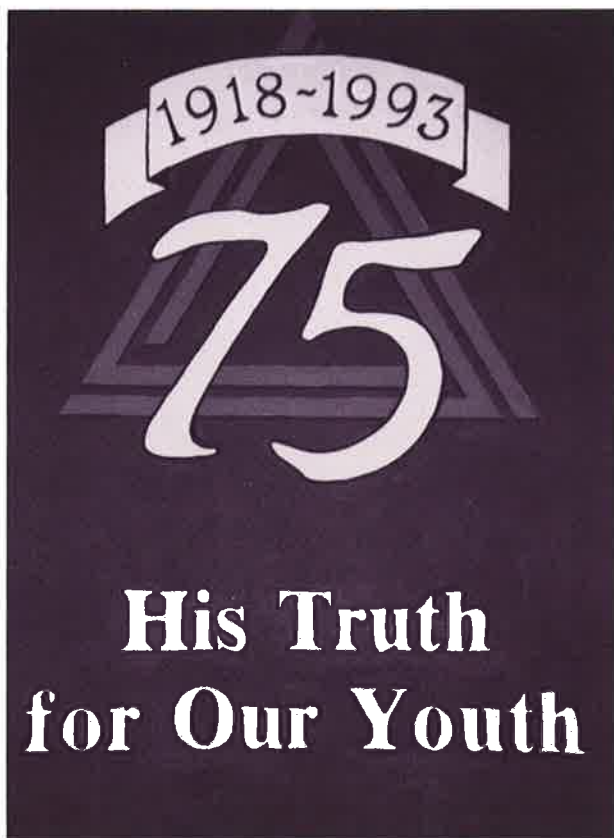


# 75th Annual Convention of the E.L.S.



Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod



**ESSAY:**

*"His Truth  
For Our Youth"*

**ESSAYIST:**

*The Rev. John A. Moldstad, Jr.*

**BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE  
BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
MANKATO, MINNESOTA  
JUNE 21-25, 1992**

**75th REPORT  
REGULAR CONVENTION  
of the  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**

**and the  
36th Annual Meeting of the  
BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE  
CORPORATION**

Convention Theme:  
**"HIS TRUTH  
FOR OUR YOUTH"**

Essay:  
"His Truth  
For Our Youth"

Essayist:  
The Rev. John A. Moldstad, Jr.

**Compiled by  
Alf Merseth, Secretary**

**Held at  
BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE  
BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

**Mankato, Minnesota 56001  
June 21-25, 1992**

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## CONVENTION FOCUS

# His Truth For Our Youth



**Youth Painting by Artist William Bukowski**

“I will extol Thee, my God, O King; and I will bless Thy name for ever and ever.” These were the words of personal dedication of the Psalmist David in Psalm 145, 1. He praises God for the message of His Word which he delineates in these words in verse 8:

"The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion: slow to anger, and of great mercy." This message which is the only way of salvation for sinful souls must continue to be preached as long as this world shall stand. This must be done in this way he says: "One generation shall praise Thy works to another, and shall declare Thy mighty acts. I will speak of the glorious honour of Thy majesty, and of Thy wondrous works. And men shall speak of the might of Thy terrible acts: and I will declare Thy greatness." (v. 4-6) In the concluding verse of that Psalm (v. 21) he expresses his dedication to that work of spreading that message when he says: "My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord: and let all flesh bless His holy name for ever and ever."

The 75th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod was focused on that work of passing on the truth of salvation, as found only in Jesus, to the next generation, to **OUR YOUTH**. That truth is for our youth "to learn," "to follow," "to serve" and "to endure." This was the emphasis of the opening devotions for the four working days of the convention.

The essay by the Rev. John Moldstad, Jr. entitled "His Truth For Our Youth," was prepared in four parts. In Part I "We Want Our Youth to Have the Truth Which Will Endure for Eternity" the essayist emphasized that "Christ is the only one who can give real life to every sinner, including our children, because He alone is 'the way, the truth, and the life.' (John 14, 6)." In Part II "We Want Our Youth to Make Use of This Truth Throughout Their Lives" he spoke of the importance of "Devotions in the home," "Church services," "Sunday School and Bible classes," "Christian Day School," "Confirmation classes," "Youth programs" and "Lutheran high school and college." In Part III "We Want Our Youth to Live in the Joy of This Truth" he said "The fact that God has made the atoning sacrifice for our sins and has completely exonerated us as a result of grace poured out upon us in Christ Jesus, is the supreme favor of our God." In Part IV "We Want Our Youth to Transmit this Truth to Their Future Posterity" he reminded the assembly that "The responsibility of transmitting His Word in its truth and purity to succeeding generations has been given by God to fellow believers and not to angels. Furthermore, we who realize the blessing God has bestowed upon us in keeping our church body faithful to His Word and to the Lutheran Confessions (as the correct exposition of Scripture), have an even greater responsibility of handing over the same to our youth."

The essay is printed in its entirety in these proceedings.

Alf Merseth, secretary

## THE CONVENTION DAY BY DAY

### SYNOD SUNDAY June 21, 1992

The 75th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 36th Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation was opened with a Synod Sunday Festival Service held in the gymnasium-auditorium on the Bethany Lutheran College campus on Synod Sunday, June 21, at 10:30 a.m. A large crowd of worshipers gathered for this special service on a very beautiful Sunday morning.

Prof. Adolph Harstad of Bethany Lutheran Seminary served as the liturgist for the service and the Rev. Wayne Halvorson of Albert Lea was the festival speaker. Music was provided by a string ensemble and piano and organ under the direction of Prof. Dennis Marzolf. Sunday School children from many congregations of the synod sang 3 songs: "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds," "One Thing Needful" and "O Lord Jesus." They were under the direction of Mrs. Norman Madson.

Using as his text, Psalm 78, 1-8 Pastor Halvorson addressed himself to the theme: "Tell the Generations the Wonderful Works of God." He spoke about how God brought His message of the Messiah to stubborn and rebellious generations of the past from Adam, Cain and Abel, Noah and all succeeding generations down to the time of Christ and on to the time of Luther. But to all these past generations God had announced that there is forgiveness in His Son who came in fulfillment of the promises.

Our generation too is stubborn and perverse. This generation too needs the message that God can relieve their guilt through the forgiveness of sins provided by Christ. The bringing of this message is the only reason for our church to be in existence.

"There is nothing new under the sun." The next generation will be just as stubborn and perverse. They too will need to be relieved by hearing the message of forgiveness in Jesus Christ. It is our God-given duty and our only function as a church to do the best we can to bring that message to generations to come.

At 2:30 p.m. on Synod Sunday the assembly gathered in the Bethany Lutheran College Trinity Chapel for the GRADUATION SERVICE FOR BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY. Prof. J. B. Madson served as the liturgist, the Rev. Norman Madson brought the message and the Prof. Dennis Marzolf was at the organ.

Pastor N. Madson used as his text Lamentations 3, 22ff. These words were the ones that comforted Jeremiah when he, because he preached the Law of God against the sins of his people, had been thrown into the dungeon beneath the city of Jerusalem. Those same words are comforting to those who labor in the

ministry of God's Word also today. He addressed himself then to this theme "Great is God's Faithfulness."

God has been faithful in your life thus far, he said, addressing the graduates; in baptism, the Christian home, education, seminary and your own home. This applies to the life of all Christians. He reminded the graduates that their life as ministers who preach God's message will not always be pleasant because there are many people also today, just like at Jeremiah's time, who do not want to hear the Law of God pointing out their many sins. Yet it is true even now that we are able to say with Jeremiah "God's mercies are new to us every morning."

God's faithfulness, he reminded the graduates, must therefore be the focal point of your ministry. You must remind your people that God extends His faithfulness to His people every day. It is always there. You must show your people that God is not a wicked taskmaster but is rather a faithful, compassionate God who, in Christ, faithfully forgives the sins of all sinners.

After President W. Petersen had addressed the graduates, the Rev. R. Branstad, chairman of the Board of Regents, presented diplomas to David Meyer and Alexander Ring.

Following the service a reception was held for the graduates in the college cafeteria.

## MONDAY June 22, 1992

The first working day of the 75th convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod was opened with a devotion conducted by the Convention Chaplain, the Rev. Jonathan Madson, Kissimmee, FL.

Using Psalm 34, 11 as his text the chaplain addressed himself to the theme "His Truth for our Youth to Learn." God's truth is for our youth to learn from those who have learned the truth. The truth for our youth to learn is to fear the Lord who created, redeemed and comforts us. We invite our children to come and listen and learn the truth of God's Word.

The assembly sang "Children of the Heavenly Father" before the chaplain's address and "Shepherd of Tender Youth" in closing the morning devotion.

After President Orvick welcomed the pastors, delegates and visitors to the convention Secretary Merseth called the roll to which 72 permanent voting members and 32 permanent advisory members either responded or were present by the end of the first working day.

The Credentials Committee represented by R. Newgard recommended the seating of 104 delegates who had been certified by their congregations. The assembly resolved that these be seated



Convention in Session

and President Orvick declared the 75th convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 36th 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. Amen.

"Let the Celebration Begin!" With those opening comments President Orvick began his message in which he focused the attention of the assembly on this as the opening of the year of celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the synod which will come to its climax at the 1993 convention. We should celebrate this year in various ways.

First we should engage in a renewed study of God's Holy Word.

Secondly we should all make an effort to deepen our knowledge and appreciation of our heritage.

Thirdly we need to have a determination to proclaim that unconditioned Gospel to our own people, to our own land and to all parts of the world.

Fourthly we need to labor to preserve the unity that is in our midst.

Fifthly we need to have a real determination to get on with the work that the Lord has set before us as a church body.

The assembly sang the song of praise that had been composed for the anniversary by Mrs. Lynn Kessel. The Rev. Paul Madson wrote the words.



We praise you, O God for your care through the years,  
For helping in troubles and calming our fears.  
Your Word has sustained us in toil and in strife,  
But dearest of all it has brought us new Life.  
Your Son is our Life! Your Son is our Life!  
Through Him we have hope and salvation.  
We praise You with glad adoration!  
All glory and honor to you, Lord, above  
Thanksgiving from hearts that have tasted your love.  
Now bless us, we pray You, with grace on our way,  
To love and to serve You until that great Day.  
O bless us we pray! O bless us we pray!  
To You may we ever be faithful.  
We praise You with hearts ever grateful!

President Orvick made some additions to his report to the convention and read some greetings.

Before the convention recessed for lunch President Orvick asked Secretary Merseth and Treasurer Meyer to come to the stage. He reminded the assembly that these men had served faithfully in their respective offices for 20 years. They were acknowledged by the applause of the assembly.

For the Monday afternoon devotion the assembly sang "Ye Parents Hear What Jesus Taught." Pastor Brumble read Deuteronomy 6, 1-9, led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

The convention completed the election of its convention committees, assigned the work, adopted the convention program and recessed until Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m.

## **TUESDAY June 23, 1992**

The Rev. Donald Moldstad conducted the morning devotion. The assembly sang "Our Lord and God, O Bless This Day." Using Proverbs 22, 6 as his text Pastor Moldstad addressed himself to the theme "His Truth for Our Youth to Follow." We must handle God's truth in such a way that the doctrine remains intact. This is a special challenge in this day and age since there are so many pressures against God's Word facing our young people. The great work placed upon us is to bring the truth of our Savior's Word to the hearts of our young people.

The convention considered the report of its Synodical Membership Committee. Seven pastors, three teachers and four congregations were received into membership.

Secretary Merseth and Treasurer Meyer were reelected to their respective offices for four year terms.

The report of the committee on Christian Service was considered and adopted.



**Receiving New Members**

To open the Tuesday afternoon devotion the assembly sang "Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd." The Rev. James Braun read Psalm 119, 105-112, led the assembly in prayer on behalf of The Rev. A. V. Kuster who has just undergone surgery and pronounced the blessing.

During the afternoon session presentations were given by the Board for Home Missions, the Board for Foreign Missions, the Board for Evangelism and Thoughts of Faith. It also completed the consideration of the report of its committee on Publications.

Tuesday evening there was a Choral Union Concert presented in the theater of the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center. The 10 paintings which were done by Resident Artist William Bukowski were displayed and Artist Bukowski was introduced to the assembly and thanked for the opportunity to be commissioned to do these historic paintings for the synod. The president's reception followed.

## **WEDNESDAY June 24, 1992**

Wednesday morning's devotion began with the assembly singing "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us." The Rev. Joseph Burkhardt using Matthew 6, 24 addressed himself to the theme "His

Truth for Our Youth to Serve." We and our youth have not given to God the service He deserves. We need to repent. We must go back to the cross which is our only hope. Jesus gave His undivided service to God. His perfect service was given on our behalf. This we must share with our youth. He led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

President Carl Mischke brought greetings from the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. He spoke of the word "synod," which means "walking together" a title which we share in common.

Essayist John Moldstad, Jr. began the reading of his essay entitled "His Truth for Our Youth." He read part I: We Want Our Youth to Have the Truth Which Will Endure for Eternity. Time was allowed for discussion.

President Orvick led a presentation by the 75th Anniversary Committee. He spoke briefly of two books: "In Remembrance of His Mercy," a book containing the 9 pictures commissioned for the anniversary which is ready for distribution at this convention and "Built on the Rock," the history book which will be ready for distribution this fall.

A presentation by the Board for Education and Youth concluded the morning session.

For the Wednesday afternoon devotion the assembly sang "Ye Lands to the Lord Make a Jubilant Noise" and The Rev. Charles Keeler read Mark 10, 13-16, led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

In its presentation to the convention the 75th Anniversary Thankoffering Committee introduced the Anniversary Offering and the delegates were given the opportunity to make their pledges to the offering which will begin in the congregations in October. It was later announced that the advance gifts and pledges made on this day amounted to \$167,231.

The convention began considering the reports of the committees on Finances and Doctrine and elected the Nominations Committee for the 1993 convention.

The Convention Communion Service was held at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church on Wednesday evening. Pastor R. Newgard served as liturgist and Pastor Kenneth Schmidt brought the message.

## **THURSDAY June 25, 1992**

The Thursday morning devotion was conducted by the Rev. Mark Bartels. The assembly sang "My God Accept My Heart This Day." Using Proverbs 4, 13 as his text Pastor Bartels addressed the theme "His Truth For Our Youth to Endure." Our children who are born spiritually dead are brought to life through baptism. They endure in that life of faith only through the use of

the Word as the Holy Spirit works through it in their hearts. May we teach them by word and example that God's Word is our life.

The Youth Honors Choir under the direction of Prof. Marzolf sang "O Praise the Lord all ye People" and "Allelujah—Amen."

Pastor Bartels led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

Essayist, John Moldstad, Jr., completed the reading of his essay "His Truth For Our Youth." Time was allowed for discussion.

After recess President Petersen spoke on behalf of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary and President Meyer spoke on behalf of Bethany Lutheran College.

The convention considered and accepted the reports of the committee on Higher Education and the committee on Education and Youth.

During the afternoon session the convention completed its business by considering reports from the following committees: Miscellaneous Matters, Finances, Doctrine, Missions, Pastoral Conference Records, President's Message and Report, Resolutions, Credentials and Minutes.

An Anniversary Service was held honoring the following for their years of service.

The Rev. Howard Behrens	50 years
The Rev. Lewis Gerbhardt	50 years
The Rev. William McMurdie	40 years
The Rev. Paul Petersen	40 years
The Rev. Emil Stubenvoll, Sr.	40 years
The Rev. Rodger Dale	25 years

The assembly sang "How Beauteous are Their Feet."

The Rev. Joseph Petersen used 1 Timothy 3, 1 and addressed the theme "Rejoicing in our God Given Calling." It is a great honor and privilege to serve as ambassadors of the greatest profession in the world. Who can catalog the many blessings that cause us to rejoice. In the difficulties pastors face, God has promised to be with us at all times.

The assembly sang 2 stanzas of "Soldiers of Christ Arise" and Pastor Petersen pronounced the blessing.

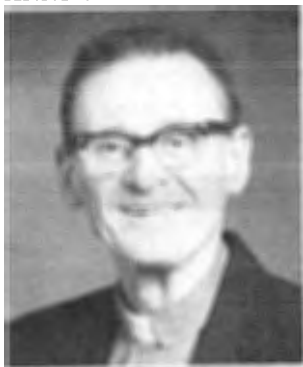
The convention resolved to adjourn at 5:28 pm. on Thursday, June 25, 1992.

President Orvick declared the 75th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 36th Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation to be adjourned in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

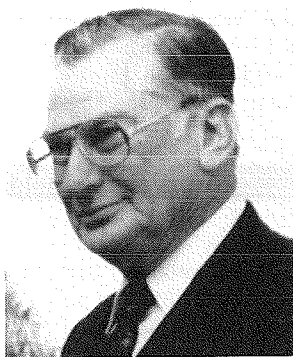
For the closing devotion the assembly sang the Anniversary Hymn "We Praise You, O God." The Rev. Craig Ferkenstad read Psalm 78, 1-7. The assembly sang "God's Word is Our Great Heritage." And Pastor Ferkenstad led in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

Alf Merseth, secretary

## **ANNIVERSARIES COMMEMORATED**



**The Rev. Howard Behrens**



**The Rev. Lewis Gerbhardt**



**The Rev. William McMurdie**



**The Rev. Paul Petersen**



**The Rev. Emil Stubenvoll**



**The Rev. Rodger Dale**

## ROLL CALL

### A. PERMANENT MEMBERS (pastors serving member congregations, eligible to vote)

Present at this convention:

H. Abrahamson, P. Anderson, H. Bartels, M. Bartels, T. Bartels, D. Basel, G. Bork, K. Brumble, J. Braun, E. Bryant, J. Carter, R. Dale, J. Dalke, M. DeGarneaux, M. Doepel, J. Dukleth, E. Ekhoﬀ, M. Ernst, F. Faughn, D. Faugstad, R. Fehr, C. Ferkenstad, T. Fox, R. Fyffe, H. Gieschen, G. Guldborg, T. Gullixson, W. Halvorson, N. Harstad, G. Haugen, B. Homan, D. Hoyord, B. Huehn, H. Huhnerkoch, C. Keeler, N. Krause, M. Krentz, J. Krueger, D. Larson, H. Larson, R. Lawson, P. Lehmann, D. Lillegard, M. Madson, N. Madson, P. Madson, M. Marozick, R. McMiller, K. Mellon, A. Merseeth, D. Moldstad, J. Moldstad, Jr., J. Moldstad, Sr., T. Mutterer, D. Nelson, R. Nepsund, R. Newgard, G. Obenberger, J. Petersen, P. Petersen, S. Petersen, T. Rank, J. Ruppel, D. Sabrowsky, S. Scheiderer, D. Schlicht, G. Schmeling, D. Schmidt, K. Schmidt, P. Schneider, V. Settje, T. Skaaland, J. E. Smith, J. K. Smith, K. Smith, M. Smith, F. Theiste, R. Tragasz, K. Uhlenbrauck, H. Vetter, R. Waldschmidt, D. Webber, M. Wold, C. Wosje, P. Zager.

Absent:

D. Bakke, H. Behrens, F. Fiedler, P. Jecklin, N. Merseeth, H. Mosley, W. Neumann, J. Schmidt, F. Stebenvoll

### PERMANENT MEMBERS ACCEPTED AT THIS CONVENTION:

Present:

K. Brumble, R. Fyffe, R. Kovaciny, R. Nepsund, J. Ruppel, V. Settje, S. Scheiderer

Teachers:

D. Hahnke, C. Mantey,

Absent

D. Stellick

### B. PERMANENT ADVISORY MEMBERS (Not eligible to vote)

#### 1. PASTORS SERVING NON-MEMBER CONGREGATIONS:

Present: J. Burkhardt, P. Lehenbauer, Jonathan Madson, L. Vinton, J. Willitz, W. Frick.

Absent: T. Erickson, D. Haeuser, D. McMiller, J. Olsen, D. Schroeder, M. Teigen

#### 2. PASTORS NOT SERVING CONGREGATIONS AT THIS TIME:

Present: R. Kovaciny, M. Luttman, G. Orvick, J. Shep, S. Sparley, W. Mack.

Absent: T. Aaberg, R. Becker, R. Carter, R. Halvorson, J. Krikava, C. Sietoff.

#### 3. PASTORS AND PROFESSORS EMERITI:

Present: R. Branstad, W. Gullixson, N. Holte, W. McMurdie, J. Petersen, F. Schmugge, B. Teigen, O. Trebelhorn, M. Tweit,

Absent: L. Gerbhardt, A. Kuster, D. McElwain, C. Rusch, E. Stubenvoll, N. Tjernagel, E. Unseth, A. Wagner.

#### 4. PROFESSORS:

Present: A. Harstad, M. Harstad, W. Kessel, T. Kuster, J. Madson, S. Lee, D. Marzolf, M. Meyer, S. Reagles, G. Reichwald, E. Teigen, D. Thompson, R. Weichmann.

Absent: R. Honsey, D. Metzger

#### 5. TEACHERS:

Present: S. Beilke, L. Rude, J. Schneek, D. Hahnke, C. Mantey

Absent: S. Born, D. Doelger, D. Madson, T. Pietsch, D. Stellick

### CONGREGATIONS ADMITTED INTO MEMBERSHIP

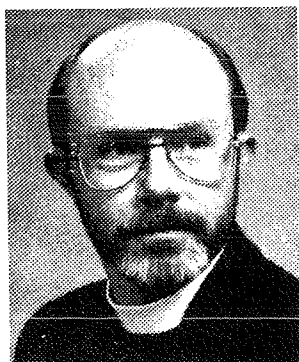
Faith Lutheran, Litchfield, Illinois

New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, Florida

Grace Lutheran Church, Hillsboro, Oregon

Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, Florida

**ACCEPTED AT THIS CONVENTION**



**The Rev. Klebe Brumble**



**The Rev. Richard Fyffe**



**Teacher Donald Hahnke**



**The Rev. Roger Kovaciny**



**Teacher Curtis Mantey**



**The Rev. Randall Nepsund**



**The Rev. James Ruppel**



**The Rev. Steve Scheiderer**



**The Rev. Victor Settje**



**Teacher Douglas Stellick**



## 1992 REPRESENTATIVES ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

Pastor	Address	Congregation	Delegates
H. Abrahamson	Ulen, MN	Calvary	Loren Larson Lyle Manthe
H. Bartels	Hawley, MN	Our Savior's	
T. Bartels	Brownsburg, IN	Good Shepherd	
	Eau Claire, WI	Pinehurst	Neil Leatherberry Dan Jacobson Cliff Olson Paul Hylland Dan Johnson Art Pederson
D. Basel	Scarville, IA	Center	
	Scarville, IA	Scarville	
H. Behrens	Chicago, IL	St. Mark's	
G. Bork	Irvine, CA	Faith	Erwin Stoppelmann Wm. McMurdie Randy Bednar Donald Campbell Don Smith Chuck Fiedler Curtis Mantey David Wosje Dale Hansen Stanton Kohlmeier
J. Braun	Klamath Falls, OR	Christ	
K. Brumble	Richardson, TX	Good Shepherd	
E. Bryant	Port Orchard, WA	Bethany	
J. Burkhardt	Hillsboro, OR	Grace	
J. Carter	Yelm, WA	Redeemer	
R. Dale	Apple Valley, MN	Heritage	Wayne Karlsrud William Overn, Alt. Emmett Norell Milton Tweit Oakleigh Natvig Lawrence Olson
M. DeGar- meaux	Lawler, IA	Saude	
	New Hampton, IA	Jerico	
	Waterville, IA	East Paint Creek	
	Waukon, IA	West Paint Creek	
M. Doepel	Audubon, MN	Immanuel	Herman Willger Leslie Just Jon Tibbetts Arthur Anderson Marion Hicks Odean Olsen Channing Hand- berg, Sr. Eugene Faker
J. Dukleth	Luverne, MN	Bethany	
E. Ekhoﬀ	Golden Valley, MN	King of Grace	
M. Ernst	Jefferson City, MO	Peace	
F. Faughn	Cape Girardeau, MO	Scriptural	
D. Faugstad	Trail, MN	Nazareth	
R. Fehr	Warroad, MN	Bethlehem	
C. Ferkenstad	Bloomer, WI	Good Shepherd	
F. Fiedler	The Dalles, OR	Bethany	
T. Fox	Burlington, MA	Pinewood	
W. Frick	Litchfield	Faith	David Rovey Bernard Brakenhoff John Gobrogge Duane MacNeill Marlin Goebel Walter Schroeder Herman Oelkers Karl Geise William Discher Alton Krikava Benjamin Anderson
R. Fyffe	Weston, OH	Grace	
H. Gieschen	Alpena, MI	Faith	
	Hillman, MI	Faith	
G. Guldberg	Thornton, IA	Richland	
T. Gullixson	Escondido, CA	St. Paul	
W. Halvorson	Albert Lea, MN	Our Savior's	

Pastor	Address	Congregation	Delegates
N. Harstad G. Haugen	Ashland, WI Crookston, MN Fertile, MN	First English Grace First Evanger	Kenneth Bolstad Donald Heiliger Marlowe Bergeson Glenn Frederick
B. Homan D. Hoyord	Madison, WI Waterloo, IA	Our Saviour's Pilgrim	
H. Huhnerkoch B. Huehn	Lake Havasu, AZ Princeton, MN	Our Saviour Our Savior's	
P. Jecklin C. Keeler N. Krause M. Krentz	Savannah, GA Port St. Lucie, FL Gresham, OR Holton, MI	Christ Christ Saved by Grace Holton	William Sigurdson Charles Miller John Dykema Jeffrey S. Tillman
J. Krueger D. Larson	Piedmont, MO Cottonwood, MN Tracy, MN	Grace English Zion	Dwane Boerner David Mix Merlyn Hayes
H. Larson J. Larson R. Lawson	Wisconsin Dells, WI Portage, WI Hood River, OR Princeton, MN	Newport St. Paul's Concordia Bethany	LeRoy Simonson  Glen Hansen Gordon Scharping
P. Lehman D. Lillegard Jonathan Madson M. Madson N. Madson	Bell Gardens, CA Sebastian, FL Kissimmee, FL Belview, MN Belview, MN Gaylord, MN	Christ the King Trinity Peace Our Savior's Rock Dell Norwegian Grove	Roger Lloyd Herb Berg  Donnie Berg Leslie Enter Wallace Tollefson, Alt. Darwin Gunderson Glenn Annexstad Gerhard Ordal Wilbur Hage
P. Madson	St. Peter, MN	Norseland	Wilmer Broer
M. Marozick R. McMiller K. Mellon A. Merseth	Sioux Falls, SD Calmer, IA New Hampton, IA Scottsdale, AZ Lakeland, FL Lake Mills, IA  Northwood, IA	Bethel Trinity Redeemer Christ the Cornerstone Our Savior Lake Mills  Lime Creek First Shell Rock  Somber	Richard Jones Roger Mielke Leighton Humphrey Robert Okland Paul Dahle Joe Holt Gary Hartwig Reuben Holt Morris Levorson
N. Merseth D. Meyer D. Moldstad J. Moldstad, Jr.	Riceville, IA Yuba City, CA Ames, IA Naples, FL Oregon, WI	Immanuel Bethel Bethany Our Savior Faith	Steve Levorson Robert Bengry  Dennis Behr Sherman Orvick

Pastor	Address	Congregation	Delegates
J. Moldstad, Sr.	Cottage Grove, WI	W. Koshkonong	John Shep Jeff Knickmeir
H. Mosley	Tacoma, WA	Lakewood	Harold Cook
T. Mutterer	Myrtle Creek, OR	St. Matthew Christ	Harvey Ringen
D. Nelson	Mayville, ND	First American	
W. Nepsund	San Antonio, TX	Faith	Kenneth Welkener Jerome Gernander
W. Neumann	Amherst Junction, WI	Our Savior	
R. Newgard	Mankato, MN	Mt. Olive	Steven Beilke
G. Obenberger	Tacoma, WA	Parkland	Roger Holtz
John Petersen	Madison, WI	Grace	Ronald O'Neill LaVern Stargel
S. Petersen	Madison, WI	Holy Cross	Ed Schneider Roland Reinholtz
T. Rank	Oklee, MN	Oak Park	Eugene Schiller
J. Ruppel	Trail, MN	Mt. Olive	Norman Marozick
D. Sabrowsky	Grants Pass	Our Savior	Kelly Lundeen
S. Scheiderer	Windsor, CA	Christ	Tom Jackson
	Bishop, CA	Our Savior	Arlen Dethlefsen Robert Rurup Kenneth Deboy II
D. Schlicht	Forest City, IA	Forest	
G. Schmeling	Thompson, IA	Zion	
	Okauchee, WI	Holy Trinity	Bob Brown Jim Schneck
D. Schmidt	Hartland, MN	Hartland	Corley Hendrickson Les Nelson Edward Hendrickson, Alt. Harvey Bell, Alt.
J. Schmidt	Manchester, MN	Manchester	
	Ventura, CA	Wayfarers' Lutheran	
K. Schmidt	West Bend, WI	Trinity	Ellsworth Butt Ralph Seidensticker
P. Schneider	Midland, MI	Holy Scripture	William Doughty
V. Settje	E. Grand Forks, MN	River Heights	Ed Beiswenger Al Holman
T. Skaaland	Elderon	Our Savior's	
J. Smith	Clintonville, WI	St. Paul	
	Shawano, WI	St. Martin	
J.K. Smith	Saginaw, MI	Gloria Dei	Donald Haas
K. Smith	Vero Beach, FL	Grace	Michael Holmes
M.K. Smith	Bullhead City, AZ	Family of God	David Fisk
F. Stubenvoll	Marinette, WI	First Trinity	
F. Theiste	Eau Claire, WI	Concordia	Nanian Thompson Andrew Basel
R. Tragasz	Parkersburg, IA	Faith	
K. Uhlenbrauck	Suttons Bay, MI	First	Leroy Allington Ernest Johnson
H. Vetter	Iola, WI	Redeemer	Lenwick Hoyord John Mikels
R. Waldschmidt	Cedar Ridge, CA	Shepherd of the Hills	Herbert Fisher

Pastor	Address	Congregation	Delegates
D. Jay Webber	Brewster, MA	Trinity	Paul Chamberlin Clifford Lloyd
J. Willitz	Sebring, FL	New Life	
M. Wold	Bagley, MN	Our Savior's	John Merseth Melvin Johnson
	Lengby, MN	St. Paul	Luverne Lomen
C. Wosje	Chicago, IL	Emmaus	McKinley Melton David White
P. Zager	Lombard, IL	St. Timothy	Leroy Meyer

## **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

### **RESOLUTIONS REGARDING ABSENCE FROM THE CONVENTION:**

#### **Resolution No. 1: EXCUSES**

*WHEREAS, Excuses for absence from the 1992 Synod Convention have been received from the following:*

*D. Metzger, H. Behrens, R. Honsey, W. Neumann, C. Sielaff, H. Mosley, E. C. F. Stubenvoll, Jr., E. C. F. Stubenvoll, Sr., J. Larson, D. Bakke, A. V. Kuster, N. Merseth,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

#### **Resolution No. 2: Excuses**

*WHEREAS, Excuses for late arrival have been received from:*

*M. Madson, M. Wold, F. Theiste, O. Treblehorn, R. McMiller, S. Petersen, J. Petersen, D. Hoyord,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

#### **Resolution No. 3: Excuses**

*WHEREAS, Excuses for early departure have been received from the following:*

*A. Harstad, R. Tragasz, V. Settje, F. Theiste, J. Petersen, P. Lehenbauer, H. Huhnerkock, L. Vinton, Kenneth Schmidt, Robert Bengry, Ken Mellon, W. Mack, T. Skaaland, K. Uhlenbrauck, C. Wosje, K. Smith, E. Schiller, P. Schneider, P. Lehmann, John Smith, K. Brumble, Don Smith, D. Basel, J. Burkhardt.*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

# CONVENTION COMMITTEES

1. **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND REPORT**  
**Pastors**—M. Tweit, P. Madson, W. Petersen  
**Delegates**—Dave Mix (Zion, Tracy), Gordon Sharping (Bethany, Princeton), Channing Handberg, Sr. (King of Grace)
2. **NOMINATIONS (Elected at the 1991 Convention)**  
**Pastors**—E. Ekhoﬀ, D. Lillegard, R. Newgard, W. Petersen  
**Delegates**—M. Goebel, L. Humphrey, M. Meyer, G. Siebert
3. **CREDENTIALS**  
**Pastors**—R. Newgard, E. Teigen, John Petersen  
**Delegates**—Paul Chamberlin (Trinity, Brewster), Harvey Ringen (St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek), Marlin Goebel (Faith, Hillman)
4. **PROGRAM**  
**Pastors**—K. Mellon, M. Madson
5. **PUBLIC PRESS AND CONVENTION SENTINEL**  
**Pastors**—R. Wiechmann, D. Nelson
6. **DOCTRINE**  
**Pastors**—E. Ekhoﬀ, G. Reichwald, A. Harstad, T. Fox, N. Madson, W. Halvorsen, M. Wold, M. Doepel, P. Petersen, K. Schmidt  
**Delegates**—Les Just (Immanuel, Audubon), Leslie Enter (Norwegian Grove), Bill Daughy (Midland), Steve Bielke (Mt. Olive), Ronald O'Neill (Parkland), Duane Boerner (English, Cottonwood), Al Holman (East Grand Forks), Loren Larson (Calvary, Ulen), Kelly Lundgren (Oak Park), Randy Bednar (Christ, Klamath Falls), Leroy Meyer (St. Timothy, Lombard)
7. **MISSIONS**  
**Pastors**—C. Ferkenstad, M. Bartels, W. Gullixson, W. Petersen, M. Krentz, D. Lillegard, P. Schneider, J. Smith, E. Teigen, D. Nelson, R. Fyffe  
**Delegates**—Erwin Stoppelmann (Faith, Irvine), Ellsworth Butt (Trinity, West Bend), Eugene Schiller (Holy Cross), Gordon Sharping (Bethany, Princeton), Charles Miller (Saved by Grace), Charles Johnson (Jerico), Robert Brown (Holy Trinity, Okauchee), Alton Krikava (Our Savior's, Albert Lea), Clifford Olson (Center), Jay Schooler, (Trinity, Sebastian), Tom Jackson (Mt. Olive, Trail), Bob Rurup (Our Savior, Bishop), Don Campbell (Christ, Klamath Falls), Marion Hicks (Bethany, Luverne)
8. **HIGHER EDUCATION**  
**Pastors**—C. Keeler, J. Carter, R. Dale, M. DeGarmeaux, M. Luttman, M. Marozick, K. Mellon, F. Theiste, C. Wosje, J. Willitz, D. Webber, T. Skaaland, S. Scheiderer, T. Rank, R. Nepsund  
**Delegates**—John Mikels (Redeemer, Iola), Jeff Knickmeier (Western Koshkonong), Norman Marozick (Holy Cross), Glen Hanson (Bethany, Princeton), Duane MacNeil (Faith, Alpena), Morris Levorson (Somber), James Schneek (Holy Trinity, Okauchee), Channing Handberg, Sr. (King of Grace), Wayne Karlsrud (Heritage), Art Pederson (Scarville), John Merseth (Our Savior's, Bagley), Joe Holt (First Shell Rock), Richard Jones (Our Savior, Lakeland), Leroy Allington (First, Suttons Bay), Don Hahnke (Trinity, West Bend), Verner Brockenhoﬀ (Faith, Litchfield), Roger Lloyd (Peace, Kissimmee)
9. **EDUCATION AND YOUTH**  
**Pastors**—E. Bryant, G. Bork, J. Braun, D. Faugstad, N. Harstad, G. Haugen, W. Mack, John Petersen, K. Smith, K. Uhlenbrauck, L. Vinton  
**Delegates**—Roger Holtz (Mt. Olive, Mankato), Vern Stargel (Parkland), Ed Beiswenger (East Grand Forks), Corley Hendrickson (Hartland), Clifford Lloyd (Trinity, Brewster), Dan Johnson (Scarville), Harold Cook (Lakewood), Gordon Dally (Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City), David Doelger (Permanent Member), Mike Holmes (Grace, Vero Beach), Jeff Tillman (Holtan), Curtis Mantey (Bethany, Port Orchard)
10. **PUBLICATIONS**  
**Pastors**—D. Thompson, P. Anderson, T. Bartels, M. Ernst, R. Fehr, B. Huehn, Jon Madson, D. Schmidt, J. Shep, M. Smith, H. Vetter, J. Ruppel  
**Delegates**—Ralph Seidensticker (Trinity, West Bend), Merlyn Hayes (Zion, Tracy), McKinley Melton (Emmaus, Chicago), Leslie Nelson (Hartland), Robert Okland (Lake Mills), Donald Haas (Gloria Dei, Saginaw), Bill Sigurd-

- son (Christ, Port St. Lucie), Donnie Berg (Norwegian Grove), Melvin Johnson (Our Savior's, Bagley), Sherman Orvick (Faith, Oregon), Paul Dahle (Lime Creek), Roger Mielke (Our Savior, Lakeland), Bob Bengry (Bethany, Ames), Arthur Anderson (Bethany, Luverne), Leroy Simonson (St. Paul, Portage), David Wosje (Bethany, Port Orchard)
11. **FINANCES**  
**Pastors**—J. Moldstad, Jr., H. Bartels, J. Dalke, G. Guldberg, D. Hoyord, N. Krause, D. Larson, T. Mutterer, D. Sabrowsky, J. K. Smith, R. Tragasz, L. Vinton, S. Petersen  
**Delegates**—Wilmer Broer (Redeemer, New Hampton), John Jones (Grace, Vero Beach), Conrad Faugstad (Peace, Colorado Springs), Lyle Manthe (Calvary, Ulen), Dan Jacobson (Pinehurst), Reuben Holt (Somber), Don Smith (Good Shepherd, Richardson), Herman Oelkers (Richland), Paul Hyland (Center), Kenneth Welkener (Faith, San Antonio), Gary Hartwig (First Shell Rock), Sigurd Lee (Permanent Member), Jeff Nelson (Our Savior's, Princeton), Andy Basel (Concordia, Eau Claire), Herb Berg (Peace, Kissimmee), Roland Reinholtz (Grace, Madison), Ken Deboy (Our Savior, Bishop), Eugene Faker (Peace, Jefferson City)
12. **CHRISTIAN SERVICE**  
**Pastors**—J. Moldstad, Sr., F. Faughn, H. Gieschen, B. Homan, M. Madson, O. Trebelhorn, R. Lawson, P. Lehmann  
**Delegates**—Gerhard Ordahl (Bethel, Sioux Falls), Neil Leatherberry (Pinehurst), John Tibbetts (Immanuel, Audubon), David Fisk (Family of God), Lawrence Olson (Jerico), David Gunderson (Norseland), Edward Schneider, (Grace, Madison), Dennis Behr (Faith, Oregon), Jerry Gerander (Faith, San Antonio), John Dougherty (Trinity, Sebastian), Lambert Beckers (Our Savior's, Princeton), Nanian Thompson, Concordia, Eau Claire), Bill Discher (St. Paul, Escondido), John Gabrogge (Grace, Weston)
13. **MISCELLANEOUS**  
**Pastors**—W. Kessel, D. Basel, J. Dukleth, W. Frick, M. Harstad, P. Lehenbauer, D. Moldstad, G. Obenberger, D. Schlicht, G. Schmeling, F. Schmutge, K. Brumble  
**Delegates**—Donald Heiliger (Our Saviour's, Madison), David White (Emmaus, Chicago), Marlin Goebel (Faith, Hillman), Leighton Humphrey (Lake Mills), Marlowe Bergeson (Pilgrim, Waterloo), Henry Johnson (Faith, Parkersburg), Steve Levorson (Bethany, Ames), Norman Holte (Permanent Member), Larry Rude (Permanent Member), Wilbur Hage (Bethel, Sioux Falls), Kenneth Bolstad, (First Evangelist), Carl Geise, St. Paul, Escondido), Dale Hansen (Grace, Hillsboro)
14. **SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP**  
**Pastors**—R. Branstad, H. Larson, J. B. Madson, T. Gullixson, R. Newgard, Joseph Petersen, M. Tweit, H. Huhnerkoch  
**Delegates**—L. Hoyord (Redeemer, Iola), Dave Mix (Zion, Tracy), Oakleigh Natvig (Saude), Paul Chamberlin (Trinity, Brewster), Benjamin Anderson (Our Savior's), Odean Olsen (King of Grace), Emmett Norell (Heritage), Glenn Frederick (Pilgrim, Waterloo), Glenn Annexstad (Norseland), Arlen Dethlefsen (Christ, Windsor), Herb Fisher (Shepherd of the Hills), John Dykema (Holton)
15. **MINUTES**  
**Pastors**—J. Dukleth, M. Krentz  
**Delegates**—Oakleigh Natvig (Saude)
16. **PASTORAL CONFERENCE RECORDS**  
**Pastors**—P. Madson, R. Waldschmidt, O. Trebelhorn
17. **RESOLUTIONS**  
**Pastors**—W. McMurdie, Joseph Petersen
18. **TELLERS**  
**Pastors**—K. Smith, M. Wold, V. Settje, F. Fyffe  
**Candidates**—D. Meyer, A. Ring
19. **CHAPLAIN**  
**Pastor**—Jon Madson
20. **HEAD USHER**  
**Pastor**—J. Willitz
21. **PARLIAMENTARIAN**  
**Pastor**—M. Tweit
22. **ORGANIST**  
**Pastor**—H. Vetter

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June, 1992

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

"LET THE CELEBRATION BEGIN!" With these words we extend an invitation to every member, every congregation and every agency of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod to begin a one-year celebration of the 75th anniversary of our reorganization as our present church body. We not only invite you to celebrate, we also urge and exhort you to enter into the proper spirit of thanksgiving and joy which this occasion calls for. The psalmist has captured that spirit in our anniversary Psalm: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations." (Ps. 100)

But how shall we go about engaging in such a celebration? We want to do so in a way that will be pleasing to God and edifying to our souls. From the words of the psalmist we can see that we should express our thanksgiving with festive worship, with the singing of psalms and hymns making a joyful noise unto the Lord. This has been the custom of God's people throughout history. Consider the great celebration led by Moses after the children of Israel had been miraculously delivered from the Red Sea. We read, "Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the Lord, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously . . . The Lord is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him . . . Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation." (Exodus 15, 1-2, 13)

Our year of celebration ought also to be marked by such an outpouring of praise and thanksgiving. Let us do this at festival services in our congregations. A special observance is planned for June 6, 1993, at Lime Creek Lutheran Church, Lake Mills, Iowa, the place where our synod was organized. And of course at our next synod convention we will want to plan for a joyous celebration.

But let us do more. We ought to do that which will have a lasting effect upon each and every participant. And here we have several recommendations to make to the congregations, pastors and people.

In the first place, then, we recommend that individuals and congregations engage in a renewed study of God's holy Word. It is through the Word of God that the Lord speaks to us and instructs us in all that we need to know for this life and for salvation. The Apostle Paul writes, "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (II Tim. 3, 15-17) This Word is like milk for newborn babes. It is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. It is by this Word that we are led to believe in Jesus as our Saviour, "But these are written, that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you might have life

through His name." (John 20, 31) In our ELS explanation of the Catechism we confess, "We use the Word of God rightly when we read and hear it thoughtfully and regularly, and when we ask the Holy Spirit to enlighten us so that we believe it and live according to it." (ELS Explanation p. 37) The Lord has promised, "Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it." (Luke 11, 28)

What better way to celebrate than to engage in daily Bible reading. We suggest, as one way to begin organized personal Bible reading, that you examine the "One Year Bible." It has a short selection of Old Testament, New Testament, Psalm and Proverb readings for each day of the year. If one spends as little as 15 minutes each day the entire Bible will be read in one year. Would not this be in keeping with what God commands, namely that "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein." (Joshua 1, 8) The Lord Jesus exhorts us to search the scriptures, and he promises, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8, 31-32) At this convention our emphasis is upon our youth. What better way for our youth to continue in faith than to read God's Word. "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word." (Ps. 119, 9)

Over a 20 year span, from 1970 to 1990, Bible class enrollment in our congregations has greatly increased. Bible study in the congregation should have a high priority. The opportunities are there. The so-called "baby boomers" are those who were born between 1946 and 1964. They are now 26 to 46 years of age and account for nearly half of the U.S. population. Historically, people of this age usually become very active in the affairs of the church. We therefore need to provide this group, as well as for all our members, with ample opportunities to study God's Word. Bible class attendance and Bible reading should be one of the features of our anniversary celebration.

In the By-Laws of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod there is a list of activities which are to guide us in our work together. The first one listed is this: "Promote an ongoing study of the Holy Scriptures." (Chap. III, a) What better undertaking can there be, then, for our anniversary year than to urge each and every member to become immersed in the study of God's Word.

In the second place we recommend that we seek to deepen our knowledge of and appreciation for our heritage. We need to see where our forefathers stood. What was their theology? How steadfast were their convictions? What sacrifices were they willing to make? It is certainly in keeping with Holy Scripture when we do this. The Prophet Jeremiah writes, "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." (Jer. 6, 16) There is a little poem by a Norwegian poet Ivar Aasen, which is quoted by the Rev. Herbert Larson in the forthcoming anniversary book, *Built On The Rock*, which reads as follows:

Lat os inkje forfederne gløyma . . . ; Let us not forget our forefathers . . . ;  
for dei gav us ein arv til a gjøma, they gave us an heritage to treasure.  
han er større, enn mange vil tru. It's greater than many would believe.

Larson continues as follows: "We have spiritual forefathers. They spoke of the heritage left to them by previous generations. It is a heritage whose "truth endures to all generations." Our spiritual forefathers were sensitive to their God-given privilege in possessing such a heritage. They labored under a sense of God-given responsibility to preserve that heritage for succeeding generations. When they studied Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, they learned to value their heritage the greater, as evidence of God's grace upon them . . . It is an heritage to guide us in doctrine and practice as we continue to receive grace from our Lord to serve Him as Christians. It is an heritage to pass on to succeeding generations as we seek to preach His Gospel to every creature." (*Built On The Rock*, p. 2)

Dr. U. V. Koren gave expression to this desire to preserve the old truths in an article entitled, "What the Norwegian Synod Has Wanted and Still Wants."

"Our heart's desire is to preserve the old doctrine in which our fathers found



their peace, for we have learned to see that this doctrine and this alone is founded on God's Word. We therefore wish very much to awaken in our people zeal to preserve their glorious heritage. We do not want to make them fanatical, but we do very much want to help them to become "grounded and settled," so that they do not let themselves be "moved away from the hope of the Gospel" (Col. 1:23), but will be "steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord" (I Cor. 15:58)

As we study our heritage we will see that there is something special about our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. I like to call it a "flavor." Things do have a flavor. The psalmist writes, "O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusts in Him." Ps. 34, 8. Larson describes this in the anniversary book, soon to be published. He writes, "Stated as simply as possible, the flavor of the Norwegian Synod was evangelical in contrast to legalistic; The Gospel of God rather than the Law of God was the dominant theme in its work. There was conscious effort always to make a proper distinction between Law and Gospel so that sinners would seek their salvation in Christ and not in the deeds of the Law." Larson then quotes from Dr. C. F. W. Walther's address to the 1864 convention of the old Norwegian Synod, "We have here had the joy of seeing a genuine Lutheran Synod, and this was also what we expected to find in you. But after we have seen you with our own eyes, we must confess that God has done more among you than we expected. Your Synod is not satisfied with merely the Lutheran name and with enlarging itself outwardly; but as a genuine Lutheran Church body you place pure doctrine above everything and you make it your task to bring it forth from the Word's rich mine. . . . We have also seen that your burning zeal for doctrine likewise bears fruit in a burning love, and that you wish to offer your whole life to God." (*Built On The Rock*, p. 34)

There were others who did not like the flavor of the old synod. One person writing in a secular newspaper puts it rather bluntly: "I knew that the Norwegian pastors in America, infested with the worms of Romanism, bleached out by the state church and frozen stiff by orthodoxy, driven by a ministry of poverty and sick with thoughts of home, had been swallowed up by Missouri, and held on to lay the yoke of slavery and papal darkness upon a people whom the Lord had chosen to be champions of Christianity and freedom." (op. cit. p. 34)

We thus see that for some the insistence upon purity of doctrine will not have a pleasant flavor at all.

The heritage of love for the Word of God and for the spreading of the blessed message of salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ was passed on from the forefathers of the old Synod to the forefathers of our reorganized synod whose anniversary we are celebrating.

How did the forefathers of our present synod determine that they would preserve and pass on that heritage to future generations. First and foremost they steadfastly refused to compromise the doctrines of Holy Scripture. The last convention of the old Norwegian Synod was held in June of 1917. The United Church and the Hauge Synod held their conventions at the same time. After brief sessions these three church bodies adjourned their meetings and marched in jubilant procession to the auditorium where the Union exercises were held. This marked the end of the old Norwegian Synod. At the same time a small minority group, encouraged by a committee from the Synodical Conference, met at the Aberdeen Hotel in St. Paul. They all agreed that they could not, for conscience sake, join the merger. The doctrinal compromise which brought about the Merger was called *Opgjør*, or settlement. It allowed two contradictory teachings to stand, namely, that the sinner was converted due to God's grace alone, or that his conversion was due to something within man, a better attitude or less resistance to the Holy Spirit. This compromise was unacceptable to the minority. They confessed the truth that it was only by God's grace alone that the sinner could be converted. They therefore agreed unanimously upon the following declaration:

1. We cannot for conscience's sake join the new church body on the present basis.

2. We continue to stand on the old confession and organization, which we as Christians have the liberty to defend and under which we may work from now on as heretofore.

It was almost a year later, April 1, 1918, that the invitation went out in their new paper *Luthersk Tidende* as follows: "Pastors and members of the congregations who desire to continue in the old doctrine and practice of the Norwegian Synod will, God willing, hold their annual meeting in the Lime Creek congregation, Pastor H. Ingebritson's charge, June 14, and following days." (See *Grace for Grace*, p. 115 ff.)

It was thus that our forefathers preserved the truth and determined to pass it on to future generations. One of those forefathers, the Rev. John Moldstad, summarizes the feelings of that little group as he wrote about it 25 years later. "We were free, we were unafraid, and we were happy. We felt that the Lord was with us and that His grace was abundant . . . It was a small beginning and without temporal means, but God's blessings have been showered upon us. One with God is always a majority. May we remain faithful stewards to the end of time! God help us for Jesus' sake!" (*Lutheran Sentinel*, April 27, 1943)

Besides defending the truth and proclaiming it from their pulpits our forefathers passed on that heritage by their continuing insistence upon providing Christian education for the young. At almost every convention they urged the formation of Christian day schools. At the 1927 synod convention they undertook the enormous obligation of purchasing and beginning to operate Bethany Lutheran College. At great sacrifice they supported the institution so that we continue to reap the blessings of Christian higher education down to this day. In 1946 our own Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary was organized. The synod was determined to have its own school of the prophets so that its theology, heritage and flavor could be handed down to its future pastors.

Now as to our celebration what better thing can we do, next to our study of the Holy Scriptures, than to re-discover our roots and to learn to treasure our heritage. In order to assist each individual and each congregation in such a quest your anniversary committee has produced a fine booklet entitled, "In Remembrance of His Mercy." It contains nine beautiful paintings together with an historical explanation of each one. They represent the theology and heritage of our church body. We highly recommend that each individual or family have a copy. We also urge that a nine-week course be held in each congregation this fall based upon the booklet. Supplementary material will be provided to the pastor or teacher so that the lessons may be enlarged upon. Our Christian day schools and youth groups would profit enormously from a study of the booklet. Thus our whole synod, young and old alike, may review our heritage and learn to appreciate it more fully.

There will also be available this fall a major volume entitled, *Built On The Rock*. The book is authored by the Rev. Herbert Larson and Prof. Juul B. Madson. It contains a fresh and vital approach to our history. The events of the last 25 years have never been documented in book form. The reader will truly be impressed by the way in which the doctrine, history, and flavor of our synod are conveyed to the reader. Such a book should be found in every home.

In observance of our celebration, we urge our synod to continue faithfully to believe, teach and confess the pure doctrines of God's Word in every pulpit, in every classroom and in every publication. When false teaching abounds on every hand we who hold to the old truths must realize what an important mission we have in this world. Yes, we are a small body but even the tiny glow of a candle can light a path through the darkness. The Lord Jesus says, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 5, 14-16)

One of the purposes for our union as a synod is to warn against false doctrine. Our By-Laws also state that our synod is to "be watchful concerning purity and unity of doctrine (Eph. 4, 3-16); (I Cor. 1:10) by studying doctrinal questions which are in special need of study and discussion, trying the spirits (I John 4, 1),

and warning against encroaching sects, as well as against errors and unchristian trends (I Tim. 4, 1-6), in accordance with the Holy Scriptures." (Chapter III, b)

Dangerous movements or trends in the church today are many. There is the charismatic movement, the church growth movement, attacks upon the inspiration of Scripture, the influence of Reformed theology, the terrible scourge of abortion, homosexuality and promiscuity and all kinds of sects which would lead our people away from the Word of God. We need to make a clear confession of our faith. The Doctrine Committee has drawn up such a document, which has also been studied by the General Pastor Conference, which is before this convention.

In addition to warning against error we, of course, must have as our first goal to proclaim the blessed Gospel. The very purpose of our synod is stated in the constitution of our church body, "The synod exists to carry out the command of Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark, 16, 15; Matt. 28, 19-20), to contend for the faith (Jude 3), and to promote the development of Christian life (Gal. 5, 22-25) within its membership." (Chapter III) It must ever be our aim to preach Jesus Christ as the only Saviour and Redeemer of the world. Salvation by grace alone through faith in the Lord Jesus must ever be our theme. Our synod exists because our forefathers would not compromise this teaching. They would not give credit to man for contributing anything to his conversion, his election or his justification. To proclaim the sweet peace that comes from the Gospel of Christ has ever been the trademark of our church:

Peace, to soothe our bitter woes,  
God in Christ on us bestows;  
Jesus bought our peace with God  
With His holy, precious blood;  
Peace in Him for sinners found,  
Is the gospel's joyful sound.

Any celebration of our anniversary without a strong reaffirmation of our determination to proclaim the unconditioned Gospel would be hollow indeed. We confess with the Apostle Paul "I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." (I Cor. 2, 2)

In addition to all of this we need to labor to preserve the unity that is in our midst. What a blessing from the Lord it is to have a scripturally sound unity of doctrine and spirit, including true Christian love towards one another. On February 6, 1860, Dr. Walther embarked on a trip to Europe for the sake of his health. In his diary he wrote as he crossed the ocean these special words: "An exhortation to our Synod to maintain its present unity. There is nothing like it in our days, a miracle of God! It is a return to the days of our fathers and of Acts 2. It is a gracious visitation of God and a gift of grace. Let us be unperturbed as people everywhere strive to progress and to invent something new, to correct the orthodox church, and to take the fathers to school. No matter how much this new wisdom puffs itself up, the wind of time will blow it away like chaff, and the old truth will shine like the old sun. This unity makes us strong despite our weakness. Let us gladly accept the insult that we merely reprintinate the theology of the 16th century, but do not produce it anew. Let us take a closer look at those who strive for the reputation, not to have copied the pure Lutheran Doctrine as pupils, but to have reproduced it by themselves. Ours is not a unity of stagnation, but a unity of lively action. It is a unity not only among ourselves, but also with the orthodox church of all time." (*The Life of C. F. W. Walther*, Spitz, p. 94)

This was Dr. Walther's view of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in 1860. How sad he would be if he could see the turmoil that reigns in that body today.

Do we take this unity too much for granted in our midst? Do we honestly endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." (Eph. 4, 3) The unity that we have is very precious. Others in the world of Lutheranism are looking to us as a possible refuge from the theological storms that are raging throughout the church. Let us therefore labor to preserve that blessed unity which is a gift of God and for which our forefathers labored so faithfully. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." (Ps. 133, 1)

Finally, to properly celebrate this anniversary year we need to get on with our

work. By speaking of historical matters we want to draw lessons for the future so that we do not forsake the doctrine of our fathers. We do not, however, want to live in the past and forget about the future. We cannot sit in the shade of the oaks at Koshkonong or at Lime Creek and ponder what great things have been said and done by our forefathers and then go to sleep on a pillow of self satisfaction. No indeed. Instead we need to ask how we can do the Lord's work with more vigor, more efficiency and more determination. The Apostle Paul's injunction needs to ring in our ears, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (I Cor. 15, 58).

Let us go forward with such zeal to gather an anniversary offering that will really demonstrate our gratitude for 75 years of blessing. By doing this we will help to pass on to the next generation the precious heritage which we have received. The younger members of our church of today will be better prepared for the leadership they must exert tomorrow.

By giving our continued support to our Bethany Lutheran College and Seminary and to our home and foreign mission programs we will also be passing on our heritage and sharing it with others. A recent article in a church paper which is circulated across the nation praises our Bethany. Headlines on the front page read: "The Best Deal in Lutheran Education: Bethany Lutheran College." The long article written by a parent of a pupil not from our synod goes on to point out in dramatic fashion what our college has to offer and how firmly it stands on a Christian, Lutheran foundation. Sometimes we have to hear from outsiders what blessings we have in order to appreciate them more fully.

With new mission congregations opening at home and with foreign mission work being done in Peru, Chile, Czechoslovakia and Ukraine, as well as having a worker serving our sister church in Australia, our light is not being hid under a bushel. Our doctrine and our heritage is becoming known far and wide.

For all of this we take no credit. We say with the psalmist, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake." (Ps. 115, 1) It is all by the pure mercy and grace of God that we embark upon the celebration of our 75th anniversary. We bring our message to a close with the words of a special song of praise written especially for this celebration:

We praise You, O God, for Your care through the years,  
For helping in troubles and calming our fears.  
Your Word has sustained us in toil and in strife,  
But dearest of all it has brought us new Life.  
Your Son is our Life! Your Son is our Life!  
Through Him we have hope and salvation,  
We praise You with glad adoration!

All glory and honor to You, Lord, above,  
Thanksgiving from hearts that have tasted Your love.  
Now bless us, we pray You, with grace on our way,  
To love and to serve You until that great Day.  
O bless us we pray! O bless us we pray!  
To You may we ever be faithful,  
We praise You with hearts ever grateful!

Words by the Rev. Paul Madson  
Music by Lynne Kessel

George M. Orvick

# REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

## INSTALLATIONS AND ORDINATIONS

Candidate of Theology Richard Fyffe was ordained and installed as pastor of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Weston, Ohio on June 30, 1991. Seminary President, the Rev. Wilhelm Petersen, preached the sermon; Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Paul Schneider, performed the rites of ordination and installation; the Rev. Paul Lehenbauer was the liturgist; and the Rev. Carl Hoffmeyer (WELS), the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith and the Rev. Larry D. Vinton served as lectors.

Candidate of Theology Victor Settje was ordained and installed as pastor of River Heights Lutheran Church, East Grand Forks, Minnesota on July 7, 1991. Seminary President, the Rev. Wilhelm Petersen, preached the sermon and the Rev. James Larson performed the rites of ordination and installation. The Rev. Mark Wold served as liturgist.

The Rev. Theodore Gullixson was installed as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Escondido, California on July 21, 1991. The Rev. Gregory Bork preached the sermon; Circuit Visitor, the Rev. John Schmidt, performed the rite of installation and the Rev. Arthur Schmitt served as liturgist.

Mr. Hal Cook was installed as principal and teacher of grades 4-6 at Lakewood Lutheran School, Tacoma, Washington on September 8, 1991. Also installed on that day were Alice Keen as kindergarten teacher and Jill Holter as pre-school teacher.

The Rev. Kurt Smith was installed as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Vero Beach, Florida on July 28, 1991. The Rev. Raymond Branstad who had served as interim pastor for seven months delivered the sermon and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Charles Keeler, performed the rite of installation.

Mr. Donald Hahnke was installed as principal and upper grades teacher of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran School, West Bend, Wisconsin on August 11, 1991. The Rev. Harvey Abrahamson was installed as pastor of the Hawley-Ulen Parish on August 11, 1991. The Rev. Tom Rank preached the sermon and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Martin Doepel, performed the rite of installation and also served as liturgist.

The Rev. Kurt Uhlenbrauck was installed as pastor of First Lutheran, Suttons Bay, Michigan on August 25, 1991. The Rev. Roland Cap Ehlke (WELS) preached the sermon and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Paul Schneider, performed the rite of installation. The Rev. J. Kincaid Smith was the liturgist and the Rev. Larry Vinton the lector.

Our Redeemer Lutheran School, Yelm, Washington installed three teachers on August 25, 1991. They are as follows: Mr. Doug Stellick as principal and upper grades teacher; Miss Rebecca Bernthal, grades kindergarten through second and Mr. Nathan Radichel, grades third through fifth. The Rev. Jeffrey Carter, pastor, conducted the service and installation.

The Rev. Adolph L. Harstad was installed on August 29, 1991 as professor of Old Testament and Church History at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. Seminary President Wilhelm Petersen preached the sermon and Synod President George Orvick performed the rite of installation. Professor Juul Madson was the liturgist.

The Rev. Klebe Brumble was installed as pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Richardson, Texas on September 1, 1991. President Orvick preached the sermon and also performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. James Ruppel was installed as pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grants Pass, Oregon on November 3, 1991. The Rev. James Braun delivered the sermon and performed the rite of installation. The Rev. Timothy Mutterer served as liturgist.

The Rev. Randall Nepsund was installed as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, San Antonio, Texas on January 12, 1992. President George Orvick preached the

sermon and performed the rite of installation. The Rev. William Brassow (WELS) served as liturgist and the Rev. James Tauscher (WELS) as lector.

The Rev. Steve Scheiderer was installed as pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Bishop, California on February 2, 1992. Circuit Visitor, the Rev. John Schmidt, preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation. Also participating in the service was the vacancy pastor, the Rev. Dayton Fritz (WELS).

The Rev. Joel Willitz was installed as pastor of New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sebring, Florida on February 16, 1992. President George Orvick preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Jonathan Madson was installed as pastor of Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, Florida on April 5, 1992. The Rev. Steven Petersen preached the sermon and also performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Wilfrid Frick was installed as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, Litchfield, IL on June 14, 1992. Your synodical president preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. William H. Neumann was installed as pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Amherst Jct., WI on June 21, 1992.

## MEMBERSHIP REQUESTS

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

Mr. Curtis Mantey, teacher at Bethany Lutheran School, Port Orchard, Washington by transfer from WELS.

Mr. Donald Hahnke, principal and teacher at Trinity School, West Bend, Wisconsin by transfer from the WELS.

Mr. Douglas Stellick, principal and upper grades teacher at Our Redeemer Lutheran School, Yelm, Washington, by transfer from the WELS.

The Rev. James A. Ruppel, pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grants Pass, Oregon by transfer from the WELS.

The Rev. Klebe Brumble has applied for membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The Colloquy Committee has found him to be in doctrinal agreement with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and recommends him for membership.

The Rev. Steve Scheiderer, San Jose, California has applied for membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The Colloquy Committee has found him to be in doctrinal agreement with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and recommends him for membership.

The Rev. Randall Nepsund, pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, San Antonio, Texas by transfer from the WELS.

The Rev. Roger Kovaciny, called by "Thoughts of Faith" to be missionary in Ukraine, by transfer from the WELS.

The Rev. Richard Fyffe, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Weston, Ohio.

The Rev. Victor Settje, Pastor of River Heights Lutheran Church, East Grand Forks, Minnesota.

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

Faith Lutheran, Litchfield, Illinois

New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, Florida

Grace Lutheran Church, Hillsboro, Oregon

Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, Florida

## MEMBERSHIP RELEASES

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Janesville, Wisconsin was dissolved on October 6, 1991.

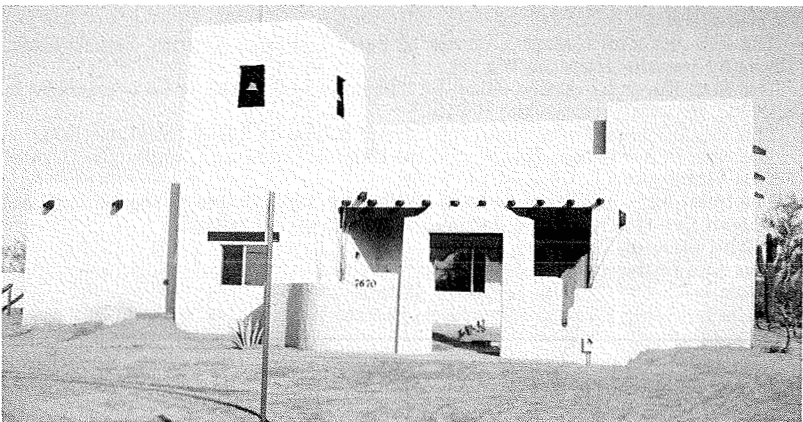
## DEDICATIONS

Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, Iola, Wisconsin dedicated its new house of worship with a special dedication service at 2:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon on October 27, 1991.



**Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, Iola, WI**

Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona celebrated the laying of the cornerstone and also dedicated its new house of worship on November 24, 1991. The Rev. Erwin Ekhoﬀ, chairman of the Board for Home Missions served as preacher for the cornerstone laying service at the morning service and Synod President George Orvick was the dedication preacher at the afternoon service. Pastor Robert McMiller performed the rite of dedication and served as liturgist. The Rev. Steven Petersen, field secretary of the Board for Home Missions served as lector.



**Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, AZ**



**Christ Lutheran Church, Windsor, CA**

Christ Lutheran Church, Windsor, California dedicated its new house of worship on March 1, 1992. Circuit Visitor, the Rev. John Schmidt, preached the sermon at the morning service and Pastor Daniel Sabrowsky performed the rite of dedication. Synod President George Orvick was guest preacher for the celebration of the dedication service which was held in the afternoon.

## **CHARTERING**

New Life Lutheran Church of Sebring, Florida held a special service on Sunday, February 16, 1992 for chartering of the congregation. President Orvick was the guest speaker for the occasion.

Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, Florida was chartered on Sunday April 5, 1992. The Rev. Steven Petersen was the guest speaker.

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

Forest Lutheran Church, Forest City, Iowa celebrated the 100th anniversary of its church building on June 30, 1991. Synod President George Orvick preached the sermon and former pastor, the Rev. Gottfred Guldberg, served as liturgist.

Western Koshkonong Lutheran Church, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin celebrated the 100th anniversary of the church's incorporation as a congregation and the laying of the cornerstone of its building on October 6, 1991. Your synod president was guest preacher for this festive occasion. Liturgists were the Rev. G. F. Guldberg and Pastor John Moldstad, Sr.





**Forest Lutheran Church, Forest City, IA**



**Western Koshkonong  
Lutheran Church,  
Cottage Grove,  
Wisconsin**



**Manchester Lutheran Church, Manchester, MN**

Manchester Evangelical Lutheran Church, Manchester, Minnesota celebrated its 75th anniversary with a service of thanksgiving on October 20, 1991. The Rev. Dennis Schmidt, pastor of the congregation preached the sermon and Synod President George Orvick brought greetings on behalf of the synod.

Trinity Lutheran Church, West Bend, Wisconsin observed the 135th anniversary of its organization on October 20, 1991. The Rev. Wilfrid Frick and Vice President Paul Petersen were the festival speakers.



**Trinity Lutheran Church, West Bend, WI**



**Bethel, Sioux Falls, SD**

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, celebrated its 50th anniversary with a special service on October 27, 1991. The Rev. John Moldstad, Jr., former pastor of the congregation was the guest speaker.

**Redeemer Lutheran  
Church,  
New Hampton, IA**



Redeemer Lutheran Church, New Hampton, Iowa celebrated its 50th anniversary on November 10, 1991. The Rev. Fred Stubenvoll, former pastor of the congregation, delivered the anniversary address at the morning service. A special afternoon program was held at which President George Orvick spoke on behalf of the synod. Also participating were the Rev. Wayne Halvorson, Circuit Visitor and the Rev. Milton Tweit who served many times as vacancy pastor.



**Grace Lutheran Church, Vero Beach, FL**

Grace Lutheran Church, Vero Beach, Florida celebrated its 75th anniversary on February 23, 1992. The Rev. Lewis Gerbhardt, who had served as pastor of Grace for forty years, was the guest speaker.

Our Savior Lutheran, Bishop, California celebrated the 20th anniversary of its incorporation on May 10, 1992.

Christ the King Lutheran Church, Bell Gardens, California celebrated its 20th anniversary on May 10, 1992. Synod President George Orvick was guest preacher for this occasion.

King of Grace Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, Minnesota, the Rev. Erwin Ekhoft, pastor, observed the 25th anniversary of its organization with a Festival Service on June 7. The Rev. R. M. Branstad was the speaker. The congregation was formed as a merger between Emmaus Lutheran Church and Fairview Lutheran Church.

## **ANNIVERSARIES OF ORDINATION OR OF SERVICE**

The Rev. Lewis Gerbhardt was honored on the occasion of his 50th anniversary of ordination on November 1, 1991.

The Rev. Howard Behrens will observe the 50th anniversary of his ordination this summer.

The Rev. Paul Petersen will observe the 40th anniversary of his ordination on July 6, 1992.

The Rev. Emil Stubenvoll, Sr., will observe the 40th anniversary of his ordination this summer.

The Rev. William McMurdie will observe the 40th anniversary of his ordination in July 1992.

The Rev. Rodger Dale observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination on June 4, 1992.

## RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Robert Pipal has been appointed to the Board for Education and Youth to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Joel Meyer.

Mr. Earl Aasen has resigned from the Board of Trustees. Mr. Robert Brown has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

The Rev. Frank Fiedler has tendered his resignation from Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, The Dallas, Oregon effective July 10, 1992.

Mr. Silas Born has resigned from the Board for Foreign Missions, having accepted a call to be teacher in the Christian Day School in Plzen, Czechoslovakia. Mr. Ken Loomis, a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin has been appointed to fill the vacancy until this convention.

The Rev. Jon Aho has resigned from the ministerium of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

## THE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

The 52nd biennial convention of our sister synod, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, was held August 5-9 at Dr. Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota. Your president attended the convention and brought greetings on behalf of our synod. Other pastors and representatives of the Doctrine Committee also attended. At this convention two pastors from our sister synod, the Rev. James A. Ruppel of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grants Pass, Oregon and the Rev. Randall P. Nepsund of Faith Lutheran Church, San Antonio, Texas are applying for membership in our synod. Three teachers from the WELS are also applying for permanent advisory membership in our synod. They are Mr. Curtis Mantey of Bethany Lutheran School, Port Orchard, Washington; Mr. Donald Hahnke of Trinity Lutheran School, West Bend, Wisconsin and Mr. Douglas Stellick of Our Redeemer Lutheran School at Yelm, Washington. We appreciate very much the fact that these men have agreed to serve in our synod and are applying for membership.

The Doctrine Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod met with the WELS Commission on Inter-Church Relations on January 24th. Various matters of mutual concern were discussed. One of the areas in which we are working together with the WELS is in the establishment of the "Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference." This is the new "Synodical Conference" which has been in the planning stage for a number of years. The first meeting of the conference will be held April 27-29, 1993 at Oberwesel, Germany.

A joint parish has been formed by an ELS congregation and a WELS congregation. Bethany Lutheran Church of Ames, Iowa (ELS) and Grace Lutheran Church of Newton, Iowa (WELS) have agreed to become a joint parish. Candidate of Theology David Meyer has been assigned to become the pastor of the parish.

May the Lord continue to bless the relationship that we have with our sister synod and may He keep us united in the confession of the one true faith.

## **OVERSEAS CHURCHES**

### **THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONAL CHURCH**

**(Sweden and Norway)**

The annual convention of the Lutheran Confessional Church was held at Nyfors Kursgard, Sweden July 11-14, 1991. The theme of the convention was "Faithful Stewards of God's Manifold Grace." Emanuel Lutheran Congregation of Umea, Sweden was received into membership. No representative of the ELS attended the LBK convention. Written greetings containing our synod's resolution were sent to the convention.

The 1992 convention of the LBK will be held at Gothenburg, Sweden, July 9-12. Your president plans to attend and has been invited to preach the Synod Sunday sermon.

The LBK has decided that after this year its conventions will be held biennially.

We thank God for the fellowship which we have with this small church body which is endeavoring to preach God's word in its truth and purity in the land of our forefathers. Mr. Thomas Lindgren, chairman of the LBK, writes "We thank God continuously for the fellowship between LBK and ELS, a fellowship that is worth so for us. May God ever keep us faithful to His word so that we may continue to cherish and practice this precious fellowship!"

## **THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN FREE CHURCH**

**(Germany)**

The 1991 convention of our sister synod in Germany, the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church was held October 11-13, 1991 at St. Petri Church in Zwickau. The theme of the convention was "Bekenntnis und Bekennen," "Confession and Confessing." The Rev. Paul Schneider attended the convention as my representative and brought official greetings from the ELS. (The trip was made at no cost to the synod.) Pastor Steven Sparley of our mission in Plzen, Czechoslovakia, also attended. There were 17 voting pastors and 16 lay delegates in attendance. The people of the former Eastern Zone are now experiencing great difficulty due to unemployment. In every congregation there are unemployed persons. The church body is still endeavoring to clarify its relationship with other European churches so as to avoid the problem of triangular fellowship relations. Letters have been sent to the Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany (SELK), the Evangelical Lutheran Church-Synod of France and Belgium and the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in Denmark. The purpose of the letters is to determine whether or not there is doctrinal agreement with those bodies. The church body needs to clarify those relationships in order to be a part of the new Confessional Lutheran Conference to be organized next April. Pastor Schneider presented a check for \$2,500 from the ELS Board for Christian Service to help with the economic needs of the members.

We thank Pastor Schneider and Pastor Sparley for attending the convention and demonstrating the fellowship that exists between our two church bodies. We of the ELS ought to do all that we can to encourage and strengthen our dear brethren in Europe. The cost of confessing Christ can sometimes be high and bring difficulties into the lives of those who would remain faithful. May God strengthen our brethren and uphold them as they endeavor to confess the truth in an ever increasing materialistic and rationalistic world.

It grieves us to report that a great personal sorrow has entered into the lives of the Gerhard Wilde family. President and Mrs. Wilde's daughter, Bettina, lost her life in a tragic car accident in Hungary. The Wildes' son, Martin, a student at the seminary in Leipzig was critically injured. Another friend in the car also lost her

life. May our gracious God comfort this dear family with his promises of eternal life and the blessed resurrection. Our Board for Christian Service has made a gift of \$500 to the Wilde family to help them in this time of need. Several congregations have also sent gifts.

Let us remember our brethren in the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in our prayers that the Lord may continue to strengthen and bless them as they endeavor to preach the pure Gospel in Germany.

## **THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF AUSTRALIA**

Our brethren of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia are making every effort to adhere steadfastly to the pure word of God and to spread the saving Gospel in the land "down under." A letter from Charles F. Lederhose, secretary for the parish, explains their plight. He writes: "I am writing you on behalf of the parish with a special request for assistance. The recession has hit us rather badly here in Australia, with several of our members being unemployed, and others having to take anywhere from a 10-30 percent cut in their pay. The result of this has a rather devastating effect on our parish budget and we are finding ourselves in the position of having to ask for some rather urgent assistance. . . . Faced with this hardship we have no alternative but to make an urgent plea for help to our brethren in the United States. For us to get back in the position we need to be in, we are in need of obtaining a \$4,000 gift rather urgently. We are hoping that there may be funds available to assist us, either through the synod, or privately." This request was presented to the Board for Foreign Missions which found it possible to grant the request. A check for \$4,000 has been sent to help in this emergency.

Additional financial help is being sought by the church body for another pastor to work in the area and also to help support a vicar. Our Board for Foreign Missions finds that its available funds are pretty well committed for our work in Peru and our new work in Chile.

Our sister synod in Australia has also suffered from a tragedy. Mr. Bernie Hartwig, formerly secretary of the parish and a staunch leader of the synod there, lost his life in an accident while he was involved in cutting down a tree. His loss is a great shock to the small church body there. An additional sorrow came into their midst when a WELS candidate of theology, Mr. Ernest Schultz, who was visiting there, was drowned while swimming in the ocean. Such sorrows have indeed been grievous to our dear brethren in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia. Let us remember our sister synod in our prayers as they deal with the trials and tribulations that come upon them.

On the positive side there is an indication that another congregation known as the Orthodox Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Rev. A. D. Grieger, pastor, is interested in fellowship with the ELSA.

Such small church bodies around the world who have taken such a brave stand for the truth surely deserve our encouragement and support. Let us pray for our brethren there and ask the Lord to give them strength and courage for the task of proclaiming the Gospel in their part of the world.

## **SYNODICAL AFFAIRS CIRCUIT VISITORS' WORKSHOP**

The annual Circuit Visitors' Conference was held on October 21-22, at Burnsville, Minnesota. Ten of the eleven circuit visitors were present plus your synodical president and the secretary, Alf Merseth. The conference continued the discussion of the essay, "Paul's Pattern for the Parish Pastor." The Rev. Paul

Schneider was the essayist. Numerous questions of casuistry affecting life in the congregations were discussed. Both doctrinal and practical issues were on the agenda. The reports from the visitors indicate that their work includes much counseling and consultation with pastors and congregations. The visitors are also active in promoting the work of the synod. The conference was funded by a generous grant from Lutheran Brotherhood.

The work of circuit visitors is greatly appreciated by the synodical president and by the pastors and congregations of the various circuits. As our synod grows larger it becomes more and more important to have faithful circuit visitors who are concerned about each pastor and congregation in their circuits.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation, therefore, to each visitor for his faithful help in caring for the needs of pastors and congregations.

## **THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFESSIONAL FORUM**

The next meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum will be held at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary on October 19-20, 1992. The Forum meets every other year and therefore no meeting was held in 1991.

## **SEMINARS**

During the past year a series of seminars entitled "Strengthening Parish and Parsonage" has been conducted throughout the synod by Dr. Thomas Kuster of our Bethany College. The seminar for pastors deals with the importance of effective communication in preaching and also the important task of leadership. The seminars have been much appreciated by the pastors. Mrs. Judy Kuster, an assistant professor at Mankato State University, conducts a workshop for pastor's wives on topics pertaining to family life. Both pastors and their wives are thus included in these seminars. The seminars will continue to completion in 1992. They are funded by a generous grant from Lutheran Brotherhood.

A series of seminars presenting the Biblical teachings of Christian stewardship as well as the preparation for the special anniversary thankoffering were presented this spring by the Rev. Paul Schneider and Prof. Richard Wiechmann. We express our sincere appreciation to these two brethren for the hard work and rigorous schedule of bringing all the pastors of the synod together for this important study of stewardship and the anniversary preparation. We also express our sincere appreciation to the generous donor who funded the entire cost of all of the seminars.

## **PASTORAL CONFERENCES**

Regular Circuit Pastoral Conferences have been held during the year as well as the General Pastoral Conference. In addition to these, local or "Winkel" conferences take place on a regular basis. In all of the conferences there is a serious study of the word of God and thorough discussion of doctrinal and practical matters. The pastors are strengthened by their fellowship together and are encouraged in their work. At the various conferences the work of the synod is also promoted and publicized by either the synod president or the circuit visitor.

## **WOMEN'S SOCIETIES**

In the 16th chapter of St. Paul's letter to the Romans we read an account of the many faithful women who assisted the Apostle Paul in his ministry. He mentions



"Phebe, our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea," he mentions Priscilla, Mary, Tryphena, and Tryphosa, and many others who "labored with me in the Gospel." Likewise, our Evangelical Lutheran Synod is blessed with many faithful women who serve the congregations, Women's Missionary Societies, Bethany Auxiliaries and who really have the work of the Lord upon their hearts. They give regular gifts for the work of foreign missions, to our college and seminary, home missions and other areas. We extend our heartfelt thanks to these faithful members of our women societies for the service that they render to the Lord and to our synod.

## EDUCATION AND YOUTH WORK

Continued progress is being made in our synod's efforts to reach out to the young people of our church. Our Board for Education and Youth has provided excellent leadership in this area. The church paper for youth, Young Branches, is constantly improving in its quality and style and becoming more and more popular with the young people. The convention held last year at Orlando, Florida was the highlight of the year for the LYA. Approximately 280 young people and counselors were in attendance. Not only did the youth enjoy the fun and fellowship but their devotions and Bible studies were also very meaningful to them. We extend our sincere thanks to the board members and others who assisted in carrying out of this enormous project. It was my privilege to attend and address the gathering and I was much impressed with the attitude and eagerness of the young people. A generous grant from AAL assisted greatly in carrying out this venture. The 1992 LYA convention will be held in the Chicago area and should also prove to be a real blessing to our youth. We urge each and every congregation to take a special interest in its youth.

This year's synod convention is also being devoted to the important task of passing on the truth from one generation to the next. Members of the Board for Education and Youth are serving as speakers for the devotions and the theme of the convention is "His Truth For Our Youth." The convention essay delivered by the Rev. John Moldstad, Jr., will bring home to us the importance of passing on His truth for our youth. It was inspiring to attend the midwest Christian Day School Teachers' Conference which was held at Mt. Olive Lutheran, Mankato, Minnesota on October 17-18, 1991. Our teachers demonstrate a strong and fervent commitment to the task of educating the lambs of Christ's flock. Right now we are experiencing a shortage of teachers and we would therefore urge young people to consider entering into this field in order to serve the Lord in this important way. We could wish that more pastors would attend the Teachers' Conferences in order to lend their counsel and advice. Once again we urge school boards and voters' assemblies to make an earnest study of the pay scale for their teachers. In the past years we have experienced an era of growth in the number of children enrolled in our Christian Day Schools and especially in the pre-school area.

The anniversary booklet, "In Remembrance Of His Mercy," will serve as a wonderful tool for study by both adults and children in the Christian Day Schools. The booklet depicts the history of our synod in nine paintings and could be adapted for use at any level. We urge our teachers to make use of the booklet in their upper-grade classes so that our children also may come to appreciate the wonderful heritage that we have in our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. May the Lord continue to bless the work of all those who have to do with the training of young people and of children. The Lord has given us the express command, "These words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children and thou shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house and when thou walkest by the way and when thou liest down and when thou risest up." (Deut. 6:6-7)

## SPECIAL OFFERING

Two years ago our synod resolved to gather a special anniversary thank offering. We repeat the resolution here in order that you may be reminded once again of the synod's action:

WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod will observe the 75th anniversary of its reorganization in 1993, and,

WHEREAS, A thankoffering is an appropriate expression of our gratitude for Grace, and,

WHEREAS, We want to continue proclaiming the Gospel in its truth and purity to future generations, and,

WHEREAS, In 1986 and again in 1989, the synod expressed the desire for significantly greater funding for work among children and youth through the Board for Education and Youth.

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the congregations of the synod gather a thankoffering in 1993 for 75 years of blessing, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That this thankoffering be for the benefit of the work of the Board for Education and Youth to promote the establishment and work of Christian Day Schools, Christian education and Christian youth ministry throughout the synod, and,

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the board prepare guidelines for the use of this offering for consideration at the 1991 convention, and,

D. BE IT RESOLVED, That the president of the synod be authorized to appoint a committee to conduct the gathering of this offering for the 75th anniversary of the reorganized Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The offering will begin on Wednesday of this year's convention. Pastors and delegates will be asked to make a two-year commitment for this endeavor. What a wonderful opportunity we have to get the offering off to a good start and to set an example for the entire synod. The fund which we create with this offering will do much for future generations to promote the establishment and work of Christian Day Schools, Christian education and work of youth ministry throughout the synod. I pray that we may all take this matter seriously and make a sacrificial commitment in gratitude to the Lord for 75 years of blessing.

The 75th Anniversary Thankoffering Committee is doing a very commendable job in the organization of the offering. Members of the committee are: C. Ferkenstad, chairman; S. Jaeger, secretary; P. Zager; J. Moldstad, Jr.; M. Tweit; R. Brown; and R. Wiechmann. I wish to express our sincere appreciation to them on behalf of the synod for all the work that they have done. The committee has prepared two brochures, bulletin inserts, an inspiring video presentation, Sentinel articles and other promotional material.

Aid Association for Lutherans has assisted with funding for the production of the video tape and also to assist our secretaries for Christian Day Schools to carry out their duties. AAL also provided funds for a Youth Leadership Workshop.

## ASSIGNMENT COMMITTEE

The Assignment Committee assigned vicars and candidates as follows: Candidate of Theology David Meyer to Bethany, Ames, Grace, Newton, Iowa Parish. Candidate of Theology Alex Ring was assigned to Parkland Lutheran Church, Parkland, Washington where he will serve as assistant pastor. Vicar Mark Tuffin was assigned to Ascension Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Vicar Kent Dethlefsen was assigned to the Waterville, Iowa Parish. We wish these young men the Lord's richest blessings as they prepare for and enter the office of the holy ministry.

## BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE AND BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY

The educational institutions of our church body are carrying out their respective functions with zeal and faithfulness. Bethany College has been provided with another wonderful gift which will enable the school to embark upon a program known as "Preparing for the 21st Century." The program will provide much needed space for our growing student body and enhance the financial stability of the school. The Lord continues to bless our Bethany College in marvelous ways and we thank Him for His many gifts. The administration, faculty and staff of both college and seminary are dedicated and gifted people who are giving their lives for the service of the church in training young people and in preparing pastors. Our seminary expects a large class to enroll this fall which will certainly help to provide pastors for our congregations in the years to come. Let us remember our college and our seminary in our prayers and set before our congregations the importance of providing a Christian higher education where the "One Thing Needful" is at the center. We commend the Board of Regents and the administration of the college and the seminary for their dedication to the important task of providing leaders, teachers and pastors for the future.

## HOME MISSIONS

Our synod's Board for Home Missions has been very aggressive in establishing new congregations. The board has been greatly assisted by the Partners in the Gospel offering, a generous gift from Schwan's Sales Enterprise, Inc. of Marshall, Minnesota and by the proceeds from the estate of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Fett of Storm Lake, Iowa. These special funds held in the foundation of our ELS enable the board to make great strides in opening new mission churches. The regular contributions of our members, are, of course, essential to the daily operation of the missions providing subsidies for salaries and buildings. The board has used good judgment in selecting mission sites and in managing what has become a large financial operation. The following chart will show the progress that has been made over the last twelve years.

## HOME MISSION STARTS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

YEAR	LOCATION
1980	Oregon, Wisconsin Lake Havasu City, Arizona
1984	Sebastian, Florida
1985	Phoenix, Arizona Lakeland, Florida
1986	Port Saint Lucie, Florida
1988	Bullhead City, Arizona
1989	Brownsburg, Indiana
1990	Kissimmee, Florida Sebring, Florida Gresham, Oregon
1991	Litchfield, Illinois
1992	Pierce County, Washington South Lakeland, Florida

## FOREIGN MISSIONS

As our Evangelical Lutheran Synod celebrates its 75th anniversary it looks back upon wonderful progress in the area of foreign missions over the last 25 years. We now have ELS missionaries in Peru and Chile. The ordination of three national pastors in the country of Peru has greatly expanded our outreach in that area and many souls are being brought into the kingdom on account of the work of these men. The move into Chile is exciting and provides another opportunity for our synod to reach out.

Our seminary in Peru has proven to be a marvelous blessing to the work of the church there. Without the training and ordination of national pastors we would find it impossible to expand in that area and to work effectively given the unstable political and economic conditions. Our Board for Foreign Missions is to be commended for the administration of the work which our synod is doing in South America. Our missionaries in that area have been faithful and diligent in their love for precious souls and in their work of training the national pastors in our seminary. Let us remember our missionaries and their families in Peru and in Chile as they continue to bring the Gospel to precious souls in those countries. We need to remember our missionaries and their families before the Lord in prayer. We need to ask our gracious God to watch over them as they labor far from home under sometimes difficult conditions.

## OUTREACH TO EASTERN EUROPE

It is indeed exciting to see the progress that has been made by our Thoughts of Faith "church-related organization" as it reaches out into Eastern Europe. Pastors Krikava and Sparley will be joined this summer by Pastor Matthew Luttman. They will continue the work in Plzen, hoping to establish the first ELS Christian congregation in the city soon. This summer they will be joined by Mr. Silas Born and Miss Joyce Eisberg who will carry on the work in the Christian Day School. We wish to express our thanks to Mr. James Holman who has served the school for one year and gotten it off to a good start.

It was my privilege to visit the mission in Plzen over the Easter weekend. We attended the Good Friday service, took part in staff meetings for two days and preached the Easter Sunday sermon. The Good Friday service was attended by 72 people of whom about 42 were Czechs. The Easter service was attended by some 60 persons of whom about 22 were native Czechoslovakians. We are pleased with the progress that has been made both in the school and the mission. Several people are taking instruction and will soon be confirmed in the Lutheran faith. Contacts with Czech people are made most often through the English language school where our missionaries serve as teachers. Americans are quite well accepted in Czechoslovakia and our mission work is welcomed there. Plans are underway for the establishment of a seminary in Plzen. We see this as an important step forward in order to train native Czech pastors. For the future of our mission there it is important that such native pastors be trained so that they can fluently preach the Gospel in their language. The ad hoc committee appointed last year held another meeting on May 14 in order to discuss the establishment of such a seminary. Items discussed at the meeting were the following: Why the need for such a seminary? The relationship between Thoughts of Faith and the synod regarding the operation of such a seminary; the administration of the new seminary; the doctrinal basis upon which this Plzen seminary would be founded; the curriculum, admission requirements, etc.; the calling of professors and finances. The meeting was felt to be very profitable and useful for sharing information and discussing mutual concerns so that there is a harmonious working relationship between Thoughts of Faith (a church-related organization) and our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The ad hoc committee consists of two members of the Doctrine Committee, the Board for Foreign Missions, the Board of Regents

and Thoughts of Faith. The committee is chaired by your synodical president. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless the work in Plzen. Funding for the mission work in Plzen is provided through Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc.

Work in Ukraine also continues. Two medical vans which are equipped to provide medical care and dental care were recently shipped to Ternopil. Here they will reach out to provide medical services especially to the unfortunate. Calls are being extended to pastors and teachers to begin mission work in Ternopil. It is our prayer that the calls will soon be answered and that the Gospel will be proclaimed in this land which has so long suffered under the deprivation and darkness of communism.

## TWENTY YEARS OF BLESSING

The following data reveals to us how the Lord has richly blessed our synod from the years 1970-1990. It is obvious that we have been recipients of abundant grace from our blessed Lord. In this chart we will see growth in almost every category. Surely our forefathers who gathered at Lime Creek in June of 1918 and wondered whether our synod had any future would be pleased to see what these statistics reveal.

### EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD A Statistical Comparison of the ELS Membership and Financial Data from 1970 to 1990

All data are from the "Parochial Report" of the 1971-1991 Synod Reports

	1970	1990	% change
Pastors serving congregations	48	95	+ 98
Ordained professors at Bethany	9	13	+ 44
Ordained Foreign Missionaries	2	6	+200
Membership (Baptized)	15,663	21,630	+ 38
Membership (Confirmed)	11,030	16,181	+ 46.6
Day School Enrollment	302	1,010	+234
Day School Teachers	18	67	+272
Sunday School Enrollment	3,344	3,233	- 3
Bible Class Enrollment	468	2,001	+327
Number of baptized members per pastor	326.3	227.7	- 30
Number of Congregations	86	128	+ 48.8
Number of members per congregations	182	169	- 7
Vacant congregations	10	7	
Contributions for home purposes	969,625	6,527,076	+573
Contributions for all other purposes	242,831	1,193,789	+492
Percent for home purposes	80%	84.5%	
Percent for all other purposes	20%	15.5%	
"all other" contributions per pastor	5,059	12,566	+148
"all other" contributions per congregation	2,823	9,326	+230
"all other" contributions per member	15.50	55.19	+256
Value of property	6,274,400	33,575,766	+435
Debt on property	1,395,865	4,974,927	+256

## BUDGETARY MATTERS

We are very pleased to report that the year 1991 was marked by the highest amount of contributions to our synodical budget in the history of our synod. The amount contributed was \$762,961.82. We thus exceeded our budget of \$736,000 by the amount of \$26,961.82. Congregations made a special effort to send in their December contributions before the 1991 books were closed on January 5. The budget excess helps to reduce our current operating deficit. We express our sincere thanks to the Lord for moving the hearts of our members to take such interest in his work and to give generously of their gifts in order to carry on the program of our church body.

We are sorry to report, however, that in the year 1992 we are not off to a very good start. Based upon our 1992 budget of \$750,000 we were, as of April 30, \$47,570.16 short of what we should have received in order to meet the budget. At the end of April 1991, we had a balance of \$2,229.57. You can thus readily see that this year we are in a far more serious situation than in 1991. The Board of Trustees recognized this fact at their May meeting and revised the 1992 budget downward to a total of \$735,000. It felt that this was necessary in view of our deficit.

It seems that we are not able to make very much progress in increasing our gifts for the regular budget of the synod. We make progress one year but the next year we fall back again. No special offering for the synodical work was planned for June of this year but there will undoubtedly be a Sunday set aside for that purpose this fall. We would ask that each congregation seriously consider the matter of giving for the Lord's work away from home. We need to remember that the work program which we agree upon at the convention is the responsibility of all of the congregations. Does your congregation discuss the work of the synod at council meetings and voters' assemblies? Does your congregation set a goal for the work of the Lord away from home? Is the work of the synod properly publicized in your parish? Do you have any suggestions as to how we can move forward as we have increased opportunities for spreading the Gospel and for teaching the young? Over the past few years we have not kept up with inflation and have made very little increase in our budget so that we could better fund the programs that we have adopted. We urge everyone to pray about the work of the synod, talk about it in the congregations, publicize the work of the synod and thus ask the Lord to move the hearts of our people to greater support.

## SYNOD INFORMATION PROGRAM

We are pleased to report that synod contact men have been chosen in 116 of our synod's 125 congregations. This year four letters from the president's office have been sent out to the contact men. We hope that these letters are being read to the congregations. The letters are designed to provide information and inspiration about our synod and its work. We have had reports expressing appreciation for this system of communication. We also continue to send bulletin inserts containing a synodical news update. We hope that all of this material is being used so that we may be fully informed about what we are doing together in our Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

## OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

With this convention we begin the year-long celebration of our 75th anniversary as a church body. The theme of this convention, His Truth For Our Youth, is designed to instill in us the desire to pass on the blessed truths which were handed down to us by our forefathers to the next generation.

At this convention we will also begin the anniversary thankoffering. Once again we remind the delegates and pastors of the importance of this offering. We have so often spoken of our desire to do more in the area of youth and education but that funds were not available. Now we have the opportunity to deal with this need. A generous anniversary offering will provide needed funds to help support our work with young people and parish education for years to come.

At this convention several special events in addition to the beginning of the thankoffering will take place. On Tuesday evening there will be the presentation of ten paintings symbolizing the doctrine, history and work of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The paintings will be unveiled in the lobby of the Fine Arts Center. Our artist, Prof. William Bukowski, will be introduced and will have the opportunity to explain the project that he began a year ago. We believe that these paintings, which have their permanent home in our seminary building, will serve as a pictorial history for years to come. They are excellently well done and set forth our history and our doctrine in a graphic way. We invite you to come to the presentation, along with the Choral Union on Tuesday evening.

On Wednesday morning at the convention the booklet entitled *In Remembrance Of His Mercy* will be distributed to all the pastors and delegates. You will be pleased to receive this fine memento of the anniversary. The booklet contains nine of the paintings with an historical, theological description of each one. Also on Wednesday of the convention a video production will be presented which will provide inspiration for the special offering.

This fall we urge all of our congregations to make use of the pictorial booklet as a biblical, historical study in the congregations. We urge all the members of the congregation to enroll in this nine-week course. The pastors and teachers of the course will be provided with additional information which will help in the presentation of the material contained in the booklet. What finer way can we observe our 75th anniversary than by enrolling as many members as possible in this study of our heritage. The paintings in the booklet provide a visual means of understanding and appreciating what our forefathers have done and what has been passed down to us.

We also urge our Christian Day Schools to make use of this booklet in their classroom studies. The pictures will lend themselves very well as an educational tool whereby even the children can grasp our heritage and the blessings that we have received from the Lord throughout the past 75 years. We hope that all of our schools will make use of this remembrance booklet.

Later this year a major book detailing the history of our church body will be ready for publication and distribution. The book is entitled "Built On The Rock." It contains three chapters, two of which are written by Pastor Herbert Larson and one by Prof. Juul B. Madson. The last 25 years of our church body have never been documented in a book and so it is essential that this period especially receives proper treatment. This has been an era of mission outreach both at home and abroad and many other developments such as expansion at Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, our outreach to Eastern Europe, our increased activity among young people and the general growth of our synod. This book will be a documented source of information for generations to come. It is written in an engaging style which captures the faith of our forefathers and the unique flavor of our church body. It points out the fact that our church is built squarely upon Christ as the chief cornerstone of our faith and upon the means of grace through which the Lord brings to us all the blessings of salvation. We are sure that every home will be blessed by having this book in its library and by reading it carefully.

Later in 1992 and 1993 plans will be announced for special services in the congregations. A children's program centered around the meaning of the paintings will be produced so that our children may take part in the celebration. A pictorial book which will contain pictures of all our pastors and the congregations will be made available. A special service at Lime Creek Lutheran Church where our synod was organized will be held on June 6, 1993.

When all of these undertakings have been brought to completion and have been made use of in the congregations we will feel that we have celebrated our 75th anniversary with proper thanks and praise to our gracious God.

Your Anniversary Committee has been working very hard during the year to coordinate and produce these materials. Members of the committee are as follows: G. Orvick, chairman; D. Nelson, secretary; Alf Merseth; M. Tweit; R. M. Branstad; R. Newgard and Harvey Roberson.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to Aid Association for Lutherans for the generous grants which have been provided to assist us in carrying out all of these goals in observance of this special event in the life of the synod. We also thank Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc. of Marshall, Minnesota, for a generous gift to help with the production of materials and the expenses involved in carrying out the project.

## CONGRATULATIONS

We extend our sincere congratulations to all those who are celebrating anniversaries of ordination at this convention. They are as follows: Lewis Gerbhardt, 50 years; Howard Behrens, 50 years; Paul Petersen, 40 years; Emil Stubenvoll, Sr., 40 years; William McMurdie, 40 years and Rodger Dale, 25 years. We thank all of these dedicated pastors for their faithful service to the Lord and to the synod.

## OUR THANKS TO ALL GOD'S FAITHFUL SERVANTS

As we complete another year in the life of our church body we take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all the faithful laborers who are deeply concerned about our church body and do all that they can to promote its work. We thank our pastors, professors, administrators, board members, teachers and every layman and woman in the synod who labor quietly and faithfully in the synod for the advancement of His kingdom. The officers of our synod are deserving of special thanks: The Rev. Paul Petersen, vice president; the Rev. Alf Merseth, secretary; and Mr. Leroy Meyer, treasurer. We call attention to the fact that Secretary Merseth has now served in that office for 20 years. Leroy Meyer, our faithful treasurer, has also held that position for 20 years. We are deeply grateful to the Lord for providing us such faithful servants. Again we express thanks and appreciation to Pastor Paul Madson who continues to edit our synod's church paper, *THE LUTHERAN SENTINEL*, with such faithfulness and devotion. We express our deep appreciation to Pres. Meyer and Pres. Petersen for rendering such valuable service to our college and seminary. We express our thanks to each faithful pastor who cares for his flock, to our home and foreign missionaries who labor far from home and to all the members of our synodical boards and committees who take seriously the tasks assigned to them. May God bless each and every one for their valuable service.

## PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES

During the past year it has once again been my privilege to serve in the office of president of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. I have had many opportunities to visit a number of congregations and to share with them the blessed Gospel. Our synod has so many faithful lay people who are devoted to our church body. This year I have had the opportunity to preach or speak at the following congregations: Forest City, Iowa; St. Mark's, Chicago, Illinois; Richardson, Texas; Brewster, Massachusetts; Albert Lea, Minnesota; Litchfield, Illinois; Western Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin; Manchester, Minnesota; Parkland Lutheran, Tacoma, Washington; Sebastian, Florida; New Hampton, Iowa; Scottsdale, Arizona; San Antonio, Texas; Ames, Iowa; Somber, Iowa; Sebring, Florida; Windsor, California; Bell Gardens, California. I have also attended nearly all of



the board and committee meetings during the year as well as inter-synodical meetings and some of the pastoral conferences of our synod.

The Lord has now granted me the opportunity of serving in this office as full-time president for the last six years. I find the work to be challenging and rewarding and hold the conviction that our synod has a definite role to play in the changing world of Lutheranism. I again ask for your prayers that the Lord would grant me health and strength in order to meet the challenges and responsibilities which lie ahead.

## CONCLUSION

As we enter into our year of celebration may our hearts be filled with the same faithfulness and steadfastness as that of your forefathers. It is our prayer that each and every member of our synod may benefit from reviewing our history over the past 75 years and contemplating the marvelous grace which the Lord has shown to us. This year of celebration will then prove to be a year of strengthening for our faith and life. The Apostle Paul writes "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15:58. May we grow more steadfast and unmoveable as we go into the future. May we always abound in the work of the Lord as did our forefathers. His truth has endured throughout the generations preceding us and we have His promise that it will continue to endure in the future. May the Lord richly bless our year of celebration!

SOLI DEO GLORIA

George M. Orvick  
President

## SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP ACTION OF THE SYNOD

### **Resolution No. 1: Membership Applications of Pastors**

*WHEREAS, The following pastors have been recommended by the faculty and approved by The Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, and,*

*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, therefore,*

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

*1. The Rev. Richard Fyffe, pastor of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Weston, Ohio, and,*

*2. The Rev. Victor Settje, pastor of River Heights Lutheran Church, East Grand Forks, Minnesota.*

### **Resolution No. 2: Membership Transfers of Pastors**

*WHEREAS, The following pastors have been transferred to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod by officials of The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, therefore,*

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

*1. The Rev. James A. Ruppel, pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grants Pass, Oregon.*

*2. The Rev. Randall Nepsund, pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, San Antonio, Texas, and,*

*3. The Rev. Roger Kovaciny, Thoughts of Faith missionary to Ukraine.*

### **Resolution No. 3: Membership Applications of Pastors**

*WHEREAS, The Colloquy Committee of The Evangelical Lutheran Synod has approved the following pastors for synodical membership, and,*

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

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

*1. The Rev. Klebe Brumble, pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Richardson, Texas, and,*

*The Rev. Steve Scheiderer, pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Bishop, California.*

### **Resolution No. 4: Membership Applications of Teachers**

*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, therefore,*

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

*1. Mr. Curtis Mantey, teacher at Bethany Lutheran School, Port Orchard, Washington.*

2. Mr. Donald Hahnke, principal and teacher at Trinity School, West Bend, Wisconsin, and,

3. Mr. Douglas Stellick, principal and teacher at Our Redeemer Lutheran School, Yelm, Washington.

**Resolution No. 5: Membership Applications 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, therefore,*

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

1. Faith Lutheran Church, Litchfield, Illinois,
2. New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, Florida,
3. Grace Lutheran Church, Hillsboro, Oregon, and
4. Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, Florida.

**Resolution No. 6: Membership Release**

*WHEREAS, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Janesville, Wisconsin was dissolved on October 6, 1991, therefore,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the name of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Janesville, Wisconsin be removed from the roster of congregations of The Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*

**Resolution No. 7: Constitution Review**

*WHEREAS, Scriptural Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cape Girardeau, MO, and Family of God Lutheran Church, Riviera, AZ, have submitted their revised constitutions for review, and,*

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

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks these congregations for submitting their revised constitutions and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod reminds other congregations which adopt a new or revised constitutions also to submit theirs for review.*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND REPORT ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Anniversary Celebration**

*WHEREAS, Next year the Evangelical Lutheran Synod will be observing its 75th anniversary, and,*

*WHEREAS, Our synod's president has exhorted us to "Let the celebration begin!"*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That we urge our congregations to enter into preparation for this celebration with a spirit of thanksgiving and joy befitting such a blessed occasion.*

**Resolution No. 2: Bible Study**

*WHEREAS, The synod's president has recommended that, if our celebration is to have a lasting effect, the individuals and con-*

gregations of the ELS engage in a renewed study of God's holy Word.

*BE IT RESOLVED, That we, individually and in our congregations, stress the importance of Bible study by promoting an ongoing study of the Holy Scriptures.*

**Resolution No. 3: Appreciation of Our Heritage**

*WHEREAS, The president in his message also recommends that we deepen our knowledge and appreciation for our spiritual heritage,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That we encourage our people to make use of the special anniversary materials being prepared, such as the study booklet, "In Remembrance Of His Mercy," and the historical volume entitled, "Built On The Rock."*

**Resolution No. 4: Blessings of Unity**

*WHEREAS, The president in his message reminded us that it is a great blessing from the Lord to have a spiritually sound unity of doctrine and spirit with true Christian love towards one another,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That as we enter upon the celebration of our synod's 75th anniversary, we thank God for the unity He has given us in the past, and pray that He will continue to keep us faithful to His Word as we dedicate ourselves anew to proclaiming His unconditioned Gospel to the world.*

**Resolution No. 5: Relations With Other Church Bodies**

*WHEREAS, The ELS continues to enjoy fraternal relations with the WELS and with the brethren in several church bodies overseas,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks God for the blessings of such fellowship and pray that we may continue to mutually strengthen one another in contending for the faith.*

**Resolution No. 6 The Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum**

*WHEREAS, In October of this year the Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum will be holding its biennial meeting at our Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Forum has proved to be of mutual benefit to both synods,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod lends its encouragement to this endeavor and prays for the Lord's blessing upon it.*

**Resolution No. 7: President's Activities**

*WHEREAS, President Orvick has been untiring in his efforts to carry out the manifold duties of his office and has served our synod faithfully and well,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod again thanks him for his faithful service, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod prays that the Lord will grant him continued health and strength to meet the challenges and responsibilities of his office.*

**Resolution No. 8: President's Message and Report**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the president's message and report be printed in the 1992 Synod Report.*

# ESSAY FOR THE 75TH CONVENTION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD IN THE NAME OF JESUS

## HIS TRUTH FOR OUR YOUTH



The Rev. John A. Moldstad, Jr.  
Oregon, Wisconsin

One of the most precious gifts from the hand of our providential Lord is our offspring. Often the statement is made that, out of all the earthly gifts God has given us, our children are the only "possessions" of this world we can—through faith in Christ—take with us into eternity. Despite some societal pessimism on the matter of propagation and rearing children, we Christians maintain with the psalmist that children are "an heritage of the Lord" (Psalm 127). A wide chasm exists between people, on the one hand, who would view children as economic liabilities or time consuming infringements, and those of us, on the other hand, who view them as tremendous opportunities for instructing souls in Christ's Kingdom.

The responsibility of educating our youth rests chiefly with the parents, extends also to the church at large and applies to the secular government in the realm of training for good citizenry. In his Large Catechism, Dr. Martin Luther remarks under his treatment of the Fourth Commandment: "Parents should consider that they owe obedience to God, and that, above all, they should earnestly and faithfully discharge the duties of their office, not only to provide for the material support of their children, servants, subjects, etc., but especially to bring them up to the praise and honor of God. Therefore do not imagine that the parental of-

fice is a matter of your pleasure and whim. It is a strict commandment and injunction of God, who holds you accountable for it," [1]. Again, Luther reminds us that this parental responsibility even starts from the time the children leave the birthing room: "No one should become a father unless he is able to instruct his children in the Ten Commandments and in the Gospel, so that he may bring up true Christians. But many enter the estate of holy matrimony who cannot say the Lord's Prayer, and knowing nothing themselves, they are utterly incompetent to instruct their children. Children should be brought up in the fear of God. If the Kingdom of God is to come in power, we must begin with children and teach them from the cradle" [2].

More than anything else, more than teaching our youth how to be good citizens, good in business, good homemakers, good athletes, or even good promoters of decency and morality, we want to instruct them in "the wisdom of the Lord." "What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:26). Putting it another way, we could say: Why boast over the accomplishments of our children, if those suggested "accomplishments" are not in and under their spiritual growth in the Lord?

Scripture impresses on Christian parents, as well as all believers, the necessity of giving our youth instruction in the Word of God. For parents, we take note of such verses as the following: "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it," (Prov. 22:6). "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord," (Eph. 6:4). "These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 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. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates," (Deut. 6:6, 7). Concerning the duty of the whole community of believers in assisting parents in the spiritual training of their children, we note these verses: Jesus said in Mark 10:14, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." To Peter, as a leader in Christ's Kingdom, Jesus said: "Feed my lambs," (John 21:15). In his great commission Christ included every age group when he said, "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," (Matt. 28:19, 20). Also, we could cite Colossians 3:17, "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."

## I. WE WANT OUR YOUTH TO HAVE THE TRUTH WHICH WILL ENDURE FOR ETERNITY.

Shortly before Moses died and it was established that Joshua should lead the people of Israel into the land of Canaan, the people listened to the final speech from their great leader. At the end of his speech, he added this admonition: "Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words for you—they are your *life*," (Deut. 32:46, 47). Not only would the Word of God sustain the people as they would cross the Jordan and dwell in the new land; it would continue to be the full source of LIFE for them in every way until eternity. Why? At the heart and center of what Moses taught and at the heart and center of all of Scripture is the Rock of our salvation (Deut. 32:4), Jesus Christ.

Christ is the only one who can give real life to every sinner, including our children, because He alone is "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). When the whole process of educating our youth does not include the overarching purpose of leading them to Christ for the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life, any other "truth" or "truths" taught at home or in the classroom—no matter how valid—will leave our youth empty and devoid of real life. "Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son," (John 3:18).

In his book entitled, *What Do You Really Want for Your Children?*, Dr. Wayne Dyer exemplifies the feel-good-about-yourself approach which numerous educators espouse, as if this is going to be some kind of enduring truth or medicine for our youth. "Goodness is not a quality one discovers in something outside himself," says Dyer. "It is a quality that one must live. Thus, as parents, you can help your children to feel good about themselves, to appreciate the goodness of this world, and to always be looking for the good. Then they will *be* goodness and they will see it everywhere . . ." To show that Dyer is simply a promoter of the age-old false philosophy of good works meriting the favor of the Creator, he goes on to say in a paragraph on training youth to be "spiritual:" "Being spiritual is quite different from attempting to be a religious person, or a good Protestant, Catholic, Jew, Buddhist, or any other organizational label. It means being Christ-like, rather than being a Christian . . . Being spiritual means one does not kill, defame, defile, or act immorally regardless of who is telling one to so conduct oneself" [3].

It's not just secular educators, youth counselors and youth psychologists who often suggest that some kind of deistic moralism (similar to the creed of the Masonic Lodge) is the epitome of truth to be inculcated in young minds. It can also be found in the church, where not only Norman Vincent Peale adherents tout

“positive thinking theology,” but also where there are followers of Vatican II. Sounding very much akin to the Reformed Church in its equating of faith and reason, that Council urged its own educators to be more attuned to the changing times of today’s youth in order that “the convergence of faith and reason in the one truth may be seen more clearly” [4].

But what can our tainted, sinful reason tell us or our youth more *clearly* about the real TRUTH, Jesus Christ and His verbally inspired and inerrant Word? Christ transcends our reason. He is the eternal God having come into the flesh for the redemption of all sinners. Furthermore, His Word, the holy Bible, is not in need of being “adjusted” to fit the moral climate youth face in the 1990s, or to fit the ecumenism of the world’s religious scene. It is God’s unchanging truth for all times. And the height of HIS truth is this: “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are *justified freely by His grace* through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus” (Rom. 3:23, 24). It is only this truth which will serve our youth not only for seventy, eighty, or ninety years on this earth, but for an endless lifetime with the Almighty! In other words, to carry it even a step further, we can say that educating our youth in the eternal truth is not just teaching them true facts and precepts from Scripture, but also and especially imparting to them the proper division between Law and Gospel, with the Gospel of salvation by grace through faith in Christ receiving predominance.

How do *we* look upon our youth? Do we see them in need of the real truth which we just discussed?

In reading the special *Newsweek* summer/fall 1990 edition with the cover story on “The New Teens,” by David Gelman, it doesn’t take much to convince people that today’s youth face numerous obstacles. Gelman writes: “Today’s teenagers face more adult-strength stresses than their predecessors did—at a time when adults are much less available to help them. With the divorce rate hovering near 50 percent, and 40 to 50 percent of teenagers living in single-parent homes headed mainly by working mothers, teens are more on their own than ever. ‘My parents let me do anything I want as long as I don’t get into trouble,’ writes a 15-year-old high-schooler from Ohio in an essay submitted for this special issue of *Newsweek*” [5].

The article goes on to state that, even though the overall drug abuse is down, the proliferation of crack cocaine continues in low-income neighborhoods, and a lethal one called “ice” is starting to find its way into many white high schools. At the same time, we are told that the drinking and smoking rates remain alarmingly high. A psychologist at the University of Wisconsin is quoted as saying, “The use of alcohol appears normative. By the upper grades, everybody’s doing it” [6].

Who wouldn’t guess that sexual activity among today’s youth is also on the rise? After all, when a sports icon like Magic John-



son, one who had great rapport with teens, goes public in admitting to have AIDS, but then does not demonstrate remorse over being promiscuous and instead urges "safe sex by condom" (a euphemism for fornication), how can we expect today's youth to champion virginity and monogamy? The *Newsweek* poll showed that most teens are regularly having sexual intercourse by the 11th grade. About ½ million teenage girls give birth each year, not to mention the abhorring fact that about 40 percent of all teenage pregnancies end in abortion (accounting for 26 percent of all abortions performed in the United States) [7].

Where can teens turn for guidance and truth in fighting sins common to youth? You and I know that it is only in the Book which is the lamp for our feet and the light for our path (Ps. 119:105). Yet, we must ask: How can one expect youth to decipher right and wrong, when even many purported leaders of the Book do not themselves set proper examples to be emulated? Pastor Paul Lehenbauer raised this question in a paper recently delivered at the Great Lakes Pastoral Conference: "And what do we say to the children and youth of our time who are faced with any number of clergy in some churches who have married and remarried, who approve of live-in mates, or are guilty of the sins so clearly condemned in the Epistle to the Romans, namely homosexuality? What do we say, when in the Roman Church the abuse of boys has become a great scandal in many parts of our country? Can we in all honesty expect bad examples to encourage righteous living? And where there is right teaching of the Word of God, both law and Gospel, do not the evil examples, even of prominent lay leaders in churches, undercut and undermine the truth?" [8].

Sandi Monroe, at the time a 1982 teenage "Presidential Scholar," summarized succinctly how teens are shaped by the times in which they live: "They have matured in an age when morality has become increasingly relative and has been replaced by terms like 'situation ethics' and 'maximum individual autonomy.'" Speaking from the viewpoint of a then freshman in college, she made this astute observation: "I honestly don't believe that I can look at my generation and feel optimistic about the future, aside from hopes of divine intervention" [9]. Can't the very same be said of our youth in the 90's?

When we look at our children—no matter what age they are—we need to see them, first of all, as fellow sinners, who have the same desperate need for the Savior that you and I have. Sometimes, I fear, we get *too* hung up analyzing youth as to the unique kinds of peer and cultural pressures they face, that we are in danger of overlooking the *root cause* of the evils perennially associated with youth. Joe Temple in his book, *Know Your Child*, suggests: "A great deal that is blamed on television and movies today—though they do have their serious faults—should be blamed on Adam [here he means: original sin], and on the fact

that our children are 'doing what comes naturally' unless we parents do something to interrupt" [10]. We might add to that: "... unless *God* does something to interrupt," and God *has* done that in His Gospel which is the "*power* of God for the salvation of everyone who believes" (Rom. 1:18) and is likewise the *power* for sanctified living (2 Cor. 5:14, 15). This is what we, as parents and as the church at large, desire most for our children to have, for it is only then that the living according to God's commandments will result from the proper motivation. [This is said, however, with the realization that there is still a place for what we call the "Third Use of the Law" in teaching the regenerate the precise acceptable will of God (Art. VI of the Formula of Concord).]

Are we convinced that our children, just like ourselves, would be damned to eternal destruction in a literal place called "hell," if Christ had not come into the world as the Redeemer and offered His salvation to us in Word and Sacrament? In the March 1991 *U. S. News and World Report* a recent poll demonstrated that 60 percent of Americans now believe in a literal hell as compared with 58% in the 1950s. Among young adults (under 30) there are 71 percent who acknowledge hell's existence, while only 54% of adults over 50 make the similar claim. This is surprising. Yet, upon closer examination, one has to question exactly what people mean. For instance while 60 percent of Americans believe there is a hell, only 4 percent believe there is a good chance they could end up there. Professor John Brug in his critique of this article stated: "The 'comeback of hell' seemingly is not due to a renewed understanding of the seriousness of all sin. It apparently relates to a widespread shock at the prevalence of extreme violence in our world. Presumably, tyrants like Saddam Hussein and murderers, rapists and child abusers are perceived as candidates for hell, but not garden-variety sinners" [11].

Continually we ought to remind ourselves of the real needs that our youth have. Only when we see their and our need for Christ—not just for the purpose of living decently and morally, but because of our otherwise natural destination of hell—can we see the urgency of applying HIS TRUTH to the lives of our youth. They have a need to be loved by God, just as all of us do, repeatedly hearing how "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son" (John 3:16). They also have a need to be loved by us parents and parishioners who cling to the redeeming love of Christ. They have a need to find their purpose in life. Instead of the world's advice for parents to "encourage adolescents' belief in themselves [12], our youth need to learn the pattern of St. Paul: "For to me, to live is Christ . . .," (Phil. 1:21). "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength," (Phil. 4:13). And finally they—like all of us—have the need to receive guidance and direction. The Word gives that direction for their spiritual lives, whereas—coupled with prayer—the consultation

with fellow Christian parents, friends and advisers lends guidance on those matters not decided in the Word.

Do we see the urgency of meeting the spiritual needs of our youth? In his second sermon book, *St. Paul: The Theologian's Prototype*, the Rev. Alvin Wagner uses the following illustration: "The British annals of the sea tell of a ship that was swept upon a rocky coast. Passengers were given orders to remain awake and watchful on deck. But one of them, stupefied by intemperate drinking, threw himself on his berth, where he lay in the grip of a deep sleep. And, see, just before the ship struck it was lifted over a reef of rocks by a huge wave and left upon a sandbar. In that instant captain, crew and passengers took advantage of an opportunity to escape to the shore. But the one asleep in his berth missed the opportunity; dying in sin, he lost his life and his soul—just like the many thousands of young people today who are so intoxicated with the world's vices and excesses in drinks and drugs that they are sleeping away the golden opportunities given them by the Lord and His Word to awake, repent and live" [13].

Consider what there is for us to offer our youth to insure that they will have the truth meant to endure for eternity. We have been blessed with God's gracious Means of Grace (The Word of God, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper). These means, through which alone God offers to us the forgiveness from Christ's cross and through which alone the Holy Spirit creates and strengthens faith, are used in our Lutheran church services. Entertainment-oriented churches often make their appeal to the youth, but unfortunately they frequently lack any emphasis on the tangible way God brings His grace to sinful souls in Word and Sacrament. Compared to the churches of the Reformed background, which in many cases attract more youth than the Lutherans, we should note this important distinction: The followers of John Calvin lean on a subjective feeling of some kind for their "assurance" of the Spirit's working, while the followers of Martin Luther lean on the never-changing Means of Grace. "For Calvin, the gap between God and man is bridged only in an incomplete way by the Incarnation and not at all by the Sacraments. In Reformed theology the immediate, internal working of the Holy Spirit on the heart of man bridges the gap between God and man" [14].

Luther knew that the spiritual needs of the youth could only be met in a strong adherence to the Word. He felt so deeply about it being the chief educational tool, that he wrote in his "Letter to the Christian Nobility" in 1520:

I would advise no one to send his child where the Holy Scriptures are not supreme. Every institution that does not unceasingly pursue the study of God's Word becomes corrupt. Because of this we can see what kind of people they become in the universities and what they are like now. Nobody is to blame for this except the pope, the bishops, and the prelates, who are all charged with training young people. The universities only ought to turn out men who are experts in the Holy Scriptures, men who can become

bishops and priests, and stand in the front line against heretic, the devil, and all the world. But where do you find that? I greatly fear that the universities, unless they teach the Holy Scriptures diligently and impress them on the young students, are wide gates to hell [15].

It should be noted that in Luther's day where church and state separation was not obvious, and where the universities were mostly run by the Roman Church, his real complaint was that Scripture was not being taught even when it was indicated in the institutions' curriculums. Yet, one should not underplay Luther's vehemence on the entire subject of the vital role of Scripture in the overall education of our youth.

Through our conversations, our examples and by prayer we are to keep our youth ever-mindful of the Means of Grace. Do we take the time to *talk* with them?

According to the special *Newsweek* edition mentioned earlier, many youth complain that they feel isolated, unconnected to the larger world, and this detachment is occurring at a time when they are groping for who they are and where they fit in. Unfortunately there are a large number of youth who think mostly about making money and having prestige or, as one sociologist says, "looking for the good life they see on television." The major thrust of the *Newsweek* article is to encourage Moms and Dads and other adults to take time to communicate values to their children. "Mom and Dad have to earn a living and fulfill their own needs—they are not likely to be coming home early. But there must be a time and place for them to give their children the advice, the comfort . . ." [16]. Well, if even the secular world notes the importance of passing on valuable information to our youth, how much more shouldn't *we* who have HIS TRUTH for eternity want to impart *that wisdom* to our offspring in our daily conversations!

What kinds of examples are we setting? Can our youth tell by the way we conduct our business affairs, by the way we use our time, by the way we spend our money, that we draw our strength each day from Christ and His Word?

"At the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast in St. Louis on Ash Wednesday 1984, the main speaker was the movie star Dean Jones who gave a testimony of his personal faith in Jesus Christ. He told how he had recently been offered a role as a middle-aged detective in a proposed TV series. After reading the script, he was pleased. It was well written and an interesting story. But there was a part where he, as a middle-aged detective, would go to bed with his female photographer. That he didn't like. So he met with the writer and producer and suggested ways to leave that out of the story. But they would not change so he refused the job offer. He explained his decision to the 2,000 people at the breakfast. He had recently written to a 13-year-old girl who had asked for his advice as to what to do when her boyfriend asked her to go to bed with him. He had tried in his letter to explain how a Christian deals

with such issues. Then he said, 'I would see that 13-year-old reading my letter and then watching me on the screen romping in bed and in a bathtub with someone who was not my wife. What a contradiction that would be!' " [17]. Yes, who can deny that the examples we set often speak louder than words in terms of urging our youth to uphold the Word?

Nancy Kolodny, author of *How to Survive Your Adolescent's Adolescence*, has written: "While it is true that as children evolve into teenagers parental influence as role models may seem to wane in favor of input from peer groups and school sources, the fact is that adolescents tend to measure themselves against an imaginary yardstick composed in large part of the role models provided over the years by their parents. This yardstick—a composite of perceived values, beliefs, and behavioral skills—serves as both an evaluative device, allowing the teenager to see how he or she 'measures up' in the quest for independence and maturity, and as a familiar point of reference to which teenagers can return, again and again, for a sense of direction and guidance."

Kolodny then goes on and says: "The way in which parents most frequently undermine the credibility and power of their role models is the 'Do what I say, not what I do' syndrome . . . For example, parents who advocate absolute honesty but frequently use 'little white lies' in their own lives are victims of this malady. Consider also the mixed message given by the parent who tells a teen that alcohol is dangerous but has a couple of martinis before dinner every night in order to relax. While all of us probably fall into this self-contradictory trap once in a while, it's important to realize that if this becomes a persistent pattern it seriously erodes our impact as role models" [18].

In training our youth, we Christians also should not overlook the use of discipline. Our children—as all of us—still have the Old Adam, even as we seek to motivate them by the Gospel. For this reason, Scripture repeatedly speaks of using discipline with our children, but always it is to be exercised in true Christian love. "He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him," (Prov. 13:24). "The rod of correction imparts wisdom, but a child left to itself disgraces his mother," (Prov. 29:15). The use of corporal discipline is much debated in our society, largely due to reported abuses. Yet, Scripture does not prohibit parents from exercising spankings, and—in fact—demands its usage when the occasional circumstances warrant it. We don't want to be like modern day Eli's who "spare the rod and spoil the child," but we also do want to make sure that even when the "rod" is necessary it is carried out not in a setting of hatred but in love and with an explanation of that love. "Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged," (Col. 3:21). If children at a young age are not taught with discipline, how can one expect them as teenagers to be obedient?

HIS TRUTH FOR OUR YOUTH, as we mentioned earlier, is

more than just educating on morality. It is having our young people see that in Christ there is forgiveness and life—life not only in heaven one day for the believer when he or she dies, but life *right now* through regular contact with God's Means of Grace. Educational methods today which neglect the divine authority but propose to teach a morality of some kind (i.e., "Don't do drugs!"), without giving the real reason and motivation for it, are making "men without chests"—to use C. S. Lewis' analogy. "In a sort of ghastly simplicity we remove the organ and demand the function. We make men without chests and expect of them virtue and enterprise" [19]. Our synod's Bethany Lutheran College has in its catalogue this important statement: "The Bible is not regarded as a mere source book of religious precepts for legalistic or moralistic application, but rather as a living book in which the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God for salvation."

## II. WE WANT OUR YOUTH TO MAKE USE OF THIS TRUTH THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES.

The religious instruction that we give is meant to be inculcated and integrated into the lives of our youth. We ought not be content with their knowing just the basics, but aim for thorough indoctrination. "Religious instruction must be integrated into life. Why is religious instruction considered dull by pupils? Because they fail to see that the memory material and the Catechism lessons have any bearing on their life," writes H. E. Plehn in his excellent essay on Christian education in *The Abiding Word*, vol. II [20].

The Rev. R. Dale, in his essay to our synodical convention of 1974 reminded us of the major objective we have before us in presenting God's truth to our youth. He wrote: "Our objective in Christian education is to communicate this Word of God to all people in such a way that each person, as the ELS Explanation says, 'clings to Jesus with (his) whole heart, and consecrates (his) whole life to Him as a perpetual thank-offering for all His love to us.' (ELS Catechism/Explanation, Q. 382)" [21].

Are we giving our youth enough of the "meat" from the Word so that when they wander out into the "famine-stricken" strongholds of evolution, humanism, materialism, and universalism, that they will be able to "stomach" the criticism aimed at Christianity? Do the words of the writer of Hebrews find direct application to the caliber of spiritual knowledge many of our congregations' youth carry with them today? "Though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!" (Heb. 5:12). We should take note that when Peter said, "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk so that by it you may grow up in your salvation," he didn't urge any to *remain* babies; daily growth with the milk-bottle of Scripture is called for.

Teaching our youth proper stewardship of time, abilities and money is essential. But H. E. Plehn asks some searching questions: "Why should children study their Sunday School lesson if father and mother never or seldom read their Bible? Why, indeed, should children attend Sunday School if father finds the garden, or the lawn, or the Sunday papers, or golf, or fishing, or almost anything else more important than Bible-class attendance or teaching a class or even attending the formal church service?" [22]. To this list we could add: Why should a teenager who makes a little money each month think seriously about setting aside a certain percentage as a gift for the Lord, when his or her own parents do not have a planned giving pattern, or even are noticed throwing a mere dollar or two in the plate every so often? What a privilege we have to be able to train our youth as faithful managers of the things God has given us. Yet it is an awesome responsibility that begins with an honest self-evaluation as parents, teachers and fellow congregational members sending out signals unwittingly.

How can we best ensure that this comprehensive approach in bringing HIS TRUTH to our youth will be effective? Only God the Holy Spirit, of course, works the desired results in the souls of our young ones as they are brought to the Lord in baptism, trained in the Law and Gospel and—when at the proper age—partake of the Lord's true body and blood in Holy Communion. "Neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow," says the Apostle Paul in I Cor. 3:7. There are, nevertheless, a number of ways—many of them proven over the course of numerous preceding generations—which are of great assistance in doing the planting and watering for our youth. We shall briefly look at the following: home devotions, church services, Sunday School & Bible classes, Christian Day School, confirmation, youth programs synodically and in the local parish, Lutheran high school and Lutheran college.

(a) Devotions in the home . . . In a study on the subject of how one's religious beliefs have direct effect on the suicidal person, Paul W. Pretzel observes that data indicates "how important religious beliefs appear to be more the product of the home environment than of formal religious education. The experiences which the child has with his mother and father appear to be closely related to his present attitudes toward God and to the nature of the universe in which he lives" [23]. That isn't too surprising, when we consider that "the home is still the most important part of the child's environment. No one has more opportunity to influence children than parents" [24].

The Rev. R. Dale wrote in 1974: "Children in today's average American home suffer from what we might call 'parental drain.' Their parents 'drain' themselves with their own activities so that little is left of them emotionally to give to their children . . . The obvious problem is that children are placed lower on the list of

priorities than work and recreation. Results are tragic . . . But by far the most critical problem in the average American home is the lack of family worship . . .” [25].

You’ve probably heard the story of the time a pastor was invited to supper in the home of one of the families from his church. After the meal, the mother handed the preacher a Bible and asked if he would lead them in a devotion and a prayer. The pastor was happy to do so, and was impressed by the offer. No sooner had he concluded his prayer, though, than the little girl at the table looked at her mother and father and said, “Mommy, why don’t we do this all the time?”

Could it be that many are simply not taught how to have “the family altar”? Could it be that people’s lives are so unscheduled that there is hardly any time to consider having a common three-minute devotional reading and prayer with family members, let alone have time for a meal together? Could it be that television or sports pre-empts any such “prime time” with God’s Word and the precious souls under our care? If we are too busy to have a meditation time on HIS TRUTH, then—as the saying goes—we are just TOO busy! Moses, I’m sure, had come from a busy household where father and mother were expected to rise at the whim of the Egyptian taskmasters each day, and yet we have every reason to believe that he was well-schooled in God’s Truth in his home. Though Timothy’s father was a Greek and probably not a believer, his mother and grandmother found time to apply God’s Word to the young mind of little Timmy. Remember that St. Paul wrote to him later: “*From infancy* you have known the holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus,” (2 Tim. 3:15).

Your essayist can testify to the wonderful blessing of coming from a home where daily devotions were commonplace, even when friends or relatives had dropped over for a visit. How easy it is to maintain that same devotional pattern with one’s own children when it has become a “way of life” from former years. This is one very vital way to have our youth see God’s Truth as a regular part of each day’s busy routine. And what blessings can be expected! “So is My word that goes out from My mouth,” says the Lord; “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).

(b) Church services . . . We’ve already touched on this one a little earlier, but permit me to suggest here the use of children’s sermons in the regular service. Object lessons which give the young a handle on the meaning of a particular Bible verse can be effective educational tools, and may also serve well the “older” youth besides. Some pastors also use effectively in their services an ongoing, short instruction period in Luther’s Small Catechism, as a way to refresh the memories of those once confirmed.

(c) Sunday School and Bible classes . . . In most of our ELS



churches the Sunday School is the chief agency for training our young. It therefore cannot be underestimated how important it is to seek out qualified teachers and excellent materials. Teen Bible classes should also be considered as a possibility. Yet, it is appropriately said: "The church that focuses on the *entire family unit*, that begins with adults in study groups and remains with them until they are fashioned by the grace of God, is reaching the heart of its teaching task" [26]. So often we emphasize getting the *children* involved in Sunday School irregardless of the parents' involvement in Bible Class. But this should not excuse us from striving for the ideal: *full* family involvement in the study hour for God's Word each Sunday. In fact, the likelihood of a "graduated" Sunday School student becoming active in a teen Bible study or an adult class is far more remote when there is no parental attendance either.

(d) Christian Day School . . . Luther once used the picture of an ostrich to emphasize the point of how serious we are to take the matter of educating our children in the Word of God: "There is not an irrational animal that does not look after its young and teach them what they need to know. The ostrich is an exception; God says of her (Job 39:16) that she, hardened against her young ones as if they were not hers, lets her eggs lie on the ground. And what good would it do us if we possessed and performed all else and were downright saints but neglected the chief purpose of our life: to take care of the young? I do believe that among outward sins none so heavily burdens the world in the sight of God or deserves such terrible punishment as the sin which we commit against children by not educating them" [27].

There are various methods for giving our youth religious training, but the Christian Day School has been proven to be one of the most effective. "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" [28]. "God's Word is the foundation of the Christian School. The Word is a living, ruling factor, personal in nature. The Word of God rules when its teachings penetrate into every activity, function and enterprise of the school and each branch of learning is permeated with Christian truth" [29].

Admittedly, many of our congregations today are unable to establish and maintain daily church schools not only because of the enormous cost factor but also due to the lack of students. For our churches which do not have the capabilities and are unable to benefit from a neighboring sister church's facilities, the scrutinizing use of the public system should not be derided, even when some may opt for home schooling. J. W. Montgomery has pointed out that in 1530 Luther "took an unequivocal stand for compulsory public education, and this was not just a matter of paper re-

solves" [30]. At the same time, it bears emphasizing that, when the public system is used, this makes religious training in the home and utilizing the avenues in the church all that more important.

In his synodical essay of 1974, the Rev. R. Branstad, then president of our Bethany College, traced the history of the parochial school in America. He surmised: "Somewhat by default the state took over what had traditionally been part of the work of the church but which it could no longer really afford, partly because it had lost its commitment for its own schools." Also, he went on to say, "The more heterogeneous population of the cities demanded a less denominational approach" [31].

What of situations, though, where it would be entirely feasible—yes, quite probable—for a church to operate its own school, or for parents to send their children to a school of our fellowship, and yet give it no serious consideration? Each reason for refusal has to be examined on its own merits. But so often, as the Rev. Paul Madson suggested as a co-essayist in 1974, "the impression is left that religious education is something good for the life to come, but that it isn't very practical here on earth. This is the attitude some parents may have toward a Christian Day School, or toward a Christian high school and college. They think that for their children to attend a church school will deprive them of the seeming natural advantages of a public school . . . They do not want to deny their offspring the benefit of Christian instruction, but they do not see why it should be integrated with their general education, such as in the Christian school . . . They see it as religion *and* life, rather than religion *in* life" [32].

In this year when we are gearing up to celebrate next convention's 75th anniversary celebration of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod, it would be good for us to reflect on the remark that was made by former BLC Pres., S. C. Ylvisaker, who edited *Grace for Grace*, a book commemorating the 25th anniversary of our synod:

When we are about to begin a new period in the history of our Synod, may we all bear in mind that the future of our church depends upon the training that we will give our children. Never has there been a greater need for Christian day schools. True, such schools are not popular with the great masses, but they are precious in the eyes of the Good Shepherd, and His blessing will rest upon all those who labor faithfully to bring the little children to Him by means of the Christian Day School. [33]

(e) Confirmation class . . . "Book religion" was despised by the reforming "enthusiasts" of Luther's day, because they felt they were so completely led by the Spirit that they didn't need the learning by print or by rote. Since Luther believed, however, that the Word is the very means through which the Holy Spirit is given, he stressed the reading of the Bible and repeated instruction in its chief teachings as compiled in his Small Catechism of 1529 [34]. The Lutheran Church still finds the extensive training

in his Catechism to be an excellent tool in reminding adolescents and teens of the real significance of their baptism.

But do some parents make *too* much out of confirmation, as T. Kodol suggests in the following quote: "A good number of parents, to state it colloquially, still consider that 'to get religion' their children must 'get baptized,' 'get confirmed,' and 'get communion.' Although confirmation is not a sacrament in Lutheran terms, it may be merely a step away in too many minds. . . . Confirmation as recently and currently practiced is far out of proportion to its real significance. To demystify it will take time, because parents do little religious training at home . . . Thus confirmation is the last stronghold, perhaps the only 'magic' left for church to 'hold on to the youth.' Parents will suffer, therefore, their offspring's complaints, for they know 'this is it' in Christian education" [35]. His answer for retrieving confirmation from its dead-end cul-de-sac is for the church to try to find ways to integrate the youth in education and ministry opportunities.

(f) Youth programs . . . In a new handbook put out by our ELS Board for Education and Youth, the Rev. Charles Keeler states: "Congregations which have an average of 200 or more on Sunday should be considering a second pastor. A Youth Pastor may be considered foreign in the conservative Lutheran church, but this option should be strongly considered. Many Reformed churches of only 300 members employ a second pastor just for youth ministry. They have learned the value of ministering to young souls. Sad to say, we have developed a reputation of not retaining our teens. There may be a direct correlation here" [36].

It is an easy temptation for us to take the position that after confirmation the social and recreational activities of our young people are of no concern to the congregation. Certainly it should go without saying, that when these activities are arranged they ought to be coupled with a brief Bible study or at least a short devotion or prayer. But the reminder that the Rev. P. E. Kretzmann gave years ago on this matter is still appropriate for us today: "After all, even these activities are to come under the heading of sanctification, as we learn from Col. 3:17 and I Cor. 10:31" [37].

The synodical youth conventions give our teenagers a wonderful opportunity to enjoy Christian fellowship and learn about the work we do in our ELS. Often the friendships developed at a weekend retreat or summer youth camp remain in effect through high school and college and for a lifetime.

(g) Lutheran high school and college . . . "If the young people of our congregations can be held to the Church and to the exercise of their Christian faith into their adult years through the unstable years of adolescence, they will, quite likely, remain faithful through life . . . While it is true that a strong faith will be strengthened when it successfully withstands a test, it likewise is true that much damage is done the weak faith of young Chris-

tians when they come under the influence of unbelieving instructors in secondary schools" [38]. This is why it is so advisable for parents, pastors and parishioners in our synod to encourage our youth to make use of the Lutheran high schools of our sister synod (WELS) and our own Bethany Lutheran College. We ought to be extremely thankful to our Lord for blessing us with a fine institution and a qualified faculty committed to teaching also and especially THE ONE THING NEEDFUL. The Large Catechism states: "If we want qualified and capable men for both civil and spiritual leadership, we must spare no effort, time, and expense in teaching and educating our children to serve God and mankind" [39]. [We will add a word on our Bethany Lutheran Seminary later.]

### III. WE WANT OUR YOUTH TO LIVE IN THE JOY OF THIS TRUTH.

In educating our youth to follow God's Truth, motivation is a vital component. "Christian education . . . demands a motivation which secular education cannot produce. This particular motivation is wrought only by the Holy Spirit through the use of the Gospel. It is the crowning jewel which sets Christian education above and apart from all other" [40]. The Apostle Paul put it this way: "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" (Col. 3:16, 17).

Special emphasis is to be laid on teaching our youth the recognition of blessings. The fact that God has made the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and has completely exonerated us, as a result of the grace poured out upon us in Christ Jesus, is the supreme favor of our God. "He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities . . . As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us" (Ps. 103:10, 12). It is *this* blessing which enables us to observe all the other blessings God showers upon us in our everyday lives. We want our youth to say, just as we have learned to say: "Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies," (Ps. 36:5).

Along this line parents can be quite influential in shaping their own children's attitudes about the local church and its minister and leaders through their attentiveness to speak *well* of them in the presence of their offspring. By the same token, what damage can be done in the reverse! If our youth get a heavy dose each week of "roast pastor" at the supper table, can we expect them to acquire a real love for the Lamb? There is no question in my mind—speaking from my own home life as a child—that a warm and

evangelical attitude toward the entire work of the church becomes pleasantly contagious throughout the family.

#### IV. WE WANT OUR YOUTH TO *TRANSMIT* THIS TRUTH TO THEIR FUTURE POSTERITY.

We can learn from our past how to do this. Anniversary celebrations, such as the one we are approaching, provide excellent opportunities for us as a synod, as congregations and as individuals to assess our roles in making sure that "His Truth Endures to all Generations" (the 75th anniversary theme from Ps. 100:5). Now, surely we know that "the kingdom of God certainly comes of itself without our prayer" and that Jesus' promise that His WORD will not pass away (Matt. 24:35) must of necessity be fulfilled irregardless of any ELS initiatives. But the responsibility of transmitting His Word in its truth and purity to succeeding generations has been given by God to fellow believers and not to the angels. Furthermore, we who realize the blessing God has bestowed upon us in keeping our church body faithful to His Word and to the Lutheran Confessions (as the correct exposition of Scripture), have an even greater responsibility of handing over the same to our youth. "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked" (Luke 12:48).

At the time that our ELS (then known affectionately as the Norwegian Synod) was reorganized in 1918 there were three congregations (Parkland, Sømber, and Lime Creek) which had Christian Day Schools. The number seems small, but when it is compared with the fact that the old Norwegian Synod in 1917—which dwarfed our ELS in size—had only fourteen, those three made a significant statement on the commitment of our forefathers to be Christian Day School-minded. The Rev. T. Aaberg wrote in his *A City Set on a Hill*: "It is significant that soon after 1917 the number of Christian Day Schools in the Merger decreased until there were none, while the number in the ELS increased so that by 1930 there were thirteen, and this at a time when the synod numbered but thirty-five parishes. The willingness to maintain schools has always been considered a barometer of true church vigor." Aaberg, himself a strong advocate of Christian Day Schools, then quotes once again the famous remark made in connection to the purchase of Bethany College and uses it in support of having Christian Day Schools: "Once we are convinced that the school is a necessity, we will also discover that we can afford it. We can do a lot of things that we think are absolutely impossible once they have become a matter of life or death to us" [41].

There is no question that many of our ELS forefathers saw the Christian Day School and the operation of secondary and higher educational institutions to be the key element in transmitting God's Truth to our present youth and the following generations.

The Rev. Luther Vangen wrote in his synodical essay of 1966: "Some of our congregations are highly blessed in having Christian Day Schools. Realizing the exceeding precious worth of these schools, let us firmly resolve that we do all in our power, as God gives us the ability and points the way, to preserve them for our children and for generations yet to be born. Let us have more Christian Day Schools and more of our young people attending our Bethany and receiving the blessings of Christian education. What value shall we place on Christian education? What can we give our young people that will excell this in value—in real, eternal value? May our God give all of us eyes to see the worth of Christian education for people who must live in this world and willing hearts and ready hands" [42].

We ask rhetorically: Has some of the vigor and steam of our forefathers' resolve to expend their time and efforts and resources on church schools escaped our vision today? Is there a better way to train our youth so comprehensively in God's Truth that they will be astute to checking doctrinal errors floating in the ecclesiastical alphabet soup around them? How will our youth of 1992 train their own youth some day, if we do not show them at this present time the best educational means we have available as confessional Lutherans?

The transmission of God's Truth for the youth of every age requires people to do the work. Our seminary is in need of many more young men who will become our future pastors. Young men and women ought to be encouraged to pursue becoming Christian Day School teachers. "Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field," (Matt. 9:38).

Dr. C. F. W. Walther referred to the office of preaching and teaching God's Word as "the most glorious of all" for the following reasons:

1. The work of their office centers about man's spiritual welfare, his immortal soul.
2. They employ the most salutary means and instrument in their work, namely, the Word of the living God.
3. They aim at the most salutary and glorious end, namely, to make man truly happy in the present life and to lead him to the life of eternal bliss.
4. They are most wholesomely engaged in an occupation which entirely satisfies their spirits and advances their own selves in the way of salvation.
5. Their labor yields the most precious results, namely the salvation of man.
6. Their labors have the most glorious promise of the cooperation of the Lord, so that they are never entirely futile and in vain.
7. Their labors have the promise of a gracious reward, which consists in a glory in the world to come that is unutterably

great, exceeding abundantly above all they ever could have asked and prayed for in this life. [43].

We who are pastors and teachers here today ought to think back to the time when some adult whom we respected took the occasion to bring up the subject of our entering full-time church work. We might never have given it much of a thought if the seed hadn't been planted by that estimable individual. Could we do the same with certain young people in our own congregations? Maybe even taking them for a visit to our Bethany Lutheran Seminary, or taking them for an in-session visit to one of our Christian Day Schools could provoke their young minds to do some serious thinking.

Even though God has promised that HIS TRUTH will endure throughout all generations, we ought never take HIS TRUTH "for granted" in the sense of being careless about it. God had to rebuke the church at Ephesus: "Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love" (Rev. 2:4). At the same time, He also warned the church of the Laodiceans not to be indifferent or luke-warm about their love for the Word: "I know your deeds that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth" (Rev. 3:16).

We have a wonderful opportunity before us as a synod to show our deep love and concern for God's Truth—especially that truth which states we sinners are declared forgiven through the merits of His beloved Son! We have an opportunity to help be a part of transmitting God's Truth to our youth. HIS TRUTH FOR OUR YOUTH is the theme which has been adopted for the two year synod-wide offering commemorating our 75th anniversary, beginning at this convention. By resolution of our synod the worthy purpose of this offering will be threefold:

- promoting and maintaining Christian Day Schools;
- supporting youth ministry throughout our synod;
- advancing the cause of parish education at all levels [44].

It is interesting for us to note that during the 1890's and right up until 1903, the old Norwegian Synod—our mother church body—discussed the Christian Day school at almost every convention. In his report to the Jubilee Synod in 1903 Pres. U. V. Koren said: "If there is any cause that is of supreme importance for us, a cause which the Synod now at the beginning of a new period should embrace with all its power and enthusiasm, it is the cause of schools for our children" [45]. At that convention the decision was made to set aside a fund in memory of the Rev. H. A. Preus, and then the congregations which needed assistance while embarking on a drive for a school could receive support from this fund. Voted for this purpose was \$2,000 out of the Jubilee initial offering as the beginning of this fund. A committee was elected to gather contributions from the churches and was given the assignment to administer the special fund [46].

What is it that we treasure? "God's Word a treasure is to me," for it alone is the "oil of gladness." Isn't this the real treasure-chest inheritance we wish to pass on to our heirs? Jesus once said that the kingdom of heaven was "like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field" [Matt. 13:44]. May we "bury" this precious treasure in the hearts and minds of our infants, toddlers, adolescents and teens. May we realize that selling all else to do so is providing us with a great "field" of opportunity for the glory of our Lord and the salvation of many souls!

Ye parents, hear what Jesus taught  
When little ones to Him they brought:  
Forbid them not, but heed My plea  
And suffer them to come to Me.

Obey your Lord and let His truth  
Be taught your children in their youth  
That they in church and school may dwell  
And learn their Savior's praise to tell.  
(Lutheran Hymnal, #630)

#### ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Theodore G. Tappert, ed. *The Book of Concord*, "Luther's Large Catechism," p. 388.

<sup>2</sup>F. Painter, *Luther on Education* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1928), p. 119.

<sup>3</sup>Wayne W. Dyer, *What Do You Want for Your Children?* (New York: William Morrow & Co., 1985), p. 363.

<sup>4</sup>Austin Flannery, ed. *Vatican Council II* (The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN, 1975), p. 735.

<sup>5</sup>This entire issue from *Newsweek* magazine is devoted to the subject of the teens in the 1990's. The quote is from p. 10.

<sup>6</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 12.

<sup>7</sup>*Ibid.* These statistics are found on pp. 12 & 54.

<sup>8</sup>P. Lehenbauer's conference paper, entitled "Raising Christian Children in a Wicked World," April 16, 1991, pp. 5 & 6.

<sup>9</sup>This article appeared in the *Presbyterian Journal* in the edition of April 21, 1982.

<sup>10</sup>Joe Temple, *Know Your Child* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1974), p. 10.

<sup>11</sup>"News and Comments" section of the WELS *Wisconsin Lutheran Quarterly*, Fall 1991, p. 300.

<sup>12</sup>Nancy J. Kolodny, *How to Survive Your Adolescent's Adolescence* (Boston: Little Brown & Co., 1984), p. 160. Here she is speaking of "positive parenting."

<sup>13</sup>Alvin E. Wagner, *St. Paul The Theologian's Prototype* (ELS: Lutheran Synod Book Co., 1991), p. 124.

<sup>14</sup>David P. Scaer, *Christology*, Vol. VI of Confessional Lutheran Dogmatics series (Graphic Publishing, Lake Mills, IA, 1989), p. 28.

<sup>15</sup>Martin Luther, *Three Treatises* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press Publishing, 1960), p. 100.

<sup>16</sup>*Newsweek*, p. 16.

<sup>17</sup>Erwin Kolb, *A Witness Primer* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1986) pp. 23 & 24.

<sup>18</sup>Kolodny (previously quoted), p. 21 & 23.



- <sup>19</sup>C. S. Lewis, *The Abolition of Man* (New York: MacMillan Publishing Co., Inc., 1947), p. 35. Lewis makes this remark in discussing the faults of an English textbook under the fictitious name, "The Green Book."
- <sup>20</sup>Theodore Laetsch, ed. *The Abiding Word*, vol. II (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1947), p. 638.
- <sup>21</sup>*ELS Synod Report* for 1974, "The Task of Instruction" by R. Dale, p. 48.
- <sup>22</sup>*The Abiding Word*, II, p. 640.
- <sup>23</sup>Paul Pretzel, *Understanding and Counseling the Suicidal Person* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1972), p. 226 & 227.
- <sup>24</sup>Dale's essay, p. 52.
- <sup>25</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 52.
- <sup>26</sup>This quote is taken from the *Concordia Theological Monthly* of March, 1946, "Miscellanea" section, p. 219.
- <sup>27</sup>E. Plass, *What Luther Says*, vol. III (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1959) p. 1565.
- <sup>28</sup>*ELS Synod Report* for 1987, R. Diepenbrock's essay: "Christian Education," p. 65.
- <sup>29</sup>Russell Peterson, *Lutheranism and the Educational Ethic* (Boston: Meador Press, 1950), p. 32.
- <sup>30</sup>J. W. Montgomery, *In Defense of Martin Luther* (Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 1970), p. 123.
- <sup>31</sup>*ELS Synod Report* for 1974, R. Branstad's essay: "The Responsibility of Instruction," p. 58.
- <sup>32</sup>*ELS Synod Report* for 1974, P. Madson's essay: "The Purpose of Instruction," pp. 37 & 38.
- <sup>33</sup>S. C. Ylvisaker, ed. *Grace for Grace* (ELS: Lutheran Synod Book Co., 1943), p. 82.
- <sup>34</sup>Montgomery, p. 136.
- <sup>35</sup>Thomas E. Kodel, *Growth in Ministry* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1980), p. 112.
- <sup>36</sup>Booklet put out by the ELS Board for Education and Youth in the year of 1991 called "Serving Our Lutheran Youth," p. 59.
- <sup>37</sup>This quote is taken from a *Concordia Theological Monthly* article in the July, 1940, issue, "Fallow Field—the Church's Youth," p. 518. Kretzmann speaks at length in this article about how youth activities should not be a matter of trivial concern to pastors and congregations.
- <sup>38</sup>*The Abiding Word*, II, p. 647.
- <sup>39</sup>Tappert, p. 388.
- <sup>40</sup>*ELS Synod Report*, P. Madson's essay, p. 38.
- <sup>41</sup>Theodore Aaberg, *A City Set on a Hill* (Graphic Publishing Co., Lake Mills, IA, 1968) pp. 92 & 93.
- <sup>42</sup>*ELS Synod Report* for 1966, essay by Luther Vangen, "Educating for Eternity," pp. 39 & 40.
- <sup>43</sup>C. F. W. Walther, *The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House), p. 285.
- <sup>44</sup>*ELS Synod Report* for 1990, p. 108.
- <sup>45</sup>*Grace for Grace*, p. 80.
- <sup>46</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 80.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!

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## REPORT OF THE DOCTRINE COMMITTEE TO THE 1992 CONVENTION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

The Doctrine Committee of the ELS underwent a membership change at the 1991 convention. Dr. Willis Anthony, who had served on the committee very capably for nine years, was replaced by Allen J. Quist. The new member currently serves as part-time instructor at Bethany Lutheran College; before a stint in the Minnesota State House of Representatives he had served as full-time instructor at Bethany, during which time he also completed all the academic courses at Bethany Lutheran Seminary.

### WE BELIEVE, TEACH AND CONFESS

In accord with the 1991 convention resolution regarding the document WE BELIEVE, TEACH AND CONFESS (See 1991 SR, pp. 87f., Res. No. 1) the Doctrine Committee resubmits said document in revised form to the 1992 convention and appends it to this report. The document is not intended to replace the Book of Concord or even *one* of the confessions therein, nor is it to be understood as constituting a thorough presentation of our beliefs and practices; rather, it is to serve as an up-to-date statement that can quickly inform interested persons of our Scriptural and confessional position on important matters.

### WHAT'S GOING ON AMONG THE LUTHERANS

The committee also approved publication of a much briefer four-page informational folder entitled "What's Going On Among Lutherans Today?" Because of the nature and intent of this publication and because of the fact that a book under the title of "What's Going On Among The Lutherans—A Comparison of Beliefs" is being produced by Patsy A. Leppien and J. Kincaid Smith, and will soon be off the press, thus providing ample documentation of the theses in the folder, no documentation was included in the folder. Nevertheless, the committee hopes that brief documentation in handy printed form will also be available in the near future.

### CLC-WELS-ELS

As reported to the convention a year ago, meetings with representatives of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) have reached a stalemate because of failure to agree on a preamble to an otherwise mutually acceptable document on the role of admonition in the termination of fellowship. President Carl Mischke of WELS has expressed his commission's willingness to meet again with CLC representatives to determine where the alleged doctrinal differences lie. Your committee has also expressed its willingness to participate in such a meeting for this purpose if such a meeting is requested.

### ELS-WELS

The Doctrine Committee continues its close contact with the Committee on Inter-Church Relations (CICR) of WELS. Not only do the two committees meet together regularly in January, but also several members of each have served as a joint committee to make plans for the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, more details of which are set forth later in this report. Exchanges between the two synodical committees have been concerned with such matters as our doctrinal statements on the Lord's Supper, the ordination of male teachers, discussions with the CLC, the new international conference, and the role of men and women. In respect to the last mentioned item, the WELS has adopted a statement produced by its CICR and entitled "Scriptural Principles of Men and Women Roles." Despite the adoption of this document, discussion continues,

particularly concerning woman's role in society. In face of strong opposition from the secular world, it behooves us to seek fervently to hold to and declare the Scriptural position in these matters.

The Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum (ELS Forum), a biennial meeting of about a dozen members from each of the two synods to review and reflect on the work being done by each of the two synods, is scheduled for Mankato on October 19-20 of this year.

## CELC

For several years the idea of an international Lutheran conference on the order of the former Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America has been incubating in our fellowship circles. That proposed conference may become reality April 27-29, 1993, when the constituting convention of the tentatively named Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference is scheduled to be held in Oberwesel, Germany (near Frankfurt). The WELS-ELS committee which has planned the event also has arranged the program for this constituting convention. Under the convention theme **GOD'S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE** the committee has arranged for seven essays in three divisions:

- I. It is ours to share.
  - A. We have a common mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ.
  - B. We have a common message: Sins are forgiven through Jesus Christ.
  - C. We have a common means: The Gospel in Word and Sacrament.
- II. It is ours to preserve.
  - A. We have a common foundation: God's pure Word.
  - B. We have a common confession: Unity in the Spirit.
  - C. We have a common concern: To divide Law and Gospel properly.
- III. Lessons for the Future from the Past: Highlights from the History of the Synodical Conference.

Essayists are scheduled to be the Reverends Duane Tomhave and Richard Lauersdorf of WELS; Prof. Salimo Hachibamba, president of the seminary of the Lutheran Church of Central Africa; the Reverends Gaylin Schmeling and Wilhelm Petersen of the ELS; the Reverend Stefan Hedkvist of the Lutheran Confessional Church (Sweden and Norway); and the Reverend Gerhard Wilde, president of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Germany. President Carl Mischke is to preach the opening sermon at the convention and President Orvick of the ELS the closing sermon. Prof. Wilbert Gawrisch of the WELS CICR has been designated chairman pro tem of the conference. Your Doctrine Committee has resolved to approve the following as representatives from the ELS to this inaugural meeting: Pres. Orvick, Chairman Schmeling (both voting delegates), and Dr. W. Petersen and Prof. J. Madson (advisory delegates). All of these have served on the sub-committee that has labored to bring this project to fruition.

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

There continues to be discussion within our committee and within the synod on the doctrine of the Lord's Supper. The Doctrine Committee at this time has no further proposal regarding our synodically adopted statement. The committee continues, however, to be actively engaged in seeking and maintaining unity in this matter on the basis of Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. Our Scriptural and confessional unity remains a highly sought blessing from God. May it be the continued object also of the prayers of all our people as we labor together in Christ's church and voice this song:

Thou Fountain whence all wisdom flows,  
Which God on pious hearts bestows,  
Grant us Thy consolation,  
That in our true faith's unity

We faithful witnesses may be  
Of grace that brings salvation.  
Hear us, cheer us by Thy teaching;  
Let our preaching and our labor  
Praise Thee, Lord, and bless our neighbor.  
Gaylin Schmeling, chairman  
Juul Madson, secretary

## **WE BELIEVE, TEACH, AND CONFESS**

*(As Amended)*

### **1. GOD AND HIS WORD**

We confess that the only true God is the Triune God, revealed in Scripture as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. There is only one Divine Essence, yet there are three eternal Persons in that one Essence. The doctrine of the Holy Trinity is a profound mystery which we cannot fully understand, but we accept it in humble faith because it is clearly taught in Scripture. For this reason "We worship one God in three Persons and three Persons in one God," as we confess in the Athanasian Creed. Although there are many in the world who claim to follow and worship a "supreme being," only those who believe in the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—can be saved. See Deut. 6:4, John 10:30, Matt. 28:19, Acts 20:28, Rom. 8:9, 2 Cor. 13:14, 1 Pet. 1:2, Col. 2:8-9, John 5:23.

We confess that God reveals Himself to mankind, not only through creation and the human conscience, but also and especially through the Holy Scriptures, His written Word. The true way of salvation is revealed only through God's Word, and any claims for revelation of the way of salvation through other means must be rejected. The main purpose of Holy Scripture is to reveal to us that Jesus Christ is our only Savior. See Rom. 15:4, Rom. 16:25-26, 2 Tim. 3:15, Luke 24:25-27, John 20:31, Rom. 10:14-17, Jer. 23:25-29, John 14:6, Acts 4:12.

We confess that the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments, in their original form as written by the prophets, apostles, and evangelists, were given by inspiration of God. The Holy Scriptures are without error in everything they teach, including matters of geography, science, and history, and they are the only infallible rule and norm of Christian doctrine and practice. The Scriptures not only *contain* the Word of God (as if to say, some of their teachings are the authoritative Word of God and others are not), but they *are* the very Word of God in their entirety. We reject the so-called "historical-critical" or "higher-critical" method of Biblical interpretation as an unwarranted and arbitrary manner of dealing with Holy Scripture. The Scriptures are true and reliable in all that they report, including their accounts of Old Testament and New Testament miracles. We therefore regard the denial of these miracles as blasphemous and as setting up man's reason as a judge over God's Word. Since the term "inspired" is often used in a loose sense, we frequently use the expressions "verbally inspired" and "inerrant" in describing the authority and reliability of these sacred documents which God caused His servants to write. See John 10:35, 1 Cor. 2:13, 2 Tim. 3:16, 2 Pet. 1:20-21, 2 Pet. 3:15-17, 1 Thes. 1:5, 2:13.

### **2. KNOWING AND PROFESSING THE TRUTH**

We confess that it is possible both to know the truth of God's Word and to profess it, and that God requires us to do both. Taking one's stand on the Word in matters of doctrine, after diligent study of the Scriptures, is an act not of human pride but of humble submission to God's authority. See John 8:31-32, John 17:17, 2 Tim. 1:13, James 1:21b.

### **3. CREATION AND THE FALL**

We confess that God created all things in six days by the power of His Word, exactly as is set forth in Genesis chapters 1 and 2 and elsewhere in Scripture. We therefore reject the theories of "evolution," including "theistic evolution," not only because they lack a sound basis in scientific evidence but especially because

they contradict the divinely-inspired account of creation as given by Moses in the Old Testament and confirmed by Christ in the New. To attempt to describe each day of creation as a very long period of time (a "day-age," etc.) is to tamper with the clear Word of God, for the first chapter of Genesis records at the end of the account of each day's creation activity that "evening and morning were the (first, second, etc.) day." See Gen. 1 passim, Ex. 20:11, Heb. 11:3, Matt. 19:4.

When Adam and Eve were created on the sixth day they were made in God's image—that is, they were morally righteous and were in every respect in perfect harmony with God. Through their Fall into sin Adam and Eve, with all their natural descendants, lost this righteousness and became by nature sinful and corrupt. Because of the Fall all people conceived in the natural way are, by nature, enemies of God, subject to God's wrath and to physical and spiritual death. Because of this inherited corruption, called "original sin," no person is able, even partially, to earn favor with God or avoid eternal condemnation by means of his or her own efforts. See Gen. 1:27, Gen. 3:6, Gen. 6:5, Ps. 51:5, Rom. 8:7, Rom. 1:18, Rom. 5:12, Rom. 6:23, Eph. 2:3, Gal. 2:16b.

#### 4. CHRIST'S PERSON AND WORK AND OUR JUSTIFICATION

We confess that, in order to rescue fallen mankind, God the Father sent His only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into the world. Throughout the Old Testament era God had promised to send a Savior who would crush Satan's power over the human race, and this promise was fulfilled through the incarnation of the Second Person of the Trinity. Jesus Christ is true God and true man in one Person, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, and He is the world's only Savior from sin, death and the devil. Because Jesus was true God, He was able by His divine power to save us all; because He was true man, He was able to be our substitute under God's Law. Christ was tempted in all things as we are but was in every respect without sin. See John 1:1, John 1:14, Col. 2:9, Matt. 1:23, 1 Tim. 2:5-6.

By His perfect life and his innocent sufferings and death Jesus has redeemed the entire world. God thereby reconciled the world to Himself, and by the resurrection of His Son declared it to be righteous in Christ. This declaration of universal righteousness is often termed "objective justification." One has this justification as a personal possession and is personally declared by God to be righteous in Christ when he or she is brought to faith in Him as Savior. This is often called "subjective justification." If the objective fact of Christ's atonement is not personally received by faith, then it has no saving benefit for the individual. We reject as unscriptural any teaching that people can be saved apart from faith in Jesus Christ. See 1 John 2:2, 2 Cor. 5:19, John 1:29, 2 Peter 2:1, John 3:16-18, 2 Cor. 5:19, Rom. 4:25, Rom. 1:17, Rom. 5:1-2.

#### 5. THE MEANS OF GRACE

We confess that God has instituted certain Means of Grace through which He announces and bestows the forgiveness of sins and the blessings of life and salvation, and through which the Holy Spirit works faith in the individual sinner to receive these blessings. These Means of Grace are His Word of the Gospel, which offers us free salvation through faith in Christ; Holy Baptism, which is described in Scripture as a "washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit;" and the Lord's Supper, in which the true body and blood of Christ are distributed to the communicants. It is the Word of God connected with the earthly elements which makes Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper effective means through which forgiveness, life, and salvation are truly offered to those who receive these sacraments. The Gospel of Jesus Christ, in written, spoken, and sacramental form, is able to do all this because it is the power of God Himself.

Holy Baptism has the power to work the new life of faith in the hearts of sinners. This regenerative washing "with water through the Word" is intended for all people, since all—including infants and children—are members of a sinful human race and are in need of God's grace and forgiveness. Jesus has also commanded that "all nations" be baptized. Confession of sins and Absolution are a

return to, and a renewal of, one's Baptism, Holy Absolution, a Means of Grace, is the declaration of forgiveness to penitent sinners in the stead of Christ and by His command. It is not merely a wish that sin be forgiven, but it is a powerful impartation of forgiveness. According to Christ's Word and institution, His body and blood are truly present, distributed, and received in the Lord's Supper, under the forms of bread and wine. This Supper is intended for Christians who know and adhere to the teachings of God's Word, who are able to examine themselves on the basis of that Word, and who repent of their sins and look to Christ alone for forgiveness. The body and blood of Christ are offered and received in this Sacrament for the remission of sins and for the strengthening of faith. The forgiveness of sins which is offered by God through the Means of Grace can be rejected by an unbelieving heart, but it is received for salvation by all who believe in Christ. See Mark 16:15, Luke 24:47, John 15:3, Matt. 28:19, John 3:5, Eph. 5:26, Titus 3:5, Acts 2:38-39, 1 Cor. 10:16-17, 11:23-29, Matt. 26:28, Rom. 1:16, John 20:21-23, Mark 16:16, Rom. 3:28, 4:5.

## 6. CONVERSION, GOOD WORKS, AND PRAYER

We confess that a person's conversion to faith in Christ is accomplished entirely by the Holy Spirit, working through the Gospel. Because of the effects of original sin, the unregenerate soul does not and cannot cooperate in its conversion from spiritual death and unbelief to spiritual life and faith in Christ. See Eph. 2:4-9, Rom. 10:14-17, 1 Cor. 2:14, 12:3.

We confess that good works are necessary fruits of faith in the life of a Christian and that they proceed from a renewed heart that is thankful to God for His mercy and love. Although there is no human cooperation in the matter of one's conversion and justification, there is a cooperation on the part of a regenerate Christian in his or her life of sanctification. Good works do not earn or contribute to one's salvation, but they naturally flow from the living faith which is present in the hearts of those who have already been saved by God's grace alone. See John 15:5, Rom. 6:1-2, Eph. 2:10, Rom. 12:1, Heb. 11:6, 2 Cor. 5:14-15.

We confess that a life of prayer will naturally follow from faith in Christ as Savior and that a believer should bring his or her heartfelt thanks and concerns to God in prayer. It is the teaching of Scripture, however, that God communicates with His people in matters of faith and salvation only through His Word and Sacraments, the Means of Grace. The Christian can be sure that God answers prayer according to his good and gracious will because of the saving merits of Christ. See Phil. 4:6, 1 Thes. 5:17, Matt. 7:7, Rom. 10:17, 1 John 5:14-15, James 5:16b.

## 7. GOD'S ELECTION OF GRACE

We confess that those in this life who, through the Gospel, have been called, enlightened, sanctified, and preserved in the true faith, have from eternity been elected according to God's unmerited love to this adoption as His children, and have been chosen in Christ "before the creation of the world" to be heirs of everlasting life. Therefore Christians can and should be sure of their salvation, since God's promise is steadfast and His gracious election to salvation stands firm. We reject the teaching that there is an eternal election to damnation ("double predestination") and that the offer of salvation which God makes through the Gospel is not earnestly intended for all people. In faith we accept the teaching of Scripture that those who are saved are saved by the grace of God alone, and that those who are lost are lost because of their own unbelief and hardness of heart. See Rom. 8:26-39, Eph. 1:3-6, 2 Thes. 2:13-14, 1 Tim 1:15, 2 Tim. 1:12, Ezek. 33:11, Hos. 13:9.

## 8. THE CHURCH AND THE MINISTRY

We confess that there is one holy Christian Church which consists of all those who from the heart truly believe in Christ as Savior and Lord. This Church, in its essence, is invisible to our eyes, since no one can judge the sincerity of another's heart, but it is known to God. We believe that the Church is to be found wherever

the Word of God and the Sacraments are in use. The Church of Jesus Christ is not to be equated with any particular denomination or church body, or with the sum total of all Christian denominations and church bodies. It is the will of God that Christians should gather together regularly for mutual edification through Word and Sacrament, and that they should work together to promote the extension of God's pure Means of Grace throughout the world. See Luke 17:20, 2 Tim. 2:19, Eph. 4:4-6, Heb. 10:25, Mark 16:15.

We confess that the Lord has instituted the office of the Public Ministry so that His Means of Grace may be publicly administered for the well-being of His Church. Those in this office by virtue of God's call through the church perform their duties on behalf of the church and in the name and in the stead of Christ. We believe that no one should publicly preach or administer the Sacraments without a proper call. When God's Word says that women are not to teach or "exercise authority" over men in the church, this means that the pastoral office cannot be conferred upon women, and that it is God's will that only properly qualified men be called to this office. According to this same principle women should not exercise authority over men in the congregational decision-making process, such as by holding voting membership in an assembly which makes the final decisions for a church. (Because Christian men and women are all members of the Body of Christ and share in the privileges and duties of the "priesthood of all believers," the views of women should be taken into account when such decisions are made.) See John 21:15-18, Acts 20:28, Rom. 10:14-15, Eph. 4:11, 1 Tim. 3:1-7, Titus 1:5, 1 Cor. 14:34, 1 Tim. 2:12, 1 Pet. 2:9, Gal. 3:28.

## 9. THE LAST THINGS

We confess that at the time of physical death a believer's soul goes to heaven and an unbeliever's soul goes to hell. On the Last Day, Christ will return visibly to the world and will raise the bodies of all the dead, both believers and unbelievers, at which time their bodies and souls will be reunited. The believers will enter into eternal life in "the new heavens and the new earth," but the unbelievers will be cast forever into "the fiery lake of burning sulfur." We reject the teaching that the soul has no continuing, conscious existence after the time of physical death (a "soul sleep") and the teaching that the souls of unbelievers will be annihilated on the Day of Judgment. We also reject as unbiblical all forms of millennialism, that is, the teaching that Christ will reign visibly over an earthly kingdom for a thousand years before the Day of Resurrection and Judgment. See Matt. 25:31-46, John 5:28-29, Matt. 25:34-46, Mark 16:16, Eccl. 12:7, Luke 23:43, Mark 13:32-37, Luke 18:8, John 18:36.

## 10. CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

We confess that Scripture requires that church fellowship be recognized and practiced where there is a mutual confession of and commitment to the pure Marks of the Church, the Word and Sacraments. Jesus Christ is the Head of His Church, and He governs and teaches it by His Word, but deviation from the teaching of God's Word is not to be tolerated in the church. We therefore reject unionism, that is, church fellowship with adherents of false doctrine, and ecumenical endeavors which compromise the pure doctrine of God's Word. We also reject participation or membership in religious organizations which have features that are in conflict with the Christian faith, such as the Masonic Lodge and similar organizations. At the same time we also condemn separatism, i.e. the refusal to acknowledge and practice fellowship when there is agreement in doctrine. See John 8:31-32, 1 Cor. 1:10, Eph. 2:19-20, Eph. 4:3-6, Matt. 7:15-20, Rom. 16:17, Gal. 1:6-9, 2 John 9-11, Matt. 23:8, 1 Pet. 4:11, 2 Cor. 6:14-18.

## 11. CHURCH AND STATE

We confess that God has assigned certain responsibilities to the Church and certain responsibilities to the State, which do not conflict with each other. The Church and the State are each to operate within their own sphere of responsibility, using only those means which God has entrusted to each to carry out their

God-given tasks. To the Church God has given the responsibility of calling sinners to repentance, preaching forgiveness through the cross of Christ, and encouraging believers in their Christian life. To the State God has given the responsibility of punishing evildoers and protecting the innocent, and of promoting civil order among the people. The Church is not to exercise civil authority, and the State is not to become a messenger of the Gospel nor to interfere with the Church's Gospel ministry. See Rom. 13:1-7, Acts 5:29, 1 Tim. 2:2, Mark 16:15, Matt. 22:21.

## 12. HUMAN LIFE AND HUMAN SEXUALITY

We confess that Scripture upholds the sanctity of human life. We recognize that God has given the State the right to administer capital punishment and wage just wars, but we believe that any taking of human life beyond that which is authorized by God is to be abhorred. We believe that all human life has intrinsic value, regardless of its perceived "quality," and that God calls on us to preserve His gift of life. Because abortion results in the death of an unborn human being, we believe that it is never justified except in those rare and tragic circumstances when the continuation of the pregnancy would clearly threaten the life of the mother. Abortion for any other reason is a great sin in the eyes of God. Because God is the giver and taker of life, we condemn any deliberate efforts to shorten one's own life or the life of another, for example: Suicide, euthanasia ("mercy killing"), and the withholding or withdrawing of appropriate care from a critically ill person. See Rom. 13:4 & 9, Ps. 139, 13:16, Ps. 51:5, Luke 1:41, Jer. 1:5, Ps. 31:15, Phil. 1:21-26, Lev. 19:16.

We confess that Scripture condemns homosexuality and extra-marital relations (fornication and adultery) as sin. Nevertheless, when an individual caught up in such sins truly repents, the forgiveness of the Gospel is to be fully applied. We confess that the divine institution of marriage is to be heterosexual, in which, according to God's design, a man and woman may enjoy a life-long companionship in mutual love. We teach on the basis of Holy Scripture that marriage is the only proper context for the expression of sexual intimacy and for the procreation of children. See Rom. 1:26-27, 1 Cor. 6:9, John 4:17-18, 1 Cor. 6:18, 7:2-9, 1 John 1:9, Gen. 1:27-28, 2:18-24, Matthew 19:4-6.

## 13. THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS

As orthodox, confessional Lutherans, we embrace as our primary confessions of faith the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church contained in the Book of Concord of 1580, namely, the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds; the Augsburg Confession and its Apology; the Smalcald Articles (including the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope); Luther's Small and Large Catechisms and the Formula of Concord (Epitome and Solid Declaration). We accept these Confessions, not *in so far as* but *because* they agree with Scripture, and we believe that they are a correct exposition of the teachings of God's Word. Adherence to these Confessions, drawn from Scripture, is in keeping with St. Peter's exhortation: "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Pet. 3:15). See also Heb. 13:7-9a.

## DOCTRINE ACTION OF THE SYNOD

### Resolution No. 1: WE BELIEVE, TEACH, AND CONFESS

*WHEREAS, WE BELIEVE, TEACH, AND CONFESS serves as an up-to-date statement that can quickly inform interested persons of our Scriptural and confessional position on important matters,*



**BE IT RESOLVED**, That we adopt the statement **WE BELIEVE, TEACH, AND CONFESS** with the following addition in section 12, paragraph 2; "We confess that the divine institution of marriage is to be heterosexual, in which, according to God's design, a man and a woman may enjoy a life-long companionship in mutual love. We teach on the basis of Holy Scripture that marriage is the only proper context for the expression of sexual intimacy, and for the procreation of children." Gen. 1:27-28; 2:18-24; Matthew 19:4-6.

**Resolution No. 2: Ordination of male teachers**

**WHEREAS**, Questions have arisen in our fellowship about the ordination of male teachers,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Doctrine Committee, pastors and people of the synod study the propriety and advisability of the ordination of male teachers.

**Resolution No. 3: Lord's Supper Statement**

**WHEREAS**, Faith Lutheran Church, Irvine, CA, has requested a study of the wording of Thesis 9, Section B, specifically the word "before" as possibly fixing the time,

**A. BE IT RESOLVED**, That Sections A-F of Thesis 9 of the 1989 statement as adopted be studied by the Doctrine Committee, and,

**B. BE IT RESOLVED**, That this study begin between the 1992 Synodical Convention and the 1993 Synodical Convention, and,

**C. BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Doctrine Committee report back to the Synodical Convention upon completion of the study.

**Resolution No. 4: Statement of Abortion**

**WHEREAS**, A memorial was received from Grace Lutheran Church, Vero Beach, FL, requesting a reaffirmation of our 1978 statement on abortion,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the memorial is answered in the doctrinal statement **WE BELIEVE, TEACH, AND CONFESS** in Section 12.

**Resolution No. 5: We thank Dr. Willis Anthony**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the synod thanks Dr. Willis Anthony for his years of capable service on the Doctrine Committee.

**Resolution No. 6: Commendation of Doctrine Committee**

**WHEREAS**, The Doctrine Committee has been very diligent in its studies, writings, and inter-church relations,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the synod commends it for its efforts.

**Resolution No. 7: Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference**

**WHEREAS**, A constituting convention for the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference will be held on April 27-29, 1993,

**A. BE IT RESOLVED**, That the synod thanks the Lord for His guidance in the formation of this new conference, and,

**B. BE IT RESOLVED**, That the synod prays the Lord's blessings on the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference.

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

## **BOARD OF REGENTS**

Members of the board during the past year: The Rev. Raymond Branstad, chairman, Elk River, MN; Mr. William Overn, vice chairman, St. Paul, MN; The Rev. Ed. Bryant, secretary, Port Orchard, WA; The Rev. John A. Moldstad, Sr., Cottage Grove, WI; Mr. Roland Reinholtz, Madison, WI; Mr. Paul Chamberlin, South Chatham, MA; The Rev. Kenneth Schmidt, West Bend, WI; Dr. Donald Peterson, Madison, WI; Mr. Harold Theiste, Plymouth, MN; The Rev. Milton E. Tweit, advisory member, Lawler, IA.

## **THE FACULTY AND STAFF**

Theses persons have served on the faculty and administrative and professional staff during the 1991-92 school year:

William Bukowski, Art  
Kristine Bruss, Admissions Counselor  
Gregory Costello, Comptroller  
Mark Harstad, Hebrew, History, Religion  
Arlene Hilding, Music, Organ  
Steve Jaeger, Director of Admissions  
Calvin Johnson, Financial Aid Director  
Lyle Jones, Athletic Director, Physical Education, Women's Basketball Coach  
William Kessel, Sociology, Anthropology, Geography, Religion  
Julie Kjeer, Mathematics  
Tom Kuster, Chair of Speech/English Communications  
Sigurd Lee, English, Humanities, Theater  
Dennis Marzolf, Music, Choral Groups, Voice  
Daniel Metzger, English, German  
Marvin Meyer, President  
Dennis Natvig, Treasurer, Business Manager  
Andrew Overn, Art, Technical Theater  
Jerral Parrish, Director of Library Media Services  
Steve Reagles, English, Religion  
Glenn Reichwald, Greek, Religion, Political Science  
Jay Roth, Associate Director of Admissions  
Lance Schwartz, Bookstore Manager  
John Sehloff, Biology, Computer Science  
Dean Shoop, Business, Accounting, Economics  
Erling Teigen, Philosophy, English, Religion  
David Thompson, Dean of Student Services, Religion  
Paul Tweit, Director of Development  
Cnythia Weber, Chemistry  
Art Westphal, Associate Dir. of Admissions, Basketball and Baseball Coach  
Jean Wiechmann, Registrar, Learning Specialist, Home Economics  
Mark Wiechmann, Psychology, Education, Vocational Counseling  
Richard Wiechmann, Development Officer, Deferred Giving  
Ronald Younge, Dean of Academic Affairs, Biology

## **PART-TIME**

Vivian Bombach, Piano  
Ernie Geistfeld, Fine Arts Administrator  
Shirley Grundmeier, Voice  
Sue Halverson, Mathematics, Physics  
Rudolph Honsey, Religion  
Fred Inman, Physics  
Lynette Jones, Physical Education, Volleyball and Softball Coach  
Mary Kelley, Institutional Computer Science  
Patty Lussky, Health  
Juul Madson, Chaplain  
Cindy Mendez, Spanish  
Jeff Rohrman, Soccer Coach  
Nancy Wiechmann, Business, Economics  
Laura Whitney, Organ, Piano  
Scott Winters, Instrumental Music

## **EMERITI**

Sophia Anderson  
Louella Balczak  
Edna Busekist  
Norman S. Holte  
Bjarne W. Teigen

## **STAFF**

Professor Glenn Reichwald will retire effective June 30, after some 34 years. Professor Reichwald served Bethany well in several academic areas over these many years. He will continue to teach Greek on a part-time basis.

Our college faculty continues to grow professionally through additional formal education as well as by attending regional and national seminars and conferences. It is important to the development of the faculty that we allocate ample resources so they may continue to grow professionally. This is our first year of a three-year program funded by the Bush Foundation for faculty development directed toward Improved Student Learning. This first year has proved to be an exciting and stimulating experience for the faculty.

Professor Dennis Marzolf has been granted a sabbatical during the upcoming academic year. In order to assist him, as well as assist Bethany, he will remain on the campus at half-time throughout the academic year to maintain his involvement in the choir program. The remainder of his time will be dedicated to his professional growth at Mankato State University. He plans to further study choral directing.

Mr. Andrew Overn joined our staff in the area of technical theater and art in this past academic year. Mrs. Judy Miller served as the housemother in Anderson Hall. In addition, several part-time adjunct staff joined us for the first time. We are grateful to our Heavenly Father for supplying Bethany Lutheran College with quality men and women. We are confident that the Lord will bless their work on the campus for many, many years.

During a special service on February 11, the college observed the following anniversaries:

25 years	Ronald Younge	Dean of Academic Affairs
15 years	Erling Teigen	Professor
10 years	Daniel Metzger	Professor
10 years	Ernie Lillo	Director of Grounds and Maintenance

10 years	Jerry Hollingsworth	Custodian
10 years	Judy Headington	Cafeteria

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 1991-92 enrollment was as follows:

	1st Semester	2nd Semester
Freshman	156	134
Sophomores	121	120
Specials*	8	9
Part-time*	18	13
	<u>303</u>	<u>276</u>
FTE	293	268

\*Includes PEOP students

The total full-time enrollment was a surprise at the outset of the school year as it was somewhat higher than was expected. At the time of the writing of this report we are extremely optimistic for the fall in terms of student numbers.

## CURRICULUM AND OTHER ACADEMIC PROJECTS

The college continues to evaluate and study its curriculum. Several additions and minor changes were made during the academic year. New courses in interpersonal communication and an introduction to mass media were added to the curriculum. These additional courses in communications were added due to the Eleanor Wilson Chair of Speech/English Communication. The curriculum committee has begun to thoroughly analyze the course offerings of the college and plans to make recommendations to the faculty regarding new course offerings as well as the deletions. This is an ongoing process so that the college can continue to meet the needs of our students.

It has been a desire of the administration to constantly revisit the institution's mission as a Christian liberal arts institution. To assist in that goal the entire staff will attend a retreat in late August in central Minnesota. This time will allow us the privilege of working together to once again confirm Bethany's mission and our dedication to it.

## PHYSICAL PLANT

Last summer we did several small renovation or redecorating projects. These included the cafeteria, the Viking Village and the washrooms in Anderson Hall. It is important that we maintain our desire to care for the necessary maintenance and upgrading of the institution in order to eliminate deferred maintenance problems. There are several maintenance projects that are in the planning stages that will be completed when funds are available. The college administration has developed a plan to address the necessary improvements.

It is the hope of the Board of Regents and the administration that a tunnel from building to building can be constructed to house our steam pipes and other mechanical needs. This is needed to once and for all remedy the problem of corroded and leaky steam pipes.

## GRANTS

AAL continues to assist the college through direct grants for faculty and institutional development as well as student scholarships. The local branches of AAL also provide funds for the college through matching programs. During this academic year in excess of \$30,000 was received in these programs.

Lutheran Brotherhood continues to challenge its members through matching programs which direct funds into an endowment for operations. These dollars assist us in planning for Bethany's future.

Many corporations are matching employees' contributions to colleges through their foundations. Each year the number and amount is growing. We are thankful for this added support.

The Bethany Lutheran College Women's Auxiliaries continue to impact Bethany with their support. This year they have once again taken on projects totaling approximately \$10,000, which will enhance the opportunities for our students. Many, many thanks to these wonderful ladies.

## **PREPARING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY**

To assist in preparing Bethany Lutheran College for the 21st century, the Board of Regents, administration and faculty developed a list of needs and priorities in 1989. Much of the work was done in conjunction with the Self Study which was prepared for North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. As the administration studied the needs it became apparent that it would be a major undertaking for the college and synod.

The cost of the plan that was to include the current needs of the college over a five-year period was \$13 million. The feasibility of such an undertaking seemed remote; however, last fall Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc., of Marshall, Minnesota made a \$6.5 million commitment toward the program. The commitment includes an outright gift of \$3.5 million and an additional \$3 million in matching funds.

The program includes \$6.5 million in endowments, \$4.1 million in construction and \$2.4 million in annual needs. It is the hope of the Board of Regents, the Board of Trustees, the college administration and the rest of the staff that the synod will approve the solicitation of the remainder of the funds over the next five years. It becomes more apparent to us every day that with the Lord's help nothing is impossible.

The success of this program will indeed make Bethany a better servant of the church and enhance her capability of better meeting the needs of tomorrow's young adults. The success of this program will prepare Bethany Lutheran College for the 21st century.

## **FINANCES AND AUXILIARY SERVICES**

The 1991-92 school year ended with a \$75,000 deficit which would have resulted in an accumulated deficit of approximately \$125,000. It was the decision of the Board of Regents to use a portion of the Reserve Fund to offset a part of that deficit. The Reserve Fund did care for all accumulated deficits prior to the 1991-92 school year. We must be concerned about these ongoing deficits and their eventual impact on the operation of Bethany Lutheran College. In order to operate a quality institution there will be needs that must be met and sacrifices that must be made. The synod must continue to look at Bethany Lutheran College as a vital arm in her overall programs and consequently the institution must receive major support from the synod.

Gifts continue to assist in Bethany's effort to deliver a quality academic program and to maintain her commitment to develop the campus. The president and Board of Regents are grateful to those individuals, corporations and foundations willing to support the programs at Bethany.

The following is a summary of revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1991:

## REVENUES

Tuition and Fees	\$1,598,672
Synod Subsidy	154,492
Synod Housing Assistance	84,000
Synod Maintenance Assistance	21,990
Private Gifts and Grants	338,529
Legacies	9,885
Other Income	113,192
Auxiliary	1,024,001
Endowment Income	310
	<u>\$3,345,071</u>

## EXPENDITURES

Educational and General	\$2,070,197
Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds	231,638
Scholarships and Grants	341,084
Auxiliary	766,868
	<u>\$3,409,787</u>
Fund Balance	(64,716)
Prior Year's Fund Balance	(45,928)
Transfer from Reserve Fund	45,928
Transfer to Funds Functioning as Endowments	(9,885)
Fund Balance	<u>(74,601)</u>

## CONCLUSION

The next years will continue to be exciting years on Bethany's campus. The planning, implementing and funding of the program "Preparing for the 21st Century" will focus on the direction the institution will take over the next decade. There is no question that Bethany Lutheran College will become a better and stronger institution than she is today. But we must always remember that the improvements and strengthening that we are able to make come only through the blessings that the Lord of our church has bestowed upon this institution. We obviously ask Him for His leadership and help and extend our heartfelt thanks for the blessings of the past.

Raymond M. Branstad, chairman  
Ed Bryant, secretary  
Marvin G. Meyer, president

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

As we approach the 75th anniversary of the reorganization of our synod and recount our many synodical blessings, certainly our seminary will be included in those blessings. Ever since 1946 our seminary has been training men for the office of the public ministry. It is through this ministry, the preaching of the Word and the administration of the sacraments, that our gracious God blesses his people. The apostle Paul calls it "the ministry of reconciliation" (II Cor. 5:18) and our Lutheran Confessions describe the blessing of this ministry in these words, "To obtain such faith God instituted the office of the ministry, that is, provided the Gospel and sacraments. Through these, as through means, the Holy Spirit works faith when and where he pleases in those who hear the Gospel." (A.C. Art. V)

The training of pastors for this important and blessed work must continue to be a high priority in our synod and to that end our continual prayer must be that the Lord of the harvest will send forth laborers into his harvest. May the Lord continue to bless our seminary, to the end that His holy name be glorified and His kingdom extended!

## **THE BOARD OF REGENTS**

The Board of Regents, which is responsible for the operation of the seminary, met quarterly during the year and the president of the seminary submitted a report to each meeting. The board members are: the Rev. Raymond Branstad, Elk River, MN; the Rev. Edward Bryant, Port Orchard, WA; the Rev. Kenneth Schmidt, West Bend, WI; Dr. Donald Peterson, Madison, WI; the Rev. John Moldstad, Sr., Cottage Grove, WI; Mr. Roland Reinholtz, Madison, WI; Mr. William Overn, St. Paul, MN; Mr. Paul Chamberlin, South Chatham, MA; Mr. Harold Theiste, Plymouth, MN; and the Rev. Milton Tweit, advisory member, Lawler, IA.

## **FACULTY**

The following taught in the seminary during the 1991-92 school year: J. B. Madson, Adolph Harstad, W. Petersen, Dr. Thomas Kuster, Norman Madson, Jr., Steven Reagles, Glenn Reichwald and Mark Wiechmann.

## **ENROLLMENT**

The enrollment at the seminary this school year was nine. The vicars who served their vicarages were: David Meyer at Holy Cross Lutheran church, Madison, WI, the Rev. Steven Petersen, Pastor; and Alexander Ring at East and West Paint Creek Lutheran parish, the Rev. Mark DeGarmeaux, pastor.

Enrollment prospects for the future look quite promising at this point in time. We expect at least six new students in the fall and several more the following year. It appears that we have bottomed out so far as declining enrollments are concerned. We are truly thankful to the Lord for opening the hearts of these men to study for the ministry.

## **INSTALLATION OF SEMINARY PROFESSOR**

The Rev. Adolph Harstad was installed as professor of Old Testament and Church History at the opening of the school year. President Petersen preached the sermon, Chaplain Juul Madson served as liturgist and President Orvick performed the rite of installation. Pastor Harstad formerly served St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Escondido, California before coming to the seminary. He and his family reside at 114 Echo Street.

## ACTIVITIES

A "retirement" dinner for Professor Juul Madson was held on May 13th. Faculty, staff and the Board of Regents attended. Even though Professor Madson is retired he continues to teach part-time on a year to year basis.

A recognition dinner for the seniors was held on April 25th. This is an annual recognition for the seniors who have completed three years of classroom study and will be going out on vicarage.

Our annual vicar workshop was held at the end of the school year. The returning vicars shared reports of certain phases of their vicarage with the seminary students and in particular with the seniors who were about to begin their vicarages. The Rev. Mark Bartels, a member of our synodical Board for Education and Youth, spoke to the students on the challenges of youth work in our parishes today. Brief presentations were also given on the synod's pension and insurance plan.

The evening before the workshop a fellowship dinner was served at the seminary for the students, staff and families. Following the meal a presentation on Lutheran Pioneers was made by Mr. Dale Lorfeld, national commander of Lutheran Pioneers.

A summer institute was held at the seminary July 8-10. Dr. William Kessel, who has an earned doctorate in cultural anthropology, was the presenter. His topic was **SHARING CHRIST CROSS-CULTURALLY**. It was a very enlightening presentation and very helpful in understanding different cultures as we seek to bring the gospel "to every tribe and nation."

The seminary, together with the college, sponsored the annual Reformation Lectures on October 31-November 1, at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center. The lecturer was Dr. Paul Maier, professor of history at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan. His topic was **CHRISTIAN MARTYRDOM** and his lectures included *The First Christian Persecution*, *the Martyrdom of Peter and Paul* and *Persecution from Rome to the Reformation*. The lectures were very informative and well received by the audience. We are grateful to Aid Association for Lutherans for funding these lectures.

An invitation from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary was extended to our seminary to attend a mission seminar on February 5-6 at Mequon, Wisconsin. The invitation was gratefully accepted and the seminar was appreciated by the students.

## SEMINARY CATALOG

A new catalog for the next three year cycle was recently published by the seminary faculty. Copies were distributed to the pastors at the January general pastoral conference. The new catalog is also designed as a recruiting tool for prospective seminary students.

## NEW COMPUTER

A new Macintosh IIsi 6 mb RAM 80 mb hard disk was purchased during the school year. This will serve our computer needs for years to come. Dr. Thomas Kuster is in charge of the computer program at the seminary. In this high-tech age it is important that seminary students have access to a computer and that they learn how to utilize it for parish work.

## SEMINARY ENDOWMENT FUND

The goal of our seminary endowment fund is \$500,000. At present there is approximately \$150,000 in this fund. Its purpose is to lend financial stability to the seminary. With increasing seminary enrollments in the future we also view this fund as assisting students in our vicarage program. It will no doubt be increasingly difficult for parishes to afford a vicar. Financial assistance to our congregations from an endowment fund would perhaps make it possible to obtain



the services of a vicar. Our hope is that this fund will continue to grow. A bequest would certainly be an appropriate way to remember the seminary as it continues to carry out its task of training pastors for the office of the ministry.

## FINANCES

The following is a summary of budget receipts and expenditures for the past fiscal year July 1, 1990 to June 30, 1991.

### REVENUES

Tuition and Fees	\$18,255.00	
Synod Subsidy	57,650.00	
Gifts and Grants	34,703.00	
Endowment Income	8,169.00	
Other Sources	6,439.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<u>\$125,216.00</u>

### EXPENDITURES

Educational & General	\$11,741.00	
Maintenance & Utilities	9,952.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<u>\$121,693.00</u>
Excess	\$3,523.00	

Wilhelm W. Petersen, president  
 Raymond M. Branstad, chairman  
 Edward L. Bryant, secretary

## HIGHER EDUCATION ACTION OF THE SYNOD

### Resolution No. 1: College Staff

*WHEREAS, Professor Glenn Reichwald has served faithfully at Bethany Lutheran College and Seminary for 34 years, and,*

*WHEREAS, Professor Reichwald will retire effective June 30, 1992, and,*

*WHEREAS, He has agreed to continue to teach Greek at the College on a part-time basis,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That out of thankfulness to our gracious God, the synod expresses its deep gratitude for Professor Reichwald's many years of service.*

### Resolution No. 2: College Staff

*WHEREAS, There is a need for continuing education and professional growth by our college faculty, and,*

*WHEREAS, The college has been taking advantage of various opportunities for such growth,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That Bethany Lutheran College be commended for the ongoing development of the faculty, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Bush Foundation for funding the three-year program for faculty development.*

### **Resolution No. 3: College Staff**

*WHEREAS, The following individuals joined the college faculty or staff during the past academic year: Mr. Andrew Overn, Technical Theater and Art; Mrs. Judy Miller, Housemother, and several part-time staff,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks our heavenly Father for supplying Bethany Lutheran College with qualified men and women.*

### **Resolutuion No. 4: College Staff**

*WHEREAS, The Board of Regents has recognized the faithful and dedicated manner in which the entire faculty and staff serve our Lord, and,*

*WHEREAS, Several of these faithful servants have reached special anniversaries this past year,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod congratulates and thanks Ronald Younge for his 25 years of service; Erling Teigen for his 15 years of service; Daniel Metzger, Ernie Lillo, Jerry Hollingsworth and Judy Headington, each, for their 10 years of service.*

### **Resolution No. 5: Grants and Gifts**

*WHEREAS, Bethany Lutheran College has received generous grants and support from AAL for development and student scholarships, and,*

*WHEREAS, Lutheran Brotherhood and other corporations are matching contributions to the college, and,*

*WHEREAS, Bethany Lutheran College Women's Auxiliaries continue to help Bethany with their support,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its appreciation for such support.*

### **Resolution No. 6: Bethany Lutheran College Finances**

*WHEREAS, Bethany Lutheran College continues to be a blessing for preparing future leaders and workers in congregations of our synod as well as for the church at large, and,*

*WHEREAS, The synod's budgeted subsidy shows our commitment to support our college,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod maintains its subsidy of Bethany Lutheran College at the highest possible level.*

### **Resolution No. 7: Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary Enrollment**

*WHEREAS, Enrollment at Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Seminary is at a high level, and,*

*WHEREAS, There is an ongoing need for encouragement for students to attend these institutions,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That all of our pastors, teachers, and laity be encouraged to continue to recruit and support students for our college and seminary.*

### **Resolution No. 8: Seminary Endowment Fund**

*WHEREAS, An endowment fund has been established to provide financial stability for our seminary, and,*

*WHEREAS, The fund may soon be needed to assist the increasing number of students in our vicarage program, and,*

*WHEREAS, The goal of the fund is \$500,000, but at present, there is approximately \$150,000 in this fund,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the pastors, teachers, and delegates be encouraged to make members and organizations of their congregations aware of the importance and needs of this fund.*

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR EDUCATION AND YOUTH**

The inspired writer says: "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it" (Proverbs 22:6). The Board for Education and Youth endeavors to help God's people fulfill this God-given task. The board seeks to encourage and assist congregations in training Christ's redeemed flock from youth unto old age.

The board met twice since the last synod convention. Pastor Charles Keeler serves as chairman of the board and Pastor Jonathan Madson as recording secretary.

The work of the board covers three major concerns of training in the faith, therefore, it is divided into three subcommittees:

### **SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARISH EDUCATION**

The subcommittee on Parish Education seeks to advance the cause of all part-time educational agencies which train God's people. Members of the subcommittee are the following: The Rev. Joseph Burkhardt, the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad and the Rev. Jonathan Madson.

Four mailings have been made to pastors and Sunday School superintendents. These mailings especially provide information for Sunday School and Adult Bible Classes. Vacation Bible School material from Lutheran publishing houses also was reviewed. Included with these mailings have been statements of Law/Gospel which correspond with the Sunday School curriculum "God So Loved The World." The Law/Gospel statements were prepared by the Rev. John Krueger.

A program to recognize Sunday School teachers for multiple years of service was initiated by the board. Over eighty teachers from across the synod received recognition for teaching the young in our Sunday Schools.

*Advent Devotions for the Family* was produced and distributed. The author for 1991 was the Rev. Wilfrid Frick. *Lenten Devotions for the Family* for 1992 was produced and distributed. These devotions were written by Pastor Craig Ferkenstad.

A survey at the 1991 synod convention indicated that many had not yet used the self-study manual *Feeding the Flock* which provides aids for all areas of Christian training. The board continues to urge congregations to use this self study manual if they have not done so already.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE ON YOUTH WORK**

The subcommittee on Youth Work deals specifically with the training taking place among the young people of our congregations. Members of the subcommittee are: the Rev. Mark Bartels, chairman; Mr. Ron O'Neill, Mr. Rob Pipal and the Rev. Donald Moldstad.

The 1991 Lutheran Youth Association Convention was held at ACA Academy in Fruitland Park, FL. The total of youth and counselors attending was 288. The theme of the convention was "That You May Know Him." Bible studies and devotions focused on how Christ is known to us through the means of grace and personal contacts He had with people in his earthly ministry. The LYA voted to send this year's gathering of dues to the upcoming Synod Thankoffering.

The 1992 LYA Convention will be held July 30th-August 2nd at Carroll College in Waukesha, WI. The theme of the convention will be "Nothing Beyond Forgiveness." The Rev. Mark Bartels will serve as director.

The \$100 grant program for area youth retreats has continued to grow. Since September 1991 we will have supported 8 area youth retreats with start up funds. (Only one such retreat was held in the synod in 1986.) This grant is provided where youth from at least 2 ELS churches are involved. The subcommittee is presently working on a book for leaders to plan and operate these retreats.

Mr. Ron O'Neill serves as our camp coordinator. He reports that last summer four camps were held throughout the synod: Camp Four-Star in Olympia, WA had 92 in attendance; Camp Indianhead near Brainerd, MN had 80; Camp Lo-Ray had 152 over a 3 weeks period and Camp Indianhead in Montello, WI had 93. A new camp will be started this summer in Florida.

The quarterly youth magazine, "Young Branches," was only produced twice in 1991 due to budget constraints and cost overrun on the LYA Convention. The Rev. Donald Moldstad is the managing editor.

The book "Serving Our Lutheran Youth" was distributed to all the pastors and congregations in the synod. The Rev. Charles Keeler was the managing author. Plans are being made to include it in the seminary training.

A number of youth Bible studies were mailed out to our churches this year. We encourage each church to offer at least a monthly Bible study for its teenagers.

A special assessment and planning meeting was held on Saturday and Sunday prior to synod convention. Various pastors and youth leaders met to analyze and discuss ways of improving our service to the young Christians in our care.

The members of our subcommittee are also in the process of compiling a Song Book for camps, LYA conventions and local youth work. Work has begun on a devotional book for teenagers. Likewise, a booklet for LYS meetings is in the making. These (and others) are projects we hope to produce if funds are available. With a present lack of manpower and funds we still hope to find as many ways as possible to help all our pastors, youth leaders and congregations serve the precious teenage souls in their care.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS**

The subcommittee on Christian Day Schools assists congregations which endeavor to train their children through a Christian Day School. Members of the subcommittee are: Mr. Larry Rude, Mr. James Schneck and Mr. Mark Wiechmann.

There are currently three teacher vacancies within our synod and as of this writing no calls have been accepted. We join these congregations in asking God to lead individuals to accept calls into these congregations where vacancies still exist. Congregations are reminded to request call lists through our Secretary of Schools when calling teachers.

All teachers were encouraged in their calling at several local teachers' conferences. The Midwest ELS Teachers Conference met at Mount Olive in Mankato, Minnesota on October 17 and 18. The teachers in the Pacific Northwest Conference met jointly with the WELS at Canon Beach, Oregon on October 10th and

11th and with the ELS schools at Our Redeemer Lutheran, Yelm on January 20th. Our teachers continue to be edified through their attendance at these conferences and we, as a board, encourage all teachers to actively participate in their local conferences.

School visitation continues to be edifying to the schools of our synod. The visitors are trying to make more personal contacts with the teachers of our synod, developing rapport and getting a feel for the supervision challenges associated with each teacher's position. In addition to supervision of instruction and encouragement of the teachers, the visitors continue to encourage individual school boards to stand behind their teachers with both moral and financial support.

Five teachers took advantage of the financial assistance offered for continued education and we, as a board, encourage teachers to make use of these funds.

The board encourages the establishment of Christian educational agencies within all the churches of the synod. Subsidy grants reflect our encouragement for the growth of day schools and starter programs as an important part of the Church's complete education program as well as a mission outreach to the Good Shepherd's lambs. Information on schools is available to congregations wishing to survey the possibilities of starting schools.

An annotated bibliography of synod convention essays concerning Christian education has been assembled by the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad and will be made available at this convention.

For clarification, the certification rules are reprinted in their entirety. This printing includes all rules added by the convention since 1983.

### **Certification Rules for the Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

- I. Those wishing to prepare for service as a Christian Day School teacher in the synod may do so by pursuing either of the following courses of study:
  - A. Earn an Associate of Arts degree at Bethany including the Christian Day School curriculum with specified religion courses, earn a Bachelor's degree and present credentials which, by a record of preparation and experience, demonstrate the candidate's ability to teach effectively in the schools of the synod.
  - B. Earn the Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Dr. Martin Luther College.
- II. Those who are already teachers, whether teaching in schools presently in the synod or teaching in other schools, may become certified by the synod in any of the following ways:
  - A. Automatically, by
    1. Having earned the Associate of Arts degree from Bethany Lutheran College, 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 the synod, and by having taught for three years in a Christian Day School of our fellowship prior to June 30, 1984.
    2. Having earned the Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Dr. Martin Luther College.
    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.
  - B. Through post-degree work, specifically by
    1. Having earned the Bachelor's degree and having presented credentials which, by a record of preparation and experience demonstrate the candidate's ability to teach effectively in the school of the synod, and

2. Successfully completing the Bethany Summer Program for teacher preparation.
- C. Through guided upper-division coursework in concert with Bethany, specifically by
  1. Earning a Bachelor's degree and presenting credentials which, by a record of preparation and experience, demonstrate the candidate's ability to teach effectively in the school of the synod, and
  2. Concurrently satisfactorily completing the Bethany evening course for teacher preparation or the Bethany summer workshop program for teacher preparation.
- D. By colloquy, specifically by
  1. Holding a Bachelor's degree from a four year college, or university, and
  2. By demonstrating familiarity with and loyalty to the principals of Christian education which would be the equivalent of successfully completing the Bethany Christian Day School Curriculum, and
  3. By demonstrating faithfulness to the confessional standards of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.
  4. or, Those teachers who teach in our synod and have been colloquized through the WELS.
- III. The Synod Teacher Certification program will be overseen and administered by two people, one of whom will be appointed by the president of the college and one of whom will be appointed by the president of the synod from the Board for Education and Youth. These men will evaluate all applications for synod certification.
- IV. Teachers will be colloquized by a Committee of Colloquy appointed by the president of the synod. This committee will include the administrators of the synod Teacher Certification Program and other individuals the synod president shall appoint who are knowledgeable in the criteria underlying the teacher preparation program.
- V. The credential by which the teaching ability of a candidate is to be judged shall be composed by the Board for Education and Youth.
- VI. All candidates shall be examined as to their faithfulness to the confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod according to procedures drawn up by the Board for Education and Youth. These procedures shall provide for at least oral examination, but may include provisions for written profession of faith. These procedures shall specify who is responsible for conducting the examination and the circumstances under which the examination is to be given.

The purpose of this examination is not to determine the extent of factual knowledge, but of faithfulness to the Holy Scriptures.

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Our subcommittee looks forward with great anticipation to the coming offering. It will make possible a large number of projects that are waiting for funding. We, as a board, thank you for supporting our work among the lambs of Christ.

As we continue to seek ways of greater assistance to congregations trying to begin a Christian Day School, the board will be available for resource material, planning assistance, practical advice and financial aid. Those wishing information should contact the Secretary of Schools, James Schneck.

The board would recommend the following teacher salary schedule for the 1992-93 school year based on a twelve-month call:

Teachers who hold a Bachelor's Degree:

Base Salary	\$15,500
Yearly Increment	\$225*

Teachers who hold a Master's Degree:

Base Salary	\$16,500
Yearly Increment	\$250

\*Continued yearly salary increments may be made contingent upon the teacher obtaining additional credit hours of graduate or undergraduate work. Congregations may establish a maximum range for automatic increments, such as 25 years.

To both of the above add the following:

Pension to be figured at 6% of the above.

Paid health insurance, synod plan or the equivalent.

Housing is to be furnished, either a home or cash allowance based on the average costs in the area.

#### Additional Recommendations:

1. Other duties assigned to a teacher, but not those expected because of regular congregational membership, such as principalship, should be adequately remunerated.
2. Congregations are encouraged to provide financial support for the teacher's continuing education, and teachers should be encouraged to take a minimum of three credit hours of graduate or undergraduate work during each three year period. Congregations may also wish to establish a salary incentive program to encourage teachers to take additional course work by providing incremental increases based on additional credits, such as after 12, 24, etc.
3. The congregation should insist that the teachers attend the annual teacher's conference and should provide ways and means to do so.
4. The congregation should encourage all male teachers to attend the synod convention and become permanent advisory members to the synod. Congregations should assist these teachers by providing ways and means to attend.
5. A sick leave of ten days shall be granted each year, these shall be accumulated to a maximum of fifty 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.
6. Personal emergency leaves are not to exceed five days each year. The cost of substitute teaching is to be deducted from the teacher's salary for all days over five 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 of Christian Education.
7. Each substitute teacher shall be paid a minimum of \$50 per day.

### CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL STATISTICS 1991-1992

#### Teachers:

Full time Men	15
Full Time Women	34
Part Time Women	<u>17</u>
Total	66

Schools: (does not include those with Kindergarten/Pre-school Nursery only)

Total Number: 14

#### Enrollment by Grade:

Pre-S	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
198	108	110	93	87	108	88	76	81	51

Total Enrollment: 1,000 Pre-K through 8 (1,013 in 1991)

802 K through 8  
(867 in 1991)

#### Salaries and Benefits:

7 Schools below synods recommended minimum schedule.

6 Schools meet synods recommended minimum schedule.

## JOINT CONCERNS

The board certainly rejoices over the two year anniversary thankoffering that will begin this year. Through this offering the Lord of the Church will allow expansion of vital work in the area of Christian training. Through the years the board has been hampered by a lack of funds to do the necessary work in training and equipping the young people of our synod. It is our prayer that through this synod-wide thankoffering, funds will be available to carry out work in God's kingdom that has in the past years been only a "wish list" for the board.

Jonathan N. Madson, secretary

## EDUCATION AND YOUTH ACTION OF THE SYNOD

### Resolution No. 1: Subcommittee on Parish Education

*WHEREAS, Scripture strongly enjoins us to provide for the spiritual needs of our children (cf. Deuteronomy 4:9, 9:7, Proverbs 22:6), and,*

*WHEREAS, There is an ever-growing need for strong Sunday Schools to assist in fulfilling this objective, even in congregations with Christian Day Schools, and,*

*WHEREAS, The subcommittee seeks to advance the cause of all part-time educational agencies which train God's people, and,*

*WHEREAS, The subcommittee has provided assistance for Sunday Schools and Vacation Bible Schools and has provided Adult Bible Studies, Advent devotions and Lenten devotions, and,*

*WHEREAS, Materials for Sunday School (curriculum evaluations and Law/Gospel outlines) are made available only generally to the congregations without specific relationships existing with the Sunday Schools themselves, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Sunday Schools may benefit from a more direct relationship with the Subcommittee on Parish Education,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Education and Youth and its Subcommittee on Parish Education be commended for its promotion of Sunday Schools as well as its program of Sunday School Teacher Recognition, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Subcommittee on Parish Education examine ways and means of establishing a more direct relationship with our Synod's Sunday Schools, perhaps through making renewed use of a "Secretary for Sunday Schools," with the subcommittee to report on the same to the 1993 Synod Convention.*

### Resolution No. 2: "Feeding the Flock"—Self Study Manual

*WHEREAS, Our congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod have indicated the need and desire to work with and instruct the youth of our congregations, and,*



*WHEREAS, The "Feeding the Flock" self study manual is a tool which can help each congregation to identify whether it is addressing the spiritual needs of its members of all ages,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That every congregation be encouraged to use this self study manual to achieve this goal, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That every pastor be encouraged to use this manual with his church council to carry out this necessary task.*

### **Resolution No. 3: Board of Education and Youth Publications**

*WHEREAS, The Subcommittee on Parish Education seeks to advance all phases of part-time educational agencies which train God's people, and,*

*WHEREAS, They have produced excellent congregational materials such as Advent and Lenten devotions for the family, "Feeding the Flock," Law/Gospel statements for the Sunday School Curriculum, "Young Branches," "Serving Our Lutheran Youth" and various youth Bible studies,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod gives thanks to the Lord for these men and thanks them for their work, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That they be urged to continue their publication work, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That pastors be urged to use these materials and present them to their congregations for use.*

### **Resolution No. 4: Certification Rules for the Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

*WHEREAS, There is a need for guidelines in the recruiting of individuals for the teaching ministry, and,*

*WHEREAS, The certification rules in their present format are unclear, and,*

*WHEREAS, A total revision of the format of the rules would be beneficial,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the convention commit this revision task to the Board for Education and Youth.*

### **Resolution No. 5: Adoption of Salary Scale for Teachers**

*WHEREAS, The recommended salary scale is a realistic minimum, and,*

*WHEREAS, The housing, health insurance and pension benefits are also of crucial importance, and,*

*WHEREAS, We have the scriptural injunction that the laborer is worthy of his hire, (Luke 10:7) and,*

*WHEREAS, Our congregations should constantly be aware of the needs of their called workers,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod urges congregations to use this salary schedule as a minimum for its called teachers.*

### **Resolution No. 6: Aid Association for Lutherans**

*WHEREAS, Aid Association for Lutherans has given a generous grant for the Lutheran Youth Association Convention this past year at ACA Academy in Fruitland Park, FL,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks Aid Association for Lutherans for this generous gift.*

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS**

How long, O Lord? How long? This past year has been a year of frustration for the board in regard to new work. New sites have been picked after careful investigations and the funding has been secured, but God in His great wisdom has not called a man to the areas that have been chosen. After extending fifteen calls (at the time of the writing of this report) to such places as Palmdale, CA; South Orlando, FL; Litchfield, IL; and Frederickson, WA the Lord has not chosen one man to do the work. We have temporarily discontinued calling to the Palmdale and South Orlando sites.

Repeatedly the board has found itself in a similar position as the prophet Samuel who said concerning the first son of Jesse: "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord." (2 Sam. 16:6b) However, we do take heart in that after the first seven sons of Jesse came out before Samuel and were rejected by God, the youngest, the lowly shepherd, David, appeared and was chosen by God. Surely God will not disappoint us. In His good time He will call forth our next home missionary. We continue to petition the Lord of the harvest to send forth His laborers into that harvest.

While such new work has not begun since our last convention, the "old" work continues and is richly blessed by the goodness and graciousness of God. Therefore we submit the following report not in despair but in great joy and hope.

### **ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD**

The Board for Home Missions is composed of the following members: the Rev. Erwin Ekhoﬀ, chairman; Mr. Robert Smith, vice chairman; Mr. Albert Holman, treasurer; the Rev. Glenn Obenberger, recording secretary; the Rev. Steven Petersen, field secretary; Mr. Leslie Just, chaplain; and Dr. William Kessel, researcher and developer. E. Ekhoﬀ, R. Smith and W. Kessel also served on the Trustee/Home Mission Subcommittee.

### **MEETINGS AND VISITATIONS**

The board met for its regular quarterly meetings since the 1991 convention in August, November, February and May. It also met in special sessions: twice during the 1991 convention and once at the General Pastoral Conference in January.

Board members have made regular visits to current mission fields as well as to investigate prospective mission fields.

### **NEW WORK PLANNED**

- \* On November 4 it was decided to begin supporting mission work in Litchfield, IL. Faith Lutheran Church had recently organized from a group which had left the local LCMS church for doctrinal reasons.
- \* On February 4 it was decided that the first of two missions funded through Schwan Sales Enterprises Inc. would now be located in the area of Frederickson, WA.

### **MISSION PROPERTIES**

- \* Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, AZ has completed construction of its church building. It was dedicated on November 24, 1991.
- \* Family of God Lutheran Church in Riviera, AZ has begun its planning for construction of its church building and should have the work completed sometime in the summer of 1992.

## SALARY PACKAGE FOR HOME MISSIONARIES

The board recommends the following salary package for home missionaries for 1993 in accordance with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Handbook (p.29, H):

Base Salary	\$17,850
Car Allowance	3,000
Yearly Increment	200* (up to 20 years)
Pension:	6% of base salary, car allowance and yearly increment
Health Insurance (The Synod Plan)	Premium to be paid in full
Housing	To be provided
Utilities	To be paid in full
Continuing Ed. Allowance	\$150 (seminars, tuition, books, etc.)

## VACATION TIME

1-5 years - 2 Sundays & 20 days

6-15 years - 3 Sundays & 25 days

16+ years = 4 Sundays & 30 days

(\* it is the board's intention to raise the yearly increment to \$250 for 1994)

## BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS FINANCIAL REPORT

	1991 <u>Expenditures</u>	1992 <u>Budget</u>	1993 <u>Proposed</u>
Faith, Oregon, WI	\$8,000.04	\$6,500.00	\$4,800.00
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	7,497.00	4,000.00	—
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	5,000.04	3,850.00	2,500.00
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	13,998.00	11,000.00	7,500.00
Jenson Beach, FL	11,925.00	—	—
Family of God, Riviera, AZ	35,063.52	27,000.00	23,000.00
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	10,250.04	8,250.00	7,000.00
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	25,000.00	22,500.00	18,000.00
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	34,859.28	31,000.00	26,500.00
New Life, Sebring, FL	25,209.37	19,500.00	14,500.00
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	20,866.70	18,000.00	14,000.00
Peace, Colorado Springs, CO	900.00	—	—
Faith, Litchfield, IL	—	15,000.00	13,000.00
Lakewood Lutheran, Lakewood, WA	—	4,000.00	—
Mission expansion	—	—	40,000.00
Advertising/Printing	1,947.58	6,000.00	6,000.00
Board expenses	12,762.17	12,000.00	12,000.00
Moving expenses	—	<u>12,000.00</u>	<u>12,000.00</u>
OPERATING TOTALS	\$213,278.74	\$200,600.00	\$200,800.00
INTEREST SUBSIDIES			
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	\$7,222.24	\$10,500.00	\$7,650.00
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	10,103.13	15,500.00	15,500.00

Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ		18,500.00	18,500.00
New Missions			<u>48,000.00</u>
INTEREST TOTALS	<u>\$17,325.37</u>	<u>\$44,500.00</u>	<u>\$89,650.00</u>
OPERATING AND INTEREST SUB.			
TOTALS	\$230,604.11	\$245,100.00	\$308,450.00

## THANK YOU

During the past year various individuals, congregations and other organizations have contributed special gifts toward our mission efforts. We gratefully acknowledge these special gifts. Again we continue to appreciate Lutheran Brotherhood's generous Program Subsidy Grants which have been made available to many of our home mission congregations. We also thank and praise our God for moving the hearts of Albert and Frances Fett to include home mission work in their wills so that Partners in the Gospel fund received a generous gift from their estate. We also thank Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc. for its generous gifts to our home mission work.

As we continue to plan and work while it is day, before the night comes when no one can work, we ask the members of the synod to petition the Lord for workers to send out into the rich harvest fields throughout our country. We are discouraged for we share the same faith as the Psalmist of Psalm 33 who concluded by saying:

We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.  
(20-22)

Glenn R. Obenberger, recording secretary

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR EVANGELISM

The Board for Evangelism met twice since the 1991 ELS Synod Convention. The board members are: the Rev. Joseph Burkhardt, chairman; the Rev. Thomas Rank, secretary; the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith, Mr. Harvey Ringen and Mr. Ralph Wagenschutz. The board's activities fall into two main areas: materials provided to synod pastors and congregations and ongoing study by board members of trends in the theology and methodology of evangelism in American Christianity.

The board publishes a newsletter called "ELS Evangelism Notes." The "Notes" is provided as a source for synod pastors and congregations regarding various aspects of evangelism. The articles cover a range of topics: a telephone survey model, book reviews, personal evangelism, etc. Throughout an effort is made to assure that our outreach to the lost is shaped by the chief doctrine of the church, the justification of sinners by God's grace through faith in Christ. The board increased the "Notes" publication from semiannual to quarterly with one of the issues being devoted to materials for a synodwide Evangelism Sunday. Evangelism Sunday this year was February 2, 1992. The board distributed to all synod pastors and congregations a suggested sermon, Bible Study, posters and two part forms to help members identify people they know who are unchurched. In addition to these the board is working on a tract suitable for personal witnessing and canvassing. Improvement in both content and appearance of materials continues to be a further goal of the board.

In 1991 the synod urged the board to develop a workshop on evangelism. The board has begun work on this and hopes to have one prepared for 1993.

Regarding current trends in the theology of evangelism and methodology the board looks for both useful insights to help in our task of reaching the lost and threats from false teaching which may be imported through the use of some evangelism methodologies used in America today.

Thomas L. Rank, secretary

## REPORT TO THE SYNOD FROM THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS—1992

The past year has been a busy and profitable one for our South American mission work. Increased terrorism and poor economy in Peru, the ordaining of our first national pastors there, our beginning of work in Chile have made 1991-1992 a very memorable year for our mission. Through all of it we have seen the guiding hand of our gracious God directing our path and leading us in the way that we should go. To His name we give honor and glory.

**PERSONNEL ON THE BOARD:** The board is made up of four pastors and three laymen. The Rev. Paul Anderson is the chairman, the Rev. Wayne Halvorson the secretary, the Rev. Norman Madson the field-secretary and the Rev. Adolph Harstad the information officer. Mr. Marlin Goebel serves as the vice-chairman, Mr. Silas Born the custodian of the Stoughton Bank account and Mr. Robert Soule the board treasurer. The board had four two day meetings during the year, January, April, July and October. We had very good attendance at our meetings, and they were productive.

**PERSONNEL ON THE FIELD:** The Rev. Martin Teigen (16th year) continues to be the head of our seminary in Peru. He will be returning to the States for good in July of this year. He will receive the customary three month furlough for a returning missionary and then will be employed by our board for another 9 months to do translation work for our work in South America. The Rev. Timothy Erickson (10th year) will continue on as one of our two missionaries in Peru along with Rev. David Haeuser (4th year). Their priorities have been determined by the board to be 1) Teaching in the seminary, 2) Administering the work of the Mission, 3) Counseling with the national church & its leaders and 4) Literature production. The Rev. James Olsen (8th year) moved to Santiago, Chile in February of this year where he will begin exploratory mission work. The Rev. Dan McMiller (7th year) has been in the U.S. on a sabbatical this past year. He was scheduled to join Missionary Olsen in Santiago in May of 1992. He and his wife Lisa were blessed with their first child, Tyler, in February.

**CONDITIONS IN PERU:** There were times during the past year when our board was on the verge of asking our missionaries and their families to leave Peru because of the increased terrorism. This was especially true during the Gulf War when there was a lot of anti-American feelings in Peru. The missionaries wished to remain in spite of the dangers because they felt the fledgling church needed their guidance and assistance. The board has made it very clear to our workers on the field that they may and should leave the country when they feel danger for themselves and their families. One of the sure signs of it being time to leave Peru is if and when the American Embassy tells its people to leave. Our board has asked our missionaries to stay out of certain danger areas during night time and out of some areas altogether. The economy in Peru has been very bad during the past year. Prices keep escalating and the American dollar loses in value. Twice during the past year our board found it necessary to make salary increases to our missionaries to meet their normal expenses. We expect the same will have to be done in this present year.

**FIELD VISIT BY BOARD MEMBERS:** Mr. Robert Soule accompanied by his wife and Pastor Norman Madson visited the Peru mission field in November of last year as representatives of the board. There were two things that especially necessitated the trip, the ordination of the first national pastors on Sunday November 17th and a four day conference involving the missionaries and the board representatives. Pastor Madson accompanied Jim & Mary Olsen and Dan McMiller, at the conclusion of the conference, on a few days visit of Santiago and Valparaiso, Chile in preparation for our missionaries beginning work in that country.

**ORDINATION SERVICE FOR OUR FIRST PERUVIAN PASTORS:** Sunday November 17th, 1992 was a historic day for our Peru Mission. Four men became the first graduates of our Peru Seminary and three of them would at the same service be ordained as the first national pastors of Centro Cristiano Luterano. The four graduates were Fidel Convercio, Roberto Berrospid, Segundo Gutierrez and Braulio Capulian. Braulio was not ordained since it was felt by the missionaries that he needed more vicarage experience before becoming a full fledged pastor. It was a very heart warming and inspiring service. Martin Teigen preached the sermon based on II Corinthians 3:4-6 using as his theme "COMPETENT MINISTERS!" Special music was provided by the vicars and Sunday School teachers and a group of young people. Missionary McMiller was the service leader and performed the rite of ordination. Missionary Haeuser served as interpreter for a letter from Pres. George Orvick and a message from Field secretary Madson. There were about 200 people in attendance. A nice noon luncheon was served by missionaries' wives and ladies of the various congregations. At the conclusion of the service newly ordained Roberto Berrospid made a touching little speech in which he thanked the members of the faculty and particularly Missionary Teigen, for the good instruction they had been given. All in all it was a memorable day. Our fervent prayer to the Lord of the Church is that He will keep these newly ordained pastors faithful to the teachings of His Word and that He will, through them, continue to bless our Peruvian Lutheran Church.

**CALLING OF ANOTHER MISSIONARY:** Now that the board has asked Martin Teigen to serve as a translator for the mission for a year after leaving the field we will not be calling a fifth missionary until mid 1993. At this time we are not sure whether that fifth missionary will be called to Peru or Chile. It will depend on the situations in both countries at the time we are calling.

**COURIER SERVICE:** Since the mail delivery to Peru has not been too dependable the past couple of years the board has bought into a courier service. We can mail our mailings for Peru to an address in Miami and they deliver to Peru once a week. This has been much more effective. The cost is \$440 a year but we feel that in the long run it will be worth it.

**HELPING HANDS:** During the past year Helping Hands has supported two of our missionaries in Peru, Dan McMiller and David Haeuser. Now that Dan McMiller has moved to Chile the Helping Hands organization will be supporting both of our South American missions. In 1991 Helping Hands received 1,000 contributions totaling \$58,489.00. Matching funds from the Schwan endowment brought in another \$48,000+. Again we wish to thank all those who, during the past year, sent gifts to this mission assisting organization. Beginning with 1992 our regular newsletter for Helping Hands will be published and sent out by a firm in Albert Lea, MN.

**FAITH MISSION SOCIETY:** During the past year Faith Mission Society headquartered at Hillman, Michigan was very generous in its support of our Peru Mission. A total amount of \$10,230 was contributed to our Peru mission much of which was designated for specific projects. We are most appreciative of all that Faith Mission Society does for the support of our foreign mission program.

**NEW WORK IN CHILE:** For several years our board has felt that we should begin work in some other South American country. After doing some checking and looking around we felt that Chile would be a good country in which to begin new work. The fact that it is near Peru and would make it possible for our missionaries to keep in touch with the Peruvian Lutheran Church and its leaders was one deciding factor. And the fact that Chile has a stable government was another reason for choosing that country. Missionaries Olsen and McMiller will settle in Santiago, the largest city in Chile, numbering about four million in population. They will take some language and culture classes to begin with and spend the first few months getting acquainted with the area and deciding how best to go about winning souls for Christ in that part of the world. Radio ministry, Christian information centers, parochial school and language school are some of the meth-

ods we have been considering for initiating our work there. Our board is pleased to have this opportunity to enter another country where we may preach and teach the Gospel.

#### The 1992 Proposed Budget for ELS Foreign Missions

	Replacement for Martin Teigen	Tim Erickson (15 Years)	Dan McMiller (9 Years)	David Haeuser (20 Years)	Jim Olsen (20 Years)
Base Salary	\$18,500	\$18,500	\$18,500	\$18,500	\$18,500
Increment (\$250/yr)	2,500	3,750	2,250	5,000	5,000
Rent	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Utilities	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
Child Schooling	7,000	12,000	0	14,000	0
*Pension	1,440	1,515	1,425	1,590	1,590
	\$42,040	\$48,365	\$34,775	\$51,690	\$37,690

(\*Pension is figured at 6% of Base, Increment & Car Allowance)

#### OTHER EXPENSES

Health Insurance	
(5 Missionaries)	\$22,000
Car Allowance	
(5 Missionaries/250 Mo)	15,000
Vehicle Replacement	15,000
Furlough (TE & Martin's Replacement)	9,500
Board Expense	8,000
Office Supplies	5,000
Printing & Literature	3,000
Furnishing Replacement	3,500
Util. & Ins. for buildings	4,500
Language Study	3,000
Field Travel	2,000
Visa Expense	1,500
Pers. Change of the field	10,000
Peru Accountant	800
Term Ins. (5 Missionaries)	600
Field Visit	2,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$105,900</b>

#### SUMMARY

Teigen Replacement	\$42,040
Tim Erickson	48,365
Dan McMiller	34,775
David Haeuser	51,690
Jim Olsen	37,690
"Other Expenses"	105,900
Sem. Scholarships & Sem.	27,000
Salary for Nationals	15,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$362,460</b>

#### SOURCE OF FUNDING

Synod	\$128,184
Helping Hands	128,184
Schwan Endowment	91,092
Fett Endowment	14,000
W.O.W. Fund	8,200
Special F.M. Fund	1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$370,660</b>

KEY: 1/5 of total salaries= \$42,91

1/5 of "Other Expenses"= \$21,180

2/5 of total salaries= \$85,824

2/5 of "Other Expenses"= \$42,360

#### THOUGHTS OF FAITH

Through the grace of God and the generous contributions of our supporters Thoughts of Faith has expanded its work of spreading the Gospel of Christ to Eastern Europe this past year.

**LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION:** Two hundred forty thousand Bibles and six hundred thousand pieces of children's literature were distributed in Ukraine this past year.

**SCHOOL PROJECT:** In January, 1992, the Rev. Matthew Luttman, the Rev. Edward Meier, and the Rev. Dr. Thomas Schnick went to Ternopil, Ukraine to deliver lectures on the book of Proverbs, church history and methods of teaching English (Dr. Schnick). These lectures offered many opportunities to proclaim the Gospel of Christ and were well received. The possibility of opening a Christian school in Ternopil is being studied.



**RADIO MINISTRY:** The radio broadcast has been suspended for the time being. The reason for this is that short wave radio time is expensive and people are now listening to local programming. Hopefully local radio time will be secured in the future.

**ORPHANS:** One hundred twenty four Ukrainian orphans were brought to the US in January of 1992. This humanitarian project helped to relieve the conditions in orphanages in the Ternopil region of Ukraine.

**MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS:** Two mobile units, one medical and one dental, have been completed for shipment to Ukraine. American volunteers and Ukrainian medical personnel will staff these units. Medical care is in great need in Ukraine. The focus of the medical unit will be pediatrics and obstetrics.

**CZECH MISSION:** Last summer the Czech mission was established in Plzen as Missionaries Krikava and Sparley moved there. A Christian Day School opened with 12 students. Mr. James Holman served as principal and teacher during this first year of operation. He will be returning to his congregation in Citrus Heights, CA after the close of the school year. We are thankful to God and to Jim for his diligent work in opening our school. Church services are held each Sunday in Plzen. The liturgy is in Czech each week. One Czech sermon is delivered each month. The other Sundays the sermon is in English with a synopsis given in Czech. Attendance averages between 30 and 40. Adult instruction classes have begun.

**PERSONNEL:** The Rev. Edward Meier was hired as Director of Development. During the year the position of the Rev. Matthew Luttman was changed from Director of Christian Literature to Associate Director. The Associate Director will be moving to Czechoslovakia to oversee the work there and also to be closer to the work in Ukraine. Two pastors have been called to serve as missionaries in Ukraine. Two teachers have been called to serve in the American Lutheran School in Plzen.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Don Heiliger resigned from the Board of Directors. The Rev. Matthew Luttman resigned from voting membership on the Board but was granted ex officio status as Associate Director. Dr. Don Peterson of Madison, WI and Mr. Eugene Schiller of Madison, WI were elected to the Board to fill the vacant positions.

Thoughts of Faith is funded solely by private donations. We wish to thank our generous contributors who have made our work possible. We especially thank Mr. Marvin Schwan for his continued support of special projects. Contributions to support the operating budget of the organization are always needed. We pray that God will move the hearts of our people so that they will continue to support this work in the Lord's Kingdom.

**Thoughts of Faith, Inc.**  
**Stroughton, Wisconsin**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**(See Accountants' Review Report)**  
**July 31, 1991**

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$23,712	\$	\$	\$23,712
Accrued interest receivable		37,167		37,167
Due from restricted fund	4,422			4,422
Total current assets	<u>28,134</u>	<u>37,167</u>		65,301
Investments (Note 2)	34,077	1,804,926	663,389	2,502,392
Note receivable (Note 3)		17,000		17,000
Property and equipment		42,500		42,500
Total assets	<u>\$62,211</u>	<u>\$1,901,593</u>	<u>\$663,389</u>	<u>\$2,627,193</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Current liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$34,254	\$	\$	\$34,254
Due to unrestricted fund		4,422		4,422
Total current liabilities	<u>34,254</u>	<u>4,422</u>		38,676
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>				
Fund balance	27,957	1,897,171	663,389	2,588,517
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>	<u>\$62,211</u>	<u>\$1,901,593</u>	<u>\$663,389</u>	<u>\$2,627,193</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE, SUPPORT,  
EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE**  
**(See Accountants' Review Report)**  
**For the Year Ended July 31, 1991)**

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total
<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>				
Contributions - general	\$168,930	\$10,398	\$	\$179,328
Contributions - Schwan	1,873	2,854,799	200,000	3,056,672
Interest income	1,652	89,604	24,034	115,290
Investment gain (loss)	(2,411)	(18,620)	(4,574)	(25,605)
Total revenue and support	<u>170,044</u>	<u>2,936,181</u>	<u>219,460</u>	<u>3,325,685</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Program expenses				
Radio Ministry	55,224	19,238		74,462
Literature Ministry	1,118	1,509,419		1,510,537
Video Ministry	12,994			12,994
Missionary Support	1,015	180,934		181,949
Computer Project		145,700		145,700
Medical Mission		13,824		13,824
Kiev Church and Latvia		4,403		4,403
Ukraine Prison Ministry		4,697		4,697
Ukrainian School Project	342	1,550		1,892
Lviv Office Project		22,750		22,750
Czech. School Project		119,810		119,810
Newsletter	27,078	3,510		30,588
Total program expenses	<u>97,771</u>	<u>2,025,835</u>		<u>2,123,606</u>

GENERAL AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Salaries and benefits	92,423			92,423
Rent and utilities	5,853			5,853
Telephone	9,329			9,329
Professional fees	2,569			2,569
Office expense	7,164			7,164
Total general and administrative expenses	117,338			117,338
Total expenses	<u>215,109</u>	<u>2,025,835</u>		<u>2,240,944</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUE AND SUPPORT OVER EXPENSE	(45,065)	910,346	219,460	1,084,741

FUND BALANCE

Beginning of year	39,205	1,045,476	419,095	1,503,776
Interfund transfers	33,817	(58,651)	24,834	
END OF YEAR	<u>\$27,957</u>	<u>\$1,897,171</u>	<u>\$663,389</u>	<u>\$2,588,517</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
(See Accountants' Review Report)  
For the Year Ended July 31, 1991

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total
Cash flows from ministry activities:				
Excess (Deficit) of revenue and support over expenses	\$(45,065)	\$910,346	\$219,460	\$1,084,741
Adjustments to reconcile to net cash provided by ministry activities:				
Changes in assets and liabilities:				
Accrued interest		(23,325)		(23,325)
Accounts payable	34,254			34,254
Interfund receivables	(4,422)			(4,422)
Interfund payables		4,422		4,422
Net cash provided by (used in) ministry activities	<u>(15,233)</u>	<u>891,443</u>	<u>219,460</u>	<u>1,095,670</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Purchases of investments		(2,910,000)	(344,411)	(3,254,411)
Sales of investments	4,759	2,136,708	100,117	2,241,548
Insurance of note receivable		(17,000)		(17,000)
Purchases of property and equipment		(42,500)		(42,500)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>4,759</u>	<u>(832,792)</u>	<u>(244,294)</u>	<u>(1,072,327)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:				
Interfund transfers	33,817	(58,651)	24,834	
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>33,817</u>	<u>(58,651)</u>	<u>24,834</u>	

Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	23,343			23,343
Cash and cash equivalents:				
Beginning of year	369			369
End of Year	<u>\$23,712</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$23,712</u>
The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.				

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(See Accountants' Review Report)

### NOTE 1—INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Thoughts of Faith, Inc. is a religious non-profit organization whose primary purpose is to provide Lutheran ministry to the Ukraine and Central and Eastern Europe through radio broadcasting, literature and missionaries.

A summary of the significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows:

**A. Cash Equivalents**

The organization defines cash equivalents as money market accounts at financial institutions.

**B. Fund Accounting**

To ensure observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available to the organization, the accounts of the organization are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. This is the procedure by which resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds established according to their nature and purposes. Separate accounts are maintained for each fund; however, in the accompanying financial statements, funds that have similar characteristics have been recorded and reported by fund group.

The assets, liabilities and fund balances of the organization are reported in three self-balancing fund groups as follows:

Unrestricted funds represent funds that have no external restriction on their use or purpose, that is, funds that can be used for any purpose designated by the Board of Directors.

Restricted funds represent funds restricted by the donor for particular operating purposes.

Endowment funds represent funds that are subject to restrictions of donors requiring that the principal and income be invested and used only if funding for restricted missionary programs is not available.

**C. Investments**

Investments are presented in the financial statements in the aggregate at the lower of cost or fair market value.

**D. Property and Equipment and Accumulated Depreciation**

Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Depreciation will be provided using the straight-line method over the estimated useful beginning when the assets are placed in service.

## NOTE 2—INVESTMENTS

Investments are composed of the following:

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>
Money market funds	\$	\$323,001	\$20,064
Certificates of deposit		995,000	100,000
Corporate bonds		486,925	
Government obligations			198,900
Mortgage backed securities			181,907
Mutual funds	34,077		162,518
	<u>\$34,077</u>	<u>\$1,804,926</u>	<u>\$663,389</u>

## NOTE 3—NOTE RECEIVABLE

The organization has a note receivable from an employee which is due upon the employee's termination. The note bears interest at prime rate and is being paid in monthly payments of \$50.

## NOTE 4—RETIREMENT PLANS

The organization maintains a contributory tax sheltered annuity plan (TSA) for substantially all employees. For the year ended July 31, 1991, the TSA expense was \$5,775.

Norman A. Madson, field secretary

## MISSIONS ACTION OF THE SYNOD

### Resolution No. 1: Home Mission Calls

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions extended calls 15 times this year before one of the four mission calls was accepted, and,*

*WHEREAS, Another new mission is yet to be staffed this year, and,*

*WHEREAS, Our Lord has instructed us to "Ask the Lord of the Harvest . . . to send out workers . . .",*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the mission board for its persistence in carrying out the great commission, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages all members of our ELS—both lay and clergy—to actively recruit men to train for work as pastors and missionaries, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod asks every member of our ELS to pray that God would lead workers into the field.*

### Resolution No. 2: Board Members

*WHEREAS, Most members of the Board for Home Missions are full time pastors or laymen with full time work, and,*

*WHEREAS, Countless hours go into the development of each new home mission, over and above the hours spent in quarterly meetings, and,*

*WHEREAS, By the grace of God, tremendous growth has been experienced in many of our new missions, including construction of new facilities in Scottsdale and Riviera, Arizona,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod in convention expresses its thanks to the members of the Board for Home Missions and to the Lord who has led them,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Board for Home Missions to continue in its service to the Lord through these efforts.*

**Resolution No. 3: Salary Package**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions has recommended a salary package for home missionaries, and,*

*WHEREAS, It is important to review the salary and welfare of all pastors on an annual basis,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts the salary package for home missionaries, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That all congregations of the synod be urged to review their pastor's salary package annually, using the home mission salary package as a minimum guideline.*

**Resolution No. 4: Gifts and Bequests**

*WHEREAS, The funding of mission work comes from many sources, and,*

*WHEREAS, Many individuals have been moved to provide financial support for the work of missions, and,*

*WHEREAS, The proceeds from the estate of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Fett have greatly assisted the work of the Board for Home Missions and the Board for Foreign Missions, and,*

*WHEREAS, Schwan Sales Enterprises, Inc. has generously given toward the efforts of the Board for Home Missions, Board for Foreign Missions and Thoughts of Faith, and,*

*WHEREAS, Lutheran Brotherhood's Program Subsidy Grants have been made available to many of our home mission congregations, and,*

*WHEREAS, A number of Women's Missionary Societies have provided gifts for the work of missions, and,*

*WHEREAS, Helping Hands has supported two of our missionaries in Peru, and,*

*WHEREAS, Faith Mission Society continues to support our mission work,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks God for moving the hearts of many people to support His work of spreading the Gospel, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod acknowledges these gifts with thanks to the donors, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That synod's congregations be reminded that ongoing private donations and bequests are needed to continue the work of missions.*

**Resolution No. 5: Board for Evangelism**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism has been charged with*

*the work of providing our congregations with evangelism materials and with studying "trends in the theology and methodology of evangelism," and,*

*WHEREAS, Materials relating to both are now available through the ELS Evangelism Notes on a quarterly basis, and,*

*WHEREAS, These materials include quality helps to assist each congregation in having an annual Evangelism Sunday, and,*

*WHEREAS, Other materials are being prepared as directed by the synod in convention, for use in personal witnessing and for use in providing a workshop for evangelism,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks and commends the Board for Evangelism for its faithful labor and our Lord who has directed them, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the board to finish and implement its current projects, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the pastors and congregations of our synod to make use of these materials.*

#### **Resolution No. 6: Return of Missionary M. Teigen**

*WHEREAS, The Rev. Martin Teigen will be returning to the United States after sixteen years of work in Peru,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its appreciation to the Rev. Teigen for his work, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, The synod offers God praise for having directed him, graciously, petitioning Him to provide a safe return.*

#### **Resolution No. 7: Field Visit and Peru Conditions**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions carefully has monitored the political situation in Peru, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions has conducted a field visit to Peru, and,*

*WHEREAS, Our Synod President has asked the members of the synod "to remember our missionaries and their families before the Lord in prayer, we need to ask our gracious God to watch over them as they labor far from home under sometimes difficult conditions."*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the Board for Foreign Missions for the administration of the work which our synod is doing in South America, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the foreign missionaries for their commitment to the work of the Lord, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Board for Foreign Missions in the work in Peru.*

#### **Resolution No. 8: Ordination of Peruvian Pastors**

*WHEREAS, Four men have now become the first graduates of our Peru Seminary, and,*

*WHEREAS, Three of these men have been ordained as the first national pastors of Centro Cristiano Luterano, and,*

*WHEREAS, The seminary teaching staff and students have labored hard and long to accomplish this goal,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Almighty Lord for the growth of our mission in Peru and for calling these men into His service, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the seminary staff and the Board for Foreign Missions for the diligent efforts in reaching this momentous event, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends Fidel Convecio, Roberto Berrospid and Segundo Gutierrez into the Lord's continued care.*

**Resolution No. 9: Calling of Another Missionary**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions has planned to replace the 5th man in the South American fields, and,*

*WHEREAS, Concern has been expressed regarding the isolation of our foreign missionaries, and,*

*WHEREAS, Other reasons would urge having more than two men in one field (furloughs, etc.), and,*

*WHEREAS, The synod in past convention has resolved "to maintain a minimum staff of three theologically trained men" in a foreign field (Synod report, 1980, page 87, Resolution 5a),*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod urges the Board for Foreign Missions to call as soon as possible the 5th man to our South American field "for the health of the mission."*

**Resolution No. 10: Mission Work in Chile**

*WHEREAS, For several years the Board for Foreign Missions has felt that work should begin in some other South American country, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions feels that Chile will be a good country in which to preach and teach the Gospel, and,*

*WHEREAS, A mission in Chile will make it possible for our missionaries to keep in touch with the Peruvian Lutheran Church, and,*

*WHEREAS, Chile has a stable government, and,*

*WHEREAS, Missionaries Olsen and McMiller already have moved to Santiago, Chile,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the Board for Foreign Missions for its fine work in Chile, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod implores the Lord's blessings on the work of the missionaries.*

**Resolution No. 11: Thoughts of Faith**

*WHEREAS, Thoughts of Faith has been provided with many opportunities to proclaim the Gospel of Christ in Ukraine, and,*

*WHEREAS, A large amount of Bibles and Christian literature have been distributed in Ukraine, and,*

*WHEREAS, A Czech mission has been established in Plzen, and,*

*WHEREAS, Plans are underway for the establishment of a seminary in Plzen, and,*



*WHEREAS, For the future of the mission it is important that native pastors be trained so that they can fluently preach the Gospel in their language, and,*

*WHEREAS, Both the Board for Foreign Missions and the Thoughts of Faith Board appreciate the increasing interaction between the two,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends Thoughts of Faith in its work of spreading the Gospel in Eastern Europe, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod, through the ad hoc committee, encourages the establishment of a seminary in Plzen, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod praises our Lord for opening these doors of opportunity.*

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

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

The board was organized by reelecting the Rev. Gottfred Guldberg as chairman. The Rev. John Smith was reelected secretary. Mr. Paul Tweit was reelected Insurance Manager. He cares for pastors' and teachers' Term Life Insurance. Mr. Don Heiliger was elected Pension Fund Officer. Mr. Al Olson is to oversee the work being done in trying to set up an OWLS organization in our synod.

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

1. Re: Pastors' and Christian Day School Teachers' Term Life Insurance. This year, as in the past, the board solicited bids for our synod Term Life Insurance. As a result, we are working with a new company. The name of the company is Royal Maccabees of Southfield, Michigan. The new cost per year for \$30,000 of term insurance is \$97.20 per called worker. We hope that each congregation of our synod will pay this premium for their called worker or workers.
2. Re: World Needs Fund. As a result of our Mother's Day offering and other gifts given throughout the year the board was able to do the following with the World Needs Fund. Since our last report to synod, \$2,500 has been given to Thoughts of Faith to help feed some starving people in the Ukraine, \$2,500 was sent to the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church (ELF) in Germany to help the desperately poor in that church body, \$2,500 was set aside to help T.B. patients in our Peruvian Mission. This money is allocated for medication and nutrition. Our missionaries are responsible for dispersing this money. Also \$400 was sent to a family in Minnesota who lost all of their possessions in a house fire.
3. Re: Resolution from the 1991 Synod Convention, Committee #12, Board for Christian Service, Resolution #3, 1991 Synod Report, page 120. Subject: Retirement Plan.

WHEREAS, The Board for Christian Service considered the feasibility of establishing an endowment fund to assist our pastors with financing an adequate retirement plan, and,  
 WHEREAS, After further consideration the board has deemed it impossible to establish such a fund at this time, and,  
 WHEREAS, The board strongly encourages each of our pastors to make some kind of provision for his retirement, and,  
 WHEREAS, A number of pastors still have no retirement plan, and,  
 WHEREAS, God has shown us His grace by preserving and proclaiming among us His word and sacrament through the office of the holy ministry,  
 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Christian Service be encouraged to explore alternative means of funding pastoral retirement plans that would meet minimum standards of living.

The board has again considered this matter as it has two times in the past several years. The result continues to be the same. Inasmuch as there is no method by which the synod can establish a retirement plan with mandatory contributions from the member congregations, any retirement plan must remain voluntary. Synod has no extra funds available to cover those pastors who are unable to establish a retirement plan.

As to using alternative sources to fund pastoral retirement plans, the board is concerned that the establishment of an alternative method of covering those pastors/teachers without a plan might either encourage some congregations to withdraw their support for a pastor's retirement plan or encourage a pastor to use the retirement portion of his salary to augment current spendable income. Unless the alternative means of funding would apply to all pastors/teachers it could be unfair to those pastors/teachers and congregations that are, in good faith, already contributing to an established plan. The question remains: where would alternative funding come from to support a retirement plan for all?

The board continues to strongly encourage each of our pastors/teachers to make some provision for his/her retirement. In that regard, the board, September 1991, sent out letters to all pastors and teachers new to the synod explaining the recommended National Life of Vermont plan and options. The letter also suggested the method by which the congregation would make payments directly to the retirement plan for the pastor.

4. RE: OWLS Organization. Such an organization has been considered but there is nothing new to report at this time.
5. RE: Counseling Program for Synod Employees. The Wisconsin Synod maintains a HelpLine for synod workers, for our synod and theirs. They will refer the caller to a Christian counselor in their area. The numbers to call are:

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

We encourage pastors, teachers and their spouses to use these services.

The Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service maintains a number of counseling centers which are available to all the members of our synod. They are located in Milwaukee, Madison, Appleton, Wausau, Eau Claire, Lacrosse and Morton Grove, Illinois. Members of our congregations are encouraged to make use of these Christian counselors.

John E. Smith, secretary

## **CHRISTIAN SERVICE ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

### **Resolution No. 1: Pastors' and Teachers' Term Life Insurance**

*WHEREAS, Retired pastors and teachers are not presently eligible for coverage under the synod's group term life insurance plan, therefore,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Christian Service explores the feasibility of including retired pastors and teachers under the synod's group term life insurance plan, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Christian Service reports its findings to the 1993 Synod Convention.*

### **Resolution No. 2: Retirement Plan**

*WHEREAS, The Board For Christian Service has on three occasions studied the feasibility of providing an alternative retirement plan for those pastors and teachers whose congregations have not paid into a private plan, and,*

*WHEREAS, The board has found this to be impractical, therefore,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod concurs with the findings of the Board For Christian Service, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages all congregations to participate in the synod's recommended pension program or something similar.*

### **Resolution No. 3: Counseling Program For Synod Employees**

*WHEREAS, Our sister synod, the WELS, makes counseling services available to synodical employees, and,*

*WHEREAS, Many pastors, teachers, and spouses may not be aware of this counseling service, therefore,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the WELS be made aware of our appreciation, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That our standing committee increase its efforts to make this service known to eligible personnel.*

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS**

This board is charged with the responsibility of overseeing the publication of "Lutheran Sentinel," the "Convention Report," and the "Lutheran Synod Quarterly." As we meet only three times a year we rely very heavily upon the staff of each of these periodicals. We are especially blessed to have had the unselfish services of the Rev. Paul Madson (Sentinel), the Rev. Alf Merseth (Synod Report) and Seminary Pres. Wilhelm Peterson (Quarterly). Each has edited their respective publication for many years.

Board member A. V. Kuster solicits copy and oversees the production of five or six bulletin inserts annually. These inserts provide a vehicle for the various boards to communicate with everyone attending a synod church. Several inserts promoting the 75th anniversary of our synod are planned for this next year.

The second book by the Rev. Alvin Wagner, "St. Paul—The Theologian's Prototype" was completed in 1991 at no cost to the synod. It is available from the synod book store. All revenues from these two books are forwarded to the seminary.

The board completed preparation of a "Model Constitution" for new synod congregations. This has been submitted to the Self Study Committee.

The Rev. A. V. Kuster is resigning from this board after many years of valuable service. He will be missed.

The Board for Publications members are: Chairman W. Gullixson, the Rev. A. V. Kuster, the Rev. R. Wiechmann, R. Deering, H. Siewert and L. Schwartz.

Howard L. Siewert, secretary

## **PUBLICATIONS ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

### **Resolution No. 1: Publications of the Synod**

*RESOLVED, That the Rev. Paul Madson, editor of the Lutheran Sentinel, the Rev. Alf Merseeth, editor of the Synod Report, Dr. Tom Kuster, editor of the Convention Echo, Dr. Wilhelm Petersen, editor of the Lutheran Synod Quarterly, and their respective support staffs, be commended for their worthy efforts.*

### **Resolution No. 2: Books by the Rev. Alvin Wagner**

*WHEREAS, The Rev. Alvin Wagner's books, Behold a Greater Than Solomon and St. Paul: the Theologians Prototype, have excellent, inspiring and timely messages for pastors and lay people alike,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Publications take advantage of all appropriate avenues of distribution.*

### **Resolution No. 3: The Rev. A. V. Kuster**

*RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Rev. A. V. Kuster for his 18 years of service to the Board for Publications.*

### **Resolution No. 4: The Lutheran Sentinel**

*WHEREAS, The Lutheran Sentinel is the primary method of communicating the news and views of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Sentinel is a very important means of communicating God's Word in its truth and purity to its readers, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Sentinel serves valuably in expressing "His Truth for Our Youth,"*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That those congregations making use of blanket subscriptions be commended, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That all congregations of the synod be encouraged to provide the Sentinel to their members through this method.*

**Resolution No. 5: 75th Anniversary Inserts**

*WHEREAS, Several bulletin inserts regarding the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the synod are being promoted by the Board for Publications,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That all congregations of the synod be encouraged to make use of these special inserts.*

## **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP**

Pursuant to the synod's resolution at last year's convention, "That the worship committee be encouraged to examine the possibility of assembling and publishing a hymnal that reflects the liturgical and hymnic heritage of the ELS," the committee has been at work assembling and preparing materials for an EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN HYMNARY, and attention is also being given to examining the matter of publication.

The committee envisions the Table of Contents for such a hymnary to include the following:

- Foreword
- \* The Calendar
- \* Emergency Baptism
- \* Private Confession and Absolution
- \* Corporate Confession and Absolution
- \* Divine Service: Rite One ("Bugenhagen," essentially LHy p.7)
- \* Divine Service: Rite Two ("Common Service," essentially TLH p. 15)
- \* Divine Service: Rite Three (New English)
- \* Divine Service: Rite Four (Essentially Luther's Chorale Mass)
- \* The Office (A service for the canonical hours, esp. Matins and Vespers)
  - The Daily Devotional
  - The Suffrages
  - The Bidding Prayer
  - The Litany
  - Prayers for Various Occasions

- \* The Lectionary
- The Small Catechism
- The Augsburg Confession
- Psalms, Canticles and Responsive Readings
- \* Hymns (Preliminary list prepared/worked on/is available)
- Notes on the Service, Liturgical Glossary
- Acknowledgements
- Indices

As offered by way of an announcement from the committee, which was included in President Orvick's 15 November 1991 letter to the pastors of the synod, a packet of materials pertaining to this project is available for \$15 and should be ordered from Dennis Marzolf, chairman of the committee. The packet includes the assembled/prepared items before which there are asterisks above. A cover communication with the packet says in part, "The material contained herein is preliminary; specific corrections and suggestions are welcome from any of the congregations and pastors of the synod. The committee has been decidedly conservative in its work. Even the 'new' service of Word and Sacrament draws heavily upon the work and spirit of sixteenth century evangelical Lutheranism."

Work has also been done and continues to be done on other items listed in the envisioned Table of Contents, and when readied will also be made available for review and response. The committee appreciates the responses it has received to date from those who have reviewed the material already available, and invites responses from others throughout the synod when they have acquainted themselves with the material offered for review. The committee, consisting of Dennis Marzolf, Mark DeGarmeaux and the undersigned, also earnestly desires the prayers of the members of the synod as it continues to go about its work on this project to which it was encouraged by last year's convention resolution, cognizant that this project is of much significance as to preserving the liturgical and hymnic heritage of the ELS.

Harry Bartels, secretary

## REPORT OF THE SELF STUDY COMMITTEE

The Self Study Committee is appointed by the president of the synod and consists of the Rev. Alf Merseth, chairman; the Rev. Raymond Branstad, the Rev. David Nelson, the Rev. Milton Tweit and the Rev. Richard Newgard, secretary. The committee has met several times this past year and respectfully submits the following recommendations for the synod's consideration:

### THE CLERGY ROSTER OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

- WHEREAS, The synod resolved "that the matter of criteria for deleting names from the clergy roster be remanded to the Self Study Committee for further evaluation," (1991 Synod Report, Res. #2, p. 171), be it
- RESOLVED, That the following guidelines govern the Clergy Roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod:

## ESTABLISHING THE CLERGY ROSTER

### I. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

- A. Graduation from Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary or a seminary of a church body in our fellowship and being called, ordained and installed as a pastor, professor or teacher.
- B. Approval and recommendation by the Colloquy Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and acceptance by resolution of the synod.
- C. Transfer from a sister church body and acceptance by resolution of the synod.

### II. CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

- A. Pastors serving member congregations.
- B. Pastors serving non-member Lutheran congregations.
- C. Pastors serving independent congregations the confessions and teachings of which are in agreement with those of the synod.
- D. Ordained clergy serving as professors in educational institutions of the synod or as teachers in schools of member congregations.
- E. Ordained clergy serving in administrative offices of the synod.
- F. Ordained clergy serving in home and foreign mission fields or in church related organizations.
- G. Clergy who qualify in (I) above and are inactive.
- H. Clergy who qualify in (I) above and are emeritus.

Note: All persons on the "Clergy Roster" are eligible for a call.

### III. REMOVAL FROM THE CLERGY ROSTER

- A. Clergy may be removed from the "Clergy Roster" in accordance with the "Guidelines for Synodical Discipline" found on pages 51-52 of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Handbook.
- B. The president and secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod shall consult with inactive clergy to ascertain whether or not they wish to remain on the "Clergy Roster."

## PASTORS' EQUALIZATION

WHEREAS, the synod resolved "that the method of determination of pastors' equalization be remanded to the Self Study Committee for re-evaluation," (1991 Synod Report, Res. #5, p. 172), be it  
RESOLVED, that the following formula govern pastor's equalization:

### PASTOR'S EQUALIZATION SLIDING SCALE BASED ON PARISH COMMUNICANT MEMBERSHIP

Communicant Categories	0-50	51-100	101-150	151-200	201-250	251-300	301-up
Assigned %	50%	67%	84%	Par	116%	133%	150%
Amount to be paid if Par is \$180	\$90	\$121	\$151	\$180	\$209	\$239	\$270
Number of Parishes in each Category —							
1990 Figures	24	21	17	10	9	8	15

Total—Number  
of Parishes X  
the Category  
Amount

\$2,160 \$2,541 \$2,567 \$1,800 \$1,881 \$1,912 \$4,050

Total  
Amount

\$16,911

Plus

1,980 — Estimated 11 Prof. & Retired Pastors paid by Synod  
\$18,891 (\$180 x 11)

Plus

810 — Large churches having more than one pastor or a vicar

Grand

Total

\$19,701

(\$270 x 3)

(For the 1991 convention—107 pastors participated with a total expense of \$19,462, making the average expense or par amount \$182)

*Parish* is the total number of communicant members a pastor serves, whether in one, two or more churches.

The total amount of pastors' expense, divided by the number of pastors submitting expenses, will be the par figure—the average expense. This amount is assigned to the middle category, parishes with communicant membership from 151-200. Other size parishes will pay the percentage of par assigned to the category their parish fits into, with the largest parishes paying 150% of par and the smallest parishes paying 50% of the par amount.

If the total amount calculated from this formula is not enough to cover all expenses, or is more than needed, then the par amount should be raised or lowered and the formula worked again for all categories keeping the percentages the same. The formula may need to be worked several times to find the proper total amount needed to cover all expenses.

## FUNDING PROCEDURES FOR THE BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS

The synod resolved "that the matter of funding procedures for the Board for Publications be referred back to the Self Study Committee," (1991 Synod Report, Res. #4, p. 172). The committee is pleased to report that this matter has been handled through the Board of Trustees which has combined two existing funds to create a reserve fund for publications. The committee feels that the matter has therefore been resolved satisfactorily.

## MEMORIAL CONCERNING TEACHERS AT SYNOD CONVENTION

WHEREAS, The synod resolved "that the memorial regarding teachers at convention be referred to the Self Study Committee," (1991 Synod Report, p. 157 and Res. #9, p. 173), and,

WHEREAS, Neither the Constitution nor the By-laws of the synod require principals and male teachers to be in attendance at conventions, and,

WHEREAS, Principals, male teachers and professors may be elected as delegates by their congregations, and,

WHEREAS, The enfranchising of male teachers, professors and missionaries would necessitate the changing of the synodical congregational representation structure (cf. By-laws, Chapter IV—Conventions, Paragraphs 2), and,

WHEREAS, Principals, male teachers, professors and missionaries have the right to apply for permanent membership in the synod which includes voting rights on convention committees and speaking rights in the convention assembly (cf. By-laws, Chapter IV—Con-



ventions, Paragraph 3, and Handbook, General Rules and Regulations, p. 47), and,  
WHEREAS, These are all eligible to be elected to standing boards and committees of the synod,  
A. RESOLVED, that the present congregational representation structure and permanent membership structure be retained, and,  
B. RESOLVED, that all who are eligible be encouraged to apply for permanent membership in the synod.

Richard Newgard, secretary

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP

The Board for Stewardship accomplished its main business by conducting two meetings, one on September 5-6, 1991 and the other on February 6-7, 1992. All other goals were achieved by individual members through personal assignment and telephone conversation.

The members of the board are the Rev. Paul Schneider, chairman; Mr. Howard Hougan, vice chairman; the Rev. Rodger Dale, secretary; Mr. Leslie Enter; Mr. Steven Jaeger. The Rev. M.E. Tweit continues to serve 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, and especially in an attempt to carry out the Lord's will to extend His Kingdom the following has been done by the board since the last convention:

- (1) Regular monthly letters have been sent to all pastors, board members and synod convention delegates providing stewardship encouragement and information, bulletin inserts and a monthly listing of synodical contributions from all the congregations.
- (2) Articles & "Stewardship Sentences" have been provided for publication in the LUTHERAN SENTINEL.
- (3) A bulletin insert has been published in cooperation with the Board for Publications.
- (4) A special offering was conducted on December 8, 1991 to help reduce the large budget deficit. 1991 became a record year with budget contributions totaling \$762,961.82, exceeding the budget by \$26,961.82. Excess of income over expenses was \$19,270.65. In 1991, 64 congregations gave less than in 1990 and 65 gave more. (See statistical sheet for comparison)
- (5) The board continues to monitor the activity of LACE through its contact man, Mr. Leslie Enter. Because of the benefit our synod is receiving from this loan program of the WELS, we need to encourage more individual members of our ELS to support this ministry by loaning money which will be used by our congregations for loans.
- (6) The board continues to be concerned about all members of the synod keeping informed on the work of the synod as well as on the message of stewardship. Church Councils should keep the work of our synod on their agenda.
- (7) A questionnaire was sent to all pastors seeking information on methods congregations use for gathering offerings, setting goals for synod contributions, how they operate with regard to all financial matters, etc. Through the dedicated follow-up of the Rev. Tweit we received 100% participation on the part of the pastors. They are to be commended for their cooperation! This

information is being tabulated and analyzed and will be distributed to the synod as soon as available. This data should help this board better determine how to best communicate the message of giving and motivate the people to better support the Lord's Work in the synod.

- (8) The board continues to attempt to oversee the fund drive appeals within the synod. Very few requests come before the board, however.
- (9) Advent & Lenten offering envelopes were provided for all congregations to be used to gather an extra offering for the synod during those special seasons.
- (10) The Rev. Tweit tabulated statistics on the giving of all congregations for both home and synod according to Circuits for the year 1991.
- (11) Special stewardship seminars were conducted in April and May of 1992 by board chairman the Rev. Schneider. He presented to the pastors and provided for the parishes copies of a new stewardship publication, "GROWING IN THE GRACE OF GIVING." The total cost of this endeavor (seminars & materials) was underwritten by an individual member of the synod.
- (12) Work is being done on a mission statement as directed by the Planning & Coordinating Committee.
- (13) The Rev. Rodger Dale is working on an in-depth stewardship training Bible study utilizing various teaching methods including visuals and learner involvement through discussion and specific actions to implement the principles.
- (14) The board is striving to provide the archives with all minutes, etc. so that a permanent record of all activities will be maintained.

Thanks and praise go to almighty God for moving the hearts of our people to support our Lord's work which we are doing together in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Many dollars were given by many generous believers, dollars flowing from hearts filled with dedicated faith in the Lord and Savior. The board continues to use God's Word, both the Law & the Gospel, to reach the hearts letting that heart filled with faith and love control the pocketbook. The board continues to be concerned over the fact that the synodical budget carries a deficit until the end of the year when a "final, special push" is necessary to catch up. All members and all congregations need to be encouraged to follow the scriptural advice to give regularly throughout the entire year. We should be able to fund our budget and thus do our Lord's work without having to make such urgent pleas because of a deficit. Congregational treasurers should submit offerings on a monthly basis.

The board continues to study biblical stewardship and how it might assist various pastors and congregations in teaching these principles to the people. It will only be the Holy Spirit working through the Means of Grace Who creates and strengthens faith, faith which moves cheerful givers to be generous with their offerings for the Lord's Work. May God's Will always be done and may He receive all the glory!

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—1991

	1991 Budget	1991 Non-budget
	\$	\$
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	1,030.00	—
Bethany, Ames, IA	420.00	20.00
Bethany, The Dalles, OR	—	—
Bethany, Luverne, MN	15,191.18	295.00
Bethany, Port Orchard, WA	10,170.00	212.59
Bethany, Princeton, MN	11,023.83	60.00
Bethel, Sioux Falls, SD	2,335.00	—
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	105.00	—
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	1,285.41	45.00
Calvary, Ulen, MN	3,640.00	—
Center, Scarville, IA	3,191.00	—
Chico Mission, Chico, CA	520.00	—
Christ, Klamath Falls, OR	2,007.00	75.00
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	1,739.00	—
Christ, Savannah, GA	—	—
Christ, Sutherlin, OR	1,950.59	—
Christ, Windsor, CA	5,667.00	131.00
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	4,792.98	350.00
Christ the King, Bell Gardens, CA	4,910.67	245.00
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	775.00	86.00
Concordia, Hood River, OR	135.00	—
East Paint Creek, Waterville, IA	4,947.65	50.00
Emmaus, Chicago, IL	2,526.25	95.00
English, Cottonwood, MN	14,123.73	395.00
Faith, Alpena, MI	718.00	—
Faith, East Jordan, MI	1,000.00	—
Faith, Hillman, MI	1,246.50	—
Faith, Litchfield, IL	410.58	—
Faith, Orange County, CA	3,235.00	1,331.00
Faith, Oregon, WI	4,332.67	425.00
Faith, Parkersburg, IA	1,435.00	—
Faith, San Antonio, TX	3,020.78	—
Family of God, Riviera, AZ	2,584.16	20.00
First, Suttons Bay, MI	2,373.00	366.00
First American, Mayville, ND	3,112.50	—
First English, Ashland, WI	100.00	—
First Evanger, Fertile, MN	1,614.10	15.00
First Shell Rock, Northwood, IA	4,990.41	—
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	8,028.50	250.00
Forest, Forest City, IA	1,718.00	—
Gloria Dei, Janesville, WI	—	—
Gloria Dei, Saginaw, MI	3,058.94	—
Good Shepherd, Bloomer, WI	1,982.20	161.00
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	6,333.39	424.07
Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	167.13	210.91
Good Shepherd, Vallejo, CA	6,615.00	—
Grace, Crookston, MN	—	—
Grace, Madison, WI	15,975.00	—
Grace, Piedmont, MO	821.07	—
Grace, Vero Beach, FL	24,502.50	110.00
Grace, Weston, OH	3,641.74	—
Hartland, Hartland, MN	3,783.66	22,579.00

Heritage, Apple Valley, MN	8,292.40	—
Holton, Holton, MI	2,475.00	—
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	36,922.60	1,427.90
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	20,089.70	25.00
Holy Trinity, Okauchee, WI	32,693.38	2,699.00
Immanuel, Audubon, MN	7,735.70	—
Immanuel, Riceville, IA	1,460.70	—
Jensen Beach, Jensen Beach, FL	826.29	—
Jerico, New Hampton, IA	22,785.75	845.00
King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	55,250.00	105.00
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	3,202.20	32.00
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	1,726.59	18.00
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	2,421.95	25.00
Manchester, Manchester, MN	1,112.00	100.00
Mt. Olive, Mankato, MN	27,500.37	1,073.00
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	1,353.32	35.00
Nazareth, Trail, MN	1,742.25	—
New Life, Sebring, FL	5,101.23	77.00
Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI	1,704.00	5.00
Norseland, St. Peter, MN	17,265.71	—
Norwegian Grove, Gaylord, MN	7,275.70	280.00
Oak Park, Oklee, MN	3,165.00	118.00
Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	874.00	221.96
Our Savior's, Albert Lea, MN	25,218.00	3,248.95
Our Savior's, Amherst Junction, WI	1,703.25	—
Our Savior's, Bagley, MN	2,200.00	—
Our Savior's, Belview, MN	4,401.02	70.00
Our Savior, Bishop, CA	2,799.00	182.00
Our Savior's, Elderon, WI	1,830.00	—
Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	1,545.00	45.00
Our Savior's, Hawley, MN	1,071.26	—
Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City, AZ	11,927.00	230.00
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	5,271.21	190.00
Our Saviour's, Madison, WI	1,229.50	74.00
Our Savior, Naples, FL	5,300.00	—
Our Savior's, Princeton, MN	18,365.09	325.00
Parkland, Tacoma, WA	6,042.16	455.00
Peace, Colorado Springs, CO	682.00	176.75
Peace, Deshler, OH	10,965.50	643.10
Peace, Jefferson City, MO	402.65	130.00
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	4,926.00	105.00
Pilgrim, Waterloo, IA	800.00	—
Pinehurst, Eau Claire, WI	1,290.00	75.00
Pinewood, Burlington, MA	4,500.00	1,121.00
Redeemer, Iola, WI	790.00	193.00
Redeemer, New Hampton, IA	2,852.55	339.00
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	—	—
Richland, Thornton, IA	14,175.10	529.00
River Heights, East Grand Forks, MN	20,156.22	50.00
Rock Dell, Belview, MN	6,032.31	1.00
Rose Dell Trinity, Jasper, MN	1,066.00	—
Saude, Lawler, IA	15,697.75	466.70
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	4,139.00	—
Scriptural, Cape Girardeau, MO	1,262.94	—
Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley, CA	856.00	—
Somber, Northwood, IA	2,717.95	—
St. Luke, Mount Vernon, WA	71.50	—

St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	1,633.00	45.00
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	18,956.60	310.00
St. Matthew, Detroit, MI	745.00	128.00
St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	3,704.00	11.00
St. Paul, Clintonville, WI	6,862.05	—
St. Paul, Escondido, CA	1,340.16	54.97
St. Paul, Lengby, MN	2,396.23	88.00
St. Paul's, Portage, WI	50.00	—
St. Petri, Grygla, MN	405.00	10.00
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	14,839.00	986.00
Synod, Scarville, IA	12,056.60	158.00
Trinity, Brewster, MA	5,361.30	3,165.00
Trinity, Calmar, IA	841.50	—
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	5,391.50	227.00
Trinity, West Bend, WI	18,871.95	150.00
Wayfarers' Chapel, Ventura, CA	2,425.00	—
Western Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, WI	3,040.00	—
West Paint Creek, Waukon, IA	2,926.95	—
Zion, Thompson, IA	2.00	—
Zion, Tracy, MN	3,570.50	202.00
Miscellaneous:		
Aid Association for Lutherans	—	21,000.00
Helping Hands	—	38,000.00
Home Mission Offering	—	—
Lutheran Brotherhood	—	50,000.00
Other	12,995.62	1,562,955.13
Totals	<u>\$762,961.82</u>	<u>\$1,721,178.03</u>

## SUMMARY OF GIVING BY CIRCUITS—1990

CONGREGATION	COM	HOME	AVE PER COM	SYNOD	AVE PER COM	TOTAL AVE PER COM
<b>CIRCUIT NO. 1</b>						
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	0	\$7,741	\$ 0	\$4,926	\$ 0	\$ 0
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	92	48,238	524	5,271	57	581
Our Savior, Naples, FL	136	72,101	530	5,300	39	569
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	74	34,939	472	1,739	24	496
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	105	58,000	552	5,392	51	603
New Life, Sebring, FL	0	2,930	0	5,101	0	0
Grace, Vero Beach, FL	242	114,291	472	24,503	101	573
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	38	21,972	577	0	0	577
Christ, Savannah, GA	40	48,748	1,218	0	0	1,218
Totals	727	\$408,960	\$ 562	\$52,232	\$ 72	\$ 634
<b>CIRCUIT NO. 2</b>						
Trinity, Brewster, MA	86	\$41,712	\$485	\$5,361	\$62	\$547
Pinewood, Burlington, MA	90	62,450	694	4,500	50	744
Totals	176	\$104,162	\$592	\$9,861	\$56	\$648
<b>CIRCUIT NO. 3</b>						
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	46	\$ 53,064	\$1,153	\$ 6,333	\$ 138	\$ 1,291
Faith, Alpena, MI	25	0	0	718	29	29
St. Matthew, Detroit, MI	220	0	0	745	3	3
Faith, East Jordan, MI	43	0	0	1,000	23	23
Faith, Hillman, MI	60	28,000	467	1,247	21	488
Holton, Holton, MI	266	85,011	319	2,475	9	328
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	214	73,929	345	20,090	94	439
Gloria Dei, Saginaw, MI	165	94,537	573	3,059	19	592
First, Suttons Bay, MI	85	35,498	418	2,373	28	446
Peace, Deshler, OH	365	76,375	209	10,960	30	239
Grace, Weston, OH	253	66,543	263	3,642	14	277
Totals	1,742	\$512,957	\$294	\$52,642	\$ 30	\$324

CONGREGATION	COM	HOME	AVE PER COM	SYNOD	AVE PER COM	TOTAL AVE PER COM
<b>CIRCUIT NO. 4</b>						
Emmaus, Chicago, IL	75	\$ 31,215	\$ 416	\$ 2,526	\$ 34	\$ 450
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	28	11,811	422	1,633	58	480
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	181	74,695	429	14,839	82	777
W. Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, WI	255	71,155	279	3,040	12	291
Grace, Madison, WI	145	58,101	400	15,975	110	510
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	1097	465,680	425	36,923	34	459
Our Saviour's, Madison, WI	246	66,628	270	1,230	5	275
Holy Trinity, Okauchee, WI	405	195,995	484	32,693	81	565
Faith, Oregon, WI	126	40,000	317	4,333	34	351
St. Paul's, Portage, WI	95	23,295	245	50	0	245
Trinity, West Bend, WI	271	226,679	836	18,872	70	906
Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI	82	19,558	239	1,704	21	260
Totals	3,006	\$1,284,812	\$ 427	\$133,818	\$ 45	\$ 472
<b>CIRCUIT NO. 5</b>						
Our Savior's, Amherst Jct., WI	20	\$ 8,215	\$410	\$ 1,703	\$ 85	\$495
First English, Ashland, WI	76	29,714	391	100	1	392
Good Shepherd, Bloomer, WI	127	35,003	276	1,982	16	292
St. Paul, Clintonville, WI	141	21,473	152	6,862	49	201
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	240	37,317	155	1,030	4	159
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	384	65,830	171	775	2	173
Pinehurst, Eau Claire, WI	327	48,744	149	1,290	4	153
Our Savior's, Elderon, WI	118	21,373	181	1,830	16	197
Redeemer, Iola, WI	26	19,970	768	790	30	798
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	251	43,347	173	8,029	32	205
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	146	28,137	193	18,957	130	323
Totals	1,856	\$359,123	\$193	\$43,348	\$ 23	\$216
<b>CIRCUIT NO. 6</b>						
Bethany, Ames, IA	53	\$ 42,699	\$805	\$ 420	\$ 8	\$813
Trinity, Calmar, IA	69	22,576	327	842	12	339
Forest, Forest City - Forest	67	18,831	281	1,718	26	307

CONGREGATION	COM	HOME	AVE PER COM	SYNOD	AVE PER COM	TOTAL AVE PER COM
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	80	13,848	285	3,202	40	325
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	48	8,648	180	2,424	50	230
Saude, Lawler, IA	104	42,333	470	15,698	151	621
Jerico, New Hampton, IA	144	32,735	227	22,786	158	385
Redeemer, New Hampton, IA	134	23,162	173	2,853	21	194
First Shell Rock, Northwood, IA	96	14,360	150	4,990	52	202
Somber, Northwood, IA	26	5,684	218	2,718	93	311
Faith, Parkersburg, IA	97	29,420	303	1,435	15	318
Immanuel, Riceville, IA	27	20,604	763	1,461	54	817
Center, Scarville, IA	76	22,970	302	3,191	42	344
Scarville, Scarville, IA	71	35,771	503	2,057	170	673
Zion, Thompson, IA	76	18,918	249	2	0	249
Richland, Thornton, IA	120	45,000	375	20,156	168	545
Pilgrim, Waterloo, IA	89	34,800	391	800	9	400
East Paint Creek, Waterville, IA	54	14,385	266	4,948	92	358
West Paint Creek, Waukon, IA	25	6,552	262	2,927	117	379
Our Savior's, Albert Lea, MN	335	78,914	236	25,218	75	311
Hartland, Hartland, MN	146	31,909	219	3,784	26	245
Manchester, Manchester, MN	28	8,153	291	1,112	40	331
Totals	1,965	\$572,275	\$291	\$134,742	\$ 69	\$360

## CIRCUIT NO. 7

Immanuel, Audubon, MN	166	\$ 55,164	\$332	\$ 7,736	\$ 47	\$379
Our Savior's, Bagley, MN	107	29,332	274	1,703	16	290
Grace, Crookston, MN	24	10,242	1,024	0	0	1,024
River Heights, E. Grand Forks, MN	156	102,587	658	20,156	129	787
First Evanger, Fertile, MN	66	16,185	245	1,614	24	269
St. Petri, Grygla, MN	34	11,270	331	405	12	343
Our Savior's, Hawley, MN	124	28,184	227	1,071	9	238
St. Paul, Lengby, MN	88	19,272	219	2,396	27	246
Oak Park, Oklee, MN	117	57,932	495	3,165	27	522
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	47	11,093	236	1,353	29	265
Nazareth, Trail, MN	85	24,137	284	1,742	20	304



CONGREGATION	COM	HOME	AVE PER COM	SYNOD	AVE PER COM	TOTAL AVE PER COM
Calvary, Ulen, MN	106	25,620	256	3,640	34	290
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	22	10,395	472	1,285	58	530
First American, Mayville, ND	<u>110</u>	<u>38,664</u>	<u>351</u>	<u>3,113</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>379</u>
Totals	1,252	\$440,113	\$351	\$49,379	\$39	\$390

## CIRCUIT NO. 8

Heritage, Apple Valley, MN	137	\$ 79,506	\$580	\$ 8,292	\$61	\$641
Our Savior's, Belview, MN	180	26,051	144	4,401	24	168
Rock Dell, Belview, MN	169	31,042	201	6,032	37	238
English, Cottonwood, MN	185	34,100	184	14,124	76	260
Norwegian Grove, Gaylord, MN	99	18,700	288	7,276	73	361
King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	535	398,074	744	55,250	103	847
Rose Dell Trinity, Jasper, MN	58	7,500	127	1,066	18	145
Bethany, Luverne, MN	280	45,000	161	15,191	54	215
Mt. Olive, Mankato, MN	425	265,720	625	27,500	65	690
Bethany, Princeton, MN	371	73,282	197	11,024	30	227
Our Savior's, Princeton, MN	189	53,230	281	18,356	97	377
Norseland, St. Peter, MN	201	44,682	222	17,286	86	308
Zion, Tracy, MN	132	30,000	227	3,571	27	308
Bethel, Sioux Falls, SD	<u>72</u>	<u>38,000</u>	<u>528</u>	<u>2,335</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>560</u>
Totals	3,033	\$1,144,891	\$377	\$191,704	\$63	\$440

## CIRCUIT NO. 9

Scriptural, Cape Girardeau, MO	145	\$ 27,080	\$183	\$1,263	\$ 9	\$192
Peace, Jefferson City, MO	36	36,615	1,017	403	11	1,028
Grace, Piedmont, MO	52	21,173	407	821	16	423
Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	56	64,275	1,147	167	3	1,150
Faith, San Antonio, TX	63	39,100	620	3,021	48	668
Peace, Colorado Springs, CO	<u>43</u>	<u>26,194</u>	<u>609</u>	<u>680</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>625</u>
Totals	405	\$214,437	\$529	\$6,355	\$16	\$545

## CIRCUIT NO. 10

Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City, AZ	148	\$93,699	\$ 633	\$11,927	\$ 80	\$ 713
Christ the Cornerstone, Scottsdale, AZ	31	55,635	1,794	4,793	155	1,949

CONGREGATION	COM	HOME	AVE PER COM	SYNOD	AVE PER COM	TOTAL AVE PER COM
Family of God, Bullhead City, AZ	22	6,007	27	2,584	117	144
Christ the King, Bell Gardens, CA	46	40,814	887	4,911	107	994
Our Savior, Bishop, CA	41	0	0	2,799	68	68
Chico, Chico, CA	4	839	223	520	130	353
St. Paul, Escondido, CA	120	101,770	848	1,340	11	859
Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley, CA	16	7,180	489	856	55	544
Faith, Irvine, CA	58	64,454	1,111	3,253	56	1,167
Christ, Windsor, CA	44	63,998	1,454	5,667	128	1,582
Wayfarers' Chapel, Ventura & Fillmore, CA	77	56,700	736	2,425	31	767
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	21	16,582	790	105	5	795
Totals	628	\$507,678	\$808	\$41,180	\$ 66	\$ 874

## CIRCUIT NO. 11

Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	43	\$ 34,433	\$ 800	\$1,545	\$36	\$ 836
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	30	25,523	850	4,139	138	988
Concordia, Hood River, OR	43	17,651	410	135	3	413
Christ, Klamath Falls, OR	71	31,722	467	2,007	28	495
St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	98	28,215	288	3,704	38	326
Christ, Sutherlin, OR	40	23,525	588	1,951	49	637
Bethany, The Dalles, OR	57	34,300	602	0	0	602
St. Luke, Mt. Vernon, WA	44	41,045	933	72	2	935
Bethany, Port Orchard, WA	303	298,648	986	10,170	34	1,020
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	150	134,917	899	1,727	12	911
Parkland, Tacoma, WA	311	140,500	452	6,042	19	471
Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	102	121,561	1,191	874	9	1,200
Totals	1,292	\$932,040	\$ 721	\$32,366	\$25	\$ 746

## SUMMARY

CIRCUIT NO. 1	727	\$ 408,960	\$562	\$ 52,232	\$72	\$634
CIRCUIT NO. 2	176	104,162	592	9,861	56	648
CIRCUIT NO. 3	1742	512,957	294	52,642	30	324
CIRCUIT NO. 4	3006	1,284,812	427	133,818	45	472

CONGREGATION	COM	HOME	AVE PER COM	SYNOD	AVE PER COM	TOTAL AVE PER COM
CIRCUIT NO. 5	1856	359,123	193	43,348	23	216
CIRCUIT NO. 6	1965	572,275	291	134,742	69	360
CIRCUIT NO. 7	1252	440,113	351	49,379	39	390
CIRCUIT NO. 8	3033	1,144,891	377	191,704	63	440
CIRCUIT NO. 9	405	214,437	529	6,355	16	625
CIRCUIT NO. 10	628	507,678	808	41,180	66	874
CIRCUIT NO. 11	1292	932,040	721	32,366	25	746
TOTALS	16,082	\$6,481,448	\$403	\$747,627	\$46	\$463

### BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD Total for Years Indicated

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	\$ 37	\$ 15	\$ —	\$ 530	\$ 99	\$ 186	\$ 1,030
Bethany, Ames, IA	40	42	97	286	279	318	420
Bethany, Luverne, MN	17,018	21,588	20,196	13,245	11,144	11,960	15,191
Bethany, Port Orchard, WA	9,199	12,684	11,026	13,340	12,000	13,220	10,170
Bethany, Princeton, MN	12,412	13,503	15,507	13,598	14,618	11,633	11,024
Bethany, The Dalles, OR	1,695	1,604	105	—	116	—	—
Bethel, Sioux Falls, SD	3,405	2,606	1,442	1,853	1,816	1,825	2,335
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	684	315	175	395	315	420	105
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	—	—	—	731	1,495	2,040	1,285
Calvary, Ulen, MN	3,935	2,959	4,153	2,754	3,154	2,449	3,640
Center, Scarville, IA	3,665	3,399	3,225	3,307	3,288	4,316	3,191
Chico Mission, Chico, CA	—	625	440	505	561	425	520
Christ, Klamath Falls, OR	—	—	791	1,280	1,290	670	2,007
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	1,246	4,234	2,512	5,105	5,033	2,231	1,739

# BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

## Total for Years Indicated

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Christ, Savannah, GA	2,800	3,000	1,000	1,500	1,500	—	—
Christ, Sutherlin, OR	810	908	959	691	934	1,900	1,951
Christ, Windsor, CA	1,787	3,322	3,492	3,559	3,690	4,682	5,667
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	5,224	7,062	5,181	6,608	5,506	5,992	4,793
Christ the King, Bell Gardens, CA	3,123	5,670	7,132	8,173	9,720	3,804	4,911
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	1,607	4,647	1,068	1,070	946	1,578	775
Concordia, Hood River, OR	—	—	—	—	—	234	135
East Paint Creek, Waterville, IA	7,429	7,484	7,519	5,001	6,378	5,145	4,948
Emmaus, Chicago, IL	—	—	410	905	199	754	2,526
English, Cottonwood, MN	13,118	12,805	7,621	12,636	14,238	12,240	14,124
Faith, Alpena, MI	197	420	432	120	219	584	718
Faith, East Jordan, MI	783	1,239	1,090	973	632	95	1,000
Faith, Hillman, MI	713	422	426	704	835	277	1,247
Faith, Litchfield, IL	—	—	—	—	—	—	411
Faith, Orange Co., CA	1,735	3,240	1,320	2,610	2,220	2,840	3,235
Faith, Oregon, WI	3,738	1,705	3,000	3,210	2,405	3,210	4,333
Faith, Parkersburg, IA	2,316	1,800	2,150	2,028	2,256	1,770	1,435
Faith, San Antonio, TX	4,890	13,507	4,636	5,409	3,798	2,997	3,021
Family of God, Riviera, AZ	—	—	—	—	805	1,780	2,584
First, Suttons Bay, MI	1,759	1,900	3,044	2,690	2,129	2,280	2,373
First American, Mayville, ND	5,564	4,619	4,139	6,299	6,480	4,394	3,113
First English, Ashland, WI	215	743	620	620	150	300	100
First Evanger, Fertile, MN	2,093	1,113	1,059	1,618	1,652	1,536	1,614
First Shell Rock, Northwood, IA	6,592	5,886	4,925	5,782	5,539	6,490	4,990
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	3,956	3,338	8,271	5,800	5,909	5,583	8,029
Forest, Forest City, IA	3,049	4,069	2,411	7,908	2,533	1,855	1,718
Gloria Dei, Janesville, WI	—	—	—	—	—	100	—
Gloria Dei, Saginaw, MI	—	—	1,406	270	982	1,239	3,059
Good Shepherd, Bloomer, WI	3,774	3,963	3,093	1,771	2,060	2,167	1,982
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	—	—	—	—	4,338	5,827	6,333
Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	3,830	1,600	2,984	1,243	284	2,634	167
Good Shepherd, Vallejo, CA	—	—	3,480	4,500	6,000	6,300	6,615
Grace, Crookston, MN	1,505	1,206	436	108	10	1,024	—

# BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

## Total for Years Indicated

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Grace, Madison, WI	19,860	16,120	14,479	15,800	26,650	9,510	15,975
Grace, Piedmont, MO	3,659	2,915	2,797	2,341	1,807	1,932	821
Grace, Vero Beach, FL	38,722	34,198	31,657	26,851	28,112	29,664	24,503
Grace, Weston, OH	—	—	1,250	1,166	1,462	2,579	3,642
Hartland, Hartland, MN	3,490	3,080	3,889	3,374	4,833	2,939	3,784
Heritage, Apple Valley, MN	5,062	4,649	4,598	6,295	5,512	1,413	8,292
Holton, Holton, MI	5,703	6,269	4,400	7,555	5,023	7,665	2,475
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	33,610	33,593	34,298	34,390	34,026	35,248	36,923
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	15,320	14,274	19,057	17,570	18,572	19,459	20,090
Holy Trinity, Okauchee, WI	15,186	16,494	17,547	19,859	17,844	22,700	32,693
Immanuel, Audubon, MN	5,776	5,448	6,482	7,480	6,614	9,406	7,736
Immanuel, Riceville, IA	1,261	1,013	1,259	1,204	1,413	1,505	1,461
Jensen Beach, Jensen Beach, FL	—	—	—	1,118	1,628	2,175	826
Jerico, New Hampton, IA	19,716	17,667	16,903	18,394	20,107	20,174	22,786
King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	49,590	44,947	57,415	50,590	50,719	46,770	55,250
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	2,183	4,189	3,197	2,471	2,052	1,967	3,202
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	3,260	1,622	1,845	2,441	3,220	2,869	1,727
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	3,541	3,541	2,597	2,305	2,226	3,147	2,422
Manchester, Manchester, MN	1,528	1,369	1,132	1,242	1,080	494	1,112
Mt. Olive, Mankato, MN	25,674	27,076	29,304	25,653	26,108	30,851	27,500
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	1,817	1,828	1,307	1,218	1,083	1,160	1,353
Nazareth, Trail, MN	3,794	2,976	2,102	1,469	1,183	3,047	1,742
New Life, Sebring, FL	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,101
Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI	1,969	2,273	1,000	1,510	1,548	870	1,704
Norseland, St. Peter, MN	17,975	14,603	14,848	14,871	18,263	17,824	17,266
Norwegian Grove, Gaylord, MN	6,231	6,798	6,749	6,195	7,074	7,501	7,276
Oak Park, Oklee, MN	3,805	100	2,972	1,125	2,811	3,385	3,165
Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	1,061	1,408	2,031	1,387	1,724	1,176	874
Our Savior's, Albert Lea, MN	21,478	23,149	25,630	23,206	22,356	22,096	25,218
Our Savior's, Amherst Junction, WI	1,882	1,480	1,344	1,447	1,370	2,003	1,703
Our Savior's, Bagley, MN	458	130	1,725	1,005	2,897	3,163	2,200
Our Savior's, Belview, MN	1,881	3,248	2,338	2,504	3,678	3,996	4,401
Our Savior, Bishop, CA	2,974	3,260	3,023	3,244	4,192	3,823	2,799

# BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

## Total for Years Indicated

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Our Savior's, Elderon, WI	1,840	1,859	1,600	1,800	1,825	1,800	1,830
Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	—	1,544	1,565	1,625	688	1,685	1,545
Our Savior's, Hawley, MN	2,885	2,728	2,986	2,060	1,535	1,406	1,071
Our Saviour, Lake Havasu, AZ	9,213	7,800	9,110	10,444	12,478	11,378	11,927
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	1,234	1,661	2,041	1,801	3,438	3,964	5,271
Our Saviour's, Madison, WI	760	1,591	1,120	925	1,215	830	1,230
Our Savior, Naples, FL	7,737	8,771	1,784	3,780	10,738	4,500	5,300
Our Savior's, Princeton, MN	15,946	14,395	15,066	13,805	16,094	18,574	18,365
Parkland, Tacoma, WA	6,402	4,485	5,101	5,074	3,191	4,629	6,042
Peace, Colorado Springs, CO	—	—	—	15	544	430	682
Peace, Deshler, OH	2,337	2,705	12,509	14,364	12,737	11,034	10,966
Peace, Jefferson City, MO	—	—	3,081	3,384	3,233	1,323	403
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	—	—	—	—	—	2,783	4,926
Pilgrim, Waterloo, IA	5,497	5,967	4,755	2,257	2,026	432	800
Pinehurst, Eau Claire, WI	4,910	5,429	4,924	2,841	2,636	2,365	1,290
Pinewood, Burlington, MA	8,931	6,501	12,452	5,383	3,988	5,076	4,500
Redeemer, Iola, WI	756	940	907	786	1,138	585	790
Redeemer, New Hampton, IA	2,946	2,350	2,682	2,521	3,363	2,891	2,853
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	2,265	2,146	2,552	866	27	—	—
Richland, Thornton, IA	17,517	17,390	14,226	16,060	12,871	16,437	14,175
River Heights, East Grand Forks, MN	21,863	27,212	25,800	34,300	17,686	11,802	20,156
Rock Dell, Belview, MN	4,045	4,115	3,831	2,901	5,233	6,075	6,032
Rose Dell Trinity, Jasper, MN	972	529	435	1,376	1,060	2,106	1,066
Saude, Lawler, IA	10,509	11,711	13,797	13,214	14,439	14,695	15,698
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	—	—	—	—	—	2,453	4,139
Scriptural, Cape Girardeau, MO	—	—	230	180	21	45	1,263
Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley, CA	—	155	45	125	741	536	856
Somber, Northwood, IA	3,354	2,636	2,280	2,659	2,528	2,197	2,718
St. Luke, Mount Vernon, WA	33	—	96	—	—	30	72
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	1,462	1,164	587	632	—	1,264	1,633
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	20,246	18,599	18,600	17,359	21,023	15,379	18,957

# BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

## Total for Years Indicated

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
St. Matthew, Detroit, MI	—	—	—	303	1,191	794	745
St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	416	2,074	2,538	2,345	4,012	4,458	3,704
St. Paul, Clintonville, WI	2,411	5,268	3,844	9,830	8,638	7,440	6,862
St. Paul, Escondido, CA	1,082	575	648	1,096	1,098	606	1,340
St. Paul, Lengby, MN	2,654	2,000	712	3,128	1,825	1,947	2,396
St. Paul's, Portage, WI	2,309	1,067	1,025	1,612	2,164	161	50
St. Petri, Grygla, MN	719	317	649	312	305	602	405
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	15,064	11,835	12,561	10,198	14,130	16,187	14,839
Synod, Scarville, IA	14,901	14,552	16,293	14,297	13,704	13,128	12,057
Trinity, Brewster, MA	4,434	4,587	4,146	4,528	4,368	4,018	5,361
Trinity, Calmar, IA	1,373	2,533	660	1,489	2,205	1,033	842
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	3,093	3,892	4,389	4,123	4,204	4,604	5,392
Trinity, West Bend, WI	23,427	16,227	14,814	33,369	19,532	21,223	18,872
Wayfarers' Chapel, Ventura, CA	2,945	3,274	3,276	2,640	2,460	2,410	2,425
Western Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, WI	4,010	610	6,015	6,135	7,030	6,270	3,040
West Paint Creek, Waukon, IA	1,036	1,212	876	988	990	—	2,927
Zion, Thompson, IA	922	1,782	1,228	1,298	1,843	1,266	2
Zion, Tracy, MN	11,064	15,294	8,231	7,415	7,766	5,100	3,571
Total Budget Income	\$719,357	\$722,656	\$725,861	\$740,809	\$741,918	\$721,535	\$762,962

Paul Schneider, chairman

# 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 1991 convention period.

## Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

Balance on Hand 4/1/91		\$9,201.35
Receipts:		
Church Assessments	\$15,333.00	
Interest Income	<u>455.98</u>	
Total Receipts		15,788.98
Total		<u>\$24,990.33</u>
Disbursements:		
Delegates:		
Air Fares and Mileage	(15,846.43)	
Printing, Postage, and expenses	<u>(47.19)</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>(15,893.62)</u>
Balance on Hand 3/31/92		<u>\$9,096.71</u>

1. Mileage payments will be at the rate of \$.15 per mile (round trip) to a laymen delegate who drives his own car (Home to convention site.) and \$.20 per mile if accompanied by a second delegate.
2. 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. Only mileage to or from an airport will be reimbursed. Car rental costs will not be reimbursed.
3. Only those delegates whose congregations remit to this fund will receive equalization from it.
4. Delegates must register at the convention showing name, congregation, round-trip mileage, and/or travel expenses in order to receive reimbursement.
5. Delegates are encouraged to ride together, whenever possible. This stewardship of money will enable the Equalization Fund to cover more of the expenses.
6. The Chairman will receive \$.15 per mile or actual expenses, whichever is less, out of the fund to cover his costs of attending convention. (Note if chairman is delegate he shall be reimbursed according to rules for delegates set forth.)

Greg Costello, chairman



## REPORT OF THE PLANNING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Planning and Coordinating Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod met on September 30-October 1, 1991 and on January 20-21, 1992.

The committee is composed of the following people. The officers of the Synod: the Rev. George Orvick, president; the Rev. Paul Petersen, vice president; the Rev. Alf Merseth, secretary; and Mr. Leroy Meyer, treasurer. The representatives of the boards of the synod: the Rev. G. Guldberg, Board for Christian Service; the Rev. C. Keeler, Board for Education and Youth; the Rev. J. Burkhardt, Board for Evangelism; the Rev. W. C. Gullixson, Board for Publications; the Rev. E. Ekhoft, Board for Home Missions; the Rev. P. Anderson, Board for Foreign Missions; Mr. W. Overn, Board of Regents; Prof. J. B. Madson, Doctrine Committee; the Rev. P. Schneider, Board for Stewardship. Three laymen: Mr. Julian Olsen, Mr. Harvey Roberson and Mr. Norman Werner. Special committee members (advisory): the Rev. Norman Madson, the Rev. Milton Tweit, the Rev. Raymond Branstad and Prof. Paul Tweit.

### 1993 BUDGET

At its September 30-October 1, 1991 meeting the committee heard detailed reports from the representatives of each board which included tentative budget requests which were explained and discussed. At the January 1992 meeting the treasurer reported that the 1991 fiscal year had a total budget income of \$762,961.82, \$26,961.82 over the adopted budget. This was a cause for great thanksgiving. The 1992 budget figure of \$750,000 had not needed to be altered and it was felt that the 1993 figure could be increased a little more. After further discussion and some revision the committee herewith presents to the synod a budget of \$770,000 for the 1993 fiscal year, allocated as follows:

#### BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Operations	\$159,500	
Maintenance on College	31,500	
Maintenance on residences	4,000	
Interest	10,370	
Faculty Housing Allowance (\$84,000		
less \$16,000 interest applied)	68,000	273,370

#### BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Operations	57,000	
Maintenance on residences	2,000	59,000

CHRISTIAN SERVICE	24,200
EDUCATION AND YOUTH	22,000
EVANGELISM	7,000
FOREIGN MISSIONS	110,000
HOME MISSIONS	120,000
PUBLICATIONS	16,000

#### SYNOD FUND

Interest	9,100	
Deferred Giving Counselor	22,000	
Boards, Committees, etc.	49,000	
Administration	38,330	
House Payment	15,000	133,430

CAPITAL BUDGET  
TOTAL BUDGET

5,000  
770,000

## PLANNING

The committee continues to study ways of avoiding increased deficits in the General Fund. It always studies the expense of each department in the synod with a continuous view toward their efficiency and spends much time discussing ways and means whereby the synod's constituency can be made better informed about the programs of the synod thus inspiring greater financial support for the synod's needs.

## PRIORITIZING OF FUTURE PROJECTS

The synod is herewith informed of the objectives of the various departments of the synod's work.

**BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE** The projects spoken of in the report to the 1991 convention are the following: The preparing of the former band and choir room for occupation by the synod's museum; an addition to the physical education plant; a student union; a new entrance to Old Main and the increasing of the principal in the endowment funds. These are all included in a bigger plan which will be detailed in the "Report of the Board of Regents and President of Bethany Lutheran College." Besides that regular maintenance is undertaken as it becomes necessary.

**BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY** The video "The Making of a Pastor" has been completed and distributed for showing in all congregations as a recruiting tool. The new catalog has also been distributed and is in use.

**BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE** The board continues to assist pastors and teachers in securing for themselves financial security through a retirement plan with National Life, AAL, etc., to encourage congregations to provide term life insurance for pastors and teachers, to provide assistance to those who have suffered loss due to disaster and to support the widows and retired pastors, who up to 1970 did not have adequate coverage with National Life or AAL, up to \$160 per month.

**EDUCATION AND YOUTH** The "kick-off" of the 75th Anniversary Thankoffering for Education and Youth is at this 1992 convention and begins in the congregations in October 1992 and continues for two years. With the assistance of the funds generated from this endowment the Board for Education and Youth hopes to pursue the following projects: establishing new Christian Day Schools, high schools or high school subsidy, revise and reprint the Synod Handbook for beginning teachers, work with the Board for Home Missions to establish schools at the same time as new congregations are established and church buildings are constructed, taping Bethany College religious classes, book of childrens' sermons, Bible study materials, synod owned retreat center, teen group meeting outlines and teen devotion book.

**HOME MISSIONS** The missions already in operation continue to be monitored by the board and given assistance as needed. A mission in Litchfield, Illinois was started in 1991. The immediate plan of the board is to start two missions in 1992, one in Pierce County, Washington and the other in South Lakeland, Florida. Other fields for new mission sites continue to be explored, investigated and visited.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS** The board continues monitoring the uncertainty of the safety of our missionaries in Peru. Meanwhile 4 native pastors were graduated from the seminary last fall and the educating of more native students continues. Work has also begun in Santiago, Chile where two missionaries are located at the present time.

**BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS** This board continues to monitor the publishing of the Lutheran Sentinel, the Lutheran Synod Quarterly and continues to publish bulletin inserts from time to time. Work continues on the preparing of model constitutions for smaller and larger congregations, on the indexing of the Lutheran Sentinel and on a pastor's agenda. The board also concerns itself with the marketing of the 75th anniversary books being prepared by the 75th Anniversary Committee.

#### **SYNOD INFORMATION PROGRAM**

Letters continue to be sent from the president's office to the "Synod Contact Man" in each congregation. We hope that this news about synodical affairs such as mission development, college and seminary, stewardship information, congregational events and synod convention actions continues to be transmitted to the members of the congregations regularly.

Alf Merseth, secretary

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod held its regular quarterly meetings in 1991 on the following dates: February 12-13, May 14-15, August 13-14 and November 12-13. The board met via conference telephone call on July 1 and October 4, 1991. This report will also include business conducted by the board at its regular meeting on February 11-12, 1992.

The Trustee-Regents Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of those boards met quarterly on the following dates: January 28, April 29, July 26, and October 28, 1991 and on January 27, 1992. The subcommittee met via conference telephone call on June 27, 1991. This subcommittee discusses matters that are referred to it and makes recommendations to the two boards that it serves. The Rev. M. E. Tweit serves as chairman of the subcommittee and the undersigned as its secretary.

The Trustee-Home Missions Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of these boards met on July 15 and October 1, 1991. This subcommittee concerns itself with home mission matters in which both boards are involved and where mutual understanding and cooperation of effort is necessary. E. Ekhoft serves as chairman of this subcommittee and the undersigned as its secretary.

The Trustee-Foreign Missions Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of these boards 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.

With a view toward construction of additional facilities at Bethany College a Trustee-Regents Building Committee was elected consisting of the following:

Albin Levorson, Wilbur Lieske and Alf Merseth of the Board of Trustees and R. M. Branstad, William Overn and Milton Tweit of the Board of Regents. This committee met on February 11, 1992 and organized by electing R. M. Branstad as chairman and the undersigned as secretary.

The members of the board serve on other Ad Hoc Committees which are selected from time to time to study specific subjects assigned to them.

The board receives reports for its regular quarterly meetings from all the congregations where it has any financial responsibility. These reports are reviewed by the board and any required action is taken. The board keeps in contact with these congregations through correspondence by its secretary.

## **ARCHIVES**

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Department of Archives and History meets at the call of its chairman, Prof. R. Honsey. Other members are: Prof. J. B. Madson, secretary; Prof. Sigurd Lee, Mr. Gerhard Lee, Mr. Gerhard Solli and the Rev. W. C. Gullixson, archivist. The members are elected annually by the Board of Trustees of the synod.

### **ACCESSIONS TO THE ARCHIVES IN 1991**

#### **Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

Theologians Conference 1963 fourteen essays and a sermon, W. C. Gullixson  
Newspaper Clipping 1932 re/Norwegian Lutheran Church Convention, J. B. Madson

Anniversary plates and some fans for the museum, J. B. Madson

Pres. G. Orvick—three inches of files

ELS Foreign Mission Board Minutes (four inches) and Mission Board Minutes 1963-1980, N. A. Madson

ELS General Pastoral Conference Minutes (seven inches), T. G. Gullixson, secretary

Mission News 1990

Bound Lutheran Sentinels for 1985, 1986, 1989, 1990, secretary Alf Merseth

ELS Convention Minutes 1972-1983, secretary Alf Merseth

ELS Trustees Minutes and the secretary's correspondence, secretary Merseth  
Circuit Visitor's file, Rodger Dale

Nicaragua Mission: 24 pictures, Rev. Ted Kuster

Secretary Merseth's files: Mission Board Minutes 1984-1989; Foreign Mission Board Minutes 1985-1988; Statistical Reports 1956-1970; Women's dorm construction records 1966; Trustees Minutes 1958-1959; Synodical Conference Proceedings; WELS proceedings; a folder of correspondence with regard to Bethany Ladies College 1911-1926.

#### **Bethany Lutheran College**

A plaque awarded to Forensic Winners 1958-1963 by Rotary International  
"A Cappella Choir" of 1934-1935 program; 1937, 1943

A. J. Natvig's class book 1934-35, V. Natvig

Book—*Athletic Injuries and their Treatment*, V. Natvig

Files from the Registrar's Office; 2 boxes, Jean Wiechmann

Records of volleyball games 1980-1990

Eight record books of girl's basketball games

Pictures from the office of R. Wiechmann

Bethany Reports and Bethany Memos 1983-1991

Pictures of the 1990-1991 Choir and Hand Bell Choir

Choir Tour Program

Admissions Department brochures

Dr. S. C. Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center Dedication—newspaper clippings

BLC Women's basketball 1989-90 and men's basketball 1990-91 and Viking basketball schedules 1990-91

Bethany Reunion Recital and Schedule 1991  
 Bethany Bulletins 1953-1972, also 1917  
 BLC videos: "A Wise Choice" and "A Unique Focus" 1991  
 Aerial view of college—cut. President's office —Financial aid program  
 Employees insurance  
 Bethany Echo 1913-1917  
 Bethany Scroll Annual 1929  
 One file of Alumni newsletters 1955-1975  
 A Cappella Choir 1930-31 picture; also 1982-83 with Randi Ellefson  
 Bethany Scrolls 1965-1969 and 1972-1974  
 Student Olympics 1984-1985  
 Greater Bethany Association Cards  
 Commencement Recital Program 1945  
 "The Christmas Story" A. Fremder  
 "Salvation" ELS Handbook 1946  
 Alumni Newsletter Volume I, #1, #2, #4; Vol. II, #2, #3; & Constitution  
 Recitals and programs from 1936-1946  
 First LYA Convention Announcement  
 Bethany Lutheran Congregation Report 1944, C. M. Gullerud  
 Bethany Bulletins 1934, 1937, 1939, 1944  
 Commencement programs 1936, 1938, 1939, 1940 and 1943  
 Programs from 1934, 1939, 1940 and 1945, 1946  
 Ordination of Dr. Hoerber  
 "Jubilee Thankoffering" 1943, M. Galstad  
 A folder of Bethany Choir with Oswald Hoffmann, director "The Sophomore  
 Siren" 1935  
 BLC Fidelis from 1949 and 1951, Esther Overn Asmus  
 Bethany Scrolls from Volumes 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8, E. Teigen  
 A spring band concert with Roy E. Breiling directing 1991  
 Minnesota Valley Chorale Concert with Dennis Marzolf directing 1991  
 A College of the Bethany Faculty 1928-1929, W. C. Gullixson  
 A picture of acting president Walter E. Buszin, 1929 (8"x12")  
 Board of Regents Minutes 1947-1952  
 Bethany Fidelis 1986, 1988, 1989 and 1990  
 Eleanor Wilson, endowed faculty chair newsclipping 1990  
 Bethany Report, 1991  
 Men's and women's basketball programs 1989-90 and 1990-91

## CONGREGATIONS

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bishop, CA anniversaries, history 1971-1979,  
 ordinations, installations, T. Gullixson  
 Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Madison, WI—former church site, now "The  
 Monastery," brochure, W. C. Gullixson  
 St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL, framed resolution in honor of their  
 Pastor G. A. Gullixson, at his death 1933. Pictures of the church exterior, interior,  
 and choir 1928  
 Jensen Beach Lutheran Church—church records—(13 inches), Charles Keeler  
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Blythe, CA—church records, Pat Rovey  
 Pinewood Lutheran Church, Burlington, Mass.—installation of Rev. Thomas  
 Howard Fox 1987; and Dedication of altar 1990, T. Fox  
 St. Paul Lutheran Church, Escondido, CA—installation of Rev. Theodore G.  
 Gullixson 1991  
 Old Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Madison, WI calendar picture  
 Old Hartland Lutheran Church, Hartland, MN picture  
 Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison WI: picture of former church, dedication  
 of church 1927, history of day school, Silver Jubilee 1951, installation of Rev. G.  
 M. Orvick 1954, garden memorial to Rev. E. Ylvisaker dedication, picture of Mrs.  
 S. Reque and Mrs. E. Ylvisaker, 40th Anniversary news clipping, 50th Anniver-

sary folder, dedication service 1962 and booklet, picture of church and Christmas altar, and Nave, Education building and school brochure, dedication of Fellowship Center 1984, and history of Ladies Aid, G. Orvick

Bethel Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD: dedication of new church January 1991, 50th Anniversary folder October 1991

### PERSONS AND PICTURES

English-Chinese dictionaries; pamphlets; Anniversary booklets of St. Martin's Church, Belle Plaine, WI., and of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio, and 25th Anniversary of Pastor W. Werling. Many pamphlets in Chinese. Pastor Werling's articles in Lutheran Sentinel. A packet on the "term question." Many "Classics" in English and Chinese. Sermons, lecture notes, picture and map of China, books, Bibles, Chinese Bible and small catechism (Mr. Chang), "The Word of His Grace," rare books in Chinese, dedication, installations, etc. items for the museum—coins, scrolls in Chinese. (Mrs. W. Werling)

The Rev. Bjug Harstad: Picture of Concordia Seminary graduation class 1874, students and curriculum. A packet re/a visit to a mission field in Oregon. (Translated); a packet re/a congregational meeting in Parkland Lutheran Church 1918; A packet re/journey to Los Angeles 1904; Silver Wedding celebration in 1902; Pacific Lutheran Herald account of Grandma Larson's reminiscences 1933, and death in 1934. Prof. Mark Harstad

Prof. Rudolph Honsey picture

14 pictures—some from a pastoral conference at Yahara Center. Church at Hawley, MN. BLC organ-Chapel. Signing of the Augsburg Confession, W.C. Gullixson

Rev. N., Fr. Wiese 1918, John A. Moldstad Sr.

Parkland Evangelical Lutheran Church, Parkland, MN, 1929 (members identified) Gerhard Solli

### BOOKS

The Lutheran Historical Conference 1980

Lutheran Church in America—Constituting Convention 1962

Lutheran Synodical Conference proceedings—1980

"The Faithful Word" Volume #1 and #8 LCR

WELS Lutheran Quarterly 1969 and 1981

"Immigrant Idealist" Waldemar Ager biography by Einar Haugen, W.C.G.

Norwegian American Historical Assoc. Vol. 22, 1965 from Valborg Natvig

Four books on Norwegian American studies Volumes 18, 20, 23, 24.—V. Rossing

"Critical Comments on the Proposed New Hymnal" by A. F. Katt, 1990, Paul Madson

"St. Paul the Theologians Prototype", Alvin Wagner

"Norsk Lutherske Prester I Amerika" 1843-1913 and "Whose Who" 1843-1927, Esther Overn Asmus

"Jubilee Souvenir" 1853-1928—ELS Convention 1928, W. Overn

"Sermons by Rev. A. G. H. Overn" translated 1983, W. Overn

"The Lutherans in America" by Jacobs 1890, W. Overn

"The Norwegian-American Historical Association 1925-1975" by Lovell, W. Overn

Books on history and archives (ten), W. C. Gullixson

Three books from Concordia Historical Institute on history and bibliography

### BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE AND SEMINARY PROPERTIES

The tubes and controls in boiler #2 were replaced, the cafeteria and the Anderson Hall bathrooms were remodeled and a chemistry hood was installed in the chemistry laboratory.

The roof on the Men's Dormitory at Bethany College was replaced with a membrane roofing.

## **BUDGET 1991-1992**

The budget contributions for the 1991 fiscal year were \$762,961.82, \$26,961.82 over the adopted budget. This was cause for great thanksgiving. The budget adopted for the 1992 fiscal year was left at \$750,000.

## **GENERAL**

The synod received a \$40,000 Program Subsidy Grant from Lutheran Brotherhood for 1991. These funds were used as designated by the Board for Home Missions: \$20,000 in Sebring, FL and \$20,000 in Gresham, OR. The use of these funds is reported to Lutheran Brotherhood at the end of the year. A Program Subsidy Grant from Lutheran Brotherhood for 1992 has been applied for.

The Board of Trustees authorized a \$320.00 per month expenditure to the Northwood-Lake Mills Lutheran Parish as assistance for Sunday supply preaching for the secretary of the synod.

The Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Mr. Earl Aasen from the board. The board elected Mr. Robert Brown, Hartland, Wisconsin to fill the position until the 1992 convention.

The Board of Trustees approved a plan for a proposed addition to Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lakeland, FL and approved the congregation's getting an additional \$30,000 loan from LACE.

The Board of Trustees extended a \$10,000 loan to Lakewood Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA at 8% interest on a 5 year amortization schedule.

## **ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD**

The president of the synod, the Rev. George Orvick, and the secretary of the synod, the Rev. Alf Merseth, also serve as the chairman and secretary of the Board of Trustees.

The Rev. W. C. Gullixson, Prof. R. Honsey, Prof. Sigurd Lee, Mr. Gerhard Lee, Prof. J. B. Madson and Mr. Gerhard Solli are serving one year terms on the Committee on Archives and History.

The trustees elected to serve on the Trustee-Regents Subcommittee are Albin Levorson, Wilbur Lieske and Alf Merseth.

The trustees elected to serve on the Trustee-Home Missions Subcommittee are Martin Doepel, Alf Merseth and Paul Petersen.

The trustees elected to serve on the Trustee-Foreign Missions Subcommittee are Alf Merseth, Leroy Meyer and George Orvick.

The trustees elected to serve on the Trustee-Regents-Publications Subcommittee are Alf Merseth, Leroy Meyer and George Orvick.

Wilbur Lieske serves on the board's Housing Committee together with Dennis Natvig who also serves the board as Housing Administrator.

Albin Levorson, Alf Merseth and Wilbur Lieske were elected to serve, together with three members elected by the Board of Regents, on a Building Committee for future construction projects at Bethany Lutheran College.

## **SYNOD PROPERTIES**

The synod transferred the title of the property in Sebastian, FL to Trinity Lutheran Church. The synod holds a mortgage on the property until the debt is paid in full.

The residence in Manchester, MN received from the estate of Olina Jordahl, was sold for a net income of \$6,596.10.

The Board of Trustees authorized an additional loan of \$13,830 to Faith Lutheran Church, Oregon, WI for the reshingling of the church roof. This amount was added to the present loan and the monthly payments were increased.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Summary of Income and Expenditures and Changes in General Fund Balance (Deficit)

Year ended December 31, 1991

Budget contributions		\$762,961.82
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Operating Expenditures	\$1,238,087.44	
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Less:

Income from publications	\$41,937.15	
Foreign missions Helping Hands		
funds for operating expenditures	128,888.98	
Foreign missions seminary funds		
for operating expenditures	113,360.42	
Foreign missions excess expenditures		
funded from reserves	5,703.92	
Home missions special contributions		
for operating expenditures	41,790.80	
Home missions excess expenditures		
funded from reserves	64,147.38	395,828.65

Net expenditures before		
interest and rent income	842,258.79	

Interest income	98,789.49	
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Net expenditures		<u>743,469.30</u>
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Net operating income		19,492.52
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Other changes in General Fund balance:

Increases:

Estates appropriated for		
debt reduction	10,867.79	

Decreases:

Payments on mortgages and loans	71,214.38	
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Net (decrease)—other changes		<u>(60,346.59)</u>
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Net decrease for year		(40,854.07)
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General Fund (deficit)—December 31, 1990		<u>(152,198.24)</u>
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General Fund (deficit)—December 31, 1991		<u><u>(\$193,052.31)</u></u>
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## WILLS AND GIFTS

The following amounts were received from estates and trusts during 1991.

Martin A. Robinson Trust	\$ 16,301.69
Olina Jordahl Estate	17,053.49
Alice Tennyson Estate	11,100.00
Albert Fett Estate	35,697.98
Florence Fett Estate	744,457.64

Alf Merseth, secretary



# ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## 1992 BUDGET

At its May 12-13 meeting the Board of Trustees discussed the condition of the 1992 budget and herewith reports its action to the synod.

### PROPOSED REVISED BUDGET FOR 1992

#### BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Operations	\$155,500	
Maintenance on college	21,500	
Maintenance on residence	4,000	
Interest	1,300	
Faculty Housing Allowance (\$84,000 less \$16,000 interest applied)	<u>68,000</u>	\$250,300

#### BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Operations	58,000	
Maintenance on residences	<u>2,000</u>	60,000

CHRISTIAN SERVICE	22,200
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EDUCATION AND YOUTH	19,000
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EVANGELISM	5,000
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FOREIGN MISSIONS	108,000
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#### HOME MISSIONS

Operations	116,000	
Interest	2,000	118,000

PUBLICATIONS	11,000
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#### SYNOD FUND

Interest	15,500	
Deferred Giving Counselor	21,000	
Boards, committees, etc.	46,000	
Administration	<u>59,000</u>	<u>141,500</u>

TOTAL BUDGET	\$735,000
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#### WILLS

Milton Robinson Estate: Received an annuity in the amount of \$41,238.27.

Alf Merseth, secretary

## **REPORT OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS**

The Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents met jointly on May 12, 1992 to consider the capital campaign entitled "PREPARING FOR THE 21st CENTURY" which is proposed for Bethany Lutheran College.

The following resolutions were adopted for presentation to the 1992 convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for its consideration and action.

WHEREAS, During the development of the Self-Study that was a partial requirement for continued accreditation with North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), it became clear that Bethany lacked in financial stability and in adequate out-of-class activity space, and,

WHEREAS, NCA defined the problem of financial stability as urgent, and, WHEREAS, the Board of Regents and the synodical president have encouraged the administration of Bethany to investigate funding of major endowments, student union, and additional physical fitness facilities, and,

WHEREAS, the president of Bethany Lutheran College has actively solicited funds for these needs, and,

WHEREAS, a gift and pledge of \$3,500,000 and a commitment of an additional \$3,000,000 in matching money have been received to be used for a capital campaign to meet the needs described, and titled "Preparing for the 21st Century," therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Bethany Lutheran College gratefully accepts the outright gift and pledge of \$3,500,000 and thanks Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc., for this very generous gift, and,

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the Board of Regents and Board of Trustees that the matching funds as well as the other funds can be raised with minimal impact on synodical resources, therefore,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod approves the \$13,000,000 capital campaign, "Preparing for the 21st Century."

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod directs Bethany Lutheran College to plan and implement the raising of the necessary funds over the next five years to successfully carry through on this campaign by:

1. appealing to contributors of large amounts the first year (1992);
2. appealing to Bethany alumni and friends the second and third years (1993-1994);
3. appealing to the synod at large the fourth year (1995).

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 its annual meeting on August 13-14, 1991 the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation elected the following officers: the Rev. George Orvick, president; the Rev. Alf Merseeth, secretary; Mr. Leroy W. Meyer, treasurer. These officers serve one year terms.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation Committee is made up of four members elected to two year terms. Mr. Leroy Meyer and Mr. Richard Wiechmann were elected in 1990. Mr. Bernard Bogeskov and Mr. Glenn Annexstad were elected in 1991. Mr. Lars Petersen serves as an advisory member of 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 engages Roland Reinholz as the investment manager of its assets. The Foundation Committee and Treasurer Meyer regularly review with Mr. Reinholz the investment of the foundation's assets.

It was resolved that the Torino Parkway property in Port St. Lucie, FL should be sold. At the time of this writing it is listed with Revelle Realty.

The Foundation approved a \$50,000 loan from the Partners in the Gospel Fund at 8% interest to Family of God Lutheran Church for the construction of a church building. This will be added to the present loan and amortized over a 15 year period.

The various funds maintained in the foundation and the total assets can be found in the treasurer's report which follows.

## BALANCE SHEET AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
Year ended December 31, 1991

	RESTRICTED						
	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	WHIPPLE - OLSON - WILSON ENDOWMENT FUND	FOREIGN MISSION SEMINARY ENDOWMENT FUND
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Investments:							
Investment management accounts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$583,853.91	\$620,711.72	\$637,102.47	\$104,910.70	\$1,038,915.09
Savings accounts and CD's	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Money market funds	10,591.53	6,191.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	945,109.44	0.00	0.00
Notes receivable	0.00	0.00	113,203.62	0.00	184,000.00	0.00	0.00
U. S. Treasury Notes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Land	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,000.00	0.00	0.00
	10,591.53	6,191.58	697,057.53	620,711.72	1,825,211.91	104,910.70	1,038,915.09
	(591.53)	(242.58)	(15,938.61)	(20,752.25)	(28,565.04)	(4,174.00)	(38,696.47)
Due from (to) other funds							
TOTAL ASSETS	\$10,000.00	\$5,949.00	\$681,118.92	\$599,959.47	\$1,796,646.87	\$100,736.70	\$1,000,218.62
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Notes payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>							
Balances - December 31, 1990	10,000.00	5,849.00	573,007.88	599,959.47	1,028,384.20	100,728.90	1,000,140.62
Add:							
Bequests	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	589,557.14	0.00	0.00
Contributions - net	0.00	100.00	110,500.00	0.00	977.53	0.00	0.00
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Estates appropriated by							
Board of Trustees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gain (loss) on sale of securities	0.00	0.00	(2,388.96)	0.00	2,728.00	7.80	78.00
	0.00	100.00	108,111.04	0.00	593,262.67	7.80	78.00
Balances - December 31, 1991	10,000.00	5,949.00	681,118.92	599,959.47	1,621,646.87	100,736.70	1,000,218.62
	\$10,000.00	\$5,949.00	\$681,118.92	\$599,959.47	\$1,796,646.87	\$100,736.70	\$1,000,218.62

## BALANCE SHEET AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
Year ended December 31, 1991

	RESTRICTED					
	GENERAL FOREIGN MISSION FUND	CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY FUND	HOME MISSION RESERVE FUND	GENERAL HOME MISSION FUND	HOME MISSION EXPANSION FUND	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Investments:						
Investment management accounts	\$184,860.00	\$40,845.29	\$103,277.00	\$0.00	\$542,143.00	\$3,856,619.18
Savings accounts and CD's	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Money market funds	15,343.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,126.60
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	945,109.44
Notes receivable	0.00	11,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	308,203.62
U. S. Treasury Notes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Land	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,000.00
	200,203.49	51,845.29	103,277.00	0.00	542,143.00	5,201,058.84
Due from (to) other funds	9,077.04	74,955.28	(52.00)	13,273.39	(270.00)	(11,976.77)
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$209,280.53</b>	<b>\$126,800.57</b>	<b>\$103,225.00</b>	<b>\$13,273.39</b>	<b>\$541,873.00</b>	<b>\$5,189,082.07</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Notes payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175,000.00
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>						
Balances - December 31, 1990	14,500.00	48,007.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,380,577.72
Add:						
Bequests	194,780.53	0.00	0.00	17,053.49	0.00	801,391.16
Contributions - net	0.00	78,589.65	100,000.00	0.00	525,000.00	815,167.18
Income	0.00	0.00	3,225.00	0.00	16,873.00	20,098.00
Estates appropriated by						
Board of Trustees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	(3,780.10)	0.00	(3,780.10)
Gain (loss) on sale of securities	0.00	203.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	628.11
	194,780.53	78,792.92	103,225.00	13,273.39	541,873.00	1,633,504.35
Balances - December 31, 1991	209,280.53	126,800.57	103,225.00	13,273.39	541,873.00	5,014,082.07
	\$209,280.53	\$126,800.57	\$103,225.00	\$13,273.39	\$541,873.00	\$5,189,082.07

## BALANCE SHEET AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
Year ended December 31, 1991

	UNRESTRICTED			
	DONATED	BOARD OF TRUSTEES DESIGNATED	TOTAL	TOTAL - ALL FUNDS
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Investments:				
Investment management accounts	\$41,881.38	\$96,043.40	\$137,924.78	\$3,994,543.96
Savings accounts and CD's	0.00	1,052.75	1,052.75	1,052.75
Money market funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,126.60
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	0.00	0.00	945,109.44
Notes receivable	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	318,203.62
U. S. Treasury Notes	98,968.75	0.00	98,968.75	98,968.75
Land	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,000.00
	150,850.13	97,096.15	247,946.28	5,449,005.12
Due from (to) other funds	1,500.00	(153.48)	1,346.52	(10,630.25)
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$152,350.13</b>	<b>\$96,942.67</b>	<b>\$249,292.80</b>	<b>\$5,438,374.87</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Notes payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175,000.00
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>				
Balances - December 31, 1990	150,850.13	91,508.77	242,358.90	3,622,936.62
Add:				
Bequests	0.00	0.00	0.00	801,391.16
Contributions - net	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	816,667.18
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,098.00
Estates appropriated by				
Board of Trustees	0.00	5,433.90	5,433.90	5,433.90
Distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	(3,780.10)
Gain (loss) on sale of securities	0.00	0.00	0.00	628.11
	1,500.00	5,433.90	6,933.90	1,640,438.25
Balances - December 31, 1991	152,350.13	96,942.67	249,292.80	5,263,374.87
	<b>\$152,350.13</b>	<b>\$96,942.67</b>	<b>\$249,292.80</b>	<b>\$5,438,374.87</b>

Alf Merseth, secretary

## **ELS 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE SYNOD**

The members of the committee are: George Orvick, chairman; David Nelson, secretary; Raymond Branstad, Alf Merseth, Richard Newgard, Milton Tweit and Harvey Roberson.

The committee met more than eight times since the last convention with subcommittees proofreading at additional meetings.

Many plans have been made to celebrate the 75th year of our synod. Bulletin inserts and a series of Sentinel articles will announce various events, which begin at the 1992 synod convention in June. A choral union is planned for the convention.

A historical book about our Evangelical Lutheran Synod has been written by Pastor Herb Larson and Professor Juul Madson. Particularly the time from 1968 to the present was covered since this period has not yet been documented in written form. The title of the book is "Built on the Rock."

Also in honor of the anniversary a pictorial book is being prepared, organized by Pastor Craig Ferkenstad. Included are pictures of all the synod churches and pastors. This should make a very nice remembrance of the anniversary.

The celebration will continue throughout the year concluding at the 1993 convention. In the fall of 1992 a Bible study will be made available to the congregations, following the historical scenes featured in nine original paintings by the artist in residence at Bethany Lutheran College, Professor William Bukowski. The paintings are on display at the college. Pastor Herb Larson has prepared a Bible study that features the biblical significance of those historical events and phases of work in our synod. This study is entitled "*In Remembrance of His Mercies.*" In the spring of 1993 a children's program, also following the nine paintings, will be provided for the congregations to use.

The theme of the celebration is "HIS TRUTH ENDURES TO ALL GENERATIONS." The congregations of our synod are also encouraged to celebrate by using the Bible study, watching the video presentation, using the special liturgies that will be provided for their worship and participating in the thank offering to begin in October of 1992 and continuing for two years. The proceeds of the offering will be used by the synod's Board for Education and Youth in its work.

On anniversaries such as this one a reflection back at God's blessings is in order as well as prayers for the Lord's continual favor as we work together with Him in His work. His truth does indeed endure to all generations. To God alone the glory!

David J. Nelson, secretary

## **REPORT OF THE 75th ANNIVERSARY THANKOFFERING COMMITTEE**

The His Truth for Our Youth Offering Committee consists of the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, chairman; the Rev. Richard Wiechmann, vice chairman; Mr. Steven Jaeger, secretary; Mr. Robert Brown, the Rev. John Moldstad, Jr., the Rev. Paul Zager, Pres. George Orvick and the Rev. Milton Tweit.

The "His Truth for Our Youth" offering is intended to be an expression of thanksgiving to our God upon the 75th anniversary of the reorganization of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Our merciful God, whose truth endures to all generations, has preserved the truth of His Word unto our generation. In thanksgiving we also seek to impart His truth unto our youth in the next generation.

This thankoffering will be placed into our synod's foundation and the annual proceeds will be administered by the Board for Education and Youth.

The proceeds will support Christian education by . . .  
...promoting and maintaining Christian Day Schools;  
...supporting youth ministry throughout our synod;  
...advancing the cause of parish education at all levels.

The offering will begin at the 1992 Synod Convention where pastors and delegates will make personal financial commitments. On October 11, 1992 the offering will begin in the congregations. At that time individual members will be asked to make their commitments to this two year offering. Training meetings were held with the pastors in April and May in conjunction with the Board for Stewardship.

Promotion of the offering will consist of articles in the Lutheran Sentinel, bulletin inserts, posters and bulletin covers. A small brochure announcing the offerings and a larger brochure to be used on October 11 also have been produced.

The His Truth for Our Youth offering will allow our ELS to do more work in the field of Christian education. Souls will be fed with that truth alone which nourishes unto eternal life in heaven. May God bless the work of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod!

Steven Jaeger, secretary

## MEMORIALS

Re: Ordination of male teachers

WHEREAS, Questions have arisen in our fellowship about the ordination of male teachers of children, and,

WHEREAS, This is unprecedented in Lutheran practice, and,

WHEREAS, This practice causes great confusion as relating to various doctrines of Christ, and,

WHEREAS, The wisdom of this practice is questionable.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Doctrine Committee study the propriety of the ordination of male teachers of children, and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That they report to and seek the advice of the pastors as assembled at the 1993 General Pastoral Conference, and

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Doctrine Committee report back to the 1993 convention the findings of its study.

The Rev. Roger Fehr

Re: The six point explanation of Thesis Nine of the ELS Lord's Supper Statement (72nd Annual Convention of ELS, p. 74)

WHEREAS, The six point explanation of Thesis Nine of the ELS Lord's Supper Statement is of concern to some pastors and congregations of the ELS as to its scriptural accuracy, specifically, that "Christ's body and blood are present in the elements of bread and wine before the reception of the elements by the communicants" (72nd Annual Convention of the ELS p. 74, 9b), and,

WHEREAS, The Commission on Inter-Church Relations of the WELS has studied these statements and has questioned their scriptural accuracy and has sent its response to the ELS Doctrine Committee and to those who requested it;



RESOLVED, The the six point explanation of Thesis Nine of the ELS Lord's Supper Statement be studied by the Doctrine Committee, the pastors of the synod in their meetings and conferences and by the laity of the synod in their Bible classes; and,

RESOLVED, That this study begin during the year between the 1992 and 1993 synod conventions, and,

RESOLVED, That a report of the findings of these studies be presented to the 1993 synod convention.

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Irvine, CA

Re: Abortion Position

WHEREAS, Our synod in its 1978 Synod Convention took a clear stand on the abortion issue (see Synod Report p. 63), and,

WHEREAS, The news media have recently run numerous stories about the position of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), that allow for abortion as an acceptable practice, and,

WHEREAS, There is a great similarity of names between our own Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and,

WHEREAS, These news stories have possibly confused members of our own synod as to our position on abortion as well as possibly confusing prospective members of our synod, both individuals and congregations,

BE IT RESOLVED, That this convention of our synod formally and officially reaffirm our synod's scriptural pro-life stance so that there be no confusion or cause for stumbling among our members or offence given to potential members, and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Doctrine Committee draft a simple statement explaining our position on abortion and publish the same in the *Lutheran Sentinel*.

Grace Lutheran Church, Vero Beach, FL

## MEMORIAL

Re: Pastor's Equalization

WHEREAS, We recognize the importance of keeping pastor's equalization costs down, and,

WHEREAS, The present system of pastor's equalization does not encourage pastors to car pool but rather drive their own car,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the pastor's equalization be changed to promote more car pooling by pastors, and,

BE IT RESOLVED,

A. That the present additional five cents per mile be dropped for those driving with riders and be replaced with the following;

B. That each pastor riding with another pastor who is driving may deduct the actual amount of miles from his own equalization for convention or pastoral conference as if he had driven himself, and,

BE IT RESOLVED,

A. That if the synod does not adopt the suggested new policy, that the equalizer be asked to bring a proposal to the 1993 convention which will promote more car pooling among pastors going to convention and pastoral conference, and,

B. That pastors make suggestions to the equalizer for other possible changes to the pastor's equalization which will actually promote car pooling among the pastors.

The Rev. Mark Wold  
The Rev. Victor Settje

## **MEMORIAL**

**Re: Seminary Students**

**WHEREAS,** The members of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod take a great deal of interest in the students who attend our seminary, and would like to know more about them,

**BE IT RESOLVED,**

A. That the president of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary ask each student to write a VITA about themselves and submit it to him along with a current (high school graduation) picture of themselves, and,

B. That the president of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary present this information to the editor of the Lutheran Sentinel for publication, and,

C. That this be done each year beginning in the fall of 1992.

The Rev. Robert A. Lawson

## **MEMORIAL**

**Re: Board Member Consecutive Term Limitation**

**WHEREAS,** The Synod Handbook currently contains no limits to consecutive terms of synod board members, and,

**WHEREAS,** Incumbency carries a distinct and decided influence in elections, and,

**WHEREAS,** Such consecutive term limits may increase the use of other talented individuals, pastors and laymen, within the synod,

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That the synod limit the consecutive terms of an individual on any synodical board to three (3).

The Rev. Thomas L. Rank

## **MEMORIAL**

**Re: Court of Appeals**

**WHEREAS,** The Synod Handbook contains guidelines for synodical discipline, and,

**WHEREAS,** The Handbook does not provide a procedure for the appeal of a decision regarding synodical discipline other than to the synod assembled in convention, and,

**WHEREAS,** It is in good order to provide an intermediate appeal process prior to the airing of grievances to the synod assembled in convention,

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That the synod implement a "Court of Appeals" to provide such an intermediate step in the appeal process of synodical discipline.

The Rev. Thomas L. Rank

# Treasurer's Report

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1991

Page 1 of 2

ASSETS	GENERAL FUND	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	TOTAL
Cash - checking account	\$183,615.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$183,615.85
Accounts receivable - contributions and other income	7,716.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,716.85
Inventory of publications	25,404.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,404.43
Prepaid expenses	16,824.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,824.39
Accrued interest receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Investments:							
Investment management accounts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,994,543.96	3,994,543.96
Savings accounts and CD's	87,265.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,052.75	88,318.06
Money market funds	877.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,126.60	33,003.62
Contract for deed	6,995.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,995.45
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	678,558.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	945,109.44	1,623,668.00
Notes receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	318,203.62	318,203.62
U. S. Treasury Notes (Note B)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	98,968.75	98,968.75
Real estate and buildings (Notes C and D)	0.00	0.00	5,724,104.00	356,198.23	427,109.87	59,000.00	6,566,412.10
	328,699.30	678,558.56	5,724,104.00	356,198.23	427,109.87	5,449,005.12	12,963,675.08
Due from (to) other funds	31,264.38	(20,634.13)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(10,630.25)	0.00
Total assets	\$359,963.68	\$657,924.43	\$5,724,104.00	\$356,198.23	\$427,109.87	\$5,438,374.87	\$12,963,675.08

## BALANCE SHEET

EXHIBIT I

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1991

Page 2 of 2

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	GENERAL FUND	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE	BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	TOTAL
Liabilities:							
Notes payable: (Note E)							
Working capital	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
Investment program	0.00	195,000.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	195,000.88
Life Loan Plan	113,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	113,500.00
Accounts payable	29,182.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,182.67
Accrued interest payable	2,925.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,925.22
Unexpended restricted income (Note F)	207,408.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	207,408.10
Mortgages payable	0.00	183,733.30	0.00	0.00	97,171.04	175,000.00	455,904.34
Total liabilities	553,015.99	378,734.18	0.00	0.00	97,171.04	175,000.00	1,203,921.21
Fund balances (deficit):							
Unrestricted:							
Designated for investment	0.00	279,190.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	249,292.80	528,483.05
Undesignated	(193,052.31)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(193,052.31)
	(193,052.31)	279,190.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	249,292.80	335,430.74
Restricted (Note G)	0.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	0.00	5,014,082.07	5,014,782.07
Net investment in real estate and buildings	0.00	0.00	5,723,404.00	356,198.23	329,938.83	0.00	6,409,541.06
Total fund balances (deficit)	(193,052.31)	279,190.25	5,724,104.00	356,198.23	329,938.83	5,263,374.87	11,759,753.87
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$359,963.68	\$657,924.43	\$5,724,104.00	\$356,198.23	\$427,109.87	\$5,438,374.87	\$12,963,675.08
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

## EXHIBIT II

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 Year ended December 31, 1991

	GENERAL FUND	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, 1990	(\$152,198.24)	\$279,175.25	\$5,257,071.80	\$356,198.23	\$323,556.82	\$3,622,936.62	\$9,686,740.48
ADD:							
Requests	0.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	0.00	801,391.16	802,091.16
Contributions received - net	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	816,667.18	816,682.18
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,098.00	20,098.00
Portion of unrestricted estates appropriated for General Fund debt reduction and to ELS Foundation	10,867.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,433.90	16,301.69
Gain(loss) on sale of securities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	628.11	628.11
Principal payments on President's house charged to budget	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,485.00	0.00	2,485.00
Payments on liabilities by General Fund	(71,214.38)	0.00	67,317.37	0.00	3,897.01	0.00	0.00
Bethany Lutheran College net value adjustment at June 30, 1991 (Note C)	0.00	0.00	419,817.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	419,817.63
Excess of income over expenditures and appropriations for the period	19,492.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19,492.52
	(40,854.07)	15.00	487,835.00	0.00	6,382.01	1,644,218.35	2,097,596.29
	(193,052.31)	279,190.25	5,744,906.80	356,198.23	329,938.83	5,267,154.97	11,784,336.77
DEDUCT:							
Excess of expenditures and appropriations over income for the period	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Distributions	0.00	0.00	20,802.80	0.00	0.00	3,780.10	24,582.90
	0.00	0.00	20,802.80	0.00	0.00	3,780.10	24,582.90
BALANCES (Deficit) - December 31, 1991	(\$193,052.31)	\$279,190.25	\$5,724,104.00	\$356,198.23	\$329,938.83	\$5,263,374.87	\$11,759,753.87

## SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

## EXHIBIT III

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 Year ended December 31, 1991

(Page 1 of 3)

## INCOME

Contributions:		
Budgetary:		
Restricted	\$16,552.07	
Unrestricted	746,409.75	\$762,961.82
	<hr/>	
Estate and trust income:		
Restricted		803,214.66
Unrestricted		16,301.69
For special purposes:		
Bethany Lutheran College special	12,214.75	
Bethany Lutheran Seminary special	19,862.56	
Bethesda Lutheran Home	410.83	
The Lutheran Home, Belle Plaine, MN	5.00	
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	816,667.18	
Faith Mission Society	864.45	
Foreign missions special	11,970.73	
Home missions special	1,790.80	
Aid Association for Lutherans grants:		
Christian Day School visitation	1,500.00	
Youth ministry	5,000.00	
75th Anniversary	12,500.00	
Women's Missionary Society	2,000.00	
Lutheran Brotherhood grants:		
Church growth	7,000.00	
Home mission program subsidy(lump-sum)	40,000.00	
Visitors' conference	3,000.00	
"World Needs"	11,843.72	
"Helping Hands"	39,601.53	
Ukraine radio - "Thoughts of Faith"	1,657.99	
Church Extension Fund	15.00	
Camp Indianhead	110.00	
Camp LorRay	145.00	
WELS Lutherans for Life	62.00	
Lutheran Heritage Hour	430.00	
Australian parish	86.00	988,737.54
	<hr/>	
Total contributions - carried forward		2,571,215.71

## SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - CONTINUED

EXHIBIT III

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
Year ended December 31, 1991

(Page 2 of 3)

Total contributions - brought forward	\$2,571,215.71
Investment income:	
General Fund - interest - restricted	0.00
- unrestricted	30,522.55
E.L.S. Foundation - interest - restricted	315,523.53
- unrestricted	19,715.09
	<hr/>
Total investment income	365,761.17
	<hr/>
Total income from all sources	2,936,976.88
	<hr/>
Less income for special purposes	2,058,923.88
	<hr/>
Total income available for current purposes - carried forward	878,053.00

## EXPENDITURES

Bethany Lutheran College	\$154,000.00
Bethany Lutheran Seminary	57,000.00
Home missions	224,938.18
Foreign missions	109,123.52
Education and youth	16,917.35
Evangelism	5,446.68
Christian service	21,696.71
Publications	58,766.58
Synod fund	346,368.62
"Helping Hands"	128,888.98
Foreign missions Seminary Fund	113,360.42
Foreign missions special	1,580.40
"World Needs"	19,660.00
Youth ministry	5,000.00
Evangelism grant	1,500.00
Women's Missionary Society	500.00
Team building	235.99
Church growth	4,610.31
Financial planning	220.72
75th Anniversary planning	10,712.75
Home missions planning conference	1,724.36
Visitors' conference	4,009.99
Youth leadership training	150.00
Publications special	17,713.36
Total expenditures - carried forward	1,304,124.92

## SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - CONTINUED

EXHIBIT III

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 Year ended December 31, 1991

(Page 3 of 3)

Total income available for current purposes - brought forward		\$878,053.00
Total expenditures - brought forward	\$1,304,124.92	
Less expenditures financed by special funds:		
Home missions grants and reserves	\$105,938.18	
Foreign missions reserves	5,703.92	
"World Needs" Fund	19,660.00	
"Helping Hands" Fund	128,888.98	
Foreign Mission Seminary		
Endowment Fund income	113,360.42	
75th Anniversary planning	10,712.75	
Evangelism	1,500.00	
Women's Missionary Society	500.00	
Team building grant	235.99	
Youth ministry	5,000.00	
Church growth grant	4,610.31	
Financial planning grant	220.72	
Home missions planning conference	1,724.36	
Visitors' conference grant	4,009.99	
Youth leadership training grant	150.00	
Book publication grant	17,713.36	
	419,928.98	
Publications income	41,937.15	461,866.13
Expenditures financed by income available for current purposes		842,258.79
Excess of income over expenditures		35,794.21
APPROPRIATED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES		
Portion of unrestricted estates:		
For General Fund debt reduction	10,867.79	
To Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	5,433.90	16,301.69
Excess of income over expenditures and appropriations - increase in General Fund balance		\$19,492.52



Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1991

(Page 1 of 3)

(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.

These financial statements 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 Church Extension and Loan Fund represents resources used for loans to congregations for building and improvement programs.

The Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary and Residences and Real Estate funds represent the investment of the Synod in these physical properties. The Bethany Lutheran College fund is explained further in Note (C).

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:

Unrestricted Donated Fund - \$100,000 - 10 1/8% due May 15, 1993

(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, 1991. The current, endowment and reserve funds of the College are not included in the assets of the Synod. The amount of \$5,724,104.00 was determined as follows:

Per audit report of the College as of June 30, 1991:	
Total invested in plant	\$6,169,144.00
Less obligations of the plant fund	445,040.00
	-----
Total net investment in plant - June 30, 1991	\$5,724,104.00
	=====

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1991

(Page 2 of 3)

(C) Continued

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:

VALUATION METHOD	NUMBER	AMOUNT
Cost	8	\$377,909.87
Appraisal:		
Outside	1	19,900.00
Internal	1	29,300.00
Totals	10	\$427,109.87
	=====	=====

(E) Notes Payable:

The working capital note is an 8% demand loan from a congregation.

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 zero to 6%.

(F) Unexpended Restricted Income:

Partners in the Gospel Fund income	\$154,885.14
Other home missions unexpended restricted income	4,128.62
Foreign Mission Seminary Endowment Fund income	5,822.40
"Helping Hands"	(33,661.01)
Other foreign missions unexpended restricted income	41,128.10
Grants	4,884.58
"World Needs"	4,855.89
Other	25,364.38
	-----
	\$207,408.10
	=====

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1991

(Page 3 of 3)

(G) Fund Balances - Restricted - Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation:

Merle R. Aasen Estate (to be invested permanently with income used for missions)	\$10,000.00
Merle R. Aasen Seminary Scholarship Fund (to be invested permanently with income for scholarships)	5,949.00
President's Office Endowment Fund	681,118.92
Marvin and Delores Schwan Foreign Mission Trust Fund	599,959.47
Partners in the Gospel Home Missions Fund	1,621,646.87
Whipple-Olson-Wilson Endowment Fund	100,736.70
Foreign Mission Seminary Endowment Fund	1,000,218.62
General Foreign Mission Fund	209,280.53
Charitable Gift Annuity Fund	126,800.57
Home Mission Reserve Fund	103,225.00
General Home Mission Fund	13,273.39
Home Mission Expansion Fund	541,873.00
	<u>\$5,014,082.07</u>
	=====

- (H) The Evangelical Lutheran Synod is contingently liable as co-signor on mortgage loans for Ascension (Eau Claire, Wisconsin), Mount Olive (Mankato, Minnesota), Our Savior (Lakeland, Florida) and Christ (Windsor, California).

## LOANS RECEIVABLE

## SCHEDULE A

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
Year ended December 31, 1991

## Church Extension and Loan Fund

	TOTAL LOANS	BALANCE 12-31-90	NEW LOANS 1991	PAID 1991	TOTAL PAID	BALANCE 12-31-91
CONGREGATION						
Ascension - Eau Claire, Wisconsin	\$19,300.00	\$12,528.25	\$0.00	\$1,565.50	\$8,337.25	\$10,962.75
Bethany - Ames, Iowa	2,162.21	2,162.21	0.00	500.00	500.00	1,662.21
Christ - Sutherlin, Oregon	22,799.55	10,406.17	0.00	1,626.29	14,019.67	8,779.88
Faith - Oregon, Wisconsin:						
Church	155,500.62	108,374.64	13,830.00	3,065.65	36,361.63	119,138.99
Parsonage	65,143.02	56,567.31	0.00	2,841.15	11,416.86	53,726.16
First English - Ashland, Wisconsin	37,119.84	10,900.62	0.00	3,190.53	29,409.75	7,710.09
Good Shepherd - Richardson, Texas	384,977.59	134,155.33	0.00	700.32	251,522.58	133,455.01
Grace - Crookston, Minnesota	63,946.76	54,822.09	0.00	1,313.34	10,438.01	53,508.75
Heritage - Apple Valley, Minnesota	163,728.05	97,752.73	0.00	4,490.25	70,465.57	93,262.48
Our Savior - Naples, Florida	47,167.16	9,673.19	0.00	3,892.37	41,386.34	5,780.82
Peace - Colorado Springs, Colorado	130,000.00	123,637.41	0.00	1,138.50	7,501.09	122,498.91
Pilgrim - Waterloo, Iowa	129,821.67	44,269.57	0.00	1,780.59	87,332.69	42,488.98
St. Paul's - Chicago, Illinois	15,000.00	10,454.11	0.00	10,454.11	15,000.00	0.00
Trinity - Sebastian, Florida	161,225.00	35,445.56	0.00	9,862.03	135,641.47	25,583.53
	\$1,397,891.47	\$711,149.19	\$13,830.00	\$46,420.63	\$719,332.91	\$678,558.56
=====						

## Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation

Bethany - Port Orchard, Washington	\$645,000.00	\$245,314.00	\$239,686.00	\$7,000.00	\$167,000.00	\$478,000.00
Bethlehem - Warroad, Minnesota	39,999.40	38,302.61	0.00	1,801.45	3,498.24	36,501.16
Christ - Port St. Lucie, Florida:						
Land	60,986.63	49,926.88	0.00	4,178.47	15,238.22	45,748.41
Construction	213,000.00	200,000.00	13,000.00	213,000.00	213,000.00	0.00
Christ the Cornerstone - Scottsdale, Arizona:						
Construction	249,951.00	0.00	249,951.00	0.00	0.00	249,951.00
Family of God - Riviera, Arizona	78,000.00	75,945.79	0.00	0.00	2,054.21	75,945.79
Good Shepherd - Brownsburg, Indiana	68,000.00	62,576.67	0.00	3,613.59	9,036.92	58,963.08
	\$1,354,937.03	\$672,065.95	\$502,637.00	\$229,593.51	\$409,827.59	\$945,109.44
=====						

## **FINANCES**

### **ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

#### **Resolution No. 1: Board for Stewardship**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Stewardship has been entrusted with the responsibility of encouraging our synod in its stewardship endeavors, and,*

*WHEREAS, The board has always sought to motivate Christian stewardship, purely on the basis of God's Word, and,*

*WHEREAS, The recent stewardship seminars have provided both motivational materials and a practical program for enhancing stewardship at the local level,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the Board for Stewardship for its efforts and especially for maintaining a purely scriptural approach, and be it,*

*B. RESOLVED, That the synod commends and thanks Pastors Schneider and Wiechmann for their time and efforts in presenting the Stewardship Seminars, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks our Lord for moving a member of the synod to provide the funding for the pastoral seminars and thanks the donor for the generous gift.*

#### **Resolution No. 2: Board for Stewardship**

*WHEREAS, Local delays in remitting congregational mission offerings have contributed to the necessity of special end of the year appeals and a growing deficit,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That congregational treasurers be encouraged to remit the synodical offerings on a regular monthly basis.*

#### **Resolution No. 3: LACE Investments**

*WHEREAS, A number of our ELS congregations have benefitted from the Lutheran Association for Church Extension (LACE) loan programs, and,*

*WHEREAS, Additional investments by ELS members would enable an even greater benefit for our congregations through earmarked investments,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Board for Stewardship to publicize the LACE earmarked investment program to our constituency.*

#### **Resolution No. 4: Budget Revision**

*WHEREAS, Decreased synodical offerings for the first five months of 1992 have resulted in the need for the Board of Trustees to revise the 1992 budget downward by \$15,000,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod regretfully endorses the necessary budgetary revision.*

#### **Resolution No. 5: Capital Campaign for Bethany Lutheran College**

*RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the resolutions of the joint meeting of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents as printed below.*

*WHEREAS, During the development of the Self-Study that was a partial requirement for continued accreditation with North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), it became clear that Bethany lacked in financial stability and in adequate out-of-class activity space, and,*

*WHEREAS, NCA defined the problem of financial stability as urgent, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board of Regents and the synodical president have encouraged the administration of Bethany to investigate funding of major endowments, student union, and additional physical fitness facilities, and,*

*WHEREAS, The president of Bethany Lutheran College has actively solicited funds for these needs, and,*

*WHEREAS, A gift and pledge of \$3,500,000 and a commitment of an additional \$3,000,000 in matching money have been received to be used for a capital campaign to meet the needs described, and titled "Preparing for the 21st Century," therefore,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Bethany Lutheran College gratefully accepts the outright gift and pledge of \$3,500,000 and thanks Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc., for this very generous gift, and,*

*WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the Board of Regents and Board of Trustees that the matching funds as well as the other funds can be raised with minimal impact on synodical resources, therefore,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod approves the \$13,000,000 capital campaign, "Preparing for the 21st Century."*

*C. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the synod directs Bethany Lutheran College to plan and implement the raising of the necessary funds over the next five years to successfully carry through on this campaign by:*

- 1. appealing to contributors of large amounts the first year (1992);*
- 2. appealing to Bethany alumni and friends the second and third years (1993-1994);*
- 3. appealing to the synod at large the fourth year (1995).*

**Resolution No. 6: Report of the Planning and Coordinating Committee—1993 Budget**

*WHEREAS, The Lord charged His Church with the expansion of His Kingdom and the preservation of His pure Word, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Lord has showered our synod with His grace by enabling us to reach out with the Gospel in ever increasing areas while maintaining purity of doctrine, and,*

*WHEREAS, The synod's proposed 1993 budget reflects the opportunity for us to grow in His work and in the grace of giving,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed 1993 budget of \$770,000 be adopted with the prayer that the Lord would provide us with the strength to carry on all we propose to do in His name.*

**Resolution No. 7: Report of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts the report of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation.*

**Resolution No. 8: Laymen's Equalization Fund**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts the report of the Laymen's Equalization Fund.*

**Resolution No. 9: 75th Anniversary Thankoffering Report**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts the report of the 75th Anniversary Offering Committee.*

**Resolution No. 10: Treasurer's Report**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts the report of the treasurer.*

**Resolution No. 11: Board of Trustees**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts the report of the Board of Trustees.*

## **MISCELLANEOUS ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Report of the Committee on Christian Worship**

*WHEREAS, The synod meeting in convention in 1991, encouraged the Worship Committee to examine the possibility of assembling and publishing a hymnal that reflects the liturgical and hymnic heritage of the ELS, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Worship Committee has begun the feasibility study of having an ELS hymn book, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Worship Committee has made available for \$15 a packet of materials relevant to a new hymn book,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the committee continues its study of the feasibility, giving special attention to projected cost, market, timetable, content, etc., and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That they report back to the 1993 convention, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That congregations be encouraged to avail themselves of the opportunity to study the materials offered by the committee.*

**Resolution No. 2: Report of the Self-Study Committee—The Clergy Roster**

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Report of the Self-Study Committee be amended to read as follows: "The president and secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod shall consult annually with inactive clergy to ascertain whether or not they wish to remain on the 'Clergy Roster' and shall respect their wishes."*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the guidelines for establishing the clergy roster as amended.*

**Resolution No. 3: Pastor's Equalization**

*WHEREAS, The Self-Study Committee's proposed plan does not take into account a number of financial complexities found within local congregations, and,*

*WHEREAS, The existing system of equalization has served the synod for many years,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the current equalization system be left in place, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That congregations be made aware that in cases of financial hardship, they have the right to petition for equalization exemptions.*

**Resolution No. 4: Pastor's Equalization**

*WHEREAS, The memorial is based upon a misunderstanding of the equalization program,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 3A be the answer to the memorial.*

**Resolution No. 5: Seminary Students**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the memorial be declined.*

**Resolution No. 6: Board Member Consecutive Term Limitation**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the memorial regarding board member consecutive term limitation be referred to the Self-Study Committee.*

**Resolution No. 7: Court of Appeals**

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod establishes an adjudication process to provide an intermediate step in the appeals process of synodical discipline.*

*B. RESOLVED, That the Self-Study Committee brings recommendations regarding this adjudication process to the 1993 convention of the synod.*

**Resolution No. 8: ELS 75th Anniversary Committee Report to the Synod**

*WHEREAS, The ELS 75th Anniversary Committee has done extensive planning for this important synodical observance, and,*

*WHEREAS, These matters are proceeding in a most orderly manner,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod offers its thanks and appreciation to members of the 75th Anniversary Committee for their dedicated efforts.*

**Resolution No. 9: ELS 75th Anniversary**

*WHEREAS, AAL has provided financial support for various projects which are a part of the ELS 75th Anniversary celebration.*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod offers its thanks and appreciation to AAL for this support.*

**Resolution No. 10: Date of the 1993 Convention**

*BE IT RESOLVED, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod convene June 20-24, 1993, at Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, Mankato, Minnesota.*



**Resolution No. 11: Memorial Concerning Teachers at Synod Convention**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod concurs with the resolutions of the Self-Study Committee in response to the "Memorial Concerning Teachers at Synod Convention." (Tabled until 1993 convention).*

**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 21, 1992, and found them to be correct,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts 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 session, June 22, 1992, and found them to be correct,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts 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 Monday afternoon session, June 22, 1992, and found them to be correct.*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts 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 morning session, June 23, 1992, and found them to be correct,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts 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 Tuesday afternoon and evening sessions, June 23, 1992, and found them to be correct,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts 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 morning session, June 24, 1992, and found them to be correct,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the minutes as read.*

**Resolution No. 7: 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 24, 1992, and found them to be correct.*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the minutes as read.*

**Resolution No. 8: Secretary's Minutes**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the president and vice president of the synod be instructed to approve the minutes of the secretary for Thursday, June 25, 1992.*

**PASTORAL CONFERENCE RECORDS  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Pastoral Conference Records**

*WHEREAS, Records were received from the following:*

*General Pastoral Conference*

*Circuit No. 1—Florida, Georgia*

*Circuit No. 2—Massachusetts (Joint activities with WELS)*

*Circuits No. 3, 4, 5—Great Lakes Pastoral Conference*

*Circuit No. 6—N. Iowa, S. Minnesota*

*Circuit No. 7—N. Minnesota*

*Circuit No. 8—Mankato Area*

*Circuit No. 9—South Central Area*

*Circuit No. 10—Arizona, California*

*Circuit No. 11—Oregon, Washington*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That all the circuit secretaries be commended for providing these records.*

**Resolution No. 2: Pastoral Conference Records**

*WHEREAS, The records in general continue to show a good balance of exegetical, doctrinal, practical and homiletical studies, together with casuistry questions, answers and discussion, and,*

*WHEREAS, These conferences are vital for fellowship and the continuing education of our pastors,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends these circuits and their secretaries for maintaining good records.*

**Resolution No. 3: Pastoral conference attendance**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod congregations urge their pastors in isolated areas to take full advantage of the fellowship of local WELS pastors' conferences.*

**Resolution No. 4: Circuit meetings**

*WHEREAS, some circuits do not have meetings at which pastors, teachers and lay people are able to discuss mutual problems and concerns,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages those circuits to consider holding such meeting at least annually.*

**Resolution No. 5: Essay distribution**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the excellent work being produced in the form of essays on many relevant subjects find greater distribution and readership and that a form be developed to accomplish this.*

**Resolution No. 6: Conference papers**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Lord of the church for the pastors in their diligent use of the gifts He has given them as demonstrated in essays and papers presented.*

**RESOLUTIONS  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the following communications be approved:*

*Letters of Greetings have been sent to the following in the name of the assembled convention.*

*Pastors James Olsen and Daniel McMiller, Santiago, Chile.*

*Pastors Timothy Erickson, David Haeuser and Martin Teigen, Peru.*

*Lutheran Confessional Church, Sweden and Norway, Thomas Lindgren, Chairman.*

*Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia.*

*Letters of thanks for years of service have been sent to:*

*Pastor Emil Stubenvoll, Marinette, Wisconsin.*

*Pastor Lewis Gerbhardt, Vero Beach, Florida.*

*Pastor Howard Behrens, Elgin, Illinois.*

*Pastor Paul Petersen, Madison, Wisconsin.*

*Pastor William McMurdie, Laguna Hills, California.*

*Pastor Rodger Dale, Apple Valley, Minnesota.*

*Letters of condolence have been sent to:*

*Pastor Gerhard Wilde and Family, Germany.*

*Letters to brothers in faith who are ill have been sent to:*

*Pastor A. V. Kuster, Madison, Wisconsin.*

*Mr. Basil Denison, Sutherlin, Oregon.*

# CHURCH LOCATIONS AND THE TIME OF SERVICES

(Not intended for mailing—use pastor's address)

## CIRCUIT NO. 1

STATE	City-Church	Address	Services	Pastor
<b>FLORIDA</b>				
	Kissimmee—Peace	2915 Oaktree Drive	10:00	J. Madson
	Lakeland—Our Savior	6920 N. Socrum Loop Rd.	9:30 Winter 8:30 & 9:45	K. Mellon
	Naples—Our Savior	1961 Curling Ave.	9:15 (*call to verify)	D. Moldstad
	Port St. Lucie—Christ	1592 S.E. Floresta Dr.	10:00	C. Keeler
	Sebastian—Trinity	611 Schumann Dr.	10:00	D. Lillegard
	Sebring—New Life	Banyan Plaza, 2345 US 27 South	10:00	J. Willitz
	Vero Beach—Grace	1150 41th Ave.	10:00	K. Smith
<b>GEORGIA</b>				
	Savannah—Christ	316 Tibet Ave.	11:00	P. Jecklin

## CIRCUIT NO. 2

<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>				
	Brewster—Trinity	Main Street (Route 6A)	9:30	D. Webber
	Burlington—Pinewood	24 Wilmington Rd.	10:45 (S 10:00)	T. Fox

## CIRCUIT NO. 3

<b>INDIANA</b>				
	Brownsburg— Good Shepherd	204 E. Main	10:15	H. Bartels
<b>MICHIGAN</b>				
	Alpena—Faith	233 Cavanaugh	9:00	H. Gieschen
	Detroit—St. Matthew	4973 Cabot	10:30 (S 9:30)	L. Vinton
	E. Jordan—Faith	3 E. 1½ N. on Wilson Rd.	*	Vacant
	Hillman—Faith	R. 1, Box 218 M-32 East	11:00	H. Gieschen
	Holton—Holton Evangelical	6655 Marvin Rd.	10:00	M. Krentz
	Midland—Holy Scripture	4525 Cook Rd.	9:00	P. Schneider
	Saginaw—Gloria Dei	5250 Mackinaw Rd.	8:00 & 10:45	J. K. Smith
	Suttons Bay—First	321 St. Mary's Ave. P. O. Box 189	*	K. Uhlenbrauck
<b>OHIO</b>				
	Deshler—Peace	6 Miles Northeast	9:30	P. Lehenbauer
	Weston—Grace	20425 Taylor St.	10:00	R. Fyffe

## CIRCUIT NO. 4

<b>ILLINOIS</b>				
	Chicago—Emmaus	5440 West Gladys Ave.	10:45	C. Wosje
	St. Mark's	3101 N. Parkside Ave.	9:30	H. Behrens
	Litchfield—Faith	718 N. State St.	9:00	W. Frick
	Lombard—St. Timothy	547 N. Main St.	10:15 (S 9:00)	P. Zager

**WISCONSIN**

Cottage Grove— Western Koshkonong	2633 Church St.	10:00 (S 9:30)	J. Moldstad, Sr.
Madison—Grace	1 South Rosa Road	10:15 (S 9:30)	J. J. Petersen
Madison—Holy Cross	2670 Milwaukee St.	8:15 & 10:30 (S 8:15 & 10:00)	S. Petersen M. Bartels
Madison—Our Saviour's	1201 Droster Rd.	9:00	B. Homan
Okauchee—Holy Trinity	35181 Wisconsin Ave. Box 146	7:45 & 10:15 (S 7:45 & 9:30)	G. Schmeling
Oregon—Faith	143 Washington St.	9:00	J. Moldstad, Jr.
Portage—St. Paul's	6 miles N.W. on Hwy. 127	9:00	H. Larson
West Bend—Trinity	1268 Pleasant Valley Rd.	8:00 & 10:00	K. Schmidt
Wisconsin Dells— Newport	5 miles S.E. on Hwy. 16	10:30 (S 7:00 p.m. Sat.)	H. Larson

**CIRCUIT NO. 5****WISCONSIN**

Amherst Junction—Our Savior's	5 N.E.	9:30	W. Neumann
Ashland—First English	701 Vaughn Ave.	10:00	N. Harstad
Bloomer—Good Shepherd	1504 Vine St.	10:30 (S 10:00)	C. Ferkenstad
Clintonville—St. Paul	31 Park St., Box 115	10:30 (S 9:45)	J. Smith
Eau Claire—Ascension	1500 Peterson Ave.	9:00	Vicar Tuffin
Eau Claire—Concordia	3715 London Rd.	8:00 & 10:30 (S 9:00) (7 P.M. Mon.)	F. Theiste
Eau Claire—Pinehurst	3304 Fern Ct.	8:15 & 10:45 (S 9:00) (7 P.M. Mon.)	T. Bartels
Elderon—Our Savior's	Highway 49 N.	9:00	T. Skaaland
Iola—Redeemer	125 North St.	9:00	H. Vetter
Marinette—First Trinity	920 Wells St.	8:00 & 10:00 (S 9:00)	F. Stubenvoll
Shawano—St. Martin	5 miles S.W.	9:00 (S 8:30)	J. Smith

**CIRCUIT NO. 6****IOWA**

Ames—Bethany	3109 Diamond	11:00 (SS & Bible Study— Sundays 10:00)	D. Meyer
Calmar—Trinity	Clark & Charles	*	M. Marozick
Forest City—Forest	546 W. Main St.	9:00	D. Schlicht
Lake Mills—Lake Mills	1st Ave. N. & Grant St.	8:30	A. Merseth
Lake Mills—Lime Creek	4 N., 1 W.	9:45 or 11:00	A. Merseth
Lawler—Saude	10 N., 1 W.	*	M. DeGarmeaux
New Hampton—Jerico	9 N., 2 E.	*	M. DeGarmeaux
New Hampton—Redeemer	611 W. Court St.	*	M. Marozick
Northwood—First Shell Rock	Central & 15th	10:30	A. Merseth
Northwood—Somber	10 W., 1 S.	9:45 or 11:00	A. Merseth
Parkersburg—Faith	608 6th St., P. O. Box 279	10:15 (S 9:30)	R. Tragasz
Riceville—Immanuel	Riceville, IA	8:30	A. Merseth
Scarville—Center	5 miles S.		D. Basel
Scarville— Scarville	Co. Rd. A-16 & Logan St.	*	D. Basel
Thompson—Zion	Box 42, Thompson	10:45	D. Schlicht
Thornton—Richland	300 Elm St.	10:30 (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 & Mon. 7 P.M.)	W. Halvorson
Hartland—Hartland	404 Broadway	10:45 (S 9:00)	D. Schmidt
Manchester—Manchester		9:30 (S 10:30)	D. Schmidt

**CIRCUIT NO. 7****STATE**

City-Church	Address	Services	Pastor
<b>MINNESOTA</b>			
Audubon—Immanuel	Highway 10	9:30	M. Doepel
Bagley—Our Savior's	5 mi. W. on Hwy. 2	9:00	M. Wold
Crookston—Grace	1221 Barrette St.	8:30	G. Haugen
East Grand Forks— River Heights	2214 Tenth Ave. N.W.	10:15 (S 9:00)	V. Settje
Fertile—First Evanger	Washington & Elm Sts.	10:30	G. Haugen
Grygla—St. Petri	3 W., 2 N.	*	D. Faugstad
Hawley—Our Savior's	6th & Joseph	9:00 or 11:00 (S 9:00 or 10:30)	H. Abrahamson
Lengby—St. Paul	Lengby	10:30	M. Wold
Oklee—Oak Park	8 N., 4 E.	11:00 S. 10:00	T. Rank
Trail—Mt. Olive	Trail	8:45 (S 8:30)	T. Rank
Trail—Nazareth	9 mi. N., 5 mi. E.	*	D. Faugstad
Ulen—Calvary	207 First St. NW	9:00 or 11:00 (S 9:00 or 10:30)	H. Abrahamson
Warroad—Bethlehem	1 mi. W of Warroad Hwy. 11	10:30	R. Fehr
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>			
Mayville— First American	214 at 3rd Ave. NE	11:00 (S 10:00)	D. Nelson

**CIRCUIT NO. 8****MINNESOTA**

Apple Valley—Heritage	13401 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd.	10:30 (S 9:30)	R. Dale
Belview—Our Savior's	Main Street	*	M. Madson
Belview—Rock Dell	5 miles NE	*	M. Madson
Cottonwood—English	110 E. Main St.	9:00 (S 8:30)	D. Larson
Gaylord—Norwegian Grove	8 S of Gaylord	9:00 or 10:30	N. A. Madson
Golden Valley—King of Grace	6000 Duluth St.	8:15 & 10:45 (S 8:15 & 10:00)	E. Ekhooff
Jasper—Rose Dell Trinity	Jasper	9:00	J. Dukleth
Luverne—Bethany	720 N. Kniss Ave.	10:30	J. Dukleth
Mankato—Mt. Olive	1123 Marsh St.	8:30 & 10:45 (S 8:30 & 10:00)	R. Newgard
Princeton—Bethany	801 S. 6th St.	8:15 & 10:45 (S 9:00 & Wed. 7:00 p.m.)	R. Lawson
Princeton—Our Savior's	18977 17th St.	9:30	B. Huehn
St. Peter—Norseland	10 NW of St. Peter	9:00 or 10:30	N. A. Madson
Tracy—Zion	2nd and Emory St.	11:00 (S 10:15)	D. Larson
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b>			
Sioux Falls—Bethel	1801 Valley View Rd.	9:30	P. Madson

## CIRCUIT NO. 9

### MISSOURI

Cape Girardeau— Scriptural	5 mi. N. of Cape Girardeau County Rd. 635	10:00	F. Faughn
Jefferson City—Peace	Rt. 2, Hwy. 54 S.	9:00	M. Ernst
Piedmont—Grace	114 E. Green St.	10:30	J. Krueger

### TEXAS

Richardson— Good Shepherd	650 W. Campbell Rd.	10:30	K. Brumble
San Antonio—Faith	14819 Jones-Maltsberger Rd.	10:15	R. Nepsund

## CIRCUIT NO. 10

### ARIZONA

Lake Havasu City— Our Saviour	3163 Maricopa Ave.	9:00 Jan.-Mar. 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.	H. Huhnerkoch
Scottsdale—Christ the Cornerstone	7670 E. Jomax Rd.	9:30	R. McMiller
Bullhead City—Family of God	1863 Panadero Rd. Ft. Mojave, AZ	8:30	M. Smith

### CALIFORNIA

Bell Gardens—Christ the King	6541 Eastern Ave.	9:00	P. Lehmann
Bishop—Our Savior	162 Sneden St.	9:30	S. Scheiderer
Chico-Chico	1046 Arbutus Ave.	10:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M.*	N. Merseth R. Waldschmidt
Escondido—St. Paul	1418 Bear Valley Parkway	10:00	T. Gullixson
Grass Valley—Shepherd of the Hills	Hwy. 174 Cedar Ridge	10:00	R. Waldschmidt
Irvine—Faith	Irvine	9:30	G. Bork
Ventura— Wayfarers' Lutheran Church		9:00 & 11:00	J. Schmidt
Windsor—Christ	125 Shiloh Rd.	10:00	D. Sabrowsky
Yuba City—Bethel	1480 Hayne Ave.	9:30	N. Merseth

## CIRCUIT NO. 11

### OREGON

Grants Pass—Our Savior	230 Buysman Way	10:00	J. Ruppel
Gresham—Saved By Grace	P.O. Box 2097	9:30	N. Krause
Hillsboro—Grace	4435 S. E. Tualatin Valley Hwy.	10:00	J. Burkhardt
Hood River—Concordia	11th & Pine Sts.	10:30 (S 9:30)	J. Larson
Klamath Falls—Christ Myrtle Creek— St. Matthew	127 N. Spring St. 436 N. Old Pac Hwy.	9:30 11:00	J. Braun T. Mutterer
Sutherlin—Christ	161 W. 2nd Ave.	8:30	T. Mutterer
The Dalles—Bethany	1405 E. 19th St.	10:30	

### WASHINGTON

Mt. Vernon—St. Luke	1524 E. Blackburn Rd.	11:00 (S 8:00 A.M. & 10:00 A.M.)	J. Dalke
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Port Orchard—Bethany	151 Tremont W.	8:15 & 11:00	E. Bryant
Tacoma—Lakewood	10202 112th St.	11:00	H. Mosley, Jr.
Tacoma—Parkland	12309 S. Pacific Ave.	8:00 & 10:30	G. Obenberger
	P.O. Box 44006		
Yelm—Our Redeemer	805 Yelm Ave. E.	8:00 & 10:30	J. Carter

\*Consult pastor.

## CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS

### **Bethany Lutheran Elementary School**

151 Tremont West  
Port Orchard, WA 98366  
Tel. 206-876-1300

### **Grace Lutheran School**

4435 N. E. Tualatin Valley Hwy.  
Hillsboro, OR 97123  
Tel. 503-640-3243

### **Holton Evangelical Lutheran School**

6655 Marvin Road  
Holton, MI 49425  
Tel. 616-821-0032

### **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**

805 Yelm Avenue E.  
Yelm, WA 98597  
Tel. 206-458-7310

### **Parkland Lutheran School**

12309 Pacific Avenue  
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 28  
Scarville, IA 50473  
Tel. 515-568-3646

### **St. Matthew Lutheran School**

4430 Saint James  
Detroit, MI 48210  
Tel. 313-846-5966

### **Trinity Lutheran School**

1268 Pleasant Valley Rd.  
West Bend, WI 53095  
Tel. 414-675-6627

### **Western Koshkonong Lutheran School**

2632 Church St.  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527  
Tel. 608-873-9976



# THE OFFICERS OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

President .....	The Rev. George Orvick
	Home Address: 1117 Lori Lane, Mankato, Minnesota 56001
	Office: 447 N. Division St., Mankato, Minnesota
	Phones: Home—507-387-1498; Office—507-388-4868
Vice President .....	The Rev. Paul Petersen
	7030 Mescolero Dr., Colorado Springs, Colorado 80915
Secretary .....	The Rev. Alf Merseth
	106 13th Street South, Northwood, Iowa 50459
	Phone: 515-324-2944
Treasurer .....	Mr. Leroy Meyer
	1038 South Lewis Avenue, Lombard, Illinois 60148
	Phones: Home—708-620-4348; Office—708-971-0150

## THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President George Orvick .....	(4 years, elected 1990)	President
	(4 years, elected 1992)	
The Rev. Alf Merseth .....		Secretary
Mr. Leroy Meyer .....		Treasurer
	(1 year, elected 1992)	
Mr. Robert Brown .....	W305 N5660 Stevens Rd., Hartland, WI 53029	
	Phone: 414-367-2212	
	(3 years, elected 1990)	
Mr. Bernard Bogeskov .....	5329 Halifax Ave., So.	
	Edina, Minnesota 55424	
	Phones: MN 612-439-3902	
	FL 813-575-3160	
	(3 years, elected 1991)	
Mr. Albin Levorson .....	Northwood, Iowa 50459	
	Phone: 515-324-1189	
The Rev. Martin Doepel .....	Box 187, Audubon, Minnesota 56511	
	Phones: Home: 218-439-3344	
	Office: 218-439-6259	
	(3 years, elected 1992)	
Mr. Wilbur Lieske .....	9 Skyline Dr., Mankato, Minnesota 56001	
	Phones: Home: 507-345-4784	
	Office: 507-345-4475	
The Rev. David J. Nelson .....	224 Second St. N.E.	
	Mayville, North Dakota 58257	
	Phones: Home: 701-786-3995	
	Office: 701-786-2096	
Advisory Member: (The Rev. Paul Petersen, vice president)		

## WISCONSIN CORPORATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The Rev. Alf Merseth	Mr. Robert Brown
Mr. Leroy Meyer	Mr. Albin Levorson
The Rev. David Nelson	The Rev. Martin Doepel
Mr. Wilbur Lieske	

## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION

### OFFICERS

President .....	President George Orvick
Secretary .....	The Rev. Alf Merseth
Treasurer .....	Mr. Leroy Meyer

### THE FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

(elected by the Board of Trustees)

Mr. Bernard Bogeskov .....	5329 Halifax Ave. So., Edina, Minnesota 55424
Mr. Leroy W. Meyer .....	1038 South Lewis Avenue, Lombard, Illinois 60148
Mr. Glenn Annexstad .....	R.R. 3, Box 85, St. Peter, Minnesota 56082
The Rev. Richard Wiechmann .....	225 Moreland Ave., Mankato, Minnesota 56001
Mr. Lars Petersen (Advisory) .....	Emmons, Minnesota 56029

## BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE, INCORPORATED

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Vice President .....	The Rev. Paul Petersen
Secretary .....	The Rev. Alf Merseth

### BOARD OF REGENTS

(3 years, elected 1990)

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Mr. Harold Theiste .....	15035 18th Ave. N., Plymouth, Minnesota 55447
Mr. Roland Reinholtz .....	6002 Driftwood, Madison, WI 53705

(3 years, elected 1991)

The Rev. Raymond Branstad .....	17451 Tyler N.W., Elk River, Minnesota 55330
Mr. Paul Chamberlin .....	68 Fairview, South Chatham, Massachusetts 02659
The Rev. John Moldstad, Sr. ....	2642 Church St., Cottage Grove, Wisconsin 53527

(3 years, elected 1992)

Mr. William Overn .....	1459 Lone Oak Road, St. Paul, Minnesota 55121
The Rev. Edward Bryant .....	151 Tremont W, Port Orchard, Washington 98366
The Rev. Kenneth Schmidt .....	1288 Pleasant Valley Road, West Bend, Wisconsin 53095

Advisory Member: (The Rev. M. E. Tweit, 2993 110th St., Lawler, Iowa 52154)

## THE SYNOD'S BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

### THE SYNOD'S VISITORS

(3 years, elected 1992)

Circuit #1 .....	The Rev. Charles Keeler
	Alt. The Rev. Kenneth E. Mellon
Circuit #2 .....	The Rev. Thomas Fox
	Alt. The Rev. David Webber
Circuit #3 .....	The Rev. Paul Schneider
	Alt. The Rev. J. Kincaid Smith
Circuit #4 .....	The Rev. Kenneth Schmidt
	Alt. The Rev. Herbert Larson
Circuit #5 .....	The Rev. Craig Ferkenstad
	Alt. The Rev. Timothy Bartels
Circuit #6 .....	The Rev. Wayne Halvorson
	Alt. The Rev. Gottfred Guldberg
Circuit #7 .....	The Rev. Martin Doepel
	Alt. The Rev. Roger Fehr

Circuit #8	The Rev. Norman Madson Alt. The Rev. Paul Madson
Circuit #9	The Rev. Klebe Brumble Alt. The Rev. Micah A. Ernst
Circuit #10	The Rev. Theodore Gullixson Alt. The Rev. Daniel Sabrowsky
Circuit #11	The Rev. Glenn Obenberger Alt. The Rev. James Braun

### DOCTRINE COMMITTEE

	(3 years, elected 1990)	
The Rev. John Moldstad, Jr.	392 Butternut Drive	Oregon, WI 53575
Mr. Norman Holte	925 Marsh Street, Mankato, Minnesota	56001
	(3 years, elected 1991)	
The Rev. Gaylin Schmeling	35209 Wisconsin Avenue,	Okauchee, Wisconsin 53069
Mr. Allen Quist	Rt. 3, Box 33, St. Peter, Minnesota	56082
	(3 years, elected 1992)	
Prof. Juul Madson	169 Heather Lane, Mankato, Minnesota	56001
The Rev. Herbert Larson	212 Volk St., Portage, Wisconsin	53901
	(By virtue of office)	
President of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary	447 N. Division St.,	Mankato, Minnesota 56001

### COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP

	(3 years, elected 1990)	
The Rev. Harry Bartels . . . . .	11 Apple Blossom Dr., Brownsburg, Indiana 46112	
	(3 years, elected 1991)	
The Rev. Mark DeGarmeaux . . . . .	2940 Stevens Trail, Lawler, Iowa 52154	
	(3 years, elected 1992)	
Prof. Dennis Marzolf . . . . .	913 Marsh St., Mankato, Minnesota 56001	

### COLLOQUY COMMITTEE

The president of the synod
The vice president of the synod
The chairman of the Doctrine Committee
One layman from the Doctrine Committee (appointed by the president of the synod)
The president of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary

### BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS

	(3 years, elected 1990)	
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The Rev. Steven Petersen	525 Vernon Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin	53714
Mr. Leslie Just	213 W. Frazee, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota	56501
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The Rev. Glenn Obenberger	P.O. Box 44006, 12201 South B Street, Tacoma, Washington	98444
Mr. Robert Smith	13004 Highpoint Curve, Burnsville, Minnesota	55337
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Dr. William Kessel	105 Belle Ave., Mankato, Minnesota	56001
Mr. Albert Holman	709 S. 11th St., Grand Forks, North Dakota	58201

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(2 years, elected 1991)	
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(3 years, elected 1990)	
Mr. Marlin Goebel	Hillman, Michigan 49746
The Rev. Paul Anderson	3459 Hillview Road, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703
(3 years, elected 1991)	
The Rev. Norman Madson	Route 3, Box 40, St. Peter, Minnesota 56082
(2 years, elected 1992)	
Mr. Ken Loomis	4905 Tocora Lane, Madison, Wisconsin 53711
(3 years, elected 1992)	
Mr. Robert Soule	Rt. 1, Princeton, Minnesota 55371
The Rev. Wayne Halvorson	2133 Kenneth Drive Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007

## BOARD FOR EDUCATION AND YOUTH

(3 years, elected 1990)	
Mr. James Schneck	110 Woodland Lane, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin 53066
The Rev. Jonathan N. Madson	2915 Oaktree Drive, Kissimmee, Florida 34744
The Rev. Craig Ferkenstad	1402 Martin Road, Bloomer, Wisconsin 54724
(1 year elected 1992)	
Mr. Robert Pipal	5480 Yorktown Lane, Plymouth, Minnesota 55442
(3 years, elected 1991)	
The Rev. Mark Bartels	2670 Milwaukee St. Madison, Wisconsin 53704
The Rev. Joseph Burkhardt	17489 N.W. Bernard Place, Beaverton, Oregon 97007
Mr. Larry Rude	15110 110th Avenue E. Puyallup, Washington 98374
(3 years, elected 1992)	
The Rev. Charles Keeler	1258 S.W. Cynthia St., Port St. Lucie, Florida 34983
Prof. Mark Wiechmann	920 Marsh St., Mankato, Minnesota 56001
The Rev. Donald Moldstad	1951 Curling Ave., Naples, Florida 33942
Mr. Ron O'Neill	755 South 173rd St., Spanaway, Washington 98387

## BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE

(3 years, elected 1990)	
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Mr. Don Heiliger	2433 Leslie Road, Stoughton, Wisconsin 53589
(3 years, elected 1991)	
Mr. Alfred Olson, Sr.	Lengby, Minnesota 56651
(3 years, elected 1992)	
The Rev. Gottfred Guldberg	304 Elm Street, Thornton, Iowa 50479
Prof. Paul Tweit	1126 Anderson Drive, Mankato, Minnesota 56001

### BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS

	(3 years, elected 1990)	
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Prof. Richard Wiechmann	.....	225 Moreland Ave., Mankato, Minnesota 56001
	(3 years, elected 1991)	
Mr. Howard Siewert	.....	13795 Diamond Path, Apple Valley, Minnesota 55124
	(2 years, elected 1992)	
Dr. Thomas Kuster	.....	1018 S. Payne St. New Ulm, Minnesota 56073
	(3 years, elected 1992)	
Mr. Robert Deering	.....	1122 Nichols Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53716
Mr. Lance Schwartz	.....	Bethany College Book Store, 734 Marsh St., Mankato, Minnesota 56001

### BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP

	(3 years, elected 1990)	
The Rev. Paul Schneider	.....	4425 Cook Road, Midland, Michigan 48640
Mr. Howard Hougan	.....	4600 Schofield, Madison, Wisconsin 53704
	(3 years, elected 1991)	
Mr. Steve Jaeger	.....	Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, Minnesota 56001
The Rev. Rodger Dale	.....	13401 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd., Apple Valley, Minnesota 55124
	(3 years, elected 1992)	
Mr. Leslie Enter	.....	Rt. 2, Box 132, Gaylord, Minnesota 55334
Ex Officio: (Mr. Leroy Meyer,	.....	1038 South Lewis Ave., Lombard, Illinois 60148)

### EQUALIZATION COMMITTEE

	(3 years, elected 1990)	
The Rev. Richard Tragasz	.....	Box 279, 602 Sixth St., Parkersburg, Iowa 50665
	(3 years, elected 1991)	
Mr. John Dean	.....	P.O. Box 24716, Chicago, Illinois 60624
	(3 years, elected 1992)	
Prof. Greg Costello	.....	120 Long St., Mankato, Minnesota 56001

### BOARD FOR EVANGELISM

	(3 years, elected 1990)	
The Rev. Joseph Burkhardt	.....	17489 N.W. Bernard Pl., Beaverton, Oregon 97007
	(3 years, elected 1991)	
The Rev. Thomas Rank	.....	Box 26, Oklee, Minnesota 56742
Mr. Harvey Ringen	.....	P.O. Box 264, Canyonville, Oregon 97417
	(3 years, elected 1992)	
The Rev. J. Kincaid Smith	.....	7876 Bonny Drive, Saginaw, Michigan 48603
Mr. John Dale	.....	132 Charles St., Box 364, Conger, Minnesota 56020

## PLANNING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The officers of the synod

The chairman (or his representative) of the following boards:

Board for Christian Service	Board for Publications
Board for Education and Youth	Board of Regents
Board for Evangelism	Board for Stewardship
Board for Home Missions	Doctrine Committee
Board for Foreign Missions	Three (3) laymen

Mr. Harvey Roberson	(3 years, elected 1990)	Rt. 1, Elma, Iowa 50628
Mr. Julian Olsen	(3 years, elected 1991)	R.R. 2, Nicollet, Minnesota 56074
Mr. Norman Werner	(3 years, elected 1992)	9781 Bluebird Street, Coon Rapids, Minnesota 55433

## NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE 1992 CONVENTION

The Rev. Glenn Obenberger	12309 Pacific Ave., Box 44006, Tacoma, WA 98444
The Rev. Milton Tweit	2993 110th St., Lawler, IA 52154
The Rev. Roger Fehr	203 E. Washington, Warroad, MN 56763
The Rev. Mark Bartels	2670 Milwaukee St., Madison, WI 53704
Mr. Paul Chamberlin	68 Fairview, South Chatham, MA 02659
Mr. Glen Hanson	1976 115 Ave. Princeton, MN 55371
Mr. Arlen Dethlefsen	1715 La Caida Ct., Santa Rosa, CA 95409
Mr. Jeff Tillman	Box 142, Fremont, MI 49412

## THE SELF-STUDY COMMITTEE

(Presidentially appointed)

The Rev. Alf Merseth	106 13th Street South, Northwood, Iowa 50459
The Rev. Raymond Branstad	17451 Tyler N.W., Elk River, Minnesota 55330
The Rev. David Nelson	224 Second Street, N.E., Mayville, North Dakota 58257
The Rev. Richard Newgard	1123 Marsh Street, Mankato, Minnesota 56001
The Rev. M. E. Tweit	2993 110th St., Lawler, Iowa 52154

## COMMITTEE ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

(elected by the Board of Trustees)

The Rev. W. C. Gullixson	210 N. Black Eagle Drive, Mankato, Minnesota 56001
Prof. Rudolph Honsey	205 Chatsworth Dr., Mankato, Minnesota 56001
Prof. S. E. Lee	225 Hinckley Street, Mankato, Minnesota 56001
Prof. J. B. Madson	169 Heather Lane, Mankato, Minnesota 56001
Mr. Gerhard Solli	1305 N. Broad St., Mankato, Minnesota 56001
Mr. Gerhard Lee	2215 Waunona Way, Madison, Wisconsin 53713

## TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR:

The WELS Committee for Counseling Called Workers (C.C.C.W.)  
800-443-4220 for Wisconsin residents  
800-262-9485 for Out-of-State

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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 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 1991

Number	State	Location	Circuit	Congregation	Membership	Pastor	Members			Baptized		Confirmed		Communed	Marriages	Burials	Services				Day Schools		Sunday Schools			Other Schools Enrollment			Summer Camp	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	Synodi-cal Insti-tutions		Public H.S., Colleges	For Home Purposes	For All Other Purposes					
1	Ariz.	Bullhead City	10	Family of God Luth.	1	M. Smith	46	25	6	6		2	3	149	1	1	2	42	52	27		17	10	3	36					10,279	2,544	83,000	75,945				
2	Ariz.	Lake Havasu City	10	Our Saviour	1	H. Huhnerkoch	174	162	52	9				1,318		3	14	85	52	127		20	21	6	35			3		90,957	12,157	430,693	144,700				
3	Ariz.	Scottsdale	10	Christ the Cornerstone	1	R. McMiller	45	31	12	3				254	1		10	40	52	33		8	9	4						87,666	3,894	400,000	250,000				
4	Calif.	Bell Gardens	10	Christ the King	1	P. Lehmann	41	32	11	1			1			2	16	19		31		11	18	5	14					46,351	8,210	150,000					
5	Calif.	Bishop	10	Our Savior	1	S. Scheiderer	45							556	1				52	21		7	13									170,000					
6	Calif.	Chico	10	Chico	1	N. Merseith	4	4	2	1				55			1	17	51	3		3		1						770	480						
7	Calif.	Escondido	10	St. Paul	1	T. Gullixson	176	123	52	1		2		679	4	5	14	43	52	69		11	10	6			5			52,245	945	250,000					
8	Calif.	Grass Valley	10	Shepherd of the Hills	1	R. Waldschmidt	25	18	5	2				186	1		12	12	52	17										9,376	750						
9	Calif.	Irvine	10	Faith	1	G. Bork	72	65	23	1		2	2	567	1	3	3	50	52	60		11	21	4	25					79,188	11,771						
10	Calif.	Ventura-Fillmore	10	Wayfarers' Lutheran	1	J. Schmidt	72	64	20	3	1			492		6	3	38	104	48			10	18	4			1	1	55,873	4,600	225,000	47,000				
11	Calif.	Windsor	10	Christ	1	D. Sabrowsky	46	40	10	2				436			11	17	52	34		6	15	3						89,909	5,798	450,000	220,000				
12	Calif.	Yuba City	10	Bethel	1	N. Merseith	34	23	8		1			104				52	15								6	2	7	18,400	150	140,000	37,000				
13	Calif.	Grass Valley	10	Shepherd of the Hills	1	R. Waldschmidt	25	18	5	2				186	1		12	12	52	17										9,376	750						
14	Calif.	Irvine	10	Faith	1	G. Bork	72	65	23	1		2	2	567	1	3	3	50	52	60		11	21	4	25					79,188	11,771						
15	Calif.	Ventura-Fillmore	10	Wayfarers' Lutheran	1	J. Schmidt	72	64	20	3	1			492		6	3	38	104	48			10	18	4						55,873	4,600	225,000	47,000			
16	Fla.	Naples	1	Our Savior	1	D. Moldstad	161	132		3	1	2	8	1,371	1	4	15	48	78	98		15	15	4	15					150,000	5,300	800,000	55,000				
17	Fla.	Port St. Lucie	1	Christ	1	C. Keeler	138	107	18	14	1	2	12	649	1	1	11	40	52	73		30	20	5	33					39,342	2,051	288,000	253,033				
18	Fla.	Sebastian	1	Trinity	1	D. Lillegard	108	94	25	1		3	1	1,533	3	2	14	65	52	84		15	30	6						68,389	5,271	170,000	26,000				
19	Fla.	New Life	1	New Life	2	J. Willitz	24	19	7	3				242			3	60	52	45		9	13	3	8					18,796	5,000						
20	Fla.	Vero Beach	1	Grace	1	K. Smith	328	265	33	3	1	1	4	2,916	3	6	13	95	53	177		54	35	10	53			19		155,335	34,852	1,500,000	65,000				
21	Ga.	Kennesaw	1	Resurrection	1	W. Mack	57	43	15	1															14					26,000		200,000					
22	Ga.	Savannah	1	Christ	1	P. Jecklin	48	41	10			1	1	492			4	23	52	40		12	17	4						53,600		125,000					
23	Ill.	Chicago	4	Emmaus	1	C. Wosje	117	69	15	1				408			15	18	52	40		14	15	4	11					30,648		442,000					
24	Ill.	Chicago	4	St. Mark's	1	H. Behrens	30	30	10			1		233			2	19	52	21										12,300	1,860						
25	Ill.	Litchfield	2	Faith	2	W. Frick	78	46	16					160			7	52	12	75			41	28	6			6		9,421	410						
26	Ill.	Lombard	4	St. Timothy	1	P. Zager	213	152	16	6	1	3	4	1,188	4	3	16	47	52	85		36	15	6	48			21		89,265	15,611	869,000	147,442	12,973			
27	In.	Brownsburg	3	Godb Shepherd	1	H. Bartels	79	51	16	6			1	857	2		15	32	52	47		24	21	7	17			5		51,721	6,877	150,000	58,963	3,737			
28	Iowa	Annes	6	Bethany	1	Vacant	70	53	13																												
29	Iowa	Calmar	6	Trinity</																																	



# EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

## Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary

447 N. Division St.

Mankato, Minnesota 56001

Wilhelm Petersen, President

FOR CATALOG: WRITE TO REGISTRAR

## Bethany Lutheran College

734 Marsh St.

Mankato, Minnesota 56001



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Marvin G. Meyer, President

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\* \* \*

**RELIGIOUS PICTURES and GIFTS**

\* \* \*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL and VBS SUPPLIES\***

\* \* \*

**ALTAR-WARE and COMMUNION-WARE**

**LANCE SCHWARTZ, MANAGER**

HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00  
Saturday 10:00-2:00

TEL: (507) 388-3674

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