

# 77th Annual Convention of the E.L.S.



Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod



He  
Shall  
Come  
Again

**ESSAY:**

*Trial and Triumph:  
The Victory of the Believer*

**ESSAYIST:**

*J. Kincaid Smith*

BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE  
BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
MANKATO, MINNESOTA  
JUNE 19-23, 1994

**77th REPORT  
REGULAR CONVENTION**

**of the**

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**

**and the  
37th Annual Meeting of the**

**BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE  
CORPORATION**

Convention Theme:  
**“HE SHALL COME AGAIN”**

Essay:  
Trial and Triumph:  
The Victory of the Believer

Essayist:  
J. Kincaid Smith

**Compiled by  
Alf Merseeth, Secretary**

**Held at  
BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE  
BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
MANKATO, MINNESOTA 56001  
JUNE 19–23, 1994**

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## CONVENTION FOCUS

**HE  
SHALL COME  
AGAIN**

As the amazed disciples gazed heavenward, watching the ascending Jesus, God again (as He had done at the birth and the resurrection of His Son) sent His own personal messenger from heaven to announce another important event in the work of the Savior that He had sent. This event will be the final one. The angels said: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come as ye have seen Him go into heaven." Acts 1,11.

### HE SHALL COME AGAIN

Our Lord Himself promises us that and tells us how He will come again when He says: "For the Son of Man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels." Matthew 16, 27. He also tells us why He is coming again. In order to comfort His disciples Jesus says: "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14,2-3.

### HE SHALL COME AGAIN

He does not tell us when. He rather says: "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." "Watch, therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." Matthew 24,37 and 42. No, we do not know when He will appear the second time in the glory of eternity together with the holy angels. Though He does not tell us exactly when He is coming, yet He does not want us to be in doubt as to the fact. He concludes the Scriptures with that positive statement "Surely I come quickly. Amen." May we always be ready to respond "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

The second coming of our Lord which we confess when we say "He shall come again to judge the quick and the dead," was the topic treated by the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith in his convention essay entitled "**Trial and Triumph: The Victory of the Believer.**" The essay is printed in its entirety in these proceedings.

The Chaplain, the Rev. Klebe Brumble, and other devotional leaders also kept the thoughts of the assembled delegates, pastors and friends focused on the main theme of the convention:

### HE SHALL COME AGAIN

## THE CONVENTION DAY BY DAY

### SYNOD SUNDAY June 19, 1994

The 77th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 38th Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation began on Sunday June 19, 1994 with a worship service at 10:30 a.m. in the gymnasium-auditorium on the campus of Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, Minnesota. A good crowd assembled for the service.

The Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, Norseland, Minnesota, served as the liturgist and the Rev. Charles Keeler, Port St. Lucie, Florida brought the message. Prof. Dennis Marzolf was at the organ. Using 2 Corinthians 5,1-10 as his text, Pastor Keeler addressed the theme "Life Can Only Get Better." He reminded the assembly that we are traveling by tent to our home. Life here is only transitory and we are traveling always looking toward that which is better. Jesus has prepared the way through His suffering, death and blood and as long as we keep our eyes on Him we are on the right road. He also reminded the assembly that our heavenly home is wondrous. We are going to experience that wondrous home when our Lord comes again.

At 2:30 p.m. the assembly gathered for the GRADUATION EXERCISES FOR BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Prof. J. B. Madson, Mankato, Minnesota was the liturgist and the Rev. Gaylin Schmeling, Okauchee, Wisconsin was the speaker.

Using words from 1 Corinthians 4 as his text Pastor Schmeling addressed the thought "Our Attitude Toward the Preaching of the Gospel." He emphasized that the message we proclaim is really the faithfulness of Christ in preparing salvation for all sinners, ourselves included. Secondly he spoke of the faithfulness that our Lord requires of us as we proclaim that Gospel message to lost sinners.

President Petersen addressed the graduates briefly, expounding on Luther's thought that it is "Prayer, Meditation and Trials That Make the Theologian." The Rev. Raymond Branstad, chairman of the Board of Regents presented diplomas to Jon Bruss, Roger Holtz and James Krueger.

At 7:00 p.m. the assembly gathered in the gymnasium-auditorium for the GROUNDBREAKING FOR TRINITY CHAPEL.

The Rev. Harry Bartels served as liturgist, the Rev. Raymond Branstad was the speaker and Prof. J. B. Madson and Pres. G. Orvick were the groundbreaking officiants.

The Rev. Branstad, using Psalm 127,1 as his text, addressed the theme "We Break Ground to Build." He showed the need for additional building at Bethany because of the increasing enrollment. Above all, the building of a chapel will be very helpful in the spiritual growth of the students. We build for the worship life of the student body.

Concordia Publishing House presented the AQUILA AWARD, posthumously, to Marvin Schwan. His brothers Alfred and Robert Schwan were present to accept the award on behalf of the family.

Because of the inclement weather the groundbreaking was held inside. Participants in the groundbreaking were David Asleson and Ron Buelow, architects; the Rev. Larry Burgdorf, Director of Corporate Contributions, Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc.; Lee Carlstrom, contractor; Stan Christ, Mayor of Mankato; Anne Hanson, Bethany College Student Body President; Sigurd Lee, Chairman of Bethany Lutheran College Faculty; Mr. Joel Meyer, President Bethany Alumni Association; Mr. Marvin Meyer, President Bethany Lutheran College; and Mr. Alfred Schwan, Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc.



**Trinity Chapel Groundbreaking**

**MONDAY June 20, 1994**



**Convention in Session**

The first working day of the 77th convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod opened with a devotion by Convention Chaplain, the Rev. Klebe Brumble, Richardson, Texas.

After the assembly sang "O'er the Distant Mountains Breaking, Comes the Redd'ning Dawn of Day," Chaplain Brumble used Acts 1,11 as his text and reminded the assembly that the Lord shall return. On that day there shall be two reactions among men; one of joy and one of profound fear. We, by God's grace, need not fear because it is "this Jesus" who shall return. "This Jesus" who died and rose and ascended shall return for us. This will be a time of joy when He returns again.

After President Orvick welcomed the pastors, delegates and visitors to the convention, Secretary Merseth called the roll to which 77 permanent voting members and 44 permanent advisory members either responded or were present by the end of the first working day.

The Credentials Committee represented by T. Kuster recommended the seating of 112 delegates who had been certified by the congregations. The assembly resolved that these be seated as voting members of this convention and President Orvick declared the 77th convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 38th 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.

President Orvick read his message to the convention in which He emphasized that the members of the synod must 1. WATCH DILIGENTLY, 2. WORK TIRELESSLY, and 3. WORSHIP JOYOUSLY.

President Orvick made some additions to his report, the convention began the election of its working committees and the chaplain closed the morning session with a reading from the ELS Catechism and the assembly prayed the Lord's Prayer.

The Monday afternoon devotion was conducted by the Rev. H. Mosley, Lakewood, Washington. The assembly sang "Jerusalem the Golden." Pastor Mosley read Revelation 21,1-8, led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

The convention completed electing its working committees, adopted the convention program, assigned the work and recessed so that the working committees could have time to prepare resolutions for the convention's consideration.

## **TUESDAY June 21, 1994**

To open the session on Tuesday morning the assembly sang "Wake, Awake for Night is Flying."

After some preliminaries the convention considered the report of its Synodical Membership Committee. Six pastors and two congregations were received into membership in the synod.



**Receiving New Members**



**Fitness Facility Cornerstone Laying**

The convention elected its president. Of 14 nominees, George Orvick received a substantial majority on the 1st ballot and the secretary declared that George Orvick is elected president of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for a term of four years.

The convention enjoyed a presentation by the Board for Home Missions in which the mission in Gresham, Oregon, Saved by Grace Lutheran Church, was featured by slides shown and explained by its pastor, N. Krause.

At this time a special service for the CORNERSTONE LAYING OF THE SPORTS AND FITNESS CENTER was conducted by the Rev. Kenneth Schmidt, West Bend, Wisconsin. Using Psalm 126,3 as his text Pastor Schmidt addressed the theme "The Lord Has Done Great Things for Us."

The cornerstone laying rite was done by President Orvick.

The Tuesday afternoon devotion was conducted by the Rev. P. Zager. The assembly sang "Hallelujah, Let Praises Ring." Pastor Zager read Revelation 19,1-9, led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

The convention elected its vice president. There were 21 nominees. The Rev. Glenn Obenberger received a majority on the 4th election ballot and the president declared Glenn Obenberger elected Vice President of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for a term of four years.

The convention heard a presentation by the Board for Foreign Missions.

The convention began consideration of the report of its Miscellaneous Committee.

Chaplain Brumble closed the session with a reading from the ELS Catechism. He led the assembly in prayer.

## **WEDNESDAY June 22, 1994**

The Wednesday morning devotion was conducted by the Rev. John Petersen, Madison, Wisconsin.

The assembly sang "See the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph." Pastor Petersen used Luke 21,27 as his text and reminded the assembly that the glory of Christ's return on the last day will be frightening for those who have rejected the Gospel. However, His sacrifice and His promises should cause believers to look forward joyfully to the Savior's glorious return. He led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

The Rev. J. Kincaid Smith was introduced and began reading his essay entitled "Trial and Triumph: The Victory of the Believer." Time was allowed for discussion.

After the coffee break the assembly heard a presentation by the 75th Anniversary Thankoffering Committee.

The convention completed the consideration of the report of its Finance Committee as well as a report from a joint meeting of its Finance Committee and its Higher Education Committee.

The chaplain closed the session by leading the assembly in the confession of the Apostles Creed.

The Wednesday afternoon session opened with the singing of "Come Thou Almighty King."

The President of the WELS, Karl Gurgel, was introduced and addressed the convention. He thanked us for the fellowship we enjoy and reminded us of five things we must continue doing: 1) Hold fast to the teachings of the Word; 2) Reach out with the life-line of the Gospel; 3) Remember that all sinners have need of the Means of Grace; 4) Use all resources at our command to spread the Gospel; 5) Work hard at Christian education to train workers for the future.

The convention completed the consideration of the report of its Committee on Home Missions and began consideration of the report of its Doctrine Committee.

A special service was held honoring the Rev. Richard Newgard on the 40th Anniversary of his ordination. Prof. Glenn Reichwald used 2 Timothy 4,7 as his text and addressed the theme "Paul's Measure of His Ministry."

After the coffee break the convention elected the Nominations Committee for the 1995 convention and completed consideration of the report of its Evangelism Committee and its Publications Committee.



**The Rev. Richard Newgard**

The chaplain led the assembly in prayer.

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

## **THURSDAY June 23, 1994**

The Thursday morning devotion was conducted by the Rev. Mark DeGarmeaux, Lawler, Iowa.

The assembly sang "Jesus Thy Blood and Righteousness." Pastor DeGarmeaux used Romans 8,1 as his text. He shall come in judgment. Christians struggle against sin every day. Our sin would condemn us before God's judgment. In Christ, God forgives us all our sins so that "there is now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus." With joy and certainty Christians look forward to Judgment Day as the day that Christ brings us into eternal bliss.

He led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

After some preliminaries the Rev. J. K. Smith was introduced and completed the reading of his essay. The assembly sang "Lord Jesus Christ with Us Abide." Ample time was allowed for discussion.

After coffee break the convention finished its consideration of the report of its Miscellaneous Committee.

Announcements were made and the chaplain closed the session with prayer.

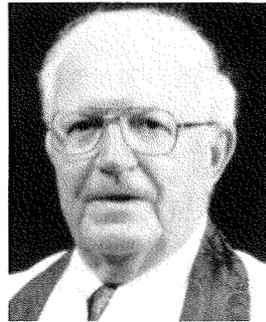
To open the Thursday afternoon session the assembly sang "Jesus Thy Church with Longing Eyes, For Thine Expected Coming Awaits."

R. Kovaciny, missionary in Ukraine, spoke briefly on behalf of "Thoughts of Faith."

A Memorial Service for Pastors Norman Harstad and Neelak Tjernagel was conducted by Prof. Erling Teigen. The assembly sang "When My Last Hour is Close at Hand." Prof. Teigen used John 5,24-30 as his text and addressed himself to the opening phrase of that hymn: "When My Last Hour is Close at Hand."



**The Rev. Neelak Tjernagel**



**The Rev. Norman Harstad**

The assembly sang “Since Thou the Power of Death Didst Rend, In Death Thou Will Not Leave Me.” Prof. Teigen led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

After coffee break the convention completed its work by completing consideration of the reports of its Foreign Mission Committee, its Higher Education Committee, its Education and Youth Committee, its Pastoral Conference Records Committee, its President’s Message and Report Committee, its Christian Service Committee, its Resolutions Committee and its Credentials Committee.

The RESOLUTION to adjourn was adopted at 5:02 p.m. on June 23, 1994 and President Orvick declared the 77th convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 38th 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.

Chaplain Klebe Brumble closed the convention by reading Revelation 7,9-16. The assembly sang “Behold a Host Arrayed in White.” Chaplain Brumble led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the Benediction.

Alf Merseth, secretary

# ROLL CALL

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

Present at this convention:

H. Abrahamson, K. Anderson, H. Bartels, M. Bartels, G. Bork, J. Braun, K. Brumble, J. Carter, R. Dale, J. Dalke, M. DeGarmeaux, K. Dethlefsen, M. Doepel, J. Dukleth, E. Ekhooff, M. Ernst, D. Faugstad, R. Fehr, C. Ferkenstad, F. Fiedler III, T. Fox, W. Frick, R. Fyffe, H. Gieschen, T. Gullixson, W. Halvorson, G. Haugen, B. Homan, D. Hoyord, H. Huhnerkock, B. Huehn, C. Keeler, J. Korthals, N. Krause, M. Krentz, F. Lams, D. Larson, R. Lawson, P. Lehmann, D. Lillegard, W. Mack, Jonathan Madson, M. Madson, N. Madson, P. Madson, M. Marozick, K. Mellon, A. Merseth, D. Meyer, D. Moldstad, J. Moldstad, Sr., H. Mosley, D. Nelson, R. Nepsund, R. Newgard, G. Obenberger, John Petersen, S. Petersen, T. Rank, G. Reichwald, A. Ring, J. Ruppel, D. Sabrowsky, S. Sheiderer, D. Schlicht, G. Schmeling, D. Schmidt, K. Schmidt, P. Schneider, T. Skaaland, J. Smith, J. K. Smith, K. Smith, M. Teigen, F. Theiste, R. Tragasz, K. Uhlenbrauck, H. Vetter, D. Webber, J. Willitz, M. Wold, C. Wosje, R. Wuebben, P. Zager.

Absent:

D. Bakke, H. Behrens, E. Bryant, J. Burkhardt, H. Larson, J. Larson, W. Neumann, J. Schmidt, M. Schwark, V. Settje, F. Stubenvoll, R. Waldschmidt.

## PERMANENT MEMBERS ACCEPTED AT THIS CONVENTION:

Present:

K. Dethlefsen, J. Korthals, F. Lams, M. Thompson, J. Wuebben.

Absent:

M. Schwark

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

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

Present: T. Bartels, D. Basel, R. Kovaciny, S. Sparley, L. Vinton

Absent: T. Erickson, D. Haeuser, J. Krikava, M. Luttmann, D. McMiller, J. Olsen, D. Schroeder, J. Shep

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

Present: P. Anderson, W. Larson, N. Merseth, G. Orvick, M. Smith, M. Thompson

Absent: T. Aaberg, R. Becker, R. Carter, J. Krueger, C. Sieloff

### 3. PASTORS AND PROFESSORS EMERITI:

Present: R. Branstad, E. Buhr, G. Guldberg, W. Gullixson, N. Holte, A. Kuster, P. Lehenbauer, W. McMurdie, Joseph Petersen, P. Petersen, F. Schmugge, E. Stubenvoll, B. Teigen, O. Trebelhorn, M. Tweit

Absent: L. Gerbhardt, D. McElwain, C. Rusch, A. Schmitt, A. Wagner

### 4. PROFESSORS:

Present: A. Harstad, M. Harstad, R. Honsey, W. Kessel, T. Kuster, J. B. Madson, D. Marzolf, D. Metzger, M. Meyer, J. Moldstad, Jr., W. Petersen, S. Reagles, E. Teigen, D. Thompson, R. Wiechmann

Absent: S. Lee

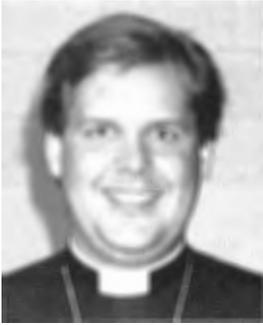
### 5. TEACHERS:

Present: Leonard Engel, Donald Hahnke, Curtis Mantey, Larry Rude, James Schneck, Doug Stellick

Absent: Steven Beilke, Silas Born, David Doelger, Daniel Madson, Timothy Pietsch

## CONGREGATIONS ADMITTED INTO MEMBERSHIP

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lake Station, Indiana  
Ascension Lutheran Church, St. Helens, Oregon



**The Rev. Kent Dethlefsen**



**The Rev. James Korthals**



**The Rev. Frederic Lams**

**The Rev. Melvin Schwark  
Photo Not Available**



**The Rev. Matthew Thompson**



**The Rev. James Wuebben**

## 1994 REPRESENTATIVES ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

Pastor	Address	Congregation	Delegates
H. Abrahamson	Ulen, MN	Calvary	Loren Larson Lyle Manthe
Karl Anderson	The Dalles, OR	Bethany	Maurice Sholl
H. Bartels	Brownsburg, IN	Good Shepherd	Robert Schneider Charles Long
H. Behrens	Chicago, IL	St. Mark's	
G. Bork	Irvine, CA	Faith	William McMurdie Wayne Kropa
J. Braun	Klamath Falls, OR	Christ	Dale Hauck
K. Brumble	Richardson, TX	Good Shepherd	Charles Fiedler Christopher Foret
E. Bryant	Port Orchard, WA	Bethany	Robert Winslow Curtis Mantey
J. Burkhardt	Hillsboro	Grace	Ewald Kohlmeyer Lavern Martin
J. Carter	Yelm, WA	Redeemer	Doug Stellick John Anderson
R. Dale	Naples, FL	Our Savior	William Stopps Richard Zielske
J. Dalke	Mt. Vernon, WA	St. Luke	Daniel Malsch Gary Meyer
M. DeGarmeaux	Lawler, IA	Saude	Allen Borlaug Rev. Milton Tweet
	New Hampton, IA	Jerico	John Costello Lawrence Olson
K. Dethlefsen	Thornton, IA	Richland	Luther Younge Herman Oelkers
M. Doepel	Audubon, MN	Immanuel	Paul Miller Leslie Just
J. Dukleth	Luverne, MN	Bethany	Cleo Kjenslee Arthur Anderson
	Jasper	Rose Dell Trinity	Holger Ausen
E. Ekhoﬀ	Golden Valley, MN	King of Grace	Odean Olsen Norman Werner
M. Ernst	Jefferson City, MO	Peace	Oscar Gemeinhardt
D. Faugstad	Oklee, MN	Oak Park	Lonny Burrack
	Trail, MN	Nazareth	Randall Mostrom
R. Fehr	Princeton, MN	Our Saviors	Lambert Beckers Robert Soule
C. Ferkenstad	Gaylord, MN	Norwegian Grove	Howard Hanson Arne Schmidt
	St. Peter, MN	Norseland	Harold Rodning Darwin Gunderson
			Duane Olmanson (Alt.)
F. Fiedler	Myrtle Creek	St. Matthew	George Wyckhuysen Harvey Ringen
			F. Fiedler IV
T. Fox	Sutherlin, OR	Christ	
W. Frick	Burlington, MA	Pinewood	
	Litchfield	Faith	Richard Wallner Don Hutchinson
R. Fyffe	Weston, OH	Grace	
H. Gieschen	Alpena, MI	Faith	Curtis Backlund
	Hillman, MI	Faith	Marlin Goebel

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Delegates</b>
T. Gullixson	Escondido, CA	St. Paul	Karl Geise Leonard Geise
W. Halvorson	Albert Lea, MN	Our Savior's	Ben Anderson Alton Krikava (Alt.) Leonard Hage
G. Haugen	Waterloo, IA	Pilgrim	Glenn Frederick Marlow Bergeson
R. Holtz	Bloomer, WI	Good Shepherd	Eugene Lueck Gary Bergstrom
B. Homan D. Hoyord	Madison, WI Apple Valley, MN	Our Saviour's Heritage	Robert Edwards William Overn Emmett Norell
B. Huehn H. Huhnerkock	Ashland, WI Lake Havasu City, AZ	First English Our Saviour's	Arnold Meyer Howard Engelbrecht
C. Keeler J. Korthals J. Krueger N. Krause M. Krentz F. Lams	Port St. Lucie, FL Oregon, WI Eau Claire, WI Gresham, OR Holton, MI Lake Station, IN	Christ Faith Ascension Saved by Grace Holton Grace	Sherman Orvick Larry Otto Robert Gove Curtis Watters Lloyd Ahlbrand Harold Guetzlaff
D. Larson H. Larson	Parkersburg, IA Wisconsin Dells, WI Portage, WI	Faith Newport St. Paul's	
J. Larson R. Lawson P. Lehman D. Lillegard	Hood River, OR Princeton, MN Bell Gardens, CA Sebastian, FL	Concordia Bethany Christ the King Trinity	Victor Settje, Sr. Glen Hanson Robert Williams Fritz Reichert
Jeff Longren (WELS) W. Mack Jonathan Madson	E. Jordan, MI Lakeland, FL Kissimmee, FL	Faith Peace Peace	Richard Maginnis Dan Barger Herb Berg
M. Madson N. Madson	Warroad, MN Tracy, MN	Bethlehem Zion	David Mix Merlyn Hayes
P. Madson	Waterville, IA Waukon, IA	East Paint Creek West Paint Creek	
M. Marozick	Calmar, IA New Hampton, IA	Trinity Redeemer	
K. Mellon	Lakeland, FL	Our Savior	Phil Griffith Matthew Thompson
A. Merseth	Lake Mills, IA	Lake Mills Lime Creek	Leighton Humphrey Robert Okland Paul Dahle Lars Petersen
	Northwood, IA	First Shell Rock Somber	Douglas Carnes Albin Levorson Reuben Holt Marvin Gronwoldt, Sr.
D. Meyer J. Moldstad, Sr. H. Mosley	Riceville, IA Ames, IA Cottage Grove, WI Tacoma, WA	Immanuel Bethany W. Koshkonong Lakewood	Allen Wollenzien Bryan Schmauder

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Delegates</b>
D. Nelson R. Nepsund	Fertile, MN San Antonio, TX	First Evanger Faith	Ron Peterson Jerome Germander Larry Morphey
W. Newmann R. Newgard	Amherst Junction, WI Mankato, MN	Our Savior's Mt. Olive	Roger Holtz Norman Holte Allen Daniels Ron Jensem
G. Obenberger	Tacoma, WA	Parkland	Donald Peterson Rev. A. V. Kuster (Alt.) Edward Schneider Eugene Schiller Norman Marozick
John Petersen	Madison, WI	Grace	Clemens Bredeson Gordon Anderson Arthur Peterson Conrad Faugstad
S. Petersen	Madison, WI	Holy Cross	
T. Rank	Scarville, IA	Center  Scarville	James Gill
J. Ruppel D. Sabrowsky R. Sawall	Grants Pass, OR Windsor, CA Clintonville, WI Shawano	Our Savior Christ St. Paul St. Martin	Arlen Dethlefsen
S. Scheiderer D. Schlicht	Bishop, CA Forest City, IA Thompson, IA	Our Savior Forest Zion	Robert Brown Jon Bruss Leslie Nelson Donald Jordahl Arvil Bartness (Alt.)
G. Schmeling	Okauchee, WI	Holy Trinity	
D. Schmidt	Hartland, WI	Hartland	
K. Schmidt	Manchester, MI West Bend, WI	Manchester Trinity	Ralph Seidensticker Ellsworth Butt Charles Beech Thomas Russell Al Holman Ed Beiswenger
P. Schneider	Midland, MI	Holy Scripture	
V. Settje	E. Grand Forks, MN	River Heights	
T. Skaaland J. Smith J. K. Smith K. Smith	Elderon, WI Cottonwood, MI Saginaw, MI Vero Beach, FL	Our Savior's English Gloria Dei Grace	Donald Haas A. Herbert Weimann Michael Holmes
M. K. Smith F. Stubenvoll F. Theiste	Marinette, WI Eau Claire, WI	First Trinity Concordia	Gary Peterson Cliff Raether
R. Tragasz	Cape Girardeau Piedmont	Scriptural Grace	
K. Uhlenbrauck H. Vetter R. Waldschmidt D. J. Webber	Suttons Bay, MI Iola, WI Cedar Ridge, CA Brewster, MA	First Lutheran Redeemer Shepherd of the Hills Trinity	Lee Allington John Mikels Clifford Lloyd Paul T. Chamberlin
J. Willitz M. Wold	Sebring, FL Bagley, MN  Lengby, MN	New Life Our Savior's  St. Paul	John Merseth George Sickmann Luverne Lomen

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Delegates</b>
C. Wosje	Fort Mojave, AZ	Family of God	Arthur Dietz David Fisk
J. Wuebben P. Zager	Eau Claire, WI Lombard, IL	Pinehurst St. Timothy	Dan Jacobson Jeffrey Punzel Norm Fritz
Vacancies:	Chicago, IL	Emmaus	John Baggett William Flenor

**CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Credentials Committee Report of  
Excuses**

*WHEREAS, Excuses for absence from the 1994 Synod Convention have been received from the following: Pinewood Lutheran Delegates, H. Larson, J. Larson, D. Bakke, C. Sieloff, J. Burkhardt, R. Waldschmidt,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

**Resolution No. 2: Excuses**

*WHEREAS, Excuses for late arrival have been received from D. Faugstad, H. Huhnerkoch,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

**Resolution No. 3: Excuses**

*WHEREAS, Excuses for early departure from the 1994 Synod Convention have been received from the following: A. Bartness, L. Nelson, G. Schiller, B. Edwards, J. Wuebben, M. Krentz, K. Uhlenbrauck, R. Tragasz, V. Settje, P. Zager, N. Merseth, L. Vinton, H. Vetter, T. Skaaland,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

## CONVENTION COMMITTEES

### 1. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND REPORT

**Pastors:** W. Halvorson, C. Wosje, C. Ferkenstad

**Delegates:** Marlin Goebel (Faith, Hillman), Gary Peterson (Concordia, Eau Claire), William Overn (Heritage, Apple Valley)

### 2. NOMINATIONS—(Elected at the 1993 Convention)

**Pastors:** J. Moldstad, Jr., M. Smith, A. Harstad, K. Brumble

**Delegates:** E. Geistfeld, J. Mikels, C. Fiedler, W. Overn

### 3. CREDENTIALS

**Pastors:** G. Reichwald, D. Hoyord, T. Kuster

**Delegates:** Paul Chamberlin (Trinity, Brewster), Norman Holte (Mt. Olive, Mankato), Howard Hanson (Norwegian Grove)

### 4. PROGRAM

**Pastors:** C. Ferkenstad, T. Fox

### 5. PUBLIC PRESS AND CONVENTION SENTINEL

**Pastors:** D. Thompson, A. Ring

### 6. DOCTRINE

**Pastors:** D. Sabrowsky, P. Petersen, D. Moldstad, M. Bartels, M. DeGarmeaux, M. Tweit, G. Bork, H. Huhnkerkoch, Jon Madson, M. Smith

**Delegates:** Lee Allington (First, Suttons Bay), Charles Beeck (Holy Scripture), Conrad Faugstad (Scarville), Norman Fritz (St. Timothy, Lombard), Don Peterson (Grace, Madison), Jerome Gernander (Faith, San Antonio), Les Just (Immanuel, Audubon), Harold Rodning (Norseland), Robert Brown (Holy Trinity, Okauchee), Ralph Seidensticker (Trinity, West Bend), Robert Schneider (Good Shepherd, Brownsburg), Jim Gill (Bishop, CA)

### 7. HOME MISSIONS

**Pastors:** R. Wiechmann, M. Doepel, H. Abrahamson, W. Halvorson, P. Lehenbaur, T. Gullixson, J. Schmidt, D. Faugstad, A. Harstad, J. Wuebben

**Delegates:** Glen Frederick (Pilgrim, Waterloo), Robert Okland (Lake Mills), Arthur Anderson (Bethany, Luverne), Gordon Anderson (Center), William Flenor (Emmaus, Chicago), Harold Guetzlaff (Faith, Parkersburg), Paul Miller (Immanuel, Audubon), Larry Rude (Parkland), Lloyd Ahlbrand (Grace, Lake Station, IN), Glenn Hanson (Bethany, Princeton), Clifford Lloyd (Trinity, Brewster), Wayne Kropa (Faith, Irvine), Robert Soule (Our Savior's, Princeton), Eugene Lueck (Good Shepherd, Bloomer)

### 8. FOREIGN MISSIONS

**Pastors:** D. Basel, E. Ekhoﬀ, J. Dukleth, M. Krentz, A. Kuster, E. Teigen, J. Larson, J. Dalke, R. Fehr, M. Harstad

**Delegates:** Doug Carnes (First Shell Rock), Albin Levorson (Somber), Holgar Aussen (Rose Dell Trinity), Merlyn Hayes (Zion, Tracy), Al Holman (River Heights), Herman Oelkers (Richland, Thornton), Karl Geise (St. Paul's Escondido), Dan Jacobson (Pinehurst), Richard McGinnis (Peace, South Lakeland)

### 9. EVANGELISM

**Pastors:** K. Brumble, R. Kovaciny, S. Scheiderer, M. Teigen, K. Uhlenbrauck, M. Madson, M. Ernst, S. Sparley

**Delegates:** Phil Griffith (Our Savior, Lakeland), Jeff Knickmeier, Western Koshkonong), George Sickmann (Our Savior's, Bagley), Marlin Goebel (Faith, Hillman), Frank Fiedler IV (Christ, Sutherland), Maurice Schall (Bethany, The Dalles), Ron Pederson (First Evanger, Fertile)

## 10. HIGHER EDUCATION

**Pastors:** S. Petersen, P. Anderson, H. Bartels, F. Theiste, K. Smith, R. Tragasz, D. Webber, W. Larson, W. Gullixson, T. Bartels, F. Lams, H. Mosley, J. Wuebben

**Delegates:** Cleo Kjenslee (Bethany, Luverne), Curt Mantey (Bethany, Port Orchard), Norman Holte (Mt. Olive, Mankato), John Mikels (Redeemer, Iola), John Bruss (Holy Trinity, Okauchee), John Merseth (Our Savior's, Bagley), Robert Williams (Trinity, Sebastian), Arthur Dietz (Family of God, Ft. Mojave), Curtis Backlund (Faith, Alpena), Eugene Schiller (Holy Cross, Madison), Al Wollenzien (Western Koshkonong), Leonard Geise (St. Paul, Escondido), Arlen Dethlefsen (Christ, Windsor)

## 11. EDUCATION AND YOUTH

**Pastors:** R. Branstad, J. Smith, T. Skaaland, D. Schlicht, K. Mellon, D. Metzger, H. Gieschen, G. Haugen, D. Marzolf, W. McMurdie

**Delegates:** Ed Beiswenger (River Heights), Leighton Humphrey (Lake Mills), Paul Dahle (Lime Creek), Tom Russell (Holy Scripture, Midland), Christopher Foret (Good Shepherd, Richardson), Bob Gove (Saved by Grace, Gresham), Don Hutchinson (Faith, Litchfield), David Fisk (Family of God, Ft. Mojave), Charles Long (Good Shepherd, Brownsburg), Matthew Thompson (Our Savior, Lakeland), Larry Otto (Ascension, Eau Claire)

## 12. FINANCES

**Pastors:** N. Madson, C. Keeler, W. Kessel, R. Newgard, H. Mosley, D. Meyer, H. Larson, W. Frick, R. Fyffe, T. Kuster, K. Anderson

**Delegates:** Ewald Kohlmeyer (Grace, Hillsboro), Marlowe Bergeson (Pilgrim, Waterloo), Allen Borlaug (Saude), John Baggett (Emmaus, Chicago), Howard Engelbrecht (Our Savior, Lake Havasu City), Larry Morphey (Faith, San Antonio), Richard Wallner (Faith, Litchfield), Fritz Reichert (Trinity, Sebastian), Cliff Raether (Concordia, Eau Claire), Gary Meyer (St. Luke, Mt. Vernon), Lyle Manthe (Calvary, Ulen), Sherman Orvick (Faith, Oregon), Bud Winslow (Bethany, Port Orchard), Lonnie Burrack (Oak Park), Curtis Watters (Grace, Lake Station, Indiana)

## 13. MISCELLANEOUS

**Pastors:** P. Zager, D. Hoyord, J. Willitz, T. Rank, C. Ferkenstad, J. K. Smith, K. Schmidt, R. Dale, N. Krause, G. Reichwald, C. Wosje, G. Schmeling, M. Wold, T. Fox

**Delegates:** Lars Petersen (Lime Creek), Marvin Gronwoldt, Sr. (Immanuel, Riceville), Allen Daniels (Parkland), Charles Fiedler (Good Shepherd, Richardson), David Mix (Zion, Tracy), John Costello (Jerico), Edward Schneider (Grace, Madison), Norman Werner (King of Grace, Golden Valley), Dale Hauck (Christ, Klamath Falls), Mike Holmes (Grace, Vero Beach), Emmett Norell (Heritage, Apple Valley), Ben Anderson (Our Savior's, Albert Lea), Darwin Gunderson (Norseland), Robert Edwards (Our Savior's, Madison), Ellsworth Butt (Trinity, West Bend), Loren Larson (Calvary, Ulen), Norman Marozick (Holy Cross, Madison), Gary Bergstrom (Good Shepherd, Bloomer)

## 14. SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP

**Pastors:** W. W. Petersen, M. Marozick, S. Reagles, D. Schmidt, E. Stubenvoll, G. Guldberg

**Delegates:** Clemens Bredeson (Center), Donald Haas (Gloria Dei, Saginaw), Luther Younge (Richland, Thornton), Leonard Hage (Our Savior's, Albert Lea), Bill Stopps (Our Savior, Naples)

## 15. PUBLICATIONS

**Pastors:** D. Nelson, A. Ring, J. Ruppel, D. Thompson, L. Vinton, Joseph Petersen, J. Carter, R. Lawson, F. Fiedler, B. Teigen

**Delegates:** Reuben Holt (Somber), Lavern Martin (Grace, Hillsboro), Don Anderson (Saude), Ron Jensema (Parkland), LuVerne Lomen (St. Paul,

Lengby), Harvey Ringen (St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek), Herb Berg (Peace, Kissimmee), Gary Peterson (Concordia, Eau Claire), Arvid Bartness (Hartland), Lambert Beckers (Our Savior's, Princeton)

16. WORSHIP

**Pastors:** G. Obenberger, J. Braun, P. Schneider, H. Vetter, J. Moldstad, Sr., N. Merseth, P. Lehmann, J. B. Madson, E. Buhr

**Delegates:** Jeffrey Punzel (St. Timothy, Lombard), Arnold Schmidt (Norwegian Grove), Herbert Weiman (Grace, Vero Beach), George Wyckhuyse (St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek), Doug Stellick (Redeemer, Yelm), Les Nelson (Hartland), Dick Zielske (Our Savior, Naples), Paul Chamberlin (Trinity, Brewster), Randy Mostrom (Nazareth)

17. CHRISTIAN SERVICE

**Pastors:** John Petersen, R. Nepsund, D. Lillegard, W. Mack, B. Homan, D. Larson, P. Madson

**Delegates:** Art Pederson (Scarville), Odean Olsen (King of Grace, Golden Valley), Lawrence Olson (Jerico), Roger Holtz (Mt. Olive, Mankato), Brian Schmauder (Lakewood), Howard Hanson (Norwegian Grove), Dan Barger (Peace, Kissimmee), John Anderson (Redeemer, Yelm), Daniel Malsch (St. Luke, Mt. Vernon), Leroy Meyer (St. Timothy, Lombard)

18. MINUTES

**Pastors:** D. Meyer, R. Fyffe

**Delegates:** Doug Stellick (Redeemer, Yelm), Roger Holtz (Mt. Olive, Mankato)

19. PASTORAL CONFERENCE RECORDS

**Pastors:** F. Schmugge, W. McMurdie, B. Huehn, J. Krueger

20. RESOLUTIONS

**Pastors:** W. Gullixson, O. Trebelhorn, P. Petersen, R. Honsey

21. TELLERS

**Pastors:** K. Dethlefsen, D. Larson, K. Uhlenbrauck

**Candidates:** R. Holtz, J. Krueger, J. Bruss

22. CHAPLAIN

**Pastor:** K. Brumble

23. HEAD USHER

**Pastor:** R. Holtz

24. PARLIAMENTARIAN

**Pastor:** M. Tweit

25. ORGANISTS

**Pastors:** M. DeGarmeaux, P. Zager, E. Buhr

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

Our 75th anniversary has come and gone. It is now part of our history. We expressed our gratitude to the Lord for all His loving kindness throughout those years. He blessed that little group of congregations and pastors that gathered at Lime Creek in 1918. He preserved us through many a difficult crisis. He kept us faithful to the truth of His Word and caused our work to prosper. We have traced His merciful providence from the Oaks at Koshkonong to the humble reorganization at Lime Creek, to the present day stability which we continue to enjoy. But now it is time to turn our thoughts to the future. What is our mission in the next quarter of a century in which we are now living and working? What kind of conditions and attitudes are the youth of our day facing? What are the problems that confront pastors, teachers and congregations as they labor faithfully with Word and Sacrament to keep people in the faith, to preserve family life, to help those who have fallen prey to the old evil foe? What shall the church do in these last days to carry out the will of our Lord and Savior?

Permit me therefore on the occasion of the 77th annual meeting of our beloved synod to address these issues under the three headings: WATCH DILIGENTLY, WORK TIRELESSLY, and WORSHIP JOYOUSLY.

### WATCH DILIGENTLY

If there is any admonition that is repeated again and again in the Holy Scriptures it is that we are to be "watchful." In both the Old and New Testaments the Lord urges his people to be aware of what is going on around them. All pastors are familiar with the words of the Prophet Ezekiel, "So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me." (Ezekiel 33,7) But the admonition to be watchful is addressed to all Christians. The Lord Jesus tells us, "Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching." (Luke 12,37) The Apostle Paul likewise encourages us, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men." (I Cor. 16,13) And again, in the Revelation of St. John we read, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things that remain." (Rev. 3,2)

What, then shall we be watching for? The answer: anything that threatens to endanger our souls or those of our children, or those of our congregation. We need to be aware of the signs of the times. The Apostle Paul tells us what we can expect in these last days. He writes, "In the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God." (II Tim. 3,1-4)

Even the secular world is beginning to become alarmed over the steady decline in morality in our country. The increase in crime, drug abuse, rape, murder, divorce, drive-by shootings, etc. has finally begun to make an impression upon the public that we face a major moral crisis. The cover of the June 13th issue of *Newsweek* states in bold letters, "VIRTUE: THE CRUSADE AGAINST AMERICA'S MORAL DECLINE." The article states, "The fraying of America's social fabric—once considered the preoccupation of the cultural right—has become a national obsession." The sad factor in all of this is that many of our country's leaders are setting such terrible examples of morality in their own lives. People in high places in the government have by their own misdeeds contributed to the decline. Open advocates of abortion occupy powerful positions

that open the door for the continued slaughter of the defenseless, unborn children. Dishonest crooks in congress bleed the nation's treasury. And a wide range of radical rationalists rally one segment of the populace against another, women against men, homosexuals against straights, children against parents and teachers, and, says *Newsweek*, "I remember Mama has been replaced by Madonna music videos."

On the world scene the cold war and the threat of nuclear holocaust has been replaced by bloody ethnic conflicts across the entire globe. The role of our country has become even more difficult to determine in this age when freedom has triumphed over the slavery of communism. As we have celebrated the 50th anniversary of D-Day we are reminded of the deep debt of gratitude that we owe to those brave men who landed at Normandy and who fought on other battlefields around the world for the cause of freedom.

As Christians, however, we should not be surprised as we see the world in disarray and the forces of evil seemingly gaining ground. The Lord has warned us very clearly in the Holy Scriptures that such days shall come. The Lord Jesus told His disciples that "nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places." (Matt. 24,7) And the Savior continues, "As the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be." (Matt. 24,37)

What are all of these phenomena that we see being fulfilled every day all around us? We call them the "signs of the times." They are reminders that the world we live in is going to come to an end. All of these things happen because our first parents fell into sin and rebelled against God. That fall resulted in the corruption of every human heart and all of the decadence of this world today has come to pass on account of that one reason: Sin. Yes, these events in today's world are strong reminders that the end of this world cannot be far off. The Lord Jesus tells us, "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the good man of the house had known in what a watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." (Matt. 24,42-44)

Another sign of the approaching day of judgment can be seen in Satan's attacks upon the very foundation of our faith, the Word of God. Again the Lord says, "And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many." (Matt. 24,11) Sad to say, we see the Holy Scriptures being undermined continually even in Lutheran churches. When the merger of three Lutheran church bodies took place in 1988 the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was formed. Some within that body realized that their seminaries openly deny that the Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God and proclaim teachings that subvert the fundamental articles of our faith. Some therefore left ELCA and formed a new body known as the American Association of Lutheran Churches. But this new body, which has gained a substantial number of congregations, has made room for charismatics, millennialists, and synergists demonstrating the old ALC principle that there "exists an area where there is a wholesome and allowable latitude of theological opinion." The new body is now in the process of trying to establish its own seminary. A letter from a concerned leader in the AALC asks my opinion of the view of the historicity of Jonah held by a prospective seminary professor. Among other things the professor wrote, "should we necessarily insist upon confessing the historicity of Jonah? I have no difficulty believing that the story could be historical but I do have difficulty insisting that it must be confessed as historical because Scripture teaches it to be so." He goes on to write, "When we say that the Bible is accurate in all that it reports relative to history we mean something other than 'literal verbal accuracy.' Rather, we mean something that could perhaps be designated as 'accuracy of the intended message.'" My reply to the inquiring pastor was: "The views expressed by your enclosed material indicate that the person holding such views is clearly committed to the historical

critical approach to the scriptures. He questions the historicity of Jonah which our Lord himself spoke of as being historical fact and comes with the old liberal interpretation that the Bible need not be taken literally but rather one should search for its 'intended message.' Such an approach to scripture results in the undermining of the entire foundation of Christian doctrine. A person holding such views would not be allowed to teach in our seminary nor be a member of our clergy."

This is just one example of how Satan never gives up. A group may try to form a new church body faithful to the Word but if the old errors are not totally ruled out from the very beginning they are at first tolerated, then embraced and then confessed.

But what about our own church body? Does the fact that the Lord has preserved us for the first seventy-five years of our history assure us that our future is secure and that we have no need to be watchful. Indeed not! To warn us against a false sense of security the Apostle Paul comes with the terse admonition, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." (I Cor. 10,12) If the old evil foe does not gain entrance by one door he keeps on trying to find another. Therefore the Bible tells us, "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Eph. 6,11) It would indeed be tragic if after 75 years of blessing the devil could gain a foothold in our midst and sow the seeds of destruction. We need to WATCH DILIGENTLY.

In the second place let us consider that we need encouragement to

### **WORK TIRELESSLY**

In the years which lie ahead our Evangelical Lutheran Synod has much work to do. We have been given unprecedented opportunities to reach out with the Gospel in a way that has not been possible before. In order to maximize these opportunities we need to have a mind-set that is committed to working tirelessly on every front.

Let us be reminded, first of all, about what Scripture says concerning such a commitment. There is no greater example of loving service than that of our Lord and Savior. As a youth He said, "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" (Luke 2,49) Again He said, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." (John 9,4) We know that He labored unceasingly in preaching and teaching. He was surrounded often by multitudes of people to the extent that He had to seek solitude and rest. His disciples could not keep up with Him, but often fell asleep. His greatest work was, of course, that He bore the cross for us and went to Calvary where He shed his blood and gave His life for our sins.

The Apostles also were committed to hard work. In his address to the elders at Ephesus Paul comments that "for the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears." (Acts 20,31) To the Corinthians he wrote, "I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." (I Cor. 15, 10)

The Holy Scriptures urge us to be committed to faithful labor in the Lord's vineyard. Jesus said, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he should send forth labourers into his harvest." (Luke 10,1) Paul writes to the Galatians, "Let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Gal. 6,9) And again to the Corinthians, "Be ye stedfast, 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)

In his book, *A City Set On A Hill*, the sainted Theodore Aaberg refers to how the Israelites got busy and rebuilt the wall around Jerusalem. He quotes Nehemiah 4,6 which records, "So we built the wall: and all the wall was joined

together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work." He then goes on to show how our forefathers at Lime Creek were thus minded. He writes, "they turned in quiet faith to the tasks at hand and accomplished a great deal. The "hearts of Oak," you see, also "had a mind to work." *A City Set On A Hill*, p. 82.

In an address to the members of his congregation Dr. C. F. W. Walther becomes quite blunt in his criticism of those who want to be Christians but prefer to leave the work of the congregation to others. We quote, "Many people whom we hesitate to class with unbelievers are not as eager to do good as they should be. They do not pray without ceasing as they should; they do not read and hear the Word of God as faithfully as they should; they attend voters' meetings only at great intervals, letting others worry and work while they remain at home and take it easy; they contribute less toward charity and the upbuilding and spreading of the kingdom of God than they should and could; they hesitate when asked to perform some labor of love; they are more unwilling still to accept some office within the congregation which involves a sacrifice of time and energy, happy to see that others are willing to perform such kind acts and accept such offices and marveling at their good-naturedness. They do not exactly deny Christ, but they are careful not to confess Him where they can expect only mockery, shame, and disdain. They rejoice when they see that people are converted, but they themselves do little or nothing to lead the erring to the way of truth." *Church Membership*, C. F. W. Walther, pp. 26-27.

We of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod need to rededicate ourselves to labor tirelessly for the work of the Lord in the years which lie ahead. We see how our Bethany Lutheran College has been so richly blessed by the Lord in being able to construct wonderful new facilities. But what good will the new buildings do if the institution is not overflowing with students. From all reports it appears that the enrollment will continue to grow. We, however, as pastors and members of the synod, need to tell our young people of the great advantages that can be found in attending Bethany. If we are to help strengthen the faith of our youth in the "one thing needful" what better way is there than to encourage them to attend our Christian school. This will not happen by itself. We need to be involved in promoting the cause of Christian education on every level, from kindergarten through college. Last year we cited the fact that of the 32 students who attended Luther College in the first year of its existence, 16 of them came from the parish of Pastor J. A. Otteson. Let us follow his example.

At the present time we have an unprecedented opportunity to open more new missions. Precious souls may therefore be won for Christ. Funds are available through our Partners in the Gospel offering and in the generous offer to match our synod's entire budget. We should take full advantage of this by increasing our support for the work of the Lord in the synod. There is a danger that we could begin to rely on outside support for our work and cut back on our own personal giving. This would surely be harmful to our own stewardship, would deprive us of the joy of giving and would defeat the very purpose of the matching program. We need to labor and pray for Home and Foreign missions that God's Kingdom may be brought to those who do not know the Lord.

What an opportunity we now have to expand our seminary and synod office facilities. More and more students from other synods are becoming interested in our Bethany Seminary. Through the matching program we can begin construction of the much needed expansion in the next year, 1995, and thus have a fitting celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of our seminary in 1996.

The "His Truth For Our Youth" offering is a real blessing for work amongst children and youth in our synod. Parents and leaders need to work hard in the congregations to minister to this age group. They live in dangerous times. Only the Word of God can provide a light to their feet and a lamp unto their path.

Our pastors and professors need to continue working diligently in their callings, ministering to precious souls under their care. A small congregation is just as important as a large one. Whether there are 30 souls or 300 souls each and

every one is precious in the sight of the Lord and needs the shepherd's care. Small congregations should not become discouraged thinking they have little to offer in this demanding world. Every congregation has the Means of Grace. The Word and Sacraments are what we have to offer, whether to few or to many. These are the instruments by which the Lord bestows and sustains faith. These are the tools with which we labor to bring souls to heaven.

All of us need to have a "mind to work." Your president needs to visit congregations and pastors in order to encourage and strengthen. Pastors need to call on their members to really get to understand their spiritual needs. Members need to support their pastors and the work of their congregation. All together we need to consider what a wonderful synod we have and dedicate ourselves to promote it and realize that the Lord is using it to save precious souls and be a light in this world. In order to do this it is important that we promote an atmosphere of trust and harmony. The Lord's apostle encourages us, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another; not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." (Rom. 12,10-11)

Let us therefore go forward into the years which lie ahead with a "mind to work," determined to labor tirelessly for the sake of the salvation of blood-bought souls, remembering, as Paul says, that "We are laborers together with God." (I Cor. 3,9)

Finally, let me conclude this message with the exhortation to

### WORSHIP JOYOUSLY

As we proceed into the future let us continue to rejoice in the marvelous grace of God. The Prophet Zechariah exhorts us, "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: Behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation." (Zech. 9,9) Likewise the Prophet Isaiah exclaims, "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness." (Is. 61,10) What is the reason for such exultation on the part of the O.T. prophets? It is because they knew that a Savior was coming. They trusted in God's promise that the Redeemer, God's own Son, would come into this world to bring salvation to lost and dying sinners.

The New Testament is, of course, filled with expressions of great joy over the Savior's birth. The angels sang, "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2,10-11) The Savior tells us, "Rejoice, because your names are written in heaven." (Luke 10,20) The Apostle Paul in his letter to the Philippians uses the word "rejoice" or "joy" some 16 times, exhorting us "rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say rejoice." (Phil. 4,4)

In spite of the ills that threaten us in this world we as children of God should have hearts filled with joy. When we have been delivered from the just punishment of our sins; when we have been rescued from the fires of hell; when we have been made members of the family of God, children of the heavenly Father; when we are assured of His gracious providence every day of our lives, how can we fall into despair?

Each one of us is precious in the sight of the Lord. Isaiah puts it in these words, "Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God." (Is. 63,3-4) A crown or a diadem is composed of precious jewels that is very significant to the one who wears it. So are God's people dear to Him. In the parable of the lost sheep in the New Testament Christ shows his concern for the individual. "What man of you having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing." (Luke 4-5) Likewise in the parable of the Prodigal Son He demonstrates that the Father's heart is full of grace and forgiveness.

Our Evangelical Lutheran Synod has always been marked by this attitude of rejoicing in the grace of God. This comes through in our sermons, our worship services, our concern for the lost and straying, our desire to care for the welfare of little children, the youth, the sick and the elderly. This is what makes our synod "evangelical." It is a spirit where the Law, even though it is preached in all of its severity, does not dominate in our ministry. The Gospel dominates. The Gospel is the free grace of God offered in Christ Jesus to all sinners no matter how poor and lowly. The gospel is the forgiveness of sins brought to us in the Word and Sacraments. The Apostle Peter expressed it in these words, "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." (I Peter 1,18-19) In our synod no conditions are attached to the Gospel. There is no barbed wire fence around it. We do not preach that if you are sorry enough, if you live up to the expectations of the church, if you meet certain requirements, then you will have forgiveness. No, we open the doors wide and say with Isaiah, "Ho, everyone that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." (Is. 55,1) And we extend to all the gracious invitation of our Savior, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest for your soul." (Matt. 11,28-29)

May our worship of the Lord, therefore, be filled with joy as we hear His gracious Word, receive His blessed Sacraments, and like the Ethiopian, who had just been baptized by the Apostle Philip, go on our way into the future rejoicing.

Watch diligently. Work tirelessly. Worship joyously. May this be our spirit as we ask the Lord to continue to bless our Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

### **SOLI DEO GLORIA**

George M. Orvick, President  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod

# REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

## INSTALLATIONS AND ORDINATIONS

Candidate of Theology Abraham Rosario was ordained and installed as pastor of the Lutheran congregations in Ano Nuevo and Tahuantinsuyo in the northern part of Lima, Peru, on June 13, 1993. Missionary Timothy Erickson conducted the service, Missionary David Haeuser preached the sermon, and Pastor Fiedl Convercio conducted the rites of ordination and installation. Lectors were Pastors Roberto Berrospid and Segundo Gutierrez.

The Rev. Timothy Mutterer was installed as pastor of the Clearwater Parish, Oklee, Minnesota, on June 27, 1993. The Rev. Guy Purdue (WELS) preached the sermon and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Martin Doepel, performed the rite of installation. The Rev. Daniel Faugstad served as liturgist.

The Rev. Roger Fehr was installed as pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, rural Princeton, Minnesota, on July 11, 1993. The Rev. Mark Wold preached the sermon and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Norman A. Madson, performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Burgess Huehn was installed as pastor of First English Lutheran Church, Ashland, Wisconsin, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Hurley, Wisconsin (WELS) on July 11, 1993. Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Timothy Bartels, preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation at First English congregation. Pastors Otto Trebelhorn and Walter Hoepner (WELS) also participated in the service. Pastor Edwin Biebert (WELS) conducted the installation service at St. Paul's.

Candidate of Theology Kent Dethlefsen was ordained and installed as pastor of Richland Lutheran Church, Thornton, Iowa, on July 18, 1993. Seminary President Wilhelm Petersen preached the sermon; Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Wayne Halvorson, performed the rites of installation and ordination, and the Rev. Mark DeGarmeaux was the liturgist.

Candidate of Theology Mark Tuffin was installed as pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Kallangur (Brisbane), Australia, on July 18, 1993. The Rev. Paul Anderson preached the sermon and conducted the liturgy. The Rev. Daniel Schroeder performed the rites of ordination and installation.

The Rev. Norman A. Madson was installed as pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Tracy, Minnesota, on July 29, 1993. Prof. Adolph L. Harstad preached the sermon and Prof. Juul Madson performed the rite of installation and was also the liturgist.

Teachers Brian and Amy Maurice were commissioned to be missionaries to Plzen, Czech Republic, at Western Koshkonong Lutheran Church, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin, on August 1, 1993. The Rev. John Moldstad, Sr. preached the sermon and the Rev. John Shep performed the rites of commissioning.

The Rev. Melvin Schwark and teacher Robert Makinen were commissioned as missionaries to Ukraine for the Thoughts of Faith mission on August 15, 1993, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Okauchee, Wisconsin. The Rev. Gaylin Schmeling preached the sermon and also performed the rites of commissioning. Assisting in the Commissioning Service were Prof. Wilbert Gawrisch, the chairman of the WELS Commission on Inter-Church Relations, and President Gerhard Wilde of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church.

The Rev. Michael Madson was installed as pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Warroad, Minnesota, on August 22, 1993. The Rev. Daniel Faugstad preached the installation sermon and the rite of installation was performed by the Rev. Norman Madson, father of the installed pastor.

Diane Christopherson was installed as teacher of grades 1-4 at Our Redeemer Lutheran School, Yelm, Washington by the Rev. Jeff Carter.

The Rev. Martin Teigen was installed as pastor of Our Savior's and Rock Dell Lutheran Churches, Belview, Minnesota, on September 5, 1993. The Rev. Robert Lawson preached the installation sermon, and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Norman A. Madson, performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Gregory Haugen was installed as pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Waterloo, Iowa, on September 12, 1993. The Rev. Daniel Larson preached the sermon and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Wayne Halvorson, performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. John Smith was installed as pastor of English Lutheran Church, Cottonwood, Minnesota, on September 26, 1993. Prof. Juul Madson preached the installation sermon and the Rev. Norman A. Madson, circuit visitor, performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Craig Ferkenstad was installed as pastor of Norseland Ev. Lutheran Church and Norwegian Grove Lutheran Church on October 3, 1993. Seminary President, the Rev. Wilhelm Petersen, preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation. Vicar Jon Bruss was the liturgist.

The Rev. Timothy Bartels was commissioned missionary to Chile on January 23, 1994. The commissioning service took place at Pinehurst Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Synod President, The Rev. George Orvick, preached the sermon, The Rev. Norman A. Madson, field secretary of the Board for Foreign Missions, performed the rite of commissioning, and the Rev. Paul Anderson, chairman of the Board, was the liturgist. Scripture lessons were read by the Rev. Harry Bartels, Missionary Bartel's father, and the Rev. Fred Theiste, circuit visitor.

The Rev. Paul Madson was installed as pastor of the East and West Paint Creek Parish, Waterville, Iowa, on April 10, 1994. The Rev. Alf Merseth preached the sermon and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Wayne Halvorson, performed the rite of installation.

On April 17, 1994, the Rev. Michael Smith was commissioned to be missionary at large under the Board for Home Missions in the Holland and Zeeland, Michigan area. The commissioning took place at the Holiday Inn in Holland. His father, the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith, preached the sermon and the Rev. Steven Petersen, field secretary of the Board for Home Missions, performed the rite of installation. There were six ELS and five WELS pastors who participated in the service.

The Rev. Carl Wosje was installed as pastor of Family of God Lutheran Church, Bullhead City, Arizona, on April 24, 1994. Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Theodore Gullixson, preached the sermon, the Rev. Herbert Huhnerkoch performed the rite of installation, the Rev. James Wuebben was the liturgist, and the Rev. Theodore Bodjanac was the lector.

The Rev. Robert Sawall was installed as pastor of the St. Martin and St. Paul Lutheran Parish, Shawano and Clintonville, Wisconsin, on April 24, 1994. The Rev. Theodore Sauer (WELS) of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, preached the sermon; the Rev. James F. Naumann (WELS) of Shawano, was the liturgist; and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Kenneth Schmidt performed the rite of installation. Other area ELS and WELS clergy also assisted.

The Rev. Frederic Lams was installed as pastor of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lake Station, Indiana, on May 1, 1994. Synod President, the Rev. George Orvick, preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation. The Rev. Paul Zager was the liturgist and the Rev. Michael Smith served as lector.

The Rev. James Wuebben was installed as pastor of Pinehurst Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, on May 15, 1994. Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Frederick Theiste, preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation. The Rev. Paul Anderson was the liturgist and Vicar James Krueger was the lector. Other area pastors also participated.

The Rev. Matthew Thompson was commissioned as missionary to the Winter Haven, Florida, area on May 15, 1994. The service took place at New Life Lutheran Church in Sebring. The Rev. Kenneth Mellon preached the sermon; the Rev. Steven Petersen, Field Secretary for the Board for Home Missions, performed the rite of commissioning; and the Rev. Charles Keeler was the liturgist. Other area pastors also participated in the service.

The Rev. James Korthals was installed as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, Oregon, Wisconsin, on May 22, 1994. Prof. Edward Lindemann (WELS) Watertown, Wisconsin, preached the sermon, Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Kenneth Schmidt, performed the rite of installation; and the Rev. John Petersen was the liturgist.

## **MEMBERSHIP REQUESTS**

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

The Rev. Kent Dethlefsen, pastor of Richland Lutheran Church, Thornton, Iowa.

The Rev. Melvin Schwark by transfer from the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The Rev. James Wuebben by colloquy.

The Rev. James Korthals by transfer from the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The Rev. Frederic Lams by colloquy.

The Rev. Matthew Thompson by colloquy.

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

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lake Station, Indiana.

Ascension Lutheran Church, St. Helens, Oregon.

## **DEDICATIONS**



**SAVED BY GRACE (Gresham, Oregon)**



**SAVED BY GRACE (Gresham, Oregon)**

Saved by Grace Lutheran Church, Gresham, Oregon, dedicated its new house of worship on August 29, 1993. President George Orvick preached at the morning service and conducted the rite of dedication at the special afternoon service. The Rev. Erwin Ekhoff, chairman of the Board for Home Missions, preached for the afternoon dedication service.



**CHRIST (Klamath Falls, Oregon)**

Christ Lutheran Church, Klamath Falls, Oregon, dedicated its newly renovated church building on May 15, 1994. Your Synod President, the Rev. George M. Orvick, was guest preacher for the occasion. The pastor of the congregation, the Rev. James Braun, performed the rite of dedication; pastors Karl Anderson, Homer Mosley, and Circuit Visitor Glenn Obenberger served as lectors.

## ANNIVERSARIES

The Peru Mission celebrated the 25th year of its existence in 1993.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod celebrated its 75th anniversary on Synod Sunday, June 20, 1993. Synod President, the Rev. George Orvick, was preacher for the morning festival service, the Rev. David Lillegard was liturgist, and the Rev. Walther Gullixson was lector.



**CENTER (Scarville, Iowa)**

Center Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lake Mills, Iowa, celebrated its 75th anniversary on August 8, 1993. Seminary President, the Rev. Wilhelm Petersen, preached for the morning service and the Rev. Raymond Branstad, a son of the congregation, preached the festival sermon at the afternoon service. Synod President George Orvick spoke on behalf of the Synod.

Scarville Evangelical Lutheran Church, Scarville, Iowa, celebrated its 75th anniversary on August 15, 1993. The Rev. Carl Wosje, former pastor, preached at the morning service; local pastor, the Rev. Thomas Rank, was liturgist; and seminary student, Ronald Pederson, served as lector. The Rev. Paul Petersen, a son of the congregation, preached at the afternoon festival service with the Rev. Daniel Faugstad, also a son of the congregation serving as lector. Pastor Thomas Rank was the liturgist. Synod President George Orvick spoke on behalf of the synod.



**SCARVILLE (Scarville, Iowa)**

Concordia Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin celebrated the 20th anniversary of the dedication of its church building on September 12. F. Theiste preached the sermon.

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Trail, Minnesota observed its 75th anniversary on Sunday, September 19, 1993. Guest speaker for the afternoon service was former pastor of the congregation, the Rev. Norman Madson.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bagley, Minnesota celebrated its 40th anniversary on September 26, 1993. The Rev. John Moldstad, Sr., preached the festival sermon, the Rev. Robert Lawson was liturgist, and the Rev. Joseph Burkhardt, was lector—all former pastors of the congregation.

Parkland Lutheran Church, Tacoma, Washington, celebrated its 100th anniversary on Sunday, October 17, 1993. A year-long celebration was begun under the theme: JESUS IS OUR JUBILEE! For the morning festival service, President George Orvick preached and former pastors the Rev. Walther Gullixson



**MT. OLIVE  
(Trail, Minnesota)**



**OUR SAVIOR'S (Bagley, Minnesota)**



**PARKLAND (Tacoma, Washington)**

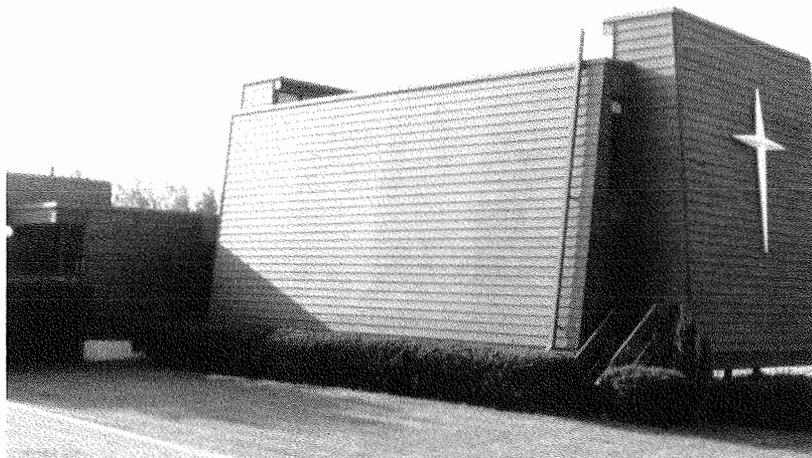
and the Rev. Martin Galstad served as liturgist and lector, respectively. The afternoon program included speakers from the congregation's past and present, recounting God's grace through acts of service He has wrought through His people.

Ascension Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, celebrated its 40th anniversary on October 24, 1993. The Rev. Gaylin Schmeling was guest preacher and Vicar James Krueger and the Rev. Otto Trebelhorn were the liturgists.

Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Waterloo, Iowa, celebrated its 30th anniversary and also the 25th anniversary of the present building on November 7, 1993. The Rev. Paul Petersen preached and the Rev. Greg Haugen served as liturgist for both morning and afternoon services.



**ASCENSION (Eau Claire, Wisconsin)**



**PILGRIM (Waterloo, Iowa)**

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, Princeton, Minnesota celebrated its 40th anniversary on Sunday, November 7, 1993. Prof. Mark Harstad, whose father was the first pastor, was the guest speaker.

Faith Lutheran Church, Hillman, Michigan, celebrated its 25th anniversary and Faith Lutheran Church, Alpena, Michigan, celebrated its 22nd anniversary at a joint service on November 14, 1994. President George Orvick was guest preacher for the occasion.

At a special service on December 5, 1993, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Naples, Florida, observed the 20th anniversary of the following: Official organization of the congregation, purchase of land, installation of the first pastor, groundbreaking, and dedication of the first building. Former pastor, the Rev. Donald Moldstad, was guest speaker for the service.



**BETHANY (Princeton, Minnesota)**



**FAITH (Hillman, Michigan)**

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Albert Lea, Minnesota, celebrated its 75th anniversary on December 12, 1993. Synod president, the Rev. George Orvick, preached for the morning festival service. Special services were also held in September, October, and November with former pastors preaching. They were as follows: Pres. Wilhelm Petersen, Prof. David Thompson, Prof. Daniel Metzger, and Pastor Richard Newgard.

Holy Scripture Lutheran Church, Midland, Michigan, celebrated its 25th anniversary on January 16, 1994. Synod President, the Rev. George Orvick, was guest speaker for the occasion.



**FAITH (Alpena, Michigan)**



**OUR SAVIOR'S (Albert Lea, Minnesota)**

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ames, Iowa, celebrated its 25th anniversary on February 13, 1994. Guest speaker was Dr. Wilhelm W. Petersen, president of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary.

Scriptural Lutheran Church, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, celebrated its 25th anniversary on March 9, 1994. Synod President, the Rev. George Orvick, was guest speaker for the occasion.



**HOLY SCRIPTURE (Midland, Michigan)**



**BETHANY (Ames, Iowa)**



**SCRIPTURAL (Cape Girardeau, Missouri)**

## **ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION**

The Rev. Richard Newgard

40 years

## **GROUNDBREAKING**

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new physical fitness complex and the student union of Bethany College was held on October 10, 1993. The speaker for the occasion was Prof. David C. Thompson and the liturgist was Prof. Juul B. Madson. Groundbreaking officiant was Synod President, the Rev. George M. Orvick.

The groundbreaking service for the initial building of Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, Florida was held on April 24, 1994.

The groundbreaking service for the new chapel on the campus of Bethany College was held on Synod Sunday evening, June 19, 1994. The Rev. Raymond Branstad, chairman of the Board of Regents was the guest speaker. The Rev. Harry Bartels was liturgist.

## **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Dr. Thomas Kuster resigned from the Board for Publications. The Rev. Daniel Sabrowsky was appointed to take his place.

Mr. John Dale resigned from the Board for Evangelism. Mr. Bruce Peterson was appointed to take his place.

The Rev. Timothy Bartels resigned his position as circuit visitor of Circuit #5 due to the acceptance of his call to Chile. Alternate Visitor, the Rev. Frederick Theiste, was appointed to take his place.

The Rev. Timothy Mutterer resigned pastor from the Oklee Parish and requested a transfer to the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

## RETIREMENTS

The Rev. G. F. Guldberg retired from the active ministry in July 1993.

## DEATHS

The Rev. Norman Harstad died on June 24, 1993. He was traveling home from the synod convention and was nearing his home when he was stricken with an aneurysm which claimed his life. The funeral was held on June 28 at First English Lutheran in Ashland, Wisconsin, the parish he was serving at the time. Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Timothy Bartels, preached the sermon. President George Orvick spoke on behalf of the synod.

The Rev. Dr. Neelak Tjernagel died on May 7, 1994, in Bremen, Indiana. Christian burial services were held on May 12 at the Saude-Jerico Lutheran Parish, Lawler, Iowa, where he had once served as pastor. The Rev. Norman A. Madson, Jr. preached the sermon and President George Orvick spoke on behalf of the synod.

## INTERCHURCH RELATIONS

### THE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

The 53rd biennial convention of our sister synod, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, was held August 2-6 at Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw, Michigan. Your president addressed the convention and brought greetings on behalf of our church body. The Rev. Gaylin Schmeling, chairman of our Doctrine Committee, also attended.

A difficult decision was made by the convention when it decided to proceed with the school amalgamation plan. Northwestern College at Watertown, Wisconsin, will be moved to New Ulm where it will become part of the new Martin Luther College. The high school at Prairie du Chien will be closed and will be moved to Northwestern Academy in Watertown, Wisconsin. It is hoped that the plan will reduce operating costs and make more money available for mission work.

The Rev. Carl Mischke who had served as president of the WELS for the past 14 years announced his retirement and did not seek reelection. The Rev. Karl Gurgel of Lake Mills, Wisconsin, was elected to the office of president. We wish Pastor Gurgel the Lord's richest blessings as he undertakes the great responsibilities of his office.

The Doctrine Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod met with the WELS Commission on Interchurch Relations on February 11, 1994. One of the chief topics of discussion was the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference which was formed at Oberwesel, Germany, in April of 1993. Letters have been received from various church bodies of our fellowship around the world expressing joy over the formation of the conference.

Various reports on dealings with other church bodies were exchanged.

We thank the Lord for the fact that we have a sister synod here in the United States and we pray that the Lord may keep us united in the confession of the one true faith.

## **THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONAL CHURCH (SWEDEN AND NORWAY)**

The 1993 convention of the Lutheran Confessional Church of Sweden and Norway met in July. No representatives from the ELS attended the convention, but written greetings were sent. Having had formal discussions with the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Germany the convention decided to enter into church fellowship with that body.

The Rev. Christer Hugo of Göteborg is chairman of the LBK and the Rev. Stefan Hedkvist of Öjebyn, Sweden, is chairman of the Doctrine Committee. This year the Rev. Martin Andersson who is pastor of a congregation located in northern Sweden will attend the WELS summer school in Mequon.

As an evangelism project the LBK has been distributing tracts to immigrant workers who have come to seek employment.

The 1994 convention of the LBK will be held July 14-17 at Stenmestaden near Grinde, Norway, which is located on the west coast near Haugesund.

This small church body will soon be celebrating the 20th anniversary of its founding. We thank the Lord that confessional Lutheranism has gained a foothold in Norway and Sweden through our sister synod there. Let us remember them in our prayers and continue to encourage them. It was my privilege to see Pastor Hugo and Pastor Edvardsen at the European meeting of the CELC which was held this year in Plzen.

## **THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN FREE CHURCH (GERMANY)**

The members of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Germany are faithful confessors who have upheld the pure doctrines of God's Word while they were behind the Iron Curtain for 40 years. They continue to do so now and we are thankful that we have a sister synod in Germany. We have had the opportunity to become well acquainted with Pres. Gerhard Wilde and a number of their pastors and professors. We met with them again in April of this year at the CELC meeting in Plzen. The Rev. Gotthilf Döhler, a very fine theologian of the ELFK, was called home to the Lord this past year. The Rev. Martin Hoffmann is now the chairman of the Doctrine Committee and Dr. Gottfried Hermann is now the director of the seminary in Leipzig.

The 1994 convention of the ELFK was held May 27-30 at Crimmitschau. The chairman of our Doctrine Committee, the Rev. Gaylin Schmeling, attended the convention as a representative of our ELS and brought our greetings to them.

I believe that it is very important for our synod to stay in close contact with such small church bodies around the world. They are similar to our synod in that they are small and need the encouragement and support of sister synods. When our synod was first organized in 1918 it received much encouragement from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and from the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We now have the opportunity to give the same kind of support to other small church bodies, particularly the LBK and the ELFK in Europe, and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia.

May the Lord bless and strengthen the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Germany and uphold them in their efforts to proclaim the Gospel and hold fast to the pure doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as they are confessed in the Lutheran Confessions.

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

Pastor Paul Anderson, the chairman of our Board for Foreign Missions, returned at Christmas time after spending nearly six months in Australia. While there he was able to reach a number of people in South Australia around Adelaide. His work there was much appreciated by the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia, our sister synod down under.

The Rev. Mark Tuffin, a 1993 graduate of our Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, was ordained and installed as pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Kallangur (Brisbane), on July 18, 1993. The Rev. Paul Anderson preached the sermon and conducted the liturgy. The Rev. Daniel Schroeder performed the rites of ordination and installation. We were pleased that we were able to provide training for another worker to labor in the Lord's vineyard in Australia.

A generous grant from Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc. has made it possible for us to assist with the work of preaching the Gospel in Australia.

Pastor Daniel Schroeder, who has served in Australia for five years, has now accepted a call to Resurrection Lutheran Church in Kennesaw, Georgia, and will be returning to the USA this summer. The congregation in Maryborough where he served is in the process of calling a new pastor.

We thank the Lord for the fine fellowship that has been established on the basis of doctrinal agreement with our dear brothers and sisters in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia. It is our earnest prayer that the Lord will bless and strengthen them in their steadfast confession of the faith.

## **THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFESSIONAL FORUM**

The Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum consists of twelve representatives from our ELS and twelve representatives from our sister synod, the WELS. The forum meets every two years and discusses matters pertaining to administration, doctrine, missions, parish services and education and youth. The next meeting of the forum will be October 17-18, 1994, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with the WELS serving as hosts. The Rev. Duane Tomhave of the WELS is chairman for the next meeting of the forum and the Rev. Steven Petersen is the ELS representative to the program committee.

The forum provides an excellent opportunity for our two synods to discuss the work of each respective church body and thus to strengthen the fellowship that we have with one another.

## **THE CONFESSIONAL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFERENCE**

The Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference was formed April 27-29, 1993, at Oberwesel, Germany. This conference takes the place of the old Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America which was established in 1872 and dissolved in 1963. There are at present 13 church bodies that have joined the conference. Representatives of 11 of these church bodies were present at the 1993 founding convention.

The conference will meet every three years with the next meeting to be held April 23-25, 1996, in Puerto Rico. In the years when the full conference does not

meet regional conferences will be held. This year the regional conference of the European portion was held April 18-21. The conference was hosted by our Thoughts of Faith Mission in Plzen, Czech Republic. Our missionaries there did an excellent job of providing facilities, meals, etc., so that the delegates could hold a profitable meeting. It was my privilege to attend the conference and to participate in the discussions. Approximately 28 pastors and several lay people plus a number of pastors' wives were in attendance. The discussion centered around the essays which were delivered at the first meeting in Oberwesel. The constitution was reviewed and several suggestions for changes were made. Members of the conference were invited to attend chapel exercises at our mission school on Wednesday morning. Your president was the speaker for the occasion. On Wednesday evening a communion service was held in the chapel. President Gerhard Wilde was the speaker and Missionary James Krikava was the liturgist.

The American section of the CELC will meet July 22-24, 1994 at El Paso, Texas, in conjunction with the Latin American Mission Conference of the ELS and WELS. The next meeting of the entire CELC is planned for April 23-25, 1996, in Puerto Rico.

Each church body is encouraged to make an annual contribution to the CELC to help cover publishing expenses, etc. This year the Board of Trustees of the ELS decided to make a 1994 contribution of \$2,000.

The newly organized CELC is thus proving to be an active part of church life amongst the 13 bodies which are included in it. It provides a rich opportunity for mutual strengthening and edification.

## **SYNODICAL AFFAIRS**

### **CIRCUIT VISITORS WORKSHOP**

The annual Circuit Visitors Conference was held October 21-22, 1993, at the synodical headquarters in Mankato. There were ten circuit visitors and one alternate visitor present so that every circuit was represented.

Pastor Paul Schneider led a discussion entitled "Paul's Pattern for the Parish Pastor." The qualifications for a pastor listed by the apostle Paul in his letters to Timothy and Titus were the subject for the discussion. Both President Petersen of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary and President Meyer of Bethany Lutheran College gave reports to the circuit visitors. Each visitor reported on conditions in his circuit. Many items of casuistry were discussed such as "The Role of the Visitor as Counselor," "How to Promote Christian Stewardship in the Congregations," "The Outgoing Pastor and Church Records," and "Practicing Love and Patience in Our Relationships with One Another." Since the ELCA document on human sexuality had just been released the circuit visitors formulated a press release setting forth the position of the synod in this regard. The press release was mailed to all pastors.

The conference was funded by a generous grant from Lutheran Brotherhood.

As our synod grows the role of the circuit visitor becomes increasingly important. Our synod has adopted a set of guidelines for the circuit visitors and for the conduct of visitations. The duties of the visitor are listed as follows: As assistants to the president, the visitors, under the president's supervision shall: a) Encourage the congregations and pastors in their work. b) Disseminate information to the pastors and to the congregations concerning the joint work of the synod. This may be done at circuit meetings, congregational visitations, or in whatever ways circumstances may suggest. c) Provide counsel to congregations

and pastors in difficult cases. d) Provide assistance to congregations in calling pastors. e) Conduct regular visitations in the congregations.

We would like to encourage pastors and congregations to make use of the circuit visitors. The guidelines say that "visitations are useful and wholesome self-evaluation for a congregation." The goals of a visitation are listed as follows: 1) To promote harmony and unity within a congregation, 2) To increase yet more the congregation's understanding of and commitment to the task of rescuing blood-bought souls and, 3) To increase the congregation's appreciation for its sister congregations and for the work they do together as a synod. The guidelines also inform us that "congregations should aim at having a visitation at least once every four years and that the congregations should take the initiative in arranging for the visitation. In cases where there is no invitation, the visitor may take the initiative and ascertain from the congregation whether a visitation is agreeable." The guidelines go on to tell how such visitations should be conducted and what should be included in the visitation.

We therefore urge the congregations to make arrangements with the circuit visitor for the conducting of such a visitation. We have reports from the visitors, congregations and pastors concerning such visitations and all of them have been shown to be of real benefit both to congregations and pastors. We urge pastors, congregations and visitors to study once again the "Guidelines for the Circuit Visitors and Visitations" which were adopted by our synod in 1975. They are found in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Handbook on page 53. Each pastor has a copy of the handbook. We believe that such working together between the circuit visitors, the pastors and the congregations would be very helpful in avoiding some of the problems which can occur in pastor-congregation relationships. The synod can also benefit greatly by such visitations because the congregations have this opportunity to learn more about the work of the synod and to be bound together more closely in a God-pleasing harmony.

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

## PASTORAL CONFERENCES

The by-laws of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod state that the synod shall . . . "promote one general pastoral conference to be held annually and at least one pastoral conference in each circuit." I am pleased to report that such conferences have been held with regularity. The General Pastoral Conference was held January 5-7, 1994, at a motel in Minneapolis. Attendance was good and profitable essays were delivered and discussed. It has also been my privilege to attend the California/Arizona Conference held September 13-15 at Irvine, California; the Lake Michigan Area Conference held at Madison, Wisconsin, on September 20-22, the Northern Iowa-Southern Minnesota Pastoral Conference held at Mason City, Iowa, on November 1st, and a Circuit 8 (central Minnesota), pastoral conference held May 24-25 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Belview, Minnesota. Other circuits have also held their annual conferences in addition to regular meetings of "Winkel" gatherings. I am pleased to report that the pastors take their work seriously and produce and discuss valuable theological and practical essays for the benefit of all the pastors. At the various conferences the synod president or the circuit visitor takes the opportunity to promote and publicize the work of the synod.

## WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

The ladies of our congregations are very active also in serving their Lord in many capacities. On an individual basis many consecrated women serve as Christian Day School teachers, Sunday School teachers, church secretaries and some are involved in visiting the sick, shut-ins and prospects. Throughout our synod there are nine women's missionary and church-related societies across the country. Each one holds a semi-annual or annual meeting and adopts projects usually connected with the work of home and foreign missions or for the support of our college and seminary and other areas of our synod's work. In the sixteenth chapter of the Book of Romans we read how the apostle Paul expressed his deep appreciation to many women who "labored with him" in the spreading of the Gospel. Some of them did so at great self-sacrifice. Paul writes for example "Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus: who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks but also the churches of the Gentiles." (Romans 16:3-4) I would like therefore, also to take this opportunity to express deep appreciation to the faithful women of our synod who serve their congregations and our church body in so many ways.

## EDUCATION AND YOUTH WORK

Recognizing the great needs that exist in our society and also in our congregations for the strengthening of the family our synod's Board for Education and Youth has established a special "Commission on Family Life." The commission consists of about thirteen pastors and lay persons who meet from time to time to discuss how the commission might be of assistance to the families in the congregations through a study of the teachings of Holy Scripture regarding family structure and roles, marriage, parent/child relationships, etc. The commission works under the supervision of the Board for Education and Youth and reports to that board. We believe that this is a very timely and important effort to see what can be done, as a synod, to assist families in their struggle to maintain Christian values, etc. Such help can only come from the Holy Spirit working through the means of grace and it is the intention of the board and the committee to lead people to a deeper understanding of the teachings of God's Word in all of these areas. We commend the board and the committee in their efforts in this regard. We would also like to express our appreciation to Aid Association for Lutherans for a generous grant of \$5,000 which will be used to cover the expenses incurred by the Commission on Family Life.

The Board for Education and Youth is very active in carrying out its responsibilities in the three areas assigned to it, namely, Parish Education, Youth Work and Christian Day School education. The energy and the leadership which is exerted by the pastors and lay members of the board is truly remarkable. I usually have the privilege of attending the annual LYA conventions and addressing them on behalf of the synod. The last convention was held in Rapid City, South Dakota, in the Black Hills. In keeping with the theme "Faith of Our Fathers" the convention set forth the faith and activity of the fathers of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod as they remembered our 75 years of grace. The T-shirts even displayed Mt. Rushmore in graphic detail with the exception that Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Roosevelt were replaced by Koren, Ottessen, Preus and Harstad.

The board diligently promotes the cause of our Christian Day Schools, helping to secure teachers where vacancies occur, and encouraging our teachers to become synodically certified. The Rev. H. M. Tjernagel, one of the forefathers of our synod who served also as pastor of the parish at Saude and Jerico, Iowa, and

a strong believer in Christian Day Schools is quoted as saying "The Christian Day School is the most beautiful fruit in the garden of our synod."

We urge each congregation of our synod to pay special attention to the matter of Christian training of the children and also the needs of young people in general. Congregations and pastors should begin to plan now to make it possible for as many people as possible to attend the 1994 LYA convention which will take place July 28-31 in Tacoma, Washington.

The board is very pleased that it will finally have some sufficient funds to work with due to an increase in the budget proportion allotted to the BEY, the extra income from the synod's anniversary thankoffering and also the extra income from the matching grant which our synod is presently receiving from a generous benefactor.

A generous grant from Aid Association for Lutherans was received by the board to assist in the funding of the 1993 LYA convention in Rapid City, South Dakota.

In the book of the prophet Joel we read, "Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation." (Joel 1,3) In order to preserve the truth of God's Word in the hearts of our people it is essential that we "tell the children" so they can pass it on to the next generation when we are gone. May the Lord, therefore, continue to bless the work of our Board for Education and Youth in the great responsibility and challenge which is always before them.

## **SPECIAL OFFERING**

We are very pleased to report the response of the synod to our special offering in commemoration of the 75th anniversary. As of May 18, 1994, a total of \$326,153 had been received from pledges and cash given. The Thankoffering is to be completed in October of this year. It is our hope that we might reach a final goal of at least \$400,000. This would be a wonderful way to insure that the work amongst our young people would have more adequate funding in the years to come. If there are congregations or individuals who have not participated as yet we urge all to make use of this opportunity to help our work amongst the youth. There is a remaining amount of \$72,899 that has been pledged and has not come in as yet. We hope that this will be fulfilled.

Once again, we would like to express to the members of the Thankoffering Committee our sincere thanks. They continue to monitor the offering and to send regular reports to the congregations. Members of the committee are: C. Ferkenstad, chairman; S. Jaeger, secretary; P. Zager; J. Moldstad, Jr.; M. Tweit; R. Brown; and R. Wiechmann.

We would also like to express our thanks again to Aid Association for Lutherans for assisting with the funding of the expenses incurred by the offering.

## **ASSIGNMENT COMMITTEE**

The Assignment Committee assigned vicars and candidates as follows: Candidate of Theology James Krueger was assigned to Ascension Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin and Candidate of Theology Roger Holtz was assigned to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Bloomer, Wisconsin. Candidate of Theology Jon Bruss was engaged by Bethany Lutheran College to be a full-time instructor especially in the areas of Greek and Latin. Student Ronald Pederson was assigned to vicar at the Fertile-Crookston, Minnesota, parish. Student Joseph

Abrahamson has been assigned to St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Lombard, Illinois and to Emmaus Lutheran Church, Chicago, Illinois as vicar. 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**

These are exciting days at our Bethany. If our forefathers could have seen the developments on the campus they would have truly been astounded. The new sports and fitness center is well on its way towards completion with the hope that it will be ready for use when school opens this fall. The remodeling of the lower level of Old Main for the student union facilities is now underway and you can observe the progress that is being made there. At this convention we will participate in the groundbreaking ceremony for the new chapel and construction will begin very soon. We will also participate in the cornerstone laying ceremony for the sports and fitness center.

Our college continues to present a Christ-centered education to our young people and remains faithful to its motto "One Thing is Needful." Due to the quality of the institution and its growing reputation, as well as the fine work of the admissions department, our student body continues to grow. To have over 300 young people sitting daily at the feet of Christian teachers is indeed a mission outreach and one which by God's grace may affect the lives of numerous youth. We need to express our gratitude to the Lord for all the blessings which he has bestowed upon our Bethany Lutheran College. The "Preparing For the Twenty-first Century" campaign has been an amazing success and is providing funding for all of the improvements which are taking place as well as the establishment of an endowment fund for the college. We commend the administration of the college for its excellent planning and carrying out of the purpose of our school.

## **BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

With seventeen students enrolled in our seminary and with crowded conditions in the library, only one classroom, and limited space for faculty offices and computer work area, our building is becoming quite crowded. When the synodical office was moved into the seminary in 1986 a space was naturally taken for this purpose also. The Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees is therefore presenting to this convention a proposal for building an addition to the seminary and the synod office building. As you know, the Schwan Foundation agreed to match our budgetary income for 1994 and 1995 and the synod decided how the money should be used. We have now been assured that the budget will be matched also for 1996. This is wonderful news and enables us to plan ahead. The Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees are therefore proposing that we use the 1995 matching funds to construct the addition to the seminary and synod office building and that we return to the original plan for the funding for 1996. We believe that now is the time to take such a step for several reasons: We have a larger enrollment and more space is greatly needed; the library is greatly overcrowded and more space is essential; increased space for the use of computers and study area for the students is also of prime importance. The computer room, copy room, and secretary's office are entirely too small and now that they are used by both the synod and the seminary they do not meet the needed

requirements. As we prepare for the future there may be additional needs for the synodical office space as well. A larger conference room and additional office space for possible additions to our staff both in the seminary and in the synod needs to be provided. Since the funds will be available in 1995 we feel that this is the time to proceed with the work of expansion.

We would like to remind the synod that there will be a need to place 7-9 vicars in 1995 and that we will have the additional workers to enable us to go forward with the expansion of our home and foreign mission program. We have been praying the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth workers into the harvest and our prayers are being answered. We now face the task of planning for the future so that these additional workers do not stand idle but can be put to work in the Lord's vineyard.

We wish to commend our seminary administration and faculty for their faithful work in instructing our future pastors. Our seminary professors are above all faithful to the truths of God's Word and teach them diligently to our future pastors. When so many seminaries nowadays have become hotbeds of religious controversy and liberalism we give praise and thanks to God that he has preserved our seminary on the very same foundation on which it was founded almost 50 years ago.

## HOME MISSIONS

Our Board for Home Missions recently opened its seventh home mission in the state of Florida giving us nine congregations in that area. Work has recently begun in Winter Haven where the Rev. Matthew Thompson is presently serving. Our work in Florida has been richly blessed by the Lord.

Another new mission was recently begun in Holland, Michigan, where the Rev. Michael Smith is serving.

The planning and management of funds carried out by the Board for Home Missions is to be highly commended. Their sources of funds are the synod budget, interest from the Partners in the Gospel fund which was established by a synod-wide offering a few years ago and also from the proceeds of the Mr. and Mrs. Albert Fett estate. Lutheran Brotherhood has also very graciously provided a grant of \$40,000 each year for the work of home missions. In addition to these funds the Schwan Foundation is responsible for the establishment of two of our home missions in the past and also will fund two more beginning in 1994. The management of these funds and the care of our missions is growing to such an extent that before long it will almost be necessary to have a full-time position to care for all of these responsibilities.

Since many of our congregations are located in areas of our country where population is declining and where growth is next to impossible it is very important that our synod expand into areas where the numbers of people are increasing. If it were not for our expansion in home missions over the past years, especially since 1980, our synod would have greatly diminished in size.

We commend our Board for Home Missions for its good management and zeal in carrying out the Great Commission of our Lord in spreading the Gospel. We also commend our home missionaries who labor so faithfully in gathering prospects and bringing people into the Lord's kingdom. The principles of the "church growth movement" are not found in our home mission program. Our missionaries labor with Word and Sacrament and go to those who do not know their Savior and bring to them the message of sin and grace. They rely upon the working of the Holy Spirit through the Word to bring about a true faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We have no so-called "community churches" where the name Lutheran is downplayed and social programs are made the chief attraction for people. Each mission pastor is fully committed to providing solid instruction in

the Word of God with the chief emphasis being on Word and Sacrament as the only means by which souls are led to Christ. They are totally committed to the principle of our Lutheran Confessions, namely, that "God gives no one his Holy Spirit apart from the means of grace." May the Lord continue to bless our mission outreach so that precious souls who would be lost forever may come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior and Redeemer.

## **FOREIGN MISSIONS**

Our foreign missionaries are truly to be commended for their faithful, sacrificial service to the Lord in laboring in far away places to bring people into God's kingdom. We now have six pastors in Peru. Two of them are our own foreign missionaries, the Rev. David Haeuser and the Rev. Timothy Erickson. The other four pastors are pastors who have graduated from our seminary in Lima. It is truly wonderful that our men can be assisted by these well-qualified native Peruvians who have received such a thorough education in Lutheran doctrine at our Lima seminary. Our missionaries have often faced uncertain and even dangerous conditions in Peru but they labor on trusting that the Lord will watch over them and provide for their protection.

Our work in Chile is also being richly blessed. Missionaries Olsen and McMiller have been joined by Missionary Timothy Bartels to provide for the great challenge of reaching souls in that fertile field. They are assisted ably by Miss Amy Gernander and Mr. Peter Olsen who work in the areas of teaching and youth work. The growth of our mission in Chile is truly remarkable and our mission pastors are to be commended for their faithful service.

Our Board for Foreign Missions is very diligent in carrying out the task of managing the resources and providing for the needs of our missionaries. The board has a great deal of concern for the personal welfare of each missionary and their families and treats each one with special consideration for their needs. A field visit has recently been made by three members of the board and this is, no doubt, a great encouragement to the workers on the field. The workers need the encouragement and support of the board and need to discuss the various problems that arise in the carrying out of foreign mission activity.

Let us remember both the board and the missionaries in our prayers that the Lord will continue to watch over them and bless their efforts at bringing the Gospel to those benighted lands.

## **EASTERN EUROPE**

At the invitation of Thoughts of Faith, our church-related organization, Mrs. Orvick and I visited the mission in Kiev, Ukraine, in the month of April. We were accompanied on the journey by Pastor and Mrs. Paul Schneider (at no cost to the synod). This was the first opportunity that I had had to visit one of the countries of the former Soviet Union. We were welcomed with open arms by the people who have gathered around the Gospel in Kiev. Pastor and Mrs. John Shep and Pastor Melvin Schwark were our hosts for the occasion. Pastor Schwark's wife was in the United States due to the illness of her father. I had the opportunity to meet many of the people there and to learn to know them better. I had occasion to preach at two services on Sunday morning, April 17th. The first service was conducted in the English language with Pastor Schwark serving as liturgist. There were about 70 people in attendance. The second service was conducted in the Ukrainian language with the president of the congregation, Victor Zatsarniy, serving as translator. Pastor Shep conducted the liturgy. This

service was attended by about 150 people, some of whom had returned after the English service. Bible classes were conducted between services both in English and the Ukrainian languages by the pastors. We also visited the Sunday School and it was a joy to hear the little children sing for the services. After the second service a delightful program of welcome was presented by the members to the great enjoyment of their guests. We received the traditional "bread and salt," a Ukrainian custom, as a token of the warm welcome accorded to us. At a reception in the evening held at Pastor Shep's apartment we had the opportunity to meet members of the congregation as well as certain government officials who have been very instrumental in assisting our mission work there.

We received the following message from the church president as we were welcomed at the program:

Highly Respected Guests:

From our sincere hearts let us greet you on our Ukrainian land. Now you can see how many members of the congregation are here in this hall and they need your support. We sincerely thank you that in your far away America you are thinking about us and helping us. To remember your visit to our wonderful capitol, Kiev, we would like to present you with the bread and salt.

Our hearts were deeply touched by the warm reception that we received.

Similar work is also being carried out in Ternopil with the Rev. Roger Kovaciny serving as missionary.

In addition to preaching the Gospel certain humanitarian projects have also been undertaken. Most of the funding for the Thoughts of Faith enterprise is provided by a generous benefactor to this vast project.

After leaving Kiev we proceeded westward to Plzen where we had the privilege of visiting again our mission there. Dr. Martin Luther School has now grown to 83 pupils. Teachers in the school are Mr. and Mrs. Silas Born, Miss Joyce Eisberg, Mrs. Jan Sparley, and Mr. and Mrs. Brian Maurice. Pastors Luttmann, Krikava, and Sparley provide the pastoral leadership and mission outreach. The school is rapidly being outgrown and so a large building nearby has been purchased for future expansion. It appears that the key to effective mission work in the Czech Republic is through the agency of our Christian Day School. The people there are much interested in quality education and thus are very desirous of enrolling their children in our school. With the children sitting at the feet of Christian teachers five days a week the seed of the Gospel is being sown in their hearts and a solid foundation is being built for the future. The children also provide excellent contacts with the parents and as a result a congregation of approximately 63 confirmed members has been organized. Projections for the future indicate that the school will continue to grow with a possible attendance this fall of about 125. We had the privilege of speaking with each one of the workers there individually and preaching to the student body and guests in the chapel service.

Our staff in Plzen did a wonderful job of hosting the European conference of the recently organized Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference. It was attended by about 28 pastors and a number of their wives. Two lay people from our mission in Kiev also attended the conference.

May the Lord continue to bless the work of Thoughts of Faith in Ukraine and in the Czech Republic.

## **STEWARDSHIP MATTERS**

Our gracious Lord has placed before us a tremendous opportunity and a challenge in regard to our Christian stewardship. The Schwan Foundation made

the offer that it would match our total budgetary income for 1994 and 95. This has now been expanded to include 1996 also. One can readily see that this extra income will provide our synod with greatly enhanced opportunities to expand our work. We need to be good stewards following the example of Mr. Marvin Schwan who was so dedicated to serving the Lord and to sharing his blessings so that the Lord's work might be carried out. We also need to bear in mind that all of our giving to the synodical program will be doubled by the matching offer. Each congregation should therefore discuss this in its own midst and each individual consider this matter privately so that we may maximize the opportunity to take a great step forward in advancing the Lord's work.

Even though we fell far short of our budget in 1993 the Board of Trustees did not decide to recommend a decrease in the 1994 budget. The total figure still stands at \$755,000. It is hoped that we can reach and even exceed this goal as we face the challenge provided us by the Schwan proposal. The year 1993 was not a good year as far as synodical contributions were concerned. The total income for budgetary purposes for 1993 was \$672,393.57. This was one of our worst years for quite awhile. So far this year we are doing much better with receipts at the end of April being \$47,855.69 ahead of last year. We should remember in our congregations that all giving, including special gifts by women's organizations, men's groups, youth groups, and individuals, which go towards items which are included in the synod budget will also be matched. Special gifts, therefore, which are designated for budgetary items such as home or foreign missions, our college or seminary, our youth program, etc., will fall under the matching offer. In October of this year we will complete our special anniversary offering which has been a real blessing to our youth work and when that is completed it should make it possible for our membership to increase their giving for general synodical work.

In 1994 the first \$550,000 of each year's matching gift will be used to start one new mission. The money over and above the \$550,000 would be used as follows: \$50,000 for the capital budget, \$50,000 for debt retirement; what is over and above the \$650,000 figure would then be divided up on a percentage basis for all other items in our synodical budget. The Board of Trustees has decided to use the \$50,000 capital budget item to assist Bethany Lutheran College in the "Preparing for the 21st Century" campaign. This will replace the proposed special offering for the college building program which was planned for the entire synod in 1995. The Board of Regents and Board of Trustees are now proposing that the 1995 matching grant be used for the expansion of the seminary and synod office building. In 1996 we would then return to the aforementioned division which was adopted by the synod at the 1993 convention.

It is possible in the future that some form of matching grants will continue to take place. If this is a reality our Planning and Coordinating Committee will need to do extensive planning for use of such funds in future years so that they are used to the best advantage for the overall work of our synod.

It is truly amazing that the Lord has chosen our synod to receive such wonderful blessings. May we be good and faithful stewards of everything that we receive so that every gift is used to the greatest benefit. We also need to be on guard that we do not become dependent on outside gifts and then proceed to allow our own personal stewardship to decline. If this were the case the purpose of the matching funds would be defeated. We rather need to make use of this as a challenge to stimulate our own Christian stewardship so that this important part of our Christian life may not be allowed to deteriorate.

We urge pastors and delegates who are in attendance at the convention to place the subject of synodical support on the agenda of church council and congregational meetings. We were recently informed that two of our smaller congregations in the state of Oregon have taken the step of placing into their congregation budget a specified amount for the work of the Lord in the synod. It is all too easy to forget about what we are doing together as congregations who

are united in the fellowship of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. I am convinced that the people of our church body are eager and willing to support the Lord's work if they receive inspiration from God's Word, information about what is being accomplished and are provided with a system for giving of their first fruits to the Lord.

I believe that at our synod conventions we need to devote more time to the matter of Christian stewardship. Perhaps some such arrangement as small group discussions during the convention on the subject of congregational support and commitment for the synod's work would be beneficial to all the pastors and delegates. It is easy to make plans and adopt budgets and then go home and forget to keep the membership informed as to the work that we have agreed upon.

May the Lord inspire us through His holy Word to consider faithfully our responsibilities as Christian stewards of all the rich blessings that he has given us.

## **A REPORT CONCERNING CHRIST THE CORNERSTONE CONGREGATION, SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA**

At the 1993 convention of the synod the matter of the unfortunate controversy in Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona, was addressed. According to the resolution of the synod the remainder of 1993 was to be used in an attempt to resolve the differences which arose between the synod and the pastor and a portion of the congregation aligned with him. Several efforts were made to bring about such a resolution. On July 9th the following letter was addressed to Christ the Cornerstone and the Rev. Robert McMiller:

July 9, 1993

Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church  
7670 E. Jomax Road  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

Dear Members of Christ the Cornerstone and Rev. Robert McMiller:

At the 1993 convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod held at Mankato, Minnesota, June 20-24, the following resolutions were adopted:

Subject: The suspension of Rev. Robert McMiller and the portion of Christ the Cornerstone Congregation which is aligned with him.

- WHEREAS, An unfortunate situation has arisen in Christ the Cornerstone Congregation, Scottsdale, AZ, which has split the congregation, and has resulted in the removal of five men from membership, and,  
WHEREAS, These members who have been disciplined and removed have appealed to the Synod, and,  
WHEREAS, The AD HOC Committee has found the action taken against the five men to be unScriptural, and,  
WHEREAS, The synod president, on the basis of the Ad Hoc Committee Report, has suspended the Rev. Robert McMiller and that portion of the congregation aligned with him, therefore  
A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accept the Ad Hoc Committee Report, and,  
B. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the synod urges that the unScriptural discipline of the five men be lifted by the Rev. Robert McMiller and the portion of the congregation which is aligned with him, and,  
C. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the synod uphold the sus-

pension of Rev. Robert McMiller and that portion of the congregation which is aligned with him until the five men be taken back into full membership, and,

D. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, if the Rev. Robert McMiller and that portion of the congregation aligned with him, after lifting the suspension of the five men, be willing to meet with the Ad Hoc Committee or its representative (its choice) during the remainder of 1993 to attempt to resolve differences, then the above suspension be reconsidered, and,

E. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That if the Ad Hoc Committee can report to the synod president satisfactory progress in resolving the impasse, including the restoration to full membership of the five members who were improperly disciplined, the above suspension be lifted, and,

F. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That this resolution be the answer to the memorials, the protest and the appeals re: Christ the Cornerstone Ev. Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona, sent to the 1993 convention.

It was with a great deal of sorrow of heart that the convention felt it necessary to take this action. Our synod has no other desire than that our pastors and congregations should work together in peace and harmony for the spreading of the blessed gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It grieves us very deeply when situations arise which call for such action as that which our synod felt compelled to undertake at its recent convention.

On behalf of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod I wish to urge you to comply with the advice given in the resolutions. In accordance with Resolution D the Ad Hoc Committee stands ready to meet with the congregation and the Rev. McMiller during the remainder of 1993 to attempt to resolve the differences provided that the congregation first lift the suspension of the five men who were subjected to unScriptural discipline. The committee has asked me to inform them of your response. It would surely be pleasing to the Lord and a blessing to His church if this situation could be brought to a satisfactory resolution.

If I personally can be of any help to you in any way please feel free to call on me. In my opinion it is not too late to bring about a God-pleasing solution to this sad situation if we can meet together as Christians in a spirit of meekness, humility and love. I shall be waiting to hear from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely in Christ,

George M. Orvick

cc: Ad Hoc Committee

An official response was received to the letter dated July 18, 1993, which we reprint here as follows:

CHRIST THE CORNERSTONE  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
7670 E Jomax Rd—Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Response to Resolution No. 1, Committee #13

1993 Convention of the ELS, Mankato, MN

WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) in convention on June 23, 1993 adopted Resolution #1 of the Miscellaneous Committee in which Christ the Cornerstone Ev. Lutheran Congregation (CCLC) and its Pastor were wrongfully accused of having acted unScripturally in dealing with five (5) male communicant members of the congregation, and,

WHEREAS, The ELS did not in any way demonstrate or prove from Holy Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, or other widely accepted Lutheran texts on Pastoral Theology, that the action which Christ the Corner-

- stone took with regard to five (5) male members was contrary to Scripture or confessional Lutheran practice, and,
- WHEREAS, Christ Himself grants to the congregation the right and responsibility to deal with impenitent sinners in its midst (Matt. 16:15-19; Matt. 18:18; John 20:22-23) and the Lutheran Confessions further point to the autonomy of the congregation to follow what it believes to be God-pleasing (Form. of Con., SD, X, para. 9; FC, SD, X, 21), and,
- WHEREAS, The ELS in convention also violated the legally binding guidelines of Roberts Rules of Order by refusing either a representative of the congregation, or its pastor, to speak in their own defense during the trial that was held in the course of the annual 1993 convention, and,
- WHEREAS, The by-laws of the ELS specifically state: "Therefore, if a congregation believes that a (Synod) decision is in conflict with the Word of God, or finds that it does not serve its interests under the circumstances peculiar to it, the congregation should announce this to the presiding officer of the respective convention, and give its reasons for its opinion . . . within six months. . . ." (By-Laws, Chapt V, para. 3) therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That Christ the Cornerstone Ev. Lutheran Congregation formally notify the President of the ELS, and other appropriate members of the Synod, that it finds Resolution No 1 of Committee #13 of the 1993 Synod Convention to be in conflict with the teachings of Holy Scripture, and also contrary to The Lutheran Confessions, and be it further
- RESOLVED, That Christ the Cornerstone declare Resolution #1 of Committee #13, adopted at the 1993 ELS Synod Convention, to be invalid, and be it finally
- RESOLVED, That Christ the Cornerstone herewith declare that it still considers itself to be a member congregation of the ELS with all the rights and privileges that belong to every member congregation of the ELS.

Signed:

Jack Walberg, chairman  
Robert J. McMiller, pastor

A. W. Ireland, secretary  
Adopted July 18, 1993

Another letter was sent on August 20th and still another on December 15th which pleaded with the congregation to begin discussions of the matter. Both were met with rejection.

We are very sorry that this matter still continues to trouble the synod. We believe, however, that every effort has been made to bring about discussions between the congregation, and the Ad Hoc Committee in an effort to restore harmony. The problem has been that the pastor and that portion of the congregation served by him have steadfastly refused to meet with the Ad Hoc Committee. Since the congregation rejected the resolutions of the 1993 convention and since all efforts during the remainder of 1993 failed to bring about any progress in the restoration of good relations the Board of Trustees has begun the process of seeking to reclaim the title to the church property. The board arrived at this decision since the congregation has not been making the appropriate mortgage payment and has not paid the interest on the construction loan.

## SYNOD INFORMATION PROGRAM

We continue to send regular news about our synod's activities to the pastors and the congregations. Letters are sent out to the synod contact men which we hope are being read to the congregations. Bulletin inserts are also mailed out on a regular basis. Newsletters are also regularly sent to the pastors.

Last summer we established a "Committee on Communications." Dr. Thomas Kuster is the chairman of the committee and he is joined by Mr. Ken Loomis and Mr. Dennis Behr. These men are highly qualified to work in this area. So far they have helped to establish a computer hookup so that pastors and other synod members may be connected to the synod office and are presently receiving weekly news bulletins. At the present time about 12 or more of our pastors are thus connected. It is a rather simple and inexpensive matter to get "on line" and to receive the weekly news bulletin. Those who are interested should speak to Dr. Kuster about the procedure necessary to get connected. Funding for the committee's work has been provided by a grant from Aid Association for Lutherans.

## **PRESIDENT'S VISITATION PROGRAM**

We are in the process of making visits to pastors and congregations of the synod. As a part of the program Mrs. Orvick and I visit with the pastor and his wife. An evening reception is then provided by the congregation to which all are invited for an opportunity to hear a presentation by the president and to discuss synodical affairs. Under this program we have either preached at a Sunday morning service or spoken at receptions or attended celebrations in 38 congregations: Gresham, Oregon; Hillsboro, Oregon; Sutherlin and Myrtle Creek, Oregon; Grants Pass, Oregon; Klamath Falls, Oregon; The Dalles, Oregon; Escondido, California; Irvine, California; Mt. Vernon, Washington; Yelm, Washington; Port Orchard, Washington; Parkland, Washington; Lakewood, Washington; West Bend, Wisconsin; Hillman, Michigan; Alpena, Michigan; Suttons Bay, Michigan; Albert Lea, Minnesota; Kissimmee, Florida; South Lakeland, Florida; North Lakeland, Florida; Sebring, Florida; Naples, Florida; Port St. Lucie, Florida; Midland, Michigan; Pinehurst, Eau Claire, Wisconsin; King of Grace, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Lake Havasu, Arizona; Bullhead City, Arizona; Cape Girardeau, Missouri; Piedmont, Missouri; Center Congregation, Lake Mills, Iowa; Scarville Congregation, Scarville, Iowa; Saude Lutheran Church, Lawler, Iowa; and San Antonio, Texas. In addition to the congregations we have also addressed the children at Parkland Lutheran School, Parkland, Washington; the faculty at Lakewood Lutheran School, Lakewood, Washington; the children at Trinity Lutheran School, West Bend, Wisconsin, and also the parents.

We find it to be a very positive experience to be able to travel to the various congregations in order to have the opportunity to provide information about our synod's work, hear the concerns of the pastors and members and in general to bind us together in a closer unity in our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Funding for most of the above visits was provided by a grant from Lutheran Brotherhood. God willing we plan to continue such congregational and pastoral visits in the coming year.

In addition to the above mentioned visits we have also had the opportunity to attend pastoral conferences, nearly all the board and committee meetings, inter-synodical meetings and circuit functions.

## **OUR SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY**

We certainly give thanks to the Lord for all the blessings which he bestowed upon our Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the first seventy-five years of our existence. We pray now that he would continue to guide and bless us as we proceed into the future. We pray that "His truth may endure to all generations" also in our synod. May those who are younger in our midst and who will be celebrating

the 100th anniversary of our church body determine to stand fast upon the faith of our forefathers with the same courage and conviction that those who gathered at Lime Creek in 1918 possessed. The Anniversary Committee and the Anniversary Offering Committee have not been excused as yet because there are still some matters that need attention. The Offering Committee will want to see that effort through to its completion in October. The Anniversary Committee also plans to produce one more publication, namely, the printing in booklet form of the doctrinal statement adopted by our synod in 1992 entitled "We Believe, Teach, and Confess." Surely this will be a worthy final project for the committee to set forth to all our members and to the world about us as a statement of what our synod confesses after the first 75 years of our history.

As we gather here at this convention we would like to call your attention to the paintings which record our history and which are once again displayed in the fine arts center. The pictorial booklet "In Remembrance of His Mercy," the historical book "Built On The Rock," and a picture book, "This Generation of Grace" are all available in the auditorium. If you have not received copies of these publications we urge you to make use of this opportunity to purchase your copies. Surely these are books which all our members should have in their libraries.

It appears that all expenses incurred in connection with the publication of the books and the committee expenses have been covered by a generous grant from Aid Association for Lutherans and a grant from Schwan's Sales Enterprises, Inc. A final report of all the expenses will be given to our next convention.

On behalf of the committee I would like to express once again sincere appreciation to all those who helped in making the celebration a success: Prof. William Bukowski for the paintings; Pastor Herbert Larson and Prof. J. B. Madson for the excellent work in recording our history in the book "Built On The Rock"; Pastor Craig Ferkenstad for his work in compiling and editing "This Generation of Grace"; Mrs. Norman Madson for writing the pageant and Prof. Sigurd Lee for serving as director of the pageant; Prof. Dennis Marzolf for his invaluable assistance in arranging for the musical productions in connection with the anniversary; Pastor David Nelson for producing the children's program and to all the pastors of the synod for diligently promoting the anniversary celebrations in their congregations. The members of the anniversary committee are as follows: G. Orvick, chairman; D. Nelson, secretary; Alf Merseth; M. Tweit; R. M. Branstad; R. Newgard; and Harvey Roberson.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVE

The work of the Lord in our synod has been carried out by every faithful member in our congregations. We take this opportunity to express special thanks to each and every member of the ELS who have prayed, confessed their faith, contributed of their blessings and in general have worked for the welfare of our synod. Some of these have had special responsibilities such as members who have served faithfully on the various boards of the synod and have worked so hard to help promote the advancement of His kingdom. Various of our pastors and lay people have carried special responsibilities for which I want to express our gratitude: The Rev. Paul Petersen, vice president; the Rev. Alf Merseth, secretary, Mr. Leroy Meyer, treasurer; the Rev. Paul Madson, *Sentinel* editor; Pres. Marvin Meyer of Bethany Lutheran College; and Pres. Wilhelm Petersen of the Seminary. We ask the Lord to bless each faithful pastor who cares for His flock, our home missionaries, our foreign missionaries who labor far from home and all the members of our synodical boards and committees who are very diligent in the tasks assigned to them. May God bless each and every one of our faithful workers.

## CONCLUSION

The Lord has again granted me the opportunity to complete another term as your president. I consider it a great privilege to serve the Lord and to serve our synod in this way. The support and the encouragement which I have received from brother pastors and lay members of the synod are much appreciated and you have my deepest gratitude. May we have the spirit of the apostle Paul as we live together in our synod and as we deal with one another as Christian brethren, namely, "Kindness, meekness, long-suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another." (Col. 3,12-13) The work that we are doing together has eternal consequences for thousands of souls. May we therefore go forward with energy and enthusiasm, undertaking each new challenge that the Lord places before us, remembering the Apostle's words "Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." (Gal. 6,9)

### SOLI DEO GLORIA

George M. Orvick, president

## SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP ACTION OF THE SYNOD

### Resolution No. 1: Membership Application of Pastor

*WHEREAS, The following pastor has been recommended by the seminary faculty and approved by the Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, and,*

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

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Reverend Kent Dethlefsen, pastor of Richland Evangelical Lutheran Church, Thornton, Iowa, be received into permanent membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*

### Resolution No. 2: Membership Application 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 to be received into permanent membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*

*1. The Reverend Frederic E. Lams, pastor of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Northwest Indiana, Lake Station, Indiana.*

*2. The Reverend James Wuebben, pastor of Pinehurst Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.*

*3. The Reverend Matthew Thompson, called by the Home Mission Board to start a mission congregation in Winter Haven, Florida.*

### **Resolution No. 3: Membership Transfer 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 Reverend James Korthals, pastor of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Oregon, Wisconsin, and,*

*2. The Reverend Melvin Schwark, Thoughts of Faith missionary to Ukraine.*

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

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

*BE IT RESOLVED, That Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Northwest Indiana, Lake Station, Indiana be received into membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That Ascension Lutheran Church, St. Helens, Oregon, be received into membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*

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

### **Resolution No. 1: President's Message**

*WHEREAS, The president, in his message, has enjoined us to "Watch Diligently, Work Tirelessly, and Worship Joyfully;" "diligently watching" against those dangers which threaten our souls, especially the historical-critical approach to Scripture, "tirelessly working" to do our God-given tasks ever more willingly; and "joyfully worshipping" our Creator and Redeemer, thanking and praising Him for all the blessings He has showered upon us,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank our synod president for his message of encouragement and exhortation, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we heed his plea for an atmosphere of trust and harmony by rededicating ourselves first, to patient understanding of the difficulties facing our elected servants, and secondly, as elected officials, rededicating ourselves to the needs of those whom we serve.*

### **Resolution No. 2: Election of President Orvick**

*WHEREAS, President Orvick has completed another term of office, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Lord has greatly blessed the synod during this term, and,*

*WHEREAS, President Orvick has himself "worked tirelessly" in the Lord's Vineyard,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the Lord of the Church for providing this faithful servant for yet another term, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we pray the Lord to continue to bless the work of President Orvick and of the synod, and to grant him continuous health and vigor as he embarks upon another term of presidential leadership.*

**Resolution No. 3: CELC**

*WHEREAS, The newly organized Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference has become an active part of church life among the thirteen church bodies which are included in this organization, and,*

*WHEREAS, This organization provides a rich opportunity for mutual strengthening and edification,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks and praises God for this opportunity for fellowship and mutual encouragement.*

**Resolution No. 4: ELCF**

*WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum provides an excellent opportunity for the WELS and the ELS to discuss the work of each representative church body,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks God for the mutual strength received in this fellowship.*

**Resolution No. 5: President's Message**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the president's message be printed in the 1994 Synod Report.*

**ESSAY SUBMITTED TO THE  
77TH ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
JUNE 1994**

**TRIAL AND TRIUMPH:  
The Victory Of The  
Believer**



J. Kincaid Smith, Pastor  
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church  
Saginaw, Michigan

“Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.” (Jude 3-4). So began the letter of Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James, and so I greet you brothers and sisters in Christ.

Nearly two thousand years have passed since Jude, the brother of our Lord, penned these words to the young churches of the first century. The saints have indeed “contended for the faith” these two millennia, and many “godless men... whose condemnation was written about long ago...” (Jude 4) have indeed slipped in among the faithful.

The Church awaits the consummation of the age. The souls of the slain cry out tirelessly from beneath the altar of God, “How long, O Lord..?” (Rev. 6:10).

## **Apostasy and Death, The Signs of our Time**

“In these last times of which the Scriptures prophesy, the world is growing worse and men are growing weaker and more infirm” (AC, XXIII, 14). Philip Melancthon who according to Luther, had a penchant for stating things too mildly, wrote these words in the 16th century: What would he say of these present “last times?”

A parishioner came to her pastor with the disturbing announcement that her sixteen year-old daughter was pregnant. The pastor met that afternoon with the girl’s parents. The pastor counseled them in a manner consistent with his recent seminary training, encouraging them to express their concerns and feelings.

The girl was bright and talented; the boy was immature and rather irresponsible. The girl’s plans for college had been in mind for some time. The year was 1973, a time when the pregnancy of a high school junior was still a social embarrassment. It was also the same year in which Justice Blackmun found a right to privacy in the constitution and led the highest court of this land to declare a death penalty for the unborn.

Although the decree had been made in the spring, Indiana had not yet changed its law. However, the family had a friend, a doctor, who had a friend in Illinois. The arrangements were made with the pastor’s willing complicity. The trip to Illinois was made, and this child, this grandchild, this unborn innocent for whose soul the pastor was accountable, was put to death one bright summer afternoon, among the first of thousands so to die in the holocaust which has ravaged this nation for twenty-one sad years.

I will always know the age that unnamed, unborn child would have been, a child whose conception and death coincide with the yearly reminders of Roe vs. Wade. I will ever remember that child, because this writer was that pastor.

In January of that year I had graduated from Hamma School of Theology (LCA) where, for four years, I had learned apostasy. During the Lenten season of 1975, by God’s grace and through His Word, this writer was converted from that sin and death and its desolate spiritual emptiness. As one who has persecuted the Church and participated in apostasy, the contrast in my life between a wretched, hell-bound past and this life of blessed hope through faith, and victory through grace and forgiveness, is especially acute. That contrast enables some insight into the matter presently considered as we look forward to Jesus’ second coming: the certain hope and victory of the forgiven sinner, the Christian.

Our hope is the certainty of final rescue from this dark world. Our victory is the certainty of our ultimate triumph over sin,

death and the devil. This triumph is rooted in grace and is ours through the finished work of Christ. This grace is received by faith and lived out in the face of much tribulation. To lift up this hope and clearly portray that victory shall be the chief purpose of this essay.

This effort, however, must take its perspective and scope, not isolated within the tumult of our present day, but from within the viewpoint of a panorama of history. It is difficult to gain perspective from our own place in time and history. Where are we in the progression of history in light of Biblical prophecy? What have been the great epochs of conflict and apostasy of the past? How do they differ from the trials of the present day? Finally, what is the hope and the victory of the Christian?

At the present time the use of the destructive historical-critical method of Biblical interpretation<sup>1</sup> holds almost universal sway throughout Christendom. It would be difficult to find a confessional Lutheran today who would not concede that this most recent assault upon Christendom has led to the greatest apostasy ever to come upon the Church. Although we ought to hold our appraisal of things relating to the end times tentatively, it would nevertheless seem undeniable that the upsurge of this worst of heresies, with its renunciation of faith and falling away from within the Church itself (2 Thes. 2:1-4), is the clearest harbinger of the coming of the end of the age. At the same time, it is certainly not the beginning of apostasy in the church.

### **History is Punctuated by Three Great Epochs of Apostasy**

One can discern within the history of the Church a pattern of continual and progressive controversy and apostasy from the time of Christ. Consistent with Jesus' prediction, the revolt or apostasy got under way early in the apostolic age and has continued unabated to the present day. In one of the "little apocalypses" Jesus foretold:

Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other (Matt. 24:10).

Apostasy, or falling away, would happen within the very week in which Jesus uttered these words. Though later restored (except Judas), Peter and the other brethren deserted their Lord when He was arrested and tried. Following Pentecost, Stephen was the first of a host of bloodied martyrs, and false teachers swiftly invaded the pale of the fledgling Church.

In subsequent centuries, all within the bounds of the providential plan of our Lord, the Church passed through at least three great epochs of controversy and apostasy, three great trials of her faith. We will briefly examine the nature of each of

these eras, especially emphasizing the present testing of Christ's Church, the epoch which would seem to be the final chapter of history.

Dr. John Stephenson, professor of theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Catharines, Ontario, is the author of *Eschatology*, the thirteenth volume of *Confessional Lutheran Dogmatics*.<sup>2</sup> With keen insight Stephenson skillfully tests events, past and present, against the framework of Biblical prophecy.

The first chapter of Stephenson's book is entitled: "General Apostasy: The Sign of Our Time." While acknowledging general apostasy of a "generic" nature, i.e., false teachers and enemies of Christ's Church from the beginning, Stephenson cites a recent writer in the field of end-times studies observing "a marked 'intensification' of the signs in our own day." Stephenson continues:

This phenomenon can be discerned most readily in the swelling apostasy within Christendom itself from "the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). We live in the throes of a tragic intra-ecclesial [within the church] defection from Christ which currently poses a massive threat to the integrity of His church as she subsists in a multiplicity of confessions and denominations.<sup>3</sup>

Stephenson recognizes the pattern observed above, that controversy and apostasy have markedly intensified in the present great epoch in ways far more deadly and irreversible than any in the past. Along with most confessional Lutheran scholars, Stephenson would identify the ravaging of today's Church by the historical-critical method of Biblical interpretation as being "the great apostasy" and sees it as a powerful sign of Christ's imminent return to rescue His Church.

### **The End May Be Almost Over**

In his booklet, *He Shall Come Again*, Stephen Gaulke begins with the heading: "The End Is Mostly Over!"<sup>4</sup> Gaulke makes the point that the "end times" began with Christ's defeat of Satan, announced from the cross with the words, "It is finished" (John 19:30). Christ died, was buried, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and with His work finished, sat down at the right hand of God the Father from where He rules the universe, and "from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead." Gaulke cites Anthony A. Hoekema in this regard:

The greatest eschatological event in history is not in the future but in the past. Since Christ has won a decisive victory over Satan, sin and death in the past, future eschatological events must be seen as the completion of a redemptive process which has already begun. What will happen on the last day, in other words, will be but the culmination of what has been happening in these last days.<sup>5</sup>

Although the unbroken chain of apostasy extends from the time of the New Testament to the present day, there is also an

unbroken blessed counterpoint to apostasy; namely, the victory in the lives of all who through faith in Christ overcome the world. This victory was achieved by Christ our Lord at the cross and is vouchsafed to all believers by faith in His blood. In his first epistle St. John writes:

...everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God (1 John 5:4-5).

Although the warfare of the Church militant never ceases and controversy and its resultant apostasy has always been and will always be present within her walls, confessional Lutherans discern three distinct concentrations of the enemy's attacks, three eras of apostasy which punctuate the history of the Church from the time of Christ to the present. In each of these epochs, a particular heresy predominated in the troubling of the church.

### **The First Epoch of Apostasy: *The Christological Controversy***

The first of these great epochs of controversy resulting in apostasy was "Christological" in nature and occurred within the first centuries of the Church. The enemy's attack centered on the nature of Christ, His true deity and true humanity and on His relationship to the Father and the Holy Spirit.

A heresy known as Gnosticism was the primary root of this controversy. Essentially, the gnostics held the idea that salvation came through a secret knowledge (*gnosis* in Greek). Valentinus, Basilides and Marcion were its chief proponents.

The gnostics believed in a version of dualism<sup>6</sup> which probably had its roots in the Persian religion of Zoroastrianism. The gnostics believed that the creation, including the substance of man, was created by a Demiurge or evil god, and that man must be "saved" by receiving a spark of good through special knowledge.<sup>7</sup>

Another heresy which plagued the early church was Arianism, thus named for its author and proponent, Arius. It was the principal heresy which denied the true deity of Christ. The council of Nicea met in 325 where Athanasius successfully opposed this deadly foe of the Gospel.

Through these controversies, the teachings framed by the Church regarding the distinctions between the three persons of the Trinity became the ground for the formulation of the three ecumenical creeds of the Church; namely, the Apostles,' the Nicene and the Athanasian. All were born out of the Church's diligent contention over several centuries against the detractors of God's Word.

Although not arising from the same philosophical grounds, the denial of Christ's true deity by today's liberal scholars

deserves the same condemnation. The three ecumenical creeds are sufficient to condemn all the heresies of our day.

### **The Second Epoch of Apostasy: *The Soteriological Crisis***

Toward the end of the first great epoch of controversy, the seeds of the second were sown. Another troubler of the church, a British lay monk named Pelagius, came to Rome around A.D. 400, a mere 75 years after the Council of Nicea had settled the Christological/Trinitarian controversy. Pelagius eventually exercised considerable influence upon the Church. The heart of his error was the belief that a man took the initial and fundamental steps towards salvation by his own efforts apart from the working of divine grace.

Although the church finally condemned and excommunicated Pelagius, the resurrected Pelagian heresy of the Roman Catholic Church would come to be seen as the second great epoch of controversy and crisis in the Church.

Satan's first attack was aimed directly at Christ. Failing that, he attacked Christ's saving message, the Gospel, the means of grace. Thus this controversy is called "the *soteriological* controversy." *Soteria* is the Greek word for "salvation." This controversy concerned how man is *saved*; i.e., is salvation by grace through faith, or by grace plus good works?

The Lord raised up Martin Luther, and through the Lutheran Reformation restored to a segment of the Church the pure teaching of the Apostolic faith. In turn, the Reformation proved to be a catalyst for some measure of reform (though with mixed blessings) within the Roman Catholic Church itself in the form of the Catholic Counter Reformation.<sup>8</sup>

The great achievement wrought by the Lord through His servant Luther was nothing less than the rediscovery of the Gospel of Christ. The central teachings of the Reformation are framed in the three *solas*: man is saved by *grace alone* (*sola gratia*), through *faith alone* (*sola fide*), and this faith and all doctrine is established by *Scripture alone* (*sola Scriptura*).

As the spirit of Pelagius came back to haunt the Church of the Reformation, so other spirits would return to stir the pot and make it boil.

### **There is Nothing New Under the Sun**

The Preacher said:

What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun. Is there anything of which one can say, "Look! This is something new"? It was here already, long ago; it was here before our time (Eccl. 1:9-10).

What the Preacher said has held true throughout the history of Christ's Church and will continue to be the pattern until His

second coming. The Preacher speaks not of a cyclical view of history but of the fact that there is no *new* evil, only fresh manifestations and variations of man's indulgence and participation in the ancient temptations. That there are no new heresies should give us a certain confidence: the old errors, battled and dispatched, are simply resurrected with new faces and names. Understanding the nature of the heresies of the past can assist us in identifying the roots of each new manifestation of error. The same Word is and will continue to be all-sufficient to oppose and resist them all.

The Christological heresy would resurface with John Calvin's and Ulrich Zwingli's denial of the real presence in the Lord's Supper. Their error had its roots in their faulty Christology, their unbiblical conception of Christ's two natures.

The soteriological heresy, thoroughly refuted by the Lutherans at the time of the Reformation, took a more subtle form among some Protestants. Luther understood that conversion was worked by the Holy Spirit through the Word and Sacraments as the means of grace.<sup>9</sup> John Calvin believed the Holy Spirit worked *immediately* (without *means*) in bringing men to conversion. Calvin's failure to acknowledge the necessity of the means of grace led him to formulate the doctrine of double predestination. Another reformer, Jacob Arminius (1560-1609), reacting against Calvin's doctrine, but falling into the ancient Pelagian error, held that man had free will and consequently was capable of choosing to come to Christ. John Wesley, the father of Methodism, adopted the "Arminian" view. Today most Protestants (reformed) follow in his footsteps so that "decision theology" is the common doctrine among most of the evangelicals.

### **The Roots of the Last (?) Skirmish**

Perhaps the most deadly flaw in John Calvin's theological system was his notion concerning the relationship between Scripture and reason. His method of biblical interpretation allowed him to impose reason over Scripture whenever the words of Scripture seemed to oppose his own notion of *reasonableness*. Calvin believed that "the Lord has instituted nothing that is at variance with reason,"<sup>10</sup> a dictum that has plagued Reformed (and Catholic) theology to this day. According to Calvin:

"Reason and faith are not opposed to each other. Hence we must not admit anything, even in religious matters, which is contrary to right reason."<sup>11</sup> Calvin's dictum merely adds a veneer of sensibility to Satan's words spoken to our first parents in the garden: "Did God really say...?" (Gen. 3:1).

Calvin's guiding rule led him to deny that Christ's human nature shared the attributes (characteristics) of His divine nature. Consequently, Calvin did not believe that it was possible

for Christ to be omnipresent physically. Calvin therefore concluded the impossibility of the presence of Christ's real body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine in the Lord's Supper.

Calvin erred in matters vital to the life of the Church and to the integrity of the faith. He denied the true nature and efficacy of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Even worse, ultimately he denied the true nature of Christ. Finally, the error which would prove to be the trojan horse within Protestantism, the dictum which colored all his thinking, was his insistence upon the imposition of reason over Scripture.<sup>12</sup> This would open the door of the Church to the ravages of the historical-critical method.

Calvin's reformation would be one increasingly fragmented by the tyranny of human reason over the plain words of Scripture. Webber wrote regarding Calvin's view of the interpretation of Scripture:

Calvin may have looked to the Scriptures as a source of Christian doctrine, but he assumed beforehand that they would not teach him anything which did not agree with his preconceived standard of "reasonableness." Calvin used his own reason and experience as a "screen" through which he filtered the statements of Holy Scripture. Whenever the literal sense of a passage ran contrary to his "reason," Calvin would automatically impose a figurative interpretation on that portion of God's Word or otherwise twist the meaning of the text until it became "reasonable."<sup>13</sup>

This fundamental flaw in Calvin's method of Biblical interpretation set the stage for the splintering of the reformation into the (now) hundreds of "Protestant" sects which dot the ecclesial landscape, each going their own way of reason, each man his own final authority in interpreting Scripture.

This same idolatry of reason would be the root, trunk and branches of the third great epoch of controversy. Calvin's dictum is the direct antecedent of the historical-critical method, the scourge of the Church in our time. It is a deadly blight which, to date, has overtaken virtually all the mainline religious institutions, colleges and seminaries in the world.

The consequence is a great apostasy which dwarfs that of ages and epochs past.<sup>14</sup> The present heresy within the walls of Christendom is unyielding and intransigent. The very weapon with which every heresy of the past has been contested, God's Word, has effectively been "neutralized"<sup>15</sup> among our opponents and excluded from the arena of discourse.

### **The Enlightenment: The Darkness Deepens**

Another strand of influence which would lead to the next (third) great epoch of apostasy, one from outside the Church, was that of the European Enlightenment. The "enlightenment" was little more than the paganism of the natural man dressed in new finery. The elevation of reason above Scripture, which

had been firmly planted and born its fruit in the thinking of Calvin and Zwingli among the Protestants and in the thought of Erasmus among the Catholics, was certainly one of the roots of Enlightenment thinking. Like a wayward daughter leaving home, Calvin's and Zwingli's comparatively restrained misuse of reason spilled over into the secular realm. There it joined forces with native strains of humanistic thought, and free from all restraint, it became an utterly wanton woman and finally, unrepentant, the erring daughter came home to stay... and to raise her children.

In the years after the Reformation, the Enlightenment's radical elevation of reason to the position of supreme authority in all matters, secular or sacred, led to the disintegration of biblical authority in the sacred realm and of biblical influence in the secular realm. In "the kingdom of the left," this abdication of all divine authority led to the French Revolution and opened the way to the twentieth-century Russian Revolution. Within the Church, "the kingdom of the right," the foundation was laid for the emergence of the historical-critical method and modern liberalism on the one hand, and an emotional pietism on the other,<sup>16</sup> both representing flight from the Word of truth.

Contributing to the slippage within the Church, Reformed thought certainly prevailed over Lutheranism in Europe over the years. Along with Renaissance thought, which had swept through the fertile ground of the Roman Catholic lands, Reformed thought proved to be a willing handmaiden for the wholesale abandonment of the historic faith which has been the tragic legacy of our generation.

Stephenson says of Enlightenment man:

In his haughty assumption of autonomy from all external restraints grounded in divine revelation, Enlightenment man, both inside and outside the bounds of Christendom, disdainfully dismissed the sovereignty of God in His Word, setting the stage for the savage destruction of Christian civilization among whose sorry ruins we live today.<sup>17</sup>

The German philosopher Immanuel Kant (1724-1804) took up the tenets of the Enlightenment with a vengeance. The existence of God, the soul, and the future life had all, before Kant, been held to be compatible with reason. Calvin and Zwingli had held onto these most indispensable elements of the faith. Kant, at least a more *consistent* philosopher, let them all go, rejecting all three as being "intrinsically unknowable."<sup>18</sup>

### **The Third Great Epoch of Apostasy: The Epistemological Crisis**

In exposing Calvin's and Zwingli's elevation of reason above Scripture and the fruit it bore in Kant's "*intrinsically unknowable*" we have revealed the root of the third great crisis in Chris-

tianity: the *epistemological* crisis. The Greek word *epistamai* means "to know" or "to understand." Kant and others who followed him had come to believe that many things taught in Scripture are simply *intrinsically* unknowable and therefore cannot be "true."<sup>19</sup>

The present crisis in the Church is an epistemological crisis. Those who have succumbed to the seduction of its heresy believe that man simply cannot know anything, even things of the faith, with certainty. Therefore, one dare not assert anything as absolute truth. Everything is relative and must be weighed in the context of the given situation. All claims of "truth" must be considered to be ever tentative and open to change in the context of dialogue with other equally tentative claims.

An unavoidable question arises for every theologian: What is to be the authority for asserting claims of truth? An excerpt from the chapter on "The New Morality" in *What's Going on Among the Lutherans*, shows that what applies to determining authority in ethics applies to all areas of doctrine, faith and practice.

The possibility of some basis, some authority upon which to found our beliefs, morals, and ethics, could conceivably come from only one of two possible sources. One source is what man thinks. The only other possibility is what God thinks.

Therein lies the heart of the historical critic's problem as far as determining right from wrong or, for that matter, determining belief in any other area of the faith. The critic has decided for himself that God did not inspire the Scriptures to be written, let alone preserve them for us down through history in the church. The only other authority the critic can turn to is himself or other men. Ultimately, since even the notions of other men are acceptable to him only if they fit within his own scheme of things [Calvin's "preconceived standard of reasonableness"]. The critic himself is ultimately his own final authority in all matters. That means that ultimately he is his own god.<sup>20</sup>

For the liberal scholar, there are no eternal truths simply because Kant's dictum of the "intrinsically unknowable" has been accepted. Nothing can be asserted or held with certainty. All claims must be tentative. Nothing is absolute. All things are relative and must be decided in the light of each situation. In this view man is really cut off from the possibility of knowing anything with certainty.

The cardinal sin, according to this view of the world, would be to claim anything as being absolute unalterable truth. Another (even worse) sin would be to assume to impose such a view on anyone else. The only absolute of relativism is that there are no absolutes.

This, then, is the foundation for the radical rampant pluralism which is the mark of our times.<sup>21</sup>

Stephenson points out:

Kant accelerated the steady triumph of relativism in western thought, which has much to do with the indifferentist and even syncretistic mentality pervading external Christendom, and which has produced a vacuum in contemporary spiritual life that is apt to be filled with [frenzied] consumerism, rampant immorality, or New Age occultism and oftentimes by a mixture of the three.<sup>22</sup>

Consider the radical changes which have taken place in the last 70 or 80 years. Yet Stephenson reminds us that:

"[Francis] Pieper was fully aware of the deep apostasy afflicting Christendom, being moved by the increasingly virulent denial of the vicarious atonement to assert that history had in fact entered upon the 'little season' predicted in Rev. 20:3."<sup>23</sup>

Before the turn of the century C.F.W. Walther (1811-1887) saw the devastating effects resulting from the embracing of liberal philosophies by the Church. In one sermon Walther assails the modernists of his day and points out the aberrations resulting from their infidelity as a mark of the last days.

Yet not only has the papacy filled the Christian church with its abominations. Where have things got to among those who call themselves Protestants? The pure Gospel has fled from well-nigh all churches and schools. Almost all teachers of Christendom are now protesting against God's Word rather than the word of man.

We find that either the most insolent infidelity is taught so that Christians are led to mistrust the Bible, Christ's Godhead and atonement are denied and everything holy is mocked, indeed, that there is oftentimes such a complete lack of shame and awe that men make no bones about expressing their disdain about the Most High God in heaven and pronouncing God's Law and the voice of conscience to be vain phantoms—or on the other side, where the Holy Bible is still the object of lofty praise, there are those who fashion for themselves a new "enthusiastic" religion in accordance with the perverted ideas of their own hearts. And this wretched self-made mess they call Christianity!

In these miserable last times, Christianity is just as decayed as was Judaism at the time of the destruction of Jerusalem; indeed, as surely as God's Word is true so surely does the abomination of desolation now stand in and at most pulpits and altars of the Christian church.<sup>24</sup>

What a powerful indictment of the present day Church. Though dated in style, Walther's words could be preached without amendment today.

Note that not only Pieper (1917) but Walther (1880's) saw even their times as being on the brink of the *parousia* (the second coming of Christ). What would they say if they were here today? The moderate tendencies toward apostasy in Walther's and Pieper's day have reeled forward with appalling speed. The "modernist" aberration which Pieper and Walther saw rising in its infancy now thoroughly dominates the Church, a fact well-documented and glaringly apparent.<sup>25</sup> The unbridled use of the historical-critical method has more than decimated the Church.

Commenting on the daring and presumption of the heretics of the past, Marcion, Arius, Pelagius and Zwingli, Stephenson contrasts them with the false teachers of our day:

And yet all these heresiarchs [chief heretics] of old were but timid fore-runners of apostates who today have wrested control of most of the pulpits and teaching podia of Christendom. The insidious and subtle form of classical heresies resulted from the fact that heretics of former generations did at least feel obliged to don sheep's clothing. While such false teachers are still with us, the decisive feature of the present-day ecclesiastical landscape is that heterodoxy [false teaching] has by and large burst forth into blatant, naked, shapeless apostasy, under whose auspices the wolves are bold to parade publicly in lupine [wolf's] apparel. The virus of the historical-critical method has so poisoned many who hold valid and regular calls within the church that they cheerfully deny the Lord who bought them and trample the inspired Scripture and its message underfoot. Throughout Christendom apostasy is presently being promoted in shapes of feminist, liberation, and process "theologies." In comparison with the devastation currently being wrought through these demonic movements, the struggles of the fourth and sixteenth centuries seem but [tempests] in a teacup.<sup>26</sup>

While apostasy, the appearance of antichrists and the appearance of *the* Antichrist mark the whole period of the "last days," intensification of apostasy and the culmination of the mystery of the Antichrist signal the coming of the end. The apostle John has shown: "Many deceivers... antichrists... have gone out into the world" (2 John 7). Luther clearly identifies the Pope of Rome (specifically Pope Paul III) as "the real Antichrist" (Smalcald Articles II.iv). The Scriptural basis for the confessional teaching that the mystery of the Antichrist has found fulfillment in the papacy is in the second chapter of second Thessalonians:

Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion [Greek: *apostasia*] occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction (vss. 2-3).

Stephenson indicates Luther's justification in so specifying the papacy:

Luther lays his finger on the sacrilegious expression of the papal claims set forth in Boniface VIII's *Unam Sanctum* of 1302:

Furthermore, we declare, say, define and proclaim to every human creature that they by necessity of salvation are subject to the Roman Pontiff.<sup>27</sup>

Speaking of the "man of lawlessness" (the Antichrist), St. Paul said: "He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God" (2 Thes. 2:4). If a man makes all men subject to himself in order to be saved, he is setting "himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God." Such a man is Antichrist, and the institution of the papacy which holds to that dictum as canon law, is *the very* Antichrist. Such a

man denies both the Father and the Son. St. John warns us: "Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist—he denies the Father and the Son" (1 John 2:22).

Christians who still have difficulty accepting the hard truth that the papacy is the very Antichrist should consider the twelfth canon of the Council of Trent, the Roman Catholic document written to refute the teachings of the Lutheran Reformation.

If anyone says that justifying faith is nothing else than trust in divine mercy, which remits sins for Christ's sake, or that it is this trust alone by which we are justified, let him be anathema [God damned].<sup>28</sup>

Herein the Roman Catholic Church condemns to hell all who believe the pure gospel.

Very importantly, Stephenson indicates that Confessional Lutheran theology makes certain qualifications with respect to its identification of the papacy with the Antichrist. First, the papacy does not exhaust the mystery of the Antichrist, but involves the most intense manifestation of the mystery thus far in the history of the Church. Further,

Ap. XV.18 associates the 'kingdom of Mohammed' along with the papacy as part of the 'kingdom of Antichrist,' and Luther saw the prediction made in 2 Thes.2:7 being realized in Zwingli's war against Christ in His Sacrament of the Altar.<sup>29</sup>

Herman Sasse states:

The Lutheran Church teaches nothing in its Confessions as to how God may let the prophecy of the Antichrist come to fulfillment in the hidden future, that is, what form the Antichrist may take in the final terrors of the end time.<sup>30</sup>

Since Vatican II, in the early 1960s, Rome has made peace with virtually every form of spirituality. In their frenzy to join the ecumenical movement, the Pope has taken the lead in calling conferences of prayer and other gatherings at which leaders of world churches as well as such blatantly anti-Christian figures as the Dalai Lama, native American Indian shamans and other non-Christian figures are present to pray and worship together. The Antichrist is gathering his forces. The scene seems to be set for some kind of gathering together of large segments of Protestantism under some form of the papacy in opposition to the Gospel of Christ.

The mile-markers of this present epoch of history are rushing by. Consider the radical changes that have taken place within the lifetime of people within this room. The world would nominate the automobile, the airplane, great advances in medicine and men landing on the moon as the marks of this epochal age of change.

We in the Church recognize the real marks of the age in the radical falling away, the great apostasy, which has taken place within the walls of the Church itself. We recognize that inevitably such apostasy is accompanied by a host of particular companions. Consider this limited catalogue:

- A radical shift within society away from a consensus on moral absolutes to a thorough-going moral relativism
- The dissolution of the nuclear family; the explosion of crime and violence in a society whose people have lost both the internal constraint of moral conscience and the external restraints of just law and its order, both anchored in moral certitude
- Unbelievable corruption in the highest places, inevitable within a society which is no longer *able* to find virtue in moral character
- The pagan hedonism of the drug scene and the sexual revolution with its due punishment in more than one deadly epidemic plague and harvest of death
- The unspeakable holocaust slaughter of the unborn innocents which we conveniently round-off to the nearest five or ten million
- Above all, the ascendancy of a new multi-faceted paganism in the form of radical humanism and New Age and occultic religions

All of these things contribute to the final frightening mark of this age,

- The disintegration of the very fabric of western civilization.

Mark well that not one of the above is the *cause* of that final disintegration. Rather, they are all symptoms of the *one* thing which alone is sufficient to explain the radical metamorphosis which is taking place before our eyes. All of these symptoms find their cause in what we have called the third great epoch of controversy, the epistemological crisis, and together comprise the symptoms of its great apostasy. Sin itself is, of course, the *very* root of all heresy and apostasy.

In the face of all this, there is a paradox in which the Christian may take comfort. All that we see taking place as the consequences of the last great apostasy, all which seems to the Church to be loss, is in reality the foreshadowing of victory. Jesus might well say to us on the great day of his return: "Did I not tell you that all these things must take place?"

There is a kind of eager and growing anticipation which the Christian can have with every gain the enemy may *appear* to make because everything he is permitted to do must fit the pattern of the sovereign Lord's unfolding prophetic history. In all this we are, more than ever, conquerors through Him who continues to love us (Rom. 8:37). And what are we to do in the midst of rejoicing in our trials? The answer is found in a passage which contains the clearest *temporal* hint of the "time" of Christ's return. Jesus says in Matthew 24:

Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come (vss. 12-14).

“The Gospel will be preached to the whole world.... then the end will come.” The words of St. Paul come to mind: “What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Rom. 8:31). What confidence the Christian can have in even the darkest days! The Lord is in the process of bringing this present world to the end (and the new beginning) which He ordained from the start. Confidently and joyfully we can carry out the work which is the privilege of every Christian; namely, witnessing about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### **How Do We Witness As: “The Love of Most People Grows Cold?”**

The Lord’s great commission, which continues in force until the end, is the Church’s marching order and His plan of battle.

What is the Christian witness, who seeks to be faithful to the Gospel, to do in the face of this last great falling away? How do we share the Good News in the face of the present age of skepticism?

The Preacher tells us there is a time to speak and a time to love (Eccl. 3:7-8). There has hardly been a time more primed to hear of a Savior from the misery of materialistic excess and the idolatry of self-indulgence (which are the marks of our age). This is a time when most of society around us, cut loose from any mooring in the certainty of God’s Word, is floundering in unbelief and skepticism rooted in uncertainty.

At such a time we have a message of the certainty of salvation through the virgin-born Son of God who came, lived, died and rose again to save us from the inevitable penalty for our sins. We have a message which is the very power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes (Rom. 1:16). We have Sacraments which are not memorials and spiritual snacks, but an *actual* washing of regeneration and a *real* sanctifying meal of the very body and blood of Christ. What great blessings confessional Lutherans have to offer the lost and the lame, the sheep without shepherds, all the casualties of this last great deception. Jesus had compassion for sheep without a shepherd. We need to emulate Jesus’ compassion described by St. Mark: “When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a Shepherd. So he began teaching them many things” (Mark 6:34).

Both of the great epochs of heresy and apostasy of the past were successfully repelled by the power of God’s Word, at least within large segments of the Church. But in this last great controversy, the certainty of everything has been questioned and

even denied, and a great cloud of doubt has set the minds of most people against any claims of truth for anything, most especially the claims of the Bible. As a consequence, the very means of grace, the very means by which the other attacks were thwarted, have been assailed.

How are we to "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)? How does one "give answers" at a time when the very rules and logic of discourse have been changed? In the ears of our hearers, any assertion which claims certainty and truth seems disallowed by Kant's only absolute, that of the "intrinsically unknowable."

Consider giving an answer today to a simple question about the difference between what the "Lutherans" believe and what the "Methodists" or "Presbyterians" or "Catholics" believe. One must first launch into the difficult explanation regarding the differences between the traditional, liberal and charismatic wings in each denominational camp and include a rehearsal of the "alphabet soup" of multi-bodied Lutheranism. Then one must be prepared to defend a faith set forth with the claim of uncompromising absolute truth. Expressing such firm beliefs, especially in the area of moral values, is almost certain to be viewed as narrow-minded and old-fashioned by those who have soaked up today's relativistic mode of thinking.

Our seminaries must recognize the challenge to the Gospel ministry which exists because of the many shifts in thinking that now pervade our society. Confessional Lutheran pastors must be prepared to help our people understand that the task of communication which lies before them in such encounters is not always as it might appear. A simple rehearsal of the traditional differences between Lutherans and Methodists or Catholics or Baptists may not suffice. The burden may lie in breaking through the barrier of a radically different way of thinking. Unless this difference is recognized and understood, the attempt to communicate our faith may well be met with frustration and, more tragically, with failure.

In contending for the faith today then, one must realize that the real ground of contention may not be merely an encounter between two competing claims for truth. Rather, it may involve a clash between our claim for *absolute* truth with minds that have learned to think of everything in terms of relativism and the "intrinsically unknowable." Note well, The common rejoinder: "After all, everyone interprets the Bible differently," really means: "After all, there are no absolutes, no eternal truths." Echoing in the background are the words from the garden: "Did God really say...?"

Paradoxically, one key to the hearts of those held in the trap of this apostasy is the very meaninglessness, the spiritual vacuum, which results in lives when people have lost or never known spiritual and moral certainty. Someone has spoken of that emptiness as "a God-shaped vacuum which only Christ can fill." When people have been worn down trying to fill their lives with things that cannot satisfy, when they have wearied of trying to comfort their souls with groundless and empty philosophies, then, maybe then, their hearts can be opened by the Word to hear the account of the hope we have.

The deepest root of this emptiness and alienation in man is due to his inborn awareness of sin and the resulting guilt in the face of the righteous wrath of God. Only the thundering accusation of God's immutable Law can humble the heart of the secure sinner and prepare it to receive the Gospel. Only the message of Christ's vicarious atonement, His propitiation of God's anger, is sufficient to convert and convince the heart of sinful man of the gracious forgiveness and love which alone reconciles man to God.

We have the truth of a real Savior from the helplessness and hopelessness which even the most sophisticated lost sinner knows, a Savior who satisfied God's rightful wrath against our sin by receiving in Himself the due penalty we deserved, a Savior who reveals Himself to us in the human language of His Word. That inerrant, effective Word is not only a "trustworthy shield and weapon," but the very implement for the most delicate and vital *heart surgery*. The writer of Hebrews tells us:

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart (4:12).

The prize to be won is not a winning score for debate but the souls of men and women who, without the only lifeline which can save them, are most certainly sinking in a mire that destroys life, both temporal and eternal.

### **The End Is Near**

Certainty and the core beliefs of the Christian faith have been stripped away in the kingdom of the right (the spiritual realm). The moral base in the kingdom of the left (the secular realm), a base which derived from the values filtered down through the *former* Christian consensus, has been lost. The inevitable result is the unleashing of Satan and all his forms of evil within society.

The entire era from the time of Christ until His second coming is pictured in the vision revealed to St. John.

And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand

years. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time (Rev. 20:1-3).

The "angel coming down from heaven" is the Lord Jesus Christ, *the* Messenger. The "great chain" in His hand is the message, the Gospel, the Good News of His defeat of our great enemies; sin, death and the devil.

Wherever God's Word is proclaimed and hearts are secured in the certainty of salvation through the message of the life, death for sins and the resurrection of the virgin born, only-begotten Son of God, then Satan is restrained. "He can harm us none, he's judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell him" (TLH 262, v.3).

On the other hand, when that Word is withdrawn, Satan is set free, loosed among those who do not have God's faith-creating and -sustaining Word. As has been shown, the Word has been "withdrawn" from most of the pulpits in the world and a hideous counterfeit has taken its place. Walther (in his sermon above) recognized this over one hundred years ago. How much more true is this today? Pieper saw us as being in the "little season" in which Satan "must be set free." What would he say today? Siegbert Becker says of Satan's being loosed for a short time (Rev. 20:3):

The Bible speaks of widespread apostasy during the last days of the world's history. Where the message of the Bible is no longer to be heard or where it is so obscured by false teaching that the light of salvation shines very dimly, the devil is free to continue to deceive men and to lead them astray to the eternal destruction of their souls. The devil is loosed whenever large segments of the visible church become apostate and non-evangelical cults and sects proliferate.

This interpretation is in harmony with the Savior's own description of the last times. He says (Matt. 24:21-25),

For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect—if that were possible.

In those words the Savior speaks of a time that will be shortened. That theme is echoed here in the "short time" spoken of by John. The Lord also speaks of a proliferation of false prophets and false Christs who will deceive man. John's words imply that during that short time the devil will once more be able to deceive the nations. The whole tenor of Jesus' words implies that the gospel message, which alone can keep men out of the clutches of the devil, will during these shortened days be obscured.<sup>31</sup>

Surely Becker's words aptly fit the present situation in the visible Church. It is not feasible for this writer to see anything

other than that this third great epoch of controversy is the great and perhaps final controversy, and that the resulting apostasy is the great and final apostasy of the Church. How long this falling away must go on before the Lord comes, only He knows.

The "little season" of Revelation 20 is a short time at the end of "the thousand years" and "the thousand years" is the whole period between the time of Christ's earthly ministry and His second coming (thus far, 2,000 years). In proportion, how long can a "little season" be?

How could a reversal of this world wide apostasy take place? How could that happen when not only the pulpits but all the schools of Christendom, with few exceptions, have long since been taken into captivity by Satan? Lutherans know that God's Word and sacraments are the only "means of grace." It is only through the preaching of God's Word in truth and purity throughout a great segment of Christendom that it could be brought to a resurgence of the faith.

It is certain that Scripture knows of no great reversal of this apostasy. Satan is not "set free" to then be restrained again and then "set free" again. Awful satanic activity, including the burgeoning proliferation of real satanic cults, whose unspeakable practices commonly are reported even in small-town newspapers, is happening all over the country, indeed all over the world. This is the deadly harvest from fields left fallow in the wake of the wholesale abdication of the faith from within the Church itself. This bears frightening testimony in witness of St. John's words:

When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore (Rev. 20:7-8).

If the things we observe are indeed the pattern described in the Scriptures, then the "thousand years" appear over and this may well be the "little season." Thus we await the consummation of the age.

It is in the face of this that the people of God need and must have the clearest assurance of the victory of the Christian and the ultimate triumph of the church. Pastors and teachers of the church must help believers understand and place in proper perspective the events of our time. And always they must work tirelessly, employing the means of grace to kindle faith in the yet unsaved and strengthen the weak and the weary.

### **Our Lord is the Lord of All History**

Luther wrote his *Bondage of the Will* against Erasmus, the great Catholic scholar of Rotterdam. In this work (which Luther considered to be his most worthy) he argued that nothing hap-

pens *contingently*, that is, by chance, but that all things happen of necessity because our good, loving and all powerful God and Father would have it so. Luther wrote these paradoxical but comforting words under the heading: "Of the importance of knowing that God necessitates all things."

It is then, fundamentally necessary and wholesome for Christians to know that God foreknows nothing contingently, but that He foresees, purposes, and does all things according to His own immutable [unchangeable], eternal and infallible [never erring] will... the Christian's chief and only comfort in every adversity lies in knowing that God does not lie, but brings all things to pass immutably, and that His will cannot be resisted, altered or impeded.<sup>32</sup>

In this world it always *seems* that everything happens by *chance* (contingently). How comforting to know that *all* things happen because God would have it so and had everything written in His book from of old (Ps. 139:16).

In times of trial and tribulation, times when things seem to be out of control, Christians especially need to understand this difficult but comforting truth. With a right understanding of these things, knowing that his God is the sovereign Lord of history, time and eternity, the embattled Christian can say with the psalmist:

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart (Ps. 91:1-4).

St. Paul sums up the eighth chapter of Romans with these words:

No, in all these things we are *more than conquerors* through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord (vss. 37-39, emphasis added).

Perhaps the greatest passage to assure Christian hearts of the hope and victory which is ours in Christ in our day is 1 Peter 1:3-7. Here the Holy Spirit surely speaks to our embattled hearts today.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may

be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

St. Paul, having displayed the glorious truths of our salvation by grace through faith, assures all who still sojourn here below:

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us (Rom. 5:1-5).

It is through the refiner's fire of suffering for Christ's sake that the Christian's faith is tempered to stand in the day of trouble. According to St. Paul, whatever we may have to suffer in the future cannot be compared with the glory which will be revealed to us on the last day (Rom. 8:18).

The victory of the Christian is the victory which Christ Himself has given us in conquering sin, death, and our great enemy, the devil, for us. It is the victory which He will give us in its fullness on the last day. St. Paul tells us:

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:51-57).

## Epilogue

Weighing all that we have contemplated in this essay, consider our time and place in the continuum of unfolding history. As one who once persecuted the Church, I stand humbly before you filled with gratitude to be part of this faithful Synod. Together with the other faithful confessional Lutheran bodies which constitute the world fellowship of the fledgling Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, we continue to build on the foundation of the Apostles, workmanship wrought in gold, and that, built on the foundation which has been long laid, which is Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3:11-12).

How small we are in the grand scheme of things. Yet, where else would we want to be? The world will not notice what we do here, but then, we are not of the world. The great ecumenical ventures will go forth in the years ahead as Lutherans and Presbyterians, Methodists and Catholics, rush headlong to join

together (Babel revisited). Some may leave us, seeking broader paths, but others will come, glad and grateful for this haven of faithful fellowship.

May God preserve us and keep us in this faith and fellowship. May He guard and keep us from all strife and schism as we work out our salvation and await the consummation of the age, the blessed hope, the day of everlasting salvation.

C. F. W. Walther wrote the following poem on the occasion of the death of one of his dear parishioners. It is a poem which has been read at many funeral services in the years since. It is a fitting reminder of the joy which will be ours on the great day of Christ's appearing.

It is a blessed year in which he dies who has a Savior. It is the year of his birth, it is the year of his everlasting salvation, it is the truly acceptable year of the Lord, the eternal year of jubilee when all his lamentations shall sink into everlasting silence. Then at last will he take his harp from the willows of grief, encircle his brow with the never fading flowers of springtime and there, sing and play with angelic choirs, the new song to God and to the Lamb.<sup>33</sup>

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus... come soon, Lord Jesus.

+ Soli Deo Gloria +

## REFERENCES

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- Stephen Gaulke, *He Shall Come Again*, St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1991.
- Patsy Leppien and J. Kincaid Smith, *What's Going On Among The Lutherans*, Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 1992.
- John R. Stephenson, *Eschatology*, Ft. Wayne: The Luther Academy, 1993.
- David J. Weber, "Luther and Calvin on the Interpretation of Scripture," *Lutheran Synod Quarterly*, Fall, 1988.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup>This method is the basic approach to Scripture taken by today's liberal Bible scholars and pastors. Simply put, the method begins with the assumption that the Bible is a book like any other ancient book, that it is not "inspired" in the ordinary sense of that word, but was written by well-intended, pious men of old. The method generally rejects the possibility of the supernatural. Thus, miracles such as the virgin birth of Christ and His physical resurrection, as well as His true Deity, are considered to be "myths" and "stories" developed by the early Church. It is the standard assumption of the method that the Bible contains many errors, changes, omissions and fabrications.

<sup>2</sup>“Eschatology” is the study of the end times which culminate with the parousia, the second coming of Christ. Stephenson comes to Lutheranism from the Church of England. While studying at Oxford he wrote his doctoral dissertation on Luther’s position on the true presence in the Lord’s Supper. In the process, he became convinced of the correctness of Luther’s position and was converted to Lutheranism.

<sup>3</sup>Fort Wayne: The Luther Academy, 1993, p. 3.

<sup>4</sup>St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1991, p. 6.

<sup>5</sup>*Ibid.*, p.7; the source of the citation is Hoekema’s *The Bible and the Future*.

<sup>6</sup>Dualism: belief in the existence of *two* superior beings or “gods,” one good and one evil. In Christianity the devil is not a god but a creature, a fallen angel.

<sup>7</sup>The same pagan influences would later lead to *Theosophy* in the nineteenth century. Theosophy is closely related to Hinduism, which influenced its originator, the Russian adventuress, Helena Petrovna Blavatsky. Today Theosophy is incorporated into the New Age Movement. Christian Science, Scientology and The Way and a host of other cults are closely related.

<sup>8</sup>The Roman Catholic Counter-Reformation, though greatly stimulated by Protestant opposition, began almost simultaneously with the first stirring of conscience which led Luther in his path of reform. Many Roman Catholics were concerned with the abuses which had emerged in the Renaissance Age. Although the Counter-Reformation became primarily a reaction against the Protestant Reformation (thus its name), it achieved some reform of the most extreme abuses, though never moving on the quintessential issue of salvation by grace alone through faith alone.

<sup>9</sup>Luther, in his Smalcald Articles, asserted his *solo verbo* (Word alone) principle against the enthusiasts of his day: “Accordingly, we should and must constantly maintain that God will not deal with us except through his external Word and sacrament. Whatever is attributed to the Spirit apart from such Word and sacrament is of the devil” (SA, VIII, 10, Tappert, p. 313).

<sup>10</sup>Geneva Catechism, *Calvin: Theological Treatises*, p. 134; cited in David J. Weber, “Luther and Calvin on the Interpretation of Scripture,” *Lutheran Synod Quarterly*, Dec. 1988, p. 79.

<sup>11</sup>*Institutes of Christian Religion*, I, VIII:2, F. E. Meyer, *The Religious Bodies of America* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1954), p. 203; cited in Weber, p. 79.

<sup>12</sup>See: Siegbert W. Becker, *The Foolishness of God, The Place of Reason in the Theology of Martin Luther* (Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 1982).

<sup>13</sup>p. 79.

<sup>14</sup>The heresy of the Christological Controversy (the first epoch) affected a relatively small segment of the Church and was thoroughly repulsed. At the time of the Reformation (the second epoch) neither the Catholic Church nor the Reformed denied the deity of Christ, the virgin birth, the physical resurrection or the other miracles. Above all, none denied the inspiration of Scripture. All are denied in this present epoch of heresy.

<sup>15</sup>God’s Word, in itself, cannot be “neutralized.” Jesus said: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away (Matt. 24:35).” However, when men’s hearts and ears are stopped because they have rejected the *authority* of God’s Word, the effect is nearly the same. The Word which is trampled under foot is the only means by which the Holy Spirit chooses to bring men to repentance and work faith in hearts (as Luther has so clearly and emphatically stated in his Smalcald Articles).

<sup>16</sup>Dr. Robert Preus, former president of Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN, was fond of saying: "The liberal flees from God's Word in one direction and the charismatic [modern day pietist] flees from the same Word in the other direction." The liberal discounts the Word of Scripture as merely being the product of pious but ill-informed men of old, and the charismatic relies on his feelings and immediate experience of the "Holy Spirit" over against Scripture.

<sup>17</sup>p. 4.

<sup>18</sup>Stephenson, p. 5.

<sup>19</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>20</sup>Patsy Leppien and J. Kincaid Smith, (Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 1992), p. 155.

<sup>21</sup>When human reason rules over divine authority, there will be as many varying positions as there are men to reason them; thus, "pluralism." Given that, it becomes clear why there is such a proliferation of Protestant/Reformed churches and sects. This in itself causes people to fall away from the church in confusion.

<sup>22</sup>p. 5. Note: "Indifferentism" arises in external Christendom when the notion that "everything is matter of tentative viewpoints and positions, none are really certain and there are no absolutes," becomes the common consensus. Since in this view, it is considered that there are no *certain* truths, the people become indifferent to the exclusive claims of any particular body of doctrine. One view point is considered as "valid" as another and "syncretism" results. Whichever elements are found pleasing can be selected smorgasbord-style and merged into one's own view; thus, "syncretism." This could involve such things as the merging together of incompatible religious ideas, as when Hinduism's notion of reincarnation is merged with the Christian belief of the resurrection.

<sup>23</sup>p. 6. Note: Francis Pieper (1852-1931), the disciple of C. F. W. Walther, is the author of the three volume *Christian Dogmatics*, the chief dogmatic textbooks used in the Missouri Synod and in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

<sup>24</sup>"Licht des Lebens," *Ein Jargang von Evangelien-Predigten aus dem Nachlass des seligen Dr. Carl Ferdinand Walther*, ed. C. J. Otto Hauser (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1905), p. 660f; translated by Stephenson, p. 6.

<sup>25</sup>See Leppien and Smith, *What's Going on Among the Lutherans, A Comparison of Beliefs* for a thorough summary of the present-day liberal theological environment.

<sup>26</sup>p. 75.

<sup>27</sup>p. 79.

<sup>28</sup>Martin Chemnitz, *Examination Of The Council Of Trent* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1971), p. 551.

<sup>29</sup>pp. 80-81. Note: This means, in effect, that all Reformed Protestantism participates in Antichrist by their denial of the true presence in the Lord's Supper.

<sup>30</sup>"Last Things: Church and Antichrist," *We Confess the Church*, trans. Norman Nagel (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1986), 119; cited by Stephenson, p. 81.

<sup>31</sup>*Revelation, The Distant Triumph Song* (Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 1985), pp. 301-302.

<sup>32</sup>John Dillenberger, *Martin Luther, Selections from his Writings* (Garden City, New York: Anchor Books, Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1961), pp. 181, 185.

<sup>33</sup>This poem was written down for me from memory by Dr. Wilhelm Peterson.

# DOCTRINE COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE 1994 ELS CONVENTION

The Doctrine Committee membership has remained unchanged since the 1993 convention. Its four regular meetings during the year were devoted to the study of various matters that have been its concern for longer or shorter periods of time. An additional meeting with the CICR of WELS took place in Milwaukee in February of 1994. The year has not been without a certain amount of excitement, too, in that one of the Doctrine Committee's lay members is currently seeking the governorship of the state of Minnesota.

## DISCUSSION OF ORDINATION AND THE PUBLIC MINISTRY

The committee has received several letters of response to its study document sent to all clergymen in the synod. Because the committee continues to study the matter and invites further responses to its study document, it does not promise an early final statement thereon.

## LORD'S SUPPER

Continued discussion of the whole subject and specific attention to the 1989 addendum to Thesis Nine of the synod's statement on the Lord's Supper has led the committee to propose the following revision of Point B so that the entire thesis now is to read:

9. We hold that we cannot fix from Scripture the point within the sacramental usus when the real presence of Christ's body and blood begins, yet we know from Scripture and we acknowledge in the confessions that what is distributed and received is the body and blood of Christ.

We understand Thesis Nine in the light of the following statements:

a) The words of consecration effect the real presence of Christ's body and blood in a valid administration of the Lord's Supper (consecration, distribution and reception.)

b) Because of this consecration by virtue of our Lord's original institution "the true body and blood of Christ are really present in the Supper of our Lord under the form of bread and wine and are there distributed and received." (AC X, p. 34; see also AC XXII 6, p. 50; Ap X 1, p. 179; Ap XXIV 80 p. 264; FC SD VII 10-11, p. 571) The Scripture and the Confessions, therefore, teach that in the Supper the body and blood of Christ are received by the communicant and also that the "minister who consecrates shows forth (tenders) the body and blood of Christ to the people" (Ap X 4, XXIV 80 p. 264; see also SC VI 1-2; p. 351; SA III VII, p. 311; AC XXII 6, p. 50), that they are "truly offered with the visible elements" (FC SD VII 10-11, p. 571; see also Ap X 1, p. 179), and that they are "really present in the Supper . . . under the form of bread and wine." (AC X ,p. 34)

Note: All references to *The Book of Concord*, Tappert edition.

c) We reject any attempt to fix the mathematical point or exact moment when the real presence begins.

d) We reject the teaching that the presence of Christ's body and blood is in any way effected by the eating and drinking of the elements by the communicants.

e) We reject the doctrine of transubstantiation, i.e., that the earthly elements cease to exist when the real present of Christ's body and blood begins.

f) We reject any celebration of the Lord's Supper without communicants.

## THE CELC

The next plenary convention of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference is scheduled to meet in Puerto Rico in 1996. The subject of theological discussion will be the material principle of the Lutheran church, namely, the doctrine of justification (*sola fide*). In the interim regional conferences of this international organization are being held in various parts of the world. Because an organization of this kind needs funding from its constituents in order to survive, the Doctrine Committee has requested the Board of Trustees to include in the synodical budget for the year a sum of \$2,000 from the ELS treasury for this purpose. If this organization is to prosper under God, it is in need of the prayers and moral support of the groups which are expressing their fellowship in this federation of churches.

## WELS-CICR-ELC FORUM

The Doctrine Committee, in the interest of preserving its fellowship relations with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, has been meeting annually for a day with the WELS Committee on Inter-Church Relations to discuss matters of mutual interest to the two synods. In addition, the biennial convening of the Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum (12 members from each synod selected in four categories of ecclesiastical activity) is scheduled for Milwaukee, October 17-18.

**New Hymnary**—The proposed production of a new hymnbook for use especially in the ELS has sparked considerable interest. Along with the interest one finds also some concern being expressed. In an effort to allay these concerns the Doctrine Committee proposes to the convention the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod has approved the planning of a new hymnbook for synodical use, and,

WHEREAS, The Worship Committee has expended much talent and effort in this project, and,

WHEREAS, Such a book of worship will have a considerable impact on the theology and practice of the synod,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod direct the Doctrine Committee, in consultation with the Committee on Worship, to review the proposed hymnary prior to its publication.

## CONCLUSION

The members of the synod are likely well aware of the fact that the times in which we live are spiritually perilous. The maintenance of unity in such circumstances is a gracious gift of God which we should not underestimate. Satan is proliferating his attacks, which can be thwarted only with the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Eph. 6) Let us continue to encourage one another to remain in that Word, for only then will we be able boldly to sing with the Reformer.

Still must they leave God's Word its might,  
For which no thanks they merit.  
Still is He with us in the fight  
With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And should they in the strife,  
Take kindred, goods, and life,  
We freely let them go,  
They profit not the foe;  
With us remains the kingdom.

*Lutheran Hymnary 270,4*

DOCTRINE  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD

**Resolution No. 1: Ordination and the Public Ministry**

*WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee is studying the matter of ordination and the public ministry,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Doctrine Committee to continue its study and report to the synod when its report is complete.*

**Resolution No. 2: The Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference**

*WHEREAS, The Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC) serves as a source of God-pleasing dialog and fellowship for various confessional Lutheran church bodies,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod strongly encourages the Doctrine Committee to continue to participate in the development of the CELC, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the members of the synod be encouraged to support the efforts of the CELC with their prayers, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Doctrine Committee to continue to solicit appropriate funding from the synod for the support of the CELC.*

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

*WHEREAS, The Lord has richly blessed His Church by providing the sacrament of the Lord's Supper as one of His precious means of grace by which He bestows upon His Church His forgiveness and nourishes the faith of her members, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Lutheran church has, through the ages, both treasured and contended for the preservation of this sacrament as Christ instituted it, and,*

*WHEREAS, Point (b) of Thesis Nine of the theses regarding the Lord's Supper as adopted in 1989 has led to concern by the use of the phrase "before the reception," and,*

*WHEREAS, Concerns have been expressed regarding the Doctrine Committee's proposed revision of point (b) of Thesis Nine,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Doctrine Committee for its diligent efforts regarding this matter, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That action on the Doctrine Committee report regarding the Lord's Supper be deferred to the 1995 synod convention to allow time for further study and discussion, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That those who have concerns regarding this matter direct them to the Doctrine Committee, and,*

*WHEREAS, The memorial presented by Dr. Bjarne W. Teigen has been studied by the Doctrine floor committee and its concerns have been duly noted,*

*D. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks Dr. Teigen for his insights and concerns.*

# 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, Avon, CO; 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

The following persons have served on the faculty and administrative professional staff during the 1993-94 school year:

### FULL-TIME FACULTY AND STAFF

William Bukowski, Art  
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, and Soccer Coach  
William Kessel, Sociology, Anthropology, Geography, Religion  
Julie Kjeer, Mathematics  
Tom Kuster, Chair of Speech/English Communications  
Sigurd Lee, English, Humanities, Theater  
Patty Lussky, Health and Personal Counselor  
Dennis Marzolf, Music, Choral Groups, Voice  
Daniel Metzger, German, Literature  
Marvin Meyer, President  
Dennis Natvig, Treasurer, Business Manager  
Andrew Overn, Art, Technical Theater  
Jerral Parrish, Director of Library Media Services  
Steve Reagles, English, Religion  
Jay Roth, Associate Director of Admissions  
Lance Schwartz, Bookstore Manager, Geography  
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  
Cynthia Weberg, Chemistry  
Art Westphal, Assoc. Dir. of Admissions, Basketball and Baseball Coach  
Don Westphal, Admissions Counselor  
Mark Wiechmann, Psychology, Education, Vocational Counseling  
Richard Wiechmann, Development Officer, Deferred Giving  
Ronald Younge, Dean of Academic Affairs, Biology

## **PART-TIME**

Joseph Abrahamson, Physical Education  
Kerry Andrews, Physics  
Peter Bloedel, Theater  
Vivian Bombach, Piano  
John Bruss, Greek  
Kris Bruss, Freshman Seminar  
Tatjana Durand, Spanish  
Ernie Geistfeld, Fine Arts Administrator  
Adolph Harstad, Religion  
Rudolph Honsey, Hebrew  
Fred Inman, Physics  
Esther Iverson, Costumes Director  
Lynette Jones, Physical Education, Volleyball and Softball Coach  
Mary Kelley, Institutional Computer Science  
Juil Madson, Chaplain  
Tanya Norris, Mathematics  
Glenn Reichwald, Greek  
Stephen Rolfsrud, Political Science  
Laura Whitney, Organ, Piano  
Jean Wiechmann, Registrar, Learning Specialist, Sociology  
Nancy Wiechmann, Business, Economics  
Scott Winters, Instrumental Music

## **EMERITI**

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

## **STAFF**

Professors Sigurd Lee and Cynthia Weberg retired as full-time professors at the end of the academic year. Professor Lee will continue to teach on a part-time basis. The college is grateful for Professor Lee's thirty-four years of service and Professor Weberg's thirteen years.

Professor Erling Teigen has been granted a sabbatical for the fall semester of the 94-95 year. He plans to continue his translation of Dr. Ylvisaker's early correspondence. In addition he is planning to begin some research on the early history of the institution.

It should be noted that Professor Daniel Metzger completed the work for his doctoral degree. Congratulations are in order. We do encourage our faculty and other staff members to continue to develop themselves professionally.

During a special service on February 15, the college observed the following anniversaries:

35 years	Calvin Johnson	Financial Aid Director
30 years	Dennis Natvig	Business Manager, Treasurer
30 years	Orville Sampson	Custodian
25 years	Paul Tweit	Director of Development
15 years	Greg Costello	Comptroller
10 years	Dennis Marzolf	Choral Music
10 years	Art Westphal	Assoc. Dir. of Admissions Basketball and Baseball Coach

This past school year Mrs. Patty Lussky became a full-time professor. She teaches health and works in the area of student counseling. Mr. Don Westphal joined our admissions staff at the beginning of the academic year. As we look to

the 94-95 year, we will add new teaching staff in the area of Theater, Math and Science, as well as the Classics area. In addition, a college chaplain will be called to serve as the first full-time chaplain of the college.

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 dedicated workers.

### ENROLLMENT

The 1993-94 enrollment was as follows:

	1st Semester	2nd Semester
Freshmen	179	160
Sophomores	119	124
Specials*	7	8
Part-time*	<u>25</u>	<u>17</u>
	330	309
FTE	316	299

\*Includes PSEOP students

At the time of the writing of this report, we are extremely optimistic for the fall term in regard to student members. Applications are at an all-time high.

### CURRICULUM AND OTHER ACADEMIC PROJECTS

The college faculty continues to grow professionally through additional formal education, as well as attending regional and national seminars and conferences. The end of the 93-94 academic year brings to a close a three-year faculty development program funded by The Bush Foundation—the program set out to help the faculty improve student learning. This program has been an enormous success. Professor Mark Harstad has been the leading force behind this effort. The college has applied for an additional three-year faculty development grant from The Bush Foundation. The focus continues to be on student learning.

There is an ongoing emphasis on the evaluation and study of the curriculum of the college. An ad hoc committee was appointed over a year ago to study our general education requirements and offerings. A report was submitted to our faculty and after a thorough evaluation and discussion the report was approved and the new requirements will be in effect after the publishing of the next college catalog. The ongoing analysis of the curriculum is necessary to assure that the mission of Bethany as a Lutheran liberal arts institution is being met.

As was noted last year, the board has directed the administration to study the possibility of developing at least one four-year program. The board has instructed the college to report her findings to the August board meeting. Presently the study involves the area of Elementary Education and a Classics program

### PHYSICAL PLANT

Larson Hall, a residential facility that will handle an additional 24 students, was completed in late August at a cost of \$300,000. The campus community sees this as a viable way to meet the demands of additional student housing at the present time.

Much work has taken place over the last months in planning and construction of our 21st Century project. The sports and fitness center construction got under way in mid-December and we look for completion by early September. The work on Old Main for a commons area and mechanical upgrade should begin in late April, with completion set for early 1995. The cost of the sports and fitness center is \$2,500,000 and the projected cost of the Old Main project is estimated to be \$2,450,000.

Planning for the new college chapel is well under way, with ground-breaking scheduled for June 19 of 1994. The college has received a gift of \$1.8 million for the construction of this much-needed addition to the campus. Construction will begin in July and the facility, hopefully, will be dedicated on Synod Sunday 1995.

New roofs and other exterior work will be done on Old Main and Memorial Library. This work will be completed by mid-summer at an estimated cost of \$350,000.

## 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 in matching programs. During this academic year in excess of \$40,000 was received in these programs.

Lutheran Brotherhood remains committed to challenging its members through matching programs which direct funds into endowments for operation. These dollars assist in planning for Bethany's future.

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

The Bethany Lutheran College Women's Auxiliary is committed to the welfare of Bethany through its support and prayers. They are presently involved in the 21st century program by an annual commitment of \$13,000. Many, many thanks to these wonderful ladies.

In mid-February we were notified that the Board of Directors of The Bush Foundation had approved our request for a grant to our program "Preparing for the 21st Century." The grant of \$430,000 will close out the capital part of our program. Gifts and pledges have exceeded our goal of \$10,950,000 for construction and endowment needs of Bethany. To God alone we give thanks.

## FINANCES AND AUXILIARY SERVICES

The 1992-93 school year ended with a deficit of \$56,000 and an accumulated deficit of \$83,000. We are obviously disappointed with the deficit for the academic year, but feel that the commitment to institutional development is worth the cost. It is the hope and prayer of the Board of Regents and college administration that the present school year will end with a surplus to help off-set the generated deficits.

Gifts continue to assist Bethany's effort to deliver a quality program and to maintain her commitment to program and capital development. The president and the Board of Regents are grateful to the members of our synod, individuals, corporations and foundations so willing to support the programs at Bethany.

The following is a summary of revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993:

### REVENUES

Tuition and Fees	\$1,960,914
Government Grants	7,909
Synod Subsidy	155,500
Housing Assistance	84,000
Maintenance Assistance	21,500
Capital Improvements	22,221
Private Gifts and Grants	360,150
Endowment Income	147,927
Sales and Services of Student Activities	18,746
Other Sources	103,471
Auxiliary Enterprises	1,130,364
Matured Deferred Gifts	9,823
Reserve Fund	<u>45,000</u>
	\$4,067,525

### EXPENDITURES

Educational and General	\$2,333,455
Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds	327,919
Scholarships and Grants	559,478
Auxiliary Enterprises	<u>845,071</u>
	4,065,923
Fund Balance	1,602
Prior Year's Fund Balance	(26,695)
Transfer to Funds Functioning as Endowments	<u>(58,034)</u>
Current Fund Balance	(83,127)

### CONCLUSION

As was noted last year, the next few years will be exciting ones as we will see the impact of our program "Preparing for the 21st Century" on campus development. The facility improvements, as well as endowment money to assist in the financial stability of the institution and program development, will help in an enormous way to move the institution into the 21st century. There is no question that Bethany Lutheran College will be a better and stronger institution. We pray that with the added blessings from our good and gracious Lord we will continue down the narrow path so that we may always be committed to "the one thing needful."

Oh Lord, be merciful to us and bless us in our efforts to educate tomorrow's leaders in church and state.

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

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

The Lord has blessed our seminary with another good year. The enrollment held up and a good spirit prevailed. The seminary continues to play a vital role in the life of our synod. It not only supplies our congregations with pastors, but it also gives us identity as a truly confessional Lutheran seminary which is committed to the Scriptures as the verbally inspired and inerrant Word of God and to the Lutheran Confessions as a correct interpretation of the Bible. May our gracious Lord continue to use our "school of the prophets" to further his kingdom.

## 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, Avon, CO; 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 1992-93 school year: J.B. Madson, Adolph Harstad, W. Petersen, Dr. Thomas Kuster, Norman Madson, Jr., and Glenn Reichwald.

## ENROLLMENT

The enrollment at the seminary during the school year was 17 and it was broken down as follows: 2 juniors, 9 middlers, 4 seniors and 2 vicars. The vicars who served their vicarages were: Jon Bruss at the Norseland-Norwegian Grove Lutheran parish and James Krueger at Ascension Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The enrollment prospects for the future continue to look promising for which we are grateful. We are also grateful to the Lord for opening the hearts of these men to study for the ministry.

## NEW PROFESSOR

The Rev. John Moldstad, Jr. of Oregon, Wisconsin accepted the Call, extended by the Board of Regents, to teach at the seminary. His Call is to teach in the area of New Testament and Dogmatics. He is currently studying Greek at the University of Minnesota and will begin his teaching duties in the fall of 1994. Professor Moldstad is a welcome addition to our seminary faculty.

## ACTIVITIES

The annual recognition dinner for the seniors, sponsored by the Aid Association for Lutherans, was held on April 21st.

Our annual vicar workshop was held at the end of the school year. The returning vicars participated in the workshop by reporting on certain phases of their vicarages. Pastor Donald Moldstad, associate pastor of King of Grace Lutheran Church and also a member of our synodical Board for Education and Youth, presented a paper on Ministry to Youth. An evangelism presentation was made by Pastor Thomas Rank, a member of the synodical Board for Evangelism.

A summer institute was held at Parkland Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, July 12-14. Professor Adolph Harstad of the seminary led in a study of the book of Joshua and President Petersen presented a paper on *The Importance of Effective Law and Gospel Preaching*. A total of 16 pastors attended the institute.

The seminary, together with the college, sponsored the annual Reformation Lectures on October 28-29 in the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center. The lecturer was Dr. Robert Kolb, professor of History and Religion at Concordia College, St. Paul, MN. Serving as reactors to the lectures were Professor John Brenner, professor of Church History at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, WI, and Professor Juul Madson of our seminary. The lectures, together with the reactions, were printed in the *Lutheran Synod Quarterly*. We are grateful to AAL for their generous financial assistance in funding these lectures.

An invitation from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wisconsin, was again extended to our seminary students and staff to attend the annual mission seminar on February 2-3 at Mequon. The invitation was gratefully accepted and the seminar was appreciated by the attendees.

**COMPUTER**

A new computer was given to the seminary for faculty use by Camilla Faugstad in memory of her late husband, Nels D. Faugstad. The faculty is most appreciative of this gift. Mr. Faugstad served as a member of the Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary for a number of years.

**QUARTERLY**

The *Lutheran Synod Quarterly*, our theological journal edited by the faculty of the seminary, is published quarterly. Subscriptions to the Quarterly continue to grow and are approaching the four hundred mark.

**FINANCES**

The following is a summary of budget receipts and expenditures for the past fiscal year July 1, 1992-June 30, 1993.

**REVENUES**

Tuition and Fees	\$ 46,560.00
Synod Subsidy	56,250.00
Gifts and Grants	23,352.00
Endowment Income	11,888.00
Other Sources	<u>3,861.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$141,911.00</b>

**EXPENDITURES**

Educational & General	\$131,439.00
Maintenance & Utilities	<u>9,085.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$140,524.00</b>
Increase	1,387.00

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

*HIGHER EDUCATION  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

**Resolution No. 1: College Staff**

*WHEREAS, Professors Sigurd Lee and Cynthia Weberg have retired as full-time professors,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks both of these individuals for their years of faithful service at Bethany Lutheran College.*

**Resolution No. 2: Anniversaries**

*WHEREAS, The following anniversaries have been observed,*

<i>35 years</i>	<i>Calvin Johnson</i>	<i>Financial Aid Director</i>
<i>30 years</i>	<i>Dennis Natvig</i>	<i>Business Manager, Treasurer</i>
<i>30 years</i>	<i>Orville Sampson</i>	<i>Custodian</i>
<i>25 years</i>	<i>Paul Tweit</i>	<i>Director of Development</i>
<i>15 years</i>	<i>Greg Costello</i>	<i>Comptroller</i>
<i>10 years</i>	<i>Dennis Marzolf</i>	<i>Choral Music</i>
<i>10 years</i>	<i>Art Westphal</i>	<i>Associate Director of Admissions Basketball &amp; Baseball Coach</i>

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Lord of the Church for supplying such faithful workers, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod asks the Lord to continue to bless them in their ongoing service in His kingdom.*

**Resolution No. 3: College Staff Recognition, Curriculum Study and Enrollment**

*WHEREAS, Professor Daniel Metzger has completed the work for his doctoral degree, and,*

*WHEREAS, The end of the 1993-1994 academic year brings to a close a three year faculty development program funded by the Bush Foundation, and,*

*WHEREAS, There is an ongoing emphasis on the evaluation and study of the curriculum of the college, and,*

*WHEREAS, These efforts to improve the quality of education offered by the college have again coincided with an all-time high enrollment,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends Dr. Metzger and the entire faculty and staff for their ongoing pursuit of academic excellence, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks God for the growth of our college.*

**Resolution No. 4: Four Year Program**

*WHEREAS, The possibility of a four year program has been studied by the faculty and administration of the college for several years, and,*

*WHEREAS, The college will be reporting on its study shortly to the Board of Regents,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents presents a report to the 1995 synodical convention on the feasibility of such a venture.*

**Resolution No. 5: Grants and Support**

*WHEREAS, Aid Association for Lutherans continues to assist the college through direct grants and local branch programs, and,*

*WHEREAS, Lutheran Brotherhood remains committed to challenging its members through matching programs which assist the college, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Bethany College Women's Auxiliary continues to be committed to the welfare of the college through its prayers and its financial support, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Bush Foundation Board of Directors has approved a grant of \$430,000 to close out the capital portion of "Preparing for the 21st Century," and,*

*WHEREAS, Many corporations and others have generously supported our college,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its heartfelt thanks to Aid Association for Lutherans, Lutheran Brotherhood, Bethany College Women's Auxiliary, the Bush Foundation and all others for their generous support.*

**Resolution No. 6: Annual Fund Support**

*WHEREAS, The "Preparing for the 21st Century" fund drive has been successful, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Bethany College Annual Fund is supported by contributions from members of the synod,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod reminds its members of the necessity of continued support for the Annual Fund of the college.*

**Resolution No. 7: Seminary Enrollment**

*WHEREAS, The seminary continues to experience substantially increased enrollment and prospects for the future are encouraging,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its gratitude to the Lord for leading men to study for the holy ministry.*

**Resolution No. 8: Seminary Gifts**

*WHEREAS, The Lord has continued to bless the seminary with gifts of equipment and financial support,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its gratitude to the Lord for moving its members to support the faculty and students of the seminary and encourages continued support of the work of the seminary and faculty in training men for the holy ministry.*

### **Resolution No. 9: Trinity Chapel**

*WHEREAS, The Lord has provided funds through a private gift of \$1.8 million for the construction of Trinity Chapel in memory of Mr. Marvin Schwan,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod gives thanks to God for this gift.*

### **SEMINARY ADDITION ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

#### **Resolution No. 1: Seminary Addition and Renovation**

*WHEREAS, There is a need for construction of an addition to and remodeling of the present seminary building to provide additional seminary classroom and library space as well as additional space for synodical offices, synodical archives and museum, and,*

*WHEREAS, The completion of the project would coincide with the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1996, and,*

*WHEREAS, The budgetary contributions' matching funds will be available also in 1996, and,*

*WHEREAS, This project can be done in a way that will not disrupt the long-term schedule of the Home Mission Board's opening of new missions, (Compare 1993 Synod Report, page 209)*

*A. RESOLVED, That the synod authorizes the Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents to proceed with the construction of an addition to and remodeling of the present seminary building at an estimated cost of \$900,000, and,*

*B. RESOLVED, That the authorized use of the 1995 matching funds be deferred until 1996 and the 1995 budgetary contributions' matching funds be used for the construction of an addition to and remodeling of the present seminary building.*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR EDUCATION AND YOUTH

*"Thy Word is everlasting truth; How pure is every page! That holy Book shall guide our youth And well support our age."* [TLH 286:5] The words of this hymn encourage the three subcommittees of the Board for Education and Youth to bring God's Word to every age of people in our synod. It is the only lasting truth that young and old need to hear. The board is grateful to the members of the ELS for supporting this important work in the *His Truth for Our Youth* Thankoffering. The board functions to help God's people fulfill the God-given task of sharing the truth of His Word by encouraging and assisting congregations in training Christ's redeemed flock from our young children to our senior citizens.

The board met twice since the last synod convention. Pastor Charles Keeler serves as chairman of the board, Mr. Ron O'Neill as treasurer 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 assist all part-time educational agencies in our synod's congregations. Members of the subcommittee are the following: Pastor Joseph Burkhardt, Pastor Craig Ferkenstad and Professor David Thompson. Pastor Joseph Burkhardt serves as the Secretary for Sunday Schools.

Three mailings have been made to pastors and Sunday School superintendents providing information for Sunday Schools and Bible classes. Vacation Bible School materials from Northwestern Publishing House and Concordia Publishing House were reviewed.

Sunday School Institutes have been conducted in two circuits. The topic at Circuit 6 was Law and Gospel presented by the Rev. M. Marozick. The topic at Circuit 7 was Martin Luther and Education presented by the Rev. M. Deopel.

The board continues to assist congregations to honor Sunday School teachers for years of service (10, 15, 20, etc.). Last year 16 teachers were recognized.

*Advent Devotions for the Family* was produced. The author was the Rev. T. Skaaland. *Lenten Devotions for the Family* also was produced. The author was the Rev. G. Guldberg. A bulletin insert promoting the Sunday School also was prepared and distributed.

*A Children's History of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod* is a coloring book prepared especially for lower elementary aged students. It was written and prepared by Sharon Schmidt and Dawn Willitz. It is available for purchase, for the cost of reproduction, through the board.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE ON YOUTH WORK**

The Subcommittee on Youth work deals specifically with the training of the young people in our churches. Members of the subcommittee are: The Rev. Mark Bartels, chairman, the Rev. Jonathan Madson, Mr. Ron O'Neill, Mr. Rob Pipal and the Rev. Donald Moldstad, secretary.

The 1993 Lutheran Youth Association Convention was held in Rapid City, SD in August with 140 in attendance including the counselors. The theme for the Convention was "Faith of Our Fathers." All the devotions and Bible Studies focused on the history of our synod and the confession of God's truth in his church. The 1994 LYA Convention will be held in Tacoma, WA, July 28-31. Bethany College is the proposed site for 1995.

In 1993 the subcommittee has provided \$100 grants toward 7 area youth retreats involving 2 or more of our synod churches in the following regions: Wisconsin, Florida, N. Minnesota, S. Minnesota (2), Missouri, and Arizona.

Camp Coordinator, Mr. Ron O'Neill, reported: 420 youth campers attended the synod camps in Florida, Washington, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Through our efforts and grants the Florida youth camp is now in its third year. We continue to look for ways to start other camps.

Nine Youth Bible Studies were published and sent to the pastors of our synod in 1993. In addition, a package of youth meeting formats was mailed out. Presently a Youth Leader's Handbook is being assembled.

Young Branches was published 3 times in 1993. We plan to increase the issues to 5 in 1994 and hopefully 6 by 1995.

Our Youth Library continues to grow through our funding. It is intended to provide youth resources for our churches and is managed by Dan and Emily Johnson in Mankato.

A Youth Songbook is projected to be completed by the fall of 1995 for use in our churches, camps, retreats and conventions. A teen devotional book is also in the works.

Pastor Donald Moldstad gave a presentation on youth work to the students in our Bethany Seminary.

The Youth Honor Choir was held jointly with the synod convention and had 40 students in attendance, the largest since its beginnings. Our thanks to Prof. Dennis Marzolf for his great work with our teens.

The subcommittee is seeking to find ways of assisting our pastors and lay leaders in teaching God's Word through a method called Cooperative Learning. Pastor Moldstad gave a presentation at the Pastors Conference.

Together with the Subcommittees for Parish Education, we have established a Family Commission for our synod. The goal is to have this commission recommend ways for us to better serve our youth in their faith through the family.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS**

##### *Immediate and long-range planning for the CDS division of the Board for Education and Youth*

In previous years this board has accomplished the following:

Established and implemented a Christian Day School visitation program whereby each of the teachers of our ELS Christian Day School would be periodically critiqued on their classroom performance, given moral support, counseling, and encouragement with respect to their called position.

Provided financial assistance through an educational grant program as an encouragement for our synod's CDS teachers to pursue additional courses of study.

Made available through a teacher rebate program, monies to match that of the DMLC rebate program for beginning teachers for those DMLC graduates that we call into our synod.

Established a program of synod certification for our CDS teachers.

Given financial aid to those CDS's of our synod who were in need of financial assistance, especially as they began their new school program.

Gathered and produced appropriate materials that would be helpful in planning and establishing a Christian Day School. These materials have been sent to a number of congregations.

Produced a "Teacher Handbook" specifically to be used by both new and veteran teachers of our synod.

Continually updating and supplying call lists to those congregations of our synod in need of a teacher.

Promote Christian education (special emphasis on CDS's) at synod conventions with a variety of media displays.

Encouraging congregations to begin programs that may lead to the development of CDS's such as a latch key program and a weekday evening children's Bible study class.

Actively encouraged congregations with CDS's to meet as a minimum the suggested teacher salary scale for the teachers of their respective schools.

To mediate between faculty, school, and congregational internal problems.

To have a member of the BEY present at all synod teacher conferences as a communicator between the synod board of education and the CDS's.

Continue to provide financial and moral support to the annual ELS teacher conferences.

Compiled an annotated bibliography of all the synod essays dealing with Christian education since the founding of our synod.

Established a program whereby those teachers of our synod who are experiencing an immediate crisis may contact a board member for immediate counseling, and if necessary meet with them in person.

Re-establish a program making it possible for a representative from each of our two teacher conferences to attend their respective counter conference on a yearly basis.

Establish a joint teacher "call" list with the WELS BPE—all now computerized in a central location.

Consolidate and clarify the synod certification guidelines for the teachers of our ELS.

Provide assistance to schools in need of curriculum revisions.

Revise and update the now outdated teacher handbook.

This year we expect to: (1995)

Continue implementing the following programs:

- a) teacher grant
- b) teacher rebate
- c) school visitations
- d) gathering materials for the planning of new CDS's
- e) updating and supplying call lists (14 lists were sent for 11 positions)
- f) promote Christian education at synod conventions
- g) provide continued assistance (money and morale) to congregations wishing to start a CDS school

In addition to the above we plan to:

- a) establish guidelines for and promote within our schools an "in-house" program of school visitation.

Plans for the immediate future:

In addition to maintaining, revising, and implementing our existing and ongoing programs we plan to add the following:

- a) establishing a program of early childhood/day care needs for the working families of the 90's with the possibility of expanding this program into the establishment of a Christian Day School.
- b) establishment of a joint principal's conference for all the principals of the ELS CDS's.
- c) establishing a synod wide distribution of a CDS newsletter, with the intent of mailing this letter to all the congregations of our synod.
- d) creating an information packet (video, pamphlets, resources) for the promotion of CDS's to the congregations of our synod.
- e) being significantly instrumental in the establishment of a minimum of at least one new CDS. And if the opportunity arises to expand that number to even more school openings.
- g) encourage congregations to actively view the Christian Day School as a mission outreach.

Long-range plans expected to include:

Again, in addition to maintaining, revising, and implementing our existing and ongoing programs we plan to:

- a) establish a paid position for a "Secretary of Schools"
- b) promote the establishment of a 4-year teaching CDS track at Bethany College.

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. Glen Hansen, Mr. Larry Rude, Mr. James Schneck, and Professor Mark Wiechmann.

All teachers were encouraged in their calling at several local teacher's conferences. The Midwest ELS Teachers Conference met at King of Grace, Golden Valley, Minnesota on October 21st and 22nd. The teachers in the Pacific Northwest Conference met jointly with the WELS at Canon Beach, Oregon on October 7th and 8th and at Bremerton, Washington on March 10 and 11. They met with the ELS schools alone at Parkland, Tacoma, Washington on January 17th. 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.

The School Visitation Program is currently being reviewed. Due to the increasing responsibilities placed on visitors as troubleshooters rather than as advisors, we are currently evaluating the effectiveness of our own system. WELS now has a new system in place and we are observing developments as to how we might incorporate some of the in-house type of supervision into our system. 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.

As of this writing three teachers have taken advantage of the financial assistance offered for continued education. We, as a board, encourage teachers to make use of these funds. These funds are especially important in view of the increasing state regulations and certifications imposed on the staffs of our Christian Day Schools.

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. Using these funds, Holton Lutheran was aided last year in the purchase of a new portable. Several other projects are being considered. Your gifts from the offering, in addition to our regular budget, have made the funding of special projects such as this possible. We thank you for having made these funds available to help schools in need of assistance.

Our teacher newsletter project is still in the planning stages, frustrated by our inability to find an editor. We continue to look for someone with the time, skills and knowledge to take on this project. Our board feels the need to provide teachers with their own special publication, bringing together the valuable resources our own teachers have to offer, along with giving our teachers a sense of unity. We feel this will be an especially important publication as our teaching staff expands. Frequently our teachers find it difficult to maintain a feeling of unity over such geographically separated regions. We hope that this publication will bring together comments and ideas from all teachers of our synod, unifying them in one distinctly ELS publication.

One project that has taken off this year, working toward this same goal of teacher unity, is the teacher conference exchange program. Under this program, one teacher of our synod represents his or her colleagues at their sister conference. The first representative of this program, Camilla Dashcund, visited the West Coast teachers conference this past January. The program was a great encouragement to teachers, and has been met with very positive responses. We feel that as this program continues, our teachers will continue to feel closer to their ELS colleagues. We feel that this is not only an opportunity to share in fellowship, but a chance to appreciate the special challenges faced in each conference.

Over this past year, the Secretary of Schools was able to meet with the WELS BPE to discuss the relationship between our two offices. These very productive meetings have led to the inclusion of our teachers in the computer registration

and update system currently used for WELS teachers. This will aid greatly in the compilation of teacher records and updates and will speed up the calling process. Practical provisions concerning the calling of teachers across synod lines have also been established. We are very grateful for the assistance of this office to our BEY and we thank them for their spirit of support and fellowship.

The CDS Subcommittee is working on the revision of the certification rules as requested by the 1993 Floor Committee, Resolution #5. We plan to submit the revision to the 1995 convention for approval. These rules will be published, upon review by the Doctrine Committee and included in the new Handbook for Christian Day Schools which will be mailed to all parties involved in the ELS CDS system.

We would also like to welcome a new starter school to our synod. This last fall, Concordia, Eau Claire began a preschool program. Their teacher, Charlotte Winkler, attended the Midwest Teacher's Conference in October. We rejoice in their efforts and pray for their continued success.

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 or a congregational visit should contact the Secretary of Schools, James Schneck. He can schedule someone to visit with your congregation, sharing with you the benefits and practical requirements of a Christian Day School.

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The board would recommend the following teacher salary schedule for the 1994-1995 school year based on a twelve-month call:

Teachers who hold a Bachelor's Degree:	
Base Salary	\$16,500
Yearly Increment	\$225*
Teachers who hold a Master's Degree:	
Base Salary	\$17,500
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 continued 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 1993-94**

Teachers:

Full Time Men:	13
Full Time Women:	31
Part Time Women:	<u>23</u>
Total:	67

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
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
217	149	137	90	111	109	81	90	85	76

Total Enrollment: 1,145 Pre-K through 8  
 (1,149 in 1993)  
 928 K through 8  
 (917 in 1993)

**JOINT CONCERNS**

A major emphasis of the board begun this year is in the area of family life. The Parish Education and Youth Subcommittees have put together a Family Life Commission consisting of members from our ELS with expertise and interest in the area of family life. The commission has met two times and will seek ways, under the direction of the BEY, to encourage and advise the congregations of our synod in better understanding the Scriptural teachings concerning God-pleasing family structure and roles which are intended to bestow blessings upon the home and society. Prof. David Thompson, a member of BEY, serves as the chairman of this committee. The commission has already come up with some suggested projects to be implemented by the BEY as funds permit. One such initial project may be the production of a synod-produced Bible study on family life. The Parish Education and Youth Subcommittees consider this work among our families so vital in our synod that they seek the encouragement of the synod in this important work of strengthening our families which the Family Life Commission is pursuing. The subcommittees of Youth and Parish Education also resolved to encourage the synod to have family life as the theme for the 1996 Synod Convention.

The board certainly rejoices over the two year 75th Anniversary Thankoffering that will conclude toward the latter part of 1994. Through this offering, by God's grace, we have begun to expand work in the area of Christian training, work which has been hampered over the years because of insufficient funds. Lord willing, the offering will do much to assist the board in instructing our children and all ages of God's flock in the truth of God's holy Word.

Jonathan N. Madson, secretary

**EDUCATION AND YOUTH  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Parish Education**

*WHEREAS, The Subcommittee on Parish Education seeks to assist all part-time education agencies of our synod's congregations, and,*

*WHEREAS, They have produced many materials for the benefit of the congregations,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the pastors and congregational members be encouraged to use the materials provided by this subcommittee.*

**Resolution No. 2: Christian Day Schools**

*WHEREAS, There is a continuing need for the synodical certification of our Christian day school teachers, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Subcommittee on Christian Day Schools has worked with the Wisconsin Synod to establish a joint call list of certified teachers of our synods,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the subcommittee on Christian day schools for continuing to improve the certification procedures for teachers, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends our synod's day schools for their cooperation with the subcommittee regarding certification procedures, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages all congregations with schools to make use of the calling procedures established by the subcommittee on Christian day schools.*

**Resolution No. 3: Salary Scale for Teachers**

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

*WHEREAS, Our synod's Christian day schools are making every effort to meet these scales,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we commend the subcommittee for its concern regarding the needs of our synod's teachers, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the congregations with schools to continue their use of this salary schedule as a minimum for its teachers,*

**Resolution No. 4: Christian Day School as a Mission Outreach**

*WHEREAS, The subcommittee encourages congregations actively to view the Christian day school as a mission outreach,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the subcommittee in promoting this use of the Christian day school.*

**Resolution No. 5: Family Life Commission**

*WHEREAS, There is great confusion regarding family roles in our present-day society which also affects the members of our congregations, and,*

*WHEREAS, The goal of this commission is to recommend ways to better serve our youth in their faith through the family,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the Board for Education and Youth for appointing the Family Life Commission, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the board continue to work with the Family Life Commission to strengthen families in our congregations.*

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

It is true, the powerful working of the Gospel defies human measurement. As Jesus said to Nicodemus: "The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit" (John 3:8). Yet, our Lord does hold us to an accounting as He points out in the parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30). We are responsible for the planting and the watering, but it is God who causes His Word of Truth to take root and to grow (I Corinthians 3:5-9).

In the courts of heaven the real measurements are noted for the Lord knows those who are His and His angels rejoice every time a sinner repents. We are limited to the measurements of planting and watering and yet we are assured that where the Word of God is rightly taught and the Sacraments are rightly administered, there the Church can be found. Therefore we are hopeful that the report the board here submits for the review of the synod will demonstrate that the board has not buried the "talents" given to it, but has invested them, and that they have been invested prudently for the sake of our Lord's blood-bought kingdom and thus, to His glory alone.

### **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\*, new site developer. Those members marked with an asterisk (\*) also serve on the Trustee/Home Mission Subcommittee.

### **MEETINGS AND VISITATIONS**

The board met for its regular quarterly meetings in August, October, February and May. It also met for special meetings via telephone conference in June and twice during the 1993 Synod Convention.

Board members have made regular visits to current mission fields for such things as installations, dedications, etc. Also trips were made to investigate prospective mission fields.

### **MISSION PROPERTIES**

—Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, FL received approval for its church building plans. (Construction on this building may be completed by the time of the Synod Convention.)

—Christ Lutheran Church, Port St. Lucie, FL was given four lots which border its property, purchased by a member. This will expand its property to 2.77 acres.

### **NEW WORK BEGUN AND PROPOSED**

—At Messiah Lutheran Church, mission work continues in Pierce Co., WA under the Rev. William Larson, following Missionary Timothy Mutterer's acceptance of a call to a Minnesota parish.

—It was decided to start work in Holland, MI, the Rev. Michael Smith accepted the call to begin work in this new field.

—It was decided to start work in Winter Haven, FL, the calling process has begun.

### **DISCUSSION OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

—With the increasing number of missions that the board supervises, the workload of the Field Secretary also increases. Various options have been proposed and discussed to offer some relief. However, any proposal that would require more than just reimbursement of expenses would be recommended for synod approval.

—Since funding for home missions has now several sources and the added resources has enabled the board to offer more options to mission congregations, the need has arisen to write new policies for timetables and setting interest rates, etc. Therefore a new policy handbook is being developed and before it is adopted it will be submitted for review by the home missionaries at a seminar later this year.

—To help streamline reporting to the board by the home missionaries a common computer program will be adopted and to have ready access to all pertinent information at each board meeting a lap top computer will be purchased.

—According to the latest 10 year worksheet projecting the decreasing costs of our current work and projecting the possibility of starting new work, we are looking at the possibility of funding eight new missions in the next nine years.

### **CONCERNING 1993 SYNOD RESOLUTIONS**

—Resolution #3, pp. 149&50: The board always remains open to requests by established congregations of the ELS which seek assistance in mission outreach. (This can be demonstrated by a referral to the past few years' reports.) It is important, however, that both pastor and congregation develop together an aggressive and well thought out plan with itemized costs to submit to the board. The board does not view the monies allocated to it by the synod as money to be used to help supplement budget shortfalls of established congregations.

—Resolution #5, p. 150: The board has discussed various ways of addressing the concern of the difference in the cost of living in different areas of the country. No recommendation is ready to be submitted at this time, but this matter will be discussed again during this coming year.

### **SALARY PACKAGE FOR HOME MISSIONARIES**

The board recommends the following package for home missionaries for 1995 in accordance with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Handbook (p. 29, H):

Base Salary	\$18,750
Car Allowance	3,000
Yearly Increment	250 (based on year of experience in the Holy Ministry up to 20 years)
Pension	6% of base salary, car allowance & yearly increment)
Health Insurance (Synod Plan)	Premium for lowest deductible to be paid 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

(NOTE: The board is discussing the possibility of recommending in the future that an equity allowance be added to this package for missionaries who either rent their homes or live in parsonages.)

**HOME MISSION BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**Dec. 31, 1993**

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<u>CONGREGATION:</u>	<u>ELS + LB BUDGET</u>	<u>ELS SUBSIDY</u>	<u>LB GRANT</u>	<u>SCHWAN GRANT</u>	<u>INTEREST SUBSIDY</u>
Faith, Oregon, WI	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00			
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL					\$ 5,078.62
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	8,500.00	8,500.00			12,818.07
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	2,500.00				
Family of God, Bullhead City, AZ	23,000.00	23,000.00			
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	7,000.00	7,000.00			
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	25,000.00	5,000.00	\$20,000.00		
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	26,500.00	8,000.00	20,000.00		
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	14,000.00	14,041.00			8,141.09
New Life, Sebring, FL	14,500.00	14,500.00			11,858.12
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA		143.45			
Peace, Lakeland, FL				\$45,804.46	
Good Shepherd, Pierce Co. WA				39,558.49	
New Mission, Holland, MI	40,000.00	2,000.00			
Advertising/Printing	6,000.00	4,208.19			
Board Expenses	12,000.00	13,198.90			
Moving Expenses	<u>12,000.00</u>	<u>8,163.61</u>			
	\$195,800.00	\$112,555.15	\$40,000.00	\$85,362.95	\$ 37,895.90
<b>TOTAL OPERATING &amp; CAPITAL EXPENSE</b>					<b>\$275,814.00</b>
<u><b>INCOME</b></u>					
Refunds		\$ 1,631.50			
Lutheran Brotherhood Grant		40,000.00			
ELS Subsidy		118,000.00			
General Reserve		1,036.21			
Partners in the Gospel		29,873.34			
Schwan Enterprises		85,362.95			
Expenditure adjustment prior quarters		<u>(90.00)</u>			
<b>TOTAL OPERATING &amp; CAPITAL INCOME</b>					<b>\$275,814.00</b>

**BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS FINANCIAL REPORT**

	1993	1994	1995
	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Faith, Oregon, WI	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	8,500.00	6,000.00	4,500.00
Family of God, Bullhead City, AZ	23,000.00	18,000.00	13,000.00
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	7,000.00	5,000.00	2,000.00
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	25,000.00	25,000.00	23,000.00
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	28,000.00	20,000.00	16,000.00
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	14,041.00	8,000.00	3,000.00
New Life, Sebring, FL	14,500.00	9,500.00	5,000.00
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	143.45		
Peace, South Lakeland, FL	45,804.46		
Good Shepherd, Pierce Co. WA	39,558.49		
Holland, MI	2,000.00		
New Start, 1994		49,000.00	41,000.00
New Mission			45,000.00
Advertising/Printing	4,208.19	6,000.00	6,000.00
Board Expenses	13,198.90	12,000.00	12,000.00
Moving Expenses	8,163.61	12,000.00	12,000.00
Interest subsidy to missions	<u>37,895.90</u>	<u>76,150.00</u>	<u>71,100.00</u>
Total operating expense	\$275,814.00	\$249,650.00	\$255,100.00

**INCOME:**

Refunds	\$ 1,631.50
Lutheran Brotherhood Grant	40,000.00
ELS Subsidy	118,000.00
General Reserve	1,036.21
Partners in the Gospel	29,873.34
Schwan Sales Enterprises	85,362.95
Expenditure adjustment prior qtrs.	<u>(90.00)</u>
Total operating income	\$275,814.00

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

	1993	1994	1995
	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Faith, Oregon, WI	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	8,500.00	6,000.00	4,500.00
Family of God, Bullhead City, AZ	23,000.00	18,000.00	13,000.00
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	7,000.00	5,000.00	2,000.00
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	25,000.00	25,000.00	23,000.00
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	28,000.00	20,000.00	16,000.00
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	14,041.00	8,000.00	3,000.00
New Life, Sebring, FL	14,500.00	9,500.00	5,000.00
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	143.45		
New Start 1994		49,000.00	41,000.00
New Mission			45,000.00
Advertising/Printing	4,208.19	6,000.00	6,000.00
Board Expenses	13,198.90	12,000.00	12,000.00
Moving Expenses	<u>8,163.61</u>	<u>12,000.00</u>	<u>12,000.00</u>
TOTAL			
OPERATING EXPENSE	\$150,555.15	\$173,500.00	\$184,000.00

**Schwan Sales Enterprises Missions:**

Peace, South Lakeland, FL  
 Good Shepherd, Pierce Co. WA  
 Holland, MI

## THANK YOU

During the past year various individuals, congregations and other organizations have contributed special gifts toward our home 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 heart of Mr. George Nygard to include home mission work in his will so that Partners in the Gospel fund received a generous gift from his estate. We also thank Schwan Sales Enterprises Inc. for its generous gift to our home mission work.

We could measure the success of our home mission work together by pointing out that at the end of 1993, 162 new souls were under the care of our home missions (an increase of 20%) or that an additional 88 people attended divine services in our missions each Sunday in 1993 or that a couple thousand prospects were called by the Gospel through the efforts of our home missions or that additional congregations have made the transition from subsidized to completely self-supporting congregations. But that hardly tells the story of what great things God is doing in our many home missions week after week as His Word is being faithfully proclaimed and His Sacraments properly dispensed. The results of the Gospel ministry defy human measurements, but the use we make of the opportunities given us to proclaim that Gospel can and should be measured.

What an awesome responsibility we have been given, we are the mouthpieces through which the sound of the Spirit is heard, but, just like the wind, no one can tell where He has come from nor where He is going, since He works upon the hearts of sinners in secret. The work we are doing is of eternal importance. Where we have proven to be unfaithful we pray that the Lord would have mercy upon us and where He places new opportunities before us we ask that He strengthen us through that same powerful Gospel to be faithful to the task. To God alone be all the glory!

Glenn R. Obenberger, recording secretary

## HOME MISSIONS ACTION OF THE SYNOD

### Resolution No. 1: Mission Expansion

*WHEREAS, There is a continued population movement into the major metropolitan areas of the United States of America, and,*

*WHEREAS, There is an increasing number of suburban areas with few or no confessional Lutheran congregations, and,*

*WHEREAS, Many confessional Lutherans are moving south and west to live out their retirement years, and,*

*WHEREAS, Our Lord enjoins us to go into all the world to preach the Gospel,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions be commended for its dedicated work in searching out and expanding into these mission fields, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends its missionaries and the Board for Home Missions for their dedicated work, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the congregations of synod keep the work of the home missionaries before its members, and,*

*D. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions proceeds as boldly as possible to establish new missions because we know not the time or date on which HE SHALL COME AGAIN.*

**Resolution No. 2: Board Efficiency**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions has no full-time staff member to oversee the home mission efforts, and,*

*WHEREAS, Working with architects, land developers, construction companies as well as with the synod's missionaries can consume many hours of time on the part of the board members,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions be urged, as much as possible, to make use of the new technology God presented for its use (fax machines, computers, phone services, software packages) so that the board might accomplish its work in an efficient and productive manner.*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions be urged to investigate the feasibility of establishing a half-time or full-time staff position.*

**Resolution No. 3: Salary Package**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions has recommended a salary package for home missionaries,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the board recommended salary package be adopted, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions continue to investigate the feasibility of making modifications to the salary package to reflect different costs of living in different areas.*

**Resolution No. 4: Home Mission work in 1993**

*WHEREAS, Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, FL has begun to construct a new church building, and,*

*WHEREAS, Christ Lutheran Church, Pt. St. Lucie, FL was given additional land adjacent to its property, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Lord is gathering people to hear the Gospel in Graham, WA; Holland, MI; and Winter Haven, FL, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions reports an increase of 162 new souls under the care of the synod's home missionaries in 1993, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions plans to begin "eight new missions in the next nine years,"*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Lord for blessing the efforts of the synod's home missionaries, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the home missionaries to continue their efforts to "plant and water" with the Gospel, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions be encouraged to continue planning for eight new missions in the next nine years.*

### **Resolution No. 5: Thanks for Gifts**

*WHEREAS, Various individuals, congregations and other organizations have contributed special gifts toward home mission efforts,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Lord for moving hearts to give generously towards the work of home missions, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod gratefully acknowledges these special gifts, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages all of its members to be generous stewards of the Lord also in home missions.*

## **REPORT TO THE SYNOD FROM THE FOREIGN MISSION BOARD—1994**

Our gracious heavenly Father continues to bless the work of foreign missions as it is carried out by our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The biggest news since our last convention is the arrival on the field of our third missionary in Chile. The Rev. Timothy Bartels of Eau Claire, WI accepted our board's call to that field in the latter part of 1993, and arrived in Santiago with his family the first week in February. We rejoice over this additional worker for South America. It is our continual prayer as a board that God will bless the labors of our workers on the field so that many souls may be added to the Lord's kingdom. We are in the process of ascertaining whether it will be financially possible for our board to call a third missionary to Peru. A three-man team on the field is much more desirable than a two-man team, and as soon as possible we would like to add that third missionary in Peru. We pray that God will make it possible for our board to do this.

**BOARD PERSONNEL**—There has been no change in board membership since last year. The chairman is the Rev. Paul Anderson; the vice chairman is Marlin Goebel (Mr. Goebel served as chairman during the 6 month period that Pastor Anderson served a confessional group in South Australia); the secretary is the Rev. Wayne Halverson; the treasurer is Robert Soule; the field-secretary is the Rev. Norman A. Madson; the information-officer is Prof. Adolph Harstad; and the mass-media consultant is Ken Loomis. President George Orvick faithfully attends our regular meetings in an ex-officio capacity. We had four 2-day meetings during the past year—January, April, July & October. We usually met at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Madison, WI.

**FIELD PERSONNEL**—The Rev. David Haeuser and the Rev. Timothy Erickson are our missionaries in Peru. Assisting them in the work are four national ordained pastors—Fidel Convecio, Roberto Berrospid, Segundo Gutierrez and Abraham Rosario. In Chile our missionaries are the Rev. James Olsen, the Rev. Dan McMiller and the Rev. Tim Bartels. Amy Gernander, supported by Schwan monies, and Peter Olsen, supported by friends and relatives, assist in the work of the Mission. The Rev. Wm. F. McMurdie and his wife spent three months in Santiago, at their own expense, and assisted in the work of the Mission in various ways.



**Worship gathering—Santiago, Chili, South America**

**STATISTICS (for Peru)**—There are 25 preaching or teaching stations. There are a total of 652 baptized souls, of which 355 are confirmed members. There are 80 voting members. In 1993 there were 33 children baptisms and 2 adult baptisms. There were 13 children confirmed and 32 adults confirmed. The average attendance at the weekly worship services was 282.

**(for Chile)**—We are at present conducting services and classes in two locations in Santiago. There are 15 confirmed members at Las Cisterna, with several more being instructed at this time. The average Sunday attendance there is about 35. At Las Vertientes there are about a dozen confirmed members, with several more taking instruction. The average attendance at worship services there is about 20.

#### **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

The group being organized in Las Vertientes is now of such size that it does not work well to meet in missionary Olsen's home much longer. It may be necessary to rent or buy some property in a strategic area to accommodate the expected growth in that area.

Mary Olsen continues to produce Sunday School material for the mission. She is presently working on a set of 50 New Testament lessons, to go along with the 50 Old Testament lessons that she has done over the years. This project is being funded by a grant from Schwan Sales Enterprises, Inc. She does each lesson from start to finish—writes the lesson, formulates the questions, does the artwork and the layout. When she is finished we will have 100 Bible story lessons for use in our South American missions.

The Chile missionaries and our board are in the early stages of doing some planning for the establishment of a Lutheran parochial school in our Chile mission. The school would serve both the children of our missionaries and the nationals who would be interested in such a school for their children. A lot of groundwork must be laid before such a goal is realized. We ask the Lord's guidance in this particular area.

The Wisconsin Synod is hosting a special conference in Milwaukee this July for Spanish speaking missionaries and their wives from our two synods. The

conference will be devoted to improving Christian education in our Latin American missions. Several of our board members and their wives plan to attend, and we hope a representative or two from both Peru and Chile will also be able to attend.

Missionary Tim Bartels and his wife and three children arrived in Santiago safe and sound on February 4th. By the end of the month their two oldest children began classes at the American school in Santiago. Pastor Bartels and his wife have begun intensive language study. They have rented a nice home in the same area of the city where the McMillers live.

Our board and the Bethany Seminary faculty have talked some about the possibility of using a vicar in the foreign field. There would be some disadvantages, of course, but there would be advantages for such a program as well.

Our board has been contacted by someone who would like us to take over some church work that has been started in India. A WELS pastor, who was born in India, and is to make a trip to that part of India in April, will report his findings to our board upon his return. As we understand it, the work would not entail a great amount of funding.

**HELPING HANDS**—This arm of our mission work in South America continues to do well. During the past year funding from this organization helped support missionary David Haeuser in Peru and Dan McMiller in Chile. There were 781 individual gifts during the year that totaled \$94,400; add to that the \$42,500 gained in interest from the Schwan endowment for Helping Hands and you come up with the figure of \$136,900 as the total received through Helping Hands. Once again we wish to sincerely thank all those who helped our foreign mission program through their gifts to Helping Hands.

**FAITH MISSION SOCIETY**—During 1993 the following amounts were given through this organization for our South American mission work. For Peru \$4,542 was received, and \$3,039 for Chile. In addition to the above amounts, \$2,175 was received through FMS for the missionaries' personal use, and \$634 for the work in Australia.

**AUSTRALIA**—While the work being done in Australia is not technically our board's mission work, yet, because we are helping the confessional Lutheran congregations over there with Schwan monies, we do in a sense look upon it as our work too. Our board chairman, Paul Anderson, spent six months over there from June to December of this past year. He served several small groups in South Australia. We at present are considering assisting those groups in calling and maintaining a full-time pastor.

At the end of another year of our board's work we thank God for the manifold blessings He has bestowed on our work, and for His opening more and more doors so that even more work may be accomplished in the future in spreading the Gospel throughout the world.

**THE 1994 BUDGET**

	Tim Erickson (16 years)	David Haeuser (20+ years)	Jim Olsen (20+ years)	Dan McMiller (10 years)	Tim Bartels (8 years)
Base salary	\$18,700	\$18,700	\$18,700	\$18,700	\$18,700
Increment (\$250 up to 20 years)	4,000	5,000	5,000	2,500	2,000
Rent	9,600	9,960	9,000	9,000	9,000
Utilities	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
Children's schooling	14,650	14,650			12,000
Pension*	1,548	1,608	1,608	1,452	1,428
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$51,098</b>	<b>\$52,518</b>	<b>\$36,908</b>	<b>\$34,252</b>	<b>\$45,728</b>

\*Pension is figured at 6 percent of Base salary, Increment & Car allowance.

**OTHER EXPENSES**

	Peru (2 men)	Chile (3 men)
Health Insurance	\$8,725	\$13,075
Car Allowance	6,000	9,000
Vehicle Replacement	4,000	6,000
Furloughs	6,000	6,000
Board Expense	3,500	3,500
Office Supplies	5,000	3,000
Printing & Literature	3,000	2,000
Furnishing Replacement	2,000	500
Utilities & Insurance	6,000	11,580*
Language Study	1,500	1,500
Field Travel	2,000	1,000
Visa Expense	1,000	1,500
Personnel change on the field		10,000
Accountant (lawyer)	1,500	2,160
Term Insurance	300	450
Secretary	<u>1,600</u>	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$52,125</b>	<b>\$71,265</b>
Peru National Pastors' Salaries	18,700	
Peru Seminar Expenses	21,000	

**\*Chile Utilities & Insurance**

Guards	\$1,200
Gardner/Janitor	5,400
Phone	360
Water	1,200
Electricity	1,800
Pest Control	420
Courier Mail	600
Miscellaneous	<u>600</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,580</b>

**BRIEF SUMMARY**

Total Salaries	\$343,894
Chile "Other"	71,265
Peru "Other"	52,125
Peru Seminary	21,000
Peru Pastor's Sal.	<u>18,700</u>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$383,594</b>

These figures are as of December 21, 1993

## THOUGHTS OF FAITH REPORT

As of January 1, 1994, Thoughts of Faith has three mission stations in Eastern Europe. Three missionaries, the Rev. Matt Luttmann, the Rev. Jim Krikava and the Rev. Steve Sparley, along with a full school staff, are headquartered in Plzen, Czech Republic. The mission is growing, and plans are under way to remodel a large school building for use by both the Dr. Martin Luther School, operated by the mission, and the congregation served by the missionaries in Plzen.

The Ukraine mission is expanding quickly. One missionary, the Rev. Roger Kovaciny, has established a congregation in the city of Ternopil in western Ukraine, and another missionary, the Rev. Mel Schwark, is working in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine. The Rev. John Shep is spending half of his time in Kiev working with missionary Schwark with the congregation of the new Ukrainian Ev. Lutheran Church that the Rev. Shep established in 1993.

The Medical Clinic on Wheels continues to operate out of Ternopil, Ukraine serving the medical and dental needs of children and women in the area. Over 20,000 patients have been seen by the clinics.

Seminary students, Konstantin Mamberger and Gundars Bakulis are well on their way to completing their training for the ministry.

We thank God for all the opportunities He has given TOF, and will continue to share the Good News with those brothers and sisters in Eastern Europe who want to know more about the Lord Jesus Christ.

### THOUGHTS OF FAITH BALANCE SHEET As of July, 1993

	Unrestricted	Endowment	Memorandum Total
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current Assets			
Cash-Checking	19,223.20	—	19,223.20
Total Current Assets	19,223.20	—	19,223.20
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>			
Self-reliance Credit Union	—	123,005.45	123,005.45
AAL Bond Fund	—	60,721.03	60,721.03
Note Receivable—Schwark	7,000.00	—	7,000.00
Note Receivable—Makinen	15,000.00	—	15,000.00
Note Receivable—Meier	48,167.84	—	48,167.84
Investments	2,016,988.39	622,708.61	2,639,697.00
Total Investments	2,087,156.23	806,435.09	2,893,591.32
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>2,106,379.43</b>	<b>806,435.09</b>	<b>2,912,814.52</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>			
Fund Balance			
Balance beginning of period	2,507,559.28	742,730.03	3,250,289.31
Current period increase (decrease)	(401,179.85)	63,705.06	(337,474.79)
Total Fund Balance	2,106,379.43	806,435.09	2,912,814.52
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>2,106,379.43</b>	<b>806,435.09</b>	<b>2,912,814.52</b>

**THOUGHTS OF FAITH**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES**  
**As of July, 1993**

	Unrestricted	Endowment	Memorandum Total
<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>			
Contributions	190,508.78	—	190,508.78
Schwan Contributions	1,451,500.00	—	1,451,500.00
Interest Income	18,606.74	38,188.47	56,795.21
Investment Gain (Loss)	26,553.31	31,029.25	57,582.56
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>	<b>1,687,168.83</b>	<b>69,217.72</b>	<b>1,756,386.55</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Production	23,839.67	—	23,839.67
Translation	2,426.50	—	2,426.50
Literature	352,791.11	—	352,791.11
Computers	37,378.64	—	37,378.64
Travel Expense	240,126.78	—	240,126.78
Supplies	770,238.72	—	770,238.72
Education	115,706.05	—	115,706.05
Salaries	393,355.06	—	393,355.06
Housing Allowance	26,960.00	—	26,960.00
Hospitalization	23,296.28	—	23,296.28
Pension	9,261.22	—	9,261.22
Term Insurance	253.95	—	253.95
Business Insurance	2,408.50	—	2,408.50
Dues and Subscriptions	5,567.09	—	5,567.09
Rent	15,779.98	—	15,779.98
Utilities	3,780.21	—	3,780.21
Telephone	48,206.74	—	48,206.74
Professional Fees	8,655.84	5,512.66	14,168.50
Office Supplies and Expense	8,316.34	—	8,316.34
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,088,348.68</b>	<b>5,512.66</b>	<b>2,093,861.34</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>(401,179.85)</b>	<b>63,705.06</b>	<b>(337,474.79)</b>

**THOUGHTS OF FAITH  
UNRESTRICTED  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES  
As of July, 1993**

	Literature Ministry	Missionary Support	Computers & Related	Medical Mission	Kiev Church & Mumberger
<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>					
Contributions	—	—	—	—	—
Schwan Contributions	—	—	—	—	—
Interest Income	—	—	—	—	—
Investment Gain (Loss)	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>	—	—	—	—	—
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Production	—	—	—	—	—
Translation	714.50	—	—	—	1,412.00
Literature	352,437.50	176.75	—	—	—
Computers	—	—	24,870.60	445.42	—
Travel Expense	—	67,525.31	—	31,042.42	26,964.41
Supplies	1,850.00	12,518.80	1,900.00	214,622.29	28,837.23
Education	—	13,640.00	—	6.95	34,427.11
Salaries	100.00	142,522.90	—	49,064.94	3,000.00
Housing Allowance	—	—	—	—	24,960.00
Hospitalization	—	10,301.49	—	6,108.79	—
Pension	—	4,915.56	—	2,058.00	—
Term Insurance	—	253.95	—	—	—
Business Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
Dues and Subscriptions	—	—	—	—	—
Rent	—	—	—	—	5,730.00
Utilities	—	—	—	243.75	494.81
Telephone	10.71	4,751.02	—	1,902.77	6,345.74
Professional Fees	—	—	—	—	—
Office Supplies and Expense	—	13.95	—	91.92	163.05
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	355,112.71	256,619.73	26,770.60	305,587.25	132,334.35
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	(355,112.71)	(256,619.73)	(26,770.60)	(305,587.25)	(132,334.35)

**THOUGHTS OF FAITH  
UNRESTRICTED  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES  
As of July, 1993**

	Ukraine Prison Ministry	Greek and Tatar Literature	Ukrainian School Project	Lviv Office Project	Czech School Project
<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>					
Contributions	—	—	—	—	—
Schwan Contributions	—	—	—	—	—
Interest Income	—	—	—	—	—
Investment Gain (Loss)	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>	—	—	—	—	—
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Production	—	—	—	—	—
Translation	—	—	—	—	—
Literature	—	—	125.00	—	—
Computers	8,652.62	—	—	—	—
Travel Expense	12,008.71	—	8,606.72	—	16,763.06
Supplies	236.42	—	16,494.40	2,200.00	75,555.93
Education	—	—	10,548.59	4,990.95	4,389.68
Salaries	—	—	25,734.48	—	55,141.88
Housing Allowance	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitalization	—	—	—	—	2,702.00
Pension	—	—	—	—	992.64
Term Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
Business Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
Dues and Subscriptions	—	—	—	—	—
Rent	—	—	2,573.50	500.00	—
Utilities	—	—	—	—	—
Telephone	1,205.68	91.45	1,412.85	328.23	1,947.98
Professional Fees	—	—	—	—	—
Office Supplies and Expense	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	22,103.43	91.45	65,495.54	8,019.18	157,493.17
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	(22,103.43)	(91.45)	(65,495.54)	(8,019.18)	(157,493.17)

**THOUGHTS OF FAITH  
UNRESTRICTED  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES  
As of July, 1993**

	Orphans and Food Project	Ag Project	Development	Administration	Memorandum Total
<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>					
Contributions	—	—	—	190,508.78	190,508.78
Schwan Contributions	—	400,000.00	—	1,051,500.00	1,451,500.00
Interest Income	—	—	—	18,606.74	18,606.74
Investment Gain (Loss)	—	—	—	26,553.31	26,553.31
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>400,000.00</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,287,168.83</b>	<b>1,687,168.83</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Production	—	—	—	23,839.67	23,839.67
Translation	—	300.00	—	—	2,426.50
Literature	—	—	—	51.86	352,791.11
Computers	—	—	—	3,410.00	37,378.64
Travel Expense	13,580.35	43,940.72	—	16,695.08	240,126.78
Supplies	2,109.38	404,883.83	—	9,030.44	770,238.72
Education	—	47,552.77	—	150.00	115,706.05
Salaries	700.00	1,500.00	918.00	114,672.86	393,355.06
Housing Allowance	—	—	—	2,000.00	26,960.00
Hospitalization	—	—	—	4,184.00	23,296.28
Pension	—	—	190.00	1,105.02	9,261.22
Term Insurance	—	—	—	—	253.95
Business Insurance	—	—	—	2,408.50	2,408.50
Dues and Subscriptions	—	4,050.00	38.00	1,479.09	5,567.09
Rent	—	—	—	6,976.48	15,779.98
Utilities	—	—	—	3,041.65	3,780.21
Telephone	12,524.15	861.54	—	16,824.62	48,206.74
Professional Fees	—	—	—	8,655.84	8,655.84
Office Supplies and Expense	—	223.20	—	7,824.22	8,316.34
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>31,913.88</b>	<b>503,312.06</b>	<b>1,146.00</b>	<b>222,349.33</b>	<b>2,088,348.68</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>(31,913.88)</b>	<b>(103,312.06)</b>	<b>(1,146.00)</b>	<b>1,064,819.50</b>	<b>(401,179.85)</b>

**FOREIGN MISSIONS  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Third Missionary to Peru**

*WHEREAS, It has been a proven advantage for missionaries to work in teams of three, and,*

*WHEREAS, There are now only two called missionaries in the Peruvian mission field, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions is now working to determine the financial feasibility of calling a third missionary to Peru,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Foreign Missions, after determining if it is financially feasible, be encouraged to call a third worker to the Peruvian Mission Field.*

**Resolution No. 2: Work in Australia**

*WHEREAS, The Rev. Paul Anderson, after spending 6 months in Australia, has come in contact with a few groups who desire to be and remain confessional Lutheran, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia appears to be the best means by which to serve these groups with their oversight and support,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Foreign Missions seek to encourage our brethren in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia to call a full-time pastor to serve these groups, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That financial assistance be considered if requested.*

**Resolution No. 3: Mission Work in India**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions has received an encouraging report from a pastor, born in India, concerning mission work being done there,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Foreign Missions continue to seek information on the mission possibilities in India, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we as a synod continue to pray for the people of India and seek opportunities to spread the Gospel there.*

**Resolution No. 4: Acknowledgments of and Thanks for Gifts**

*WHEREAS, Helping Hands continues to do well in receiving gifts to support Missionaries Haeuser and McMiller in Peru and Chile, and,*

*WHEREAS, Over 781 individual gifts were received by Helping Hands during the year totaling \$94,000, and,*

*WHEREAS, Faith Mission Society has also received gifts of \$10,390.00 and distributed these funds to the South American missions and Australian work,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod acknowledges with thanks these numerous gifts given for the Lord's work in spreading the Gospel.*

**Resolution No. 5: Thoughts of Faith Report**

*WHEREAS, The Lord has blessed the efforts of the Thoughts of Faith missionaries and work being done in the Czech Republic, Ukraine, and Latvia, and,*

*WHEREAS, The work needs both our prayers and continued support,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank and praise God for His blessings on this important work and that the synod encourages these faithful workers to continue their efforts in Eastern Europe.*

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR EVANGELISM**

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."  
2 Corinthians 6:2

The board met twice since the 1993 Synod Convention: September 29, 30, 1993 and January 19, 20, 1994. The board members are: The Rev. Joseph Burkhardt, chairman, the Rev. Thomas Rank, secretary, the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith, Mr. Harvey Ringen. Mr. John Dale resigned and Mr. Bruce Peterson was appointed by the president to replace him.

Much of the board's work was directed to continuation of several projects begun previously. The booklet "A Question to Consider" was distributed, to date 12,000 copies have been supplied to congregations. The presentation "Evangelism and You" was used in several Circuits of the Synod. 780 copies are still available for distribution (free for synod congregations, \$1.00 each otherwise). A grant of \$3,000 was generously provided by the Church Growth Program of the Lutheran Brotherhood Foundation to defray the cost of the "Evangelism and You" presentation development and printing. Our thanks to Lutheran Brotherhood.

Due to the budget limitations described in last year's report the "Evangelism Notes" newsletter was published just once (Advent, 1993). The board is studying the feasibility (cost and interest) of continuing this publication. Included in the Advent 1993 issue of "Evangelism Notes" was information for "Evangelism Sunday" suggested for January 16, 1994. A sermon and Bible Study were provided. The board is suggesting January 15, 1995, as next year's Evangelism Sunday.

An on-going project of the board is to develop and publish a series of tracts explaining various aspects of the Christian faith for the unchurched. The current list of topics includes: "Who is Jesus," "The Bible," "Baptism," "Closed Communion," "Liturgy," "Roles of Women in the Church," "Family Values," "Creation," "Original Sin," "Good Works," "Abortion," "Repentance," "Lodges," "E.L.S. History," "Suffering, Trial, Grief." Various individuals were asked to prepare materials on these topics.

The board also hopes to implement a pilot program on helping people to prepare to start a mission congregation. This project is currently in the planning stage. The initial cost estimate on this program is \$7,500.

The board's budget for 1994 is \$7,000. The projected budget for 1995 is \$9,000. The board continues to look for ways to support and encourage the on-going work of the Holy Christian Church of bringing the Gospel to the nations through the blessed means of grace. To God alone the Glory!

**EVANGELISM**  
**ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Thanks to the Lutheran Brotherhood**

*WHEREAS, The cost of printing some of the materials produced by the Board for Evangelism has been underwritten by the Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Company,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Company for the financial support that it has given for the production of these materials.*

**Resolution No. 2: Evangelism Notes**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism has been issuing the publication "Evangelism Notes," and,*

*WHEREAS, "Evangelism Notes" has the potential of helping and encouraging our congregations in one aspect of its evangelism work,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the ELS pastors be encouraged to read "Evangelism Notes" and to distribute to their congregations those portions of "Evangelism Notes" that may be of general use, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Evangelism be encouraged to continue to publish "Evangelism Notes" if, in its determination, this publication is being used by the ELS pastors and if such publication is feasible.*

**Resolution No. 3: Materials for Evangelism Sunday**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism has prepared materials for an annual Evangelism Sunday, and,*

*WHEREAS, Such materials are a potential help to the work of the congregations of the ELS,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That ELS pastors be encouraged to use the materials prepared for Evangelism Sunday, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Evangelism be encouraged to continue to supply materials for Evangelism Sunday if, in its determination, the congregations of the ELS are actually using such materials and if the preparation of these materials is feasible.*

**Resolution No. 4: Tracts for the Unchurched**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism has begun to develop a series of tracts that explain, for the unchurched, various aspects of the Christian faith, and,*

*WHEREAS, The need for an explanation of various aspects of the Christian faith and also of certain contemporary issues as they relate to the Christian faith is great,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Evangelism be encouraged to continue its work on this project.*

**Resolution No. 5: Pilot program—Mission Congregations**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism has begun a study of*

*implementing a program for helping people prepare to start a mission congregation,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Evangelism be encouraged to continue to study this program in consultation with the Board for Home Missions.*

**Resolution No. 6: Thanks to the Board for Evangelism**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism continues to look for ways to support the ongoing work of the Holy Christian Church of bringing the Gospel to the nations through the means of grace,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the board be thanked for its work in the preparation of materials that encourage and instruct our congregations in their work of evangelism.*

## **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 re-electing the Rev. Gottfred Guldborg as chairman. The Rev. John E. Smith was re-elected secretary. Mr. Paul Tweit was re-elected Insurance Manager. (He cares for Pastors' and Teachers' Term Life Insurance.) Mr. Don Heiliger was re-elected Pension Fund Officer. Mr. Al Olson also serves on the board.

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

1. Re: Pastors' and Christian Day School Teachers' Term Life Insurance  
Just a reminder to each congregation that the cost per year for \$30,000 of Term Life Insurance is \$97.20 per called worker. We hope that each congregation will pay this premium for their called worker or workers. Otherwise the synod has to pick up the premium.
2. Re: Retired Pastors' and Teachers' Term Life Insurance (Resolution 5, Page 155, 1993 ELS Synod Report)

In answer to this resolution the following statement has been received from our Term Life Insurance carrier, Royal Maccabee Life Insurance Company: "If the ELS would like to add retiree benefits to the existing plan, all we require is a letter from the ELS stating they wish to add this benefit, what the benefit would be and when this benefit would be effective. Also, have them include a list of any retiree who would be immediately eligible for this benefit." Our retired Pastors and Teachers can be under our present Term Life Insurance, if the ELS wants to pay for this additional coverage.

3. Re: Report on Pastors' and Teachers' Retirement

We continue to encourage all congregations to provide retirement funds for their called workers. Mr. Don Heiliger has written to all present and incoming pastors and teachers encouraging them to get into a retirement program, carrying out Resolution 3, page 154, 1993 ELS Synod Report. Also he has written a letter to all of our congregations stressing the importance of providing adequate funding for called worker's retirement, carrying out Resolution 6, page 155, 1993 ELS Synod Report. The board continues to seek new methods of providing and soliciting a supplemental income fund for those pastors and teachers who will not have adequate income at retirement.

4. Re: World Needs Fund

From the World Needs Fund this year, the board fulfilled a request from our Peruvian Mission for \$3,000 to help supply medical and nutritional help for a T.B. patient. Also \$2,000 was sent through WELS to help earthquake victims in California. A special collection was taken last summer for flood relief in the Midwest. At the present time a collection is being taken for earthquake victims in California.

5. Re: Proposed Budget for 1995

Subsidy payments	\$14,892.80
Retirement payments	4,146.36
Group Life Insurance	3,000.00
Board Expenses	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total	\$23,039.16

6. 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 toll free number is:

1-800-443-4220 for Wisconsin residents

1-800-262-9485 for out of state

We encourage pastors, teachers, and their spouses to use these services.

John E. Smith, secretary

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Pastors' and Christian Day School  
Teachers' Term Life Insurance**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Christian Service continues to obtain group life insurance at a very affordable rate, and,*

*WHEREAS, The annual cost for a \$30,000 term life policy is \$97.20 per called worker, and,*

*WHEREAS, The synod assumes the cost for every policy, and asks every congregation to reimburse the cost of the policy,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank those congregations who are providing this policy for their called workers, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That all congregations of the ELS, in brotherly love, be encouraged to make this annual reimbursement on behalf of each of their called workers.*

**Resolution No. 2: Retired Pastors' and Teachers' Term  
Life Insurance**

*WHEREAS, Questions exist regarding the proposed Term Life Insurance program extension to the retired pastors and teachers of our synod, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Committee does not feel qualified to make recommendations regarding this program,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we commend the Board for Christian Service for its work to this point, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the board continue to investigate this matter, bringing to the 1995 Synod Convention, a specific proposal.*

**Resolution No. 3: Report on Pastors and Teachers Retirement**

*WHEREAS, The board has continued to encourage all congregations to provide retirement funds for their called workers, and,*

*WHEREAS, Mr. Heiliger has written to all incoming pastors and teachers encouraging them to get into a retirement program, fulfilling Resolution 3, pg. 154, 1993 Synod Report, and,*

*WHEREAS, He has also written to each congregation stressing the need for adequate funding for each of their called worker's retirement, fulfilling Resolution 6, pg. 155, 1993 Synod Report,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the board and especially Mr. Heiliger, for their efforts in this regard, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we urge the board to continue educating called workers and congregations about available retirement programs.*

**Resolution No. 4: World Needs Fund**

*WHEREAS, The monies for the World Needs Fund come primarily through the World Needs Offering gathered annually on Mother's Day, and,*

*WHEREAS, Distributions from the World Needs Fund were \$3,000 for our Peruvian Mission to help supply medical and nutritional help for a T.B. patient, \$2,000 through WELS to help earthquake victims in California, flood relief to the Midwest, and further help to earthquake victims,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we encourage the Board for Christian Service to continue promoting the World Needs collection on Mother's Day, responding as quickly as possible to these needs, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we commend this worthwhile effort to the people of our synod.*

**Resolution No. 5: Christian Counseling Program—WELS Care-line**

*WHEREAS, The Wisconsin Synod maintains a Christian Counseling program called WELS Care-line (1-800-422-7341) available now for lay people as well as pastors and teachers of our respective synods,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the Wisconsin Synod for making this available to our people, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we encourage our clergy, teachers and lay people to make use of this confessional Lutheran counseling service.*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS

The Board for Publications has devoted most of its time this past year to the over-seeing of the synod's regular periodical publications. Primarily this relates to the *Sentinel* with much less time devoted to the *Synod Quarterly*, the *Synod Convention Report* and the *Echo*.

The *Sentinel* continues to be very sound editorially under the watchful eye of Editor Paul Madson. The Rev. Madson has performed this very important and time consuming function, with no financial compensation, since 1982. We thank the Rev. Madson and the congregations he has served for allowing him the freedom to undertake this synod-serving responsibility for all these years. It is the recommendation of this board that this "editor's" position receive a modest stipend in the future.

The Rev. Madson is assisted in the publication of the *Sentinel* by Leighton Humphrey, business manager and the Rev. Wayne Halvorson, managing editor.

In an attempt to save distribution and printing costs, seven bulletin inserts were produced and distributed at one time, saving half the normal shipping costs. Pastors are encouraged to distribute these as per the dates indicated. Our newest board member, the Rev. Dan Sabrowsky, did an admirable job of obtaining this bulletin insert material from the various boards last fall enabling us to make this combination run.

The "Synod Convention Report," the "Synod Quarterly" and the "Echo" continue to be published in a timely manner under the watchful eye of the Rev. Alf Merseth, Seminary President Wilhelm Peterson and Prof. Tom Kuster, respectively. Very little attention is devoted to these publications by this board.

The board has distributed 125 copies of the manuscript entitled "Built on a Rock," an adult Bible Study, to all synod pastors. Their response will dictate whether a larger quantity will be produced.

Howard L. Siewert, secretary

### PUBLICATIONS ACTION OF THE SYNOD

#### **Resolution No. 1: Distribution of Bulletin Inserts**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Publications has coordinated the sending of several bulletin inserts so they were sent all at once, and,*

*WHEREAS, This enabled the inserts to be distributed in a timely manner, and,*

*WHEREAS, This process has saved money in printing and shipping costs,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the board for its efforts, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That this become regular policy for the distribution of the bulletin inserts from the various synodical boards.*

#### **Resolution No. 2: Remuneration for the Editor of The Lutheran Sentinel**

*WHEREAS, The work of editor of The Lutheran Sentinel is an important and time-consuming function, and,*

*WHEREAS, The editor has not received compensation for these services, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Publications has recommended that the editor of The Lutheran Sentinel receive compensation,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the recommendation of the Board for Publications, and compensates the editor of The Lutheran Sentinel for his services.*

**Resolution No. 3: Publication of "Synod Convention Report," the "Lutheran Synod Quarterly" and the "Echo."**

*WHEREAS, The "Synod Convention Report," the "Lutheran Synod Quarterly" and the "Echo" continue to be published in a timely manner,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank those who have devoted time to this work, and encourage them to continue their work.*

**Resolution No. 4: Bible Study Materials**

*WHEREAS, Pastors and congregations are always looking for Bible-study materials, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Lord has blessed our synod with many talented individuals in our midst,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Publications solicits the talents of these individuals and continues to provide these materials to our pastors and congregations.*

**Resolution No. 5: 75th Anniversary Materials**

*WHEREAS, The 75th Anniversary Committee has supervised the publication of materials such as Built on the Rock, In Remembrance of His Mercy, and This Generation of Grace, and,*

*WHEREAS, These materials are educational and provide background on the history of our synod, and,*

*WHEREAS, There is still a supply of these materials available,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Publications print a bulletin insert listing and describing these materials, and that this insert be sent to our congregations.*

**Resolution No. 6: Bulletin Inserts**

*WHEREAS, Most congregations today have their own copy machine, and,*

*WHEREAS, Sending out master copies of the bulletin inserts would save printing and mailing costs,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Publications examines the possibility of sending master copies of bulletin inserts to congregations instead of groups of inserts, when feasible.*

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP

At the meeting of the ELS General Pastoral Conference in January 1993 the Worship Committee presented preliminary documentation for the liturgy and hymnody to be included in the proposed "Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary." At that time the committee, consisting of Dennis Marzolf, Mark DeGarmeaux, and the undersigned, invited and encouraged response from the pastors and congregations of the synod. As a result of "feedback" from that invitation the liturgical orders and hymn lists were revised and sent to the congregations. Helpful criticisms and suggestions frequently come to the attention of the committee, and additional comments are encouraged. Comments that come about as a result of "field testing" of the liturgical orders are especially appreciated.

The committee thanks all pastors who have given input. Some have written substantial letters. Others have called or talked in passing. At the same time the committee also thanks all lay men and women of the synod who have also been helpful with their questions, comments and suggestions. There have been many phone calls and questions pertinent to the project.

Every pastor is encouraged to make the information available, even in situations where it seems unlikely that the congregation would decide to adopt the book. At the very least we would hope that elders, deacons and musicians in every congregation of the synod would have a chance to study the material and discuss the project. It is hoped that every congregation in the synod would plan to purchase at least enough copies of the new "Hymnary" for use by organists, choirs and the Sunday School.

The synod Board for Education and Youth has been a help to the committee in their suggestions for the inclusion of hymns suitable for use by children and young adults. We are happy to note that the present hymn list contains more hymns that are suitable for use by the young than any other Lutheran hymnal available for use today. We hope that our "Hymnary" will encourage the singing and teaching of hymns that will integrate children into the Lutheran way of worship. All too often children are forced to memorize hymns that will never be used in their adult liturgical life. If we teach the toddlers and teenagers Baptist hymns we should not be surprised if they choose to join the Baptist Church after their Lutheran confirmation! If the toddlers and teenagers learn to love and use the Lutheran hymnody and liturgy we should not be surprised if they remain faithful evangelical Lutherans throughout their lives.

Following the June 1993 convention the committee began the solicitation of funds for the project. Please note that all pre-publication purchases must be made by the end of this year. After that time members of the synod will pay full publication price for the book. (Final price is pending.) Additional forms for publication and sponsorship can be obtained by contacting Dennis Marzolf, committee chairman. Sponsorships and patronages are still needed. Recently sponsorships for five pages were received from one of our congregations. Each page had been given in honor of one of the five organists serving the parish. A great idea!

Keep in mind that the "Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary" is not being produced to be the official hymnal of the ELS. That has never been the intention of the committee, nor has the committee ever been given the charge to create such a resource. Also remember that the project is being funded outside of the synodical budget. Even though the proposed "Hymnary" is not an official hymnal for the synod, there are a number of pressing reasons why it merits study and use by member congregations of the synod. Some of these reasons follow.

The proposed book will be the only new worship book that contains both of the liturgical orders prescribed for synodical use in our constitution.

The revised rite of 1685 (Denmark-Norway) does not appear in any other hymnal. It is a fine service, full of the spirit of evangelical Lutheranism, and usable by congregations large and small. It is especially rich in its encourage-

ment of congregational participation via the hymnody of the church. It is a genuine product of the Lutheran liturgical spirit, and deserves to be used in our congregations and preserved for use by English speaking Lutherans.

The Common Service of the Lutheran Church is a beautiful and majestic witness to the truths of Scripture and the proclamation of the Law and the Gospel. Forty years ago nearly every English speaking Lutheran could recite this service. Today it is nearly lost. And what a heritage of teaching is being lost with it! The old service was based on a common consensus of the Church Orders of the early Lutheran Church. (It was not called "common" because most Lutheran folks used it!) There was always some slight degree of difference in usage among Lutheran parishes and synods who used the Common Service, but the significant corpus of the service was identical. Contemporary revisions of this order take unnecessary liberties with either the music or the texts of this service.

The proposed "Hymnary" attempts to maintain the strength, depth and dignity of the texts of these services while updating all that is demonstrably archaic. As much as possible we maintain the cadence of melody and text associated with the service so that people who can speak and sing the service from memory will not be inhibited or frustrated in their worship. We are confident that the liturgical services will be printed in such a way that they will be intelligible even to those visitors who might visit our services, provided that pastors do not encourage unnecessary "cut, slash, and burn" revisions of the liturgical service on a regular basis.

The hymns for the "Hymnary" have been chosen for their ability to teach. The genius of the Lutheran chorale was that it challenged the singer to learn strong theology. Hymnody does not exist to entertain or manipulate. If it does not teach some significant and correct point of doctrine it is not worthy of a place in the Lutheran liturgy. (The same must be said of vocal music, choral music, organ music, wedding music, funeral music and children's music.) The committee has chosen strong hymns for use in the "Hymnary."

Our new "Hymnary" will be a book worthy of use because of the textual content of the liturgy and hymns. It will be a resource worthy of use and support because of its presentation of the musical tradition of the Lutheran Church.

Harry Bartels, secretary

## WORSHIP

### ACTION OF THE SYNOD

#### **Resolution No. 1: The Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary**

*WHEREAS, The Committee on Worship has completed its third year of work on the Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary project, during which they have solicited and received numerous useful comments from the congregations and pastors of the synod, and,*

*WHEREAS, They have begun soliciting funds from interested congregations and individuals to support the project, and,*

*WHEREAS, The enormous task of bringing the Hymnary project to the point of final editing has been substantially due to the efforts of the three members of the Committee on Worship,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the three members of the Committee on Worship for their outstanding work thus far, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks those who have sent financial contributions and sponsorships, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod also thanks those pastors, church musicians and lay people who offered their comments and suggestions, and,*

*D. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages pastors, congregations and individuals in the synod to continue their support of the Hymnary project through their financial contributions and sponsorships, comments and suggestions.*

**Resolution No. 2: Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary**

*WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod has approved the planning of a new hymnbook for synodical use, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Committee on Worship has expended much talent and effort on this project, and,*

*WHEREAS, Such a book of worship will have a considerable impact on the theology and practice of the synod,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod directs the Doctrine Committee, in consultation with the Committee on Worship, to review the proposed hymnary prior to its publication.*

**Resolution No. 3: Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary**

*WHEREAS, The synod in its last two conventions has supported and encouraged continuing work on the Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary project, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Committee on Worship has completed most of the work preliminary to production, and,*

*WHEREAS, A number of individuals and congregations within the synod have financially supported the Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary, and,*

*WHEREAS, additional support is still needed before the project can go to press,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod directs the Board of Trustees to assist the Committee on Worship in bringing the project to completion.*

# 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. Richard Newgard, secretary; the Rev. Raymond Branstad; the Rev. David Nelson; and the Rev. Milton Tweit. The committee met several times this past year to complete the work assigned by the synod. It submits the following report and recommendations:

## ORGANIZATION OF FLOOR COMMITTEES

- WHEREAS, the 1993 synod convention resolved "that the Self Study Committee examine the desirability of establishing a separate floor committee for each (of the following) standing committees: The Board for Evangelism, the Board for Home Missions and the Board for Foreign Missions" (1993 Synod Report, p. 151, Resolution #8), and,
- WHEREAS, It is difficult for one review committee to adequately examine the extensive work of the Boards of Evangelism, Home and Foreign Missions, and,
- WHEREAS, The Committee on Worship also has important work in keeping us informed on the theology of worship, examining trends in liturgy and currently at work to produce a new Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary, and,
- WHEREAS, The convention review committee on Miscellaneous Matters has sufficient work without reviewing also the work of the Committee on Worship,
- BE IT RESOLVED, That separate convention review committees be established for the Boards for Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Evangelism and the Committee on Worship and that these changes be put into effect at the 1994 synod convention.

## TIME OF SYNOD SUNDAY SERVICE

- WHEREAS, The memorial from Mt. Olive Lutheran Church regarding the changing of the time of the Synod Sunday service was assigned to the Self Study Committee (1993 Synod Report, page 190), and,
- WHEREAS, Holding Synod Sunday Worship services in the afternoon would not conflict with the worship services of local congregations, and,
- WHEREAS, An afternoon service would make it possible for many of our synodical delegates, pastors and others to attend,
- BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod Sunday Worship service be held at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

## LAYMEN'S EQUALIZATION

- WHEREAS, The Laymen's Equalization Committee has requested a clarification of the Equalization Rules regarding mileage paid to delegates who travel accompanied by a second delegate,
- BE IT RESOLVED, That rule 3a, page 44 of the Synod Handbook be amended to read: "Mileage will be paid at the rate of 15¢ per mile if traveling alone, and 20¢ per mile if accompanied by a second delegate or a pastor."

## GUIDELINES FOR BOARD FOR EDUCATION AND YOUTH

- WHEREAS, The synod at its 1993 convention resolved to increase the membership of the Board for Education and Youth by two members (1993 Synod Report, p. 120, Resolution #9A), and,
- WHEREAS, The synod directed the Self Study Committee "in consultation with the BEY to investigate the feasibility of carrying out an appropriate division of the board" (Resolution #9B), and

WHEREAS, This consultation has revealed that the board carries out this division internally according to varying workloads,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the directive to the Self Study Committee is completed.

### **SYNODICAL DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS**

WHEREAS, A memorial to implement a "Court of Appeals" was referred to the Self Study Committee (1992 Synod Report, p. 167, Resolution #7), and,

WHEREAS, A memorial to produce the appropriate guidelines for implementing an Appeals Court and an adjudication process was referred to the Self Study Committee (1993 Synod Report, p. 211, Resolution #2),

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following guidelines on synodical discipline and appeals be adopted:

#### **GUIDELINES FOR SYNODICAL DISCIPLINE**

When an individual member of the synod is charged with adhering to false doctrine, unscriptural practice, living an ungodly life and/or willfully neglecting his duty, and after the local congregation, in matters which properly fall within its jurisdiction, has dealt with this matter according to its constitution and has not been able to reach a God-pleasing resolution of the matter, the following guidelines apply:

- A. In cases of discipline involving pastors, teachers or individuals who hold membership in the synod, the circuit visitor has original jurisdiction. He shall hear the case and render a decision on the basis of Scripture.
- B. If after due admonition the visitor's decision is not heeded, he shall report and review the case in consultation with the president of the synod. The president shall arrange for a review with the visitor and the party(s) concerned.
- C. If the president finds a visitor's decision to be scriptural, he shall urge the acceptance of said decision.
- D. If after due admonition the president's counsel is not heeded, he shall appoint an impartial review committee of 3 members (2 clergy and 1 lay) who shall investigate the charges and decisions and report to the president.
- E. The president, together with the circuit visitor and the review committee, shall again attempt to bring about a resolution of the problem.
- F. In special and urgent cases, where no resolution can be reached, the president may exercise the power of suspension from synodical membership. He shall report his action to the convention.
- G. The accused has a right to appeal the decision. This appeal shall be addressed to the convention through its president (cf. Guidelines for Appeals to the Synod).
- H. In the case of a congregation, the same procedure shall be followed as that for an individual member of the synod.

#### **SPECIAL CASES**

##### **I. Foreign Missions**

- A. In cases of discipline involving missionaries, teachers and congregations under the jurisdiction of the Board for Foreign Missions, the field secretary of the board shall exercise original jurisdiction. He shall hear the case and render a decision on the basis of Scripture.
- B. If after due admonition the field secretary's decision is not heeded, he shall review the case in consultation with the Board for Foreign Missions. The board shall arrange for a review together with the field secretary and the party(s) concerned and shall render a decision on the basis of Scripture.

- C. If after due admonition the decision of the Board for Foreign Missions is not heeded, it shall have the authority to remove the worker from his position and shall report its action to the president of the synod.
- D. The president of the synod shall review the case in consultation with the Board for Foreign Missions and in special and urgent cases, where no resolution can be reached, the president may exercise the power of suspension from synodical membership. He shall report his action to the convention.
- E. The accused has the right to appeal. This appeal shall be addressed to the convention through its president. (See Guidelines for Appeals.)

## II. Educational Institutions

- A. In cases of discipline involving the faculties and staffs of the synodical schools, the respective presidents shall exercise original jurisdiction.
- B. The president shall report his action with recommendations to the Board of Regents for review and action.  
The Board of Regents has the duty: "Upon the recommendation of the president of the college to suspend or remove from office any member of the faculty or staff whose case has been properly presented to the board for hearing and who, despite due admonition, has been found guilty of false doctrine, offensive life, or willful neglect of official duties. Whenever the board is convinced that a member of the faculty is not able to fulfill the duties of his office, either because he lacks the necessary knowledge and ability to teach, or because he cannot exercise proper discipline, or for other valid reasons, it shall be authorized to remove him." (Bethany Lutheran College and Seminary Inc. By Laws, Article II E, 8).
- C. The Board of Regents shall report its action to the president of the synod who shall review the case and, in special and urgent cases, may exercise the power of suspension from synodical membership. He shall report his action to the convention.
- D. The accused has the right to appeal. This appeal shall be addressed to the convention through its president. (See Guidelines for Appeals.)

### GUIDELINES FOR APPEALS TO THE SYNOD

1. Any individual member of the synod or any congregation who has undergone disciplinary action by the circuit visitor, a synodical board and the synod's president (cf. Guidelines for Synodical Discipline) shall have the right to appeal to the synod.
2. The appeal shall be addressed in writing to the convention of the synod through its president. The convention shall elect a commission on appeals.
3. The commission on appeals shall be elected by ballot from a slate of nominations drawn up by the officers of the synod. They shall nominate 8 pastors and 6 laymen. From this list the convention shall elect 3 pastors and 2 laymen to the commission on appeals. No member of the commission shall be an interested party in the case.
4. The conduct of the review shall rest solely with the commission on appeals. The commission shall have the right and power to examine all documentary evidence and to require such testimony which in its judgment is relevant to the appellant's case. The decision of the commission shall be the final disposition of the appeal and shall be respected by all members of the synod.
5. The decision of the commission shall be filed with the president and the secretary of the synod and recorded in the Annual Synod Report.

### APPEALS BY LAY PERSONS

1. Any lay person who has undergone disciplinary action by a congregation shall have the right to a review of the action by the circuit visitor in consultation with the congregation. The appellant's request shall be addressed in writing to the visitor with a copy to the congregation.
2. If the matter is not resolved, the lay person shall have the right to appeal the judgment to the synod. The appeal shall be addressed in writing to the synod president with a copy to the congregation.
3. The president, on behalf of the synod, shall appoint an impartial 3-member panel of review, one of whom shall be a layman.
4. The constitution of the synod affirms that in intracongregational matters the synod shall have purely advisory authority. (cf. ELS By Laws Article V, par. 3). The review shall be conducted, therefore, to determine whether the process leading to the disciplinary action and the doctrinal basis of the disciplinary action were scriptural.
5. The conduct of the review shall rest solely with the panel of review. The panel shall have the right and power to examine all documentary evidence and to require such testimony which in its judgment is relevant to the appellant's case.
6. The panel of review shall submit its judgment in writing to the appellant with a copy to the congregation, circuit visitor and synod president. The decision of the panel of review shall be the final disposition of the appeal.
7. As soon as possible the complete records of the panel shall be filed with the synod's president who shall act, if necessary, in accordance with his responsibility for the synod's doctrine and practice.

### COMPLETION OF GUIDELINES

WHEREAS, Acceptance of the Guidelines for Synodical Discipline and Appeals will require re-evaluation of and necessary changes in the guidelines for various boards, and,

WHEREAS, this requires considerable further study,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Self Study Committee be granted another year to complete this assignment.

Richard Newgard, secretary

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP

The Board for Stewardship accomplished its main business by conducting three meetings: September 8-9 and October 20, 1993, and April 28-29, 1994. 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; Timothy Peterson; 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. Congregations are asked to submit a goal for their yearly offering to the synod.

(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 5, 1993, to help reduce the large budget deficit. 1993 was not a good year for the budget, missing it by \$68,681.43. Excess of expenses over income was \$135,389.53. In 1993, 61 congregations gave less than in 1992 and 62 gave more, with 9 giving "0". (See statistical sheet for comparison.)

(5) The board continues to monitor the activity of LACE. 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 our ministry by investing 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) The board continues to "attempt" to oversee the fund drive appeals within the synod, as directed by the HANDBOOK.

(8) Advent & Lenten offering envelopes were provided for all congregations to be used to gather an extra offering for the synod during those special sessions.

(9) Work continues to be done on a mission statement as directed by the Planning & Coordinating Committee.

(10) Rev. Richard Wiechmann and Mr. Paul Tweit, on behalf of this board, have been meeting with as many congregations as possible presenting a program to inform and to inspire the synod to emulate the example of the sainted Marvin Schwan. Over the next two years the Schwan Foundation will match the entire synodical budget. Special thanks go to these dedicated men for preparing and presenting this program. May God bless their efforts!

Thanks and praise go to almighty God for blessing the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. May the gracious Lord always bless this board with faithfulness to God's Word, enabling it to use both the Law and the Gospel to reach the hearts of the people, letting the Holy Spirit in those hearts filled with faith and love generate the giving. The board continues to study biblical stewardship and how it might assist various pastors and congregations in teaching these principles. Only the Holy Spirit working through the Means of Grace 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—1993

	1993 Budget	1993 Non-Budget	1993 Total
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	\$ 396.60	\$ 0.00	\$ 396.60
Bethany, Ames, IA	365.00	0.00	365.00
Bethany, The Dalles, OR	293.00	0.00	293.00
Bethany, Luverne, MN	10,638.27	323.36	10,961.63
Bethany, Port Orchard, WA	10,000.02	87.00	10,087.02
Bethany, Princeton, MN	10,970.70	200.00	11,170.70
Bethel, Sioux Falls, SD	2,845.00	401.00	3,246.00
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	576.74	45.84	622.58
Calvary, Ulen, MN	3,231.18	48.00	3,279.18
Center, Scarville, IA	1,649.00	382.50	2,031.50
Chico Mission, Chico, CA	480.00	0.00	480.00
Christ, Klamath Falls, OR	2,766.00	400.00	3,166.00
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	1,210.17	0.00	1,210.17
Christ, Savannah, GA	0.00	50.00	50.00
Christ, Sutherlin, OR	1,190.55	85.00	1,275.55
Christ, Windsor, CA	8,000.00	4,100.00	12,100.00
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	0.00	0.00	0.00
Christ the King, Bell Gardens, CA	0.00	107.78	107.78
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	2,035.00	180.00	2,215.00
Concordia, Hood River, OR	0.00	0.00	0.00
East Paint Creek, Waterville, IA	4,308.64	0.00	4,308.64
Emmaus, Chicago, IL	1,257.25	0.00	1,257.25
English, Cottonwood, MN	11,161.32	15.00	11,176.32
Faith, Alpena, MI	820.00	0.00	820.00
Faith, East Jordan, MI	850.00	0.00	850.00
Faith, Hillman, MI	523.00	75.00	598.00
Faith, Litchfield, IL	2,477.24	20.00	2,497.24
Faith, Orange County, CA	1,355.00	0.00	1,355.00
Faith, Oregon, WI	4,105.00	195.00	4,300.00
Faith, Parkersburg, IA	1,197.20	0.00	1,197.20
Faith, San Antonio, TX	4,390.94	76.00	4,466.94
Family of God, Riviera, AZ	3,430.91	31.00	3,461.91
First, Suttons Bay, MI	1,981.00	59.00	2,040.00
First American, Mayville, ND	1,564.50	25.00	1,589.50
First English, Ashland, WI	0.00	0.00	0.00
First Evangeler, Fertile, MN	1,373.38	65.00	1,438.38
First Shell Rock, Northwood, IA	6,422.00	100.00	6,522.00
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	0.00	0.00	0.00
Forest, Forest City, IA	549.00	0.00	549.00
Gloria Dei, Saginaw, MI	5,367.21	0.00	5,367.21
Good Shepherd, Bloomer, WI	1,860.41	60.00	1,920.41
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	6,703.04	112.00	6,815.04
Good Shepherd, Richardson, IA	312.25	476.77	789.02
Good Shepherd, Vallejo, CA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grace, Crookston, MN	200.00	0.00	200.00
Grace, Madison, WI	6,665.00	90.00	6,755.00
Grace, Piedmont, MO	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grace, Vero Beach, FL	34,961.90	7,549.00	42,510.90
Grace, Weston, OH	3,239.00	117.00	3,356.00
Hartland, Hartland, MN	2,959.94	66.00	3,025.94
Heritage, Apple Valley, MN	6,949.17	0.00	6,949.17

	1993 Budget	1993 Non-Budget	1993 Total
Holton, Holton, MI	3,635.00	0.00	3,635.00
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	42,652.49	655.00	43,307.49
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	23,522.87	1,093.00	24,615.87
Holy Trinity, Okauchee, WI	26,565.33	1,000.00	27,565.33
Immanuel, Audubon, MN	8,076.37	0.00	8,076.37
Immanuel, Riceville, IA	1,097.41	0.00	1,097.41
Jerico, New Hampton, IA	17,434.85	850.00	18,284.85
King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	55,520.00	960.98	56,480.98
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	2,328.96	90.00	2,418.96
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	973.00	0.00	973.00
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	2,261.95	200.00	2,461.95
Manchester, Manchester, MN	146.00	5.00	151.00
Mt. Olive, Mankato, MN	30,682.63	1,355.00	32,037.63
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	1,032.00	17.00	1,049.00
Nazareth, Trail, MN	954.50	0.00	954.50
New Life, Sebring, FL	2,274.67	0.00	2,274.67
Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI	1,503.00	100.50	1,603.50
Norseland, St. Peter, MN	21,828.19	0.00	21,828.19
Norwegian Grove, Gaylord, MN	6,172.00	254.00	6,426.00
Oak Park, Oklee, MN	3,150.00	0.00	3,150.00
Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	374.80	176.50	551.30
Our Savior's, Albert Lea, MN	15,233.00	5.00	15,239.00
Our Savior's, Amherst Junction, WI	1,233.50	320.00	1,553.50
Our Savior's, Bagley, MN	2,000.00	150.00	2,150.00
Our Savior's, Belview, MN	2,204.50	296.00	2,500.50
Our Savior, Bishop, CA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Our Savior's, Elderon, WI	1,700.00	100.00	1,800.00
Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	550.00	25.00	575.00
Our Savior's, Hawley, MN	500.00	0.00	500.00
Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City, AZ	11,914.00	181.70	12,095.70
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	6,414.53	160.00	6,574.53
Our Saviour's, Madison, WI	1,565.00	36.00	1,601.00
Our Savior, Naples, FL	6,000.00	896.60	6,896.60
Our Savior's, Princeton, MN	13,474.15	1,913.00	15,387.15
Parkland, Tacoma, WA	3,246.83	348.00	3,594.83
Peace, Colorado Springs, CO	397.30	0.00	397.30
Peace, Deshler, OH	1,432.75	2,924.05	4,356.80
Peace, Jefferson City, MO	410.08	173.08	583.16
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	6,847.00	103.00	6,950.00
Peace, Lakeland, FL	2,438.57	0.00	2,438.57
Pilgrim, Waterloo, IA	2,148.68	100.00	2,248.68
Pinehurst, Eau Claire, WI	3,044.43	331.50	3,375.93
Pinewood, Burlington, MA	5,100.00	1,540.00	6,640.00
Redeemer, Iola, WI	440.00	997.00	1,437.00
Redeemer, New Hampton, IA	2,650.00	264.48	2,914.48
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Richland, Thornton, IA	8,619.98	341.36	8,961.34
River Heights, East Grand Forks, MN	12,082.98	50.00	12,132.98
Rock Dell, Belview, MN	3,765.00	50.00	3,815.00
Rose Dell Trinity, Jasper, MN	1,418.00	10.00	1,428.00
Saude, Lawler, IA	12,116.00	365.00	12,481.00
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	6,169.00	(350.00)	5,819.00
Scriptural, Cape Girardeau, MO	265.00	40.00	305.00

	1993 Budget	1993 Non-Budget	1993 Total
Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley, CA	1,516.40	125.00	1,641.40
Somber, Northwood, IA	2,059.25	0.00	2,059.25
St. Luke, Mount Vernon, IA	0.00	0.00	0.00
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	2,061.00	0.00	2,061.00
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	13,696.25	433.00	14,129.25
St. Matthew, Detroit, MI	303.00	155.00	458.00
St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	2,675.00	0.00	2,675.00
St. Paul, Clintonville, WI	6,424.21	331.09	6,755.30
St. Paul, Escondido, CA	120.00	0.00	120.00
St. Paul, Lengby, MN	2,405.00	0.00	2,405.00
St. Paul's, Portage, WI	0.00	0.00	0.00
St. Petri, Grygla, MN	385.00	0.00	385.00
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	17,055.74	5,251.00	22,306.74
Synod, Scarville, IA	9,640.84	132.65	9,773.49
Trinity, Brewster, MA	2,985.00	738.00	3,723.00
Trinity, Calmar, IA	630.00	550.00	1,180.00
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	5,656.80	464.00	6,120.80
Trinity, West Bend, WI	17,328.71	0.00	17,328.71
Wayfarers' Chapel, Ventura, CA	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
Western Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, WI	3,290.00	189.50	3,479.50
West Paint Creek, Waukon, IA	783.20	0.00	783.20
Zion, Thompson, IA	1,443.00	0.00	1,443.00
Zion, Tracy, MN	5,728.30	275.00	6,003.30
Miscellaneous:			
Aid Association for Lutherans	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Helping Hands	0.00	62,232.28	62,232.28
Home Mission Offering	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lutheran Brotherhood	0.00	49,000.00	49,000.00
75th Anniversary Offering	0.00	192,500.00	192,500.00
Other	13,734.05	470,235.89	483,969.94
Totals	<u>\$672,318.57</u>	<u>\$841,282.41</u>	<u>\$1,513,600.98</u>

## BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD

### Total for Years Indicated

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	\$ —	\$ 530	\$ 99	\$ 186	\$ 1,030	\$ 207	\$ 397
Bethany, Ames, IA	97	286	279	318	420	665	365
Bethany, The Dalles, OR	105	—	116	—	—	—	293
Bethany, Luverne, MN	20,196	13,245	11,144	11,960	15,191	8,884	10,638
Bethany, Port Orchard, WA	11,026	13,340	12,000	13,220	10,170	10,120	10,000
Bethany, Princeton, MN	15,507	13,598	14,618	11,633	11,024	11,703	10,971
Bethel, Sioux Falls, SD	1,442	1,853	1,816	1,825	2,335	2,538	2,845
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	175	395	315	420	105	—	—
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	—	731	1,495	2,040	1,285	713	577
Calvary, Ulen, MN	4,153	2,754	3,154	2,449	3,640	3,021	3,231
Center, Scarville, IA	3,225	3,307	3,288	4,316	3,191	2,482	1,649
Chico Mission, Chico, CA	440	505	561	425	520	440	480
Christ, Klamath Falls, OR	791	1,280	1,290	670	2,007	1,185	2,766
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	2,512	5,105	5,033	2,231	1,739	1,090	1,210
Christ, Sutherlin, OR	959	691	934	1,900	1,951	2,173	1,191
Christ, Windsor, CA	3,492	3,559	3,690	4,682	5,667	9,550	8,000
Christ the Cornerstone, Phoenix, AZ	5,181	6,608	5,506	5,992	4,793	1,836	—
Christ the King, Bell Gardens, CA	7,132	8,173	9,720	3,804	4,911	4,134	—
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	1,068	1,070	946	1,578	775	1,435	2,035
Concordia, Hood River, OR	—	—	—	234	135	—	—
East Paint Creek, Waterville, IA	7,519	5,001	6,378	5,145	4,948	4,110	4,309
Emmaus, Chicago, IL	410	905	199	754	2,526	1,881	1,257
English, Cottonwood, MN	7,621	12,636	14,238	12,240	14,124	11,442	11,161
Faith, Alpena, MI	432	120	219	584	718	—	820
Faith, East Jordan, MI	1,090	973	632	95	1,000	—	850
Faith, Hillman, MI	426	704	835	277	1,247	378	523
Faith, Litchfield, IL	—	—	—	—	411	2,022	2,477
Faith, Orange County, CA	1,320	2,610	2,220	2,840	3,235	2,800	1,355

## BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

### Total for Years Indicated

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Faith, Oregon, WI	3,000	3,210	2,405	3,210	4,333	3,908	4,105
Faith, Parkersburg, IA	2,150	2,028	2,256	1,770	1,435	1,100	1,197
Faith, San Antonio, TX	4,636	5,409	3,798	2,997	3,021	3,327	4,391
Family of God, Riviera, AZ	—	—	805	1,780	2,584	1,660	3,431
First, Suttons Bay, MI	3,044	2,690	2,129	2,280	2,373	2,152	1,981
First American, Mayville, ND	4,139	6,299	6,480	4,394	3,113	1,763	1,565
First English, Ashland, WI	620	620	150	300	100	300	—
First Evanger, Fertile, MN	1,059	1,618	1,652	1,536	1,614	1,365	1,373
First Shell Rock, Northwood, IA	4,925	5,782	5,539	6,490	4,990	4,046	6,422
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	8,271	5,800	5,909	5,583	8,029	5,912	—
Forest, Forest City, IA	2,411	7,908	2,533	1,855	1,718	1,140	549
Gloria Dei, Saginaw, MI	1,406	270	982	1,239	3,059	9,319	5,367
Good Shepherd, Bloomer, WI	3,093	1,771	2,060	2,167	1,982	2,003	1,860
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	—	—	4,338	5,827	6,333	4,525	6,703
Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	2,984	1,243	284	2,634	167	1,099	312
Good Shepherd, Vallejo, CA	3,480	4,500	6,000	6,300	6,615	2,756	—
Grace, Crookston, MN	436	108	10	1,024	—	—	200
Grace, Madison, WI	14,479	15,800	26,650	9,510	15,975	12,840	6,665
Grace, Piedmont, MO	2,797	2,341	1,807	1,932	821	34	—
Grace, Vero Beach, FL	31,657	26,851	28,112	29,664	24,503	27,226	34,962
Grace, Weston, OH	1,250	1,166	1,462	2,579	3,642	3,125	3,239
Hartland, Hartland, MN	3,889	3,374	4,833	2,939	3,784	2,969	2,960
Heritage, Apple Valley, MN	4,598	6,295	5,512	1,413	8,292	9,141	6,949
Holton, Holton, MI	4,400	7,555	5,023	7,665	2,475	3,043	3,635
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	34,298	34,390	34,026	35,248	36,923	31,514	42,652
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	19,057	17,570	18,572	19,459	20,090	23,118	23,523
Holy Trinity, Okauchee, WI	17,547	19,859	17,844	22,700	32,693	24,308	26,565
Immanuel, Audubon, MN	6,482	7,480	6,614	9,406	7,736	7,418	8,076
Immanuel, Riceville, IA	1,259	1,204	1,413	1,505	1,461	833	1,097

## BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

### Total for Years Indicated

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Jerico, New Hampton, IA	16,903	18,394	20,107	20,174	22,786	18,039	17,435
King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	57,415	50,590	50,719	46,770	55,250	40,780	55,520
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	3,197	2,471	2,052	1,967	3,202	1,388	2,329
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	1,845	2,441	3,220	2,869	1,727	865	973
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	2,597	2,305	2,226	3,147	2,422	2,243	2,262
Manchester, Manchester, MN	1,132	1,242	1,080	494	1,112	912	146
Mt. Olive, Mankato, MN	29,304	25,653	26,108	30,851	27,500	29,306	30,683
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	1,307	1,218	1,083	1,160	1,353	1,286	1,032
Nazareth, Trail, MN	2,102	1,469	1,183	3,047	1,742	2,072	955
New Life, Sebring, FL	—	—	—	—	5,101	1,172	2,275
Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI	1,000	1,510	1,548	870	1,704	1,500	1,503
Norseland, St. Peter, MN	14,848	14,871	18,263	17,824	17,266	10,481	21,828
Norwegian Grove, Gaylord, MN	6,749	6,195	7,074	7,501	7,276	6,131	6,172
Oak Park, Oklee, MN	2,972	1,125	2,811	3,385	3,165	3,000	3,150
Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	2,031	1,387	1,724	1,176	874	1,143	375
Our Savior's, Albert Lea, MN	25,630	23,206	22,356	22,096	25,218	19,335	15,233
Our Savior's, Amherst Junction, WI	1,344	1,447	1,370	2,003	1,703	1,057	1,234
Our Savior's, Bagley, MN	1,725	1,005	2,897	3,163	2,200	4,587	2,000
Our Savior's, Belview, MN	2,338	2,504	3,678	3,996	4,401	2,914	2,205
Our Savior, Bishop, CA	3,023	3,244	4,192	3,823	2,799	340	—
Our Savior's Elderon, WI	1,600	1,800	1,825	1,800	1,830	1,600	1,700
Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	1,565	1,625	688	1,685	1,545	1,000	550
Our Savior's, Hawley, MN	2,986	2,060	1,535	1,406	1,071	977	500
Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City, AZ	9,110	10,444	12,478	11,378	11,927	12,067	11,914
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	2,041	1,801	3,438	3,964	5,271	6,174	6,415
Our Saviour's, Madison, WI	1,120	925	1,215	830	1,230	1,652	1,565
Our Savior, Naples, FL	1,784	3,780	10,738	4,500	5,300	5,531	6,000
Our Savior's, Princeton, MN	15,066	13,805	16,094	18,574	18,365	17,283	13,474
Parkland, Tacoma, WA	5,101	5,074	3,191	4,629	6,042	8,971	3,247

## BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

### Total for Years Indicated

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Peace, Deshler, OH	12,509	14,364	12,737	11,034	10,966	9,594	1,433
Peace, Jefferson City, MO	3,081	3,384	3,233	1,323	403	436	410
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	—	—	—	2,783	4,926	6,096	6,847
Peace, Lakeland, FL	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,439
Pilgrim, Waterloo, IA	4,755	2,257	2,026	432	800	1,350	2,149
Pinehurst, Eau Claire, WI	4,924	2,841	2,636	2,365	1,290	100	3,044
Pinewood, Burlington, MA	12,452	5,383	3,988	5,076	4,500	5,193	5,100
Redeemer, Iola, WI	907	786	1,138	585	790	550	440
Redeemer, New Hampton, IA	2,682	2,521	3,363	2,891	2,853	2,514	2,650
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	2,552	866	27	—	—	—	—
Richland, Thornton, IA	14,226	16,060	12,871	16,437	14,175	15,662	8,620
River Heights, East Grand Forks, MN	25,800	34,300	17,686	11,802	20,156	43,768	12,083
Rock Dell, Belview, MN	3,831	2,901	5,233	6,075	6,032	5,348	3,765
Rose Dell Trinity, Jasper, MN	435	1,376	1,060	2,106	1,066	1,307	1,418
Saude, Lawler, IA	13,797	13,214	14,439	14,695	15,698	15,336	12,116
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	—	—	—	2,453	4,139	4,675	6,169
Scriptural, Cape Girardeau, MO	230	180	21	45	1,263	952	265
Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley, CA	45	125	741	536	856	837	1,516
Somber, Northwood, IA	2,280	2,659	2,528	2,197	2,718	2,211	2,059
St. Luke, Mount Vernon, WA	96	—	—	30	72	112	—
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	587	632	—	1,264	1,633	2,018	2,061
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	18,600	17,359	21,023	15,379	18,957	11,383	13,696
St. Matthew, Detroit, MI	—	303	1,191	794	745	295	303
St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	2,538	2,345	4,012	4,458	3,704	2,551	2,675
St. Paul, Clintonville, WI	3,844	9,830	8,638	7,440	6,862	4,310	6,424
St. Paul, Escondido, CA	648	1,096	1,098	606	1,340	1,471	120
St. Paul, Lengby, MN	712	3,128	1,825	1,947	2,396	2,883	2,405

## BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

### Total for Years Indicated

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
St. Paul's, Portage, WI	1,025	1,612	2,164	161	50	87	—
St. Petri, Grygla, MN	649	312	305	602	405	—	385
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	12,561	10,198	14,130	16,187	14,839	15,643	17,056
Synod, Scarville, IA	16,293	14,297	13,704	13,128	12,057	9,463	9,641
Trinity, Brewster, MA	4,146	4,528	4,368	4,018	5,361	3,920	2,985
Trinity, Calmar, IA	660	1,489	2,205	1,033	842	715	630
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	4,389	4,123	4,204	4,604	5,392	4,604	5,657
Trinity, West Bend, WI	14,814	33,369	19,532	21,223	18,872	21,140	17,329
Wayfarers' Chapel, Ventura, CA	3,276	2,640	2,460	2,410	2,425	1,700	1,200
Western Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, WI	6,015	6,135	7,030	6,270	3,040	5,030	3,290
West Paint Creek, Waukon, IA	876	988	990	—	2,927	1,077	783
Zion, Thompson, IA	1,228	1,298	1,843	1,266	2	1,140	1,443
Zion, Tracy, MN	<u>8,231</u>	<u>7,415</u>	<u>7,766</u>	<u>5,100</u>	<u>3,571</u>	<u>13,662</u>	<u>5,728</u>
Budget Totals for Year	\$725,861	\$740,809	\$741,918	\$721,535	\$762,962	\$712,868	\$672,319

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 1993 convention period.

### State of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

Balance on Hand 4/1/93		\$ 8,584.18
Receipts:		
Church Assessments	\$16,245.00	
Interest Income	<u>103.20</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>16,348.20</u>
Total		\$24,932.28
Disbursements:		
Delegates:		
Air Fares and Mileage	22,589.85	
Printing and Postage	<u>35.35</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>22,625.20</u>
Balance on Hand 3/16/94		<u>\$ 2,307.18</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 the 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 27-28, 1993 and on January 17, 1994.

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. Ekhoﬀ, 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.

## 1994 BUDGET

At its September 27-28, 1993 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 1994 meeting the treasurer reported that the 1993 fiscal year had ended with a budget deficit of \$68,681.43. After considerable discussion of the shortfall and much revision of figures the committee, herewith, presents to the synod a budget of \$790,000 for the 1995 fiscal year, allocated as follows:

<b>BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE</b>		
Operations	\$157,000	
Maintenance on college	21,500	
Maintenance on residences	4,000	
Interest	10,300	
Faculty Housing Allowance ((\$84,000 less \$16,000 interest applied)	68,000	260,800
<b>BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY</b>		
Operations	61,000	
Maintenance on residence	2,000	63,000
<b>CHRISTIAN SERVICE</b>		22,200
<b>EDUCATION AND YOUTH</b>		23,000
<b>EVANGELISM</b>		9,000
<b>FOREIGN MISSIONS</b>		108,000
<b>HOME MISSIONS</b>		118,000
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>		19,000
<b>SYNOD FUND</b>		
Interest	9,000	
Deferred Giving Counselor	23,000	
Boards, committees, etc.	52,000	
Administration	43,000	
House payment	15,000	142,000
<b>CAPITAL BUDGET</b>		25,000
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>		<b>790,000</b>

## **PLANNING**

The committee continues to study ways of avoiding increased deficits in the General Fund. It always studies the expenses 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. The board's subcommittee continues its study of the Planning Document submitted to it by each board and reports to each meeting of the Planning and Coordinating Committee.

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE SYNOD'S WORK.**

The synod is, herewith, informed of the goals and objectives of the various departments of the synod's work.

**BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE** Plans for the future are as follows: Continue to increase the endowment funds, because of significant enrollment increases the college dormitories must be expanded or the enrollment limited, try to increase enrollment of ELS students, continue study of possible 3- and 4-year tracks in special areas, and enhance the college staff for spiritual life, religious instruction and counseling. Other necessary Capital Improvements such as tennis courts, parking, dormitory space for men, library addition and renovation, Anderson Hall renovation, science and math building.

**BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY** Plan for increasing enrollment which will mean additional facilities will be needed. Plans for additional facilities are under way at the time of this writing.

**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.

**EDUCATION AND YOUTH** With the assistance of the funds generated from the thankoffering, 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 children's sermons, Bible study materials, synod owned retreat center, teen group meeting outlines and teen devotion book, continue work on catechetical material, have conventions, camps and retreats for the synod's youth.

**EVANGELISM** Continue circuit-wide seminars, print tracts, continue publishing Evangelism Notes, promote Evangelism Sundays, provide evangelism information and materials at synod convention, provide 2-day evangelism seminar for seminary students.

**HOME MISSIONS** The missions already in operation continue to be monitored by the board and given assistance as needed. The goal of the Board for Home Missions is to open one new mission each year.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS** Continue assisting the native pastors in Peru with their continuing studies, continue expanding seminary instruction and ordaining native pastors in the South American fields, continue supporting the work in Australia as we are financially able.

**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.

**BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP** By means of future seminars, monthly letters, bulletin inserts and videos to promote more training for pastors and parishioners in all aspects of stewardship, to educate on the work being done in all areas of the synod, to inform regarding specific needs, to improve systems of fund raising and lead congregations to make commitments to the synod budget.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Manage financial affairs of the synod so as to stay solvent and yet be able to purchase church properties for missions.

### **SYNOD INFORMATION PROGRAM**

Letters continue to be sent from the president's office to the "Synod Contact Man" in each congregation. A possible expanded use of this program was discussed.

Alf Merseth, secretary  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod held its regular quarterly meetings in 1993 on the following dates: February 9-10, May 11-12, August 10-11 and November 9-10. The board met via conference telephone call on March 9 and 10, March 21, April 14, May 22, June 26, June 30, October 6 and December 12, 1993 and on January 2, 1994. This report will also include business conducted by the board at its regular meeting on February 14-15, 1994.

The Trustee-Regents Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of those boards met quarterly on the following dates: January 25, April 26, and October 25, 1993 and on January 31, 1994. 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 those boards did not meet during 1993. The chairman of the Board for Home Missions reported to the Board of Trustees at each of its quarterly meetings. 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. Ekhoff serves as chairman of this subcommittee and the undersigned as its secretary.

The Trustee-Foreign Missions Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of those 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.

The Trustee-Regents Building Committee 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, continues to meet as necessary monitoring the planning and the construction of the Fitness Facility, the Student Union and the Chapel at Bethany Lutheran College.

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, Dr. 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 DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ARCHIVES IN 1993**

#### **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**

Mission News 1993

Thoughts of Faith

"It's Somewhere in the 3rd Article" and file. Amanda Madson Foreign Mission Board Files, 6 boxes. N. Madson

Board for Education and Youth publications, and "Pastors and Youth Leaders formats for youth meetings" by C. Keeler. "Faith of Our Fathers" LYA convention 1993, and files from 1992 LYA convention. Ron O'Neil

Convention Echo 1992-1993 T. Kuster

Anniversary Booklet; His Truth for Our Youth; "This Generation of Grace" and files by C. Ferkenstad

75th Anniversary of the ELS-Choral Festival, Mankato, MN; The Divine Service on Synod Sunday 1993; daily devotions during the convention. Bethany Luth. Theol. Seminary graduation bulletin.

Synod Secretary's Correspondence file 1961-62.

ELS Youth Board file, Camp Indianhead, Tom Tom 1959-62; IA, MN AND WI camps; also correspondence and minutes file; LYS Quarterly 1960-61.

ELS Army Navy Commission materials; service men's correspondence on West Coast, 1941-1946. "The Government Chaplaincy, An Appraisal" by Prof. C. Schweppe 1943.

Statistics of Lutheran Church Bodies in U.S. and Canada 1955.

Kasota Valley Home for the Aged dedication 1951.

ELS General Pastoral Conference program, Madison, WI 1964.

ELS Board for Evangelism published "A Question to Consider."

#### **BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE**

Videos of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, of the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center campaign, and of "A Wise Choice" 1986. S. Jaeger

Bethany "Echo" 1914, Ed May

"Reports" 1992-93; "Preparing for the 21st Century"; 1993 Commencement Program; Bethany "Scrolls"; Literary Magazine 1983 & 1993; "Fidelis" copies; Student body lists; Opening Service folder; large color photo of old main and entry gates.

Bethany Lutheran College Women's Auxiliary Minutes and Materials. Amanda Madson

Bethany sport's department baseball files 1993

Bethany Lutheran College A Cappella Choir Concert season 1950; and in the 1940's, Alfred Fremder conducting.

Bethany Lutheran College Library groundbreaking 1966.

## CONGREGATIONS

St. Andrews or Peace Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, CO, a box of records containing files 1976-1990, bulletins, guest book, pamphlets and taped sermons.

Family of God Lutheran Church dedication folder. Ft. Mojave, AZ.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Naples, FL, dedication folder 1993.

New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, FL, Articles of Incorporation, and Constitution and Church Dedication folder. 1993

Center and Scarville Lutheran Churches 75th Anniversary newspaper clippings.

Gran Congregation history, Mayville, ND 1871-1907. Mrs. A. J. Vannen.

Our Saviour Ev. Lutheran Church, Madison, WI, golden Jubilee of the church edifice 1947; 75th Anniversary program 1962.

East & West Paint Creek Ev. Lutheran Churches—West Annual Report 1960-61; four pictures of East Church 1961; Centennial Literature—sermons, prayer and poem. Waterville, IA

Bethany Lutheran College Food Drive 1959-60 in churches. 1 page.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Canoga Park, CA Service of Dedication. 1957

Pinehurst Ev. Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI Dedication 1955, including history.

Saude Lutheran Church, Saude, IA 100th Anniversary & history 1975

St. Timothy Ev. Lutheran Church, Lombard, IL, Bulletin 1958.

Concordia Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, installation of Pastor Luther Vangen 1957; program & history of church, 50th Anniversary, 1978; dedication of remodeled church 1961; 40th anniversary history and pictures, 1968; 25th anniversary history and pictures, 1953; Dedication of Church—folder 1929; dedication of new church in 1973; 10th Anniversary noted in Lutheran Sentinel, 1939. Constitution and By Law.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison, WI church dedication folder 1963

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and School, Canoga Park, CA, dedication service 1957.

Emmaus Ev. Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN, dedication of church building 1938.

Parkland Ev. Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, dedication of Parish Education Building 1963.

Grace Lutheran Church, Madison, WI, dedication of first unit and history of the same, 1962.

Newport Ev. Lutheran Church, Newport, WI, 100th anniversary of church building and history, 1992.

Fairview Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN, 50th Anniversary Choral Union Concert, 1966.

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL, 90th Anniversary "Messages" of greeting 1963.

King of Grace Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN, hosted Central and Southwest pastoral conference, 1972; and "Pastor as Counselor" seminar programs 1972.

Pilgrim Ev. Lutheran Church, Waterloo, IA, film reel of bulletins 1993.

Hiawatha Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN, hosted Central Circuit Sunday School Teacher's Institute, 11 congr. 1967.

Bethany Lutheran Church, Princeton, MN hosted Northstar Chapter of ELS Laymen's Organization 1960.

## PERSONS AND PICTURES

1928 Jubilee Souvenir featuring Christian Day Schools and Teachers in the ELS. B. W. Teigen

The Rev. D. Webber of Trinity Lutheran Church, Brewster, MA. sent the pictures of Chicago Madison Pastoral Conference, Oct. 1913; L. Guttebo, N. A. Madson and S. C. Ylvisaker; M. Tweit, C. M. Gullerud, M. Otto and J. A. O. Preus; Aberdeen Hotel, St. Paul, MN, 1917; ELS Pastoral Conference 1963; and six of Pastoral Conference 1992.

New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, FL, six pictures of interior and exterior of the church and one of the pastor.

Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center cornerstone laying, six pictures. T. Kuster.

Picture of Peruvian Missionaries: M. Teigen, T. Erickson and D. Heuser, 1992.

The Rev. Ole H. and Theo. Aaberg biographies and pictures prepared with archival care by Joseph Aaberg.

Pictures of the Rev. Moses, Mr. T. Vaala and Mrs. J. Ottesen, and the Rev. Joseph Petersen.

The Rev. Mark Tuffin's ordination bulletin from Australia. D. Schroeder.

The Rev. Norman B. Harstad's funeral service folder; at First English Lutheran Church, Ashland, WI, 1993

Pictures and History of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, "One Hundred Years of Grace" 1839-1939

Miscellaneous items received from Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary records or files: Norwegian sermon 14 S.A.Trinity?; The Arian Four Program; "Ev. Lutheran Krankentrost" by Pastor B. P. Nommenson, Milwaukee, WI; sermon by the Rev. O. Preus on Jes. 34,20; sermon by the Rev. C. A. Gallmeier on John 11,40; fund raising letter from Henry Rage, Puerto Rico; prayers for Martin Luther High School.

## BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

"Norsk Lutherske Prester i Amerika".

From Mrs. Signe Olson: New Testament 1881, Decorah, IA, the Rev. S. Sande; Old and New Testaments 1914, Kristiana, Norway; "Den Kristelige Ettrick", Martinson 1878, Copenhagen, Denmark, the Rev. Christian Anderson library; "Volrath Vagt", Bible History.

WELS Digest for the Districts and A Plan for the 1990's.

Crabb's Synonyms and clippings by the Rev. J. Ottesen.

Norwegian New Testament with comments by Dr. Martin Luther, M. V. Dieterichs and Francisens Vierlings—Bergen 1878. and "Festskrifts, Den Norske Synodes Jubilaum" 1853-1903 by Pastor H. Halvorsen, Received from Wm. Overn.

The Rev. Erling Ylvisaker's "The Lighted Cross" for Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison, WI, 1929-1933.

"Confessional Lutheran" 1940-1965; "Lutheran Loyalty" 1951; Confessional Lutheran letter regarding the doctrine of hell; letter of P. Burgdorf to Dr. Graebner, 1940; a pamphlet of Bible Exhibit at U. of Illinois, 1935; from A. V. Kuster.

## BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE AND SEMINARY PROPERTIES

The Board of Trustees approved the building of a fourplex at the half-way house location, 624 Marsh St., as housing for women students. This was completed and was in use during the 1993-94 school year.

The Board of Trustees have engaged architects who are working on plans for an addition to the facilities of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary.

## BUDGET 1994

The Board of Trustees discussed at length the \$68,681.43 shortfall in the 1993 budget and considered the 1994 budget in light of this deficit. However, in view of the matching of budget contributions for 1994-1995 by the Marvin Schwan

Sales Enterprises, Inc. it was decided to leave the budget for 1994 at \$755,000 as adopted by the 1993 convention.

### **CHRIST THE CORNERSTONE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Interest subsidy to Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, AZ was discontinued as of February 1, 1993.

Because payments sufficient to satisfy the mortgage the synod holds on the church property at 7670 E. Jomax Rd., Scottsdale, AZ have not been made since February 1, 1993, the Board of Trustees started foreclosure proceedings against Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, AZ on January 3, 1994.

The Board of Trustees also authorized its attorney to take the necessary steps to collect the interest due on the construction loan which was made to Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church in 1991.

Letters protesting the action of the 1993 synod convention have been received from the following:

Pastors: Daniel McMiller, James Olsen, John Krueger, Roger Fehr, Robert Lawson, Burgess Huehn, William McMurdie, Gregory Haugen, Fred Theiste, Robert Waldschmidt, Fred Stubenvoll and Alvin Wagner.

Congregations: St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR, Christ, Sutherlin, OR and Christ the King, Bell Gardens, CA.

### **GENERAL**

The synod received a \$40,000 Program Subsidy Grant from Lutheran Brotherhood for 1993. These funds were used as designated by the Board for Home Missions: \$20,000 for Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, FL and \$20,000 for Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Warroad, MN. The use of these funds is reported to Lutheran Brotherhood at the end of the year.

The Program Subsidy Grant for 1994 will be \$40,000.

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.

### **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, Dr. 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 serve, together with three members elected by the Board of Regents, on a Building Committee for future construction projects at Bethany Lutheran College. This committee will serve until the project is completed.

### **SYNOD PROPERTIES**

The Board of Trustees extended the Contract for Deed on the purchase of the Hiawatha Lutheran Church property for five years. Final payment is due on April 1, 1998.

The parsonage property at 2006 Snyder Ave., Colorado Springs, CO was sold for \$82,000.

The synod purchased 3.36 acres of land as a future site for Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, FL.

The Board of Trustees approved the installation of a water drainage system in the basement of the residence at 1117 Lori Lane.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### Summary of Income and Expenditures and Changes in General Fund Balance (Deficit)

Year ended December 31, 1993

Budget contributions		\$672,393.57
Operating expenditures	\$1,468,538.52	
Less:		
Income from publications	\$39,752.36	
Foreign missions Helping Hands funds for operating expenditures	117,342.09	
Foreign missions Seminary funds for operating expenditures	89,531.05	
Foreign missions excess expenditures funded from reserves	166,196.67	
Home missions special contributions for operating expenditures	40,000.00	
Home missions excess expenditures funded from reserves	116,272.50	569,094.67
Net expenditures before interest income		899,443.85
Interest income		92,676.75
Net expenditures		806,767.10
Net operating income		(134,373.53)
Other changes in General Fund Balance:		
Increases:		
Estates appropriated for debt reduction	17,846.43	
Special contribution for debt reduction	27,103.82	
Proceeds from Peace, Colorado Springs	138,054.30	
Decreases:		
Payments on mortgages and loans	(65,551.04)	
Net increase - other changes		117,453.51
Net (decrease) for year		(16,920.02)
General Fund (deficit) - December 31, 1992		(299,123.84)
General Fund (deficit) - December 31, 1993		(\$316,043.86)

## **WILLS AND GIFTS**

A gift of over \$35,000 was received for Bethany Lutheran College from the estate of Mrs. Marvel Meyer.

A CD in the amount of \$27,103.82 was received from the estate of Inez Skogen. A portion of this gift was used to erect a sign on the seminary property.

The synod received a distribution of \$10,000 from the Martin Robinson trust.

The synod received \$16,767.64 from the will of Alvin S. Hanson, Waukon, IA.

Notice has been received regarding the estate of Gertrude Zimmermann.

Alf Merseth, secretary

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS**

Since the 1993 convention the Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents have met jointly on August 10 and November 9, 1993 and on February 14, 1994.

The purpose of these joint meetings was continuing discussion of the building projects involved in the "Preparing for the 21st Century" campaign.

The boards meeting jointly took the following actions which we, herewith, report to the synod:

1. Set the construction budget for the Fitness Facility at \$2,500,000. (This was done in separate meetings and reported to the joint meeting.)

2. Set the construction budget for the Student Union at \$2,450,000.

3. Authorized the undertaking of the roof, gutter and brick repair on Old Main at an estimated cost of \$330,000.

Alf Merseth, secretary

## **ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS**

The Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents met jointly on May 3, 1994 to discuss further the construction of an addition to the seminary facility and the synodical offices.

The following resolutions are, herewith, presented to the 1994 Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for its consideration and action.

WHEREAS, There is need for construction of an addition to the present seminary building to provide additional seminary classroom and library space as well as additional space for synodical offices and synodical archives, and,

WHEREAS, The budgetary contributions matching funds will be available also in 1996, and,

WHEREAS, The completion of the addition would coincide with the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1996,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod authorizes the Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents to proceed with the construction of an addition to the present seminary building in 1995 at an estimated cost of \$900,000, and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the authorized use of the 1995 matching funds be deferred until 1996 and the 1995 budgetary contributions matching funds be used for the construction of an addition to the present seminary building.

Alf Merseth, secretary  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod

## **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 10-11, 1993 the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation elected the following officers: The Rev. George Orvick, president; the Rev. Alf Merseth, 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 1992. Mr. Robert Brown and Mr. Greg Griffin were elected in 1993. Mr. Wilbur Lieske serves as an advisory member to the committee. Mr. Robert Brown was elected as chairman of the committee. The committee meets on the evening before each quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees and considers and makes recommendations to the foundation regarding the investment of its assets and the use of the income from those investments.

The foundation, at its November 1994 meeting, transferred the foundation assets from Northern Capital Management to Matheson Financial Services. It adopted a specific allocation of the foundation assets specifying that no more than 10% be invested in high risk issues.

The Torino Parkway property in Port St. Lucie, FL was sold for \$120,000. These funds will be returned to the "Partners in The Gospel Fund."

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, 1993

## RESTRICTED

## ASSETS

## Investments:

Investment management accounts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$613,658.02	\$646,963.73	\$914,955.20	\$108,371.12	\$1,090,264.47
Savings accounts and CD's	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Money market funds	11,218.84	6,558.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	922,654.10	0.00	0.00
Notes receivable	0.00	0.00	83,808.03	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

Due from (to) other funds

	11,218.84	6,558.22	697,466.05	646,963.73	2,080,609.30	108,371.12	1,090,264.47
	(1,218.84)	(549.22)	(26,614.97)	(43,838.26)	(327,138.65)	(7,203.62)	(88,282.22)

## TOTAL ASSETS

	\$10,000.00	\$6,009.00	\$670,851.08	\$603,125.47	\$1,753,470.65	\$101,167.50	\$1,001,982.25
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## LIABILITIES

Notes payable

	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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## FUND BALANCES

Balances - December 31, 1992

	10,000.00	6,009.00	676,319.40	602,981.47	1,705,986.86	101,049.20	1,000,400.75
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## Add(deduct):

Bequests	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	46,289.31	0.00	0.00
Contributions - net	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	744.48	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
Annuity amortization	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	(5,468.32)	144.00	450.00	118.30	1,581.50
	0.00	0.00	(5,468.32)	144.00	47,483.79	118.30	1,581.50

Balances - end of period

	10,000.00	6,009.00	670,851.08	603,125.47	1,753,470.65	101,167.50	1,001,982.25
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	\$10,000.00	\$6,009.00	\$670,851.08	\$603,125.47	\$1,753,470.65	\$101,167.50	\$1,001,982.25
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TREASURER'S REPORT

BALANCE SHEET AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
Year ended December 31, 1993

RESTRICTED

TREASURER'S REPORT

ASSETS

Investments:

	GENERAL FOREIGN MISSION FUND(14)	CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY FUND(15)	HOME MISSION RESERVE FUND(16)	GENERAL HOME MISSION FUND(17)	HOME MISSION EXPANSION FUND(18)	75TH ANNIVERSARY FUND(20)	TOTAL
Investment management accounts	\$149,992.87	\$150,051.54	\$22,749.62	\$0.00	\$826,077.24	\$205,219.89	\$4,728,303.70
Savings accounts and CD's	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Money market funds	16,252.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,029.25
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	0.00	97,500.00	0.00	203,229.58	0.00	1,223,383.68
Notes receivable	0.00	11,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	278,808.03
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	0.00	0.00	59,000.00

Due from (to) other funds	166,245.06 (27,103.89)	161,051.54 1,173.10	120,249.62 3,538.61	0.00 0.00	1,029,306.82 (46,831.50)	205,219.89 45,119.91	6,323,524.66 (518,949.55)
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$139,141.17	\$162,224.64	\$123,788.23	\$0.00	\$982,475.32	\$250,339.80	\$5,804,575.11
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LIABILITIES

Notes payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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FUND BALANCES

Balances - December 31, 1992	148,201.43	147,160.62	109,224.65	0.00	1,030,564.53	65,233.55	5,603,131.46
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Add(deduct):

Bequests	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	46,289.31
Contributions - net	0.00	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	202,131.27	227,875.75
Income	0.00	0.00	10,198.05	0.00	37,273.74	0.00	47,471.79
Estates appropriated by Board of Trustees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Annuity amortization	0.00	(11,762.86)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(11,762.86)
Distributions	(9,060.26)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(85,362.95)	(17,025.02)	(111,448.23)
Gain (loss) on sale of securities	0.00	1,826.88	4,365.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,017.89

	(9,060.26)	15,064.02	14,563.58	0.00	(48,089.21)	185,106.25	201,443.65
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Balances - end of period	139,141.17	162,224.64	123,788.23	0.00	982,475.32	250,339.80	5,804,575.11
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	\$139,141.17	\$162,224.64	\$123,788.23	\$0.00	\$982,475.32	\$250,339.80	\$5,804,575.11
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## BALANCE SHEET AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
Year ended December 31, 1993

	UNRESTRICTED			TOTAL - ALL FUNDS
	DONATED(30)	BOARD OF TRUSTEES DESIGNATED(35)	TOTAL	
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Investments:				
Investment management accounts	\$640,197.94	\$126,166.82	\$766,364.76	\$5,494,668.46
Savings accounts and CD's	0.00	1,117.61	1,117.61	1,117.61
Money market funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,029.25
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,223,383.68
Notes receivable	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	288,808.03
U. S. Treasury Notes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Land	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,000.00
	650,197.94	127,284.43	777,482.37	7,101,007.03
Due from (to) other funds	0.00	(7,063.46)	(7,063.46)	(526,013.01)
	650,197.94	120,220.97	770,418.91	\$6,574,994.02
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Notes payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>FUND BALANCES</u>				
Balances - December 31, 1992	624,253.76	111,316.96	735,570.72	6,338,702.18
Add(deduct):				
Bequests	24,912.93	0.00	24,912.93	71,202.24
Contributions - net	0.00	0.00	0.00	227,875.75
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	47,471.79
Estates appropriated by				
Board of Trustees	0.00	8,923.21	8,923.21	8,923.21
Annuity amortization	0.00	0.00	0.00	(11,762.86)
Distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	(111,448.23)
Gain (loss) on sale of securities	1,031.25	(19.20)	1,012.05	4,029.94
	25,944.18	8,904.01	34,848.19	236,291.84
Balances - end of period	650,197.94	120,220.97	770,418.91	6,574,994.02
	\$650,197.94	\$120,220.97	\$770,418.91	\$6,574,994.02

Alf Mørseth, secretary

## **75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE 1994 SYNOD CONVENTION**

The 75th Anniversary Committee held its first meeting in the summer of 1988. Over the next five years plans were formulated to properly celebrate our synod's 75th year and to bring praise to our Lord. The committee members are: President George Orvick, chairman, the Rev. David Nelson, secretary, the Rev. Raymond Branstad, the Rev. Alf Merseth, the Rev. Richard Newgard, Mr. Harvey Roberson and the Rev. Milton Tweit.

The year of celebration drew to a conclusion with a June 6th festival service at the site of the reorganization convention, Lime Creek Lutheran Church, rural Lake Mills, Iowa. The pastor of the congregation, the Rev. Alf Merseth, served as liturgist and the guest speaker was President George Orvick.

President George Orvick was the speaker at the Synod Sunday Festival service on June 20, 1993.

The synod convention celebrated also on Synod Sunday afternoon with a choral festival concert, planned by the Rev. Raymond Branstad and Prof. Dennis Marzolf and on Tuesday evening of convention week with a pageant, entitled "It's Somewhere, in the Third Article," written by Mrs. Amanda Madson and directed by Prof. Sigurd Lee.

Copies of anniversary publications are still available at the Bethany Book Store, including the historical book, **BUILT ON THE ROCK**, by the Rev. Herbert Larson and Prof. Juul Madson, a commemorative booklet, **IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIS MERCY**, by the Rev. Herbert Larson, featuring paintings by Prof. William Bukowski, and a pictorial directory of our synod's churches and pastors, **THIS GENERATION OF GRACE**, compiled by the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad.

The anniversary committee would like to warmly thank all those who helped with the celebration! To God alone the glory!

David J. Nelson, secretary

## **REPORT OF THE ANNIVERSARY THANKOFFERING COMMITTEE**

Our Anniversary Thankoffering "His Truth for Our Youth" is now in the final months. The two-year offering began in October 1992 and continues through October of this year. The purpose of this offering has been stated:

"His Truth for Our Youth" is a special 75th Anniversary Offering of Thanks. Herein we are given the opportunity to pass God's Word and saving faith on to future generations. This special two year offering will establish an endowment fund which will support Christian education by:

- a. promoting and maintaining Christian Day Schools
- b. supporting youth ministry throughout our Synod
- c. advancing the cause of parish education at all levels.

We are pleased to report that by March of 1994, \$307,094.51 has actually been received. There is an additional \$85,511.68 of pledges yet to be received. If all the pledges are kept, a total of \$392,606.19 will be received. Not only do we hope these pledges are fulfilled, but we also hope that the support of this offering continues from the many individuals who did not choose to make a pledge but yet have generously supported this offering and the work of Christ's church on earth.

Information about the offering has continued to be disseminated through bulletin inserts and regular letters written to pastors. Regular financial statements also have been sent to all congregations.

The Board for Education and Youth already is making use of the proceeds from this endowment to pass on His Truth to Our Youth. May the Lord continue to bless the labors of our hands!

Craig A. Ferkenstad, chairman  
Steven Jaeger, secretary

## MEMORIAL

### **Subject: Terms of Presidential Office**

WHEREAS, The president currently can serve an unlimited number of consecutive terms, and,

WHEREAS, This has not been the custom of our synod until the adoption of our current constitution,

BE IT RESOLVED, That beginning with our next president, he be elected to serve three-year terms of which only two may be consecutive.

Roger Fehr, pastor  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Princeton, MN 55371

## MEMORIAL

### **Subject: Self Study Committee**

WHEREAS, The Self Study Committee is currently appointed by the president, and,

WHEREAS, This is unnecessary, and,

WHEREAS, It would be more appropriate for the delegates of the convention to choose their own Self Study Committee,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the convention elect the members of the Self Study Committee to three-year terms.

Roger Fehr, pastor  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Princeton, MN 55371

## MEMORIAL

### **Subject: Synodical Finances**

WHEREAS, The members of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod are called upon to support the Synodical Budget, Bethany Lutheran College, and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, and,

WHEREAS, God has also blessed these institutions with needed financial resources, and,

WHEREAS, God has called upon us to be good stewards of our resources, and,

WHEREAS, A complete accounting has not always been provided,

BE IT RESOLVED, That such an accounting be provided to the convention by,

- A. Showing in its report how much interest was earned by each of its funds, and,
- B. In the case of the college and the seminary, make available an audited annual report of the finances to the delegates of the convention, and,
- C. In the case of the synod, itemize the Synod Fund as described on page 201 of the 1993 Synod Report, and,
- D. Providing an itemized report of the salaries, benefits and perquisites, provided the presidents of these institutions.

Roger Fehr, pastor  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Princeton, MN 55371

## MEMORIAL

### Subject: Vacancies on Permanent Boards

WHEREAS, None of the permanent boards have regularly scheduled meetings of more than four times per year, and  
WHEREAS, Even an extended vacancy would not curtail the effectiveness of the board, and  
WHEREAS, The being on a board for only periods of one or two meetings is of limited value to the synod, the board and the individual,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That vacancies on permanent boards be filled by election at the next synod convention.

Robert Lawson, pastor  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
Princeton, MN 55371

## MEMORIAL

### Re: Christ the Cornerstone

WHEREAS, Every ELS voting congregational delegate and pastor at the 1993 ELS convention was called upon to take part in rendering a decision on the question as to whether or not Christ the Cornerstone congregation, Scottsdale, Arizona, and its pastor, The Reverend Robert McMiller in October of 1992 unscripturally removed from the congregation the five men (Messrs. A. T. Bliss, Richard Brekken, Robert Burgess, Bert Songstad and Robert Stohlman) who around a half year earlier in the spring of 1992 had undertaken an effort seeking the removal of Pastor McMiller from the pastoral office of their congregation (See 1993 Convention Report pp. 210 & 211, Miscellaneous Actions of the Synod, Resolution #1; as well as pp. 55-81), and,  
WHEREAS, A prior question which needed to be answered for the convention as the first order of business in this entire matter was: did or did not these five men have scriptural reason for seeking his removal; for unless the convention had the answer to this question first it was not at all properly prepared to deal with the subsequent question concerning their removal from membership; for if these men did not have scriptural reason for seeking his removal, then the subsequent question concerning their removal from the congregation would necessarily by the very nature of the circumstances need to be dealt with in a much different manner than if they did have scriptural grounds for seeking his removal, and,  
WHEREAS, No reason at all as to why the five men had sought his removal was, however, furnished to the convention either by the Ad Hoc Committee which the president of the synod had appointed to investigate the Christ the Cornerstone matter or by Floor Committee #13 to which this matter was assigned for bringing it before the convention, though the point was raised from the floor that the convention needed this information before considering Resolution #1 which was brought by Committee #13, and,  
WHEREAS, Prior to the 1993 convention the closest to anything from the Ad Hoc investigative committee which was received throughout the synod in explanation of the effort of the five men to have him removed was in a letter to all pastors of the ELS from one of the committee members only days before the convention (Allen Quist letter of 6-11-93) in which it was stated,

"Five voters at Scottsdale reluctantly concluded that Pastor McMiller's rigid approach to the ministry prevented the mission

from growing. They concluded that the only hope for the mission to be successful was to have a change of pastorate. Pastor McMiller responded by wrongly placing these men under church discipline, thereby depriving them of their vote. Pastor McMiller later removed these men from the congregation.”

and,

WHEREAS, The above quote, though it does indeed set forth a reason for their effort to remove him as pastor, does not, however, set forth scriptural cause justifying and calling for his removal, and is therefore insufficient; alas, if such a reason as that set forth in the above quote is accepted among us as sufficient for removing a pastor from his pastorate, then would not many faithful pastors among us be equally vulnerable to removal efforts?; indeed, in these days when the Church Growth Movement's assessment of success carries so much influence and when around us among other Lutherans there have been increasingly reports of pastors being removed from their pastorates for insufficient, unscriptural reasons, we must beware of joining them in approving the removing of a pastor from his pastorate for insufficient, unscriptural reasons, and,

WHEREAS, It is a grave wrong before God to seek to remove, without scriptural reason from the pastoral office of a congregation, one whom God has called and placed into the pastoral office of the congregation, and such efforts ought to be rebuked, and if persisted in do call for further church discipline, yes, including eventually even removal by and from the congregation if there is a continued refusal to repent, and,

WHEREAS, Since neither the Ad Hoc investigative committee nor Floor Committee #13 set forth scriptural reason for the effort of the five men to have him removed, a good number of congregational delegates and pastors from the 1993 convention remain greatly troubled, concerned that if the five men wrongly sought his removal, i.e., without scriptural cause, then it would be so that the convention did a serious wrong in exonerating and upholding these men as it did, and in altogether omitting to call them to repentance, and in also ordering Christ the Cornerstone congregation to receive them back into membership without repentance—a serious wrong not only to Pastor McMiller and Christ the Cornerstone congregation, but also to the five men themselves, for Christian love requires of us and Christ instructs us that for the sake of their souls' salvation we not let our brothers go on in their wrongs, but that we admonish them to repentance for their wrongs with the earnest desire that they repent so that we can confer Christ's absolution upon them, and,

WHEREAS, C.F.W. Walther, whom we highly esteem alongside of H.A. Preus, J.A. Ottesen and U.V. Koren, noted forebears of our synod, and regard as the great champion of Confessional Lutheranism in America, in his treatise, “The Voice of Our Church on the Question Concerning the Church and the Ministry,” under Thesis IX, has written,

“When a preacher is ministering God's Word in his congregation, whether he be teaching or admonishing, reproving or comforting, publicly or privately, the congregation hears from his mouth Jesus Christ Himself and owes him unconditional obedience as to a person by whom God wants to make known His will to them and guide them to eternal life. The more faithfully the preacher discharges his office, the greater must be the reverence of which the congregation deems him worthy. Nor has the congregation any right to take away his office from such a faithful servant of Jesus Christ; if it does this, the congregation therewith thrusts

aside Jesus Christ Himself, in whose name their preacher ruled over them. A congregation can remove an incumbent from office only when it is evident from God's Word that God Himself has removed him as a wolf or a hireling."

and,

WHEREAS, Johann Gerhard, "arch-theologian" during the period of Lutheran Orthodoxy, has also written,

"We must sedulously beware that no one plots against the office of one who has been placed in the church office through a legitimate call and who is experiencing the hatred of the world because of the faithful administration of his office. Neither should anyone allow himself to be put in the place of another who has been removed from his position without due process of law." (Gerhard XII, 121)

and again he writes,

"We should never allow the rashness of the people or the arbitrary will of those in power to remove a minister from his position and throw him into exile without recognition of a legitimate cause and the examination of the same. Such acknowledgment of cause pertains to the whole church. If anyone without due legal process and for causes which are not legitimate and sufficient (e.g., the overzealous condemnation of the vices of men, of hatred, or insignificant mistakes) is put out of office, then the one who takes his place is not to be regarded as the true, legitimate and called minister." (Gerhard XII, 175ff.)

WHEREAS, Martin Chemnitz, another of the Lutheran Church's greatest, most highly esteemed theologians, who had much to do with the writing of the *Formula of Concord*, the last of our Lutheran Confessions incorporated in our *Lutheran Book of Concord* to which our synod and all of its pastors and congregations have subscribed, has also written,

"Therefore, as long as God endures in the ministry His minister who teaches correctly and lives blamelessly, the church does not have the authority to remove someone else's servant [ecclesia non habet potestatem alienum servum amovendi]. But when he no longer edifies the church by doctrine or life, but destroys it, then God Himself removes him. Hos. 4:6; 1 Sam. 2:30. Therefore, there are two reasons for which God removes unfaithful ministers from their office: (1) because of doctrine, when they teach error. Mal. 2:7: 'The lips of the priest should guard knowledge, and they should require the Law of his mouth.' (2) Because of life, when they act in such a way that the name of the Lord is blasphemed . . . 1 Sam. 2:30. And then also the church not only can but also should [debet] remove such a one from the ministry. For just as God calls, so also does He remove through means. But just as a call in keeping with the instruction of the Lord of the harvest, so also, when someone must be removed from the ministry, it is necessary that the church can show with certainty that this is the judgment and this is the will of God. And just as the call, so also does the deposition pertain to the whole church [toto ecclesia] in a certain orderly way [certo quodam ordine]." (Locis Theologici II, 703),

and,

WHEREAS, Martin Luther, God's great servant through whom God carried out the mighty work of the reformation of the church, also speaks very strongly on this matter, as in his writing, "That a Pastor Should Not Be Silent at the Unjust Deposition of a Minister," 1531, W<sup>2</sup> 10, 1618ff, commenting on which Robert D. Preus in his excellent

monograph, "The Doctrine of the Call in the Confessions and Lutheran Orthodoxy," conveys Luther's thoughts thus,

"Deposing a pastor against his will and without due process is tyranny, Luther says, a malicious offense against church order and administration. For a pastor or anyone in authority to stand by and see this happen makes him a partaker of church robbery and of tyranny, and he should be condemned from the pulpit. No one should surrender his ministry to another until he is rightfully deposed. He who barges into the office of one who has been unjustly deposed is a robber and murderer."

and,

WHEREAS, Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, the Head and Lord and Chief Shepherd of the church, says to His pastors, who serve as under-shepherds for Him in His church,

"He who hears you hears Me; and he who despises you despises Me; and he who despises Me despises Him who sent Me."

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod acknowledge that in not taking up and answering at its 1993 convention first of all the question as to whether or not the five men had legitimate, scriptural reason for undertaking in the spring of 1992 the effort seeking the removal of Pastor McMiller from the pastoral office of Christ the Cornerstone congregation, the synod in convention thereby seriously erred from a number of standpoints, 1) in that the convention assembly was thus not at all properly prepared to deal with the subsequent question concerning the removal of the five men in October of 1992 from the congregation, and 2) in that it thus caused a good many congregational delegates and pastors to return home greatly distressed and deeply concerned that Pastor McMiller's removal may have been wrongly sought and that the convention may thus also have done a serious wrong by dealing with the subsequent question in the manner it did, and 3) in that it thus made necessary the grievous burden of submitting a memorial such as this with the earnest desire and purpose in mind that the synod might yet seek to rectify at least to some extent this matter, and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That, to the end that some measure of correction may now take place, Messrs. Bliss, Brekken, Burgess, Songstad and Stohlman be asked to present to the 1994 convention of the ELS their reason(s) for having undertaken in the spring of 1992 the effort seeking the removal of Pastor McMiller from the office of pastor of Christ the Cornerstone congregation, so that, along the lines of Gerhard's and Chemnitz' words, the synod may, as it ought, examine their reason(s) to determine whether or not there was legitimate, Scriptural cause for seeking his removal, and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That for the purpose of the synod's process of fairly examining the reason(s) presented, so that we may hear both sides, and so that we do not deny Pastor McMiller and his congregation due legal process but fully grant it to them as we should, Pastor McMiller and official representatives of Christ the Cornerstone congregation be requested to be present and to respond if they desire to do so to the reason(s) which the five men present—an opportunity which every pastor and congregation in the synod, if they were placed in the position of Pastor McMiller and Christ the Cornerstone congregation, would certainly also want for themselves, and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That if it then becomes clear by such examination by the synod that the five men did actually have Scriptural grounds for seeking his removal, i.e., if it is clearly found that Pastor McMiller

was indeed guilty of being a wolf or a hireling, to use Walther's terms (which are, of course, Christ's own terms from John 10), or to use Chemnitz' terms, that his removal was sought because of doctrine, because he was guilty of teaching error, or because of life, because he was guilty of acting in such a way that the name of the Lord was blasphemed, 1) that we then acknowledge that the five men were right under God in seeking his removal and should have done so, and 2) that we then appeal to Pastor McMiller to see the error of his way and to his congregation to see it with him and that they—pastor and congregation together—return from it, and 3) that we then as a synod lay this matter which has brought so much distress aside and proceed with our other work untroubled by this any longer; (although we hasten to say here that we are not at all ready to grant that he was thus guilty and that his removal should have been sought unless and until it is clearly found by proper examination that he was thus guilty, for it would be wrong for us to grant that as being so without clear evidence and merely on conjecture; moreover, if we did grant this on conjecture, should it be so that he was not thus guilty, we, in being content not to get at the facts in the matter, would ourselves be guilty of condoning the wrongful effort to remove a faithful servant of Jesus Christ and thus of condoning the thrusting aside of Jesus Christ Himself in His faithful minister, of which, however, we in no way want to be guilty; furthermore, we are not at all inclined to conjecture that Pastor McMiller was thus guilty in view of the fact that down through the years until the effort seeking his removal he was widely regarded in the synod as being a very faithful and capable pastor with good theological competence from the time that he and the congregation which he brought with him were gladly received into the synod from decades ago and as being as staunch in his commitment to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions as were the fathers of our synod seventy-five years ago when they, too, left a heterodox situation because of their staunch commitment to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions; therefore, before granting that he was thus guilty and that his removal should have been sought our consciences require that it be shown with certainty that this is the judgment and this is the will of God, and that it be evident from God's Word that God Himself wanted him removed as a wolf or a hireling); and,

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That if, however, by such examination by the synod it becomes clear that the five men did not have legitimate, sufficient, scriptural reason(s) for seeking his removal, and that, though he undoubtedly had his shortcomings (as indeed every pastor does, which sometimes some people in every congregation might be inclined to focus on), he nevertheless was a faithful servant of Jesus Christ in carrying out his pastoral office in accord with his divine call, 1) that we then admonish the five men to repent of their effort to remove him and to seek forgiveness from God and from Christ the Cornerstone congregation and its pastor and on this basis to seek membership in the congregation again; 2) that we not only admonish the five men to repentance, but that there also be repentance within the synod for whatever efforts were made to assist the five men in carrying out their effort to remove him; 3) that the synod rescind its Miscellaneous Actions Resolution #1 from the 1993 convention; 4) that it commend Pastor McMiller for having faithfully continued to carry out the functions of the Office of the Keys in his congregation these past couple years, the functions

of preaching the Word and administering the Sacraments, of forgiving and retaining sins, and commend his congregation for standing with him in this—all this under the most adverse circumstances imposed upon pastor and congregation from various synodical quarters and by last year's convention action; and 5) that the synod make the appropriate apologies to Pastor McMiller and Christ the Cornerstone congregation, and invite them to again become members of the synod; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That if the time remaining between now and the June 19-24 convention is insufficient for President Orvick to arrange for this matter to be taken up at that assembly, that then a special convention be called for an early date to take care of this pressing matter without undue delay; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That until the matter is taken care of by the synod in convention the synod's lawsuit against Christ the Cornerstone congregation be put on hold, with no further action being taken prior to that, so that pending the outcome of the consideration of this matter we will know whether or not to pursue the lawsuit any further; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That as we consider this memorial we recognize the gravity of the matter with which it deals before the Lord of the Church, for it is *His* call and *His* office of the holy ministry with which we have to do here, and that we therefore approach this matter, not from a standpoint of personal power or pride, or of ecclesiastical-political loyalty, or of fear of reprisal, or fear that one's particular project in the synod might suffer, or that one's position might be in jeopardy, or any other such unworthy standpoint; but that we approach the matter solely out of utter loyalty to our Lord Christ whose call and office it is, with single-mindedness unto Him; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That this memorial not be construed as being a loveless attack on anyone, but be understood as being brought as it truly is out of love and honor above all for our Lord Christ, and under Him out of deep loving concern for Pastor McMiller and the members of his congregation, also for Messrs. Bliss, Brekken, Burgess, Songstad and Stohlman, also for President Orvick, the members of the Ad Hoc investigative committee, the members of last year's Floor Committee #13, the members of the Board for Home Missions, the members of the Board of Trustees, in short, out of deep loving concern for the entire ELS, and in an effort that the ELS might be a truly Lutheran synod also in this matter of the call and the office of the holy ministry.

**SIGNERS:**

Ordained men:

Harry Bartels	John A. Krueger	E. C. F. Stubenvoll Sr.
Timothy Bartels	Daniel J. Larson	E. C. F. Stubenvoll Jr.
Gregory Bork	James G. Larson	Erling T. Teigen
Jerrold Dalce	Eph. 1:7	Martin Teigen
Roger Fehr	Bob Lawson	Frederick W. Theiste
Frank Fiedler III	Daniel McMiller	Harold R. Vetter
Gregory J. Haugen	William F. McMurdie	Alvin E. Wagner
Burgess A. Huehn	James P. Olsen	Mark Wold
James A. Krikava	John K. Schmidt	

Congregations:

Christ Lutheran Church, Sutherlin, OR

Robert J. Scharf, President & Board of Elders

Warren E. Steele, Board of Elders

Basil Denison, Board of Elders

Christ the King Lutheran Church, Bell Gardens, CA, Voters' Assembly

Edmund Hemman

Eric W. Verner

Gary L. Sieberg

Daniel Verner

James D. Hampton

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Brownsburg, IN

Don Heacox, President

Charles F. Long, Treasurer

Robert J. Palma, Secretary

St. Luke Lutheran Church, Mt. Vernon, WA

Gary Meyer

Jerry Salaz

Kenneth Rogge

Herman R. Goetjen

Jon D. Younce

Jonathan Dalke

Brett R. Meyer

Walter F. Schultz

Daniel J. Malsch

First Trinity Lutheran Church Council

Paul Thomsen, President

Mark R. Olson, Vice President

Roger Schewe, Secretary

Roger Wallin, Treasurer

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Myrtle Creek, OR

Harvey Ringen, President

**A MEMORIAL TO THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
IN SESSION ASSEMBLED, JUNE 19-22, 1994**

Dear Brethren:

On May 6, 1994 the Doctrine Committee announced that at the synodical convention it would propose the elimination of "Sections A-F of Thesis 9 of the 1989 statement as adopted" of the synodical document on the Lord's Supper (1989 Synod Report, p. 72 f.).

This is a serious theological action which before it is accepted or rejected should receive more time for study than is available at this convention.

Since I have serious reservations concerning the proposal being presented by the Doctrine Committee, I want to lay them before the convention. I maintain that there are serious questions at stake here. Basically the question is: How do we know that we have here the supper that Christ instituted for us? All this involves the doctrines of the *Sola Gratia* of the Gospel, the Public Ministry of the Word, the Power of God's Word, the significance of the *Mandata Dei* for Christ's Church.

Here the modern church needs to be aware of the colossal struggle for the biblical doctrine of the Lord's Supper that took place during the Reformation (1530-1580). It was essentially a struggle as to what Luther taught and what Melancthon taught during the first years of the Lutheran Church's existence. As will be seen, the struggle is still going on. I shall outline the main issues.

As I see it, the purpose of the Doctrinal Committee is to remove from the 1989 statement the sentence: "Because of this consecration Christ's body and blood are present in the elements of bread and wine before the reception of the elements by the communicants." Instead, the committee wants to substitute for this excision, sentences taken from the Augsburg Confession, The Apology to the Augsburg Confession, the Small Catechism, the Smalcald Articles, and the Formula of Concord. As an example of these clauses, it cites from the Augsburg Conf. X: "It is taught among us that the true body and blood of Christ are really present in the Supper of our Lord under the form of bread and wine and are there distributed and received." I submit that the natural meaning of the sentence is that the real presence exists under the bread and wine and it is then to be distributed and received by the communicants.

There are those, however, who deny that the consecration effects the sacramental union of the body and blood with the earthly elements, but rather that the sacramental union takes place only in the distribution when they are eaten and drunk by the communicants. They think that they can see this in the sentence quoted from The Augsburg Confession. But if that was the intention of the reformers, it is a strange way of putting it. It is a meaning forced unnaturally upon the text. These two differing interpretations of what achieves the sacramental union can be seen in the confessions of Luther and Melancthon.

For Luther, Baptism, Absolution and the Lord's Supper are to be understood from Christ's commands and promises. Luther held that there must be a command that Christ's followers are to act in Christ's stead. And with respect to the institution of the Lord's Supper Luther pointed to: "This do in remembrance of me" (a *Mandatum dei*). In 1528 Luther confessed: "WHEN we follow his institution and command in the Supper and say, 'This is my body' THEN it is his body, not because of our speaking or our declarative word, but because of His command in which He has told us so to speak and to do and has attached His own command and deed to our speaking" (AE 37, 184; emphasis added).

Here it must be noted that the Formula of Concord (1577) quotes this sentence as the true Lutheran doctrine of what effects the Sacramental Union (SD VII. 78). The presence is there before the reception because the consecration is Christ's work alone. But since the undistributed sacrament is not the complete sacrament, one must also follow the second command of the Lord: "Take, eat and drink."

But false doctrine concerning this biblical presentation of Luther had appeared even in Wittenberg itself. The "Sacramentarians" not only denied the real presence but they also ridiculed the scriptural doctrine of the consecration. By 1525 Andrew Carlstadt was proclaiming that the consecration was merely some kind of external manipulation on the level of magic. In his rejection of the consecration as the effective cause for the present Church's certainty that it has the same supper the Lord instituted for His Church in His last testament, Carlstadt grossly distorted what Luther was teaching. Luther writes of Carlstadt: "He reviles us with some scornful and jeering words, asking how we get Christ into the bread and wine, whether He must strike up the tune we demand, and many similar words of shameful blasphemy (AE 40, 176). In answer Luther confesses what he believes: "Dr. Carlstadt knows that we do not breathe or whisper over the bread, but do speak the divine, almighty, heavenly and holy words which Christ Himself spoke at the supper with His holy lips and commanded us to speak" (AE 40, 211 f.).

But the sacramental heresy continued to infect Wittenberg. By 1528 (the year Luther wrote his "Great Confession Concerning Christ's Supper) it had gotten to Melancthon via the Swiss Reformer Oecolampadius. In a private letter to Balthasar Thuring, Melancthon writes that Oecolampadius had been pressing him strongly with questions as to whether it was possible that Christ could be called down from heaven: Does this occur through the merits and prayers of the priest or the people, or, as they say, by the power of the words? Melancthon answers in the letter that he himself has finally come to the opinion that Christ gives us His body and blood not through the merits or prayers of the priest or the people, *nor by the power of the word*, for that, as it is said, is magic (*Corpus Reformatorum*, I, 948 f.; emphasis added). Melancthon hides this false doctrine from Luther, but as a "teacher of Germany" he inculcated it in his students, especially after Luther's death. It is no wonder that toward the end of Luther's life his close friend Amsdorf told him that during all these years he had been in Melancthon nourishing a viper in his bosom.

A fundamental difference between Luther and Melancthon on the essence of the Lord's Supper emerges as they live side by side, but Melancthon does not fully communicate his ideas to Luther. For Luther, the Lord's Supper was always a "thing." In the Small Catechism he asks: "What is the Sacrament of

the Altar?: "Answer: Instituted by Christ Himself, it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine, given to us Christians to eat and to drink." It is an objective entity.

For Melanchthon, however, the sacrament is not a reality caused by Christ's words of institution, spoken by His Ambassador, just as we saw from his 1528 letter. Rather, it is an "action" of "offering and receiving." With the bread and wine Christ is present in the ritual action to forgive. The eminent Melanchthon scholar Peter Fraenkel, has summed up Melanchthon's doctrine with these words: It is a "functional doctrine since it speaks not so much of things (bread, wine, body, blood) or what they 'are' ('est') but of processes (ritus or usus) and their effects" ("Ten Questions Concerning Melanchthon, the Fathers and the Eucharist" in *Luther and Melanchthon*, edited by Vilmos Vajta, Philadelphia: Muhlenberg Press, 1961, p. 147).

Melanchthon and his associates were humanists greatly influenced by what the medieval scholastics thought was taught by Aristotle in the fourfold-cause paradigm. This supposedly established rules for knowing how and when and why things can happen. It spoke of four causes: material, formal, efficient and final. This is explained by use of the familiar illustration of the statue: the marble block = the material cause; the sculpting = the efficient cause; the shape of the statue = the formal cause; and the final cause = the purpose for which the statue is intended. Hence it is not really a statue until it is admired or worshipped.

In applying this paradigm to the Lord's Supper, these causes were considered chronologically. The body and blood are not present until they are eaten and drunk since this was the purpose for which the supper was instituted (*causa finalis*). The consecration could not be the cause for achieving the Real Presence, since that would be depending on magic. All the requirements for the sacrament must be met before one could believe and confess the reality of Christ's body and blood. This type of thinking not only denies the effective power of the Word to achieve what it states, but it also includes the synergistic position that man's work is partly contributing to the miracle of the Real Presence.

True Confessional Lutherans have always been immersed in observing the divine mandate to keep the Gospel free from synergistic taint. It is particularly in the doctrines of Absolution, Conversion, and Election where they have wrestled with the medieval philosophical paradigms of "form" and "causa." Synergists in the defense of their doctrine of conversion granted that certainly the almighty work of the Holy Spirit in converting man is the *causa principalis*, but the assenting will of man was nonetheless a *causa sine qua non* for his conversion.

In the doctrine of the Lord's Supper some will admit that the consecration is the *causa principalis* for the sacramental union, but nonetheless the *causa sine qua non* for the presence of the body and blood in the Sacrament is the eating and drinking by the communicant.

The Melanchthon viewpoint has existed a long time among the Lutherans, alongside the doctrine confessed in the Book of Concord. In 1590 Aegidius Hunnius answered the question: I ask whether the sacramental union which is conceded by us does not take place in that very recitation of the words even before the bread is eaten? Hunnius: I would like you to know that it is not by the power of that recitation which is made by the minister, but by the power of Christ's institution to which the minds of the faithful are called through that recitation, that Christ wills to be present with His body and blood. For this reason it is established that no union of the bread and the body of Christ takes place during the recitation of the words, before the very act of the bread being eaten. But just as the bread is the *Koinonia* of Christ's body exclusively in the very act of eating and not before, so likewise the bread is united sacramentally to the body exclusively where the *koinonia* and the act of eating takes place. . . . Obviously no magic power should be attributed to it [the consecration], either towards transubstantiating the bread into the body, or towards sacramentally uniting the bread to the body and the wine to the blood (Aegidius Hunnius, *Articulis sive*

*Locus De Sacramentis Veteris et Novi Testamenti, praecipue de Baptismo et Coena Domini*, Frankforti and Moenam 1590 pp. 712-714).

This synergistic viewpoint has continued to exist alongside Luther's position from 1590 to the present. A contemporary seminary text book on pastoral theology correctly paraphrases what Hunnius professed 400 years ago: "Essentially the consecration consists in repeating the words of institution over the visible elements. Its purpose is, first of all to show that it is the pastor's intention to carry out Jesus' institution and to set the visible elements apart for use in the sacrament. It furthermore serves as a prayer that the Lord may do what he has promised, as a confession that the body and blood are present in the sacrament, and so an invitation to the communicants to appropriate Jesus' promise by faith. Such a use of the words of 'institution' in consecrating the visible elements is an ancient custom (cf. I Cor. 10:16), but the words are not to be considered a magic formula that effects a change in the elements" (Armin Schuetze and Irwin J. Habeck, *The Shepherd Under Christ, A Textbook for Pastoral Theology*, Milwaukee: Northwestern Pub. House, 1874, p. 91).

Matt. 26: 27,28 makes clear that because of the consecration, Christ's body and blood are present in the elements of bread and wine before the reception of the elements by the communicants: "Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." The key word here is "*Gar* which means because, for": Drink—not because it is a symbolic drink; Drink—not because with your drinking you bring about the presence of my blood of the New Testament; but, Drink—BECAUSE IT IS the blood which is shed for many for the remission of sins. Our Savior's words reveal that the Real Presence is there before the reception.

Since the intention of the Book of Concord is here under discussion, it would seem to be necessary to know how the authors of the Formula understood the question: Is the Real Presence achieved before the reception by the communicant? The chief theologian among those who authored the formula, Martin Chemnitz, gives us help in his monumental work: *Examination of the Council of Trent, Part II*. The Council of Trent was a Roman Catholic Council that met intermittently at Trent, Italy (1545-1563). It sets forth the doctrines and practices of the Roman Church. In its Second Period (1551-1552) it reached important decisions on the Lord's Supper. Chemnitz examines the differences and similarities of the Catholics and the Lutherans in his second volume, pp. 221-548. In Chapter I of the Decrees (Ex 2, 221) Trent said: "The Synod teaches and openly professes that in the gracious sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, after the bread and wine have been consecrated, our Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true Man, is truly, really, and substantially contained under the outward appearance of these things which can be perceived by the senses. . . . It is certainly an intolerable disgrace that they are twisted by certain contentious and evil men to artificial and imaginary figures of speech by which the reality of the flesh and blood of Christ is denied, against the universal understanding of the Church."

We would naturally expect Chemnitz to agree with such a statement. And he does: "I simply confess truly and openly that I embrace and approve the judgment of those churches which acknowledge and teach the true and substantial presence of the body and blood in the supper in that sense which the words of the supper give in their simple, proper and genuine meaning" (Ex 2, 222).

The Tridentine fathers were well informed on the current doctrines of the Lord's Supper swirling around them in the 1550's. They were aware of the Melancthonian doctrine that the consecration does not effect the Real Presence, for in chapter III they write: "And this belief has always been in the Church of God, that immediately after the consecration the true body of our Lord and His true blood, together with His soul and divinity, are there under the form of bread and wine" (Ex 2, 241). As an added emphasis to what is said in this chapter, they add a condemnation: Canon IV: "If anyone says that, when the

consecration has been performed, there is not in the wonderful sacrament of the Eucharist the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, But only in its use, when it is received, Not however before . . . let him be anathematized" (Ex 2, 242). This first half of Canon IV comes to the heart of the issue facing the Doctrine Committee as it seeks to eliminate the thought that because of the consecration the body and blood are present before the reception.

How does Chemnitz answer the condemnation? As an honest polemicist he feels that he must make it clear that he is not a Melancthonian. He asks that if Christ had said "concerning that bread over which He had given thanks, at the moment He offered it, before the apostles ate it, 'This is my body,' were those words false until the apostles began to eat it so that the eating of the apostles first imparted truth to His words?" (Ex 2, 247). The obvious answer to this rhetorical question is, "Yes, if this is the case, then the apostles imparted truth to Christ's words."

Chemnitz then goes on to say that he will make a comparison "of the descriptions which are found in the four places of Scripture" (Ex 2, 248). Having done that, he makes an unambiguous confession: "Nevertheless the meaning is not that the blessed bread which is divided, which is offered, and which the apostles received from the hand of Christ was not the body of Christ but becomes the body of Christ when the eating of it is begun" (Ex 2, 248). Unquestionably the "second" Martin is in doctrinal agreement with the "first" Martin on the doctrine that in a legitimate sacramental service, the consecration alone effects the sacramental union before the reception.

Besides Martin Chemnitz, five other theologians were responsible for the final version of the Formula of Concord (May 28, 1577): Jakob Andrae, Nicholas Selnecker, Andrew Musculus, Christopher Koerner, David Chytraeus (Tappert, 501). It can be demonstrated from their writings other than the Formula of Concord that they agree with Chemnitz that the true presence of Christ's body and blood after the consecration but before the reception is not to be denied but confessed by the Church of God (see the *Confessional Lutheran Society Newsletter* No. 24—Trinity 1991, p. 6).

The Book of Concord in setting forth the scriptural doctrine of the consecration stoutly defends the *Sola Gratia* principle which excludes everything on the part of man in the reception of the grace of the sacrament. Faith, the eating and drinking, the carrying out of the rite or service by the assembled church—they are all excluded as effecting the body and blood in the sacrament. Man's response is not a condition for God's unilateral last will and testament. Man's response is contained in the gift of the Gospel which effects faith in the heart of man for his salvation. The cause of the real presence and of faith depends alone on the powerful creative Word of Christ. No contingencies of time or place or the response on the part of man should depotentiate the Word of the Gospel. Luther expressed this well in his great "Confession Concerning Christ's Supper": "So His Word surely is not merely a word of imitation, but a word of power which accomplishes what it expresses, Psalm 33 [:9], 'He spoke and it came to be'" (AE 37, 181).

In view of the conclusions set forth in this memorial, I would respectfully request the synod to refrain from rendering a decision on the Doctrine Committee proposal at this convention. But rather, that it would urge all pastors, professors and congregations to study intensively the biblical doctrine of the Sacrament of the Altar during the coming year.

Bjarne W. Teigen

# TREASURER'S REPORT

19-Apr-94

BALANCE SHEET

EXHIBIT I

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1993

Page 1 of 2

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>GENERAL FUND(01)</u>	<u>CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND(02)</u>	<u>BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE(03)</u>	<u>BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY(04)</u>	<u>RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE(05)</u>	<u>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Cash - checking account	\$512,675.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$512,675.63
Accounts receivable - contributions and other income	18,658.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,658.56
Inventory of publications	20,275.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,275.40
Prepaid expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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	5,494,668.46	5,494,668.46
Savings accounts and CD's	1,398.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,117.61	2,515.72
Money market funds	932.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,029.25	34,961.91
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	496,311.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,223,383.68	1,719,695.03
Notes receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	288,808.03	288,808.03
Real estate and buildings (Notes B and C)	0.00	0.00	5,671,600.00	356,198.23	365,646.52	59,000.00	6,452,444.75
	553,940.36	496,311.35	5,671,600.00	356,198.23	365,646.52	7,101,007.03	14,544,703.49
Due from (to) other funds	32,505.87	493,507.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	(526,013.01)	0.00
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$586,446.23</b>	<b>\$989,818.49</b>	<b>\$5,671,600.00</b>	<b>\$356,198.23</b>	<b>\$365,646.52</b>	<b>\$6,574,994.02</b>	<b>\$14,544,703.49</b>

19-Apr-94

BALANCE SHEET

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1993

EXHIBIT I

Page 2 of 2

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	GENERAL FUND(01)	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND(02)	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE(03)	BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY(04)	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE(05)	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	TOTAL
<b>Liabilities:</b>							
Notes payable: (Note D)							
Working capital	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
Investment program	0.00	349,076.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	349,076.65
Life Loan Plan	48,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48,500.00
Accounts payable	39,106.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	39,106.09
Accrued interest payable	4,044.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,044.16
Unexpended restricted income (Note E)	610,839.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	610,839.84
Mortgages payable	0.00	357,551.59	0.00	0.00	83,808.03	0.00	441,359.62
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>902,490.09</b>	<b>706,628.24</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>83,808.03</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,692,926.36</b>
<b>Fund balances (deficit):</b>							
<b>Unrestricted:</b>							
Designated for investment	0.00	283,190.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	770,418.91	1,053,609.16
Undesignated	(316,043.86)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(316,043.86)
	(316,043.86)	283,190.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	770,418.91	737,565.30
<b>Restricted (Note F)</b>							
Net investment in real estate and buildings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,804,575.11	5,804,575.11
	0.00	0.00	5,671,600.00	356,198.23	281,838.49	0.00	6,309,636.72
<b>Total fund balances (deficit)</b>	<b>(316,043.86)</b>	<b>283,190.25</b>	<b>5,671,600.00</b>	<b>356,198.23</b>	<b>281,838.49</b>	<b>6,574,994.02</b>	<b>12,851,777.13</b>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balances</b>	<b>\$586,446.23</b>	<b>\$989,818.49</b>	<b>\$5,671,600.00</b>	<b>\$356,198.23</b>	<b>\$365,646.52</b>	<b>\$6,574,994.02</b>	<b>\$14,544,703.49</b>

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

EXHIBIT II

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
Year ended December 31, 1993

	GENERAL FUND(01)	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND(02)	BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE(03)	BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY(04)	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE(05)	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	TOTAL
BALANCES (Deficit) - December 31, 1992	(\$299,123.84)	\$279,190.25	\$5,593,073.00	\$356,198.23	\$336,685.22	\$6,338,702.18	\$12,604,725.04
ADD:							
Bequests	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71,202.24	71,202.24
Contributions received - net	27,103.82	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	227,875.75	258,979.57
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	47,471.79	47,471.79
Portion of unrestricted estates appropriated for General Fund debt reduction and to ELS Foundation	17,846.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,923.21	26,769.64
Gain(loss) on sale of securities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,029.94	4,029.94
Principal payments on President's house charged to budget	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,032.66	0.00	3,032.66
Payments on liabilities by General Fund	(65,551.04)	0.00	61,967.08	0.00	3,583.96	0.00	(0.00)
Bethany Lutheran College net value adjustment at June 30, 1993(Note B)	0.00	0.00	16,559.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,559.92
Proceeds from Colorado Springs sale	138,054.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	138,054.30
Excess of income over expenditures and appropriations for the period	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	117,453.51	4,000.00	78,527.00	0.00	6,616.62	359,502.93	566,100.06
	(181,670.33)	283,190.25	5,671,600.00	356,198.23	343,301.84	6,698,205.11	13,170,825.10
DEDUCT:							
Excess of expenditures and appropriations over income for the period	134,373.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	134,373.53
Book value of campus houses razed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	61,463.35	0.00	61,463.35
Annuity amortization	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,762.86	11,762.86
Distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	111,448.23	111,448.23
	134,373.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	61,463.35	123,211.09	319,047.97
BALANCES (Deficit) - end of period	(\$316,043.86)	\$283,190.25	\$5,671,600.00	\$356,198.23	\$281,838.49	\$6,574,994.02	\$12,851,777.13

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

EXHIBIT III

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 Year ended December 31, 1993

(Page 1 of 3)

INCOME

Contributions:

Budgetary:

Restricted	\$30,006.55	
Unrestricted	642,387.02	\$672,393.57

Estate and trust income:

Restricted		71,202.24
Unrestricted		26,769.64

For special purposes:

General Fund debt reduction	27,103.82	
Church Extension and Loan Fund	4,000.00	
Bethany Lutheran College special	575.00	
Bethany Lutheran Seminary special	1,350.36	
Bethesda Lutheran Home	229.00	
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	25,744.48	
Faith Mission Society	1,590.50	
Foreign missions special	339,948.13	
Home missions special	18,568.36	
Aid Association for Lutherans grants:		
Archives	2,000.00	
Youth convention	2,000.00	
75th Anniversary	21,000.00	
Lutheran Brotherhood grants:		
Evangelism	3,000.00	
Task of leadership	3,000.00	
Strengthening lay leadership	3,000.00	
Home mission program subsidy(lump-sum)	40,000.00	
"World Needs"	14,204.13	
"Helping Hands"	94,396.68	
"Thoughts of Faith"	9,520.49	
75th Anniversary Offering - "Truth for Our Youth"	202,131.27	
German church	200.00	
Miscellaneous	135.00	
Camp LorRay	120.00	
WELS Lutherans for Life	370.00	
Lutheran Heritage Hour	317.00	
Australian parish	1,300.00	815,804.22

Total contributions - carried forward		1,586,169.67
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SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - CONTINUED

EXHIBIT III

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 Year ended December 31, 1993

(Page 2 of 3)

Total contributions - brought forward		\$1,586,169.67
Investment income:		
General Fund - interest - unrestricted	27,953.20	
E.L.S. Foundation - interest - restricted	246,694.98	
- restricted - current	44,741.21	
- unrestricted	19,982.34	
	-----	
Total investment income		339,371.73
Total income from all sources		----- 1,925,541.40
Less income for special purposes		----- 1,133,701.44
Total income available for current purposes - carried forward		----- 791,839.96

EXPENDITURES

Bethany Lutheran College	\$155,500.02
Bethany Lutheran Seminary	54,500.00
Home missions	274,272.50
Foreign missions	481,069.81
Education and youth	20,565.93
Evangelism	9,333.60
Christian service	21,760.82
Publications	69,367.69
Synod fund	382,168.15
"World Needs"	11,988.35
Team building	1,132.81
Strengthening lay leadership	3,411.23
75th Anniversary planning, etc.	61,801.42
Home missions planning conference	1,481.16
Visitors' conference	3,149.39
	-----
Total expenditures - carried forward	1,551,502.88

## SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - CONTINUED

EXHIBIT III

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
Year ended December 31, 1993

(Page 3 of 3)

Total income available for current purposes - brought forward		\$791,839.96
Total expenditures - brought forward	\$1,551,502.88	
Less expenditures financed by special funds:		
Home missions grants and reserves	\$156,272.50	
Foreign missions reserves	166,196.67	
"World Needs" Fund	11,988.35	
"Helping Hands" Fund	117,342.09	
Foreign Mission Seminary		
Endowment Fund income	89,531.05	
75th Anniversary planning, etc.	61,801.42	
Team building grant	1,132.81	
Strengthening lay leadership	3,411.23	
Home missions planning conference	1,481.16	
Visitors' conference grant	3,149.39	
	612,306.67	
Publications income	39,752.36	652,059.03
Expenditures financed by income available for current purposes		899,443.85
Excess of income over expenditures		(107,603.89)
APPROPRIATED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES		
Portion of unrestricted estates:		
For General Fund debt reduction	17,846.43	
To Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	8,923.21	26,769.64
Excess of expenditures and appropriations over income - (decrease) in General Fund balance		(\$134,373.53)

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 December 31, 1993

(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 (B).

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) 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, 1993. The current, endowment and reserve funds of the College are not included in the assets of the Synod. The amount of \$5,593,073.00 was determined as follows:

Per audit report of the College as of June 30, 1993:	
Total invested in plant	\$5,997,968.00
Less obligations of the plant fund	326,368.00
	-----
Total net investment in plant - June 30, 1993	\$5,671,600.00
	=====

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 December 31, 1993

(Page 2 of 3)

(C) 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	5	\$316,446.52
Appraisal:		
Outside	1	19,900.00
Internal	1	29,300.00
Totals	7	\$365,646.52

(D) Notes Payable:

The working capital note is an 6% 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 6%.

Life Loan Plan notes are amounts loaned by individuals at interest rates from zero to 6%.

(E) Unexpended Restricted Income:

Partners in the Gospel Fund income	\$228,799.09
Other home missions unexpended restricted income	17,531.55
Foreign Mission Seminary Endowment Fund income	0.00
"Helping Hands"	19,565.85
Foreign missions unexpended restricted income	270,880.10
Grants	30,289.10
"World Needs"	3,385.20
Other	40,388.95
	\$610,839.84

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

EXHIBIT IV

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 Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 December 31, 1993

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 (Page 3 of 3)

(F) 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)	6,009.00
President's Office Endowment Fund	670,851.08
Marvin and Delores Schwan Foreign Mission Trust Fund	603,125.47
Partners in the Gospel Home Missions Fund	1,753,470.65
Whipple-Olson-Wilson Endowment Fund	101,167.50
Foreign Mission Seminary Endowment Fund	1,001,982.25
General Foreign Mission Fund	139,141.17
Charitable Gift Annuity Fund	162,224.64
Home Mission Reserve Fund	123,788.23
Home Mission Expansion Fund	982,475.32
75th Anniversary Fund - "His Truth for Our Youth"	250,339.80
	-----
	\$5,804,575.11
	-----

(G) The Evangelical Lutheran Synod is contingently liable as co-signor on mortgage loans for Ascension (Eau Claire, Wisconsin), Bethany (Port Orchard, Washington), Our Savior (Lakeland, Florida) and Christ (Windsor, California).

LOANS RECEIVABLE

SCHEDULE A

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
Year ended December 31, 1993

Church Extension and Loan Fund

	TOTAL LOANS	BALANCE 12-31-92	NEW LOANS 1993	PAID 1993	TOTAL PAID	BALANCE 12-31-93
<u>CONGREGATION</u>						
Ascension - Eau Claire, Wisconsin	\$19,300.00	\$6,622.63	\$0.00	\$6,622.63	\$19,300.00	\$0.00
Bethany - Ames, Iowa	2,162.21	1,162.21	0.00	100.00	1,100.00	1,062.21
Christ - Sutherlin, Oregon	22,799.55	6,619.08	0.00	2,758.58	18,939.05	3,860.50
Faith - Oregon, Wisconsin:						
Church	155,500.62	116,240.29	0.00	1,511.04	40,771.37	114,729.25
Parsonage	65,143.02	51,625.77	0.00	2,761.73	16,278.98	48,864.04
First English - Ashland, Wisconsin	37,119.84	7,120.00	0.00	0.00	29,999.84	7,120.00
Good Shepherd - Richardson, Texas	384,977.59	133,455.01	0.00	0.00	251,522.58	133,455.01
Grace - Crookston, Minnesota	63,946.76	50,640.55	0.00	2,451.31	15,757.52	48,189.24
Heritage - Apple Valley, Minnesota	163,728.05	85,437.06	0.00	9,218.71	87,509.70	76,218.35
Lakewood - Tacoma, Washington	15,500.00	8,885.44	5,500.00	4,128.02	5,242.58	10,257.42
Our Savior - Naples, Florida	47,167.16	1,627.78	0.00	1,627.78	47,167.16	(0.00)
Peace - Colorado Springs, Colorado	130,000.00	122,006.02	0.00	122,006.02	130,000.00	0.00
Pilgrim - Waterloo, Iowa	129,821.67	41,303.91	0.00	3,438.77	91,956.53	37,865.14
Trinity - Sebastian, Florida	161,225.00	18,395.35	0.00	3,705.16	146,534.81	14,690.19
	<u>\$1,398,391.47</u>	<u>\$651,141.10</u>	<u>\$5,500.00</u>	<u>\$160,329.75</u>	<u>\$902,080.12</u>	<u>\$496,311.35</u>
<u>Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation</u>						
<u>Partners in the Gospel Home Missions Fund</u>						
Bethlehem - Warroad, Minnesota	\$54,858.31	\$44,298.61	\$5,637.83	\$1,891.54	\$6,813.41	\$48,044.90
Christ - Port St. Lucie, Florida	60,886.63	41,208.18	0.00	4,873.32	24,651.77	36,334.86
Christ the Cornerstone						
Scottsdale, Arizona	250,610.35	246,302.74	0.00	878.83	5,186.44	245,423.91
Family of God - Riviera, Arizona	127,800.00	125,745.79	0.00	4,917.66	6,971.87	120,828.13
Good Shepherd - Brownsburg, Indiana	68,000.00	55,816.13	0.00	3,948.69	16,132.56	51,867.44
New Life - Sebring, Florida	250,000.00	124,559.30	125,440.70	250,000.00	250,000.00	0.00
Peace - Kissimmee, Florida	100,086.44	0.00	100,086.44	0.00	0.00	100,086.44
Saved by Grace - Gresham, Oregon	325,469.25	0.00	325,469.25	5,400.83	5,400.83	320,068.42
	<u>\$1,237,810.98</u>	<u>\$637,930.75</u>	<u>\$556,634.22</u>	<u>\$271,910.87</u>	<u>\$315,156.88</u>	<u>\$922,654.10</u>
<u>Home Mission Reserve Fund</u>						
Saved by Grace - Gresham, Oregon	\$97,500.00	\$97,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$97,500.00
<u>Home Mission Expansion Fund</u>						
South Lakeland, Florida	\$203,229.58	\$10,075.00	\$193,154.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$203,229.58

## FINANCES

### ACTION OF THE SYNOD

#### **Resolution No. 1: Financial Reports**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts:*

*A. The report of the Board for Stewardship,*

*B. The report of the Laymen's Delegates Equalization Fund Committee,*

*C. The report of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation,*

*D. The report of the 75th Anniversary Thankoffering Committee,*

*E. The report of the Planning and Coordinating Committee,*

*F. The report of the Treasurer, and,*

*G. The report of the Board of Trustees.*

#### **Resolution No. 2: Coordination of Fund Drives**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Stewardship has been directed by the synod to coordinate all requests for funds from agencies associated with the synod,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That every agency associated with the synod cooperate fully with the Board for Stewardship in planning and implementing requests for funds from the synod membership.*

#### **Resolution No. 3: 75th Anniversary Thankoffering**

*WHEREAS, The thankoffering, "His Truth for Our Youth," celebrating the synod's 75th anniversary is drawing to a successful close in October, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Lord has opened the hearts of His people to support the offering with prayers, and with gifts so far totaling more than \$300,000, and there is hope that finally as much as \$400,000 may be received,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the convention shows its gratitude to the Lord by rising to sing "Now Thank We All Our God,"*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That all synod members be urged to remember this offering in its closing days, so that it might reach its fullest potential.*

#### **Resolution No. 4: The Deficit**

*WHEREAS, The deficit in the Synod's General Fund has increased this past year by \$16,920.02 to a total of \$316,043.86, and,*

*WHEREAS, This situation is a reason not for alarm, but for concern,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the trustees be encouraged in their planning not only to prevent this deficit from growing, but actually to diminish it.*

#### **Resolution No. 5: Various Gifts and Bequests**

*WHEREAS, The work of the synod has benefited greatly this past year from gifts and bequests, both large and small,*

A. *BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the Lord for moving the hearts of His people to remember His work in their estate planning, and,*

B. *BE IT RESOLVED, That we encourage all synod members to consider supporting the work of the Lord's Church in this way.*

**Resolution No. 6: LACE**

*WHEREAS, LACE has provided numerous opportunities for synod congregations to finance important projects, and,*

*WHEREAS, This organization depends on investments from individuals in order to carry on its helpful work,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod's members be encouraged to consider LACE in their investment decisions.*

**Resolution No. 6: Budget for 1995**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the following budget be adopted for 1995:*

<b>BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE</b>		
Operations	\$157,000	
Maintenance on College	21,500	
Maintenance on residences	4,000	
Interest	10,300	
Faculty Housing Allowances	68,000	
		260,800
<b>BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY</b>		
Operations	61,000	
Maintenance on residence	2,000	
		63,000
<b>CHRISTIAN SERVICE</b>		22,200
<b>EDUCATION AND YOUTH</b>		23,000
<b>EVANGELISM</b>		9,000
<b>FOREIGN MISSIONS</b>		108,000
<b>HOME MISSIONS</b>		118,000
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>		19,000
<b>SYNOD FUND</b>		
Interest	9,000	
Deferred Giving Counselor	23,000	
Boards, Committees, Etc.	52,000	
Administration	43,000	
House Payment	15,000	
		142,000
<b>CAPITAL BUDGET</b>		25,000
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>		<b>\$790,000</b>

MISCELLANEOUS  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD

**Resolution No. 1: Organization of Floor Committees**

*WHEREAS, The 1993 synod convention resolved "that the Self Study Committee examine the desirability of establishing a separate floor committee for each (of the following) standing committees: The Board for Evangelism, the Board for Home Missions" (1993 Synod Report, p. 151, Resolution #8), and,*

*WHEREAS, It is difficult for one review committee adequately to examine the extensive work of the Boards of Evangelism, Home and Foreign Missions, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Committee on Worship also has important work in keeping us informed on the theology of worship, examining trends in liturgy and currently is at work to produce a new Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary, and,*

*WHEREAS, The convention review committee on Miscellaneous Matters has sufficient work without reviewing also the work of the Committee on Worship,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That separate convention review committees be established for the Boards for Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Evangelism and the Committee on Worship and that these changes be put into effect at the 1994 synod convention.*

**Resolution No. 2: Time of Synod Sunday Service**

*WHEREAS, The memorial from Mt. Olive Lutheran church regarding the changing of the time of the Synod Sunday service was assigned to the Self Study Committee (1993 Synod Report, page 190), and,*

*WHEREAS, Holding Synod Sunday Worship services in the afternoon would not conflict with the worship services of local congregations, and,*

*WHEREAS, An afternoon service would make it possible for many of our synodical delegates, pastors, and others to attend,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod Sunday Worship service be held at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon for the 1995 convention, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That this practice be re-evaluated at the 1995 convention.*

**Resolution No. 3: Laymen's Equalization**

*WHEREAS, The Laymen's Equalization Committee has requested a clarification of the Equalization rules regarding mileage paid to delegates who travel accompanied by a second delegate,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That rule 3a, page 44 of the Synod Handbook be amended to read: "Mileage will be paid at the rate of \$.15 per mile if traveling alone and \$.20 per mile if accompanied by a second delegate or a pastor."*

#### **Resolution No. 4: Guidelines for Board for Education and Youth**

*WHEREAS, The synod at its 1993 convention resolved to increase the membership of the Board for Education and Youth by two members (1993 Synod Report, p. 120, Resolution #9A), and,*

*WHEREAS, The synod directed the Self Study Committee "in consultation with the Board for Education and Youth to investigate the feasibility of carrying out an appropriate division of the board" (Resolution #9B), and,*

*WHEREAS, This consultation has revealed that the board carries out this division internally according to varying methods,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the directive to the Self Study Committee is completed.*

#### **Resolution No. 5: Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona**

*WHEREAS, An unfortunate situation arose in Christ the Cornerstone Congregation, of Scottsdale, AZ, which has split the congregation and has resulted in the removal of five men from membership, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Ad Hoc Committee made a thorough investigation of this situation and found the action taken against these five men to be unScriptural, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Ad Hoc Committee report was reviewed and confirmed by the Circuit Visitors, the Trustees, the Board for Home Missions, the Doctrine Committee, and Committee 13 of the 1993 Evangelical Lutheran Synod Convention, and,*

*WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in Convention in 1993 concurred with the Ad Hoc Committee Report,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Miscellaneous Committee Report Resolution No. 1 of the 1993 ELS Convention be the answer to the memorial submitted by the Reverend Harry Bartels et al., and to the official response of Christ the Cornerstone congregation.*

#### **Resolution No. 1**

*Subject: The suspension of the Rev. Robert McMiller and the portion of Christ the Cornerstone Congregation which is aligned with him.*

*WHEREAS, An unfortunate situation has arisen in Christ the Cornerstone Congregation, of Scottsdale, AZ, which has split the congregation and has resulted in the removal of five men from membership, and,*

*WHEREAS, These members who have been disciplined and removed have appealed to the synod, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Ad Hoc Committee has found the action taken against the five men to be unScriptural, and,*

*WHEREAS, The synod president, on the basis of the Ad Hoc Committee Report, has suspended the Rev. Robert McMiller and that portion of the congregation aligned with him,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts the Ad Hoc Committee Report, and,*

*Negative votes to Resolution A were registered by H. Vetter, G. Haugen, R. Fehr.*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod urges that the unScriptural discipline of the five men be lifted by the Rev. Robert McMiller and the portion of the congregation which is aligned with him, and,*

*Negative vote to Resolution B was registered by H. Vetter.*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod upholds the suspension of the Rev. Robert McMiller and the portion of the congregation aligned with him until the five men be taken back into full membership, and,*

*D. BE IT RESOLVED, That, if the Rev. Robert McMiller and that portion of the congregation aligned with him, after lifting the suspension of the five men, be willing to meet with the Ad Hoc Committee or its representative (its choice) during the remainder of 1993 to resolve differences, then the above suspension be reconsidered, and,*

*E. BE IT RESOLVED, That if the Ad Hoc Committee can report to the synod president satisfactory progress in resolving the impasse, including the restoration to full membership of the five members who were improperly disciplined, the above suspension be lifted, and,*

*F. BE IT RESOLVED, That this resolution be the answer to memorials, the protest and the appeals regarding the Christ the Cornerstone Congregation, Scottsdale, Arizona matter sent to the 1993 convention.*

*Negative votes to Resolutions C, D, E, and F were registered by H. Vetter and J. Ruppel. Abstained: R. Fehr.*

**Resolution No. 6: General issues related to the Memorial submitted by the Rev. Harry Bartels et al.**

*WHEREAS, The memorial raises certain questions regarding the relationship between pastor and congregation,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod urge the president to assign a synod convention essay dealing with the shepherd and his flock and their relationship to the synod to be presented at a future convention.*

**Resolution No. 7: Synodical Discipline and Appeals**

*WHEREAS, A memorial to implement a "Court of Appeals" was referred to the Self Study Committee (1992 Synod Report, p. 167, Resolution #7), and,*

*WHEREAS, A memorial to produce the appropriate guidelines for implementing an Appeals Court and an adjudication*

process was referred to the Self Study Committee (1993 Synod Report, p. 211, Resolution #2), and,

*WHEREAS, Concerns were expressed by several on the floor committee, indicating preference for a permanent standing committee as a court of appeals; while several others preferred to see a court of appeals elected for each case, and,*

*WHEREAS, Specific attention was drawn by the floor committee to the methods for choosing the court of appeals; several preferring that the nominating committee recommend the slate of delegates, while several others preferred the selection process recommended by the Self Study Committee,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Self Study Committee be commended for its diligent attention to the matter, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Self Study Committee be given the additional year requested for completion of this work, paying attention to the areas noted above in whereas number 3 and number 4, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That all concerned members of synod, forward any recommendations to the Self Study Committee in time for consideration in the Self Study Committee work before the 1995 Convention.*

#### **Resolution No. 8: Terms of Presidential Office**

*WHEREAS, The 1986 Synod Convention after much consideration voted to have a full-time synod president, and,*

*WHEREAS, The full-time presidency has been very beneficial to the synod, and,*

*WHEREAS, Continuity is important in the office of president, and,*

*WHEREAS, Limiting the term of office to only two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms may eliminate a well qualified man from the office,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod continues its present policy in regard to the terms of the presidential office, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its gratitude to President Orvick for all his efforts in making the full-time presidency a blessing to the synod.*

#### **Resolution No. 9: Self Study Committee**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the present Self Study Committee continues for one year and that it brings to the 1995 convention recommendations to make the Self Study Committee a permanent board and also brings proper procedure for it to be elected by the convention.*

#### **Resolution No. 10: Synodical Finances**

*WHEREAS, The memorial in regard to synodical finances has been referred to the Floor Committee on Miscellaneous Matters, and,*

*WHEREAS, Our synod has been blessed with increasing financial resources, and,*

*WHEREAS, These increased blessings require additional reporting,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we refer the entire memorial to the Synod Board of Trustees, and Regents, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we ask the Board of Trustees and Regents how best to disseminate financial information, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That we take into account the possibility that this additional accounting may require more manpower, and,*

*D. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees and Regents report back to the 1995 Convention regarding this matter, and,*

*E. BE IT RESOLVED, That we commend and thank Mr. Leroy Meyer, our treasurer, for all his fine, faithful work.*

**Resolution No. 11: Vacancies on Permanent Boards**

*WHEREAS, There is a need to have the full number of members on the various boards throughout the entire year to carry on internal committee work, and,*

*WHEREAS, There may be more than one vacancy on a particular board during the year which would severely handicap the work of a board,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the president of synod continue to appoint men to fill vacancies on the permanent boards of synod which may occur before the next convention.*

**Resolution No. 12:**

*WHEREAS, There is a need to have more information concerning candidates for the various boards whether they are incumbents, newly nominated or appointed,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Nominating Committee to publish a biographical sketch and other helpful information for each of the candidates on the ballot.*

**Resolution No. 13: Date of the 1995 Evangelical Lutheran Synod Convention**

*BE IT RESOLVED, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod convenes June 18-22, 1995, at Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, Mankato, Minnesota.*

*MINUTES*

*ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

**Resolution No. 1: Secretary's Minutes**

*WHEREAS, The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for Synod Sunday, June 19, 1994, 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 20, 1994, 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 20, 1994, 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 21, 1994, 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 session, June 21, 1994, 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 22, 1994, 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 22, 1994, 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 23, 1994.*

**PASTORAL CONFERENCE RECORDS  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Review of Records**

*WHEREAS, The General Pastoral Conference and several of the regional Pastoral and Winkel Conferences submitted their records for review at this convention, and,*

*WHEREAS, These records reveal comprehensive and well-planned agendas involving worship, valuable theological presentations and discussions, questions of casuistry and synodical matters, and,*

*WHEREAS, Pastoral Conferences promote pastoral fellowship, encouragement and growth and thus benefit the congregations of synod,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That all Pastoral Conferences submit their records for review at each synodical convention, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Pastoral Conferences submitting records this year be commended for their efforts in planning and implementing their fine agendas, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the congregations of synod take an ongoing interest in, and support of, their pastors' attendance at the Pastoral Conferences.*

**RESOLUTIONS**  
**ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1:**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the following communications be approved:*

*Letters in acknowledgment to greetings have been sent to the following in the name of the assembled convention:*

*The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Rev. Dr. A. L. Barry*

*MSELP President, Timothy Erickson and Sinodo Evangelico Luterano del Peru President, Abraham Rosario, Lima, Peru*

*The Lutheran Confessional Synod, Decatur, Illinois, Bishop-elect the Rev. Randy L. DeJaynes*

*Lutheran Confessional Church in Sweden and Norway, Pastor Christer Hugo*

*The Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference President, Prof. Wilbert R. Gawrisch*

*Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia, the Rev. Daniel K. Schroeder*

*The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church President, Gerhard Wilde of Zwickau, Germany*

*A letter of congratulations has been sent to the Rev. Richard Newgard*

*Letters of condolences have been sent to Mrs. Norman Harstad and the family of Dr. Neelak Tjernagel*

# CHURCH LOCATIONS AND THE TIME OF SERVICE

(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 Road	9:30	K. Mellon
		(W 8:30 & 10:45)	
Lakeland-Peace	1010 Colony Drive	10:30	W. Mack
Naples-Our Savior	10,000 Airport Road N.	9:00	R. Dale
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	3725 Hammock Rd.	10:00	J. Willitz
Vero Beach-Grace	1150 41st Ave.	10:00	K. Smith

### GEORGIA

Kennesaw, GA	Mark Grannemann, 2875 Stilesboro RD, Kennesaw, GA 30144		
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## CIRCUIT NO. 2

### MASSACHUSETTS

Brewster-Trinity	1883 Main Street (Route 6A)	9:30	D. Webber
Burlington-Pinewood	24 Wilmington Rd.	10:45	T. Fox
		(S 10:00)	

## CIRCUIT NO. 3

### INDIANA

Brownsburg-Good Shepherd	204 East Main	10:15	H. Bartels
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### MICHIGAN

Alpena-Faith	233 Cavanaugh	9:00	H. Gieschen
Detroit-St. Matthew	4430 St. James	10:30	L. Vinton
		(S 9:30)	
E. Jordan-Faith 02145	Wilson Rd.	11:30	J. Londgren
Hillman-Faith	Rt. 1 Box 218, M-32 East	11:00	H. Gieschen
Holland-Lord of Life meeting at Glerum Elementary School			
	342 W. Lakewood Blvd.	9:00	M. Smith
Holton-Holton Evangelical	6655 Marvin Road	10:00	M. Krentz
Midland-Holy Scripture	4525 Cook Road	9:00	P. Schneider
Saginaw-Gloria Dei	5250 Mackinaw Rd.	8:00	J. K. Smith
		& 10:45	
Suttons Bay-First	321 St. Mary's Ave. P.O. Box 189	10:00	K. Uhlenbrauck

### OHIO

Deshler-Peace	5-039 Rd. G	9:30	D. Basel
Weston-Grace	20425 Taylor St. P.O. Box 304	10:00	R. Fyffe

**CIRCUIT NO. 4****ILLINOIS**

Chicago-Emmaus	5440 West Gladys Ave,	10:45	Vacant
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	P. Zager
		(S 9:00)	

**INDIANA**

Hobart-Grace Lutheran Church of Northwest Indiana (presently meeting at Redeemer Lutheran Church)	3930 Central Ave., Lake Station, IN 46405	8:00	F. E. Lams
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**WISCONSIN**

Cottage Grove-Western			
Koshkonong	5 miles S., 3 miles E. of Cottage Grove	10:00 (S 9:30)	J. A. Moldstad Sr.
Madison-Grace	1 South Rosa Rd.	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	Box 146 35181 Wisconsin	7:45 & 10:15 (S 7:45 & 9:30)	G. Schmelting
Oregon-Faith	143 Washington St.	9:00	J. Korthals
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	H. Larson
		S 7:00 p.m. Saturday	

**CIRCUIT NO. 5****WISCONSIN**

Amherst Junction-Our Savior's	5 N.E.	9:30	W. Neumann
Ashland-First English	701 Vaughn Ave.	8:30 (Nov.-Apr.) 10:00 (May-Oct.)	B. Huehn
Bloomer-Good Shepherd	1504 Vine Street	10:30 (S 10:00)	R. Holtz
Clintonville-St. Paul	31 Park St. Box 115	10:30 (S 9:45)	R. Sawall
Eau Claire-Ascension	1500 Peterson Ave.	9:00	J. Krueger
Eau Claire-Concordia	3715 London Road 7:00 p.m. Monday	8:00 & 10:30 S 9:00	F. Theiste
Eau Claire-Pinehurst	3304 Fern Ct.	9:00	J. Wuebben
Elderon-Our Savior's	Hwy. 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)	R. Sawall

**CIRCUIT NO. 6**

**IOWA**

Ames-Bethany	3109 Diamond	11:00	D. Meyer
Calmar-Trinity	Clark & Charles	8:30 or 10:30 (S 8:00 or 10:00)	M. Marozick
Forest City-Forest	546 West M. St.	10:45	D. Schlicht
Lake Mills-Lake Mills	1st Ave. N. & Grant St.	8:30	A. Merseth
Lake Mills-Lime Creek	4N, 1W Lake Mills, IA	9:45 or 11:00	A. Merseth
Lawler-Saude	10 N 1 W	*	M. DeGarmeaux
New Hampton-Jerico	9 N 3E	*	M. DeGarmeaux
New Hampton-Redeemer	611 West Court	8:30 or 10:30 (S 8:00 or 10:00)	M. Marozick
Northwood-First Shell Rock	Central & 15th	10:30	A. Merseth
Northwood-Somber	10W 1S	9:45 or 11:00	A. Merseth
Parkersburg-Faith	608 6th St. P.O. Box 279	10:15 (S 9:30)	D. Larson
Riceville-Immanuel	Riceville, IA	8:30	A. Merseth
Scarville-Center	5 miles S	*	T. Rank
Scarville-Scarville	County Rd. A-16 & Logan St.	*	T. Rank
Thompson-Zion	Box 42, Thompson	9:00	D. Schlicht
Thornton-Richland	300 Elm St.	10:30 (S 10:00)	K. Dethlefsen
Waterloo-Pilgrim	3815 Ansborough	9:30	G. Haugen
Waterville-East Paint Creek	2N	*	P. Madson
Waukon-West Paint Creek	6E	*	P. Madson

**MINNESOTA**

Albert Lea-Our Savior's	320 W. College St.	8:00 & 10:45 (S 9:00)	W. Halvorson
Hartland-Hartland	404 Broadway	10:45 (S 9:00)	D. Schmidt
Manchester-Manchester	Manchester	9:30 (S 10:30)	D. Schmidt

**CIRCUIT NO. 7**

**MINNESOTA**

Audubon-Immanuel	Highway 10	9:30	M. Doepel
Bagley-Our Savior's	5 miles W on Highway 2	9:00	M. Wold
Crookston-Grace	1221 Barette St.	8:30	Vicar R. Pederson
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	Vicar R. Pederson
Grygla-St. Petri	3W 1/2N		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
Okee-Oak Park	8N 4E	11:00 (S 10:00)	Vacant

Trail-Mount Olive	Trail	8:45 (S 8:30)	Vacant
Trail-Nazareth	9 mi. N 1 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	10:15	M. Madson
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>			
Mayville-First American	213 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)	D. Hoyord
Belview-Our Savior's	Main Street	11:00 or 8:30	M. Teigen
Belview-Rock Dell	4 miles NE	8:30 or 11:00	M. Teigen
Cottonwood-English	110 E. Main St.	9:00 (S 8:30)	J. Smith
Gaylord-Norwegian Grove	8 S. of Gaylord	9:00	C. Ferkenstad
Golden Valley-King of Grace	6000 Duluth St.	8:15 & 10:45 (S 8:15 & 10:00)	E. Ekhoft D. Moldstad
Jasper-Rose Dell Trinity	Jasper	9:00	J. Dukleth
Luverne-Bethany	720 North Kniss	10:30	J. Dukleth
Mankato-Mt. Olive	1123 Marsh St.	8:30 & 10:45 (S 8:30 & 10:00)	R. Newgard G. Reichwald
Princeton-Bethany	801 So. 6th St.	8:15 & 10:45 (S 9:00)	R. Lawson
Princeton-Our Saviour's	18977 17th St.	9:45 (S 8:30)	R. Fehr
St. Peter-Norseland	10 NW of St. Peter, Hwy. #22	9:00 or 10:30	C. Ferkenstad
Tracy-Zion	2nd and Emory Sts.	10:15	N. A. Madson

#### CIRCUIT NO. 9

#### MISSOURI

Cape Girardeau-Scriptural	5 mi. N. of Cape Girardeau (County Rd. 635)	8:30	R. Tragasz
Jefferson City-Peace	7808 New Church Rd.	9:00	M. Ernst
Piedmont-Grace	114 E. Green St.	11:30	R. Tragasz

#### 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	3163 Maricopa Ave.	9:00	H. Huhnerkoch
Bullhead City- Family of God Lutheran Church	1863 Panadero Rd. Fort Mojave, AZ	9:00 S 10:15	C. Wosje
			Jan.-Mar. 8:00 & 10:30

**CALIFORNIA**

Bell Gardens-Christ the King	6541 Eastern Avenue	9:00	P. Lehmann
Bishop-Our Savior	162 Sneden St.	9:30	S. Scheiderer
Chico-Chico	1046 Arbutus	10:30	R. Waldschmidt
Escondido-St. Paul	1418 Bear Valley Parkway	10:00	T. Gullixson
Grass Valley-Shepherd of the Hills	Hwy. 174	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 Road	10:30	D. Sabrowsky
Yuba City-Bethel	1480 Hayne Ave.	8:30	R. Waldschmidt

**CIRCUIT NO. 11****OREGON**

Grants Pass-Our Savior	230 Buysman Way	10:00	J. Ruppel
Gresham-Saved by Grace	2010 NE Division St.	9:30	N. Krause
Hillsboro-Grace	4435 S.E. Tualatin Valley Hwy.	10:00	J. Burkhardt
Hood River-Concordia	11th & Pine St.	9:00	J. Larson
Klamath Falls-Christ	127 N. Spring St.	9:30	J. Braun
Myrtle Creek-St. Matthew	436 N. Old Pac Hwy.	11:00	F. Fiedler III
Sutherlin-Christ	161 W. Second St.	8:30	F. Fiedler III
The Dalles-Bethany	P.O. Box 1237	10:30	K. Anderson

**WASHINGTON**

Mt. Vernon-St. Luke	1524 E. Blackburn Rd.	11:00 & 9:30	J. Dalke
Port Orchard-Bethany	151 Tremont W	8:15 & 11:00	E. Bryant
Tacoma-Lakewood	10202 112th St. S.W.	11:00 (S 10:00)	H. Mosley
Tacoma-Parkland	12309 Pacific Ave.	8:30	G. Obenberger
	P.O. Box 44006	& 11:00	A. Ring
Yelm-Our Redeemer	805 Yelm Ave. E.	9:30	J. Carter
		(S 9:00)	
		Thurs. 7:00 p.m.)	

\*Consult Pastor.

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### **Bethany Lutheran Elementary School**

151 Tremont West  
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