.),

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Doctrine Committee complete its study of the guidelines and report the results to the Board for Christian Service, so that the results can be reflected in the Guidelines of the World Needs Fund.

Resolution No. 6: Reports on the Status of Studies

WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee has not reported to this convention the status of its studies concerning matters previously referred to it, namely, "the role of men and women in the church, humanism, pietism, and the theological basis of the forthcoming merger of Lutheran churches and the doctrine of the ministry," (cf. Synod Report 1986, p. 62, Res. 1B), and,

WHEREAS, It has been reported to the floor committee that these matters are being studied by its members,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Doctrine Committee be encouraged to continue its studies in these matters, and be instructed to report the status and nature of its work in these specific areas to subsequent conventions.

Resolution No. 7: Studies of the Doctrine Committee

WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee has been asked to study and report on the roles of men and women in the church (cf. Synod Report 1986, p. 62, Res. 1 and Synod Report 1985, p. 74, Res. 3), and,

WHEREAS, The Synod has adopted a statement on the role of women in the church (cf. Synod Report 1985, pp. 66-69) as "reaffirming our Traditional Scriptural Position" (cf. Synod Report 1985, p. 74, Res. 5B), and,

WHEREAS, This statement was presented as the "initial" response of the Doctrine Committee, and,

WHEREAS, This has caused some confusion among our people as to whether it is in fact a statement of the official position of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Doctrine Committee be directed to bring a definitive statement which reflects the scriptural position on the roles of men and women in the church, to the 1988 convention for consideration or adoption.

REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' How, then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'" (Rom. 10:13-15)

These words of St. Paul adequately summarize the goals and objectives of the Board for Home Missions and point out the urgency of sending missionaries into the field.

The members of the Board for Home Missions are: the Rev. Erwin Ekhoft, chairman, the Rev. Fred Theiste, field secretary, Mr. Albert Rovey, vice chairman, the Rev. Glenn Obenberger, recording secretary, Mr. Al Holman, treasurer, Mr. Edwin Gibson, chaplain and Prof. William Kessel, special projects and planning. Since the last Synod convention the board met three times for a total of six days.

In 1986 the Board for Home Missions had the opportunity to assist in mission work in various locations. The annual expenditures were as follows:

1986 HOME MISSION BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT

Congregations	Expenses	
Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	\$12,000.00	
Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City, AZ	6,000.00	
Faith, Oregon, WI	13,200.00	
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	10,200.00	
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	10,831.00	
Bethany, Dalles, OR	2,100.00	
St. Andrew, Colorado Springs, CO	2,700.00	
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	9,600.00	
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	6,664.00	
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	7,300.00	
Immanuel, Detroit Lakes, MN	<u>500.00</u>	
		\$81,095.00
Other Expenses		
Area Missions Developer	\$14,860.92	
Advertising/Printing	000.00	
Board Expenses	4,204.57	
Bi-Vocational Ministry		
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	5,412.00	
Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	5,593.00	
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	4,723.00	
Total	15,728.00	
Moving Expenses	11,953.85	
Vicar Expenses	<u>2,890.35</u>	
		\$ 49,637.69
SUBTOTAL		\$130,732.69
LESS LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD GRANTS		(-) <u>22,330.00</u>
TOTAL		108,402.69
ELS FUNDING 1986		<u>95,000.00</u>
DEFICIT		\$ 13,402.69

It should be noted that the deficit between the synodical allocation and actual expenditure was taken from the board's reserve fund. At the end of 1986, this fund had a balance of \$25,224.53.

The board assisted several established congregations in their mission projects. Funds were set aside for exploratory work being done in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. Money was sent to help the bivocational missionaries in Yuba City, California and Grants Pass, Oregon. Checks were issued to the congregation in Colorado Springs, Colorado to investigate other mission opportunities in that area and to the flock in Marietta, Georgia, to conduct exploratory work in a different area of the Atlanta metropolis.

Meanwhile, the Board for Home Missions continued to support the work which they had started in Richardson, Texas; Oregon, Wisconsin; Lake Havasu City and Phoenix, Arizona; Sebastian and Port St. Lucie, Florida; and the bivocational ministry in Lakeland, Florida.

While the statistics of each of the aforementioned congregations will appear in the Parochial Report of the Synod and need not be given here, nevertheless, a few observations and comments should be made. Mission congregations are growing congregations. This is not surprising since the Lord promises "... my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." (Is. 55:11) Evidence of this is found in Lakeland, Florida, where because of the growth and potential the mission board decided to end Pastor Mellon's bivocational ministry and put him on full-time status in order that he might spend his complete effort on spreading the gospel. This change became effective on January 1, 1987.

Similarly, the blessed growth of Our Saviour Congregation in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, allowed them to be taken off mission board subsidy as of December 31, 1986. This was one year earlier than originally planned! We thank and praise God for the way the seed of His Word has taken root in so many hearts.

Finally, mission congregations are faithful in stewardship and commitment to our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. For example the 13 congregations listed above received from the Board for Home Missions a total of \$96,823.00 in 1986. That same year they contributed \$34,113.00 to the Synod and pledged approximately \$90,122.00 to the Partners in the Gospel offering for home mission expansion.

PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

The Board for Home Missions thanks God that the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod are responding so positively to the Partners in the Gospel special offering for home mission expansion. As promised, this money will be put to good and immediate use. Already monies in the fund have been loaned to Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lakeland, Florida, and Christ Lutheran Church, Port St. Lucie for land purchases. Without a doubt, monies will be loaned to congregations for church construction. As the fund continues to accumulate, the monies will be used for other loans and missionary subsidy.

POLICY HANDBOOK

The mission board has written, published, and sent its new Policy Handbook to all home missionaries. The project was made possible through a grant from Aid Association for Lutherans.

SPECIAL ENCOURAGEMENT

The mission board has as its prime directive the establishment of new home missions. It feels it is doing the best job it can with the funds available. Special mention must be made, however, of the congregations that have not received money from the board and have undertaken their own mission expansion endeavors. Much of the history of our Synod is one of congregations establishing nearby daughter congregations. Currently the Paint Creek congregations of Iowa have encouraged the Rev. M. DeGarmeaux to hold services in Decorah and U. V. Koren Memorial Church is the result. Similarly the Rev. W. Halvorson and the Jasper-Luverne congregations have started a congregation in Worthington, Minnesota. Pastors of the northern Minnesota circuit have encouraged the development of a church in Warroad. The mission board would like to commend these diligent and faithful congregations and pastors and pray the Lord's greatest blessings on their mission work.

1987 HOME MISSION BUDGET

The board has adopted the following budget for 1987:

1987 HOME MISSION BUDGET

SUBSIDIES:

Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	\$ 9,700.00
Faith, Oregon, WI	11,000.00
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	14,000.00
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	8,830.00
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	16,000.00
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	19,200.00
Christ, Port Saint Lucie, FL	23,000.00
Bethel/Shepherd of the Hills, Yuba City, AZ	9,125.00
Detroit Lakes, MN	<u>1,000.00</u>
	\$111,855.00

OTHER EXPENDITURES:

Mission Expansion	\$25,000.00	
Advertising/Printing	2,500.00	
Board Expense	10,000.00	
Moving Expenses	12,000.00	
Bi-Vocational Ministry	<u>3,600.00</u>	
		\$ 53,100.00
SUBTOTAL		\$164,955.00
LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD GRANTS		<u>45,333.00</u>
NEEDED		119,622.00
GRANTED BY THE SYNOD		<u>100,200.00</u>
PROJECTED DEFICIT		\$ 19,422.00

1988 PROPOSED HOME MISSION BUDGET**SUBSIDIES:**

Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	\$ 7,700.00	
Faith, Oregon, WI	8,500.00	
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	8,000.00	
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	6,832.00	
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	14,200.00	
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	13,700.00	
Christ, Port Saint Lucie, FL	18,994.00	
New Mission	<u>30,000.00</u>	
		\$107,926.00

OTHER EXPENDITURES:

Mission Expansion	\$25,000.00	
Advertising/Printing	2,500.00	
Board Expense	12,000.00	
Moving Expenses	12,000.00	
Bi-Vocational Ministry	<u>3,600.00</u>	
		\$ 55,100.00
SUBTOTAL:		\$163,026.00

PROJECTED LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD GRANTS

NEEDED	<u>47,332.00</u>
GRANTED BY THE SYNOD	115,694.00
PROJECTED DEFICIT	<u>105,000.00</u>
	\$ 10,694.00

SALARY PACKAGE FOR HOME MISSIONARIES

The board has adopted the following salary package for home missionaries for 1988, in accordance with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Handbook (p. 27, L):

Base Salary:	\$15,435
Car Allowance	3,000
Yearly Increment	100
Pension:	6% of base salary, car allowance and yearly increment
Health Insurance:	Premium to be paid in full (The Synod plan)
Housing:	To be provided
Utilities:	To be paid in full

THANK YOU

Once again this past year special gifts have been received from individuals, congregations, and various organizations. We gratefully acknowledge these special gifts.

May the Lord continue to bless our efforts as together we reach out to lost souls across our country with the life-saving Gospel of Christ. TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY!

Frederick W. Theiste, field secretary
Erwin J. Ekhoﬀ, chairman

ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS

After a thorough discussion concerning the outlook for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Richardson, Texas, the Board for Home Missions took the following action,

RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions subsidy to Richardson, Texas, end as of December 31, 1987.

RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions recommend to the Synod trustees that the property at Richardson be sold.

RESOLVED, That a member of the Board for Home Missions and a member of the Synod trustees visit the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church to explain the action of both boards and to serve as sources of information as the congregation begins planning for the future.

REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

"We should have a passion for souls such as Jesus had, who for the love of souls 'endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God;' such as Moses had, who for his people prayed, 'Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—and if not, blot me, I pray Thee, out of the book which Thou has written;' such as Paul had, who said, 'For I could wish that I myself were anathema from Christ for my brethren's sake, my kinsmen according to the flesh;' such as Luther had, who was ready to offer himself up that his people might have the truth.'" (Alfred M. Wagner)

It is in that spirit that your Board for Foreign Missions, and the field staff, have sought to carry on their work in the past year. We are in the serious business of reaching and saving souls for the kingdom of God, and must ever remind ourselves that the time to do our work is hastening on. We endeavor to follow that word of our Savior which says: "Work while it is day, the night cometh when no man can work."

The field staff this past year has included Missionary Timothy Erickson, Missionary David Lillegard, Missionary Daniel McMiller and Missionary Martin Teigen. Their wives lend invaluable support to the work in many ways. We are grateful for these workers whom the Lord has given our Synod to carry on the work of the Gospel in Peru.

1. **PLACES AND PEOPLE BEING SERVED.** Our missionaries continue to serve 7 or 8 places in the metropolitan area of Lima, and the town of Chimbote 300 miles north of Lima. They have not returned to the mountain village of Pacclon since the terrorism there a year ago, but they do meet regularly with the church leaders from that village. They serve approximately 400 souls in these several places. Instruction of the seminary students continued during the past year. An intensive study session for several weeks is held every spring when the students attend classes full time. The rest of the year they get their instruction at times their jobs will allow. Martin Teigen continues to be the head of the seminary program, but is assisted in the work by the other missionaries.

2. **A SABBATICAL FOR MARTIN TEIGEN.** Missionary Martin Teigen has been granted a year's sabbatical by the board. He will be coming home during June of this year, and will pursue graduate studies at Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne. He and his family will be living in Fort Wayne. He will return to the field in July of 1988.

3. **DAVID LILLEGARD'S RETURN.** Missionary David Lillegard, who has served our foreign mission for nine years, will be leaving the field this summer. His work will be completed the end of July. We are duly grateful for the service that he and his wife have rendered our mission in Peru over the past nine years. We wish Missionary Lillegard and his family the Lord's blessing as he returns to a stateside ministry.

4. **THE HELPING HANDS PROGRAM.** This program, that was established to fund a fourth missionary in Peru, had a successful year. We are grateful for the many, many contributors who continue to support this program. The Rev. Robert McMiller found it necessary to relinquish his position as the director for the program because of health and workload. He had done a very excellent job in setting up the program and seeing it through its first year. Mr. Robert Soule of Princeton, Minnesota has taken over the work of receiving and disbursing funds for Helping Hands, and the Rev. James Olsen, with the assistance of Loyd and Helen Miller, is handling the newsletters and other mailings. During 1986 the following income was realized from HELPING HANDS:

\$63,191.00	Contributions and Gifts
23,271.60	Interest from Schwan Endowment Fund
<hr/> \$87,462.60	Total income in 1986 for HELPING HANDS

5. **FAITH MISSION SOCIETY.** Our Peru mission during the past year also received many gifts of money through Faith Mission Society of Hillman, Michigan. A total of \$17,271.07 was received. The gifts received from Faith Mission Society are used for items in our mission that are not funded through the regular budget. Many of the gifts are earmarked for special projects. The largest amounts this past year were for the Lutheran Children's Fund, the Extension Seminary, and a new office copier.

6. **CONTINUING EDUCATION.** In addition to Martin Teigen coming home for a sabbatical this year to take courses at Fort Wayne, the other missionaries have also, during the past year, taken courses in Spanish and other subjects that will better equip them for their work on the mission field. We are grateful to Aid Association for Lutherans for the grants that have made this education possible for our missionaries.

7. **A THANK YOU TO MR. LARRY MARQUARDT.** For many years Mr. Larry Marquardt of Barrington, Illinois has provided our missionaries with cars during their furloughs. Because his insurance will not allow this arrangement any longer, he will not in the future be able to render our missionaries this service. We wish to thank Mr. Marquardt for the many years of kindness to our board and our missionaries in this regard. We have truly appreciated it.

8. **DISABILITY INSURANCE.** Last year it was reported that our board was making arrangements for disability insurance for our foreign missionaries. That has now been accomplished. We have taken out this insurance for each of our missionaries with Aid Association for Lutherans.

9. **20TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR PERU MISSION.** It was in 1968 that we sent our first missionary team to South America. The board is presently making plans to observe this special anniversary next year.

10. **LONG RANGE GOALS FOR OUR FOREIGN MISSION.** The board has begun discussing some long range goals of our foreign mission program. Some of these goals include: continued growth and stabilization of the Mission; strengthening of our Seminary Program; acceleration of the training of the seminary students; establishment of area chapels; the ordination of Peruvian pastors; the exploration of another country as a possible mission field; adding to the staff; a radio ministry.

11. **A THANK YOU.** Elsewhere in this report we extended our thanks to Aid Association for Lutherans, Faith Mission Society and Mr. Marquardt. In addition we would like to thank the several Women's Missionary Societies around the Synod who in the past year generously supported our Peru Mission, as well as the many individuals within and outside our Synod, who have supported the work with money gifts and prayers.

12. **THE 1988 FOREIGN MISSION BUDGET.** (Note: This budget was drawn up before the board knew that Missionary Lillegard would be returning to the States. His replacement would not show the same figures that are listed below for Missionary Lillegard, but a replacement's expenses would be approximately the same total amount.)

	Lillegard	Teigen	Erickson	McMiller
Base salary	\$16,160	\$16,160	\$16,160	\$16,160
Increment (\$250 to 20 yrs.)	5,000	4,250	2,500	1,000
Rent	5,400	6,000	6,000	6,000
Utilities	1,650	1,650	1,650	1,650
Children's Schooling	1,250	4,400	4,400	—
Car Allowance	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Health Insurance	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100
Term Insurance	108	108	108	108
Pension	1,420	1,375	1,270	1,180
Furlough	2,300	2,750	2,750	1,700
Disability Insurance	500	500	500	500
TOTAL	\$38,388	\$41,793	\$39,938	\$32,898
All other expenses				<u>4,579</u>
				\$37,477

(Note: All the expenses under the McMiller column are paid out of the HELPING HANDS FUND)

OTHER EXPENSES

*Furnishing replacement	\$1,333
*Board Expense	6,500
*Peru Accountant	650
*Field Travel	1,000
*Printing & Literature	1,250
*Office Supplies	1,250
*Visa Expense	1,333
Vehicle replacement	7,000
*Field Visit	2,500
*Utilities for MSELF	
Building	<u>2,500</u>
	\$25,316
Language study	<u>+3,500</u>
	\$28,816
From AAL for Lang. Study	<u>-3,500</u>
	\$25,316

From HELPING HANDS	-4,579
for items pro-rated	\$20,737
Repayment to HELPING HANDS (Loan for MSELP Building)	<u>+1,000</u>
	\$21,737

*These items we pro-rated, taking 1/4 from HELPING HANDS funds.

SUMMARY

Lillegard Expenses	\$38,388
Tiegen Expenses	41,793
Erickson Expenses	39,938
All "Other Expenses:	<u>20,737</u>
	\$140,856
Repayment to HELPING HANDS	<u>+1,000</u>
	\$141,856

(Note: The total of \$141,856 for 1988 represents a 3.3% increase over the 1987 budget.)

Norman A. Madson, field-secretary

MEMORIAL

Evangelical Lutheran Synod
447 North Division Street
Mankato, Minnesota 56001

WHEREAS, The 1986 convention approved the 1987 budget as recommended by the Planning and Coordinating Committee, and,

WHEREAS, The Planning and Coordinating Committee arrived at that recommendation by reducing certain board budgets except the one submitted by the Board of Trustees for the Synod Fund, and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees is asking this convention to ratify its re-allocation of the budget taking these amounts from the various areas of work:

\$ 6,000 Bethany Lutheran College
500 Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary
17,000 Foreign Missions
6,100 Interest on Mission Properties
and adding to the Synod fund the following:
3,300 Interest
10,000 Administration Expenses, and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees has directed the Board for Foreign Missions to raise half of the support for the existing position of a third missionary on the field in addition to the missionary already supported by the Helping Hands Program, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That this convention reaffirm the original 1987 budget allocations, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees be directed to raise the extra funds they need or conform to the original budget.

Respectfully submitted,
Board for Foreign Missions

MISSIONS ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Home Mission Growth

WHEREAS, *The Word of God has enabled Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lakeland, Florida, to grow to the extent that the Board for Home Missions has decided to end the bivocational ministry of Pastor Ken Mellon and put him in full-time status in order that he might spend his complete effort in spreading the Gospel, and,*

WHEREAS, *The Word of God has caused Our Savior Lutheran congregation in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, to grow to the extent that it has been taken off Mission Board subsidy one year earlier than planned, and*

WHEREAS, *The Word of God has been effective in other Home Mission congregations according to God's promise (Isa. 55:11), and,*

WHEREAS, *The Board for Home Missions has reported that our 13 Home Mission congregations are contributing well over one-third of the amount of their subsidies back to the Synod, illustrating the exemplary stewardship attitudes which are being developed in our mission congregations, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod thank God for these encouraging evidences of mission growth in our Synod.*

Resolution No. 2: Partners in the Gospel special Home Mission Offering

WHEREAS, *The response to the Partners in the Gospel special offering for home mission expansion has been so positive, totaling over \$700,000 in cash and pledges, and,*

WHEREAS, *Some of the capital funds raised by this offering are currently being used to purchase land in Port St. Lucie and Lakeland, Florida, therefore,*

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod thank God for the participation in and the success of this special offering, and,*

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That the Synod commend the committee for the Special Offering for Home Missions for its diligent work in this venture, and,*

C. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That the Synod through its congregations and pastors encourage continued and increased participation in the offering, and,*

D. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, *That the Synod through its congregations and pastors continue to inform its members of the guidelines and progress of the offering and how it is being used.*

Resolution No. 3: Daughter Congregations

WHEREAS, *Efforts have been made in recent years to establish daughter congregations in Worthington and Warroad, Minnesota, and Decorah, Iowa, and,*

WHEREAS, *The establishment and support of mission congregations is not solely the responsibility of the Board for Home Missions, and,*

WHEREAS, *The Synod encourages established congregations to give birth to and support daughter congregations apart from board subsidies, therefore,*

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod thank God for the creation and support of the aforementioned congregations by means of their mother congregations, and,*

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That the Synod commend these established congregations for working to create and support these daughter congregations, and for doing so apart from synodical subsidies, and,*

C. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, *That the Synod encourage established congregations to look to the Board for Home Missions for guidance in establishing and supporting daughter congregations.*

Resolution No. 4: Salary Package for Home Missionaries

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod approve the salary package for home missionaries proposed by the Board for Home Missions.*

Resolution No. 5: Good Shepherd, Richardson, Texas

WHEREAS, *The Board for Home Missions has recommended the sale of the church property at Richardson, Texas, in order to relieve Good Shepherd Lutheran of an intolerable mortgage payment, and,*

WHEREAS, *However, a nucleus of approximately 60 members at Good Shepherd is committed to hearing, believing, preserving, and proclaiming the truth of God's Word and desires to remain a congregation, and,*

WHEREAS, *The president of the Synod and the chairman of the Board for Home Missions have recommended to Good Shepherd that it continue as a congregation, therefore,*

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod encourage Good Shepherd to continue as a congregation, and,*

B. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, *That the Synod encourage the Board for Home Missions to do what it can for Good Shepherd, including a possible future subsidy.*

Resolution No. 6: David Lillegard's Return

WHEREAS, *Missionary David Lillegard has faithfully served on the Peru mission field for nine years, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod express its thanks to Rev. Lillegard and his wife, Ione, for giving such a portion of their lives in the service of our Savior and our Synod for the cause of the people of Peru.*

Resolution No. 7: Martin Teigen's Sabbatical

WHEREAS, *Missionary Martin Teigen will be coming home this year for a year's sabbatical after serving 11 years on the Peru mission field, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod thank The Rev. Teigen and his wife, Albina, for their faithful service to our Lord and our Synod in Peru and wish them God's richest blessings as The Rev. Teigen spends a year in study before returning to the field.*

Resolution No. 8: Gifts to Foreign Missions

WHEREAS, *Many extra-budgetary gifts were received in support of our mission work in Peru, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod thank Mr. Larry Marquardt, the Helping Hands Program, Faith Mission Society, the several women's missionary societies, and Aid Association for Lutherans for their generous support of foreign missions.*

Resolution No. 9: 20th Anniversary of our Peru Mission

WHEREAS, *1968 was the year in which our Synod sent its first missionary team to South America, and the Board for*

Foreign Missions is presently making plans to observe this special anniversary next year, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod support the board's plans to observe this anniversary and participate in making it a joyful occasion.

Resolution No. 10: Study of Foreign Mission Manpower Needs

WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Mission's report indicates plans for four missionaries in Peru (three funded by the Synod and one by the Helping Hands Program), and,

WHEREAS, The stated position of the board is that four missionaries are essential not only to the proper administration of the Peru Mission but also to its very survival, and,

WHEREAS, The Synod is not able presently to fund more than two missionaries out of budget, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the president of the Synod appoint a special ad hoc committee to study whether the work in Peru can indeed continue to exist as a viable mission with a total staff of three (two funded by the Synod and one by the Helping Hands Program) and report its findings to the 1988 Convention.

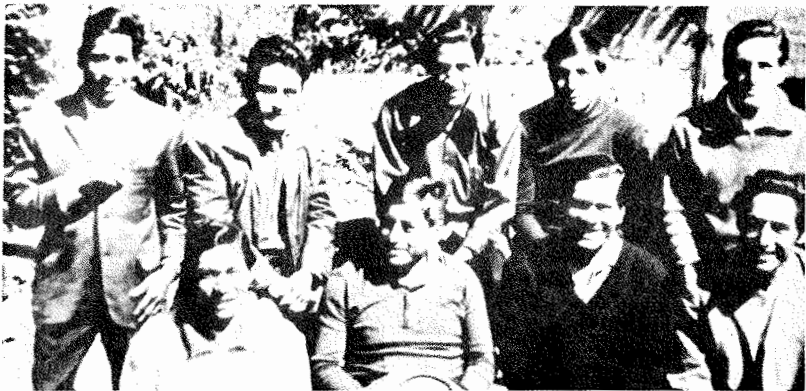
Resolution No. 11: Board for Evangelism

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod thank the Board for Evangelism for its diligent and dedicated efforts in the past year and encourage it to continue to challenge the congregations of the Synod to establish ongoing evangelism efforts.

Resolution No. 12: WELS Evangelism Handbook

WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism recommends the WELS Evangelism Handbook as a valuable resource for use in the congregations of our Synod, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod encourage each congregation to purchase a handbook and put it to good use.



Leaders of the Lutheran Church in Paillon, Peru. Fidel Convercio is in back row, second from left.

REPORT OF BOARD FOR EVANGELISM

The Board for Evangelism met one time since June 1986 in Marietta, Georgia during the month of March. Board members are the Rev. Rick Long, chairman, the Rev. Joseph Burkhardt, recording secretary, and Mr. Dave Skogen.

It remains the duty of this board to aid pastors and congregations in the task of training and equipping all members to bear witness to the Gospel, to study, recommend and publish information helpful to the task, and to conduct seminars and workshops to accomplish this objective. In keeping with this understanding, the Board for Evangelism will pursue an ambitious course for the next year.

Four articles are being written and produced for *Mission News* under the heading "Operation Outreach," in a continued effort to organize the local congregation for outreach.

The board has determined to meet with Bethany Lutheran College Dean of Students, Steve Reagles, at the 1987 Synod Convention to plan and coordinate canvassing teams in conjunction with Bethany Lutheran College and the Board for Home Missions (cf. Synod Report, 1986, p. 69).

By the time of the 1987 Synod Convention every pastor should have received a copy of the Wisconsin Synod's Evangelism Catalog. This accomplishes the desire of the board to draw materials together in the form of an outreach "resource manual" (cf. Synod Report, 1986, p. 69).

The Wisconsin Synod Evangelism Handbook, edited by the Rev. Paul Kelm, is on display and may be ordered through the Board for Evangelism.

In keeping with the duties outlined in the guidelines of the Board for Evangelism (cf. Synod Handbook, p. 53), the board plans to develop evangelism seminars throughout the Synod. The plans will be more fully discussed at the next scheduled meeting of the board.

In addition, the Board for Evangelism will begin a quarterly mailing of evangelism ideas and helps for pastors and congregations beginning with a mailing in July 1987 for use in the fall. The mailings would concentrate on evangelism helps for the Lenten-Easter season, the summer Vacation Bible School, the beginning of the school year and the Advent-Christmas season.

Along with these plans, the board will seek approval from Editor Paul Madson to publish monthly items on evangelism helps in the *Lutheran Sentinel*.

Also, the board has secured VCR tapes on "Witness where you are," (a WELS Evangelism seminar), and plans to make these available to Synod pastors and congregations. The Rev. Rick Long will serve as the clearing house for this and all other evangelism resources and material.

In its desire to remain faithful to the duties outlined in the Synod Handbook for the Board for Evangelism, the board plans to meet the prescribed 3 times during the year. Meeting times have already been planned for October 1987 and February 1988.

Finally, the Board for Evangelism felt it might be good to include a note on the status of the board to clear up any misunderstanding. According to the Handbook (page 33), the Board for Evangelism is referred to as a "board" and not a "committee," and is required to submit annual budget requests. The board will therefore submit a budget request for 1989 at its next scheduled meeting.

The above clarification brought up the discussion of whether the status of board would warrant inclusion on the Planning and Coordinating committee. If so, this would require a revision of page 48 of the Synod Handbook.

Joseph P. Burkhardt, secretary

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND PRESIDENT OF BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

The Board of Regents held its four regularly scheduled meetings, with the Executive Committee and other committees functioning between each regular meeting.

THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Members of the board during the past year: the Rev. John A. Moldstad, Sr., chairman, Vero Beach, FL; Mr. William Overn, vice-chairman, St. Paul, MN; the Rev. Raymond Branstad, secretary, Mayville, ND; Mr. Holger Ausen, Jasper, MN; the Rev. Ed Bryant, recording secretary, Port Orchard, WA; Mr. Paul Chamberlin, So. Chatham, MA; the Rev. Warren Granke, Madison, WI; Dr. Donald Peterson, Madison, WI; Mr. Harold Theiste, Wayzata, MN; the Rev. Milton E. Tweit, advisory member, Lawler, IA.

THE FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

These persons have served on the faculty and staff during the past year:

Rachel Anthony, Home Economics

Louella Balcziaik, Business

Denis Becker, Director of Computer Services

Jean Benson, English

William Bukowski, Art

Greg Costello, Comptroller, Wrestling Coach

Ernest Geistfeld, Deferred Giving Counselor, Director of Development

Al Hattis, Economics

Mark Harstad, Religion, History, German

Peggy Harstad, Piano

Arlene Hilding, Music, Organ, Piano

Rudolph Honsey, Hebrew, Religion, Norwegian

Steve Jaeger, Admissions, Soccer Coach

Calvin K. Johnson, Financial Aid Director

William B. Kessel, Dean of Academic Affairs, Sociology, Geography, Religion

Craig Krueger, Physics

Richard Lammert, Librarian

Sigurd Lee, English, Humanities, Drama

Ernest Lillo, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds

Juul Madson, Greek, Religion

Dennis Marzolf, Music, Choral Groups, Voice

Daniel Metzger, English, Religion, German, Latin

Marvin G. Meyer, President

Irene Mickelson, Mathematics, Computer Science

Dale Mordue, Physics

Dennis Natvig, Treasurer, Business Manager

Ruth Nyhus, Physical Education, Volleyball, Tennis

Wilhelm Petersen, Religion

Steven L. Reagles, Dean of Students, English, Religion

Glenn Reichwald, Greek, Religion, Political Science

Susan Rosoff, Instrumental Music

Kenneth Rupnow, Mathematics

John Sehloff, Biology

Cynthia Shirk, Vocal Music

Barbara Schoenbaum, Spanish, English

Dean Shoop, Athletic Director, Business

Erling T. Teigen, Philosophy, English, Religion, Chaplain
 Paul B. Tweit, Development, Administrative Assistant
 Cynthia Weberg, Chemistry
 Art Westphal, Admissions, Basketball and Baseball Coach
 David Wiechmann, Bookstore Manager, Women's Basketball Coach
 Mark Wiechmann, Psychology, Vocational Counseling
 Richard L. Wiechmann, Director of Admissions
 Ronald J. Younge, Registrar, Biology, Director of Continuing Education
EMERITI:
 Sophia Anderson
 Edna Busekist
 Norman S. Holte
 Bjarne W. Teigen

STAFF

Professor Richard Lammert has resigned his position as librarian and will pursue additional graduate work at the University of Wisconsin. Professor Denis Becker will leave our staff as Director of Computer Science, after one year, and will resume his previous position at Mankato State University. To both of these men a hearty thanks for their services and we wish them the Lord's blessings as they leave our campus.

Our college faculty continues to grow professionally through additional formal education, as well as attending regional and national seminars and conferences. It is important to the development of the staff that we allocate ample resources to this area so that the faculty continues to grow professionally. Professor Steve Reagles has received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to study Rhetoric at Ohio State University this summer. Professor William Bukowski has been awarded a sabbatical for the fall semester to travel in Europe and study art. Professor Arlene Hilding is on sabbatical at the present time. Professor Ruth Nyhus completed her requirements for the Masters Degree during the spring semester. Congratulations to each of these and other Bethany staff who have been active in professional development.

Mr. Ronald Younge has been appointed college registrar. This change was necessitated to allow Mr. Calvin Johnson the time to adequately meet the needs of our students in financial aids. We are confident this move will enhance both the registrar and financial aid offices.

During a special service on February 10, the college observed the following anniversaries:

35 years	Orla Petersen	Development Secretary
20 years	Ronald Younge	Registrar, Biology Professor
10 years	Erling Teigen	Professor of English, Religion and Philosophy, Chaplain
10 years	Ernest Geistfeld	Deferred Giving Counselor and Director of Development
10 years	Ione Geistfeld	Admissions Secretary

The board and administration greatly appreciate the faithful and dedicated service of the entire staff and faculty. We thank our Lord and Savior for supplying Bethany Lutheran College with such workers.

ENROLLMENT

The 1986-87 enrollment was as follows:

	1st Semester	2nd Semester
Freshmen	158	140
Sophomores	101	101
Specials	6	7
Part-time	26	18
Totals	291	266
FTE	274	255

The enrollment figures show a slight gain over last year. We are hopeful that our enrollment will continue to show increases in the years ahead. Thus far prospects for the fall of 1987 are looking good.

CURRICULUM AND OTHER ACADEMIC PROJECTS

The college continues to evaluate and study its curriculum. The evaluation allows Bethany to meet the needs of her students in a changing world but yet maintain its commitment to offer a quality Christian liberal arts program.

A new faculty evaluation program has begun, with a large emphasis on teaching. Our students evaluate each class regarding content, faculty effectiveness, etc. It appears, after only one year, the evaluation process has had a positive effect on our teaching.

Bethany's graduates compare favorably with students from other institutions. Comparing our students with those of other similar campuses, Bethany ranks in the upper 20 percentile in growth of its students over the two years. In addition, our graduates are at the 57 percent of graduating seniors across the country. These comparisons come from national testing.

We have a desire to develop and encourage students at all levels. Bethany has applied for membership in the Phi Theta Kappa Society, a national junior college honor society, and has developed a tutoring program to help those individuals with limited backgrounds.

During the next two years we will be in the middle of a self study for continual accreditation by North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. In the spring of 1989 a team of educators will be on our campus; and through that visit and our self study, they will make a recommendation to the association regarding our status as a member. This whole process is for the purpose of institutional growth and development.

Last summer President Meyer felt it was of immediate importance to find the necessary resources to equip and renovate a room in the lower level of Memorial Library for an up-to-date computer center. In excess of \$35,000 has been raised for the project and the facility is 80 percent complete. Many thanks to all who helped with this undertaking.

OTHER ITEMS

A fast-pitch softball program has been added to our athletic programs and began play this spring. Due to a lack of interest, the wrestling program has been suspended until further notice.

July 10-12 has been set aside for a "Grand Homecoming" to celebrate the 60th anniversary of our Synod's ownership of Bethany and its 75th year of operation. Many activities have been planned and we are hopeful of a large gathering of alumni and friends of Bethany. The alumni expect to raise a large percentage of the cost of installing an elevator in "Old Main" as their way of saying thank you for the blessings that have been brought to their lives through involvement with Bethany.

PHYSICAL PLANT

The classroom renovation project was completed last summer. It has served us well this year by offering our students and faculty an area conducive to learning and teaching. We are most grateful for the \$100,000 gift and other funds that made this renovation possible. Dedication of the renovated classroom took place between Sunday services during Bethany Day weekend on October 12, 1986. President Orvick was the speaker.

A major gift of \$1 million was received from Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc., with an additional \$500,000 commitment on a matching basis for a fine arts center. What an opportunity for Bethany and our Synod! Mr. Marvin Schwan, president of Schwan's Sales, is a graduate of Bethany. We rejoice that our Lord continues to open the heart of this individual. Much more information regarding this gift and the fine arts project will be made available at the Synod convention.

GRANTS

Two grants, totaling \$15,000, were received from Aid Association for Lutherans during the school year. The proposals which were awarded are "Outreach—Continuing Education" and "Marketing Planned Giving." Lutheran Brotherhood has completed a \$25,000 matching program to fund a scholarship program for Lutheran students. The college is most grateful to both these organizations for these grants, as they give Bethany the means to undertake programs that would not be possible otherwise.

Our women's auxiliary continues to impact Bethany with its support. This year they have taken on projects totaling \$13,000, which enhance the opportunities for our students. Projects this year were a new practice piano, hand bells (3 octave), \$3500 for the computer room, and \$2000 for scholarships. Again, many thanks to these ladies.

FINANCE AND AUXILIARY SERVICE

The bookstore continues to improve its profitability. Many thanks to those churches and individuals who have made use of our bookstore.

The 1985-86 school year ended in the black and helped to reduce the operating deficit to \$44,514 from \$107,536. It is our hope to again this year reduce our operating deficit. We will incur some minimal capital indebtedness due to the improvement on our campus.

Our gift income has increased again this year. The president and Board of Regents are grateful to those individuals and companies willing to support the programs on Bethany's campus.

The following is a summary of receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1986.

REVENUES

Tuition and Fees	\$1,082,404
Synod Subsidy	155,000
Private Gifts and Grants	183,689
Other Sources	91,666
Auxiliary	730,950
	<u>\$2,243,709</u>

EXPENDITURES

Educational & General	\$1,285,905
Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds	135,345
Scholarships & Grants	210,203
Auxiliary	536,261
	<u>\$2,167,714</u>
Excess	\$63,022
Prior Deficit	<u>(\$107,536)</u>
Total Accumulated Deficit	<u>\$ (44,514)</u>

CONCLUSION

For sixty years we have been blessed with an educational institution that has met the needs of our Synod. It is only through the Evangelical Lutheran Synod's entire mission effort—Bethany, Home Missions, and Foreign Missions—that Bethany has continued to exist and grow. It is our hope that our church will reflect over the past seventy years and continue in the direction that has made our Synod strong and unique.

As we close another year, thanks to our church and those individuals who continue to support Bethany Lutheran College. May the peace and love of the crucified and risen Christ be with all of you.

John A. Moldstad, Sr., chairman
Raymond A. Branstad, secretary
Marvin G. Meyer, president

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND PRESIDENT OF BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

In our General Prayer we pray: "Grant unto Thy Church faithful pastors who shall declare Thy truth with power and shall live according to Thy will. Send forth laborers into Thy harvest and open the door of faith unto all the heathen and unto the people of Israel." The purpose of our seminary is to train faithful pastors who will go forth to proclaim God's saving truth to the salvation of many blood-bought souls. We also want to train pastors who live according to that word of truth. The seminary acknowledges the continual need for laborers in the Lord's harvest and therefore joins in the prayer that the Lord of the harvest will continue to send laborers into His harvest. This will be our prayer until the Lord of the harvest returns. In the meantime, our seminary is dedicated to the task of training laborers for the harvest. Over the years the Lord has answered our prayers and as a result the seminary has been pretty much able to meet the demand for pastors. However, the need remains and we cannot relax our efforts. We commend our needs to the Lord and pray,

"On Thee we humbly wait,
Our wants are in Thy view.
The harvest, truly, Lord, is great
The laborers are few." (L.H. 488 v.2)

BOARD OF REGENTS

The Board of Regents, which is responsible for the operation of the seminary, met quarterly and the seminary submitted a report to each meeting. The board members are: Mr. Holger Ausen, Jasper, MN; the Rev. Raymond Branstad, Mayville, ND; the Rev. Ed Bryant, Port Orchard, WA; the Rev. Warren Granke, Madison, WI; the Rev. John Moldstad, Sr., Vero Beach, FL; Mr. William Overn, St. Paul, MN; Mr. Paul Chamberlin, Brewster, MA; Dr. Donald Peterson, Madison, WI; Mr. Harold Theiste, Wayzata, MN; and the Rev. M. E. Tweit, advisory member, Lawler, IA.

FACULTY

The following professors taught in the seminary during the 1986-87 school year: J. B. Madson, W. W. Petersen, M. O. Harstad, G. E. Reichwald, and Norman A. Madson, Jr.

ENROLLMENT

In our day of declining seminary enrollments we are pleased to report that our enrollment did not decrease this past year. The enrollment was twelve, which includes one vicar, namely Mark Bartels, who vicared in the Northwood parish under the supervision of the Rev. Alf Merseeth.

Enrollment continues to be a concern and the seminary is working hard in this area. The cooperation of the pastors has been good. The seminary president has preached in several of our congregations in which he promoted the work of our seminary. He has also spoken with several of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod students at Bethany Lutheran College about the possibility of studying for the ministry. He is now in the process of setting up a "Seminary Day" to which pastors will be invited to bring prospective students to the seminary. I am pleased to report that we have a good list of prospective students which bodes well for possible future enrollment.

Once again we encourage our pastors and laity to be recruiters for our seminary. We urge you to speak to promising young men (older men too) about studying for the ministry. May we all heed our Lord's invitation to "pray the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into His harvest."

ACTIVITIES

A vicar workshop is held each year at the end of the school year. The returning vicars shared reports of their vicarage with the seminary students. President Petersen presented two papers, one on *The Importance of Textual and Timely Preaching* and the other on *The Importance of Continuing Study in the Parish Ministry*.

A summer institute was held at the seminary July 28-31. Professor Juul Madison led an exegetical study in I Corinthians and Dr. Alfred Schoennauer, professor at Mankato State University and a member of a Wisconsin Synod church in Mankato, delivered several lectures on *The Menacing Impact of Secular Humanism*.

The seminary, together with Bethany Lutheran College, sponsored the 19th annual Reformation lectures on October 29-30. The lecturer this year was Dr. George Kraus, professor of Pastoral Theology and Director of Vicarage at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN. His topic was *Luther, Shepherd of Souls*. The lectures were very well received and copies are available to anyone who is interested.

SCHOLARSHIPS

We were again able to provide our students with generous scholarships this year. The seminary has been blessed with scholarship endowment funds, the dividends of which are used for student scholarships. The founders of these endowment funds continue to send generous donations which enlarge these funds, thus generating more monies for scholarships. The students are deeply appreciative of this financial assistance as they pursue their theological studies.

In addition to the scholarship endowment funds the Board of Regents is in the process of establishing a Seminary Endowment Fund. The purpose of this fund would be to generate income for operational needs. An amount of \$2000 has already been donated to this fund.

RARE BOOK LIBRARY

The seminary has been blessed with a rare book library which contains over a thousand books, many of them dating back to the Reformation era. One of the most notable books in the collection is an original copy of the *Book of Concord* which contains the confessional writings of the Lutheran Church and dates back to 1580. This book was badly in need of repair and this past winter we were fortunate in obtaining the services of a professional bookbinder who restored it so that it is now in excellent condition. We are indeed grateful to have this book in our possession.

FINANCES

The following is a summary of budget receipts and expenditures for the past fiscal year, July, 1985 to June 30, 1986:

REVENUES

Tuition and Fees	\$ 19,200
Synod Subsidy	55,000
Gifts and Grants	35,396
Miscellaneous	4,859
Restricted Scholarships & Grants	14,617
	<hr/> \$129,072

EXPENDITURES

Education and General	\$102,258
Maintenance & Utilities	8,860
Restricted Scholarships & Grants	12,038
	<hr/> \$123,156

Excess of Current Fund Toward Deficit	\$3,337
Excess of Restricted Scholarships & Grants	1,697

We are pleased to report that the financial situation at the seminary continues to improve. The current projection is that the seminary will also show a balance in the 1986-87 school year. We are indeed grateful to the Synod for its subsidy and also to individual members and organizations who have remembered the seminary with special gifts. These gifts help so much in carrying out our important work.

May our gracious Lord continue to bless our seminary!

Wilhelm W. Petersen, president
John A. Moldstad, Sr., chairman
Raymond M. Branstad, secretary

HIGHER EDUCATION ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Grants

WHEREAS, *Grants were received last year by Bethany Lutheran College from Aid Association for Lutherans and Lutheran Brotherhood, and,*

WHEREAS, *These grants funded proposals that were titled "Out-reach—Continuing Education" and "Marketing Planned Giving" as well as scholarship funding for Lutheran students at Bethany Lutheran College, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod express its gratitude to these organizations for their financial support.*

Resolution No. 2: Special Equipment

WHEREAS, *The Bethany Women's Auxiliary has allocated approximately a total of \$13,000.00, which enhances the opportunities for Bethany students, and,*

WHEREAS, *This allocation funded a piano, hand bells, computer equipment and scholarships, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod thank God for providing the Bethany Auxiliary the means and motivation to give these gifts, and that the Synod thank the Bethany Auxiliary for its generous support of our college.*

Resolution No. 3: Staff

WHEREAS, *The Board of Regents and president of Bethany Lutheran College report that Bethany continues to be blessed with faithful workers, two of whom will be leaving this year for other pursuits, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod:*

A. *Commend the staff for their continued professional growth.*

B. *Herewith express its thanks to all the staff for their continued faithful service, especially Orla Petersen (35 years), Ronald Younge (20 years), Erling Teigen (10 years), Ernest Geistfeld (10 years), and Ione Geistfeld (10 years).*

C. *Thank Richard Lammert and Dennis Becker as they move into other pursuits.*

Resolution No. 4: Bethany Grand Homecoming

WHEREAS, *The Bethany College and alumni are planning a "Grand Homecoming" to celebrate the 60th anniversary of our Synod's ownership of Bethany and its 75th year of operation, and,*

WHEREAS, *The alumni expect to raise a large percentage of the cost of installing an elevator in "Old Main," therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod herewith thank Bethany College and alumni for carrying out their up-coming "Grand Homecoming" and funding of the elevator project for "Old Main."*

Resolution No. 5: Auxiliary Service

WHEREAS, *The Bethany Lutheran College Bookstore as an auxiliary service of the college continues to be profitable, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod herewith express its thanks to David Wieckmann and his staff for their diligence and work and encourage the continuance of their excellent efforts.*

Resolution No. 6: Seminary Enrollment

WHEREAS, *The needs for future pastors in our Synod continues to be a concern, especially in view of declining enrollments in many seminaries, therefore,*

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That we as a Synod encourage pastors and members of our congregations to:*

Pray both personally and in our congregations that "The Lord might send forth laborers into his harvest" (Matt. 9:38), and to

Speak to especially gifted men, young and older, to consider the ministry of the Word, and,

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That in addition to the present methods of recruitment, the Synod urge the seminary to produce video tapes to be utilized in our congregations to remind our people of the need for pastors and provide information about the seminary (entrance requirements, courses of study, financial assistance available and other pertinent information).*

Resolution No. 7: Seminary Activities

WHEREAS, *The Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, over and above its regular classes sponsors vicar workshops, summer institutes, and works with Bethany Lutheran College in sponsoring the Reformation lectures, therefore,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod herewith encourage the continuance of these efforts and commend the seminary staff for the programs offered.*

Resolution No. 8: Fine Arts Facility

WHEREAS, *In 1979 North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools identified music and theater as two of the strengths of Bethany Lutheran College, but concluded "The Fine Arts Department is in need of an adequate building. The music facilities scattered throughout the campus weaken an otherwise strong program of the institution," and,*

WHEREAS, *The facilities available in music, art, and theater are woefully inadequate for meeting the needs of the ever-expanding number of students in these areas, and,*

WHEREAS, *Music, art, and theater are occupying space in Old Main and Bethany Memorial Library which could well be utilized by other departments, and,*

WHEREAS, *The Board of Regents and the synodical president have encouraged the administration of Bethany to investigate funding of a Fine Arts Building, and,*

WHEREAS, *The president of Bethany Lutheran College has actively solicited funds to build a Fine Arts Building, and,*

WHEREAS, *A gift of \$1,000,000 and a promise of an additional \$500,000 in matching money has been received by Bethany to be used for a Fine Arts Building, therefore,:*

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Bethany Lutheran College gratefully accept the \$1 million gift and thank Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc., for this very generous gift, and,*

WHEREAS, *It is the opinion of the Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees that \$500,000 in matching funds can be raised, therefore,*

B. BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod approve the construction of a Fine Arts Building on the Bethany Campus as soon as the necessary funds are available, and,*

C. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That the Synod direct Bethany Lutheran College to plan and implement the raising of*

matching money for the financing of a Fine Arts Building on the Bethany campus by:

- 1. appealing to contributors of large amounts the first year (1987-1988);*
- 2. appealing to Bethany alumni and friends the second and third years (1988-1990);*
- 3. appealing to the Synod at large the third year (1989-1990).*

REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR EDUCATION AND YOUTH

The Board for Education and Youth met twice since the last Synod convention. The Rev. Raymond Branstad serves as chairman and the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad as recording secretary. The work of the board covers three concerns. Therefore it is the largest board in the Synod and is divided into three subcommittees. During the past year the board provided assistance to the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod through the following:

SUBCOMMITTEE ON YOUTH WORK

Members of the subcommittee are: Mr. Dale Dahlke, the Rev. Charles Keeler, and the Rev. Donald Moldstad.

The 1986 Lutheran Youth Association Convention was held south of Minneapolis, MN under the direction of the Rev. D. Moldstad. One hundred youth from six states participated.

The theme for this year's Lutheran Youth Association Convention will be "Shout it from the Mountaintop," and will also be the theme of the Bible study focusing on sharing God's truth. The convention will be held July 31-August 2 at Evergreen Lutheran High School, Dupont, WA. Mr. Larry Rude will serve as director. The 1988 convention will be held at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, MN. The 1989 convention is currently being planned for Camp Lor-Ray in Michigan.

The board will sponsor a Youth Leadership Seminar in Washington in conjunction with the Lutheran Youth Association Convention. A 1988 seminar is being planned for Madison, WI under the direction of Dale Dahlke.

The board plans to make a presentation at the General Pastoral Conference the last week of October 1987. Other avenues of education in ministering to our youth, such as letters to our pastors and youth leaders, are also being utilized.

The Rev. D. Moldstad gave a presentation to our Bethany Seminary students in May 1987 regarding their ministry to youth in our congregations.

The board is currently working on updating the Lutheran Youth Association Handbook for our youth. Various circuit youth retreats were held throughout the Synod this past year. The board continues to encourage and promote such meetings throughout the Synod.

In the past twelve months the board has published two editions of a new youth newsletter entitled "Young Branches." This newsletter is written for the youth of our Synod and encourages their input. The purpose of this paper is to strengthen our youth in their Christian faith and also to better incorporate them into the work of our Synod.

Camp Four Star held in Olympia, WA reported 72 campers present the week of July 13-19, 1986. Mr. Wulf Werner served as its director. Camp Indian-head reported 88 campers present at Camp Jim near Brainerd, MN, under the

direction of the Rev. Roger Fehr. The board sought reports from the various camps in our Synod and continues to promote such outings.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS:

Members of the subcommittee are: Mr. Gary Carlson, Mr. Ray Diepenbrock, Mr. Larry Rude and Mr. Mark Wiechmann.

The board assists the fourteen congregations of our Synod who presently operate Christian Day Schools and the forty-eight teachers who staff these schools. Other congregations send children to schools of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Continuing education grants were provided for seventeen teachers. All schools receive a synodical visitation on an every second year cycle.

Thirty-three teachers have applied for Synod Teacher Certification. Twenty applicants have met the qualifications and certificates have been issued. They will be so designated in the printed Synod Report (Synod Report 1986, p. 84, Res. 2).

The board would recommend that the following two categories be included in the Synod guidelines regarding teacher certification to cover those teachers already in our system who were not certifiable under the original guidelines (Synod Report 1983, p. 92, Res. 2):

II-A-3 Those having taken the prescribed curriculum from Bethany Lutheran College and having earned a Bachelor's degree, and having presented credentials which, by a record of preparation and experience, demonstrate the candidate's ability to teach in the schools of our Synod.

II-D-4 or, Those teachers who teach in our Synod, and have been colloquized through the WELS.

The teachers of our Synod met in district conferences. The Midwest Conference was held October 16-17 at Mt. Olive Lutheran School, Mankato, MN. The Pacific Northwest Conference was held January 19 at Lakewood Lutheran School, Tacoma, WA. In addition our teachers of the Pacific Northwest meet twice each year in joint conferences with the WELS.

Assistance was provided to four Evangelical Lutheran Synod congregations considering Christian Day Schools.

The board met with the chairman of the Board for Home Missions as directed by the Synod (Synod Report 1986, p. 85, Res. 4). In reviewing the 1985 Home Mission Handbook (p. 8, ch. 3 [work description]), this resolution is emphasized and satisfied.

The board would recommend the following salary schedule for Evangelical Lutheran Synod teachers:

Teachers who hold a Bachelor's Degree

Base Salary \$13,200

Yearly Increment 200 per year of service up to 20 years

Teachers who hold a Master's Degree or its equivalent

Base Salary \$13,900

Yearly Increment 225 per year of service up to 20 years

To both of the above add the following:

Pension to be figured at 6% of the above

Health Insurance to be paid (Synod Plan)

Housing is to be furnished

Utilities are to be paid in full

Additional Recommendations:

1. Other duties assigned to a teacher (but not those expected because of his regular congregational membership) such as principalship, should also be adequately remunerated.
2. Congregations are encouraged to provide financial support for the teacher's continuing education and teachers should be encouraged to take at least three hours of graduate or undergraduate work during each three year period.

3. The congregation should insist that the teachers attend the annual teachers' conference, and if possible, the Synod convention and should provide ways and means to do so.
4. A sick leave of 10 days shall be granted each year, these may be accumulated to a maximum of 50 days. For any sick leave beyond the accumulated amount, the cost of substitute teaching may be deducted from the salary of the teacher who is absent.
5. Personal emergency leaves are not to exceed 5 days each year. The cost of substitute teaching is to be deducted from the teacher's salary for all days over 5 days. In the event of a death or serious illness in the immediate family, an additional leave shall be granted, its extent to be determined by the Board for Christian Education.
6. Each substitute teacher is to be paid a minimum of \$35 per day.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARISH EDUCATION

Members of the subcommittee are: the Rev. Joseph Burkhardt, the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, and the Rev. Ronald Mathison.

Videotapes were made available to every circuit in the Synod to encourage the continuing training of Sunday School teachers. Sunday School Teachers' Institutes/Workshops were held in eight areas of our Synod. Several of these were co-sponsored by the board. The board again will provide program assistance to any congregation/area requesting assistance in conducting a Sunday School Institute/Workshop.

The board, on behalf of the Synod, has purchased a copy of the family educational program "Living in Grace" from Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Service. It is available for use in our congregations beginning in the fall of 1987. Due to budget restrictions the board is unable to conduct a series of family support seminars (Synod Report 1986, p. 86, Res. 8, Res. 1).

A bulletin insert on family devotions was distributed. The Synod directed the board to prepare a regular, quarterly mailing to families of our Synod (Synod Report, 1986, p. 86, Res. 8, Res. 2). The cost has been found to be prohibitive for the board. Currently the board is rather preparing a series of articles in the Lutheran Sentinel dealing with family life and needs (A Letter Home).

JOINT CONCERNS

The board has worked in conjunction with President Orvick in developing the 1987 Synod convention theme. It also was involved in the promotion of the youth honors choir planned for this convention.

A survey of all Evangelical Lutheran Synod congregations was conducted this past year regarding their ministry to youth. The board is currently analyzing this survey in hopes of recognizing areas where the board may be of additional help to our Synod (Synod Report, 1986, p. 84, Res. 3).

As requested by the Synod, pamphlets on the various aspects of Christian education and youth work are available at this convention (Synod Report 1986, p. 85, Res. 5). Congregations are urged to order such pamphlets from the publishers for use and growth in their own midst.

The board is investigating the possibility of establishing a clearing house for future materials produced by, or available through, the board (Synod Report 1986, p. 83, Res. 1).

A 1988 budget request was prepared and sent to the Planning and Coordinating Committee as follows:

Subcommittee on youth work	\$ 4,000
Subcommittee on parish education	750
Subcommittee on Christian Day Schools	12,100
Board expenses	<u>4,000</u>
Total request	\$20,850

CONCLUSION

Through the grace of Jesus Christ we are children of our Heavenly Father. May we, first as individuals and then as congregations, avail ourselves of the many opportunities to grow in this faith.

Tender shepherd, never leave us
From Thy fold to go astray;
By Thy look of love directed,
May we walk the narrow way;
Thus direct us, and protect us,
Lest we fall an easy prey.
(Lutheran Hymnary #575)

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL STATISTICS 1986-87

Teachers:

Total: 50 (8 are part-time)

Men: 13 Women: 37

Average number of grades per teacher: 2.12 (1984—2.5)

Average class size: 15.9 (1984—16.4)

Schools:

Total Number: 14

Enrollment:	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
	130	108	93	88	69	60	76	55	44	Total: 723 (1984-833)

Budget: Average for school operation: \$77,741 (1984—\$52,145)

Range: \$16,000–\$185,000

Average % of total congregation budget: 40.5% (1984—47%)

Range: 20%–65%

Average cost per child: \$1,294 (1984—\$1090)

Range: \$900–\$2,000

Average % of congregation children enrolled: 68.3% (1984—70%)

Range: 30%–90%

Craig A. Ferkenstad, secretary

EDUCATION AND YOUTH ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Youth Leadership Training

WHEREAS, The Synod has stated its concern for our youth and youth work in the theme and essays of this convention, and,

WHEREAS, Practical youth work on the congregational level will be carried out most faithfully and effectively as youth leaders are aided with special training for this important work, and,

WHEREAS, The Board for Education and Youth, through its Youth Work Subcommittee has both recognized this need and works to provide such training,

A. **BE IT RESOLVED**, That the board be commended for and encouraged in its efforts to provide such training for our youth leaders, and,

B. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the congregations and youth leaders of our Synod be encouraged to make grateful use of these training opportunities.

Resolution No. 2: Christian Secondary Education

WHEREAS, The Synod has stated its concern for our youth and for the Christian education of our youth in the theme and essays of this convention, and,

WHEREAS, This concern embraces the high school years as well as the elementary and early college years, and,

WHEREAS, This concern was in past years tangibly demonstrated through a synodical subsidy to youth of our Synod attending area Lutheran high schools, and,

WHEREAS, The Synod should be pursuing every possible means to retain our high school youth in our churches, aiding them in their spiritual growth, and leading them into Christian maturity and service,

A. **BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Board for Education and Youth research the possibility of reestablishing subsidies for Evangelical Lutheran Synod students attending area Lutheran high schools of our fellowship, and,

B. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the board study the possibilities of additional ways in which we can meet the pressing need of Christian secondary education, and,

C. **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, That the board report its findings to the 1988 Synod Convention.

Resolution No. 3: Young Branches

WHEREAS, The Board for Education and Youth has undertaken the production of a newsletter entitled **Young Branches**, designed specifically for the youth of our Synod, and,

WHEREAS, Such a publication is tailored to strengthen our youth in their Christian faith and to aid in their incorporation into the work of the Synod,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the board be commended for its work in producing this creative new aid for youth ministry in our midst and encouraged to persevere in its ongoing production.

Resolution No. 4: Liability Insurance for Youth Camps

WHEREAS, The report of the Board for Education and Youth indicates that several of our congregations are involved in conducting youth camps, and,

WHEREAS, Adequate liability insurance for these and other joint youth functions is of concern in our day,

A. **BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Board for Education and

Youth study the whole matter of liability insurance as it applies to joint youth functions, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the board report its findings to the 1988 Synod Convention.

Resolution No. 5: Teacher Certification Guidelines

WHEREAS, The Board for Education and Youth has proposed the inclusion of two additional categories in the Synod's teacher certification guidelines for the purpose of covering those teachers already in our system, who were not certifiable under the original guidelines,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod amend the certification guidelines to include these additions.

Resolution No. 6: Recommended Salary Scale for Teachers

WHEREAS, The Board for Education and Youth has made its biennial review of the recommended salary schedule for teachers of our Synod, and,

WHEREAS, This schedule is intended to serve as a realistic guide for the minimum salaries of our Christian Day School teachers,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod adopt this revised schedule as the recommended compensation for teachers in our day schools, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod strongly urge our congregations to implement this schedule as a minimum standard for their teachers, and,

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synodical school visitors be urged to include salary review in their regularly scheduled visitations.

Resolution No. 7: "Additional Recommendations" for our Christian Day Schools

WHEREAS, The "Additional Recommendations" listed reflect a proper balance in the relationship between congregations and their day school teachers,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod urge its congregations to implement these recommendations, amending #3 slightly to read as follows:

"3. The congregation should insist that the teachers attend the annual teachers' conference and should provide ways and means to do so.

"4. The congregation should encourage male teachers to attend the Synod convention and should provide ways and means to do so,"

and renumbering the final three recommendations.

Resolution No. 8: Youth Honors Choir

WHEREAS, The Board for Education and Youth has been involved in the promotion of the Youth Honors Choir for this convention, in cooperation with Prof. Dennis Marzolf, Prof. Steve Jaeger, and others, and,

WHEREAS, There are great benefits to be gained through such a program for the individuals, their local congregations, Bethany Lutheran College, and the Synod as a whole,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the board, together with Prof. Marzolf, Prof. Jaeger, and these others, be heartily commended for their labors in organizing this highly worthwhile program, and,

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That every effort be made to continue this program in the future.

Resolution No. 9: Christian Education Materials

WHEREAS, The 1986 convention directed the Board for Education and Youth to search out helpful materials related to various areas of Christian education and to make them available at the 1987 Convention (Synod Report, 1986, pp. 85-86, Res. 5), and,

WHEREAS, The board has sought to fulfill this responsibility through the purchase and promotion of the "Living in Grace" tape/filmstrip series and various pamphlets and tracts,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the board be commended for its diligent and faithful work also in this area, and,

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That our pastors and congregations now gratefully make use of these requested resources.

REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Three meetings of the Board for Christian Service have been held since our last report to the Synod.

The board was organized by re-electing the Rev. Gottfred Guldberg as chairman. The Rev. John Smith was re-elected secretary, Mr. Paul Tweit was re-elected insurance manager. (He cares for pastor's and teacher's Term Life Insurance.) Prof. Norman Holte was re-elected pension fund officer. He also represents our board at the meetings of the Wisconsin Synod's Committee for counseling called workers. Mr. Bill Curtis resigned from the board. A replacement must be named.

The following actions were taken by the board during the past year.

1. Re: Needs of retired pastors and pastors' widows. The Board for Christian Service did not grant a subsidy increase for 1987 but a \$10 monthly increase is planned for 1988.

2. Re: The Pastors and Christian Day School Teachers' Term Life Insurance. It was resolved at the 1983 convention of the Synod to raise this coverage from \$15,000 to \$30,000 beginning January 1, 1985. The board carried out this resolution. The new coverage went into effect January 1, 1985. The individual premium for each policy is \$118.80 per year. Will each congregation please take note of the premium and help meet the cost of the increased coverage by paying the premium for its pastors and Christian day school teachers. Payments should be sent to Treasurer Leroy Meyer.

3. Re: The World Needs Fund. This year \$5000 of the World Needs Fund was set aside to help some of our seminary students in our Peruvian mission who have T.B. This money is allocated for medication and nutrition. Our missionaries are responsible for dispersing this money. The board used \$3,000 to help families who lost their possessions in fires. At the present time, March 1, 1987, there is \$9,000 in the Fund.

4. Re: Counseling Program for Synod Employees. At the January 1986 meeting of the Board for Christian Service the Synod's Board of Trustees requested that we investigate the possibility of setting up a counseling program for our Synod's employees. It was discovered that the Wisconsin Synod is doing the same thing. The WELS Conference of Presidents was concerned because of a growing number of resignations and problems involving family life, the use of alcohol, financial planning, handling stress and finding a proper balance between their professional and personal lives. The WELS established a Committee for Counseling Called Workers (CCCW). This committee is to formulate a program that will become a permanent part of their Synod's structure. Norman Holte, a member of the Board for Christian Service, was asked to attend their meetings which he did on November 14th and 15th, 1986. He will attend future meetings and will report to our pastors and teachers as the program develops. They have established a help-line.

800-443-4220 for Wisconsin residents
800-262-9485 for out-of-state

Called workers or their spouses who are experiencing a problem of crisis proportions may call this number. Confidentiality is assured. Callers need not give their names. They will be asked to give their general location and the nature of their problem so that the answering service can refer them to an appropriate counselor in their area. The committee has developed a list of counselors who take a Christian approach to counseling. This includes psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, accountants, lawyers and other professions. The 800 number will be answered in person from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on regular week days. At other times a recording will give another number. Pastors and teachers of our Synod are encouraged to make use of this service. There is no charge.

The CCCW has also developed a *Counseling Printed Resource Center*. Pastors and teachers may contact the center to receive material that discusses specific problems. A bibliography has been prepared and additional material is being collected. There is no charge for this material but donations to cover costs of copying and mailings will be welcome. Synod pastors and teachers are welcome to use this service also. The administrator of the center is:

The Rev. Dean Anderson
3534 South 24th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221
Telephone: (414) 282-7168

In the future the CCCW will produce materials and arrange for workshops and retreats for pastors, teachers and spouses. They are also planning the establishment of a Worker Care Committee in each district to meet annually with each called worker. The committee would attempt to deal

with potential problems before they become serious. These are not to replace the circuit visitor but rather are an effort to make use of all the resources that are available.

President Orvick has encouraged our Synod's Board for Christian Service to pursue this matter further. We shall keep you informed as additional programs are developed. The help-line and the resource center are in place and are available for use by the pastors and teachers of our Synod.

5. Re: ELS Pastor's Pension Fund. The board has been investigating the possibility of shifting some of the funds that our pastors put into their tax deferred annuity into mutual funds, which might bring a better return on their investment. National Life of Vermont owns Sentinel Funds. A part of the premium (no more than 50%) may be invested in one of these funds and will be tax deferred as is currently the case. The board plans to make this option available. More information will be forthcoming. In the meantime those who are in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Pastor's Pension Fund might check out Sentinel Funds to see if this option would be to their benefit.

6. Re: Proposed Board Budget for 1988. The following budget was prepared and sent to the Planning and Coordinating Committee for its consideration:

Subsidy Payments	\$ 5,925.60
Retirement Fund Payments	15,715.20
Group Life Insurance	3,500.00
Board Expense	1,500.00
Total	<u>\$26,640.80</u>

John E. Smith, secretary

CHRISTIAN SERVICE ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Emergency Needs of Called Workers and their Families

WHEREAS, The care of our called workers and their families is of concern to the Synod, and,

WHEREAS, There does not exist a fund for emergency needs of called workers and their families,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That starting in 1988 the Board for Christian Service be authorized to use a portion of the World Needs Fund to meet the emergency needs of called workers and their families, and,

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board for Christian Service provide information to the congregations regarding the broader use of the World Needs Fund.

Resolution No. 2: The Pastors and Christian Day School Teachers Term Life Insurance

WHEREAS, The 1988 budget for the Board for Christian Service includes \$3500 to subsidize those congregations who do not reimburse the Synod for their called workers term life insurance, and,

WHEREAS, These monies could be used to provide other services, and,

WHEREAS, The Board for Christian Service reported that the annual premium is \$118.80, and,

WHEREAS, The local congregation should consider this a part of its stewardship,

BE IT RESOLVED, That each parish be urged to remit to the treasurer of the Synod the annual premium for its called workers.

REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS

The responsibilities of the board include the publication of the *Lutheran Sentinel* and the *Lutheran Synod Quarterly*; as well as the development, printing, and promotion of sound Christian literature.

Members of the board are: the Rev. Walther Gullixson, chairman; Daniel Browning, secretary; Howard Siewert, Robert Deering, the Rev. Arvold Kuster, and the Rev. Richard Wiechmann.

LUTHERAN SENTINEL

The past year was a joy for the Board for Publications in every respect. The board was particularly pleased with the increasing demand for and appreciation for our periodical, *The Lutheran Sentinel*. Total circulation has risen to 5,800 copies. This increase is due to the hard work of the Sentinel staff and their concern for a quality magazine. A professional consultant agreed to examine our periodical this year and he has positive remarks about the format, design, choice of colors, etc. Then, too, we feel the content of the Sentinel is a proper mix of religious news, doctrinal articles, Bible study, and human interest stories. In short, the staff of the Rev. Paul Madson, editor, the Rev. John Dukleth, managing editor, and Louise Lien, business manager, should be commended for their diligent work. It should also be noted that the Sentinel is arriving in our homes on a regular monthly schedule with a greater degree of timeliness than we have seen in the past.

The board unanimously approved the following slate of Sentinel staff members for 1986-87:

Paul Madson, editor
John Dukleth, managing editor
Louise Lien, business manager

The board also expressed its strong opinion that Editor Madson should be given an occasional respite from his editorial work either by delegating an occasional issue to another member of the staff or by receiving pulpit assistance twice a year. As the situation stands now, Editor Madson has various weekly publication deadlines to meet and it is nearly impossible for him to take a vacation or to be away on business for more than a few days. The board will continue to study this matter and asks all synodical members to thank God for the faithful, dedicated work of Editor Madson and his Sentinel staff.

The board would like to see the total subscription count to someday reach 7,000. We feel that the Sentinel would be self-supporting at this number, with no further need for Synod subsidy. We thus urge all pastors and lay leaders to promote the Sentinel among our congregations. It is a Christ-centered magazine

and its reading will be beneficial to all. For advertising purposes, the board plans to send a complimentary issue of the Sentinel to every WELS pastor and teacher. This mailing will go out in the near future.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The board is happy to report that its reprint of the Walther book, "Word of His Grace," has met with success. Our original stock of 515 books has been substantially reduced by the sale of 260 books, all within a nine month period of time.

Several projects are under study, but the board is cautious about plowing into new expenditures without first paying attention to marketability and the investment necessary from Synod funds. It is very costly to publish and to store printed materials. We feel discretion is still the better part of valor in this respect. To sell out some of our previous publications, the board is presently printing 10,000 fliers covering the various Evangelical Lutheran Synod publications. These fliers will be stapled into an issue of the Sentinel and will inform our constituents of the eighteen publications we still offer for sale.

The *Synod Report* appears annually, edited by the Synod secretary, and his fine work is appreciated by the board. Dr. Thomas Kuster is also to be commended for his prompt publication of the *Convention Echo* newspaper after each Synod convention.

The *Lutheran Synod Quarterly* is edited by seminary president, the Rev. Wilhelm Petersen. The board is grateful to President Petersen and his contributors for their dedication in publishing this periodical for the benefit of its 230 subscribers.

Bulletin inserts on behalf of other Synod boards and projects are produced and distributed six times a year to Synod congregations.

Richard L. Wiechmann

PUBLICATIONS ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: The Lutheran Sentinel

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Sentinel is a quality periodical, and,

WHEREAS, It is a valuable evangelism tool, and,

WHEREAS, It is useful in informing the congregations about the work of the Synod, and,

WHEREAS, There are still several congregations that are not subscribing to the Lutheran Sentinel,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod encourage more congregations to utilize blanket subscriptions to the Lutheran Sentinel.

Resolution No. 2: The Lutheran Sentinel

WHEREAS, The circulation of the Lutheran Sentinel has increased due to the hard work of the staff, and,

WHEREAS, Its format, design and content are of top quality,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod commends the Lutheran Sentinel staff for its diligent efforts.

Resolution No. 3: The Convention Echo

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod thank Dr. Thomas Kuster for his continuing efforts in the prompt publication of the Convention Echo.

Resolution No. 4: Other Publications

WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod has a number of excellent resource and inspirational books for sale for pastors, teachers, students and families,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod encourage the promotion and purchase of these publications.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

The committee consists of Chairman E. T. Teigen, Secretary D. W. Marzolf, and the Rev. W. C. Gullixson.

The committee has attended the meetings of the WELS Hymnal Committee in Milwaukee and has been invited to continue to observe the work of those involved in the WELS project. In addition the Evangelical Lutheran Synod committee has met regularly in Mankato. The "Worship Resource Survey" prepared by the committee and completed by the pastors of the Synod will hopefully provide a clearer picture of the hymnals and liturgical books presently in use in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Dennis W. Marzolf, secretary

REPORT OF THE SELF STUDY COMMITTEE

The Self Study Committee members are: Mr. Sig Lee, the Rev. Alf Merseth, the Rev. David Nelson, the Rev. Richard Newgard, and the Rev. Milton Tweet.

The assignment given the Self Study Committee by the Synod was to study the Synod's relationship to Faith Mission Society, Project Cristo Rey, and Thoughts of Faith, and bring its report and recommendations to the Synod. (cf. 1985 Synod Report, p. 80, Resolutions 6 and 7.)

In response to this assignment, the Self Study Committee submits the following report and recommendations for the Synod's consideration:

As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, we are partners in the Gospel, that is, we are committed to working together to carry out the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ. To that end it is necessary to operate in many areas—missions, education, etc. As members of the Synod, our priority is to cooperate in the work agreed upon in convention and funded by the adopted budget.

The work of our Lord is also being carried on in other ways throughout our Synod. These endeavors are funded outside of our budget through the contributions of interested individuals and organizations. For 1986 these contributions from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod were as follows:

Faith Mission Society	\$15,000 (approximately)
Helping Hands	43,000 (approximately)
Project Cristo Rey	5,516
Thoughts of Faith	<u>18,345</u>
	\$81,861

FAITH MISSION SOCIETY

This society was organized to stimulate interest and concern for missions. It provides information and inspiration through the publication of *Mission News* and serves as a clearing house through which contributions can be made to various mission projects and/or funds.

WHEREAS, Faith Mission Society has been an informal society for the promotion of mission work in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and,

WHEREAS, Contributions have been channeled through this society for various mission projects of the Synod, be it

RESOLVED, That Faith Mission Society be a project of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod under the supervision of the Board for Foreign Missions, and,

WHEREAS, Faith Mission Society has a constitution and by-laws under which it has been operating, and,

WHEREAS, This constitution and by-laws needs revision in order to be brought under the supervision of the Synod, be it

RESOLVED, That the constitution and by-laws of Faith Mission Society be referred to the Self Study Committee for revision and be presented to the Synod for its approval.

PROJECT CRISTO REY

This is a mission endeavor of Christ the King congregation, Bell Gardens, CA to reach Spanish speaking people with the Gospel. It publishes bi-lingual Sunday School and Vacation Bible School materials. It has collaborated with the Wisconsin Synod in the production of a 225 page adult instruction manual in Spanish. It is currently helping in the tuition costs of a Mexican medical doctor, Otoniel Rodriguez, training for the ministry at El Paso seminary (WELS). It is planned that after completion of his seminary training he will work among the Hispanics in Southern California.

WHEREAS, Christ the King congregation, Bell Gardens, CA, has been operating Project Cristo Rey for a number of years, and,

WHEREAS, This represents an opportunity to do mission work among Hispanics, and,

WHEREAS, Christ the King congregation has recommended that Project Cristo Rey be placed under the jurisdiction of the Synod, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Project Cristo Rey be a project of the Synod under the supervision of the Board for Home Missions, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the goals of Project Cristo Rey as found in Appendix D (cf. Project Cristo Rey, an ELS Hispanic Outreach Model) be referred to the Self Study Committee for review and revision and be presented to the Synod for its approval.

THOUGHTS OF FAITH

This is a mission project whose purpose, according to its Articles of Incorporation, is to "preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world according to the tradition of the Lutheran faith, by the use of electronic media and personal and printed ministry." It is currently broadcasting religious messages to the people of the Ukraine. The Rev. John Shep of Stoughton, WI is the executive director.

WHEREAS, Thoughts of Faith has requested official recognition from the Board for Foreign Missions (cf. Synod Report, 1985, p. 80, Resolution 6), be it

RESOLVED, That Thoughts of Faith be recognized as a church related organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and,

WHEREAS, There are details that need further study, be it

RESOLVED, That the Self Study Committee be granted more time to complete its study.

CHURCH RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

BE IT RESOLVED, That organizations such as the Women's Missionary Societies, Bethany Women's Auxiliaries, etc. (cf. Synod Report 1985, pp. 77-78, no. 9) be under the supervision of the various circuits of our Synod.

Richard Newgard, secretary

REPORT OF THE LAYMEN'S DELEGATES EQUALIZATION FUND COMMITTEE

As chairman of the Laymen's Delegates Equalization Fund Committee it is my privilege and responsibility to contact the congregations of our Synod for funds to carry on the work of this committee for the annual convention of the Synod. The convention will be held at Mankato, MN, in June. It is a *must* that your congregation respond with a check to the fund so that our committee may render the best possible service to the laymen delegates. The purpose of the fund is to defray transportation costs of the delegates.

We are submitting a statement of cash receipts and disbursements for the 1986 convention period.

Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

Balance on Hand 4/1/86		\$ 1,623.76
Receipts:		
Church Assessments—		
60 @ \$150	\$9,000.00	
39 @ \$190	7,410.00	
2 @ \$170	340.00	
Interest Income	230.78	
Total Receipts		16,980.78
Total		<u>\$18,604.54</u>
Disbursements:		
Delegates:		
Air Fares and Mileage	\$(11,855.90)	
Printing, postage, and expenses	(48.92)	
Synod Repayment	(1,500.00)	
Total Disbursements		<u>(13,404.82)</u>
Balance on Hand 3/31/87		<u>\$ 5,199.72</u>

Note: All advances from the Synod have been repaid.

For the 1987 convention we will pay the following rates. Mileage payments will be at the rate of \$.15 per mile up to 600 miles and \$.10 per mile over 600 miles (round trip) to a layman delegate who drives his own car. Air travel and bus fares are also accepted. These will be reimbursed in full if funds permit. Otherwise a pro ration of available funds will be made. We expect delegates to ride together where possible.

Greg Costello, chairman

REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP

The Board for Stewardship was able to accomplish its business by conducting two meetings, one on August 3-4, 1986, and the other on January 22-23, 1987. All other goals were achieved by individual members through personal assignment and telephone.

The members of the board are the Rev. Paul Schneider, chairman; Mr. Howard Hougan, vice chairman; the Rev. David Nelson, secretary; Mr. Leslie Enter; Mr. A. T. Bliss, Jr. The Rev. M. Tweit has also served the board as a resource-consultant.

In an attempt to carry out the Synod Handbook guidelines to promote good, biblical stewardship throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, the following has been done by the board since the last convention:

1) Regular letters were sent to all pastors of the Synod providing stewardship encouragement along with a monthly listing of contributions from the congregations. This monthly mailing goes to all pastors, teachers, board members and 1986 convention delegates.

2) Coin folders and special offering envelopes were provided for each congregation for both the Advent and Lenten seasons.

3) The Rev. David Nelson has been responsible for providing articles to the LUTHERAN SENTINEL and also for producing bulleting inserts.

4) Leslie Enter is the "contact" man with LACE (Lutheran Association for Church Extension—WELS). He met with this committee and is responsible for promoting this program within the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

5) Mr. A. T. Bliss, Jr. continues his fine work of compiling the statistics relating to the contributions from the congregations. Not only does he provide the chairman with monthly listings, together with an accumulated total for the year, but also a listing for the past six years. A copy of this information is included with this report.

6) A special offering was conducted in the fall of 1986 because of the budget deficit. Special envelopes were provided together with a letter from President Orvick. Although it is impossible to determine how much extra money was received, it would appear that this offering helped to "catch-up" so that our deficit for the year was only \$6,969.08.

7) In keeping with the new requirements of the planning-budget-operations, a request was made of all congregations to estimate the budget contributions for 1988. In response to this request, seventy-one congregations submitted "estimates" totaling \$448,350. Forty-seven did not reply. Using past giving records, an estimate of \$263,091 was made for these forty-seven congregations. Thus the total projected estimate of synodical income for 1988 amounted to \$711,441.

8) All members of the Synod have been urged to make use of the stewardship booklet, "MANAGING MY MASTER'S MONEY" which was presented to the pastors at the seminars in April of 1986.

9) The last Sunday of May was "Stewardship Sunday." A sermon outline was provided to each pastor in the form of a pamphlet formerly published by the Synod, written by M. Otto & M. Tweit. Copies were provided for each family of the Synod.

10) Plans are being made to publish a pamphlet about the Synod budget for 1988, showing the members how the money is spent and the good it will accomplish.

11) D. Nelson sent a letter to all groups soliciting funds within the Synod asking for their schedule of planned appeals. This should help coordinate these "special offerings" within our Synod. All fund drives are to be approved by this board, according to the SYNOD HANDBOOK.

12) The Board for Stewardship would like to promote stewardship by sponsoring a speaker at the General Pastoral Conference who would discuss the

topics: "Pastor as a Leader" and "Potential Problem Analysis." Plans are being made to make this possible.

The Board for Stewardship spent a great deal of time studying the basic principles of stewardship together with such ideas as subscription giving, special offerings, giving *from* blessings vs. *to* need & budget, etc. The members continue to grow in knowledge and understanding and especially in the appreciation of God's directives as outlined in His holy Word. In addition to this stewardship study much thought has gone into future planning and programs of stewardship education. The need continues to exist to help the various congregations.

The board continues to study the possibility of conducting seminars or conferences for the lay people of the Synod as well as more seminars for the pastors. It remains the goal of this board to use the Word of God to instruct the people so that they, by God's grace, give like the Macedonians, "*as much as they were able and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.*" (II Corinthians 8:3-5)

May God's will be done and may He receive all the glory!

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—1986

	1986 Budget	1986 Non-budget
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	\$ 15.00	\$ —
Bethany, Ames, IA	41.50	26.50
Bethany, The Dalles, OR	1,604.18	—
Bethany, Luverne, MN	21,588.30	354.00
Bethany, Port Orchard, WA	12,684.00	440.10
Bethany, Princeton, MN	13,502.55	190.00
Bethel, Sioux Falls, SD	2,607.32	289.00
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	315.00	114.50
Calvary, Ulen, MN	2,958.77	145.00
Center, Scarville, IA	3,398.57	—
Chico Mission, Chico, CA	625.00	475.00
Christ, Klamath Falls, OR	—	275.00
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	4,234.00	105.00
Christ, Santa Rosa, CA	3,322.14	—
Christ, Savannah, GA	3,000.00	—
Christ, Sutherlin, OR	908.79	—
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	7,062.00	210.00
Christ the King, Bell Gardens, CA	5,669.63	2,040.00
Clearwater, Oklee, MN	446.75	80.00
Concordia, Clearbrook, MN	1,152.15	—
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	4,647.25	174.36
East Paint Creek, Waterville, IA	7,484.35	184.00
Emmaus, Chicago, IL	—	—
English, Cottonwood, MI	12,804.64	—
Faith, Alpena, MI	420.00	—
Faith, Camarillo, CA	244.89	—
Faith, East Jordan, MI	1,239.23	—
Faith, Hillman, MI	421.85	30.00
Faith, Orange County, CA	1,705.00	1,000.00
Faith, Oregon, WI	3,239.54	—
Faith, Parkersburg, IA	1,800.00	—
Faith, San Antonio, TX	13,507.14	—
First, Suttons Bay, MI	1,900.20	255.00

First American, Mayville, ND	4,618.75	104.00
First English, Ashland, WI	742.77	—
First Evanger, Fertile, MN	1,113.25	—
First Shell Rock, Northwood, IA	5,886.00	—
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	3,338.00	—
Forest, Forest City, IA	4,068.65	—
Good Shepherd, Bloomer, WI	3,963.05	96.00
Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	1,600.00	47.80
Grace, Crookston, MN	1,205.65	9.00
Grace, Madison, WI	16,120.00	5,270.00
Grace, Piedmont, MO	2,914.70	110.00
Grace, Vero Beach, FL	34,197.80	567.00
Hartland, Hartland, MN	3,080.23	85.00
Heritage, Apple Valley, MN	4,649.37	200.00
Hesperia, Hesperia, MI	403.60	50.00
Hiawatha, Minneapolis, MN	3,112.00	75.00
Holton, Holton, MI	6,269.37	—
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	33,593.00	215.00
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	14,274.60	110,205.00
Holy Trinity, Okauchee, WI	16,493.60	172.00
Immanuel, Audubon, MN	5,447.58	115.00
Immanuel, Riceville, IA	1,013.44	10.00
Indian Landing, Rochester, NY	1,636.00	143.00
Jerico, New Hampton, IA	17,676.52	466.00
King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	44,946.79	794.35
King of Grace, Worthington, MN	15.00	—
U. V. Koren Memorial, Decorah, IA	951.00	50.00
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	4,188.95	10.00
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	1,622.00	207.67
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	3,540.56	72.00
Manchester, Manchester, MN	1,369.25	78.00
Mt. Olive, Mankato, MN	27,076.21	1,507.40
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	1,828.05	30.00
Nazareth, Trail, MN	2,976.23	626.00
Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI	2,272.94	—
Norseland, St. Peter, MN	14,602.73	—
Norwegian Grove, Gaylord, MN	6,797.50	812.00
Oak Park, Oklee, MN	100.00	55.00
Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	1,408.82	25.00
Our Savior's, Albert Lea, MN	23,148.63	895.00
Our Savior's, Amherst Junction, WI	1,479.93	32.00
Our Savior's, Bagley, MN	130.00	—
Our Savior's, Belview, MN	3,247.99	60.00
Our Savior, Bishop, CA	3,260.13	57.00
Our Savior's, Elderon, WI	1,859.31	—
Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	1,544.30	255.00
Our Savior's, Hawley, MN	2,728.35	38.00
Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City, AZ	7,799.80	230.00
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	1,660.68	50.00
Our Saviour's, Madison, WI	1,591.00	1,077.00
Our Savior, Naples, FL	8,770.88	230.00
Our Savior's, Princeton, MN	14,394.96	518.50
Parkland, Tacoma, WA	4,485.20	110.00
Peace, Deshler, OH	2,704.90	—
Pilgrim, Waterloo, IA	5,967.18	60.00
Pinehurst, Eau Claire, WI	5,428.75	98.00
Pinewood, Burlington, MA	6,500.95	355.00

Redeemer, Iola, WI	939.50	75.00
Redeemer, New Hampton, IA	2,350.00	45.00
Redeemer, Scottsville, NY	1,253.00	80.00
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	2,146.10	—
Richland, Thornton, IA	17,390.01	342.50
River Heights, East Grand Forks, MN	27,211.54	4,420.00
Rock Dell, Belview, MN	4,114.68	—
Rose Dell Trinity, Jasper, MN	528.75	15.00
Saude, Lawler, IA	11,711.30	222.00
Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley, CA	155.00	600.00
Somber, Northwood, IA	2,636.00	—
St. Andrew, Colorado Springs, CO	550.00	—
St. Luke, Mount Vernon, WA	—	—
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	1,163.76	—
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	18,598.74	412.00
St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	2,074.00	—
St. Paul, Clintonville, WI	5,267.58	112.00
St. Paul, Escondido, CA	575.00	—
St. Paul's, Lengby, MN	2,000.00	—
St. Paul's, Portage, WI	1,067.38	—
St. Petri, Grygla, MN	317.00	1.00
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	11,834.75	1,483.25
Synod, Scarville, IA	14,551.50	225.00
Trinity, Brewster, MA	4,587.76	450.00
Trinity, Calmar, IA	2,533.00	57.00
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	3,892.00	3,117.75
Trinity, West Bend, WI	16,227.02	168.00
Wayfarers' Chapel, Ventura, CA	3,273.50	40.00
Western Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, WI	610.00	—
West Paint Creek, Waukon, IA	1,211.75	28.00
Zion, Thompson, IA	1,782.00	—
Zion, Tracy, MN	15,294.33	10,252.00
Miscellaneous:		
Aid Association for Lutherans	—	20,130.00
Helping Hands	—	69,043.17
Home Mission Offering	—	64,831.00
Lutheran Brotherhood	—	11,499.00
Other	12,442.33	14,828.40
Totals	<u>\$722,655.92</u>	<u>\$335,137.25</u>

BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD

Total for Years Indicated

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	\$ 513	\$ 320	\$ 241	\$ 115	\$ 37	\$ 15
Bethany, Ames, IA	1,298	775	117	—	40	42
Bethany, Luverne, MN	20,650	17,771	20,485	18,003	17,018	21,579
Bethany, Port Orchard, WA	14,952	17,205	18,020	18,535	9,199	12,684
Bethany, Princeton, MN	12,043	11,029	11,891	12,366	12,412	13,503
Bethany, The Dalles, OR	—	—	—	—	1,695	1,604
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	—	—	405	676	684	315
Bethel, Sioux Falls, SD	4,856	5,600	5,467	3,110	3,405	2,606
Calvary, Ulen, MN	5,714	2,548	3,987	3,465	3,935	2,959
Center, Scarville, IA	3,835	3,961	4,342	3,407	3,665	3,399
Chico Mission, Chico, CA	—	—	—	—	—	625
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	—	—	—	—	1,246	4,234
Christ, Savannah, GA	840	800	3,000	3,000	2,800	3,000
Christ, Santa Rosa, CA	—	—	—	—	1,787	3,323
Christ, Sutherlin, OR	1,023	842	1,538	1,334	810	908
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	—	—	—	1,865	5,224	7,062
Christ, the King, Bell Gardens, CA	2,688	2,683	2,627	3,387	3,123	5,672
Clearwater, Oklee, MN	807	880	1,170	805	150	447
Concordia, Clearbrook, MN	1,296	743	1,625	1,305	967	1,152
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	5,147	768	2,225	3,247	1,607	4,647
East Paint Creek, Waterville, IA	8,307	8,543	7,880	6,565	7,429	7,488
Emmaus, Chicago, IL	—	—	—	—	—	—
English, Cottonwood, MN	14,288	14,836	15,783	13,671	13,118	12,805
Faith, Alpena, MI	1,204	300	160	150	197	494
Faith, Camarillo, CA	600	747	455	30	—	245
Faith, East Jordan, MI	1,139	1,122	1,094	535	783	1,165
Faith, Hillman, MI	2,275	1,081	531	—	713	422
Faith, Oregon, WI	1,899	2,189	2,758	2,269	3,738	1,705
Faith, Orange Co., CA	160	827	1,070	1,225	1,735	3,240

BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued **Total for Years Indicated**

Faith, Parkersburg, IA	2,171	2,254	2,140	2,383	2,316	1,800
Faith, San Antonio, TX	2,308	2,774	3,265	3,483	4,890	13,507
First, Suttons Bay, MI	2,949	3,067	1,579	1,622	1,759	1,900
First American, Mayville, ND	5,636	4,211	6,132	6,786	5,564	4,619
First English, Ashland, WI	1,633	766	575	622	215	743
First Evanger, Fertile, MN	2,682	2,714	2,483	2,218	2,093	1,115
First Shell Rock, Northwood, IA	3,266	4,289	2,454	6,603	6,592	5,887
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	5,080	4,507	6,078	5,365	3,956	3,338
Forest, Forest City, IA	783	539	812	4,661	3,049	4,069
Good Shepherd, Bloomer, WI	5,705	3,771	6,251	4,588	3,774	3,963
Good Shepherd, Blythe, CA	—	—	902	1,225	—	—
Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	4,839	4,493	3,554	4,058	3,830	1,600
Grace, Crookston, MN	5,849	5,228	5,927	4,405	1,505	1,230
Grace, Madison, WI	7,700	9,975	11,267	13,660	19,860	16,120
Grace, Piedmont, MO	542	1,242	2,345	3,196	3,659	2,196
Grace, Vero Beach, FL	28,090	49,403	34,572	32,611	38,722	34,201
Hartland, Hartland, MN	4,746	6,201	4,237	3,924	3,490	3,080
Heritage, Apple Valley, MN	4,101	4,075	4,641	6,405	5,062	4,649
Hesperia, Hesperia, MI	—	—	56	240	330	404
Hiawatha, Minneapolis, MN	1,240	3,557	1,783	3,206	3,168	3,222
Holton, Holton, MI	4,697	4,456	3,727	6,675	5,703	6,270
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	31,024	33,500	28,961	28,514	33,610	33,563
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	6,617	8,951	14,664	26,679	15,320	14,273
Holy Trinity, Okauchee, WI	12,867	14,332	15,982	19,355	15,186	16,494
Immanuel, Audubon, MN	3,345	4,673	3,941	6,872	5,776	5,448
Immanuel, Riceville, IA	1,243	1,225	715	944	1,261	1,013
Indian Landing, Rochester, NY	2,870	3,344	3,106	2,317	1,822	1,636
Jerico, New Hampton, IA	16,148	20,440	19,476	20,663	19,716	17,667

BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

Total for Years Indicated

King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	42,628	49,426	46,071	42,216	49,590	44,996
King of Grace, Worthington, MN	—	—	—	20	—	15
U. V. Koren Memorial, Decorah, IA	—	—	—	—	—	951
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	3,115	2,817	3,343	2,901	2,183	4,189
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	2,964	2,996	1,731	3,625	3,260	1,622
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	2,462	2,032	2,664	2,778	3,541	3,541
Manchester, Manchester, MN	1,480	1,682	1,152	1,329	1,528	1,369
Mt. Olive, Mankato, MN	29,881	31,428	30,517	35,326	25,674	27,082
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	3,288	3,032	2,423	1,857	1,817	1,829
Nazareth, Trail, MN	3,902	2,831	100	300	3,794	2,978
Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI	2,530	1,958	2,007	1,869	1,969	2,273
Norseland, St. Peter, MN	11,859	10,078	20,172	20,093	17,975	14,603
Norwegian Grove, Gaylord, MN	5,716	5,477	6,051	6,043	6,231	6,799
Oak Park, Oklee, MN	4,383	3,600	3,510	1,413	3,805	100
Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	1,342	1,712	1,322	833	1,061	1,408
Our Savior's, Albert Lea, MN	19,554	22,366	22,023	19,006	21,478	23,148
Our Savior's, Amherst Junction, WI	3,324	3,105	2,699	2,673	1,882	1,480
Our Savior's, Bagley, MN	729	1,989	520	700	458	130
Our Savior's, Belview, MN	2,049	5,264	3,220	2,995	1,881	3,248
Our Savior, Bishop, CA	2,730	2,672	3,111	3,610	2,974	3,261
Our Savior's, Elderon, WI	1,420	1,250	1,650	2,204	1,840	1,859
Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	—	—	—	—	—	1,544
Our Savior's, Hawley, MN	2,592	2,985	2,958	2,879	2,885	2,730
Our Saviour, Lake Havasu, AZ	4,398	4,479	6,237	5,830	9,213	7,800
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	—	—	—	158	1,234	1,660
Our Saviour's, Madison, WI	2,471	507	900	997	760	1,591
Our Savior, Naples, FL	7,058	6,735	5,047	6,000	7,737	8,770

BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued **Total for Years Indicated**

Our Savior's, Princeton, MN	10,297	15,683	14,084	11,820	15,946	14,296
Parkland, Tacoma, WA	11,763	7,654	7,980	10,882	6,402	4,487
Peace, Deshler, OH	—	—	3,002	1,685	2,337	2,705
Pilgrim, Waterloo, IA	6,030	6,999	7,045	6,232	5,497	5,967
Pinehurst, Eau Claire, WI	3,400	4,180	5,435	6,338	4,910	5,429
Pinewood, Burlington, MA	5,483	5,858	6,656	6,950	8,931	6,502
Redeemer, Iola, WI	1,015	735	500	564	756	940
Redeemer, New Hampton, IA	2,673	2,345	2,581	2,298	2,946	2,350
Redeemer, Scottsville, NY	591	819	1,105	1,290	1,100	1,253
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	626	1,141	1,619	878	2,265	2,146
Richland, Thornton, IA	15,024	17,639	21,072	15,890	17,517	17,391
River Heights, East Grand Forks, MN	24,321	38,613	22,825	29,419	21,863	27,212
Rock Dell, Belview, MN	5,120	4,864	4,349	4,241	4,045	4,115
Rose Dell Trinity, Jasper, MN	3,950	1,661	2,579	1,242	972	529
Saude, Lawler, IA	6,369	9,521	11,951	12,572	10,509	11,713
Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley, CA	—	—	—	—	—	155
Somber, Northwood, IA	6,106	3,864	3,579	2,545	3,354	2,673
St. Andrew, Colorado Springs, CO	1,440	1,136	1,448	1,431	650	550
St. Luke, Mount Vernon, WA	778	610	442	—	33	—
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	3,668	3,512	3,213	2,879	1,462	1,163
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	15,024	15,862	15,895	15,828	20,246	18,601
St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	258	712	1,970	1,192	416	2,074
St. Paul, Clintonville, WI	4,456	3,320	3,139	5,081	2,411	5,268
St. Paul, Escondido, CA	333	458	621	891	1,082	575
St. Paul's, Lengby, MN	2,533	2,339	780	3,289	2,654	2,004
St. Paul's, Portage, WI	3,401	4,902	2,312	851	2,309	1,067

BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued **Total for Years Indicated**

St. Petri, Grygla, MN	922	575	373	498	719	317
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	20,328	19,433	13,605	9,420	15,064	11,835
Synod, Scarville, IA	12,074	16,154	13,720	14,628	14,901	14,552
Trinity, Brewster, MA	3,504	3,664	4,871	3,551	4,434	4,587
Trinity, Calmar, IA	2,171	1,338	1,881	1,872	1,373	2,533
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	—	—	—	1,983	3,093	3,893
Trinity, West Bend, WI	16,904	18,990	20,586	21,648	23,427	16,228
Wayfarers' Chapel, Ventura, CA	1,225	1,230	1,398	2,712	2,945	3,274
West Paint Creek, Waukon, IA	2,832	2,136	1,675	1,425	1,036	1,212
Western Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, WI	7,285	3,610	1,220	3,765	4,010	610
Zion, Thompson, IA	1,185	1,857	2,080	1,211	922	1,794
Zion, Tracy, MN	<u>6,633</u>	<u>7,139</u>	<u>7,680</u>	<u>10,244</u>	<u>11,064</u>	<u>15,294</u>
*Miscellaneous	<u>13,864</u>	<u>13,110</u>	<u>8,821</u>	<u>8,977</u>	<u>10,908</u>	<u>12,354</u>
TOTAL	\$659,126	\$710,689	\$692,012	\$718,222	\$719,357	\$722,655

*includes previous churches

Paul Schneider, chairman

REPORT OF THE PLANNING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Planning and Coordinating Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod met on October 9-10 and December 8-9, 1986 and again on March 23-24, 1987.

The committee is composed of the officers of the Synod: the Rev. George Orvick, president; the Rev. John Moldstad, Sr., vice president; the Rev. Alf Merseth, secretary; and Mr. Leroy Meyer, treasurer; representatives of the boards of the Synod: the Rev. G. Guldberg, Christian Service; the Rev. W. C. Gullixson, Publications; the Rev. E. Ekhoft, Home Missions; Mr. L. Miller, Foreign Missions; the Rev. P. Schneider, Stewardship; laymen: Mr. Julian Olsen, Mr. Harvey Roberson, Mr. Norman Werner; Special Committee members (advisory): the Rev. Norman Madson and the Rev. Milton Tweit.

By the grace of God the Evangelical Lutheran Synod has grown these past 70 years in faith and knowledge and also in numbers, programs and economic blessings. By the same grace of God the Synod has remained faithful to the inspired Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions. At the present time, however, there is a problem of not receiving adequate financial support to carry on the various programs that the Synod in convention has voted to accomplish.

The Synod states its purpose in its Constitution, Chapter III, as follows:

"The Synod exists to carry out the command of Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19-20), to contend for the faith (Jude 3), and to promote the development of Christian life (Galatians 5:22-25) within its membership."

The way this purpose is to be carried out is indicated in the Synod's By-Laws, Chapter III,

"The Synod shall through its elected boards, and committees under the supervision and coordination of its president:

- a) promote an ongoing study of the Holy Scriptures (John 5:39);
- b) promote the distribution and use of the Holy Scriptures, orthodox books, devotional literature and hymn books;
- c) be watchful concerning purity and unity of doctrines (Ephesians 4:3-16; 1 Corinthians 1:10) by studying doctrinal questions which are in special need of study and discussion, trying the spirits (1 John 4:1), and warning against encroaching sects, as well as against errors and unchristian trends (1 Timothy 4:1-6), in accordance with the Holy Scriptures;
- d) establish and promote home and foreign missions;
- e) establish, manage and maintain institutions of learning for the training of pastors and teachers and for the general Christian education of its people;
- f) promote and support the establishment of Christian Day Schools for the instruction of the young;
- g) promote works of charity;
- h) establish, gather and administer the funds required for the Synod's operation;
- i) exercise supervision over the Synod's institutions and the pastoral work and practice of its members (cf. paragraph c above);
- j) promote one General Pastoral Conference to be held annually and at least one pastoral conference in each circuit; and
- k) in accordance with the Scriptures (Galatians 6:1-2) serve to mediate in controversies which may arise in the Synod or within its membership."

In order that this purpose may be carried out more effectively and efficiently, local congregations unite with other congregations of like mind and confession in an organization that we call the Synod. Together we are better able to operate and maintain a college, seminary and a total mission program. This we are doing in our Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

In order that the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod might be more faithful in working together to accomplish the goals and objectives of this church body, there must be an awareness of the programs and a desire to grow stronger in the faith. Faith will grow stronger through the use of the means of grace and that awareness will grow when the members seek to learn more about the work of the Synod. To this end we urge each member to be faithful in worship and Bible study, to encourage one another and to rejoice in the honor and privilege of serving the Lord.

The Planning and Coordinating Committee has adopted as one of its goals a study of the role of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in the 21st Century. As it attempts to carry out this objective it requests the prayers of all the Synod's members together with the plea that each member keep in mind that it is a privilege to serve the Lord here on earth and to carry out His will, especially the Great Commission of preaching the Gospel to every creature.

BUDGET 1988

The committee received budget requests for the 1988 budget from all the boards in time for its December meeting. At its December meeting these were discussed and a tentative budget was submitted to the boards for discussion and response.

BIENNIAL CONVENTIONS

In response to the Synod's instructions that the Planning and Coordinating Committee "study the organizational and economic ramifications of biennial conventions and report its findings to the 1987 convention," (Synod Report 1986, p. 151, Res. 4) the committee submits the following for consideration and adoption.

WHEREAS, A change to biennial conventions would necessitate changes in the Synod's Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Guidelines and term of office of all members of the Synod's boards and committees, and would also require the planning and adoption of budgets two years in advance, and,

WHEREAS, Biennial conventions would tend to decrease participation of the congregations, through their lay representatives, in the decision making process and would tend to place more decision making in the hands of the officers and boards, and,

WHEREAS, Having biennial conventions would reduce the fellowship opportunity that is afforded to our lay people at the annual convention, and,

WHEREAS, The size of the Synod does not lend itself to the organization of districts for decision making opportunities and fellowship, and,

WHEREAS, The actual cost of the annual convention to the synodical treasury is only about \$3,000,

RESOLVED, That the Synod continue to have synodical conventions annually.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OFFERING

In carrying out the Synod's instructions regarding a 75th Anniversary Offering the committee asked the president of the Synod to "appoint a committee who, together with the president, shall make proposals regarding the name of the celebration, shall choose an offering committee and a program committee, suggest a division of the offering beyond the 1/2 for debt retirement and report to the Planning and Coordinating Committee."

The president has appointed the following: Willis Anthony, Harvey Roberson, the Rev. John Moldstad, Jr., the Rev. David Nelson, the Rev. Richard Newgard, and the Rev. Milton Tweit.

SUBSCRIPTION OFFERING

In response to the Synod's directive that the Planning and Coordinating Committee report to the 1987 convention regarding "subscription offerings" and "fund raising appeals" the committee submits the following for the Synod's consideration and adoption.

WHEREAS, The Synod authorized the funding of a fourth missionary in Peru for a two-year period through subscription offerings (cf. Synod Report 1985, p. 81, Res. 1A), and,

WHEREAS, The Helping Hands project for extra budgetary foreign mission work has been successful in its two years of operation,

RESOLVED, That the Board for Foreign Missions continue its solicitation for funds for Helping Hands.

WHEREAS, The Planning and Coordinating Committee was directed to study "the entire matter of fund raising appeals," (cf. Synod Report 1985, p. 81, Res. 2) and to "present its report to the 1987 convention," (cf. Synod Report 1986, p. 148, Res. 5),

A. RESOLVED, That no subscription offering be initiated in the future without the approval of the Planning and Coordinating Committee and the Synod convention.

B. RESOLVED, That any present or future subscription offering projects or appeals for funds directed to the membership of the Synod be placed under the supervision of the appropriate synodical board.

C. RESOLVED, That all such solicitations for funds be coordinated at the direction of the Board for Stewardship.

PRIORITIZING OF FUTURE PROJECTS

The committee is aware of its assigned task of prioritizing future projects. Much time was spent in discussion. However, since only two of the Synod's boards submitted a list of projects, the committee felt it was impossible to bring a listing of priorities at this time. The committee fully intends to continue working on this assignment.

FUNDING FOR YOUTH WORK

The Planning and Coordinating Committee was asked to study "the matter of greater funding for the youth work in our Synod." (Synod Report 1986, p. 86, Res. 6B)

The committee studied the assignments given to the Board for Education and Youth at the 1986 convention and realize that it is impossible for the board to fulfill those assignments without additional funding.

Additional funding for youth work will be provided at such time as the synodical budget will allow for such allocation.

Alf Merseth, secretary

ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE

After consideration of the 1988 budget again at its March 1987 meeting and at a special meeting on May 29, 1987 the following resolution and budget for 1988 is recommended to the Synod for consideration and adoption:

RESOLVED, That the Synod support two budgetary missionaries in Peru.

RESOLVED, That the Synod adopt a \$733,340 budget for 1988 allocated as follows:

BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Operations	\$159,000	
Maintenance on college	21,500	
Maintenance on residences	5,000	
Interest	12,600	
Faculty Housing allowance	<u>68,000</u>	\$266,100

BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Operations	48,000	
Maintenance on residences	<u>2,000</u>	50,000

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

26,640

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

16,500

FOREIGN MISSIONS

115,000

HOME MISSIONS

Operations	110,000	
Interest	<u>25,100</u>	135,100

PUBLICATIONS

11,500

SYNOD FUND

Interest	6,800	
Deferred Giving Counselor	14,800	
Boards, committees etc.	38,600	
Administration	<u>52,300</u>	<u>112,500</u>

TOTAL BUDGET\$733,340**FINE ARTS FACILITY**

After study of the "Joint Recommendation from the Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees" the committee submits the following:

WHEREAS, The Planning and Coordinating Committee has reviewed the "Joint Recommendation from the Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees" regarding the construction of a Fine Arts Facility on the Bethany Lutheran College Campus, be it

RESOLVED, That the Planning and Coordinating Committee concur with the "Joint Recommendation from the Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees" with the exception that it recommends that resolution "D" be omitted.

Alf Merseth, secretary

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod held its regular quarterly meetings in 1986 on the following dates: February 10-11; May 14-15; August 13-14; and November 17-18. The board had a special meeting on January 10 and met via conference telephone call on March 5, May 1 and December 26. The board has two Ad Hoc Committees that meet from time to time to consider matters which are referred to them by the board. This report will also include business conducted by the board at a special meeting on January 7, 1987 and at its regular meeting on February 16-17, 1987.

The Trustee-Regents Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of those boards, three members elected by each board, met quarterly on the following dates: January 27; April 28; August 1; and October 27, 1986; and on January 16, 1987. This subcommittee discuss matters that are referred to it and makes recommendations to the two boards that it serves. M. E. Tweit or R. M. Branstad have served as chairmen of this subcommittee and the undersigned as its secretary.

The Trustee-Home Missions Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of those boards, three members elected by each board, met on January 17, 1986 and on January 18, 1987. This subcommittee concerns itself with home mission matters in which both boards are involved and where mutual understanding and cooperation of effort is helpful. E. Ekhoft serves as chairman of this subcommittee and the undersigned as its secretary.

A Trustee-Foreign Missions Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of those boards, three members elected by each board, will meet as necessary to coordinate the work of those two boards in areas of common concern.

The Trustee-Regents-Publications Subcommittee consisting of representatives from those three boards and from the administration of Bethany Lutheran College meets as necessary. This subcommittee discusses the relationship between these boards in the areas of publishing, storage and marketing of the Synod's publications. President Orvick serves as chairman of this subcommittee and W. C. Gullixson of the Board for Publications serves as its secretary.

The work of these subcommittees is very helpful in promoting a better understanding between these boards in the areas of their common concerns and in turn leads to smoother operation in these phases of the Synod's work.

ARCHIVES

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Department of Archives and History serves also the college and the seminary. The trustees reappointed the following: Prof. R. E. Honsey, chairman; the Rev. W. C. Gullixson, acting archivist; Prof. S. K. Lee, secretary; and Prof. J. B. Madson. Mr. G. E. Solli was appointed to replace Dr. B. W. Teigen, who had served as a member for several years.

Accessions

Lutheran Sentinels for the 1960s and the 1970s donated by Agnes Mellem and Elvira Mellem.

Records, anniversaries, graduations, and other documents of school and Synod.

Bethany Lutheran College annuals and catalogues.

Files for *Federation for Authentic Lutherans* donated by the Rev. R. J. McMiller.

Pictures of the Rev. John A. Moldstad and the Rev. George A. Gullixson (before 1918) donated by the Rev. W. C. Gullixson.

Two 5-drawer files from Smith Systems of Princeton, Minnesota, courtesy of Loren Ludke.

Photo album of the Rev. J. A. Thoen family donated by Mrs. Robert Kimble (nee Ruth Thoen).

Letter of the Rev. J. B. Unseth to Dr. Andrew Gullixson donated by Mrs. A. Gullixson.

Evangelical Lutheran Synod convention tapes submitted by the Rev. Alf Merseth, secretary.

Further Information on the Archives

The Committee for Archives and History met as the needs of the archives warranted. The Rev. Walther C. Gullixson is continuing as acting archivist, and has devoted many hours to his duties. He has received helpful assistance from Miss Anna Schumpe, a freshman student at Bethany Lutheran College, who has done some necessary cataloging.

Last spring a generous gift of \$770.00 was received for the Gullixson Memorial Fund for archive equipment. This fund, in memory of the sainted Rev. G. A. Gullixson, had been established several years ago by his children. This recent gift was received from four of his children: Mrs. A. J. Natvig, Mrs. Esther Jackson, the Rev. G. A. R. Gullixson, and the Rev. W. C. Gullixson. That gift of a year ago brought the fund to the total of \$1908.38 at that time. It has since accumulated more interest. It is put to good use for necessary equipment for the archives. We thank the Gullixson family for their generous gift.

The committee saw the need for further equipment for storing valuable documents and pictures. The acting archivist was informed of the possibility of acquiring them from Smith Systems in Princeton. The Rev. David Nelson was helpful in arranging for purchasing files from that company. We were very pleasantly surprised to receive two 5-drawer shelves from Smith Systems. Since they were slightly damaged, we received them at no cost. Our committee is deeply grateful to that company for their kind generosity, and also to the Rev. Harvey Abrahamson of rural Princeton for transporting the two files from Princeton to Minneapolis, from where they were placed on the bus that brought the Bethany choir to Mankato from a concert in the Twin Cities. We also appreciate the wooden base that one of the Bethany custodians built for the files.

At our meetings we have discussed taking steps to put valuable materials on microfilm or microfiche. We are investigating this matter, and hope to implement the project in the future.

Our acting archivist has attended a number of meetings and has reported that they were helpful in giving our committee ideas and insights for the maintenance and improvement of our archives.

We would wish to receive more response from congregations and individuals in our Synod. Our recent brochure, "Preserving Our Heritage," was sent out to promote interest as well as to give some information about our archives. Our Evangelical Lutheran Synod has a rich heritage which we ought to desire to preserve. God has richly blessed us, and our response ought to be one of deep gratitude.

Rudolph E. Honsey, chairman

BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE AND SEMINARY PROPERTIES

The Board of Trustees approved the complete renovation of the Bethany Lutheran College classroom building. The Synod acknowledges with gratitude a \$100,000 gift for this purpose from Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Schwan. The remainder of the cost will be borne by the 1985-86 and 1986-87 college budgets.

Permanent long range financing on the purchase of the Bethany field was arranged with Security State Bank.

The Board of Trustees approved the installing of an elevator in Old Main. This project, which is an undertaking of the alumni and will be done without cost to the Synod, will be undertaken at such time as the Alumni Association has raised \$50,000 of the total cost of \$90,000.

BUDGET 1987

At a special meeting on January 7, 1987, the Board of Trustees took action to reduce and reallocate the 1987 Synod Budget as follows:

BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Operations	\$159,000	
Interest on residences and improvements	51,000	
Maintenance on residences	15,500	
Improvements on college facilities	21,500	
Faculty housing allowance assistance	23,000	\$270,000

BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Operations	44,000	
Maintenance on residences	1,500	45,500
CHRISTIAN SERVICE		27,000
EDUCATION AND YOUTH		13,000
FOREIGN MISSIONS		120,000
HOME MISSIONS		
Operations	100,200	
Interest on mission properties	21,700	121,900
PUBLICATIONS		12,000
SYNOD FUND		
Interest on loans	18,300	
Deferred Giving Counselor	14,800	
Administration expenses \$82,000		
less \$25,700 from President's Office		
Endowment Fund	56,300	
Boards, committees and convention	30,700	120,100
Total		<u>\$729,500</u>
DEBT REDUCTION		<u>0</u>
Grand Total		<u>\$729,500</u>

As a part of this budget adjustment and reallocation for 1987 the Board of Trustees took the following action, to wit:

WHEREAS, The Helping Hands project for extra budgetary funding for foreign mission work has been able to raise more funds than are needed for the extra budgetary missionary in Peru, and

WHEREAS, The synodical budget has not been able to finance the work that the Synod has undertaken,

RESOLVED, That the Board for Foreign Missions be encouraged to seek funding needed above the amount allocated in the revised budget for 1987 from the Helping Hands fund or from other reserves.

The chairmen of all the Synod's boards were informed of this action of the Board of Trustees by correspondence from the secretary under date of January 13, 1987.

GENERAL

The Board of Trustees authorized expenditures to Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin and to the Northwood-Lake Mills Lutheran Parish, Northwood, Iowa to help those congregations provide assistance for the president and the secretary of the Synod.

The Board of Trustees granted additional loans to Ascension Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin in the amount of \$3,600.00.

The Board of Trustees resolved to continue the Synod's \$200.00 per month interest subsidy support to Faith Lutheran Church, Oregon, Wisconsin for 1987.

The Board of Trustees granted a \$1,300 loan to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Richardson, Texas. This loan has been repaid in full.

The 1986 Synod convention was videotaped for showing throughout the Synod. Funding for this project was provided by a grant from Aid Association for Lutherans.

Two thousand copies of the revised constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, which was ratified at the 1986 convention, were printed. These are available from the Lutheran Synod Book Co.

The Board of Trustees applied for a \$40,000 Lutheran Brotherhood Program Subsidy Grant, to be received over a five year period, to be used by the Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lakeland, Florida.

In view of the fact that the Lutheran Brotherhood Interest Subsidy loan on the Synod's property in Ames, Iowa will need to be refinanced as of October 1, 1987, the Board of Trustees committed the Synod to the interest subsidy for mission congregations as found in the "Guidelines for Home Missions," (ELS Handbook, p. 30, 4, D) for Bethany Lutheran Church, Ames, Iowa. This is subject to annual review.

An office for the full-time president has been prepared in the Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary building. Furnishings for the president's office and the Synod's conference room were purchased with a gift received for that purpose.

Since the principal of the Aid Association for Lutherans loan to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin has been reduced to an amount equivalent to less than \$335.00 per communicant member, the Synod's co-signature has been removed from the loan.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

The president of the Synod, the Rev. George Orvick, and the secretary of the Synod, the Rev. Alf Merseth, serve as chairman and secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Serving one year terms on the Committee on Archives and History are the Rev. W. C. Gullixson, Prof. R. E. Honsey, Prof. Sig. Lee, Prof. J. B. Madson and Mr. Gerhard Solli.

The members of the board elected to serve on the Trustee-Regents Subcommittee are W. Lieske, A. Merseth and R. Olson.

The members of the board elected to serve on the Trustee-Home Missions Subcommittee are A. Levorson, A. Merseth and R. Olson.

The members of the board elected to serve on the Trustee-Foreign Missions Subcommittee are A. Merseth, L. Meyer and G. Orvick.

The president, secretary and treasurer were elected to serve on the Trustee-Regents-Publications Subcommittee.

W. Lieske serves on the board's Housing Committee together with D. Natvig who also serves the board as Housing Administrator.

SYNOD PROPERTIES

As custodians of the Synod's properties, the Board of Trustees receives reports from its Housing Committee, its Housing Administrator and from the Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran College at each of its quarterly meetings. Necessary maintenance items are discussed and approved within the maintenance budgets allocated by the Synod.

As those who have the general management of the Synod's "secular business and temporal affairs" the Board of Trustees requests quarterly financial and progress reports from all the congregations where the Synod owns the property, to which the Synod has made loans, where the Synod has co-signed on behalf of the congregation or where the Synod has recommended the congregation for financial assistance. These reports are analyzed and discussed by the board. The board keeps in contact with these congregations through correspondence by its secretary.

The Synod purchased 941 Marsh St. as a faculty residence for \$45,500.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran College it was decided to sell all Bethany Lutheran College faculty residences except those on the campus property and one custodian's residence at 429 N. Division St., and, in cooperation with the college, to provide a monthly housing allowance for the college professors.

The Synod is still providing residences for its full-time seminary professors.

The Synod purchased the residence at 1117 Lori Lane as a residence for its full-time president for \$105,000.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Summary of Income and Expenditures
and Changes in General Fund Balance (Deficit)
Year ending December 31, 1986

Budget contributions			\$ 722,655.92
Operating Expenditures	\$ 833,038.23		
Loss:			
Income from publications	\$ 37,458.82		
Home missions special contributions			
for operating expenditures	11,499.00		
Home missions excess expenditures			
funded from reserves	13,402.69		
Foreign missions excess expenditures			
funded from reserves	4,240.66		
Christian service excess expenditures			
funded from reserves	<u>199.82</u>	<u>66,800.79</u>	
Net expenditures			<u>766,237.44</u>
Excess of expenditures over budget			
contributions			(49,581.52)
Other income available for operating			
expenses—interest			<u>49,253.02</u>
Net operating income			<u>5,871.50</u>
Other changes in General Fund balances:			
Increases:			
Budget allocation for debt reduction	12,000.00		
Contribution for debt reduction	10,000.00		
Estates for debt reduction	<u>11,666.87</u>	33,666.87	
Decreases:			
Capital improvement—			
Bethany College	20,000.00		
Residences improvements and			
purchase in excess of mortgage			
proceeds	12,065.94		
Payments on mortgages	<u>52,897.52</u>	<u>84,963.46</u>	
Net decreases—other changes			<u>(51,296.79)</u>
Net decrease			<u>(45,625.29)</u>
General Fund (deficit)—December 31, 1985			<u>(531,315.83)</u>
General Fund (deficit)—December 31, 1986			<u><u>\$(576,941.12)</u></u>

WILLS AND GIFTS

The Synod received \$10,000 as beneficiary of a Life Loan Agreement upon the death of Stanley Gorden. \$2,500 of this amount was designated for Bethany Lutheran College.

A \$10,000 gift was received from Oscar Gorden in memory of Stanley Gorden.

A \$10,000 gift was received from Sigurd Gorden in memory of Stanley Gorden.

\$10,000 was received from the Martin Robinson Trust.

Alf Merseth, secretary

ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DEFICIT REDUCTION REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

In its concern over the Synod's General Fund deficit, and on recommendation of the Board of Regents, the Board of Trustees resolved to use the proceeds from the sale of the faculty residences to apply toward the General Fund deficit.

The Board of Trustees further resolved to commit the undesignated bequests the Synod receives to an endowment fund to assist with the faculty housing allowance until such time as this endowment fund is equivalent to the amount of the proceeds of the sale of the residences. This fund will be invested in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation. The income from the investment of this fund will be used to reduce the line item in the synodical budget entitled "Faculty Housing Allowance."

In view of these developments the Board of Trustees recommends that the Synod reconsider its resolution of 1986 that "At least one-half of the special offering that will be gathered in recognition of the Synod's 75th Anniversary in 1993 shall be allocated for debt retirement." (*Synod Report* 1986, p. 149, Res. #9, 3) and refer the use of the special offering to the committee that has been appointed to plan the 75th Anniversary Commemoration. The Board of Regents and the college administration asks, and the Board of Trustees recommends that consideration be given to the possibility that any monies raised over \$500,000 would be earmarked for college improvements and endowment funds. To assist in the 75th Anniversary offering the college would be willing to commit much of its development staff's time and energy over the two or three years the drive would last.

JOINT RECOMMENDATION FROM THE BOARD OF REGENT'S AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regarding the construction of a Fine Arts Facility on the Bethany Lutheran College campus the Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees present the following to the Synod for consideration and adoption.

FINE ARTS FACILITY

- WHEREAS, In 1979 North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools identified music and theater as two of the strengths of Bethany Lutheran College, but concluded "The Fine Arts Department, and particularly, the music department are in need of an adequate building. The music facilities scattered throughout the campus weaken an otherwise strong program of the institution," and,
- WHEREAS, The facilities available in music, art, and theater are woefully inadequate for meeting the needs of the ever-expanding number of students in these areas, and,
- WHEREAS, Music, art, and theater are occupying space in Old Main and Bethany Memorial Library which could well be utilized by other departments, and,
- WHEREAS, The Board of Regents and the synodical president have encouraged the administration of Bethany to investigate funding of a Fine Arts Building, and,
- WHEREAS, The president of Bethany Lutheran College has actively solicited funds to build a Fine Arts Building, and,
- WHEREAS, A gift of \$1,000,000 and a promise of an additional \$500,000 in matching money has been received by Bethany to be used for the funding of a Fine Arts Building, therefore,

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, That on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Bethany Lutheran College gratefully accept the \$1,000,000 gift and thank Schwan Sales Enterprises, Inc., for this very generous gift, and,
- WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees that \$500,000 in matching funds can be raised, therefore,
- B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod approve the construction of a Fine Arts Building on the Bethany campus as soon as the necessary funds are available, and,
- C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod direct Bethany Lutheran College to plan and implement the raising of matching money for the financing of a Fine Arts Building on the Bethany campus by
- a) appealing to contributors of large amounts the first year (1987-1988)
 - b) appealing to Bethany alumni and friends over a two-year period (1988-1990) and
 - c) appealing to the Synod at large, at its direction, the third year (1989-1990) and finally,
- D. BE IT RESOLVED, That Bethany Lutheran College target the spring of 1989 for ground-breaking and the beginning of construction of the Fine Arts Building, with completion to be scheduled for late 1990 so that the new facility can be used during the 1990-1991 academic year.

SYNOD'S RICHARDSON PROPERTY

Since the Board for Home Missions has decided to discontinue subsidizing the Good Shepherd Congregation, Richardson, Texas as of December 31, 1987, and after discussion of the Board for Home Missions recommendation that the Synod's property be sold, and after considerable discussion of the ongoing cost to the Synod of the operation of this mission, the Board of Trustees resolved that all the Synod's Richardson, Texas property be sold.

WILLS AND GIFTS

\$5,000 was received from the Charles Peckat Trust for the Special Home Mission Offering.

Alf Merseth, secretary

REPORT OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation meets concurrently with the quarterly meetings of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Board of Trustees.

At the annual meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation in August 1986 the following were elected as officers: the Rev. George Orvick, president; the Rev. Alf Merseth, secretary; Mr. Leroy W. Meyer, treasurer.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation Committee is made up of four members elected to two year terms. Mr. Bernard Bogeskov and Mr. Glenn Annexstad were elected in 1985 and Mr. Leroy Meyer and Mr. Eugene Schiller were elected in 1986. Mr. Lars Petersen serves as an advisory member to the committee. The committee considers and makes recommendations to the foundation regarding the investment of its assets and the use of the income from those investments.

The foundation accepted the recommendation of its foundation committee and is using Mr. Roland Reinholtz as its investment manager.

A loan of \$100,000 at 10% interest was made to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod from the President's Office Endowment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation for the purchase of the Synod president's residence at 1117 Lori Lane.

A loan of \$17,000 at 7.5% interest was made from the Special Offering for Home Missions to Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lakeland, Florida for the purchase of a parcel of land as a future church site.

A loan of \$43,000 at 7.5% interest was made from the Special Offering for Home Missions to Christ Lutheran Church, Port St. Lucie, Florida for the purchase of a parcel of land as a future church site.

Treasurer's Report

Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation

Year ended December 31, 1986

	RESTRICTED						UNRESTRICTED			TOTAL - ALL FUNDS
	MERLE R. AASEN ESTATE	MERLE R. AASEN SEMINARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND	PRESIDENT'S OFFICE ENDOWMENT FUND	MARVIN AND DELORES SCHWAN FOREIGN MISSION TRUST FUND	PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL HOME MISSIONS FUND	TOTAL	DONATED	BOARD OF TRUSTEES DESIGNATED	TOTAL	
ASSETS										
Investments:										
Investment management account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00
U.S. Treasury notes:										
Specific	-	-	97,050.00	100,000.00	-	197,050.00	-	-	-	197,050.00
Allocated	10,000.00	5,571.00	31,689.35	-	-	47,260.35	51,708.40	-	51,708.40	98,968.75
Stock	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,000.00	-	30,000.00	30,000.00
Notes receivable	-	-	99,868.31	-	-	99,868.31	-	45,000.00	45,000.00	144,868.31
Money market accounts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,517.75	2,517.75	2,517.75
Land	-	-	46,800.00	-	-	46,800.00	-	-	-	46,800.00
Due from other funds	-	-	-	-	40,445.81	40,445.81	13,289.56	18,124.42	31,413.98	71,859.79
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,571.00</u>	<u>\$ 275,407.66</u>	<u>\$ 300,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 40,445.81</u>	<u>\$ 631,424.47</u>	<u>\$ 94,997.96</u>	<u>\$ 65,642.17</u>	<u>\$ 160,640.13</u>	<u>\$ 792,064.60</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES										
Liabilities:										
Investment program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Fund balances:										
Balances - January 1, 1986	10,000.00	5,352.00	158,128.84	300,000.00	-	473,480.84	89,560.56	59,808.84	149,369.40	622,850.24
Add:										
Retained income on investments	-	-	7,278.82	-	-	7,278.82	-	-	-	7,278.82
Contributions - net	-	219.00	110,000.00	-	40,445.81	150,664.81	2,437.40	-	2,437.40	153,102.21
Estates appropriated by Board of Trustees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,833.33	5,833.33	5,833.33
Balances - December 31, 1986	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>5,571.00</u>	<u>275,407.66</u>	<u>300,000.00</u>	<u>40,445.81</u>	<u>631,424.47</u>	<u>91,997.96</u>	<u>65,642.17</u>	<u>157,640.13</u>	<u>789,064.60</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,571.00</u>	<u>\$ 275,407.66</u>	<u>\$ 300,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 40,445.81</u>	<u>\$ 631,424.47</u>	<u>\$ 94,997.96</u>	<u>\$ 65,642.17</u>	<u>\$ 160,640.13</u>	<u>\$ 792,064.60</u>

Alf Merseth, secretary

REPORT OF COMMITTEE FOR SPECIAL OFFERING FOR HOME MISSIONS

Just as Paul rejoiced with the Philippians at their generous support of his mission work, we thank God for leading the members of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod to be "PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL." We are pleased to report the activities, progress, and prospects of the Home Mission offering.

At the 1986 Synod convention, following a multimedia presentation and the introduction of the "PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL" campaign, 163 pastors and delegates pledged \$163,710.00 toward the project. Promotional materials for the campaign includes Sentinel articles, bulletin covers and inserts, posters and brochures, all of which were well received. Sentinel articles and bulletin inserts are planned to provide updated information on the results of the offering.

Most Evangelical Lutheran Synod congregations began their participation in the three year program in October of 1986 by showing the promotional filmstrip and conducting the every member visit. By March of 1987 cash received plus total pledges remaining totaled \$637,972.69. The committee estimates that as more congregations begin their participation the total will reach upwards of \$700,000.00. As of March 1, 1987 committee expenses (for design, printing, distribution of materials, meetings, etc.) totaled \$40,918.10.

Some of the capital funds raised by this special effort are currently being used to purchase land in Port St. Lucie and Lakeland, FL.

One hundred and seven of 116 Synod congregations are participating in the "PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL" effort to a greater or lesser extent. The committee encourages all congregations to join in this important work if they have not already done so and to continue faithfully supporting the offering in order that the Gospel of Christ might be proclaimed in our land.

Steven Petersen, secretary

MEYER, PLACEK & ASSOCIATES

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

1 SOUTH 450 SUMMIT AVENUE
OAKBROOK TERRACE, ILLINOIS 60181
(312) 629-4660

MEMBERS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
ILLINOIS CPA SOCIETY

Board of Trustees
Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Mankato, Minnesota

The accompanying balance sheet of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod as of December 31, 1986 and the related summary of financial activities and statements of changes in fund balances and changes in financial position for the year then ended have been compiled by us.

A compilation is limited to presenting in the form of financial statements information that is the representation of the Trustees. We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on them.

We are not independent with respect to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Meyer, Placek & Associates

Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois
March 27, 1987

BALANCE SHEET - COMPARATIVE

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

December 31, 1986

A S S E T S

	GENERAL FUND	FUND FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	1986 TOTAL	1985 TOTAL
Cash	\$ 34,230.06	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,230.06	\$ 10,048.66
Accounts receivable - contributions and other income	101,280.11	-	-	-	-	-	-	101,280.11	183,127.38
Inventory of publications	42,131.03	-	-	-	-	-	-	42,131.03	32,199.03
Prepaid expenses	1,650.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,650.00	1,650.00
Investments:									
Investment management accounts	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000.00	200,000.00	-
Certificate of deposit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,000.00
Savings account	29,163.19	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,163.19	104,867.52
Money market funds	8,030.61	-	-	-	-	-	2,517.75	10,548.36	47,546.92
Contract for deed	11,718.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,718.00	12,427.04
Loans receivable from congregations	-	-	844,553.91	-	-	-	-	844,553.91	867,169.26
Notes receivable	13,132.05	-	-	-	-	-	144,868.31	158,000.36	14,582.73
Stocks - 600 shares Metro Machine & Engineering Corp. - pfd. - at par	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
U. S. Treasury Notes (Note B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	296,018.75	296,018.75	196,018.75
Real estate and buildings	-	-	-	4,512,094.00	356,198.23	821,743.51	46,800.00	5,736,835.74	5,380,355.80
Due from (to) other funds	(47,867.22)	667.97	(24,660.54)	-	-	-	71,859.79	-	-
Total assets	<u>\$ 193,467.83</u>	<u>\$ 667.97</u>	<u>\$ 819,893.37</u>	<u>\$ 4,512,094.00</u>	<u>\$ 356,198.23</u>	<u>\$ 821,743.51</u>	<u>\$ 792,064.60</u>	<u>\$ 7,496,129.51</u>	<u>\$ 6,979,993.09</u>

NOTES:

(A) The accompanying notes are an integral part of this balance sheet.

(B) See Accountants' Compilation Report.

BALANCE SHEET - COMPARATIVE - CONTINUED

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

December 31, 1986

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

	GENERAL FUND	FUND FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	1986 TOTAL	1985 TOTAL
Liabilities:									
Notes payable: (Note E)									
Working capital	\$ 380,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 380,000.00	\$ 410,000.00
Bethany Lutheran College Reserve Fund	28,000.00	-	-	40,000.00	-	-	-	68,000.00	90,000.00
Investment program	-	-	129,428.36	-	-	18,000.00	3,000.00	150,428.36	148,992.74
Life Loan Plan	106,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	106,000.00	113,500.00
Bank	100,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,000.00	-
Accounts payable	23,039.13	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,039.13	27,932.20
Accrued interest payable	10,731.24	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,731.24	13,803.79
Unexpended restricted contributions (Note F)	122,638.58	-	-	-	-	-	-	122,638.58	77,555.77
Mortgages payable	-	-	411,289.76	136,766.13	-	302,417.69	-	850,473.58	743,888.57
Total liabilities	770,408.95	-	540,718.12	176,766.13	-	320,417.69	3,000.00	1,811,310.89	1,625,673.07
Fund balances (deficit):									
Unrestricted:									
Designated for investment	-	-	279,175.25	-	-	-	157,640.13	436,815.38	428,544.65
Undesignated	(576,941.12)	667.97	-	-	-	-	-	(571,273.15)	(530,448.24)
	(576,941.12)	667.97	279,175.25	-	-	-	157,640.13	(134,457.77)	(101,903.59)
Restricted (Note G)	-	-	-	-	-	-	631,424.47	631,424.47	473,480.84
Net investment in real estate and buildings	-	-	-	4,335,327.87	356,198.23	501,325.82	-	5,187,851.92	4,982,742.77
Total fund balances (deficit)	(576,941.12)	667.97	279,175.25	4,335,327.87	356,198.23	501,325.82	789,064.60	5,684,818.62	5,354,320.02
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 193,467.83	\$ 667.97	\$ 819,893.37	\$ 4,312,094.00	\$ 356,198.23	\$ 821,743.51	\$ 792,064.60	\$ 7,496,129.51	\$ 6,979,993.09

NOTES:

(A) The accompanying notes are an integral part of this balance sheet.

(B) See Accountants' Compilation Report.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
 Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota
 Year ended December 31, 1986

	GENERAL FUND	FUND FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	TOTAL
BALANCES (Deficit) - December 31, 1985	\$ (531,315.83)	\$ 867.59	\$ 279,175.25	\$4,180,812.69	\$ 356,198.23	\$ 445,731.85	\$ 622,850.24	\$5,354,320.02
ADD:								
Excess of income over expenditures and appropriations for the year ended December 31, 1986	5,671.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,671.50
Interest earned	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,278.82	7,278.82
Contributions received	10,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	153,102.21	163,102.21
Portion of unrestricted estates appropriated for General Fund debt reduction and to ELS Foundation	11,666.67	-	-	-	-	-	5,833.33	17,500.00
Bethany Lutheran College net value adjustment at 6-30-86 (Note C)	-	-	-	125,014.00	-	-	-	125,014.00
Payment on liabilities by General Fund	(52,897.52)	-	-	9,501.18	-	43,396.34	-	-
Additions to residences - purchases and improvements	(211,465.94)	-	-	-	-	211,465.94	-	-
Capital improvements - Bethany College	(20,000.00)	-	-	20,000.00	-	-	-	-
Proceeds of loan for Bethany College improvements	199,400.00	-	-	-	-	(199,400.00)	-	-
Budget allocation for debt retirement	12,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000.00
Principal payments on President's house charged to budget	-	-	-	-	-	131.69	-	131.69
	(45,625.29)	-	-	154,515.18	-	55,593.97	166,214.36	330,698.22
DEDUCT:								
Appropriations for excess Christian Service expenditures	-	199.62	-	-	-	-	-	199.62
BALANCES (Deficit) - December 31, 1986	\$ (576,941.12)	\$ 667.97	\$ 279,175.25	\$4,335,327.87	\$ 356,198.23	\$ 501,325.82	\$ 789,064.60	\$5,684,818.62

NOTES:

- (A) The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.
 (B) See Accountants' Compilation Report.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1986

INCOME

Contributions:			
Budgetary:			
Restricted	\$ 45,598.24		
Unrestricted	677,057.68	\$ 722,655.92	
Estate and trust income - unrestricted		17,500.00	
- restricted		2,500.00	
For special purposes:			
Bethany Lutheran College special	838.50		
Debt reduction	10,000.00		
Bethany Lutheran Seminary special	925.50		
Bethesda Lutheran Home	459.00		
The Lutheran Home, Belle Plaine	162.00		
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	112,656.40		
Faith Mission Society	357.10		
Foreign missions special	5,147.31		
Home missions special	12,559.00		
Aid Association for Lutherans grants:			
Visitors' conference	3,600.00		
Foreign missions conference	3,490.00		
Language study - Foreign missions	3,240.00		
Convention video project	6,000.00		
Life in the Parsonage seminars	3,800.00		
Siebert Foundation grant -			
Life in the Parsonage seminars	4,991.00		
Project Cristo Rey	9.87		
Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Service	13.00		
"World Needs"	15,454.97		
"Helping Hands"	70,772.17		
"Partners in the Gospel"	80,464.43		
American Bible Society	2.00		
Ukraine radio - "Thoughts of Faith"	225.00	335,167.25	
		1,077,823.17	
Income from investments:			
General Fund - interest	25,448.25		
E.L.S. Foundation - interest	64,394.46	89,842.71	
Total income from all sources		1,167,665.88	
Less income for special purposes		378,256.94	
Total income available for current purposes - carried forward		789,408.94	

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - CONTINUED

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1986

Total income available for current purposes - brought forward		\$ 789,408.94
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
Bethany Lutheran College (Total budget allocation for year was \$159,000.00. \$12,000.00 voluntarily redirected to foreign missions)	\$ 147,000.00	
Bethany Lutheran Seminary	48,000.00	
Home missions	119,901.69	
Foreign missions	131,240.66	
Education and youth	11,299.00	
Christian service	28,199.62	
Publications	42,943.51	
Synod fund	291,658.75	
"World Needs"	9,174.67	
Lutheran Forum for Confessional Consultation	415.40	
"Helping Hands"	54,149.29	
Visitors' conference	4,076.47	
Convention video project	8,120.00	
Life in the Parsonage seminars	6,286.83	
Foreign missions conference	3,001.54	
Stewardship seminar	932.00	
Debt reduction	12,000.00	
Language study	3,240.00	
Home missions handbook	196.00	
"Partners in the Gospel" expenses	40,018.62	
Total expenditures	961,854.05	
Less expenditures financed by special funds:		
"Helping Hands"	\$ 54,149.29	
Publications	37,458.82	
"World Needs"	9,174.67	
Lutheran Forum for Confessional Consultation	415.40	
Stewardship seminar	932.00	
Foreign missions conference	3,001.54	
Fund for Christian Service	199.62	
Home missions special	24,901.69	
Visitors' conference	4,076.47	
Convention video project	7,325.00	
Life in the Parsonage seminars	6,286.83	
"Partners in the Gospel"	40,018.62	
Home missions handbook	196.00	
Language study	3,240.00	
Foreign missions special	4,240.66	
Expenditures financed by income available for current purposes	195,616.61	766,237.44
Excess of expenditures over income		23,171.50
<u>APPROPRIATED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES</u>		
Portion of unrestricted estates:		
For General Fund debt reduction	11,666.67	
To Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	5,833.33	17,500.00
Excess of income over expenditures and appropriations		
- increase in General Fund balance		\$ 5,671.50

NOTES: (A) The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.
(b) See Accountants' Compilation Report.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1986

	GENERAL FUND	FUND FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	TOTAL
SOURCES OF FUNDS								
Excess of income over expenditures and appropriations	\$ 5,671.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,671.50
Decrease in savings account and certificates of deposit	-	-	-	-	-	-	204,867.52	204,867.52
Income for year	10,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	166,214.36	176,214.36
Decrease in money market funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	37,726.07	37,726.07
Decrease in accounts receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-	101,800.00	101,800.00
Increase in due to General Fund	-	-	6,152.08	-	-	-	-	6,152.08
Contract for deed payments	709.04	-	-	-	-	-	-	709.04
Payments received on loans receivable from congregations	-	-	33,939.75	-	-	-	-	33,939.75
Budget allocation for debt reduction	12,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000.00
Bank loan proceeds	100,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,000.00
Increase in investment program loans	-	-	1,435.62	-	-	-	-	1,435.62
Decrease in due from General Fund	-	199.62	-	-	-	-	-	199.62
Advances by General Fund	-	-	-	9,501.18	-	43,396.34	-	52,897.52
Decrease in notes receivable	-	-	14,582.73	-	-	-	-	14,582.73
Increase in unexpended restricted contributions	45,082.81	-	-	-	-	-	-	45,082.81
Bequests for debt reduction	11,666.67	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,666.67
Increase in due to Foundation	65,739.64	-	-	-	-	-	-	65,739.64
TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS	<u>\$ 250,869.66</u>	<u>\$ 199.62</u>	<u>\$ 56,110.18</u>	<u>\$ 9,501.18</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 43,396.34</u>	<u>\$ 510,607.95</u>	<u>\$ 870,684.93</u>

NOTES:

(A) The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

(B) See Accountants' Compilation Report.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION - CONTINUED

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1986

	GENERAL FUND	FUND FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	TOTAL
DISPOSITION OF FUNDS								
Increase in cash	\$ 24,181.40	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,181.40
Appropriation for expenditures in excess of budget	-	199.62	-	-	-	-	-	199.62
Increase in savings account	29,163.19	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,163.19
Increase in U. S. Treasury notes	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,000.00	100,000.00
Increase in money market funds	727.51	-	-	-	-	-	-	727.51
New loans to congregations	-	-	11,324.40	-	-	-	-	11,324.40
Payments on notes payable	17,000.00	-	-	5,000.00	-	-	-	22,000.00
Decrease in due to Fund for Christian Service	199.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	199.62
Advances for other funds	52,897.52	-	-	-	-	-	-	52,897.52
Decrease in accrued interest payable	3,072.55	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,072.55
Decrease in mortgages payable	-	-	44,785.78	4,501.18	-	43,396.34	-	92,683.30
Additions to residences - net of mortgage proceeds	12,065.94	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,065.94
Bethany College improvements	20,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000.00
Increase in investment management accounts	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000.00	200,000.00
Increase in due from General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	65,739.64	65,739.64
Decrease in accounts payable	4,893.07	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,893.07
Increase in due from Church Extension and Loan Fund	6,152.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,152.08
Increase in notes receivable	13,132.05	-	-	-	-	-	144,868.31	158,000.36
Increase in accounts receivable	19,952.73	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,952.73
Increase in inventories	9,932.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,932.00
Decrease in Life Loan Plan notes	7,500.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,500.00
Decrease in working capital notes payable	30,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,000.00
TOTAL DISPOSITION OF FUNDS	<u>\$ 250,869.66</u>	<u>\$ 199.62</u>	<u>\$ 56,110.18</u>	<u>\$ 9,501.18</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 43,396.34</u>	<u>\$ 510,607.95</u>	<u>\$ 870,684.93</u>

NOTES:

- (A) The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.
(B) See Accountants' Compilation Report.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

December 31, 1986

(A) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis. The significant accounting policies followed are described below to improve the usefulness of the financial statements.

The statements of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod are presented in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. Resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds according to their nature and purpose.

The General Fund represents resources available for current operating purposes.

The Fund for Christian Service is the unexpended proceeds, plus accumulated earnings, from the sale, a number of years ago, of the Kasota Valley Home for the Aged. The funds were set aside for future use as the Synod directs. They are being used to fund operating deficits of the Board for Christian Service.

The Church Extension and Loan Fund represents resources used for loans to congregations for building and improvement programs.

The Bethany Lutheran College, Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, and Residences and Real Estate funds represent the investment of the Synod in these physical properties.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation is an "endowment" fund established by the Synod's Board of Trustees. In addition to donations specified for the Foundation, one-third of undesignated trust and estate income is appropriated to the Foundation each year.

In accordance with accepted practice for non-profit organizations, no provision is made for depreciation of equipment and furniture. Expenditures for such items are charged to operations in the year incurred.

(B) U. S. Treasury Notes:

Marvin and Delores Schwan Foreign Mission Trust Fund -	
\$100,000 - 8-3/8% due December 31, 1989	\$ 100,000.00
President's Office Endowment Fund	
\$100,000 - 11-3/8% due February 15, 1989	97,050.00
Unrestricted - \$100,000 - 10-1/8% due May 15, 1993	98,968.75
	<u>\$ 296,018.75</u>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

December 31, 1986

- (C) The value shown for Bethany Lutheran College is based on the net investment in plant as shown for the plant fund in the College's Audit report as of June 30, 1986 as adjusted below. The current, endowment and reserve funds of the College are not included in the assets of the Synod. The amount of \$4,512,094.00 was determined as follows:

Per audit report of the College as of June 30, 1986:	
Total invested in plant	\$4,693,732.00
Less obligations of the plant fund	181,638.00
Total net investment in plant - June 30, 1986	<u>\$4,512,094.00</u>

The Bethany Lutheran College audit report indicates that \$1,172,680.00 of the "investment in plant" is attributable to an increase from a 1967 appraisal.

- (D) Residences and real estate have been stated at cost or acquisition in 1966 and subsequent years. Acquisitions prior to 1966 are recorded at appraisal values. The values may be summarized as follows:

<u>VALUATION METHOD</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Cost	13	\$ 620,543.51
Appraisal:		
Outside	5	111,400.00
Internal	4	89,800.00
TOTALS	<u>22</u>	<u>\$ 821,743.51</u>

- (E) Notes Payable:

Working Capital:	
Demand loan from a congregation at 8%	\$ 200,000.00
Demand loan from a congregation at 5 points under prime rate; rate adjusted every six months	30,000.00
Loan from Bethany Lutheran College at 80% of prime rate; rate adjusted every six months - minimum 8%	150,000.00
	<u>\$ 380,000.00</u>

Bethany Lutheran College Reserve Fund - Dated August 1, 1984 at prime interest rate less 2% with 10% minimum; \$10,000.00 principal due annually; interest rate adjusted January 1 and July 1.

Investment program notes are amounts loaned by individuals, congregations and organizations for varying periods at interest rates ranging principally from zero to 8%.

Life Loan Plan notes are amounts loaned by individuals at interest rates from 2% to 5-1/2%.

Bank loan - unsecured line of credit at prime rate - due May 30, 1987.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

December 31, 1986

- | | | | |
|--|----|---------------|----------------------|
| (F) Unexpended Restricted Contributions: | | | |
| "World Needs" | \$ | | 10,009.83 |
| Home Missions funds | | | 25,224.53 |
| Foreign Missions funds | | | 13,409.25 |
| Bible study project | | | 5,989.16 |
| "Helping Hands" - regular funds | | | 47,109.55 |
| "Helping Hands" - office account | | | 16,104.40 |
| Other | | | 4,791.86 |
| | | | <u>\$ 122,638.58</u> |
| (G) Fund Balances - Restricted: | | | |
| Merle R. Aasen Estate (to be invested permanently
with income used for missions) | | \$ | 10,000.00 |
| Merle R. Aasen Seminary Scholarship Fund - original
principal (to be invested permanently with income
for scholarships) | \$ | 5,000.00 | |
| Additions | | <u>571.00</u> | 5,571.00 |
| President's Office Endowment Fund | | | 275,407.66 |
| Marvin and Delores Schwan Foreign Mission Trust Fund | | | 300,000.00 |
| Partners in the Gospel Home Missions Fund | | | 40,445.81 |
| | | | <u>\$ 631,424.47</u> |
| (H) The Evangelical Lutheran Synod is contingently liable as co-signer on mortgage loans
for Ascension (Eau Claire, Wisconsin), Mount Olive (Mankato, Minnesota) and Grace
(Madison, Wisconsin). | | | |
| (I) See Accountants' Compilation Report. | | | |

SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES

SEE ACCOUNTANTS' COMPILATION REPORT

EXPENDITURES AND INCOME

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1986

	TOTAL	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY	HOME MISSIONS	FOREIGN MISSIONS	EDUCATION AND YOUTH	CHRISTIAN SERVICE	PUBLICATIONS	SYNOD FUND	OTHER
Direct subsidies	\$ 265,264.00	\$ 147,000.00	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 70,264.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Board meetings and officers' expenses - administrative	48,167.36	-	-	3,733.57	6,093.68	7,086.85	925.42	1,286.77	29,041.07	-
Other administrative expenses - Schedule B	62,696.69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62,696.69	-
Area mission developer - salary and expenses	14,860.92	-	-	14,860.92	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel and moving	12,251.54	-	-	11,953.85	297.69	-	-	-	-	-
Furlough expenses	6,501.13	-	-	-	6,501.13	-	-	-	-	-
Automobile allowances, etc.	15,059.00	-	-	-	15,059.00	-	-	-	-	-
Education allowances - children	10,371.40	-	-	-	10,371.40	-	-	-	-	-
Group insurance, etc. - net	4,997.09	-	-	-	520.49	-	4,476.60	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	3,525.17	-	-	-	3,141.27	-	-	384.90	-	-
Pension plan	19,423.10	-	-	-	3,708.00	-	15,715.10	-	-	-
Utilities - office	1,008.00	-	-	-	1,008.00	-	-	-	-	-
Printing and office expense	2,496.00	-	-	-	2,496.00	-	-	-	-	-
Salaries and allowances	125,375.67	-	-	19,089.35	82,044.00	-	-	-	24,442.32	-
Teacher rebates and education allowances	4,212.15	-	-	-	-	4,212.15	-	-	-	-
Support fund	7,082.50	-	-	-	-	-	7,082.50	-	-	-
Annual reports and "Convention Echo"	8,576.95	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,576.95	-	-
Lutheran Sentinel	30,086.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,086.88	-	-
Lutheran Synod Quarterly	2,608.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,608.01	-	-
Bethany College improvements	20,194.09	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,194.09	-
Residences and real estate expenses - Schedule B	37,157.98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37,157.98	-
Interest expense - Schedule B	118,126.60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	118,126.60	-
Other:										
Debt reduction	12,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000.00
Convention video project	8,120.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,120.00
Life in the parsonage seminars	6,286.83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,286.83
Visitors' conference	4,076.47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,076.47
"World Needs"	9,174.67	-	-	-	5,000.00	-	-	-	-	4,174.67
Lutheran Forum for Confessional Consultation	415.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	415.40
"Helping Hands"	54,149.29	-	-	-	54,149.29	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign missions conference	3,001.54	-	-	-	3,001.54	-	-	-	-	-
Stewardship seminar	932.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	932.00
Language study	3,240.00	-	-	-	3,240.00	-	-	-	-	-
Home mission handbook	196.00	-	-	196.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
"Partners in the Gospel" expense	40,018.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40,018.62
Total expenditures - carried forward	961,854.05	147,000.00	48,000.00	120,097.69	196,631.49	11,299.00	28,199.62	42,943.51	291,658.75	76,023.99

EXPENDITURES AND INCOME - CONTINUED

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1986

	TOTAL	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY	HOME MISSIONS	FOREIGN MISSIONS	EDUCATION AND YOUTH	CHRISTIAN SERVICE	PUBLICATIONS	SYNOD FUND	OTHER
Total expenditures - brought forward	\$ 961,854.05	\$ 147,000.00	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 120,097.69	\$ 196,631.49	\$ 11,299.00	\$ 28,199.62	\$ 42,943.51	\$ 291,658.75	\$ 76,023.99
Allocations:										
Bethany College improvements	-	20,194.09	-	-	-	-	-	-	(20,194.09)	-
Residences and real estate expenses	-	36,335.36	822.62	-	-	-	-	-	(37,157.98)	-
Interest expense	-	64,521.23	-	21,597.04	-	-	-	-	(86,118.27)	-
Total expenditures - after allocations	961,854.05	268,050.68	48,822.62	141,694.73	196,631.49	11,299.00	28,199.62	42,943.51	148,188.41	76,023.99
Restricted receipts applied:										
Reserves	17,842.97	-	-	13,402.69	4,240.66	-	199.62	-	-	-
Life in the parsonage seminars	6,286.83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,286.83
Home missions special funds	11,499.00	-	-	11,499.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lutheran Sentinel	23,024.60	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,024.60	-	-
Publications - general	5,795.57	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,795.57	-	-
Annual report and "Echo"	7,278.15	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,278.15	-	-
"Fartners in the Gospel"	40,018.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40,018.62
"World Needs"	9,174.67	-	-	-	5,000.00	-	-	-	-	4,174.67
Convention video project	7,325.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,325.00
Visitors' conference	4,076.47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,076.47
"Helping Hands"	54,149.29	-	-	-	54,149.29	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign missions conference	3,001.54	-	-	-	3,001.54	-	-	-	-	-
Stewardship seminar	932.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	932.00
Lutheran Synod Quarterly	1,360.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,360.50	-	-
Lutheran Forum for Confessional										
Consultation	415.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	415.40
Home missions handbook	196.00	-	-	196.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Language study	3,240.00	-	-	-	3,240.00	-	-	-	-	-
	195,616.61	-	-	25,097.69	69,631.49	-	199.62	37,458.82	-	63,228.99
Expenses to be financed by budgetary contributions - carried forward	766,237.44	268,050.68	48,822.62	116,597.04	127,000.00	11,299.00	28,000.00	5,484.69	148,188.41	12,795.00

EXPENDITURES AND INCOME - CONTINUED

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1986

	TOTAL	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY	HOME MISSIONS	FOREIGN MISSIONS	EDUCATION AND YOUTH	CHRISTIAN SERVICE	PUBLICATIONS	SYNOD FUND	OTHER
Expenses to budgetary brought forward	\$ 766,237.44	\$ 268,050.68	\$ 48,822.62	\$ 116,597.04	\$ 127,000.00	\$ 11,299.00	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 5,484.69	\$ 148,188.41	\$ 12,795.00
Budgetary contributions:										
Restricted	45,598.24	950.95	3,696.50	23,201.37	17,649.92	49.50	50.00	-	-	-
Unrestricted - allocated	677,057.68	264,749.05	45,126.12	93,395.67	109,350.08	11,249.50	27,950.00	5,484.69	107,752.57	12,000.00
	<u>722,655.92</u>	<u>265,700.00</u>	<u>48,822.62</u>	<u>116,597.04</u>	<u>127,000.00</u>	<u>11,299.00</u>	<u>28,000.00</u>	<u>5,484.69</u>	<u>107,752.57</u>	<u>12,000.00</u>
Excess or (deficiency) of budgetary contributions over expenditures	(43,581.52)	<u>\$ (2,350.68)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (40,435.84)</u>	<u>\$ (795.00)</u>
Other income available for current purposes:										
Estates and trust income - unrestricted	17,500.00									
Income from investments	<u>49,253.02</u>									
	23,171.50									
Less appropriations	<u>17,500.00</u>									
Increase in General Fund	<u>\$ 5,671.50</u>									

NOTE: See Accountants' Compilation Report.

SCHEDULE B

OTHER EXPENDITURES - SYNOD FUND

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1986

Other administrative expenses:	
Archives committee	\$ 677.83
Audit and legal	1,320.05
Coin folders	4,672.85
Evangelical Lutheran Synod convention	2,429.45
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	3,255.03
Deferred giving counselor salary and expenses	14,799.96
Doctrine committee	2,941.95
Mission offering committee - prior years' recovery	(9,306.75)
Nominations committee	1,235.55
Officers' assistance	16,533.49
Other committees, etc.	5,539.06
Planning and coordinating committee	5,570.23
Professors' equalization	5,181.00
Stewardship expenses	5,263.80
Visitors' expenses	2,583.19
TOTAL - As shown on Schedule A	<u>\$ 62,696.69</u>
Residences and real estate expenses:	
Taxes	\$ 246.81
Rents	7,051.00
Repairs and improvements	28,960.17
Management	900.00
TOTAL - As shown on Schedule A	<u>\$ 37,157.98</u>
Interest expense:	
Working capital loans	\$ 29,824.97
Bethany Lutheran College Reserve Fund	8,033.33
Investment program	8,040.32
Life Loan Plan	4,662.95
Bank	2,044.52
Church property mortgages	28,736.02
Bethany Lutheran College improvements	15,275.68
Mortgages on residences	21,508.81
TOTAL - As shown on Schedule A	<u>\$ 118,126.60</u>

NOTE: See Accountants' Compilation Report.

LOANS RECEIVABLE

Church Extension and Loan Fund

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1986

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CONGREGATION	TOTAL LOANS	BALANCE 12-31-85	NEW LOANS 1986	PAID 1986	TOTAL PAID	BALANCE 12-31-86
Ascension - Eau Claire, Wisconsin	\$ 19,300.00	\$ 13,701.50	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 460.00	\$ 2,458.50	\$ 16,841.50
Christ - Sutherlin, Oregon	22,799.55	17,305.95	-	962.57	6,456.17	16,343.38
Faith - Oregon, Wisconsin:						
Church	141,670.62	117,017.70	-	1,672.85	26,325.77	115,344.85
Parsonage	65,143.02	63,594.58	-	594.91	2,143.35	62,999.67
First English - Ashland, Wisconsin	35,454.61	22,070.01	265.60	-	13,119.00	22,335.61
Good Shepherd - Richardson, Texas	384,977.59	209,479.78	1,300.00	1,300.00	175,497.81	209,479.78
Grace - Crookston, Minnesota	20,000.00	14,829.20	-	346.81	5,517.61	14,482.39
Heritage - Apple Valley, Minnesota	163,728.05	117,541.02	6,158.80	1,102.10	41,130.33	122,597.72
Mount Olive - Mankato, Minnesota	33,000.00	3,000.00	-	1,000.00	31,000.00	2,000.00
Our Saviour - Lake Havasu City, Arizona	85,954.50	52,656.74	-	15,536.97	48,834.73	37,119.77
Our Savior - Naples, Florida	47,167.16	25,938.37	-	2,562.50	23,791.29	23,375.87
Pilgrim - Waterloo, Iowa	129,821.67	54,409.30	-	2,458.55	77,870.92	51,950.75
St. Paul's - Chicago, Illinois	15,000.00	12,448.89	-	259.09	2,810.20	12,189.80
Trinity - Sebastian, Florida	161,225.00	143,176.22	-	5,683.40	23,732.18	137,492.82
	<u>\$1,325,241.77</u>	<u>\$ 867,169.26</u>	<u>\$ 11,324.40</u>	<u>\$ 33,939.75</u>	<u>\$ 480,687.86</u>	<u>\$ 844,553.91</u>

NOTE: See Accountants' Compilation Report.

FINANCES

ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Reallocated 1987 Synod Budget

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod approve the 1987 budget of \$729,500 as revised by the Board of Trustees in its January 7, 1987 meeting, and,*

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That this be the answer to the memorial of the Board for Foreign Missions.*

Resolution No. 2: Deficit Reduction Report and Recommendation

WHEREAS, *The Synod has shown great concern about the growing debt, and,*

WHEREAS, *Upon the recommendation of the Board of Regents, the Board of Trustees, resolved that the proceeds of the sales of the Bethany Lutheran College faculty homes be used to reduce the General Fund debt.*

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod approve of this action, and,*

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That the undesignated bequests the Synod receives be committed to an endowment fund to assist with the faculty housing allowance until such time as this endowment fund is equivalent to the amount of the proceeds of the sale of the residences.*

C. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That the Synod rescind the 1986 resolution that "At least one-half of the special offering that will be gathered in recognition of the Synod's 75th Anniversary in 1993 shall be allocated for debt retirement."*

D. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, *That the use of the special offering be referred to the 75th Anniversary Committee.*

Resolution No. 3: Budget 1988

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod adopt the 1988 budget as recommended by the Planning and Coordinating Committee as follows:*

BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Operations	\$159,000	
Maintenance on college	21,500	
Maintenance on residences	5,000	
Interest	12,600	
Faculty Housing Allowance	<u>68,000</u>	\$266,100

BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Operations	48,000	
Maintenance on residences	<u>2,000</u>	50,000

CHRISTIAN SERVICE 26,640

EDUCATION AND YOUTH 16,500

FOREIGN MISSIONS 115,000

HOME MISSIONS		
Operations	110,000	
Interest	<u>25,100</u>	135,100
PUBLICATIONS		11,500
SYNOD FUND		
Interest	6,800	
Deferred Giving Counselor	14,800	
Boards, Committees, Etc.	38,600	
Administration	<u>52,300</u>	<u>112,500</u>
TOTAL BUDGET		\$733,340

Resolution No. 4: Report of the Board for Stewardship

WHEREAS, *The Board for Stewardship has provided the Synod with excellent stewardship material such as Managing My Master's Money and monthly information on congregational giving,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Board for Stewardship be encouraged to continue with the excellent work it has been doing.*

Resolution No. 5: Subscription Offering

WHEREAS, *The Synod authorized the funding of a fourth missionary in Peru for a two-year period through subscription offerings (cf. Synod Report 1985, p. 81, Res. 1A), and,*

WHEREAS, *The Helping Hands project for extra budgetary foreign mission work has been successful in its two years of operation,*

A. RESOLVED, *That the Board for Foreign Missions continue its solicitation for funds for Helping Hands.*

WHEREAS, *The Planning and Coordinating Committee was directed to study "the entire matter of fund raising appeals," (cf. Synod Report 1985, p. 81, Res. 2) and to "present its report to the 1987 Convention," (cf. Synod Report 1986, p. 148, Res. 5),*

B. BE IT RESOLVED, *That no subscription offering be initiated in the future without the approval of the Planning and Coordinating Committee and the Synod convention.*

C. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That any present or future subscription offering projects or appeals for funds directed to the membership of the Synod be assigned by the Synod to the appropriate synodical board for implementation.*

D. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That all such solicitations for funds be coordinated at the direction of the Board for Stewardship.*

Resolution No. 6: Report of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod accept the report of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation.*

Resolution No. 7: Report of the Treasurer

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Treasurer's Report be adopted.*

Resolution No. 8: Report of the Board of Trustees

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod adopt the remainder of the report of the Board of Trustees.*

MISCELLANEOUS

ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Committee on Christian Worship

WHEREAS, *The Committee on Christian Worship has been attending meetings of the WELS Hymnal Committee and has also conducted a "Worship Resource Survey" of the pastors in our Synod.*

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Worship Committee continue to provide its input on the Evangelical Lutheran Synod heritage in hymns and liturgy to the WELS hymnal project, and,*

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That the Worship Committee report on the information which it is gathering and include proposals which might enrich the worship life of our Synod.*

Resolution No. 2: Faith Mission Society

WHEREAS, *Faith Mission Society is an auxiliary organization of Faith Lutheran Church, Hillman, Michigan, and,*

WHEREAS, *This organization of Faith Lutheran Church has performed a valuable service to our mission program for the past sixteen years,*

A. BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod thank Faith Mission Society for its assistance in promoting the cause of missions in our Synod, and,*

B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That the Synod ask Faith Mission Society to continue communicating annually to the Board for Foreign Missions on its activities.*

Resolution No. 3: Project Cristo Rey

WHEREAS, *Christ the King congregation, Bell Gardens, California has been doing mission work among Hispanics through its Project Cristo Rey, and,*

WHEREAS, *Christ the King congregation has asked that Cristo Rey be placed under Synod supervision,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod accept the supervision of Project Cristo Rey through the Board for Home Missions.*

Resolution No. 4: Thoughts of Faith

WHEREAS, Thoughts of Faith, a ministry which broadcasts religious messages to the people of the Ukraine, has requested official recognition from the Board for Foreign Missions,

BE IT RESOLVED, That Thoughts of Faith be recognized as a church-related organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Resolution No. 5: Church-Related Organizations

WHEREAS, Many church-related organizations such as Women's Missionary Societies, Bethany Women's Auxiliaries, and the like, perform valuable work for the Synod at various levels of organization; i.e. congregational, circuit, etc.,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod urge these organizations to continue their outstanding work, looking to the various circuits or boards of our Synod when there is a need for guidance or advice in their activities.

Resolution No. 6: Board for Evangelism

WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism has asked whether it should be included on the Planning and Coordinating Committee since it intends to submit budget requests to the Synod, and,

WHEREAS, The relationship of the Board for Evangelism to the Board for Home Missions should be studied and clarified,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Self-Study Committee and that it report its recommendations to the next convention.

Resolution No. 7: Biennial Conventions

WHEREAS, A change to biennial conventions would necessitate major alterations of the entire Synod business structure, and,

WHEREAS, Biennial Conventions would tend to decrease participation of the congregations through their lay representatives, in the decision-making process, and would tend to place more decision making in the hands of the officers and boards,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod continue to have synodical conventions annually.

Resolution No. 8: The Time of the 1988 Convention

BE IT RESOLVED, That the 71st Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation be held June 19-24, 1988, at Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, Mankato, Minnesota.

MINUTES

ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Secretary's Minutes

WHEREAS, *The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for Synod Sunday, June 14, 1987, and found them to be correct,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod adopt the minutes as read.*

Resolution No. 2: Secretary's Minutes

WHEREAS, *The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the Monday morning and afternoon sessions, June 15, 1987, and found them to be correct,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod adopt the minutes as read.*

Resolution No. 3: Secretary's Minutes

WHEREAS, *The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the Tuesday morning session, June 16, 1987, and found them to be correct,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod adopt the minutes as read.*

Resolution No. 4: Secretary's Minutes

WHEREAS, *The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the Tuesday afternoon session, June 16, 1987, and found them to be correct,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod adopt the minutes as read.*

Resolution No. 5: Secretary's Minutes

WHEREAS, *The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the Wednesday morning session, June 17, 1987, and found them to be correct,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod adopt the minutes as read.*

Resolution No. 6: Secretary's Minutes

WHEREAS, *The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the Wednesday afternoon and evening sessions, June 17, 1987, and found them to be correct,*

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the Synod adopt the minutes as read.*

Resolution No. 7: Secretary's Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, *That the president and vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod read and approve the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for Thursday, June 18, 1987.*

RESOLUTIONS ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Resolution No. 1: Letters of Greeting

BE IT RESOLVED, That letters of fraternal greeting be sent to:

(1) the Lutheran Confessional Church—Norway and Sweden, and to the Rev. Roger Falk and associates in Japan,

(2) the bereaved families of Mrs. Olivia Teigen, Mrs. Alice Faye, Mrs. Ada Tjernagel, Mrs. Gudrun Moldstad, and Mrs. Leona Kuster,

(3) the Rev. Adolph Harstad, whose age and health did not permit him to attend the convention, and,

(4) the following to honor the anniversaries of their service to the church:

The Rev. M. E. Tweet—50 years

The Rev. E. G. Unseth—50 years

The Rev. Alf Merseth—40 years

The Rev. David Lillegard—25 years

PASTORAL CONFERENCE RECORDS ACTION OF THE SYNOD

Records were submitted from the following Circuits: 1, 6, 7, 8, 9 and from the General Pastoral Conference. We urge that all circuits bring their records to the convention for review. This has been the practice of the Synod since its inception and gives the convention an opportunity to review the work of the circuits. Of those records submitted, the committee finds that they showed a good balance of theological, historical, and practical issues.

CHURCH LOCATIONS AND THE TIME OF SERVICES

(Not intended for mailing—use pastor's address)

CIRCUIT NO. 1

STATE City-Church	Address	Services	Pastor
FLORIDA			
Lakeland—Our Savior	228 Azalea St.	9:30	K. Mellon
Naples—Our Savior	1961 Curling Ave.	9:15	D. Moldstad
Port St. Lucie—Christ	Hellenic Center, 1582 S.W. Floresta Dr.	10:00	C. Keeler
Sebastian—Trinity	611 Schumann Drive	10:00	J. Wilde
Vero Beach—Grace	2126 17th Ave.	10:00	J. Moldstad, Sr.
GEORGIA			
Marietta—Resurrection	1111 Braswell Rd.	10:30	R. Long
Savannah—Christ	316 Tibet Ave.	11:00	P. Jecklin

CIRCUIT NO. 2

MASSACHUSETTS			
Brewster—Trinity	6A and Lower Road	10:30 (S 9:30)	J. Krikava
Burlington—Pinewood	24 Wilmington Rd.	10:45 (S 10:00)	M. Marozick
NEW YORK			
Rochester—Indian Landing	650 N. Landing Rd.	10:45	R. Gudgeon
Scottsville—Redeemer	Scottsville	8:45	R. Gudgeon

CIRCUIT NO. 3

ILLINOIS			
Chicago—Emmaus	5440 West Gladys Ave.	10:45	C. Wosje
St. Mark's	1701 N. Tripp Ave.	10:30	H. Behrens
Lombard—St. Timothy	547 N. Main	10:15 (S 9:00)	M. Luttman
MICHIGAN			
Alpena—Faith	233 Cavanaugh	9:00	H. Gieschen
E. Jordan—Faith	3 E. 1½ N. on Wilson Rd.	2:00 p.m. (S 7:00 p.m.)	M. Smith
Hesperia—Hesperia	2 W., 2 N.	8:30	C. Ferkenstad
Hillman—Faith	R. 1, Box 218 M-32 East	11:00	H. Gieschen
Holton—Holton	6655 Marvin Road	10:00	C. Ferkenstad
Midland—Holy Scripture	4525 Cook Rd.	9:00	P. Schneider
Suttons Bay—First	325 St. Mary's Ave.	10:00	M. Smith

CIRCUIT NO. 4

WISCONSIN			
Amherst Junction—Our Savior's	5 N.E.	10:30	
Ashland—First English	701 Vaughn Ave.	10:00	N. Harstad
Bloomer—Good Shepherd	1504 Vine St.	10:30 (S 10:00)	
Clintonville—St. Paul	N. Park & Anne	10:30 (S 8:00)	J. Smith
Cottage Grove—Western Koshkonong	8 S.W.	10:00	J. Olsen
Eau Claire—Ascension	1500 Peterson Ave., R. 1	9:00	O. Trebelhorn
Concordia	3715 London Rd.	8:00 & 10:30 (S. 9:00) & Mon. 7:00 p.m.	F. Theiste
Pinehurst	3304 Fern Court	8:15 & 10:45 (S. 9:00)	T. Bartels

Elderon—Our Savior's	Highway 49 N.	9:00	T. Skaaland
Iola—Redeemer	185 S. Washington	9:00	H. Vetter
Madison—Grace	1 S Rosa Road	9:30	W. Granke
Holy Cross	2670 Milwaukee St.	8:45 & 11:00 (S 8:30 & 10:00)	S. Petersen
Our Saviour's	1201 Droster Rd.	8:00 & 10:15 (S 9:00)	J. Madson
Marinette—First Trinity	920 Wells St.	8:00 & 10:00	B. Homan
Okauchee—Holy Trinity	N50W35181 Wisconsin Ave.	7:45 & 10:15 (S 7:45 & 9:30)	E. Stubenvoll
Oregon—Faith	143 Washington St.	9:00	G. Schmeling
Portage—St. Paul's	5 miles West on Hwy. 127	9:00	P. Petersen
Shawano—St. Martin	5 miles S.W.	9:00 (S 9:15)	J. Willitz
West Bend—Trinity	1268 Pleasant Valley Rd.	8:00 & 10:00	J. Smith
Wisconsin Dells—Newport	4 miles S.E. on Hwy. 16	10:30	K. Schmidt
			J. Willitz

CIRCUIT NO. 5

IOWA

Ames—Bethany	3109 Diamond	10:00 (S 9:00)	T. Fox
Calmar—Trinity	Charles St., Box 814	*	
Decorah—U.V. Koren		*	M. DeGarmeaux
Forest City—Forest	546 West M St.	9:00	D. Schlicht
Lake Mills—Lake Mills	1st Ave. N. & Grant St.	8:30	A. Merseth
Lime Creek	4 N., 1 W.	9:45 or 11:00	A. Merseth
Lawler—Saude	10 N., 1 W, R. 2	*	G. Obenberger
New Hampton—Jerico	9 N., 3 E., Rt. 1	*	G. Obenberger
Redeemer	Sherman & Court	*	
Northwood—First Shell Rock	Central & 15th	10:30	A. Merseth
Somber	10 W., 1 S.	9:45 or 11:00	A. Merseth
Parkersburg—Faith	608 6th St.,	10:15	W. Frick
Riceville—Immanuel	Riceville	8:30	A. Merseth
Scarville—Center	5 S., ¼ E.	*	J. Dukleth
Scarville	Scarville	*	J. Dukleth
Thompson—Zion	Thompson	10:45	D. Schlicht
Thornton—Richland	300 Elm St.	10:00 (S 9:30)	G. Guldborg
Waterloo—Pilgrim	3815 Ansborough	9:30	D. Hoyord
Waterville—East Paint Creek	2 N.	*	M. DeGarmeaux
Waukon—West Paint Creek	6 E.	*	M. DeGarmeaux

MINNESOTA

Albert Lea—Our Savior's	320 W. College St.	8:00 & 10:45 (S 9:00)	D. Thompson
Hartland—Hartland	404 Broadway	11:00 (S 9:00)	D. Schmidt
Manchester—Manchester		10:15	D. Schmidt

MISSOURI

Piedmont—Grace	114 E. Green St.	10:30	J. Krueger
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CIRCUIT NO. 6

MINNESOTA

Apple Valley—Heritage	13401 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd.	8:30 & 10:30 (S 9:30) Mon. 7:00	R. Dale
Gaylord—Norwegian Grove	7 S.	9:00 or 10:30	N. Madson
Golden Valley—King of Grace	6000 Duluth St.	8:15 & 10:45 (S 8:15 & 10:00)	E. Ekhooff
Mankato—Mt. Olive	1123 Marsh St.	8:30 & 10:45 (S 8:30 & 10:00)	M. Bartels
			R. Newgard

Minneapolis—Hiawatha	1420 E. 43rd St.	10:00	
Princeton—Bethany	801 S. 6th St.	8:15 & 10:45	D. Nelson
Our Savior's	10 W. and 4 S.	9:30	H. Abrahamson
St. Peter—Norseland	10 N.W.	9:00 or 10:30	N. Madson

CIRCUIT NO. 7

MINNESOTA

Audubon—Immanuel	Highway 10 Audubon	9:30	M. Doepel
Bagley—Our Savior's	6 W. on #2	9:30	R. Lawson
Crookston—Grace	1221 Barrette St.	*	N. Krause
Detroit Lakes—		11:00	M. Doepel
East Grand Forks—	2214 10th Ave. N.W.	10:15 (S. 9:00)	John Petersen
River Heights			
Fertile—First Evanger	405 Washington, N.E.	*	N. Krause
Grygla—St. Petri	3 W., 2 N.	*	R. Fehr
Hawley—Our Savior's	6th & Joseph	*	P. Madson
Lengby—St. Paul's		10:45	R. Lawson
Oklee—Clearwater	6 N., 4 E.	11:15	T. Rank
Nazareth	8 N., 9 E.	*	T. Rank
Oak Park	9 N., 4 E.	10:00	T. Rank
Trail—Mt. Olive		8:15	T. Rank
Ulen—Calvary		*	P. Madson
Warroad—Evangelical Lutheran	Lake St.	*	R. Fehr

NORTH DAKOTA

Mayville—First American	224 2nd St. N.E.	11:00 (S. 10:00)	
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CIRCUIT NO. 8

COLORADO

Colorado Springs—St. Andrew	2215 Paseo Rd.	10:15 (S 9:00)	S. Sparley
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MINNESOTA

Belview—Our Savior's	Belview	*	P. Haugen
Rock Dell	5 N.E.	*	P. Haugen
Cottonwood—English	1st and Main St.	9:00 (S 8:30)	D. Larson
Jasper—Rose Dell Trinity	Jasper	9:00	W. Halvorson
Luverne—Bethany	720 N. Kniss Ave.	10:30	W. Halvorson
Tracy—Zion	2nd and Emory	11:00 (S 10:15)	D. Larson

SOUTH DAKOTA

Sioux Falls—Bethel	1200 S. Covell	10:30 (S 10:00)	R. Halvorson
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TEXAS

Richardson—Good	650 W. Campbell Rd.	10:30	J. Burkhardt
Shepherd			
San Antonio—Faith	14819 Jones-Maltsberger	10:15	H. Larson

CIRCUIT NO. 9

ARIZONA

Lake Havasu City—Our Saviour	3163 Maricopa	9:30	J. Moldstad, Jr.
Phoenix—Christ the	6724 E. Hearn	10:00	R. McMiller
Cornerstone			

CALIFORNIA

Bell Gardens—Christ	6541 So. Eastern Ave.	9:00 Sp. 11:30	D. Haeuser
the King			
Bishop—Our Savior	612 Sneden St.	11:00 (S. 10:00)	T. Gullixson
Chico	1046 Arbutus	10:30 (S 9:30)	W. Werling
Escondido—St. Paul	1418 Bear Valley Parkway	10:00	A. Harstad
Grass Valley—Shepherd	Bullion Fire Station	8:30	N. Merseth
of the Hills	13022 Labarr Meadows Rd.		

Santa Rosa—Christ	1205 Guernerville Rd. 152	10:30	J. Schmidt
Tustin—Faith	12712 Elizabeth Way	10:00	W. McMurdie
Ventura & Fillmore—Wayfarers' Chapel		8:45 10:45	A. Wagner
Yuba City—Bethel	1480 Hayne Ave.	10:30	R. Waldschmidt N. Merseth

CIRCUIT NO. 10

OREGON

Grants Pass—Our Savior	230 Buysman Way	11:00	H. Mosley
Klamath Falls—Christ			W. Mack
Myrtle Creek—St. Matthew	436 N.E. Pacific	11:00	G. Haugen
Sutherlin—Christ	161 W. 2nd Ave.	9:00	G. Haugen
The Dalles—Bethany	1820 Montana St.	10:30	F. Fiedler

WASHINGTON

Mt. Vernon—St. Luke	1524 E. Blackburn Rd.	11:00 (S 9:30)	J. Dalke
Port Orchard—Bethany	719 Sidney Ave.	8:15 & 11:00	E. Bryant
Tacoma—Lakewood	10202 112th St. S.W.	11:00 (S 9:30)	M. Krentz
Parkland	12309 S. Pacific Ave.	10:30 (S 9:30)	H. Handberg
Yelm—Our Redeemer	10325 Hwy. 507 S.E.	10:30	P. Anderson

*Consult pastor.

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS

Bethany Lutheran Elementary School

719 Sydney
Port Orchard, WA 98366
Tel. 206-876-1300

Christ Lutheran School

161 W. 2nd St.
Sutherlin, OR 97479
Tel. 503-459-4505

Holy Cross Lutheran School

2670 Milwaukee St.
Madison, WI 53704
Tel. 608-249-3101

Holy Trinity Lutheran School

35181 Wisconsin Ave.
Okauchee, WI 53069
Tel. 414-567-0669

King of Grace Lutheran School

6000 Duluth St.
Golden Valley, MN 55427
Tel. 612-546-3131

Lakewood Evangelical Lutheran School

10202 112th St. S.W.
Tacoma, WA 98498
Tel. 206-584-6024

Mt. Olive Lutheran School

1123 Marsh St.
Mankato, MN 56001
Tel. 507-345-7927

Our Redeemer Lutheran School

10325 Hwy. 507 S.E.
Yelm, WA 98597
Tel. 206-458-7310

Parkland Lutheran School

S. 123rd at Pacific
P.O. Box 44006
Tacoma, WA 98444
Tel. 206-537-1901

River Heights Lutheran School

2214 10th Ave. N.W.
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
Tel. 218-773-7101

Scarville Lutheran School

Box 62
Scarville, IA 50473
Tel. 515-568-3646

Trinity Lutheran School

1268 Pleasant Valley Rd.
West Bend, WI 53095
Tel. 414-675-6627

Western Koshkonong Lutheran School

2646 Church Rd.
Cottage Grove, WI 53527
Tel. 608-873-9976

INDEPENDENT CONGREGATIONS IN FELLOWSHIP WITH THE ELS

Grace Lutheran Church
4435 S.E. Tualatin Valley Hwy.
Hillsboro, Oregon 97123
(503) 648-1393

Time of Worship 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Pastor Thos. E. Dudley

Rt. 3, Box 178

Cornelius, Oregon 97113

(503) 640-2001

Scriptural Lutheran Church
Rt. 1, Box 58
Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Kallangur Maryborough,
Queensland, Australia 4504

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
1030 Redwood St.
Vallejo, California 94590
(707) 691-0115

Time of Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Pastor Edward W. Halvorson

149 Bret Harte Way

Vallejo, California 94590

(707) 642-7620

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THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION

"The EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION is established for the purpose of soliciting gifts, other than for current operating funds, for the Synod, its agencies, and as requested, for its congregations and for the theological seminary, college, and other institutions related to the Synod. The FOUNDATION is to encourage the making of wills, gift annuity agreements, trust agreements, insurance contracts, etc., under which the Synod or any of its parts or agencies may become an actual or contingent beneficiary."—(Adopted by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, 1969.)

IS GOD'S WILL INCLUDED IN YOUR WILL?

The FOUNDATION is ready to serve those who are concerned about their responsibility to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as well as those who are concerned about the needs of our church. It stands ready to serve as no other agency can.

A. GIFTS AND DONATIONS OF MONEY

The EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION is ready to receive, administer, and distribute gifts of money designated for the general work of our church or any specific phase of its activities. Such gifts may be designated for any purpose the donor may desire, and they may be divided in any way.

In keeping with the donor's wishes, the principal may be used for the purpose designated, or the principal may be held intact while the income alone is used for the work of our church.

B. GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE AND OTHER PROPERTY

The FOUNDATION is ready to receive, administer and distribute gifts of real estate, securities, or other property designated for the general work of our church or for any specific phase of its activities (including local congregations). If desired the FOUNDATION is ready to make arrangements whereby the donor will receive a gift annuity agreement income for life or a life income agreement income.

C. BEQUESTS THROUGH WILLS

In a very real sense your will is a continuation of your own life and influence. It is an expression of your wishes, a document that acts as your representative in distributing the material things you leave behind. Only you know how you wish them distributed. Only you have the power and the right to make your own will. If you don't have a will, the state makes a will for you

through the laws that apply when a person leaves no will.

The E.L.S. FOUNDATION urgently appeals to you: Make a will, and make your will a "Christian" will by remembering the Lord Jesus Christ and His Church in it.

Gift Annuity Agreements, Life Income Gift Agreements, Life insurance Gifts, Gifts Through Trusts and Memorial Gifts, may be used; and the FOUNDATION is ready to serve you or counsel with you.

**LEGAL FORM FOR GIFTS TO THE SYNOD FOUNDATION
THROUGH WILLS (check with your attorney).**

I give, devise and bequeath to the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION (a Minnesota Corporation)

(Insert sum of money or description of property which sum, or property, or proceeds thereof)

to be used as directed by the donor or, if no direction as to use is stated, as its Board of Directors may determine.

Send inquiries to:

DEFERRED GIVING COUNSELOR
734 Marsh Street
Mankato, Minnesota 56001

PAROCHIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1986

Number	State	Location	Circuit	Congregation	Membership	Pastor	Members						Baptized		Confirmed		Communed	Marriages	Burials	Services				Day Schools		Sunday Schools			Other Schools Enrollment			Students			Contributions		Value of Property	Debt on Property	Legacies
							Baptized	Con- firmed	Voters	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Special	Average Atten- dance	Sunday				Average Atten- dance	Enroll- ment	Teachers	Enroll- ment	Bible Class	Teachers	Vacation Bible School	Released Time	Summer Camp	Synodi- cal Insti- tutions	Public H.S. Colleges	For Home Purposes	For All Other Purposes							
1	Ariz.	Lake Havasu City	9	Our Saviour	1	J. Moldstad, Jr.	146	122	41	4	3	2	3	1,059		1	11	78	52	109		19	15	4	44						12	55,641	8,941	98,000	37,130				
2	Ariz.	Phoenix	9	Christ the Cornerstone	1	R. McMiller	39	24																						1	7,062								
3	Calif.	Bell Gardens	9	Christ the King	1	D. Hauser	59	47	16	3	1			655			13	39	128	57	3	40	45	6	65					5	34,189	8,835	80,000						
4	Calif.	Bishop	9	Our Savior	1	T. Gullixson	52	43	12	1				285		2	15	15	52	22																			
5	Calif.	Chico	9	Chico	3	W. Werling	7	7	2					60			1	13	52	22		4	7	2	15						4	30,094	4,387	170,000	52,372				
6	Calif.	Escondido	9	St. Paul	1	A. Harstad	188	127	46	8	1		2	722	3	5	7	51	52	66		15	15	4	38						7	57,417	618	400,000	12,484				
7	Calif.	Grass Valley	9	Shepherd of the Hills	1	N. Merseht	8	8	3					80			24	10	9	10												1	3,411	155					
8	Calif.	Santa Rosa	9	Christ	1	J. Schmidt	53	45	12				3	430			10	27	52	42		15	36	5							5	44,000	5,300						
9	Calif.	Tustin	9	Faith	1	W. McMurdie	37	29	9	3				240			9	14	52	25											2	31,770	4,294	4,500					
10	Calif.	Ventura-Fillmore	9	Wayfarers' Chapel	1	A. Wagner R. Waldschmidt	90	75	16	3	1		1	585	2		17	25	104	76					16						2	60,591	5,118	100,000	65,000	10,000			
11	Calif.	Yuba City	9	Bethel	1	N. Merseht	29	16	6	3			1	121			11	19																					
12	Colo.	Colorado Springs	8	St. Andrew	1	S. Sparley	95	69	18	1	1	1		311			12	29	51	32		9	25	4	7						2	24,021	675	259,000	44,500	3,012			
13	Fla.	Lakeland	1	Our Saviour	1	K. Mellon	49	33	13					520			3	9	44	52		12	12	4	12						3	37,201	2,306		18,706				
14	Fla.	Naples	1	Our Savior	1	Vacant	188	156	34	1									90	115		16	14	6	12						16	88,150	1,484	384,355	90,000				
15	Fla.	Port St. Lucie	1	Christ	1	C. Keeler	40	36	15	2			2	284					52	36		6	25	3							2	21,884	4,209						
16	Fla.	Vero Beach	1	Grace	1	J. Moldstad, Sr.	251	220	28	4		3	2	3,102	1	3	13	120	52	171		40	57	6							17	91,803	35,212	535,000	68,260				
17	Fla.	Sebastian	1	Trinity	1	R. Wilde	89	83	21	5		3	5	1,702	4	1	13	50	52	81		8	32	3							3	33,999	6,806	250,000	133,000				
18	Ga.	Marietta	1	Resurrection	1	J. Long	113	70	17	3				465	2	1	16	31	52	67		28	15	4	35						7	44,031	5,912	150,000					
19	Ga.	Savannah	1	Christ	1	P. Jecklin	50	38	11	1	2		2	513			4	28	52	45		11	15	4							6	43,386	7,600	225,000					
20	Ill.	Chicago	3	Emmaus	1	C. Wosje	110	76	16	3			4	111	2	1	14	20	53	47	4	20	25	4							16	24,500	800	419,000					
21	Ill.	Chicago	3	St. Mark's	1	H. Behrens	49	46	14	2		1		315	5	3	6	21	52	28		5	13	3							3	17,368	1,920	375,000					
22	Ill.	Lombard	3	St. Timothy	1	M. Luttmann	210	178	20	5	1	3	1	874	5	5	15	48	52	89		24	15	6	9						15	77,870	14,206	690,000	200,593	20,215			
23	Iowa	Ames	5	Bethany	1	T. Fox	75	56	16	2				881	1		11	34	52	61		15	20	5	17						7	25,023	341	300,000	95,200				
24	Iowa	Calmar	5	Trinity	1	F. Stubenvoll	80	68	28	1				310	1	2	9	26	51	38		14	6	5							1	16,840	2,695	120,000					
25	Iowa	Decorah	5	U.V. Koren Mem.	3	M. DeGarmeaux	50							50			1	12	44	12													3,888	1,020					
26	Iowa	Forest City	5	Forest	1	D. Schlicht	88	64	19	5		1		364	2		10	26	51		41	23	13	4	31						7	19,728	5,849	35,000					
27	Iowa	Lake Mills	5	Lake Mills	1	A. Merseth	125	95	25	1		1		369	1	3	11	58	51	45		17	16	5	26						2	10,864	4,689	65,500					
28	Iowa	Lake Mills	5	Lime Creek	1	A. Merseth	63	52	16					303			3	44	51	30		11	</																

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