

# Messengers of Peace

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50th Anniversary Celebration  
of  
Bethany Lutheran  
Theological Seminary



**79th Annual Convention of the E.L.S.**

Bethany Lutheran College  
Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary  
Mankato, Minnesota  
June 16-20, 1996

**79th REPORT  
REGULAR CONVENTION  
of the  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**

**and the  
40th Annual Meeting of the  
BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE  
CORPORATION**

Convention Theme:  
**"PREPARING MESSENGERS OF PEACE"**

Essay:  
Preparing Messengers of Peace

Essayist:  
Prof. J. B. Madson

**Compiled by  
Alf Merseeth, Secretary**

**Held at  
BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE  
BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
MANKATO, MINNESOTA 56001  
JUNE 16-20, 1996**

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## CONVENTION FOCUS



Fifty years ago, 1946, marks the simple beginning of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, the "School of the Prophets" of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The 1996 Synod Convention, therefore, taking into account the 50th Anniversary of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, was properly focused on the ministry of the Gospel of Salvation as it was ordained and preserved by God Himself down through the centuries of Christian history.

The essay for the convention "PREPARING MESSENGERS OF PEACE" was prepared by Prof. J. B. Madson who, as a professor at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary for 26 years, has been instrumental in PREPARING the MESSENGERS OF PEACE that have come out as graduates of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary.

In the first half of his essay Prof. Madson capably discussed the training that God provided for those whom He chose, either directly or through other means, to be His messengers or chosen servants. Since it is the 50th anniversary of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary he goes into detail on the preparing of MESSENGERS OF PEACE in the 75-year history of the synod and especially focuses on the 50-year history of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary.

In the second half of the essay Prof. Madson focuses on the public ministry, its work and the preparation needed to be properly trained for that work as servants of the Master. To show how the MESSENGERS OF PEACE are PREPARED for their work the following general categories of theology studied at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary were discussed in detail. "Biblical Theology," "Systematic Theology," "Historical Theology," and "Practical Theology." Through such study at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary young men are prepared to undertake the work of being MESSENGERS OF PEACE.

Prof. Madson concludes with this paragraph of exhortation: "As long, therefore, as our Lord permits us to conduct Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary as a school for preparing messengers of this spiritual and eternal peace, may we heartily sup-

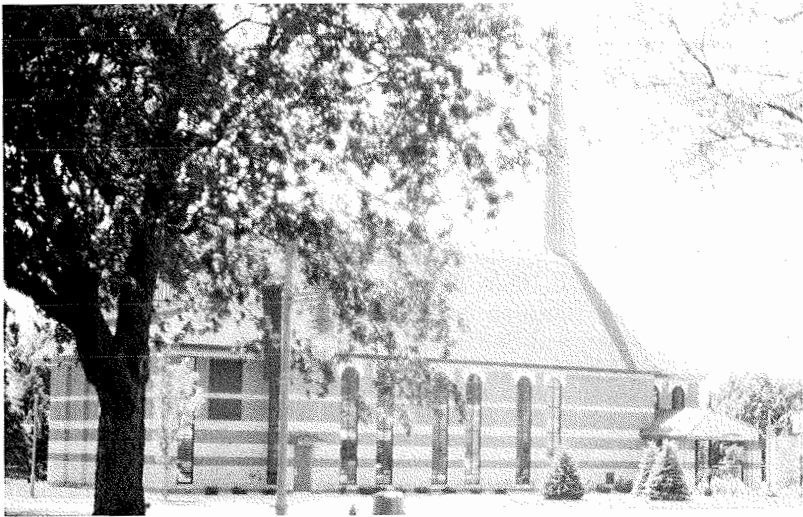
port the endeavor by encouraging God's gifted young men to study for this high calling, by continually praying for the success of this preparatory work and by willingly offering our gifts, in order that the peace of God which passes all understanding may continue to sound forth among us in the manner described by Nicolai Gruntvig:

Peace to us the church doth tell,  
'Tis her welcome and farewell,  
Peace was our baptismal dower,  
Peace shall bless our dying hour;  
Peace be with you, full and free,  
Now and through eternity."

**THE WORD OF OUR GOD STANDS FOREVER!**

## **THE CONVENTION DAY BY DAY**

### **SYNOD SUNDAY June 16, 1996**



**Trinity Chapel**

The 79th Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 40th Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation had opened on Saturday June 15, 1996 with activities pertaining to the dedication of Trinity Chapel. The evening concluded with a Choral Vesper Service at 8:45 at which Prof. J. B. Madson, former Chaplain of Bethany Lutheran College was the speaker.



**Chancel painting by William Bukowski**



**Above: The Rev. Raymond Branstad  
and The Rev. Mark DeGarmeaux**

**Left: Ascension of Christ**

On Sunday June 16 there were two identical Dedication Services at 11:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. At these two services the assembly sang "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty," "One Thing Needful," and "Built on the Rock the Church Doth Stand." President Orvick based his message on Romans 1,16 and emphasized the theme: "Trinity Chapel: Symbol and Source." A symbol of the things that are important in our Christian faith and a source of our strength to remain steadfast in that faith. The official dedication of Trinity Chapel took place at an open air service at 2:00. The Rev. Raymond Branstad, chairman of the Board of Regents, read the rite of dedication.



**Outdoor Dedication Service**

At 7:30 p.m. the assembly gathered again in Trinity Chapel for the commemoration service of the 50th Anniversary of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary and the graduation of the seminary class of 1996. President W. W. Petersen was the speaker for the occasion emphasizing that the seminary, since its beginning in 1946, has had professors who have followed the old path of the Word of God and it is hoped that all those who graduate from this institution will follow that good way also. Prof. J. Moldstad, Jr. served as liturgist.

The Rev. Raymond Branstad, chairman of the Board of Regents, presented diplomas to the following: Erik Gernander, Jerome Gernander, Konstantin Mamberger, Anthony Pittenger, Stephen Schmidt, Terry Schultz and Bruce Schwark.

A reception in the Great Room in Old Main followed the service.



**Erik Gernander, Anthony Pittenger, Jerome Gernander, Stephen Schmidt, Terry Schultz, Konstantin Mamberger, Bruce Schwark**

## **MONDAY June 17, 1996**

The first working day of the 79th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 40th Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation opened with a devotion by the Convention Chaplain, the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad.



**Convention in Session**

The assembly sang "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now." Using John 21,15 as his text Chaplain Ferkenstad emphasized the thought that "Jesus, the Risen Christ, has described the work of Christian pastors when He instructs them, "Feed My Lambs." The pastors are to "Feed" the flock of believers with the pure Word and Sacraments always remembering that they are the Lord's for they were purchased by Him with His life and blood.



Secretary Merseth called the roll to which 74 permanent voting members and 29 permanent advisory members responded or were present by the end of the first working day.

The Credentials Committee represented by G. Haugen recommended the seating of 91 delegates that had been certified by their congregations. The assembly resolved that these be seated as voting members of the convention and President Orvick declared the 79th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 40th 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 presented his message to the convention in which he focused on the thought that we come together at convention to "Encourage One Another in Our Work and in Our Lives as Christians."

1. We encourage one another to continue steadfastly in the Apostle's doctrine and faith.
2. We encourage one another to have an attitude of thanksgiving to the Lord.
3. We encourage one another to work.

A number of greetings that had been sent to the convention were read. These were referred to the Resolutions Committee.

The convention began electing its Convention Committees. Time was called and the chaplain closed the morning session by reading 1 Timothy 6,11-12.

The afternoon devotion was conducted by the Rev. James Krueger, Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The assembly sang "Lord, Pour Thy Spirit from on High." Pastor Krueger read Ephesians 4, 7-16, led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

The convention completed the election of its working committees, adopted the convention program, seated an additional 35 delegates and recessed so the convention committees could meet to prepare resolutions for the convention's consideration.

## **TUESDAY June 18, 1996**

The Tuesday morning devotion, held in Trinity Chapel, was in the form of a Commissioning Service for the Rev. Othoniel Rodriguez as missionary to Chile and Ordination and Commissioning for Candidate Terry Schultz as missionary to Peru.

The assembly sang "Spread, Oh Spread, Thou Mighty Word," "Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying," and "Saints of God the Dawn is Brightening." The liturgist was Missionary James Olsen, Pastor Wayne Halvorson preached the sermon and President Orvick performed the Rite of Ordination and Commissioning.

After the usual preliminaries and a greeting from the Lutheran Confessional Synod brought by James Heiser, the con-



**Terry Schultz  
and  
Othoniel  
Rodriguez**

vention considered the report of its Synodical Membership Committee. Eight pastors and four congregations were received into membership.

The order of business called for the election of the secretary and the treasurer of the synod.

President Orvick reminded the assembly that the Rev. Alf Merseth has requested that he not be considered for re-election to the office of secretary. Pastor Merseth was presented with a plaque commemorating his 41 years as a trustee and 24 years as secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Pastor Merseth expressed his thanks for having been given the opportunity and the privilege to serve in such an exciting time in the synod. He was acknowledged by the applause of the assembly.

After a nominating ballot and two election ballots, President Orvick declared the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad to be elected as Secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for a term of four years.

After a nominating ballot and one election ballot President Orvick declared Mr. Leroy W. Meyer to be elected as Treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for a term of four years.

Announcements were made.

The chaplain closed the session by reading from 2 Timothy 4.

The Tuesday afternoon devotion was conducted by the Rev. Roger Holtz, Bloomer, Wisconsin. The assembly sang "How Beauteous are Their Feet." Pastor Holtz read Romans 10,8-15, led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the blessing.

After the usual preliminaries the pastors and members of the congregations that had just been accepted into membership in the synod were invited to come forward to bring a greeting and be acknowledged by the applause of the assembly.

#### **Higher Education Presentation:**

President W. Petersen spoke of the great blessing it is to be able to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Bethany

Lutheran Theological Seminary. The seminary is carrying out its purpose, it is training "Messengers of Peace."

President M. Meyer spoke of the many blessings that have been showered upon Bethany Lutheran College. The college has always had a dedicated faculty and this past year had a student body of over 400 students for the first time in its history. The expansion of the facilities is still continuing.

#### **Home Mission Presentation:**

The Rev. Matthew Thompson showed slides of the beginning and the progress of the mission, Resurrection Lutheran Church, in Winter Haven, Florida.

#### **Education and Youth:**

The Rev. Mark Bartels made an announcement about the Lutheran Youth Convention and a book which the Board for Education and Youth has prepared and which is being distributed at this convention.

#### **Foreign Mission Presentation:**

Missionary James Olsen spoke of his work as a missionary in Peru and now in Chile where the Christian Church of the Reformation has been organized with about 100 baptized members.

The convention considered the report of its Home Missions Committee and heard a report from its "Messengers of Peace" thankoffering committee.

The chaplain closed the session with prayer.

### **WEDNESDAY June 19, 1996**

The convention had the privilege of having President Gerhard Wilde of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Germany as its Wednesday morning devotion speaker.

The assembly sang "Lord Jesus, Who Art Come."

Using 2 Corinthians 5,18-19 as his text President Wilde spoke of the preparing of "Messengers of Peace" as one of the greatest needs and functions of the church. What a joy it is for these servants of the Lord to be ordained and go into the harvest field of the Lord with the message of reconciliation.

The devotion closed with prayer and the blessing.

After the normal preliminaries President Orvick introduced Prof. J. B. Madson who read the first part of his essay "Preparing Messengers of Peace." Discussion followed until recess.

After recess the convention considered the reports of its committees on Christian Service and Finances.

The chaplain closed the session with a reading from 1 Thessalonians 5.

The Wednesday afternoon session was opened with the singing of "Send, O Lord, Thy Holy Spirit on Thy Servants Now We Pray."

The convention began consideration of the reports of its committees on Miscellaneous Matters and on Doctrine.

An Anniversary Service was held honoring the following for their years of service: M. E. Tweit—60 years; Paul Anderson—50 years; J. B. Madson—50 years; Alf Merseth—50 years; Leonard Buelow—40 years; John Krueger—40 years; Harold Vetter—40 years; James Wuebben—40 years; Tosten Skaaland—25 years; John Smith—25 years.

The assembly sang “Lord of the Church We Humbly Pray.”

Pastor Herbert Larson using Ephesians 4,11-12 as his text observed that an anniversary is a time to look backwards to the years of service with thanksgiving and also to look forward to the remaining years, and even to eternity, with hope and assurance in Christ our Lord.

He led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the Benediction.

After recess the convention elected its Nominations Committee for the 1997 Convention. It consists of the following: Pastors Joel Willitz, Paul Anderson, J. K. Smith, Erwin Ekhoﬀ and laymen Wilbur Lieske, Don Heiliger, John Bruss, Sr. and Curtis Mantey.

The convention completed its consideration of the report of its Doctrine Committee.

The convention Communion Service was held in Trinity Chapel on Wednesday evening at 8:00 p.m. The Rev. Gaylin Schmeling was the speaker and the Rev. Donald Moldstad was the celebrant.

## **THURSDAY June 20, 1996**

The Thursday morning devotion was conducted by the Rev. Matthew Thompson, Winter Haven, Florida.

The Honor Choir opened the devotion with song.

Pastor Thompson, using Acts 20,28-31 as his text, focused his message on the theme: “Messengers of Peace are Guardians of Christ’s Word.”

President Carl Gurgel addressed the convention bringing greetings from the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. He expressed joy at being present to experience and enjoy the fellowship that we have together. He was acknowledged by the applause of the assembly.

Essayist Madson read the second section of his essay delineating the curriculum used in Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary to prepare the “Messengers of Peace.”

President Orvick thanked Prof. Madson for the essay and discussion followed until recess.

After recess the report of the joint consideration of the Higher Education Committee and the Miscellaneous Committee was considered until noon.

The chaplain closed the session with a reading from Hebrews 13. The afternoon session opened with the singing of the hymn: "God of the Prophets, Bless the Prophets Sons."

Prof. Lyle Lange, Vice President of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, read a letter from President Gawrisch and brought personal greetings.

Pastor S. Sparley brought greetings from St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Plzen, Czech Republic.

Pastor D. Meyer, administrator of "Thoughts of Faith" thanked for the continuing support.

The convention completed its consideration of the following reports: Miscellaneous, Higher Education, Foreign Missions, Publications, Evangelism.

The Rev. Paul Madson was presented with a plaque and acknowledged for his 13 years as editor of the *Lutheran Sentinel*.

The Memorial Service for Prof. Glenn Reichwald, Mrs. David Thompson and teacher Sophia Anderson was conducted by Dr. W. Kessel. Dr. Kessel used Ephesians 4,4-7 as his text and emphasized the thought that there is "Diversity and Unity in Christ."

The seminary chorus under the direction of Terry Schultz sang "Jerusalem the Golden" and "Den Store Hvide Flok."

After recess the convention finished its business by considering the following reports: Evangelism, Worship, Education and Youth, Pastoral Conference Records, President's Message and Report, Resolutions, Credentials (Excuses), and Minutes.

**RESOLVED**, That the convention adjourn at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday June 20, 1996.

President Orvick declared the 79th convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 40th 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.

In closing Chaplain Ferkenstad read 1 Timothy 6,11-21. The assembly sang "Peace to Soothe Our Bitter Woes." The chaplain led the assembly in prayer and pronounced the Benediction.

Alf Merseth, secretary  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod

## ROLL CALL

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

#### **Present at this convention:**

H. Abrahamson, K. Anderson, H. Bartels, M. Bartels, J. Braun, K. Brumble, E. Bryant, L. Buelow, R. Dale, J. Dalke, K. Dethlefsen, M. Doepel, E. Ekhoft, M. Ernst, D. Faugstad, R. Fehr, C. Ferkenstad, F. Fiedler III, R. Flohr, T. Fox, W. Frick, E. Geistfeld, H. Gieschen, T. Gullixson, W. Halvorson, G. Haugen, R. Holtz, B. Homan, D. Hoyord, H. Huhnerkoch, C. Keeler, J. Korthals, N. Krause, M. Krentz, J. Krueger, F. Lams, M. Langlais, H. Larson, R. Lawson, P. Lehmann, B. Leonetti, G. Lilienthal, D. Lillegard, W. Mack, J. Madson, N. Madson, P. Madson, M. Marozick, K. Mellon, A. Merseth, D. Moldstad, J. Moldstad, Sr., H. Mosley, R. Nepsund, R. Newgard, G. Obenberger, R. Pederson, J. Petersen, S. Petersen, D. Raetz, T. Rank, A. Ring, J. Ruppel, D. Sabrowsky, G. Schmeling, D. Schmidt, P. Schneider, D. Schroeder, T. Skaaland, J. Smith, J. K. Smith, K. Smith, M. Smith, T. Smuda, M. Teigen, F. Theiste, M. Thompson, K. Uhlenbrauck, H. Vetter, L. Vinton, R. Waldschmidt, D. Webber, M. Wold, C. Wosje, J. Wuebben, P. Zager.

#### **Absent:**

D. Bakke, H. Behrens, R. Fyffe, D. Larson, W. Larson, D. Nelson, W. Neumann, J. Schmidt, K. Schmidt, F. Stubenvoll, R. Tragasz.

### **PERMANENT MEMBERS ACCEPTED AT THIS CONVENTION:**

#### **Present:**

E. Geistfeld, R. Flohr, M. Langlais, R. Pederson, D. Raetz.

#### **Absent:**

B. Anderson, M. Galstad.



**E. Geistfeld**



**R. Flohr**



**M. Langlais**



**R. Pederson**



**D. Raetz**



**B. Anderson**



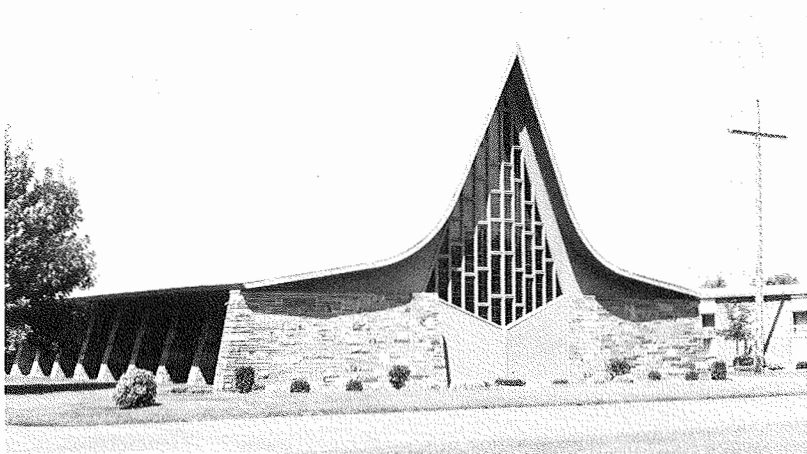
**M. Galstad**

**PERMANENT ADVISORY MEMBERS (Not eligible to vote)**

1. **PASTORS SERVING NON-MEMBER CONGREGATIONS:**  
 Present: D. Basel, N. Merseth, J. Olsen, J. Shep, S. Sparley, J. Willitz, D. Meyer.  
 Absent: T. Bartels, T. Erickson, D. Haeuser, R. Kovaciny, J. Krikava, M. Luttman.
2. **PASTORS NOT SERVING CONGREGATIONS AT THIS TIME:**  
 Present: G. Orvick, V. Settje.  
 Absent: T. Aaberg, R. Becker, R. Carter, J. Krueger, J. Larson, D. Schlicht, C. Sieloff.
3. **PASTORS AND PROFESSORS EMERITI:**  
 Present: P. Anderson, R. Branstad, W. Gullixson, N. Holte, A. Kuster, S. Lee, P. Lehenbauer, W. McMurdie, J. Petersen, P. Petersen, F. Schmugge, O. Trebelhorn, M. Tweit.  
 Absent: E. Buhr, L. Gerbhardt, D. McElwain, C. Rusch, A. Schmitt, E. Stubenvoll, B. Teigen, A. Wagner.
4. **PROFESSORS:**  
 Present: M. DeGarmeaux, A. Harstad, R. Honsey, W. Kessel, T. Kuster, J. B. Madson, D. Marzolf, M. Meyer, J. Moldstad, Jr., W. Petersen, E. Teigen, D. Thompson, R. Wiechmann.  
 Absent: M. Harstad, D. Metzger, S. Reagles.
5. **TEACHERS:**  
 Present: Larry Rude, James Schneck, Curtis Manthy.  
 Absent: Steve Beilke, Silas Born, David Doelger, Leonard Engel, David Hahnke, Daniel Madson, Timothy Pietsch.

**CONGREGATIONS ADMITTED INTO MEMBERSHIP:**

Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, Ohio  
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Cold Spring, Minnesota  
Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church, Omro, Wisconsin  
Saint Matthew Lutheran Church, Detroit, Michigan



**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Cold Spring, Minnesota**



**Saint Matthew Lutheran Church,  
Detroit, Michigan**



## 1996 REPRESENTATIVES ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

Pastor	Address	Congregation	Delegates
H. Abrahamson	Ulen, MN	Calvary	Joe Rikhus, Sr.
Karl Anderson	Hood River, OR	Concordia	Victor A. Settje
	The Dalles, OR	Bethany	
H. Bartels	Brownsburg, IN	Good Shepherd	Bryant Monk
H. Behrens	Chicago, IL	St. Mark's	
J. Braun	Klamath Falls, OR	Christ	Dale Teigland
			Dale Hauck
K. Brumble	Richardson, TX	Good Shepherd	Charles Fiedler
			Jeff Ryan
E. Bryant	Port Orchard, WA	Bethany	Curt Mantey
T. Pittenger			Wayne Ablitt
L. Buelow	Green Bay, WI	Christ the King	Rudy Herwald
			Jeffrey Nelson
R. Dale	Naples, FL	Our Savior	
J. Dalke	Mt. Vernon, WA	St. Luke	Gary Meyer
K. Dethlefsen	New Hampton, IA	Jerico	John Costello
			Lawrence Olsen
	Lawler, IA	Saude	Milton Tweet
			Stanley Holt
M. Doepel	Audubon, MN	Immanuel	Leslie Just
			Paul Miller
E. Ekhoﬀ	Golden Valley, MN	King of Grace	Odean Olsen
			Norman Werner
M. Ernst	Jefferson City, MO	Peace	
D. Faugstad	Trail, MN	Nazareth	
R. Fehr	Princeton, MN	Our Savior's	Robert Soule
			Lambert Beckers
C. Ferkenstad	Gaylord, MN	Norwegian Grove	Jim Flantz
			Rod Tollefson
	St. Peter, MN	Norseland	Kevin Tungsvik
			Lowell Gunderson
F. Fiedler III	Myrtle Creek, OR	St. Matthew	George Wyckhuysen
	Sutherlin, OR	Christ	Dale Pospisil
			Jacob Young
R. Flohr	Cold Spring, MN	Gloria Dei	Roger Dohrmann
			Maynard Pick
T. Fox	Burlington, MA	Pinewood	
W. Frick	Litchfield, IL	Faith	Richard Wallner
			Leslie Brakenhoff
R. Fyffe	Sebring, FL	New Life	
G. Giestfeld	Crookston, MN	Grace	Daryl Schumacher
	Fertile, MN	First Evanger	Kenneth Bolstad
			Truman Opheim
H. Gieschen	Alpena, MI	Faith	
	Hillman, MI	Faith	Marlin Goebel
T. Gullixson	Escondido, CA	St. Paul	Leonard Geise
			Dennis Davis
E. Gernander	Clintonville, WI	St. Paul	Harold Routhieux
	Shawano, WI	St. Martin	
J. Gernander	Thornton, IA	Richland	Herman Oelkers
W. Halvorson	Albert Lea, MN	Our Savior's	Leonard Hage
			Ben Anderson

G. Haugen	Waterloo, IA	Pilgrim	Marlowe Bergeson Glen Frederick
R. Holtz	Bloomer, WI	Good Shepherd	Gary Bergstrom
B. Homan	Madison, WI	Our Saviour's	Robert Edwards Donald Heiliger
D. Hoyord	Apple Valley, MN	Heritage	William Overn Robert Smith
H. Huhnerkoch	Lake Havasu City, AZ	Our Saviour	Chris Christensen Gordon Dally
C. Keeler	Port St. Lucie, FL	Christ	Omar Hofmann
J. Korthals	Oregon, WI	Faith	Sherman Orvick Dennis Behr
N. Krause	Gresham, OR	Saved by Grace	Charles Puch
M. Krentz	Holton, MI	Holton	Scott Tillman Jeff Tillman
J. Krueger	Eau Claire, WI	Ascension	Larry Hillman
F. Lams	Lake Station, IN	Grace	Lloyd Ahlbrand
M. Langlais	East Grand Forks, MN	River Heights	Albert Holman
D. Larson	Parkersburg, IA	Faith	
H. Larson	Cape Girardeau, MO	Scriptural	
W. Larson	Puyallup, WA	Messiah	
R. Lawson	Princeton, MN	Bethany	Glen Hansen Gordy Sharping
P. Lehman	Oklee, MN	Oak Park	
B. Leonatti	Trail, MN	Mt. Olive	
G. Lilienthal	Irwin, PA	Zion	
	Jasper, MN	Rose Dell Trinity	Lavern Kafka
	Luverne, MN	Bethany	Thomas Arends
D. Lillegard	Sebastian, FL	Trinity	Fritz Reichert
Jeff Longren	E. Jordan	Faith	
(WELS)			
W. Mack	Lakeland, FL	Peace	
Jonathan Madson	Kissimmee, FL	Peace	Herb Berg Dan Barger Merlyn Hayes
N. Madson	Tracy, MN	Zion	
P. Madson	Waterville, IA	East Paint Creek	
	Waukon, IA	West Paint Creek	
M. Marozick	Cottage Grove, WI	W. Koshkonong	Duane Woodhouse Allen Wollenzien
K. Mellen	Bowling Green, OH	Abiding Word	Carl Hoffmeyer
A. Merseth	Lake Mills, IA	Lake Mills	Robert Okland Leighton Humphrey
	Lake Mills, IA	Lime Creek	Lars Petersen Paul Dahle
	Northwood, IA	First Shell Rock	Douglas Carnes Gary Hartwig
		Somber	Reuben Holt Morris Levorson
	Riceville, IA	Immanuel	
D. Moldstad	Mankato, MN	Mt. Olive	Wilbur Lieske Sigurd Lee
H. Mosley	Lakewood, WA	Lakewood	Bryan Schmauder Shu-Ting-Lai
D. Nelson	Mayville, ND	First American	
R. Nepsund	San Antonio, TX	Faith	Ken Welkener Jerome Gernander

R. Newgard	Forest City, IA	Forest City	Brad Buffington
	Thompson	Zion	Norman Myre
			Gene Erickson
G. Obenberger	Tacoma, WA	Parkland	Norman Skogen
			Dennis Nixon
			Jerry Davis
R. Pederson	Ames, IA	Bethany	
John Petersen	Madison, WI	Grace	Roland Reinholtz
			A. V. Kuster
S. Petersen	Madison, WI	Holy Cross	Norm Marozick
			Eugene Schiller
D. Raetz	Lakeland, FL	Our Savior	Robert Storts
			Phil Griffith
T. Rank	Scarville, IA	Center	Clemens Bredeson
		Scarville	Erling Brudvig
			Arthur Pederson
J. Ruppel	Grants Pass, OR	Our Savior	
D. Sabrowsky	Windsor, CA	Christ	
G. Schmeling	Okauchee, WI	Holy Trinity	Robert Brown
			Jon Bruss
D. Schmidt	Hartland, MN	Hartland	Duane Miller
			Daryl Bendewald
			Harvey Bell (Alt.)
			Donald Jordahl (Alt.)
	Manchester, MN	Manchester	
K. Schmidt	West Bend, WI	Trinity	Ralph Seidensticker
			Ellsworth Butt
S. Schmidt	Chicago, IL	Emmaus	
B. Schwark	Bishop, CA	Our Savior	B. Schwark
D. Schroeder	Kennesaw, GA	Resurrection	
Victor Settje	Yelm, WA	Redeemer	J. Anderson
T. Skaaland	Elderon, WI	Our Savior's	
J. Smith	Clara City, MN	Faith	Wayne Spieker
	Cottonwood, MN	English	Dwayne Boerner
J. K. Smith	Saginaw, MN	Gloria Dei	Edward Schulz
K. Smith	Vero Beach, FL	Grace	Norbert Stege
M. K. Smith	Holland, MI	Lord of Life	
T. Smuda	Rogers City, MI	Trinity	Robert H. Brietzke
F. Stubenvoll	Marinette, WI	First Trinity	
F. Theiste	Eau Claire, WI	Concordia	Clifford Raether
			Duane Berg
M. Thompson	Winter Haven, FL	Resurrection	William Dumke
			Richard Maginnis
R. Tragasz	Piedmont	Grace	
K. Uhlenbrauck	Suttons Bay, MI	First Lutheran	Ernest Johnson
H. Vetter	Iola, WI	Redeemer	
R. Waldschmidt	Cedar Ridge, CA	Shepherd of the Hills	
D. J. Webber	Brewster, MA	Trinity	Robert Schmidt
			Paul Chamberlin
J. Willitz			
M. Wold	Bagley, MN	Our Savior's	John Merseth
	Lengby, MN	St. Paul	Al Olsen
			Jack McNiel
C. Wosje	Fort Mojave, AZ	Family of God	Ray Green
			David Tweeton
J. Wuebben	Eau Claire, WI	Pinehurst	

P. Zager

Lombard, IL

St. Timothy

Jeff Punzel  
Paul Rawlings

Vacancies:

Hillsboro, OR  
Omro, WI

Grace  
Messiah

Edward Kohlmeyer  
Norman Schell  
Robert Voss

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

### **Resolution No. 1: Excuses of Congregations - No Delegates**

*WHEREAS, Excuses for absence from the 1996 Synod Convention have been received from the following congregations: Pinewood Lutheran Delegates (Burlington, MA), Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Delegates (Grass Valley, CA),*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

### **Resolution No. 2: Excuses of Congregations - One Delegate**

*WHEREAS, The following congregations have requested that they be excused for only having one delegate at the 1996 Synod Convention: River Heights (E. Grand Forks, MN), Faith (Clara City, MN), English (Cottonwood, MN),*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

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

*WHEREAS, Excuses for absence from the 1996 Synod Conventions have been received from the following pastors: James Larson, Mark Harstad, Darryl Bakke, Richard Fyffe, Richard Tragasz, Donald McElwain, Steven Reagles, Daniel Larson, Daniel Metzger, David Nelson, Kenneth Schmidt,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

### **Resolution No. 4: Excuses for Late Arrival**

*WHEREAS, Excuses for late arrival have been received from the following pastors: Gene Lilienthal, James Wuebben, Herb Huhnerkoch, Tom Kuster, Adolph Harstad, Arnold Kuster,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

### **Resolution No. 5: Excuses for Early Departure**

*WHEREAS, Excuses for early departure from the 1996 Synod Convention have been received from the following pastors: William McMurdie, Daniel Faugstad, Michael Langlais, Bruce Leonatti, James Krueger, Otto Trebelhorn, Dan Sabrowsky, Larry Vinton, Kurt Uhlenbrauck, Michael Krentz, Kent Dethlefsen, Randy Nep-sund, Klebe Brumble, Fred Theiste, Leonard Buelow, John Smith, Mark Bartels, Steve Petersen, and delegates: Joe Rikhus, Richard Wallner, Tom Arends, Merlin Hayes, Don Haas, Larry Hillman, Glenn Frederick, Scott Tillman, Chuck Fiedler, Jeff Ryan, Jeff McKay, Bob Edwards, Ernest Johnson, Eugene Schiller,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.*

# CONVENTION COMMITTEES

## 1. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND REPORT

**Pastors:** J. Moldstad, Jr., W. Frick, M. Krentz

**Delegates:** Jeff Ryan (Good Shepherd, Bloomer), Arthur Pederson (Scarville)

## 2. NOMINATION (elected at the 1995 Convention)

**Pastors:** G. Obenberger, P. Zager, N. Madson, M. Wold

**Delegates:** Robert Smith, John Mikels, Chuck Fiedler, Eugene Schiller

## 3. CREDENTIALS

**Pastors:** John Smith, G. Haugen

**Delegates:** Thomas Arends (Bethany, Luverne), Gordy Sharping (Bethany, Princeton)

## 4. PROGRAM

**Pastors:** M. Wold, B. Homan

## 5. PUBLIC PRESS AND CONVENTION SENTINEL

**Pastors:** K. Brumble, K. Smith

## 6. DOCTRINE

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

**Delegates:** Bob Edwards, (Our Savior's, Madison), Morris Levorson (Somber), Roland Reinholtz (Grace, Madison), Jerome Gernander (Faith, San Antonio), Charles Beeck (Holy Scripture, Midland), Robert Brown (Holy Trinity, Okauchee), Stan Holt (Saude), Les Just (Immanuel, Audubon), Ben Anderson (Our Savior's, Albert Lea), Truman Opheim (First Evanger, Fertile), Norman Werner (King of Grace, Golden Valley), Al Holman (River Heights), Charles Puch (Saved by Grace, Gresham), Dale Pospisil (Christ, Sutherlin), Charles Fiedler (Good Shepherd, Richardson), Ralph Seidensticker (Trinity, West Bend)

## 7. HOME MISSIONS

**Pastors:** G. Haugen, F. Lams, M. Marozick, A. Ring, V. Settje, W. Kessel

**Delegates:** Robert Soule (Our Savior's, Princeton), Gary Hartwig (First Shell Rock), Kenneth Welkenen (Faith, San Antonio), Gary Gotham (Holy Scripture, Midland), Brad Buffington (Forest City), Ellsworth Butt (Trinity, West Bend), Kevin Tungsvik (Norseland), Paul Miller (Immanuel, Audubon), Rudy Herwald (Christ the King, Green Bay), Rod Arends (Faith, Irvine), Odean Olson (King of Grace, Golden Valley), Marlowe Bergeson (Pilgrim, Waterloo), Sig Lee (Mt. Olive, Mankato), Erling Brudvig (Scarville), Roger Dohrmann (Gloria Dei, Cold Spring)

## 8. FOREIGN MISSIONS

**Pastors:** M. Doepel, E. Bryant, L. Buelow, H. Gieshan, N. Krause, Jim Krueger, W. Mack, P. Madson, J. Ruppel, T. Smuda, R. Wiechmann

**Delegates:** Lambert Beckers (Our Savior's, Princeton), William Dumke (Resurrection, Winter Haven), Harold Rothieaux (St. Paul, Clintonville), Gene Erickson (Zion, Thompson), Paul Chamberlin (Trinity, Brewster), Eugene Schaller (Holy Cross, Madison), Glenn Frederick (Pilgrim), Jeff Punzel (St. Timothy, Lombard), Shu-Ting-Lai (Lakewood, WA), Steven Schmidt (Emmaus, Chicago), Otmar Hofman (Christ, Port St. Lucie), Leroy Meyer (advisory), Ewald Kohlmeyer (Grace, Hillsboro), Maynard Pick (Gloria Dei, Cold Spring), Lloyd Ahlbrand (Grace, Lake Station)

## 9. EVANGELISM

**Pastors:** K. Anderson, H. Bartels, K. Dethlefson, P. Anderson, P. Lehenbauer, D. Schroeder, D. Raetz

**Delegates:** Herman Oelkers (Richland), Lawrence Olson (Jerico), Gary Meyer (St. Luke, Mt. Vernon), Clifford Raether (Concordia, Eau Claire), John Anderson (Our Redeemer, Yelm), Jacob Young (Christ, Sutherlin),

George Wyckhuys (St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek), Merlyn Hayes (Zion, Tracy), Wayne Spieker (Faith, Clara City)

#### 10. HIGHER EDUCATION

**Pastors:** T. Fox, D. Basel, G. Schmeling, W. Halvorson, J. Korthals, H. Larson, B. Leonatti, H. Mosley, G. Obenberger, M. Teigen, N. Madson

**Delegates:** Leighton Humphrey (Lake Mills), Duane Miller (Hartland), Duane Berg (Concordia, Eau Claire), Scott Tillman (Holton), Robert Smith (Heritage, Apple Valley), Jon Bruss (Holy Trinity, Okauchee), Lowell Gunderson (Norseland), Paul Rawlings (St. Timothy, Lombard), Jack McNeil (St. Paul, Lengby), Wilbur Lieske (Mt. Olive, Mankato) Leslie Brakenhoff (Faith, Litchfield), Larry Rude (Advisory), Carl Hoffmeyer (Abiding Word, Bowling Green)

#### 11. EDUCATION AND YOUTH

**Pastors:** S. Petersen, J. Braun, R. Fehr, B. Homan, K. Mellon, J. Shep, M. Thompson, J. Willitz

**Delegates:** Curt Mantey (Bethany, Port Orchard), Joe Rikhus (Calvary, Ulen), Dan Barger (Peace, Kissimmee), Gary Bergstrom (Good Shepherd, Bloomer), Thomas Arends (Bethany, Luverne), Jeff McKay (Our Savior, Naples), Bryan Schmauder (Lakewood, WA), David Tweeten (Family of God, Ft. Mojave), Leonard Geise (St. Paul, Escondido), Marlin Goebel (Faith, Hillman), Bryant Monk (Good Shepherd, Brownsburg), Victor Set-tje (Concordia, Hood River), Jeff Tillman (Holton), Duane Woodhouse (Western Koshkonong), Bob Voss (Messiah, Omro)

#### 12. FINANCES

**Pastors:** K. Brumble, R. Holtz, D. Lillegard, D. Meyer, J. Moldstad, Jr., John Petersen, K. Smith, F. Theiste, M. Wold, R. Flohr

**Delegates:** Robert Okland (Lake Mills), Don Heiliger (Our Saviour's, Madison), Richard Maginnis (Resurrection, Winter Haven), Norbert Stege (Grace, Vero Beach), Robert Schmidt (Trinity, Brewster), Don Haas (Gloria Dei, Saginaw), Ray Green (Family of God, Ft. Mojave), Dennis Davis (Parkland, Tacoma), Gordon Dally (Our Saviour, Lake Havasu), Jeff Nelson (Christ the King, Green Bay), Sherman Orvick (Faith, Oregon), William Overn (Heritage, Apple Valley), Richard Wallner (Faith, Litchfield)

#### 13. MISCELLANEOUS

**Pastors:** C. Keeler, C. Ferkenstad, T. Gullixson, D. Hoyord, J. Moldstad, Sr., P. Schneider, J. Smith, C. Wosje

**Delegates:** Reuben Holt (Somber), Wayne Ablitt (Bethany, Port Orchard), Douglas Carnes (First Shell Rock), Edward Schulz (Gloria Dei, Saginaw), Daryl Schumacker (Grace, Crookston), Glenn Hansen (Bethany, Princeton), Kenneth Bolstad (First Evanger, Fertile), Dennis Nixon (Parkland, Tacoma), Chris Christenson (Our Saviour, Lake Havasu), Norm Marozick (Holy Cross, Madison), Phil Griffith (Our Savior, Lakeland), Dale Hauck (Klamath Falls), Al Wollenzien (Western Koshkonong)

#### 14. SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP

**Pastors:** W. Petersen, M. Krentz, Joe Petersen, T. Rank, T. Skaaland, K. Uhlenbrauck

**Delegates:** Norman Skogen (Zion, Thompson), Jim Flantz (Norwegian Grove, Gaylord), Dwayne Boerner (English, Cottonwood), Virgil Teigland (Klamath Falls), Ernie Johnson (First, Suttons Bay)

#### 15. PUBLICATIONS

**Pastors:** R. Dale, H. Abrahamson, J. Dahlke, W. McMurdie, D. Schmidt, L. Vinton, R. Waldschmidt

**Delegates:** Daryl Bendewald (Hartland), Norman Myre (Forest City), Rod Tollefson (Norwegian Grove, Gaylord), Gordy Sharping (Bethany, Princeton), Lars Petersen (Lime Creek), Al Olsen (St. Paul, Lengby), Robert Storts (Our Savior, Lakeland), Larry Hillman (Ascension, Eau Claire)

16. WORSHIP

**Pastors:** P. Zager, D. Faugstad, F. Fiedler III, M. Harstad, R. Nepsund, J. K. Smith, H. Vetter

**Delegates:** Clemens Bredeson (Center), Wayne Spieker (Faith, Clara City), John Merseth (Our Savior's, Bagley), Paul Dahle (Lime Creek), Robert Rurrup (Our Savior, Bishop)

17. CHRISTIAN SERVICE

**Pastors:** R. Newgard, M. Ernst, R. Lawson, P. Lehmann

**Delegates:** Herb Berg (Peace, Kissimmee), Loren Kafka (Bethany, Luverne), Fritz Reichert (Trinity, Sebastian), Leonard Hage (Our Savior's, Albert Lea), Bruce Schwark (Our Savior, Bishop)

18. MINUTES

**Pastors:** D. Hoyord, J. Willitz

**Delegates:** Dwayne Boerner (English, Cottonwood)

19. PASTORAL CONFERENCE RECORDS

**Pastors:** W. Frick, J. B. Madson, A. Kuster, W. Gullixson

20. RESOLUTIONS

**Pastors:** R. Branstad, W. Petersen, F. Schmugge, O. Trebelhorn

21. TELLERS

**Pastors:** E. Geistfeld, M. Langlais, R. Pederson

**Candidates:** E. Gernander, J. Gernander, A. Pittenger, S. Schmidt, B. Schwark, C. Mamberger, T. Schultz

22. CHAPLAIN

**Pastor:** C. Ferkenstad

23. HEAD USHER

**Pastor:** R. Holtz

24. PARLIAMENTARIAN

M. Tweit

25. ORGANISTS

D. Marzolf, M. DeGarmeaux, P. Zager, Mrs. Paul Lehenbauer

## 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.

For what reason is it that the pastors and delegates from our synod's congregations have gathered here for our 79th annual convention? The most obvious answer would be: We have work to do. And that would be very true. The synod convention acts as a large review committee to see what its elected representatives have been doing during the course of the year. Have we been carrying out the Lord's great commission to preach and teach His Word? Have we been pursuing our goals and purposes as outlined in our constitution and bylaws? You, as members of the synod and representatives of the congregations have a right to know. And so our convention is organized in such a way that a thorough examination of all the reports of each board and committee, including the work of the president, are reviewed. These floor committee reviews are then reported to the convention for action.

There is, however, more than just the business aspect of our annual get-together. We enjoy the tremendous experience of Christian fellowship with one another. We come together to ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER IN OUR WORK AND IN OUR LIVES AS CHRISTIANS. In fact, this aspect of our convention is just as important for the good of our church as reviewing the various board reports and memorials. We in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, because of our small size, can carry out this function on a more personal and knowledgeable basis than most synods. Most of you have been in attendance at previous conventions. You will see many old friends and perhaps former pastors. Members who are here for the first time will have no trouble getting acquainted for it is part of the flavor or nature of our synod that there exists a warm and humble attitude which reflects a true Christian concern for one another.

I have therefore chosen as the theme for this annual message these words of the Apostle Paul to the Thessalonians: *Encourage one another and strengthen one another.* (I Thess. 5,11)

In the fifth chapter of Paul's letter to the Thessalonians he writes concerning the second coming of our Lord to this earth. He tells us that His coming will be sudden and unexpected saying, *The day of the Lord cometh as a thief in the night.* (v. 2) People will be saying, "peace and safety" but then "sudden destruction will come upon them." He therefore admonishes the Christians telling them that they are no longer the children of darkness, but rather the children of light. They should therefore *watch and be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.* (v. 6-10) And it is then that he comes with the words we have chosen, *Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.* (v. 11) It is translated in the American translation with the words, *Then encourage one another and strengthen one another just as you are doing.*

We, then, as we gather here for our 79th convention have an excellent opportunity to do just what the apostle enjoins, namely to ENCOURAGE AND STRENGTHEN ONE ANOTHER.

First of all, we understand that our strength comes from the Lord through the blessed gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul wrote to the Romans that the Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth. (Rom. 1,16) That powerful Gospel has brought us to Christ in the first place. We poor sinners had no power of our own to believe in Him. The *Formula of Concord*, of our Lutheran Confessions, says that *In spiritual and divine things which pertain to the salvation of the soul man is like a pillar of salt, like Lot's*



wife, like a log or a stone. It is therefore solely by God's grace through the working of the Holy Spirit that we were brought to faith. And that Gospel also brings us the righteousness which we need to stand before God. Our own righteousness is nothing but filthy rags. (Isaiah 64,6) But God gives us another righteousness which was earned for us by His Son's perfect life and innocent suffering and death. This is bestowed upon us by the Gospel through the means of grace. We therefore have the forgiveness of all of our sins and the sure promise of eternal life. This Gospel strengthens and encourages us as we go about our lives and as we gather together for this convention. It is this Gospel that gives life to our synod. It is for the sake of this Gospel that our church body exists.

But how shall we go about encouraging and strengthening one another? Let me suggest some of the ways. Listen. Listen to your brothers as they tell of their own situations in life. To be able to listen is a great gift. Offer words of encouragement to those who are suffering or are troubled. Get acquainted with new pastors and delegates. Welcome them into our midst. Speak wholesome and instructive words in your floor committees helping to make good decisions. Go to the microphone and edify the whole convention. Not simply to debate or disagree, although that may also be helpful, but to encourage your brethren in the work of the Lord. Above all worship, sing and pray together and kneel at the altar for the Lord's Supper and so build one another up as Paul writes to the Colossians, *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.* (Col. 3,16)

Permit me now to mention three areas where we need such encouragement and strengthening. First of all, we need to urge one another to CONTINUE STEADFASTLY IN THE APOSTLE'S DOCTRINE AND FAITH. Paul encourages young Timothy by writing, *But continue thou in the things which thou has learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou has learned them.* (II Tim. 3,16) He instructs Titus that he should exhort the new pastors to *hold fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and convince the gainsayers.* (Titus 1,9) The Lord Jesus himself speaks to us saying, *If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.* (John 8,31-32) And we have these words regarding the early Christians in the congregation at Jerusalem, *And they continued steadfastly in the apostle's doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.* (Acts 2,42)

But do we of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod need to be encouraged to hold fast to sound doctrine? Most definitely we do. Who are we to think that the old evil foe could not cause us to weaken in some areas of our theological position? Are we not poor sinners who are made of the same clay as others? (Are we not subject to the temptations of pride and the desire to make our doctrine more acceptable to the world around us?) The fact that we did not enter into the merger of 1917 is no guarantee that we have an ironclad defense against doctrinal compromise. Let us therefore encourage one another to stand fast. Paul again instructs us in his letter to the Corinthians, *Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.* (I Cor. 10,12)

At the same time let us thank the Lord for preserving us in the true faith. He has enabled us to adopt unanimously a strong doctrinal statement entitled, *We Believe, Teach and Confess*. After many years of study our synod has defined very clearly our position on the doctrine of the Lord's Supper. We have held to the Word of Scripture and to the Lutheran Confessions. The statement proposed by the Doctrine Committee as contained in your Book of Reports and Memorials, is completely scriptural and confessional. It is taken directly from the Lutheran Confessions to which we all subscribe. I would therefore urge the convention to adopt it. The Doctrine Committee is to be commended for its patient leadership in this discussion.

Our Evangelical Lutheran Synod has, by the grace of God, maintained a scriptural unity of doctrine throughout the years. We need to encourage one

another to strive to preserve this unity. Paul exhorts the Ephesians that they should *endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.* (Eph. 4,3) The Psalmist writes, *Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.* (Ps. 133,4) Lutherans who wish to remain faithful to God's truth are becoming an endangered species. There aren't many of us left in the world. Hardly a week goes by that I don't receive a letter or phone call from a pastor or lay person lamenting the doctrinal chaos in their church body. They ask where the nearest ELS church is located, or what is the possibility of opening a new mission in their area. Let us thank God for preserving us in the truth of His Word. Let us cherish our fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and with all the church bodies of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference around the world. We need to stand together with those who hold to the same faith. In our own midst we must avoid factionalism and party spirit which destroys our unity. We are all different. We all have different talents and abilities. But we are all part of the body of Christ. Paul says, *There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all who is above all, and through all and in you all.* (Eph 4,4-6) Let us then at this convention encourage one another to hold fast to sound doctrine and to strive for unity.

In the second place, let us encourage one another to HAVE AN ATTITUDE OF THANKFULNESS TO THE LORD for the manifold blessings He continues to bestow upon our synod enabling us to be of greater service to Him. We cannot help but think first of all of the fact that for fifty years we have been permitted to have our own theological seminary. We thank our Lord for giving us a seminary that is committed to the truth. The professors of our seminary have not been led astray by modern theological liberalism. The seminary has produced many fine pastors who have served our synod faithfully. As we think back over those fifty years there naturally comes to mind various forefathers who shaped the doctrine and spirit of our seminary. First of all we think of the dynamic and inspirational leadership of the first dean, Dr. Norman A. Madson. His strong theological conviction and his emphasis on the preaching of the Gospel established a firm foundation for our school of the prophets. He was joined by Dr. S. C. Ylvisaker, a very scholarly and highly respected theologian who was known throughout Lutheranism for his knowledge of the Semitic languages and above all for his insistence on doctrinal purity. Others that come to mind are Prof. George Lillgard and Prof. B. W. Teigen, both very careful writers and teachers whose influence in our synod will not be forgotten. The second dean and leader was a devout and highly competent theologian and teacher, namely Prof. M. H. Otto. A great number of pastors in our synod sat at his feet and were shaped for the office of the ministry under his term of service. When the seminary became separate from the college as an institution, the Rev. Theo. A. Aaberg was chosen for the position of President. Once again the Lord provided competent and scholarly leadership. His early departure from this life shortened his time of service but his imprint is still felt on the theology of the synod. Our current servants are not to be forgotten. President Petersen continued the tradition of his predecessors with careful instruction in every branch of theology with special emphasis upon preaching Law and Gospel. His influence together with that of long-time professor of New Testament interpretation, J. B. Madson, has given us the kind of school that we can be proud of and has provided pastors who are not only well trained theologically but who also know what it is to be a faithful shepherd of souls. In addition to these, many faithful theologians from the college have also assisted in the seminary. Prof. John Moldstad, Jr. and Prof. Adolph Harstad, both being young men, assure us of a future that is committed to sound doctrine. Therefore let us encourage one another to praise and thank the Lord for these fifty years of preparing messengers of peace.

It is especially significant that on this fiftieth anniversary year we could undertake the construction of a new seminary building. This will provide a won-

derful facility that will serve our church body for generations to come. It also provides space for a synodical headquarters that will very adequately serve our needs. Since we are in the midst of a thankoffering to help pay for the building, it is fitting that we encourage one another to participate with generous gifts.

We would be ungrateful children of God if we did not express our joy and thankfulness to our Lord for the blessings received at our Bethany College. The dedication of Trinity Chapel as the centerpiece of our campus is a real occasion for rejoicing. This 79th convention of our synod will go down in history as the year in which we dedicated this new house of worship on our campus. How grateful we are to our Lord for moving the heart of one of His servants so that he would generously provide for our college.

The gifts which we have received and continue to receive also enable us to move forward in establishing new mission congregations here at home and in bringing the gospel to darkened lands across the oceans. Every one of our synod's efforts has been blessed by such special gifts.

In this regard we express our deep gratitude for the generous gift from the Schwan Foundation which made it possible to erect the new Trinity Chapel and to dedicate it to the glory of God and in memory of Marvin Schwan. This faithful alumnus of our college did not forget the truths that he learned at our school. Bethany remained ever dear to his heart. While he was living he made it possible to carry out many projects that would otherwise have gone undone. After his early departure from this life his legacy is still perpetuated through the careful preparations he had made for the use of his gifts to the glory of God. We thank the Lord for moving the heart of this faithful servant to use his gifts for the Lord's work.

Finally, let us ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER TO WORK. God did not choose to send angels to carry out His great commission of spreading the Gospel. He decided that it should be done by ordinary mortals like you and me. In that magnificent 15th chapter of First Corinthians Paul bursts into ecstasy as he speaks of the glories of Christ's resurrection. He exclaims triumphantly, *O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* (I Cor. 15:55,57) But then he immediately proceeds to urge his brethren to go to work for the very next verse he writes *Therefore, my beloved brethren, 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.* (v. 58) Yes, to those who find comfort in the resurrection of Christ there can be no other attitude towards life than to work for the Lord in every way possible to extend his Kingdom.

In Copenhagen, Denmark, there is a large cathedral which is the home of the remarkable works of the famous Christian sculptor Thorvaldsen. Arranged around the perimeter of the sanctuary are numerous statues of the apostles and others. But in the front and center, against a beautiful red curtain, is his famous statue of Christ. The Savior is depicted with arms invitingly outstretched and the words, "Kommer til meg," or "Come unto me," give us the title of this famous work. This statue of Christ has been copied and stood in hundreds of churches and also in our old Bethany chapel and now in the narthex of the new.

When a person leaves that church in Copenhagen his eyes fall upon a bronze plaque at the door. The plaque says, "Glemme ikke å gjøre vel," which means "Don't forget to do good." (Heb. 13,16) What a beautiful connection between faith and works. How can we forget to serve our Lord after we have heeded His invitation, *Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.* (Matt. 11,28)

Can we of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, who have experienced God's grace in such rich measure do anything else but expend every effort to promote and expand His kingdom? We serve the Lord in all that we do in accordance with the Ten Commandments. But special attention needs to be paid to the work of His kingdom. In your local congregation there is much need for volunteer help. Sun-

day School and Bible Class and Vacation Bible School teachers are needed. Who will volunteer? Who will serve on Boards and Committees if we decline? Who will go to their pastor and say, "Pastor, what can I do to help?" Who will say, "Here am I, send me send me?"

You pastors and delegates who are assembled here are most familiar with the work of the synod. Do you believe that what we are doing is in accordance with the will of God? Have you heard the cry of the masses in South America, Eastern Europe and in our own country for preachers of the Gospel? *How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent?* (Rom. 10,14-15) We must ask as we go home to our congregations, "Are we doing all we can to send out missionaries? Are we a mission minded congregation or do we care only for our own needs?" Are we not blessed with such special gifts that we don't need to contribute so much ourselves? Yes, we are blessed, but let us not forget that the special gifts come only to match what we give. And what an opportunity we have that every dollar given for the Lord's work becomes two dollars when matched. Every thousand dollars that our congregation sends in becomes two thousand. Can we not see what a magnificent opportunity for outreach is given us in these times. Let us maximize our efforts. Let us look about and see that the fields are white unto harvest. Our Board for Education and Youth is working to keep young people with their Savior in these terribly difficult times. Our college is reaching the hearts of many youth. Our mission boards are directing our outreach efforts. We must ask, "What can we do at home to show our concern and support?"

Yes, we are gathered here in convention to "ENCOURAGE AND STRENGTHEN ONE ANOTHER." Let us therefore devoutly pray that the Lord will fill our hearts with renewed zeal and love for the work of His kingdom. Let the words of Philip Nicolai in his mighty Pentecost hymn be our closing prayer:

O gentle Dew, from heaven now fall  
With power upon the hearts of all,  
Thy tender love instilling:  
That heart, to heart more closely bound,  
Fruitful in kindly deeds be found,  
The law of love fulfilling;  
Then, Lord, discord shall not grieve Thee:  
We receive Thee; where Thou livest,  
Peace, and love, and joy Thou givest.  
LH374, v. 7

**Soli Deo Gloria**

George M. Orvick

# **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

## **ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS**

The Rev. William W. Larson was installed as pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church, Puyallup, Washington, on Sunday, March 26, 1995. The Rev. Steven Petersen, field secretary for the Board for Home Missions, preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation. (This was not reported in the 1995 report.)

Candidate of Theology Michael Langlais was ordained and installed as pastor of River Heights Lutheran Church, East Grand Forks, Minnesota, on July 2, 1995. Seminary President Wilhelm W. Petersen preached the sermon and performed the rites of ordination and installation at the afternoon service. The Rev. Harvey Abrahamson was the liturgist.

Candidate of Theology Ronald Pederson was ordained and installed as pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Ames, Iowa, on July 9, 1995. The Rev. Wayne Halvorson, circuit visitor, preached the sermon and performed the rites of ordination and installation. The Rev. Thomas Rank was the liturgist and the Rev. Kent Dethlefsen the lector. He was also installed as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church (WELS), Newton, Iowa, at an evening service the same day. The preacher was the Rev. Roger Neumann (WELS) and the Rev. Wayne Halvorson performed the rite of installation.

Candidate of Theology Ernest Geistfeld was ordained and installed as pastor of First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fertile, Minnesota; and Grace Lutheran Church, Crookston, Minnesota, on July 9, 1995. The Rev. Norman A. Madson was the preacher and circuit visitor, the Rev. Martin Doepel, performed the rites of ordination and installation. The Rev. Mark Wold was the liturgist.

The following teachers were installed at King of Grace Lutheran Church in Golden Valley, Minnesota, on August 20, 1995: Julie Esch, Joy Veach, and Cinda Meitner. The Rev. Erwin Ekhoﬀ performed the rites of installation.

The Rev. Karl Anderson was installed as pastor of Concordia Lutheran Church, Hood River, Oregon on August 27, 1995. The Rev. Glenn Obenberger, circuit visitor, preached and performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Mark DeGarmeaux was installed as chaplain of Bethany Lutheran College at the opening service of the school year on August 27, 1995. The speaker was Pres. Marvin Meyer and the Rev. Raymond Branstad, chairman of the Board of Regents, performed the rite of installation. Prof. Juul Madson was the liturgist.

The Rev. Kent Dethlefsen was installed as pastor of Saude Lutheran Church, Lawler, Iowa and Jerico Lutheran Church, New Hampton, Iowa, on September 10, 1995. The Rev. Thomas Rank preached the sermon; the Rev. Wayne Halvorson, circuit visitor, performed the rite of installation and the Rev. Mark Marozick was the liturgist. Other area pastors also participated in the service.

The Rev. Michael Smith was installed as pastor of Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Holland, Michigan, on September 17, 1995. President George Orvick served as preacher and liturgist. He was also the oﬃciant for the installation service.

The Rev. Joel Willitz was commissioned as missionary to the Cartersville, Georgia mission field on January 21, 1996. The Rev. Steven Petersen, field secretary for the Board for Home Missions, preached and also performed the rite of commissioning. The Rev. Daniel Schroeder was the liturgist. Other area ELS and WELS pastors also participated.

Mr. Allen Labitzky was installed as Director of Family Ministries at King of Grace Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, Minnesota on October 8, 1995. The Rev. Erwin Ekhoﬀ performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Richard Newgard was installed as pastor of the Forest City, and Thompson, Iowa, parish on April 28, 1996. The Rev. Wayne Halvorson, circuit visitor, preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation.

The Rev. Richard Fyffe was installed as pastor of New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, Florida on June 2, 1996. The Rev. Kurt Smith preached the sermon and the Rev. Charles Keeler, circuit visitor, performed the rite of installation. Area pastors also assisted.

The Rev. David Raetz was installed as pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lakeland, Florida, on May 26, 1996. The Rev. David Lillegard, alternate visitor, preached the sermon and performed the rite of installation. Area pastors assisted.

The Rev. Victor Settje was installed as pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Yelm, Washington, June 2, 1996. The Rev. James Larson performed the rite of installation and Circuit Visitor, the Rev. Glenn Obenberger, preached the sermon.

## 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. Ernest Geistfeld, pastor of the Grace, Crookston and First Evanger, Fertile, Minnesota.

The Rev. Michael Langlais, pastor of River Heights Lutheran Church, East Grand Forks, Minnesota.

The Rev. Ronald Pederson, pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Ames, Iowa.

The Rev. Beauferd Anderson, Port Orchard, Washington, by colloquy.

The Rev. Rodney Flohr, pastor of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Cold Spring, Minnesota, by colloquy.

The Rev. Martin Galstad, retired pastor, Winter Haven, Florida.

The Rev. David Raetz, Lithonia, Georgia, by colloquy.

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

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Cold Spring, Minnesota

Messiah Lutheran Church, Omro, Wisconsin

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Detroit, Michigan

Abiding Word Ev. Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, OH

## ANNIVERSARIES

Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary celebrated the 50th anniversary of its existence this year (1946-1996). This event was observed in connection with the Seminary Graduation on June 16th. Pres. Wilhelm Petersen was the speaker.

Grace Lutheran Church, Crookston, Minnesota, celebrated its 25th anniversary on May 21, 1995. The guest speaker was Prof. Erling Teigen. Former pastor, the Rev. John Moldstad, Sr., and Vicar Ronald Pederson also took part in the service.

First Evanger Lutheran Church, Fertile, Minnesota, celebrated the 75th year of its membership in the ELS on June 25, 1995. Former pastor, the Rev. Wilfrid Frick, was the morning speaker; the Rev. Rodger Dale, son of the congregation, was the afternoon speaker. Former pastor, Gregory Haugen, Vicar Ronald Pederson and Pastor David Nelson also took part in the service.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, rural Princeton, Minnesota, celebrated its 75th anniversary on June 25, 1995. The Rev. Norman A. Madson, circuit visitor, and also son of former pastor, the Rev. Norman A. Madson, Sr., preached the sermon at the afternoon festival service. Synod President George Orvick spoke on behalf of the synod and greetings were also brought by the president of Bethany College, Mr. Marvin Meyer, as well as former pastors and teachers.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Brewster, Massachusetts, observed the 20th anniversary of the dedication of its building on Sunday, August 6, 1995. Your Synod President, George Orvick, was guest preacher for the occasion.

President George Orvick preached at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Green Bay, Wisconsin, for the occasion of Pastor Leonard Buelow's 40th anniversary of his ordination on September 10, 1995.

Bethany Lutheran Church, Port Orchard, Washington, celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 29, 1995. President George Orvick was guest speaker, Pastor Edward Bryant served as liturgist, and Vicar Anthony Pittenger was the lector.

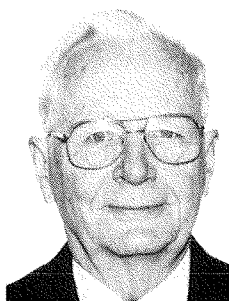
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Port St. Lucie, Florida, celebrated its 10th anniversary on January 14, 1996. Guest speakers for the day were synod president, the Rev. George Orvick, for the morning service and the Rev. Jonathan Madson for the afternoon anniversary service. The Rev. Charles Keeler, pastor of the congregation, was the liturgist. Greetings were brought by President George Orvick on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and by Mr. Leslie Just on behalf of the ELS Board for Home Missions. Other area pastors participated in the afternoon service.

Ms. Sharon King was honored at Parkland Lutheran Church, Parkland, Washington, on April 21, 1996, for serving 25 years in the teaching ministry.

## ANNIVERSARIES OF ORDINATION



**The Rev. Milton  
Tweit  
60 years**



**The Rev. Paul  
Anderson  
50 years**



**The Rev. Juul  
Madson  
50 years**



**The Rev. Alf  
Merseth  
50 years**



**The Rev. Leonard  
Buelow  
40 years**



**The Rev. John  
Krueger  
40 years**



**The Rev. Harold  
Vetter**  
40 years



**The Rev. James  
Wuebben**  
40 years



**The Rev. Tosten  
Skaaland**  
25 years



**The Rev. John  
Smith**  
25 years

## **NEW BETHANY CHAPEL INAUGURATED**

The inaugural service of the new Bethany Chapel took place on January 8, 1996. President Marvin Meyer was the speaker and Chaplain Mark DeGarmeaux the liturgist. The Bethany College Choir sang several numbers.

## **DEDICATIONS**

The new chapel and school in Plzen, Czech Republic, was dedicated on October 15, 1995. President George Orvick preached and performed the rite of dedication. Pastors Sparley and Krikava served as liturgists.

Bethany Lutheran Church, The Dalles, Oregon, dedicated its new sanctuary on October 22, 1995. The 7 p.m. service featured Bethany's organizing pastor, the Rev. Daniel Sabrowsky, as speaker. Pastors Frank Fiedler and James Larson were lecturers, and local pastor, the Rev. Karl Anderson, was the liturgist.

First Lutheran Church of Suttons Bay, Michigan, dedicated its remodeling project on November 5, 1995. The Rev. Paul Schneider, circuit visitor, preached the sermon and also performed the rite of dedication.

Heritage Lutheran Church, Apple Valley, Minnesota, dedicated its new house of worship on December 3, 1995. President George Orvick was guest preacher and local pastor, the Rev. David Hoyord, performed the rite of dedication.



The new Trinity Chapel at Bethany College, was dedicated at the Synod Sunday services held at 11:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., June 16, 1996. Pres. George M. Orvick was festival speaker, and the Rev. Raymond M. Branstad liturgist. The dedication took place outdoors at 2:00 p.m. The Rev. R. M. Branstad performed the rite and Prof. Erling Teigen was liturgist.

## **GROUNDBREAKING**

The groundbreaking for the new seminary-synod building took place on November 14, 1995. Pres. Wilhelm Petersen preached for the special morning chapel service. Following the service the assembly proceeded to the building site where the groundbreaking took place. Pres. G. Orvick was the officiant and Prof. J. B. Madson liturgist.

The groundbreaking for the new Resurrection Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, Florida, was held on March 17, 1996. Pastor Matthew Thompson officiated.

## **LAND DEDICATION**

On Sunday, January 14, 1996, the members of Resurrection Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, Florida, held a special service in which they dedicated the land which was purchased for their new house of worship.

## **RETIREMENTS**

Two men who have played very significant roles in the life of our synod have announced their retirement this year. The Rev. Paul Madson served as editor of the *Lutheran Sentinel* from 1982 until December 31, 1995. He thus completed 13 years in this position. Such a position is very demanding. There is a deadline every month. There are many decisions to make regarding content, form and style. There is a responsibility of representing the synod to the constituency and the general public. Pastor Madson's incisive editorials, his good judgment and his cooperation with all the writers, etc., were always in keeping with sound Lutheran theology and commitment to the cause of the Lord's kingdom. On behalf of the synod we express our deep appreciation for his faithful service.

Another faithful servant who has announced his retirement as secretary of the synod at the end of this convention is the Rev. Alf Merseth. Pastor Merseth holds one of the longest records of service in the life of our synod. He was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1955 and has thus served on that board for 41 years. In 1972 he was elected secretary of the synod and has held that position for 24 years. His faithful and accurate record keeping for the Board of Trustees has been a major contribution to the orderly work of our synod. The secretary's job includes keeping track not only of the minutes, but of loans and mortgages to congregations, progress of congregations which have borrowed money from the synod and the publication of the Synod Report including gathering all of the statistics. He also serves as secretary of the Building Committee for the Regents and Trustees, secretary of the Visitor's Conference and chairman of the Self-Study Committee. In addition to all of this he has for many years served as pastor of five congregations in Northern Iowa. All of this has been done in a humble way giving all glory to God. The synod owes him a real debt of gratitude for his faithful service. We also congratulate him on the 50th anniversary of his ordination.

## NEW *SENTINEL* EDITOR

One of the very responsible positions in our synod is that of editor of the *Lutheran Sentinel*. The Board for Publications recently appointed the Rev. Theodore Gullixson, Escondido, California to assume the task of editor of the *Sentinel*. He began his work on January 1, 1996. Pastor Gullixson is off to a good start and we have utmost confidence in him that he will perform the task of editorship in a very faithful manner. The *Lutheran Sentinel* is scripturally based, instructive, in keeping with the times and carries much news about the work of our ELS. It represents our synod to the world and therefore is of great significance. Let us pray for Pastor Gullixson as he continues in this responsible position.

## RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

The Rev. Michael Madson resigned from the public ministry and Bethany Lutheran Church, Warroad, Minnesota, on June 28, 1995.

The Rev. Gregory Bork requested a transfer from the ELS to WELS upon his acceptance of a call to teach in the California Lutheran School effective September 1, 1995.

The Rev. Jeffrey Carter requested a transfer from the ELS to the WELS upon his acceptance of a call into that synod.

The Rev. Dennis Schlicht resigned from the Thompson/Forest City Parish effective August 1, 1995.

The Rev. Burgess Huehn requested a transfer, effective October 15, 1995, from the ELS to the WELS.

The Rev. Joseph Burkhardt has resigned from the ministry.

The Rev. William Neumann resigned as pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Amherst Junction, Wisconsin, May 19, 1996.

The Rev. Richard Tragasz has resigned as pastor of Scriptural Lutheran Church, Cape Girardeau, Missouri but continues to serve as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Piedmont, Missouri.

The Rev. Mark Wold was appointed to the Board for Education and Youth to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Rev. Michael Madson from that board.

The Rev. Kenneth Mellon has been appointed to the Board for Evangelism to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of the Rev. Joseph Burkhardt.

The Rev. Daniel Sabrowsky resigned from the Board for Publications. The Rev. James Korthals has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

Prof. Steven Reagles has resigned from the Board for Publications. The Rev. Roger Holtz has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

The Rev. Herbert Larson resigned as alternate visitor of circuit #4.

## WITHDRAWALS

Bethlehem Lutheran Congregation, Warroad, Minnesota has withdrawn its membership from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

First English Lutheran Congregation, Ashland, Wisconsin has transferred its membership to the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod.

## DEATHS

Prof. Glenn Reichwald passed away on December 20, 1995 after returning home from preaching Advent services at LeSueur, Minnesota, where he was

vacancy pastor at the WELS church there. Christian burial services were held at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Mankato, Minnesota, on December 23rd with the Rev. Donald Moldstad officiating. Interment was at the Norwegian Grove Lutheran Church cemetery near Gaylord, Minnesota. Pres. G. Orvick spoke on behalf of the synod.

Mrs. David (Cary) Thompson passed away on January 17, 1996. Christian burial services were held on January 22nd at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Mankato, Minnesota with the Rev. Donald Moldstad officiating. Interment was in the Maple Lawn Cemetery, Faribault, Minnesota.

Miss Sophia Anderson passed away on June 10, 1996. Christian burial services were conducted by the Rev. Herbert Larson at Grace Lutheran Church, Piedmont, Missouri.

## **INTER-CHURCH RELATIONS**

### **THE WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**

It is indeed a blessing of the Lord that we have been able to enjoy church fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod since the founding of the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America in 1872. Having a sister synod with whom we are agreed in doctrine and practice is indeed a strengthening factor as we strive to maintain our strong stand against the liberal departure from the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions that we witness in some church bodies. We are also blessed in that we may call pastors and teachers from our sister synod when the need and the occasion arises.

Your president and the Rev. Gaylin Schmeling, chairman of the ELS Doctrine Committee, were privileged to attend the 53rd biennial convention of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod at Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, Michigan, on July 24-28, 1995. The theme of the convention was *Share the Promise*. The convention expressed gratefulness for the continuation of the Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum. It also resolved to declare itself in fellowship with the Lutheran Confessional Synod of Decatur, Illinois. Your president was privileged to bring greetings to the convention on behalf of our ELS.

The Doctrine Committee of our ELS held a joint meeting with the Committee on Inter-Church Relations of the WELS on January 26, 1996.

The Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum will hold its biennial meeting on October 21-22, 1996 with the ELS serving as hosts here in Mankato.

The psalmist writes, *Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.* (Ps. 133, v. 1) May the Lord continue to bless and strengthen the fellowship relationship that we have with our sister synod.

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

We rejoice over the fellowship which we share with the Lutheran Confessional Church (Sweden and Norway). Our dear brethren in that church body struggle against the forces of indifference, rank liberalism and materialism. A special synod convention was held during the past year but we were not able to attend. We look forward to attending their convention which will meet July 11-14, in Ljungby, Sweden. Let us continue to pray fervently for our brothers and sisters in Christ who have taken such a brave stand for the truth in the land of our forefathers.

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

The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Germany continues to maintain a strong witness to the truth as they labor mostly in what was formerly Communist East Germany. Their convention was held this year in Steeden which is a city north of Frankfurt. No representative from the ELS was in attendance but written greetings were sent. There have been several opportunities for fellowship between our mission in Plzen, Czech Republic, and members of the ELFK. Our ELS members in Plzen truly appreciate being able to associate with true brethren so close by.

We have had opportunity to meet with Pres. Wilde on two occasions in the past year. He was present at the WELS convention in July and also at the CELC convention in April in Puerto Rico. It is with joy that we welcome Pres. and Mrs. Wilde to this convention of our ELS. They have been present on our campus before but have not been able to attend one of our conventions. It is truly meaningful for us to have them as our guests this year.

The work of spreading the Gospel in Germany is not easy. We are thankful that the ELFK is able to operate a seminary in Leipzig where several fine young men are being trained for the ministry. The church body also operates a book distribution company whereby Christian literature is produced and distributed.

Let us also continue to remember before the throne of grace our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Land of the Reformation.

## **LUTHERAN CONFESSIONAL SYNOD**

A year ago our Evangelical Lutheran Synod entered into church fellowship with the Lutheran Confessional Synod. This is a very small group consisting mainly of one congregation in Decatur, Illinois. It was organized as a synod in order that it might be a witness to the cause of confessional Lutheranism. The group took a very brave stand in leaving the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and forming the new body. It is hoped that such a body which came out of ELCA would have a greater appeal to others in ELCA who may want to seek an orthodox church body. Their annual convention last summer was attended by the Rev. Gaylin Schmeling, the chairman of the Doctrine Committee of the ELS, who brought greetings to the church body on behalf of our synod. Last year our ELS in its resolutions of fellowship concluded with this resolution: "Be it resolved, that the synod hereby offers to our new sister synod our continued prayers for the Lord's blessing, every encouragement and assurance that we stand ready to assist her in any way possible as she stands with us in the struggle to maintain and proclaim God's saving Word in these times." Our synod is doing its best to carry out this resolution by contact with Bishop Randy DeJaynes offering encouragement and assurance of our continued prayers and fellowship.

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

Our ELS continues to stay in close contact through its Board for Foreign Missions with the ELSA. Through a generous grant our Board for Foreign Missions continues to help support the work there. We had the privilege of meeting with Pastor Mark Tuffin and Pastor Peter Prange at the gathering of world missionaries in Lima, Peru, in November of 1995. We were pleased to hear that progress is being made in the congregations at Kallangur and Maryborough. At

the meeting of the CELC in April Pastor Mark Tuffin was present and presented an excellent paper on the Doctrine of Justification. We are pleased to have a graduate of our Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary at work in this sister synod. The ELSA is an independent church body which governs its own affairs. Our ELS lends advice and encouragement by way of demonstrating our church fellowship, doctrinal agreement and desire to help promote the spread of the Gospel to the people "down under." May the Lord continue to bless this small confessional church body even as he has blessed our ELS.

## THE CONFESSIONAL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFERENCE

The second triennial convention of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC) was held April 23-25, 1996, in Quebradillas, Puerto Rico. The representatives of the fifteen member churches of the CELC are in complete doctrinal agreement. This common unity of faith based on the inerrant Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions filled everyone present at the convention with joy and thanksgiving.

The voting delegates from the ELS were your Synodical President and the Rev. Gaylin Schmeling. Advisory delegates were Pres. Wilhelm Petersen, Prof. Juul Madson, Prof. Adolph Harstad, and Prof. John Moldstad, Jr. who also served as chaplain of the convention. Many guests and visitors attended this convention at the Parador Vistamar overlooking the beautiful Atlantic Coast. Approximately 90 people were present including the Rev. David Jay Webber, representing the Ukrainian Lutheran Church, and Mr. Robert Brown from the ELS. The Rev. Mark Tuffin and Mr. Wilfred Schultz from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia; and the Rev. Abraham Rosario, the Rev. Timothy Erickson, and the Rev. David Haeuser from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in Peru.

The theme of the convention was *Justification By Grace Through Faith: Our Heritage From The Lutheran Reformation*. The essays of the convention carried out this theme.

Two new church bodies were received into the membership of the CELC: The Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Peru and the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Church of Russia. This brings the number of member churches to fifteen. It was decided to appoint a committee to prepare a position paper on the theological topic (Holy Scripture) treated at the last convention of the CELC. This statement will be submitted to the respective churches for ratification. The officers of the CELC elected by the convention were Professor Wilbert Gawrisch, president; Prof. Lyle Lange, vice president; Prof. John Moldstad, Jr., secretary; and Pres. George Orvick and the Rev. Duane Tomhave, members of the Planning Committee.

We were especially pleased that our daughter church body, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Peru, could be received into membership.

Pres. Gerhard Wilde of the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church (Germany) preached for the opening service of the convention and Pres. George Orvick served as liturgist. The sermon was based on Romans 3:28 with the theme, *How Can I Find a Gracious God?* The closing service was conducted by the Rev. Timothy Satorius of San Juan, Puerto Rico. Pres. Karl Gurgel of the WELS preached the sermon based on Nehemiah 8:9-12: *The Joy of the Lord is Your Strength*.

The conference was a most joyous and strengthening experience. Here delegates from throughout the world confessed their adherence to the pure marks of the church, the Word and the Sacraments. The CELC will strengthen each of the member churches through mutual encouragement and consultation. We praise and thank our Triune God who has permitted us to be a part of this new organization on the firm foundation of Jesus and His Word. (The above summary is taken from an article written by the Rev. Gaylin Schmeling.)

## SYNODICAL AFFAIRS

### CIRCUIT VISITORS' WORKSHOP

The annual Circuit Visitors' Conference was held November 2-3 in Burnsville, Minnesota. The visitors from all eleven circuits were present.

The Rev. Paul Schneider completed his presentation entitled *Paul's Pattern for the Parish Pastor*. Prof. Tom Kuster was present to lead a discussion of *Approaches to Conflict Resolution*. The Rev. Wayne Halvorson led a presentation and discussion of the subject of *The Visitors' Role in Promoting Mission Mindedness*.

There was a general discussion on many issues which confront pastors, congregations, and the synod today. Such questions included topics such as *Church Growth and Evangelism Material*; *The Doctrine of the Lord's Supper*; *The Instruction of Adults*; *Confirmation Age*; *The Doctrine of the Call*, etc.

Pres. Marvin Meyer was present and gave an update on the work in progress at Bethany Lutheran College. Prof. Richard Wiechmann, chairman of the Seminary Thankoffering Committee, and the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, secretary of the committee, gave a presentation on plans for the special offering for the building of the new seminary-synod building.

The conference was funded by a generous grant from Aid Association for Lutherans. Such help is much appreciated.

Your president wishes to express his sincere appreciation to each Visitor for his faithful help in caring for the needs of pastors and congregations.

### PASTORAL CONFERENCES

In chapter III of the By-laws of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod it is stated that one of the activities of the synod is j) to promote one General Pastoral Conference to be held annually and at least one pastoral conference in each circuit. I am pleased to report that our pastors in general are very diligent in conducting regular Circuit Pastoral Conferences and also local area Winkel Conferences. This year it was my privilege to attend the California/Arizona Conference held at Escondido, California, September 12-13; the Lake Michigan Area Conference which includes several circuits, and was held at Weston, Ohio, September 19-20; the Pacific Northwest Pastoral Conference held at Yelm, Washington, on October 30-31; and the Circuit #8 (Southern Minnesota) Pastoral Conference meeting at Princeton, Minnesota, May 23-24. The General Pastoral Conference was held January 3-5 in Bloomington, Minnesota. It was well attended and very profitable for all of our pastors. The conferences provide a wonderful opportunity for the pastors to study the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures and to edify one another. Such opportunities for fellowship are strengthening experiences for pastors and are a much needed part of their calling. Congregations ought to urge their pastors to attend the regular conferences because of the blessings that result also to the congregations from having given their pastor the opportunity for fellowship and refreshment. Such conferences also provide an opportunity to explain and promote the work of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

### WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

In our Evangelical Lutheran Synod we have nine women's missionary and church-related societies across the country. In addition to these there are many other women's organizations within the congregations. They have held regular meetings throughout the church year and have made important contributions to

the work of the Lord. The missionary societies do much for the work of home and foreign missions and the Bethany Women's Auxiliaries continue to give faithful support to our college and seminary. I would like, therefore, 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.

## ASSIGNMENT COMMITTEE

The Assignment Committee assigned candidates as follows: Candidate of Theology Erik Gernander to St. Paul Lutheran, Clintonville and St. Martin Lutheran, Shawano, Wisconsin; Candidate of Theology Jerome Gernander to Richland Lutheran, Thornton, Iowa; Candidate of Theology Bruce Schwark to Our Savior Lutheran, Bishop, California; Candidate of Theology Anthony Pittenger to Bethany Lutheran, Port Orchard, Washington (associate pastor); Candidate of Theology Terry Schultz to the Peru Mission; Candidate of Theology Konstantin Mamberger to Thoughts of Faith—Ukraine; and Candidate of Theology Stephen Schmidt to Emmaus Lutheran, Chicago, Illinois.

We are thankful to the Lord and to our seminary for these young men who will now go out and serve congregations and missions of our synod. May the Lord richly bless them as they begin their service in the office of the public ministry.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE SYNOD

According to the *By-laws of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Chapter III—Activities*, the goals and objectives of our synod are carefully spelled out. The following is a review of these objectives and how we can endeavor to meet them.

*The Synod shall through its elected boards, and committees under the supervision and coordination of its president:*

a) *promote an ongoing study of the Holy Scriptures (John 5:39);*

The boards and committees of our synod all diligently work to lead people into a study of the Holy Scriptures. Our Bethany Lutheran College this past year had some 400 young people enrolled in religious courses. Our Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, of course, is training pastors who are to become thoroughly immersed in the Holy Scriptures; our Board for Education and Youth encourages the study of the Bible for the children and youth. The board supervises and encourages the Christian Day School program of our synod, Vacation Bible Schools, Sunday Schools, and Youth Camps. Our Mission Boards seek to bring people into the kingdom where they will hear and learn the Word of God. The Board for Evangelism has plans to conduct workshops and seminars, provides a variety of materials, etc., for the spreading of the Gospel. The synod is therefore doing its best to fulfill this goal stated in the Bylaws.

b) *promote the distribution and use of the Holy Scriptures, orthodox books, devotional literature and hymn books;*

Our boards and committees also have this goal in mind as they prepare and distribute materials for use in the congregation. Our Lutheran Synod Book Company serves congregations and individuals through the carrying out of this guideline. Our Worship Committee will soon be producing a new hymn book for use by our congregations. Our Board for Publications publishes the *Lutheran Sentinel*, the *Lutheran Synod Quarterly* and assists in the publication of other material.

c) *be watchful concerning purity and unity of doctrine (Eph. 4:3-16; 1 Cor. 1:10) by studying doctrinal questions which are in special need of study and discussion, trying the spirits (1 John 4:1), and warning against encroaching sects, as well as against errors and unchristian trends (1 Timothy 4:1-6), in accordance with the Holy Scriptures.*

The Doctrine Committee leads the way in being watchful concerning purity and unity of doctrine and in carrying out the goals of this By-law. This is also done by all the pastors, teachers, and pastoral conferences.

*d) establish and promote home and foreign missions;*

One of the largest programs carried on by our ELS is our home and foreign mission program. This is in keeping with Chapter III of our Constitution which says: "The synod exists to carry out the command of Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19-20), to contend for the faith (Jude 3), and to promote the development of Christian life (Galatians 5:22-25) within its membership."

Our Home and Foreign Mission Boards have great responsibilities. Calling and training workers, managing the large amounts of funds for these programs, finding new sites for home mission congregations, supervising the young congregations and church building programs, dealing with the manifold challenges on foreign fields, are indeed great responsibilities.

*e) establish, manage and maintain institutions of learning for the training of pastors and teachers and for the general Christian education of its people;*

We are pleased to report another year of great blessing and progress at our Bethany Lutheran College and Seminary. Both institutions continue to remain faithful to the Word of God and are under dedicated and capable leadership. The new buildings at the college have greatly enhanced the opportunity for our school to serve a larger number of students. Increased resources are a real blessing in providing for the finest educational facilities. The seminary also will be blessed with a new building which we hope will be finished in October. One of the most important tasks that a church body has is to prepare pastors and teachers for the public ministry. We are thankful that our seminary has been granted 50 years of service to our synod and continues to produce young men for the ministry.

*f) promote and support the establishment of Christian Day Schools for the instruction of the young;*

Our Board for Education and Youth through its subcommittee on Christian Day Schools provides assistance to our teachers and our schools. Teachers conferences are conducted regularly to the benefit of the teachers and the schools. New schools are also being organized wherever possible. The committee is working on a revision of certification rules so that we may be assured of the proper qualifications of all of our teachers. The statistics show that we have 16 schools with 74 teachers.

*g) promote works of charity;*

Our Board for Christian Service is very diligent in caring for the needs of pastors' widows and also retired pastors. Through its annual Mother's Day Offering for the World Needs Fund the board is able to be of help to our own and to others who are in need at various places in the world. It encourages our membership to be generous in their gifts to the World Needs Fund so that we can do good to as many as possible.

*h) establish, gather and administer the funds required for the Synod's operation;*

The Board for Stewardship keeps the members of the congregations and the pastors informed as to the needs of our synod and the progress that we are making. This year a series of stewardship presentations will be made in all the pastoral conferences of the synod. Meanwhile the Board of Trustees watches carefully over the administration of the synod's funds, investments and budget. The Planning and Coordinating Committee helps the boards come together to understand each others work and to plan a budget which will provide as best we can for the various areas of our work.

*i) exercise supervision over the Synod's institutions and the pastoral work and practice of its members (cf. paragraph c above)*



Your president attends most of the board meetings, committee meetings and pastoral conferences held in the synod. He is assisted by the circuit visitors who function in their particular areas.

j) *promote one General Pastoral Conference to be held annually and at least one pastoral conference in each circuit;*

Every year a General Pastoral Conference is held. Valuable essays are presented and doctrinal issues are carefully addressed. Conferences are also regularly held in each circuit.

k) *in accordance with the Scriptures (Galatians 6:1-2) serve to mediate in controversies which may arise in the Synod or within its membership.*

The president and the circuit visitors do their best to help in controversies which may arise from time to time, seeking to promote unity and peace amongst the pastors and congregations of the synod.

We are therefore endeavoring to carry out the program of activity which our synod has established in its By-laws. It certainly is a full range of activities for the welfare of God's people and the promotion of the blessed Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

## **BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

This year's convention marks a very special historic occasion in the life of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod. It was 50 years ago this fall that Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary went into operation. Dr. Norman A. Madson of Princeton, Minnesota, was called to be the first dean. Over the years our seminary has served our synod very well providing many pastors for our congregations. Above all we are grateful to the Lord that our seminary has remained faithful to its commitment to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. Many Lutheran seminarians have long ago departed from their historic foundations. Professors have become imbued with the historical critical method of biblical interpretation and this has spread like leaven throughout large portions of various church bodies. If the source for the training of future pastors becomes polluted it will not be long and the members of the congregations themselves begin to question the sacred doctrines of the Holy Scriptures. The professors who have taught at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary over the 50-year period have been totally committed to teaching pure doctrine. In order to give thanks and praise to the Lord for this blessing of 50 years we have chosen the theme for this year's convention *Preparing Messengers of Peace*. In the essay delivered by Prof. J. B. Madson, who has taught at our seminary for 25 years, we will be reminded of the sacred obligation that we have in remaining faithful to the truth and being diligent in preparing pastors for service in our church. The daily devotions at our convention will also center on the office of the holy ministry. On Sunday evening, June 16th, the celebration of the anniversary will take place in connection with this year's seminary graduation. The speaker on this occasion will be Pres. Wilhelm Petersen who has served our seminary in this capacity so well for the last sixteen years. He has now indicated his intention to retire in another year. We take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the leadership that Pres. Petersen has given to our seminary and for his faithful instruction of the students in the doctrines of God's Word and in the importance of preaching law and gospel.

At the 1995 convention of our ELS the synod authorized the Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents to proceed with the construction of a new seminary-synod office building. We are pleased to report that the building is presently under construction. A completion date of October 15th is our target. The new seminary will have greatly enhanced facilities for the training of our students. The new building will provide a large and attractive library for the

seminary, two new classrooms, a small chapel and offices for the seminary president and the professors. Those in attendance at the convention are invited to visit the site on Browns Court if they so desire. The building has a commanding view of the Minnesota River Valley and an excellent location. The new building and the moving of the seminary and synod offices gives the college another building for its expanding program.

Let us continue to pray for our school of the prophets that it may ever remain faithful to the inspired Word and that it may produce a steady stream of pastors to care for the needs of our congregation. *The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest.* (Luke 10,2)

## SYNOD HEADQUARTERS

We are pleased that the new seminary building will also house synodical office space. As our synod continues to grow there is also a need for more administrative area. In the new building there will be the office for the president of the synod, three smaller offices for future needs, a secretarial office to serve both the synod and the seminary and a board room for meetings of the various synodical boards and committees. If additional administrative positions are created in the future there will be space for such workers. Right now the boards for Home and Foreign Missions are requesting that a staff position be developed to help administer those expanding areas. We are thus providing for the long-range future of the administration of our synod by including these offices in the new building.

## SYNODICAL ARCHIVES

It is essential for a church body to preserve historical records. We need to look to the future and plan for it but we also need to remember our history. Over the years we have not had an appropriate nor adequate space for the preservation of such records. Important documents and artifacts have been stored in rooms here and there across the Bethany campus. Precious things describing the life of our synod were stored in the attic of Old Main, in various closets and under stairwells, etc. We will now have a special room for the archives along with a workroom for study and research. Much credit goes to the Rev. W. C. Gullixson for his many years of attention to the archives of our synod. The new archivist is President Emeritus Norman Holte who, together with the Archives Committee, is zealous about the proper preservation of our historical records. We hope that pastors and people interested in historical research will feel welcome to come and use the synod archives. We also urge pastors and congregations to send documents, bulletins, historical records, pictures, etc., to the Department of Archives for preservation.

## THE ELS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Under the leadership of the Committee on Archives a proposal is being brought to the synod convention for the establishment of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Historical Society. We believe that such an organization will render valuable service to our church body. It will help to create an interest in our roots through research and the publishing of a bulletin and that will encourage pastors and members to remain faithful to the "old truths" which are the foundation of confessional Lutheranism. We remember the words of the Prophet Jeremiah, *Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.* (Jer. 6,16)

## ANNIVERSARY OFFERING

As authorized by the 1995 convention, a special offering began on January 28, 1996. Pledges and gifts were sought from the congregations of the synod. It is hoped that a goal of \$400,000 would be reached over a two-year period. The entire amount contributed for the special offering for the 50th anniversary of the seminary will be matched by a generous donor. If we are successful in raising the \$400,000 the entire cost of the new building should be covered. At the present time we are off to a rather slow start with about \$236,000 in pledges. Of the amount pledged about \$40,000 in cash has been received. In addition to this, other gifts total \$45,000. We hope that all who have made such pledges will fulfill them and that in addition to these there will be other gifts which so far have not been indicated. The 50th anniversary of the seminary is certainly an occasion upon which we should show our gratitude to the Lord for providing us with such a training school for our pastors. Members of the Anniversary Committee are Prof. Richard Wiechmann, chairman; Pastor Craig Ferkenstad; Pres. W. Petersen; Prof. J. A. Moldstad, Jr.; Pastor Paul Schneider; and your Synodical President.

## BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

We give thanks to our gracious God for the continued blessings that he bestows upon our college. We are especially thankful for a dedicated administration, faculty and staff which makes for a smooth and efficient operation of our school. In the last two years we have been blessed with an increased enrollment which enables us to bring the *one thing needful* to more young people. Special gifts from a generous benefactor, the alumni and other donors have made it possible for wonderful improvements to take place on the campus. We are especially thrilled with the new Trinity Chapel. It is a real centerpiece on our campus and will be a constant symbol of what Bethany really stands for.

The administration and faculty are constantly thinking about the future and how Bethany may better serve the youth of our synod and other young people in the years to come. We ask the Lord to bless the planning that the college is doing for the expansion of its program to include more opportunities for young people to prepare for a life of service. Such planning on the part of the administration and faculty requires a great deal of hard work. Under the leadership of Pres. Meyer the college is facing up to new challenges which will insure a continued role of excellence in academia.

## HOME MISSIONS

Our Board for Home Missions continues to work diligently in carrying out the great commission of our Lord to go and preach the Gospel to every creature. By establishing new home mission congregations we also insure the future of our synod. With a declining rural population it is essential that we move into areas of growth. Our board has a difficult task before it; the selection of sites for new missions, the care and nourishment of mission congregations, aiding, supporting and encouraging mission pastors and administering a large budget. We are thankful that additional funds have been made available by a generous donor thus enabling our board to reach out in a way that was not possible a few years ago. The management of the home mission program has grown to such an extent that the board has decided that it needs a home mission counselor who will have more time to devote to all of the above-mentioned responsibilities.

If we look at the record we can see that 18 new mission congregations have been organized over the past 15 years. They are as follows:

## YEAR LOCATION

1980	1. Faith Lutheran Church, Oregon, Wisconsin
1980	2. Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Lake Havasu City, Arizona
1984	3. Trinity Lutheran Church, Sebastian, Florida
1985	4. Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona
1985	5. Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lakeland, Florida
1986	6. Christ Lutheran Church, Port Saint Lucie, Florida
1988	7. Family of God Lutheran Church, Fort Mohave, Arizona
1989	8. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Brownsburg, Indiana
1990	9. Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, Florida
1990	10. New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, Florida
1990	11. Saved By Grace Lutheran Church, Gresham, Oregon
1991	12. Faith Lutheran Church, Litchfield, Illinois
1992	13. Messiah Lutheran Church, Puyallup, Washington
1992	14. Peace Lutheran Church, South Lakeland, Florida
1993	15. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Holland, Michigan
1994	16. Resurrection Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, Florida
1995	17. Abiding Word Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, Ohio
1995	18. Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Cartersville, Georgia

The board is diligent in providing for the care of the mission pastors. Each year a seminar is held which includes edification from God's Word, planning sessions and an opportunity for the missionaries and the board to share mission procedures, etc.

Our Lord has commanded us to do mission work. Our synod in obedience to His command in its Constitution, Chapter III—Purpose, states the following: "The Synod exists to carry out the command of Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19-20)." In its By-laws it lists as one of its activities (Chapter III, "d) to establish and promote home and foreign missions." May the Lord continue to bless and guide the Board for Home Missions as it carries out its heavy responsibilities.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS

What a special thrill it was for your president to visit our foreign mission field in Peru in November of 1995. This was my third visit to the Peruvian field, the first being in 1972, the second in 1986. What wonderful progress has been made since we began work there in 1968. Our seminary has been training national pastors for more than 15 years. The establishment of a seminary to train native workers has done a great deal for the advancement of the work in Peru. There are now 4 national pastors who are thoroughly trained and who are serving congregations in Lima and surrounding areas. The Peruvian field will be blessed with the addition of another full-time American worker namely Candidate of Theology Terry Schultz who will be commissioned at this year's convention. The new work begun several years ago in Chile has also been blessed by the Lord. Many souls are being won for Christ through the faithful ministrations of our missionaries there. The staff will be greatly enhanced by the addition of Missionary Oto Rodriguez who comes to us from the Lutheran Church in Mexico (affiliated with WELS). Missionary Rodriguez is also being commissioned at this year's convention.

We commend the Board for Foreign Missions for organizing a world missionary conference bringing together our workers from Ukraine, Czech Republic, Australia, Chile and Peru. This was a very special event held in Lima in the middle of November. What a blessing it was for the missionaries and their wives and guests from the Board for Foreign Missions to enjoy this fellowship and to strengthen one another. A grant from a generous benefactor made the conference possible.

The Board for Foreign Missions is also being faced with the need for increased administrative staff. The details of keeping track of the budget, attending to the needs of each mission, visiting the field and caring for the missionaries and their families is becoming an increasingly demanding task. Field Secretary Norman Madson is to be commended along with Chairman Paul Anderson and other members of the board for their attention to the many duties. The board is now proposing the possibility of creating a position of Foreign Mission Counselor.

In two years we will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the beginning of our foreign mission endeavor in Peru. Surely this will be a memorable occasion in the life of our synod.

## **PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE**

As our synod grows so do administrative responsibilities. Ten years ago at the 1986 synod convention the office of synod president was made a full-time position. It was no longer possible for a pastor to carry out both the duties of the parish ministry and the synodical responsibilities. We have now come to the point where we need to consider adding an additional position. Both the Home and the Foreign Mission boards have requested that a Mission Counselor position be created. The Board of Trustees has taken this under advisement and has begun a planning process enlisting the aid of a consultant to help determine what our next step should be and what the duties and responsibilities of a new position would include and how it would relate to our present administrative organization. Such planning has already begun and we pray that a study of our administrative setup will result in future blessings for our synod. At last year's convention the synod authorized the president to carry out a series of synod-wide mission conferences and stewardship conferences held in various congregations of the synod for pastors and members. The need for such continual emphasis upon our work and the importance of reaching out beyond the convention to each area of the synod is essential. I have not found it possible, however, to arrange for such conferences due to the heavy responsibilities already being carried. This is one of the areas where a full-time mission counselor could be of assistance and of real benefit to the overall work of our synod.

## **EASTERN EUROPE**

We are happy to report that many souls are being won for the Gospel through the outreach of Thoughts of Faith, a church-related organization of our synod. The Board of Directors of the Thoughts of Faith organization is doing a commendable job in overseeing its far-flung operation. The Rev. David Meyer recently accepted the call to serve as administrator.

Work in Ukraine and the Czech Republic continues to make significant progress. The Ukrainian Lutheran Church has been organized with the Rev. John Shep as bishop. A seminary has begun the instruction of prospective pastors in the city of Ternopil. The Rev. Jay Webber of Brewster, Massachusetts, is the coordinator. Professors from ELS and WELS and pastors with particular expertise teach the various courses on a visiting professor basis. Attendance is growing in the churches and plans are being made for the construction of a church building in Kiev. In the Czech Republic a significant step forward was made with the purchase and remodeling of the school building in Plzen. About 117 students are enrolled in the Christian Day School there and the congregation enjoys the fine new chapel in the building. Your president visited the mission in October of 1995 and was privileged to preach the sermon and dedicate the new facility. Worship services have also begun in Prague with Missionary

James Krikava as pastor. The use of a Slovak church in downtown Prague makes it possible for the congregation to have a beautiful and centralized place of worship. Missionary Krikava has also made contact with other concerned and confessional Lutheran pastors in the area. I had the privilege of meeting with two pastors from Silesia, together with Missionary Krikava, last October while I was in Prague. They reported that there are a number of confessional Lutheran pastors who do not belong to the Lutheran World Federation who are interested in learning more about our synod. We hope that future discussions may reveal more about the church situation and the doctrinal position of those who have expressed interest.

May the Lord continue to bless the work of the Thoughts of Faith organization as it labors to bring the Gospel to Eastern Europe.

## NEW CONGREGATIONS

We are pleased to report that congregations who wish to remain faithful to confessional Lutheranism continue to find a haven in our ELS. We continue to testify and bear witness to the truth and others are recognizing our church body as being truly confessional and truly Lutheran. Listed below are 28 congregations which have become members of our synod, not including the home missions started by our ELS.

### YEAR LOCATION

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1981 | 1. Resurrection Lutheran Church, Marietta, Georgia                      |
| 1982 | 2. Wayfarers' Chapel-Lutheran Church, Ventura, California               |
| 1983 | 3. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, Piedmont, Missouri          |
| 1984 | 4. Nazareth Norwegian Lutheran Church, Trail, Minnesota                 |
| 1984 | 5. St. Paul Lutheran Church, Escondido, California                      |
| 1985 | 6. Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Santa Rosa, California           |
| 1985 | 7. Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, The Dalles, Oregon              |
| 1985 | 8. Faith Lutheran Church, Alpena, Michigan                              |
| 1985 | 9. Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Orange County, California         |
| 1986 | 10. Emmaus Lutheran Church, Chicago, Illinois                           |
| 1986 | 11. Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grants Pass, Oregon         |
| 1987 | 12. Christ Lutheran Church, Klamath Falls, Oregon                       |
| 1987 | 13. Oak Park Lutheran Church, Oklee, Minnesota                          |
| 1987 | 14. Shepherd Of The Hills Lutheran Church,<br>Grass Valley, California  |
| 1988 | 15. Peace Lutheran Church, Jefferson City, Missouri                     |
| 1988 | 16. Grace Lutheran Church, Weston, Ohio                                 |
| 1989 | 17. Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hood River, Oregon           |
| 1989 | 18. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Saginaw, Michigan                       |
| 1990 | 19. Scriptural Lutheran Church, Cape Girardeau, Missouri                |
| 1992 | 20. Grace Lutheran Church, Hillsboro, Oregon                            |
| 1994 | 21. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lake Station, Indiana            |
| 1995 | 22. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church,<br>North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania |
| 1995 | 23. Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rogers City, Michigan          |
| 1995 | 24. Christ the King Lutheran Church, Green Bay, Wisconsin               |
| 1995 | 25. Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Clara City, Minnesota            |
| 1996 | 26. Messiah Lutheran Church, Omro, Wisconsin                            |
| 1996 | 27. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Cold Spring, Minnesota                  |
| 1996 | 28. St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Detroit, Michigan                    |

## STEWARDSHIP MATTERS

The Lord has given rich blessings to each and every one of us. The management of these blessings which include our time, our talents, and our treasures is called stewardship. Our Lord teaches the matter of stewardship in the Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25 and in the Parable of the Pounds in Luke 19. The Apostle Paul writes to the Corinthians saying, *Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.* (I Cor. 4,2) In order that the proper motivation for Christian stewardship may be presented to all of our people the Rev. Paul Schneider, chairman of the Board for Stewardship and ELS Stewardship Counselor, is presenting a program to all of the pastoral conferences of the synod. This material is then available for use in each congregation.

We would like to take this opportunity once again to urge all pastors and delegates when returning home to place the work of the synod on the agendas of church council meetings and voters' meetings. As members of the synod we are all partners in the joint work which we agree to do at this convention. The mission programs, education endeavors and all of the various activities that are encompassed in our synodical budget are the responsibility of each and every congregation. These matters need to be discussed in each congregation. It is all too easy to discuss only the needs at home and leave the needs of the Lord's work away from home forgotten. We also urge each congregation to examine the procedures whereby they gather offerings for the work of the Lord away from home. These procedures should include some organized system such as including an amount for the Lord's work away from home in the regular budget of the congregation; perhaps having a regular monthly envelope for the synod in each envelope box; holding special mission festivals to stir up interest in the spreading of the Gospel; making use of all the informational material that is received about synodical work and making certain that the work of the synod becomes an important part of the congregation's effort to serve the Lord also. We believe that it would be helpful if each congregation would examine what they have given to the synod in years past and then set goals for the future. We need to be systematic in doing the Lord's work and not simply leaving it to chance. Oftentimes our membership is not aware of the programs that we have undertaken. Information and inspiration from God's Word about the great work that we are doing are essential. Since we receive gifts from generous donors there is a real danger that we no longer feel responsible for the work of our synod ourselves. If we fall into this trap our stewardship will not be pleasing to the Lord. Each one of us has a responsibility no matter what others are giving. We also have the added incentive that everything that we give for the Lord's work away from home is being matched and the Lord therefore gives us a double opportunity to spread the Gospel. Let us therefore determine that when we go home from this convention we will bring a positive message about our joint responsibilities as members of the synod in carrying out all of the activities which we have previously described in this report.

The motivation for our Christian giving should always be our love for the Lord Jesus Christ. When we consider what he has done to rescue our souls from eternal perdition by His perfect life, His innocent suffering and death, His resurrection and ascension in order that we may live eternally, we ought to show our gratitude for this by generously supporting His work. He has also promised to bless those who give. The Lord says, *Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over.* (Luke 6,38) The Apostle Paul reminds us that *God loveth a cheerful giver.* (II Cor. 9,7)

In the report of the stewardship secretary in the *Book of Reports and Memorials* there will be found an accounting of the giving of each congregation over the past seven years. We urge each delegate and pastor to review the record of his congregation and to use that record to help set a goal for 1996.

## **FUTURE GIFTS TO THE LORD**

At this time also, I would like to call attention to the work of Prof. Richard Wiechmann, our deferred giving counselor. Prof. Wiechmann travels extensively to all parts of the synod preaching, holding seminars, visiting with pastors and members, helping to write wills and guiding people as they plan their estates. He has been well received wherever he travels and people often seek his help in their personal affairs. The deferred gifts and annuities which will some day come to our synod have increased greatly in number and our synod stands to reap a real blessing for the work of the Lord in years to come. Pastors, congregations, and individuals should not hesitate to invite Prof. Wiechmann to discuss their plans for making gifts, wills and estates for the benefit of both the congregations and the synod. We express our sincere appreciation to Prof. Wiechmann.

## **PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES**

We believe that it is important for the sake of the unity of our synod and for the encouragement of as many pastors as possible that the synod president visit and preach whenever the opportunity presents itself. During the past year we have preached or spoken at 17 of our synod's congregations. They are: Our Savior's, Princeton, Minnesota; Trinity, Brewster, Massachusetts; Christ the King, Green Bay, Wisconsin; Lord of Life, Holland, Michigan; Faith, Litchfield, Illinois; Bethany, Port Orchard, Washington; Messiah, Omro, Wisconsin; Heritage, Apple Valley, Minnesota; Christ, Port St. Lucie, Florida; Peace, Kissimmee, Florida; Trinity, West Bend, Wisconsin; Forest, Forest City, Iowa; Grace, Hillsboro, Oregon; Oak Park, Oklee, Minnesota; Mt. Olive, Trail, Minnesota; First American, Mayville, North Dakota; and Ascension, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

We are happy to report that our pastors are diligently caring for their congregations. The work of being a pastor today is not getting any easier. The breakup of the family, the constant attacks from Satan in the form of drug abuse, sexual promiscuity, violence and general indifference to the Commandments of our Lord all take part in making the role of pastor a very difficult position. We therefore ought to pray for our pastors, give them encouragement and moral support and provide them with a decent wage so that they can take care of their families without undue hardship.

## **A WORD OF APPRECIATION**

It certainly is fitting and proper that at our convention we express our appreciation to all those who have labored so hard to carry out the work of the synod. We therefore express our sincere gratitude to all of our faithful members and pastors. In particular let me mention specifically my fellow officers: The Rev. Glenn Obenberger, vice president; the Rev. Alf Merseth, secretary; and Mr. Leroy Meyer, treasurer. The contribution that the secretary and treasurer make to the work of our synod for a little stipend is really a work of love on their part. Their efforts are so much appreciated. Others who have carried heavy responsibilities are: The Rev. Paul Madson, recently retired editor of the *Lutheran Sentinel*; Pres. Marvin Meyer and the faculty and staff of Bethany Lutheran College; Pres. Wilhelm Petersen and the faculty of the seminary; Melvina Aaberg, our faithful secretary; our Circuit Visitors; all of our various boards and committee members; and especially those who serve on the foreign mission fields. We thank the Lord above all for providing such faithful laborers who willingly give their lives in the service of our Savior Jesus Christ and for the up building of His kingdom. May the Lord grant them health and strength for the great challenge that is set before them.



## CONCLUSION

As we look back over the years from the organization of our synod in 1918 until we now observe the 79th convention of our church body we can only marvel at the abundant grace of God which He has shed upon us. When we think of that little group assembled at Lime Creek so many years ago we are amazed at their courage and faith as they proceeded to organize the synod and looked forward to the future. The Lord surely was with them and sustained and directed them so that the Evangelical Lutheran Synod is still in operation and is a healthy church body today. For all of these blessings we can say nothing but "All Glory be to God." It is due to His blessing and to the power of His Gospel that we are still in existence and continue to experience growth and progress. In response to all of the Lord's mercy toward us we rejoice with the psalmist, *O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.* (Psalm 95, 1-2)

### Soli Deo Gloria

George M. Orvick, president

## SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP ACTION OF THE SYNOD

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

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

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

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

- 1. The Rev. Ernest Geistfeld, pastor of First Evanger Lutheran Church, Fertile Minnesota and Grace Lutheran Church, Crookston, Minnesota.*
- 2. The Rev. Michael Langlais, pastor of River Heights Lutheran Church, East Grand Forks, Minnesota.*
- 3. The Rev. Ronald Pederson, pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Ames, Iowa, and Grace Lutheran Church (WELS) Newton, Iowa.*

### 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 in each application for synodical membership that the requirements of the constitution have been met,*

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

1. *The Rev. David Raetz, pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lakeland, Florida.*
2. *The Rev. Rodney Flohr, pastor of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Cold Spring, Minnesota.*
3. *The Rev. Beauford Anderson of Port Orchard, Washington.*
4. *The Rev. Martin Galstad of Winter Haven, Florida.*

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

*WHEREAS, The Rev. Oto Rodriguez has requested to be transferred from the Evangelical Confessional Lutheran Church in Mexico into the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and,*

*WHEREAS, President George Orvick and the officials of the Mexican Lutheran Church have arranged the necessary documents of transfer,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Rev. Oto Rodriguez be officially transferred into the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*

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

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

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

1. *Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, Ohio.*
2. *Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Cold Spring, Minnesota.*
3. *Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church, Omro, Wisconsin.*
4. *Saint Matthew Lutheran Church, Detroit, Michigan.*

### **Resolution No. 5: Constitution Reviews**

*WHEREAS, Christ the Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona, has changed its name to Redeemer Lutheran Church and has submitted its constitution for review, and,*

*WHEREAS, The committee finds it to be in agreement with the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we approve the constitution of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona.*

*WHEREAS, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Myrtle Creek, Oregon, has revised its constitution and has submitted it for review, and,*

*WHEREAS, It is found to be in agreement with the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we approve the revised constitution of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Myrtle Creek, Oregon.*

*WHEREAS, St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Lombard, Illinois has revised its constitution and has submitted it for review, and,*

*WHEREAS, It has been found to be in agreement with the*

*constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That we approve the revised constitution of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Lombard, Illinois.*

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

### **Resolution No. 1: Response to the President's Message**

*WHEREAS, The president in his message has encouraged us to "continue steadfastly in the Apostle's doctrine and faith;" "to have an attitude of thankfulness for the manifold blessings He continues to bestow upon our synod;" and "to encourage one another to work,"*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod takes the president's encouragement to heart, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod continues to demonstrate its steadfastness in doctrinal purity; to express its attitude of thankfulness in word and deed; and to stand firm in its commitment to the work of the Savior both in and through our local congregations.*

### **Resolution No. 2: Pastoral Conference**

*WHEREAS, In his report, our president made note of several pastoral resignations this past year, and,*

*WHEREAS, Mention also was made of congregations which have withdrawn from the synod, and,*

*WHEREAS, Attention was drawn to the wonderful benefits and opportunities the pastoral conferences provide, enabling pastors to study the doctrines of Holy Scripture, and to receive timely encouragement, advice, and support for their lives and ministry,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod underscores its president's wise advice that "congregations ought to urge their pastors to attend these meetings because of the blessings that result also to the congregations from having given their pastors the opportunity for fellowship and refreshment.*

### **Resolution No. 3: The ELFK (Germany)**

*WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church (Germany) had for many years been isolated from her confessional brethren in the United States as she contended for the truth behind the Iron Curtain, and,*

*WHEREAS, The new political climate in eastern Europe has enabled closer ties and personal contact between the members and leaders of the ELFK and her American brethren, and,*

*WHEREAS, For the first time, President Wilde and his wife have been able to attend the annual convention of the ELS and to address us and lead us in worship,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its gratitude to our gracious Lord for His grace in preserving our brethren through the years of communist rule and for enabling, by the fall of communism, a closer contact between our two church bodies, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its gratitude to President Wilde for his visit and message to us and prays that the Lord would continue to watch over and bless the work of the ELFK.*

#### **Resolution No. 4: Inter-Church Relations**

**“How good and pleasant it is when brothers  
live together in unity!” Ps. 133:1**

*WHEREAS, In today's world of apostasy and liberalism in doctrine among so many “Christian denominations, it is incumbent upon those who hold the truths of Scripture to stand firm on the Word of God and to boldly contend for the pure Gospel, and,*

*WHEREAS, Those who share a common faith and a common confessional stand are often isolated from like-minded brethren by distance and/or political constraints, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Lord both encourages and blesses those who stand together in His Truth, and,*

*WHEREAS, The synod has been blessed by the close ties of fellowship with our brethren in the faith around the world, viz. the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, the Lutheran Confessional Church (Sweden and Norway), the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church (Germany), the newly-formed Lutheran Confessional Synod, and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia, as well as by our participation in the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference into which our daughter synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Peru, recently was received as a member,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its joy over the fellowship which we share with our dear brethren in the faith throughout the world, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the members of the synod be encouraged to pray for, and support in every way possible, the ongoing work that our brothers and sisters in Christ are carrying on throughout the world.*

#### **Resolution No. 5: Synodical Goals and Objectives**

*WHEREAS, The President's Report reviewed the goals and objectives of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, as spelled out in the Bylaws, Chapter III, and,*

*WHEREAS, Under each goal listed the blessings of the work we are doing as a synod have been carefully enumerated by the president,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks its president for reminding us of our past and ongoing activities as a synod, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages each board, the synod officials and the members of our synod to periodically re-examine these worthy objectives, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod implores the gracious guidance of our God as we continue to carry out His work and gratefully acknowledge the many blessings He has granted our synod this past year and throughout its history.*

#### **Resolution No. 6: Seminary Anniversary**

*WHEREAS, This year's convention marks a very special historic occasion in that we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of our Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Lord of the church for providing us with our own school of the prophets, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Seminary faculty continues to uphold the pure doctrines of God's Holy Word, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod implores our almighty God to rest His protecting hand upon our current projects of erecting and funding the new facilities which will serve our seminary and synod.*

#### **Resolution No. 7: Dissemination of President's Message and Report**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the President's Message be printed in the 1996 Synod Report.*

**ESSAY SUBMITTED TO THE  
79TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
JUNE 1996**

Peace to soothe our bitter woes  
God in Christ on us bestows;  
Jesus bought our peace with God  
With His holy precious blood;  
Peace in Him for sinners found  
Is the Gospel's joyful sound.<sup>1</sup>

**PREPARING  
MESSENGERS OF  
PEACE**

The Apostle Paul, renowned New Testament messenger of the Lord Jesus Christ, is merely echoing the words of his Old Testament counterpart Isaiah<sup>2</sup> when, in writing to the Christians at Rome, he exults in the glory of the public ministry, saying, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10, 15. And just before quoting the prophet's words Paul has asked an important question: "How shall they preach unless they are sent?" v. 15. To which we append another question, which may well be seen as but a subdivision of the previous one: "How shall they be sent unless they are prepared?"

This year the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod are celebrating fifty years of involvement in the preparation of messengers of the gospel of peace in our own Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. Those fifty years have seen one hundred fifty-four graduates emerge into the public ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. According to the information available to this essayist, of that total number of Gospel messengers produced by this seminary sixteen have died, ten have retired within the synod, thirty-eight no longer remain in our synod, and ninety-one continue in the public ministry within the Synod. In another assessment of these figures, it appears that the Evangelical Lutheran Synod has retained about seventy percent of its seminary's graduates.<sup>3</sup>



Juul B. Madson

The number of graduates over this span of time is certainly not very large, nor has it even sufficed to fill our own needs, for in the growth and expansion that our synod has experienced over the years we have from time to time had to undergo ministerial transfusion from other sources—in more recent times mostly from our brethren of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, but also from clergymen of other Lutheran bodies who for confessional reasons have sought fellowship in the ELS. The transfusions from the Wisconsin Synod can, in one sense, simply be said to constitute a tradeoff: in the last three decades our Bethany Lutheran College, at the request and with the support of our sister synod, performed an educational preparatory function for many second career men who sought entrance into both the seminary and, eventually, the ministry of the latter synod.<sup>4</sup>

### OLD TESTAMENT MESSENGERS

From earliest times the Lord has provided spiritual leadership for his people. The program for training such leaders in Old Testament days has not been set forth in detail, nor did it apparently always follow the same pattern. Even after the fall into sin God spoke directly to people whom he selected as spiritual leaders. In the book of Genesis, chapters 5ff, it is recorded that God spoke directly to Noah, and in the New Testament writings Peter refers to him as a “preacher [herald] of righteousness.” II Peter 2, 5. Of Abraham it is written in Genesis 12, 8: “There [between Bethel and Ai] he built an altar to the Lord and *called on the name of the Lord*.<sup>5</sup>” In his exposition of the book of Genesis Luther expounds on this italicized phrase thus: “[Abraham] erects an altar on this mountain...in order to perform his duty as bishop; that is, he instructs his church concerning the will of God, admonishes them to lead a holy life, strengthens them in their faith, fortifies their hope of future blessing, and prays with them. *The Hebrew verb includes all these things.*”<sup>6</sup>

We have likewise seen from the Scriptures that God directly called Moses to serve as leader of his Old Testament church, the Israelites, yet not until this candidate had undergone considerable training in distant Midian.<sup>7</sup> In addition, Moses was given a brief crash program in connection with his being commissioned to bring a strong message from the Lord to an unrepentant Pharaoh: “Let my people go!” It is not insignificant that this Moses became the prophet according to the pattern of which our God would in his good time raise up the true prophetic anti-type, namely, the Lord Jesus Christ, the ultimate Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.<sup>8</sup> And let us not forget Moses’ likely training at the hands of his mother before he was turned over to the control of Pharaoh’s household.

The Old Testament also records that the prophet Samuel received training at the hands of Eli, who had greater success with this son of Elkanah and Hannah than with his own sons;<sup>9</sup> and that Elisha was trained for the prophetic office under the great prophet Elijah, a double-portion of whose spirit he sought when he was about to bid farewell to his famous mentor.<sup>10</sup> Any thorough concordance of Holy Scripture will have many entries under the word prophet—in both Testaments. Most of these references are to the prophets of God, of whom Jeremiah records the Lord as saying: "Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have sent to you all my servants the prophets." Jer. 7, 25. Nor are the words of these prophets to be forgotten even in the New Testament era, for Peter reminds the readers of his second epistle that they "should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets" as well as "the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by [the] Apostles." II Peter 3, 2.

But there were other prophets also—undesirable prophets—of whom the same Jeremiah records: "Thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Do not listen to the words of the prophets who are prophesying to you. They are leading you into futility; they speak a vision of their own imagination, not from the mouth of the Lord.'" Jeremiah 23, 16. And through the divinely appointed prophet Micah the Lord again speaks in the same vein when He refers to "the prophets that make my people err." Micah 3, 5. In the original Greek version of the New Testament there is even a combined word for the expression "false prophet," namely, the word which is transliterated directly into the English language as *pseudoprophet*.<sup>11</sup>

### NEW TESTAMENT MESSENGERS

It is this word which the Savior employs when through the Evangelist Matthew he records several serious NEW TESTAMENT warnings such as these: "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves," Matthew 7, 15; and again, "Many false prophets shall arise and shall deceive many." Matthew 24, 11. The Evangelist St. John was aware of the same reality and therefore wrote: "Many false prophets have gone out into the world." I John 4, 1. The Apostle Peter was likewise aware of this grievous condition when he reported: "There were false prophets also among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you." II Peter 2, 1.

Because the Church of God is desirous of producing true prophets of God, it will of necessity have concern for the preparation and training of only those candidates for the office of the public ministry of whom it can be said that they are men after God's own heart. In the early days of the New Testament our Lord and



Savior himself selected twelve of his disciples, or learners, whom he then named apostles. (Cf. Luke 6, 13) He personally instructed these twelve during the three years of his visible ministry upon this earth and placed them in the vanguard when he gave command to his church to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Mark 16, 15. The Apostle Paul, who had been originally trained at the feet of Gamaliel (Acts 22, 3), one of the leading Jewish rabbis of his time, and "had advanced in Judaism beyond many of [his] own contemporaries," Gal. 1, 14, was later called by God into his service through a special revelation and a subsequent period of training that apparently included a three-year preparatory stint in Arabia.<sup>12</sup>

When we inquire about the formal manner in which the early New Testament church trained its pastors and missionaries, we find little information either in sacred or profane sources. Apparently the Apostle Paul, as well as the other apostles, trained his colaborers and successors by personal instruction. The epistles of Paul, therefore—especially his pastoral epistles—are no small help in determining the preparation, as well as the role, of a minister of the Gospel even today. Later in the early Christian church, catechetical schools that had been established primarily for instruction in Christian doctrine preparatory to membership in the church took on the added assignment of preparing men for the holy ministry, but information on the conduct of these schools is very meager.

### **THE MIDDLE AGES**

During the Middle Ages a decline in the standards for this preparation became quite apparent; it is reported that the training became so deficient "that bishops found it a burdensome task to preach a short sermon, and many priests had difficulty in reading the Scripture lessons for the Sunday."<sup>13</sup> In the thirteenth century a significant change occurred when the schools for theological training were joined to the universities. When the Renaissance followed in the fourteenth to sixteenth centuries, it also left its imprint on the theological training in the church. Of positive influence from this movement was the restoration of the study of the languages in which the Bible was written. Of negative influence was the dominating influence of Scholasticism, in which the attempt was made to comprehend and prove the transcendental, i. e., that which is beyond the experience of the senses, not simply from the divinely inspired Scriptures, but from reason.<sup>14</sup>

### **THE REFORMATION ERA**

When the Reformation began to take hold in the sixteenth century, the training of pastors again became a very lively con-

cern. Luther discovered in his visitation of congregations in Electoral Saxony and Meissen in 1528 and 1529 that many priests in the church of his day were exceedingly poorly trained for their task. In the preface to his *Small Catechism* he writes:

The deplorable conditions which I recently encountered when I was a visitor constrained me to prepare this brief and simple catechism or statement of Christian teaching. Good God, what wretchedness I beheld! The common people, especially those who live in the country, have no knowledge whatever of Christian teaching, and unfortunately many pastors are quite incompetent and unfitted for teaching.<sup>15</sup>

As at least a partial remedy for this deplorable condition, several of the leaders of the Reformation became the core of the faculty at the University of Wittenberg, most notably Dr. Martin Luther and Philip Melancthon. By the time of Luther's death most of the men ordained into the ministry were quite highly educated, and the standards for ordination had become much more exacting. Furthermore, the foundation for the later division of the theological curriculum into the four departments of the curriculum that even today constitute the educational program at our own seminary had now been laid.<sup>16</sup>

Within a century, however, even the religious training at the universities had become primarily intellectual and philosophical, without sufficient concern for the spiritual. Reaction within the church soon led to the development of Pietism with its great emphasis on personal religious experience. In the nineteenth century Rationalism<sup>17</sup> had become the monster that controlled the theological faculties in the universities, and the effect of this development on the kind of ministers produced for the church can quite easily be imagined. Scientific and liberal thinking came to dominate especially Protestant theology in Europe, and the waves produced by this storm soon lapped also at distant shores. It was not uncommon that under such conditions the schools themselves were undermining the very faith of the church whose future ministers they were now educating.

Interestingly enough, the rise of seminaries, at least as distinct and separate entities, seems to be greatly attributable to the spiritual deterioration of the European universities, especially the theological departments of the same. The establishment of separate theological seminaries seems to have come about largely to counteract the undesirable effects of university training and also to supplement its spiritual deficiencies.

## IN AMERICA

In the early days of the Christian church in America all denominations at first depended on the European schools for their supply of pastors and teachers. But as the various churches in this country became indigenous, i. e. native and

self-sufficient, there arose for each of them greater need, as well as desire, for establishing their own educational institutions for the training of their clergy. The early schools in America were church schools—at every level. Well-known institutions of higher learning, such as Harvard, William and Mary, Yale and Princeton, were established also for the purpose of preparing students for the ministry.

Concerning this development Dr. Louis J. Sieck, at one time president of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, writes in 1954:

Today we are familiar with the distinction between college and seminary. In the early days the American college of liberal arts was a distinctively religious institution, and the education offered was centered in equipping men for the ministry. The Bible was taught in the original languages, and all students were obligated to acquaint themselves with its doctrines and precepts. Then followed special chairs of divinity in these schools. The first was the Hollis Professorship of Divinity at Harvard (1721). [S]chools exclusively intended for ministerial training . . . were established at Harvard and Yale in 1819 and 1822 respectively. During this period other schools exclusively devoted to the training of ministers appeared. Some of these were church controlled, some were independent. The first separate seminary was established by the Dutch Reformed Church at Flatbush, Long Island, New York, in 1774.<sup>18</sup>

Many of the American seminaries that now began to proliferate accepted students without college preparation, a condition that continues to exist in some denominations of the Christian church.

The first American seminary with Lutheran moorings, though at its founding not an official institution of any church, is reportedly the somewhat private seminary established in 1815 (incorporated a year later) by representatives of the estate of Rev. John Hartwick and located at Hartwick, New York.<sup>19</sup> The first *official* Lutheran theological seminary in the United States directly related to a church body was opened at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, in 1826 by the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States of America, and it continues to this day, now under the auspices of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Far more important to our synodical history and development was the establishment of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states. Its early home was a log cabin near Altenburg in Perry County, Missouri, and it was founded as a classical college and school of theology in 1839 by emigrants of Saxony, Germany. The members of its first faculty were young graduates of German universities, namely, candidates of theology C. F. W. Walther, J. F. Buenger, O. Fuerbringer, and Theo. Brohm. After the organization of the Missouri Synod in 1847, ownership and control of this institution was assumed by that synod. This seminary's first president—until his death in 1887—was the afore-

mentioned Walther: pastor, professor, editor, and defender *extra-ordinaire* of the faith.

### DEPENDENT EFFORTS—TWICE EXPERIENCED

This school was to have profound effect on the Norwegian Synod chiefly for two reasons. When the early version of the "Norwegian Synod" (officially The Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) came into existence in 1853 and found itself for some time without its own theological training school, a specially commissioned search team later in that decade found Concordia Seminary in St. Louis to be the ministerial training school of its choice especially because of the close doctrinal and spiritual bond between the two synods.<sup>20</sup> One of the results of this close alliance was that first Prof. Laur Larsen and, later, Prof. F. A. Schmidt, of the Norwegian Synod were attached to this seminary in order to serve especially the Norwegian students in attendance.<sup>21</sup> Although it founded Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, in 1861 as its pretheological institution of higher learning, the synod did not boast a seminary of its own until Luther Seminary was established in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1876.<sup>22</sup>

Again, early in the twentieth century, when a conscience-bound minority was unwilling to enter into the fateful merger of 1917, this later version of the "Norwegian Synod" found itself without a preparatory school for its pastors. The previously manifested willingness of the Missouri Synod to open the doors of its schools to the struggling but faithful Norwegians once more was in evidence, permitting this "plucked chicken"<sup>23</sup> to begin the slow and often difficult task of growing feathers again. Besides Concordia Seminary at St. Louis, also its sister seminary at Springfield, Illinois (later relocated at Fort Wayne, Indiana), received for study some of the young men of the Norwegian Synod who aspired to the office of the public ministry.

When relationships in the Synodical Conference grew increasingly tense in the nineteen-forties because of serious doctrinal disagreements which had developed among the synods of that federation, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary at Thiensville, Wisconsin (now incorporated into Mequon) became a haven for three of the Norwegian young men [including your essayist] in the years just before the Norwegian Synod finally established its own seminary, even as the Wisconsin Synod's Northwestern College at Watertown, Wisconsin, became a senior college preparatory school for several additional Norwegian Synod students [including the current presidents of our synod and our seminary]. (One other Norwegian Synod student, the sainted Dr. Neelak Tjernagel, had some years earlier attended and been graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.)

The members of the synod had been deeply appreciative of the gracious assistance of both the Missouri Synod and the Wisconsin Synod in providing educational training for its prospective pastors and teachers during these early difficult years. Nevertheless, this beleaguered remnant from a large church merger had since its reorganization dreamed of a day when it might again have its own synodical schools to assist it in its God-given task. It had to wait only ten years before it became the grateful and proud owner and operator of Bethany Lutheran College and High School in Mankato, Minnesota. But it had to wait almost two more decades before it could realize its other educational dream, that of possessing its own theological seminary for the training of its pastors.

### **MOVE TOWARD INDEPENDENCE**

Despite the excellent training that had been afforded by the Synodical Conference seminaries named above, there had been a persistent desire among "synod folk" to establish their own seminary with its own special flavor and under the control and administration of their synod. As the intersynodical problems in the years that followed revealed again the folly of putting one's trust in men, even such as had at one time been a source of great strength to them in an earlier time of anguish, the desire of not being left in a position of extreme dependency on such friends gained much ground. For thirteen years the people's hope of establishing their own seminary had just lain there smoldering, but in 1931 the synod in convention took its first significant step in fanning the smoldering fire. In response to an urgent petition from some of its pretheological students, the delegates at that convention resolved to authorize President H. M. Tjernagel to appoint a committee of three to study this matter and to present its findings to the General Pastoral Conference for discussion.<sup>24</sup>

Notwithstanding this action by the convention, not even a tentative plan materialized for another eleven years. But in 1942, at the urging of Synod President Henry Ingebritson, the convention authorized the Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran College to take action to provide that the synod's ministerial candidates have "their last year of training in our own school" and to begin the program that very fall, if possible.<sup>25</sup> When the Board reported a year later that it had been unable to put the desired initial program in motion that quickly, but also that it was convinced that the synod's goal of having its own seminary could best be obtained "by establishing at once a complete theological seminary," the convention upgraded the earlier plan by authorizing that the Board of Regents "establish our own [full] theological seminary as soon as possible."<sup>26</sup>

Because World War II was in progress, the Board of Regents now had to answer also to an earthly authority, this time the U. S. Selective Service Administration, which had strict guidelines concerning the establishment of new seminaries in wartime, particularly in respect to granting seminary students exemption from the military draft.<sup>27</sup> An eventual change in ruling by the SSA finally brought governmental approval for the proposed seminary. The official letter from Selective Service Headquarters in Washington stated: "Bethany Lutheran College comes within the definition of a theological or divinity school." It further stated that when "an institution fulfills the requirements of the Selective Training and Service Act as a recognized theological or divinity school and continues to do so, changes in the curriculum or the addition of graduate courses will not change the status of the school."<sup>28</sup> The intervening end to the armed conflict in which our country was engaged did not significantly change the course of synodical action, and the 1946 convention finally resolved "in the name of the Triune God [to establish] a full Theological Seminary course at Bethany Lutheran College, this course to begin in the fall of 1946."<sup>29</sup>

### **BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

That very September the long desired seminary became reality when four students, whose number was to swell to five at semester time,<sup>30</sup> showed up on the campus of Bethany Lutheran College to begin class work under the first and only convention-elected dean of the seminary, Norman A. Madson, and five additional instructors who were merely on loan on a part-time basis from the college faculty.<sup>31</sup> In the early years following his own graduation from the seminary of the pre-merger Norwegian Synod, N. A. Madson had briefly been an instructor at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, missionary on the Iron Range in Minnesota, and a chaplain in World War I before serving as a parish pastor in Iowa and Minnesota from the end of the war until 1946. It was in July of 1925 that he had followed several other clergymen in leaving the "merger church," the Norwegian Lutheran Church in America, for the newly reorganized remnant of the old Norwegian Synod.

This new school of the prophets at Mankato was at its inception, and for some time thereafter, closely tied to the college; Pres. S. C. Ylvisaker explained the reason for this association in his report to the 1946 convention: "From the organizational point of view it will be necessary to consider that as long as the Selective Service Act is in force, the theological seminary will have to remain a part of our Bethany establishment."<sup>32</sup> At least partly because of this new institution's close association with the college, the president of that institution served also as the

titular, or nominal, head of the seminary in its early years,<sup>33</sup> with the seminary dean providing the administrative and educational leadership. Its beginnings can be said to have been low-key and unpretentious, and the seminary has over the years not been maintained without a struggle, yet one would be remiss in not recognizing that the Lord's blessing has rested upon it.

Through the first half-century of the seminary's existence the faculty has been composed in great part of those administrators and instructors who were called first of all and primarily to the seminary—though in most instances also they have on occasion taught courses in the college—and in lesser part by professors of the college faculty who were committed to teach primarily in that institution. The second man called in a full-time capacity to the seminary was the Rev. George O. Lillegard, who, together with N. A. Madson and S. C. Ylvisaker, was a graduate of Luther Seminary of the old Norwegian Synod. Prior to his coming to Mankato, he had been a missionary to China and a parish pastor in the synod; in the seminary he concentrated his efforts on courses of Biblical interpretation. On the seminary staff for ten years before physical disabilities dictated his retirement, his theological skill is exemplified in such writings as his monograph on the *Chinese Term Question*. His pastoral strength can be noted, e. g., from his well-received book of sermons on the book of Genesis, entitled *From Eden to Egypt*.

The third full-time professor on the seminary faculty was the Reverend Milton H. Otto, who left the parish ministry in 1957 and taught in the fields of church history, pastoral theology and dogmatics. After Dr. Norman Madson's retirement from his post as dean of the seminary in 1959 under the continuing stress of the problem of fellowship that plagued the Synodical Conference, the deanship was vested for a time in the office of the joint president of the college and seminary, but in 1968 Professor Otto was appointed dean of the seminary and served in that capacity until the office was finally eliminated at the time of the election of the first full-time president in 1976. Nevertheless, in recognition of Dean Otto's many years of faithful service, the Board of Regents bestowed on him the title of Dean Emeritus.

During these years several other part-time instructors served on the seminary staff. Christopher U. Faye, who had once been a missionary to Madagascar but had spent most of his career as a librarian at the University of Illinois, came to Mankato in his retirement and did yeoman work in trying to bring order to the library. Pastor Joseph Petersen of St. Peter and Pastor Raymond Branstad of Minneapolis also taught courses for a brief time at the seminary. Pastor Julian Anderson joined the staff for several years before returning to the parish ministry. Pastor Juul Madson, after twenty-four years in the parish ministry,

joined the faculty as professor in New Testament studies in January of 1970 and later was named dean of students and registrar until being retired from full-time duty in 1991. Pastor Mark Harstad originally came on campus primarily to instruct in the seminary, but later found himself concentrating his teaching in the college department. Most recent full-time additions to the faculty have been Prof. Adolph Harstad in 1991 in the field of Old Testament studies, and Prof. John A. Moldstad, Jr., in 1993 in the field of New Testament studies.

For several years in the last decade Pastor Norman A. Madison reported on campus twice weekly to teach a course in homiletics, the art of preparing and preaching sermons. Special mention must be made of the many years of part-time instruction in Old Testament studies provided by the college's long-time resident Hebrew scholar, Rudolph Honsey. Other college faculty members who have taught courses in the seminary are Professors Erling Teigen, Glenn Reichwald, William Kessel and Steven Reagles. Of most recent addition to the staff has been Professor Thomas Kuster, who, as the incumbent of the endowed Chair of Speech/English Communication, instructs the seminary students in communication skills and assists in homiletical critique.<sup>34</sup>

### SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

Two events of considerable significance to the conduct of the seminary are closely associated in time. After the 1974 convention had resolved "that the office of President of Bethany Lutheran Seminary be administered by one man, and the office of President of Bethany Lutheran College be administered by another man,"<sup>35</sup> the Board of Regents in 1976 called the Reverend Pastor Theodore Aaberg of St. Peter, Minnesota, to be the first full-time president of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. He was formally installed as the first sole president of this school of the prophets on October 28 of that year.

The 1976 convention had also adopted a recommendation from the Board of Regents to authorize a special thankoffering for the cause of higher education, setting a goal of \$600,000, two-fifths of which was to be allocated to the seminary. Pledges quickly exceeded the goal, and at the very next convention ground was broken for the new seminary building just across the street from the college at 447 North Division Street. In his address at the ground breaking ceremonies President Aaberg reiterated that this edifice would be used to promulgate the three-pronged watchword of the Lutheran Reformation: *Scripture Alone, Grace Alone, Faith Alone*.

The one-story brick and stone building that arose at this time became the first home-of-its-own enjoyed by this institution, a



home that is now to be replaced by the new building which can be seen rising on a different site in the northeast quadrant of the Bethany property.<sup>36</sup> It was 1978 before formal dedication of that first building took place during the annual synodical convention. These two developments—the acquisition of its own institutional president and the erection of its own separate home—permitted Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary more readily to gain an individual institutional identity, and its students to live and learn in facilities and under conditions better suited to their needs and more favorable to fulfillment of the purpose of the institution.

When Professor Theodore Aaberg's increasingly failing health led him to resign from the presidency in 1979,<sup>37</sup> the Board of Regents appointed Prof. Glenn Reichwald of the college faculty as acting president for the 1979-80 school year. Before the start of the ensuing school year, the Board of Regents had successfully called Pastor Wilhelm W. Petersen, at that time pastor of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Mankato and president of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, to direct the seminary program. After sixteen years of dedicated service to the institution Doctor Petersen continues in the presidency at the end of the first half-century of the school's existence. He has, however, given notice to the Board of his intention to retire from that responsibility at the close of the next school year, at which time the institution should be gratefully and comfortably settled in its new quarters, where, by the grace of God, it will continue the necessary and blessed task of preparing messengers of peace.

### THE MESSENGERS

At certain times in the history of the world the Lord of the church sent messengers from heaven to make specific announcements or to divulge his plans to men. Despite the seeming advantage of employing these holy spiritual creatures for the work of the public ministry of the Gospel in the present New Testament era, we find that our Lord has other thoughts—thoughts superior to ours also in this matter. Paul understood and explained the Lord's choice thus: "We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God and not of us." II Cor. 4. 7. Christ has commissioned the spreading of his Gospel to the flesh-and-blood members of his church, whom He has redeemed, justified, and sanctified from their fallen estate. To all of these he has granted the designation of "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, his own special people, [who are to] proclaim the praises of Him who called [them] out of darkness into his marvelous light." I Peter 2, 9. In other words, every one who has been effectively called into the fellowship of Christ's kingdom is a priest before God

and has the responsibility, as well as the privilege, of being a witness to the God who has saved him from sin, death and the devil. One cannot show forth the ultimate praise of God without in some way proclaiming the Gospel of salvation in Christ.

In his exposition of the fourth verse of Psalm 110, "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek," Martin Luther asserts that every Christian is a priest, having been reborn to that status in Baptism. Peter in the citation a few lines above endorses that claim. Luther understands that Christ is the only High Priest between God and mankind, but then he states that even as we are called Christians after the Christ, so we are called priests after this one great High Priest.<sup>38</sup> Nevertheless Luther, in the company of other Lutheran reformers, as well as of the Lutheran confessions themselves, distinguishes between the ministry of the priesthood of all believers and the public ministry of the church.

### THE PUBLIC MINISTRY

The term *public* ministry is often misunderstood to mean merely that kind of ministry which is done in public, that is, out in the open or in the presence of many people. While much of the work of the public ministry may be done out in the open and before many people, that fact is not what makes it *public* ministry in the Biblical and Lutheran sense of that term. What makes it public is that it is done by one who has been called by God through a Christian assembly to perform this office in their name—primarily *on* their behalf, rather than merely *in* their behalf.<sup>39</sup>

A pastor who *on behalf of the congregation* that called him visits the sick patient in the privacy of a hospital room or of the person's own home in order to bring the comfort of the Gospel and Christ's absolution is also at such times functioning in the public ministry of the church. If a Christian friend visits that patient and likewise absolves the troubled but repentant individual, that friend is performing this function on the basis of his possession of the gift of the priesthood of believers and of the office of the keys. He is in such an instance not to be understood as being in the public ministry of the church.

So Luther found himself bound by Scripture to make a distinction "between the office or service of bishops, pastors and preachers, and the general status of being a Christian." While he firmly believed that the office of the priesthood of believers is the common possession of all Christians, he went on to write that

we deal with a different matter when we speak of those who have an office in the Christian Church such as minister, preacher, pastor, or curate. . . . For although we are all priests, this does not mean that all of us can preach, teach, and rule. Certain ones of the multitude must be selected and separated for such an office. . . . The preaching office is no

more than a public service which happens to be conferred upon someone by the entire congregation, all the members of which are priests . . .

Every Christian has and practices such priestly works. But above these activities is the communal office of public teaching. For this preachers and pastors are necessary. This office cannot be attended to by all the members of a congregation. Neither is it fitting that each household do its own baptizing and celebrating of the Sacrament. Hence it is necessary to select and ordain those who can preach and teach, who study the Scriptures, and who are able to defend them. They deal with the Sacraments by the authority of the congregation, so that it is possible to know who is baptized and everything is done in an orderly fashion. If everyone were to preach to his neighbor or if they did things for one another without orderly procedure, it would take a long time indeed to establish a congregation. Such functions, however, do not pertain to the priesthood as such but belong to the public office which is performed in behalf of [sic] all those who are priests, that is, Christians.<sup>40</sup>

## QUALIFICATIONS

It is of those who are to hold the office of the *public ministry*, as well as of the preparation for that office, that we now speak when we consider the work of our theological seminary in this year of its golden anniversary. When the Apostle Paul writes to Timothy, his young co-worker in the public ministry, he states that one who desires the office of a bishop desires a good work (I Timothy 3, 1). Then he goes on to speak of the qualifications of such a public minister of the Gospel:

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. I Timothy 3, 2-7

In a letter to Titus, whom the Apostle Paul calls "my true son in our common faith," (1, 4) he both repeats some of the above listed qualifications and adds others when he directs Titus, in the latter's appointment of additional elders, to search for such a man as is

blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. For [he goes on to say] a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and to convict those who contradict." (1, 6-9)

These qualifications, with the possible exception of the aptitude to teach, on the one hand appear to be no more than is expected of any child of God. On the other hand they are enough to trigger in one who aspires to this office the self-examination

so strikingly expressed by Dietrich Vorwerk in his soul-searching poem entitled

### A Parson's Sermon to Himself:

A parson must be, first of all, / Both very great and very small,  
A king's son in nobility, / A servant in simplicity;  
A victor who has overcome / Himself and brought his trophies home;  
One who with God has wrestled and / Received a blessing at His hand;  
A fount of waters leaping high / In plenitude of sanctity;  
A sinner living by the word / Of pardon spoken by his Lord;  
His passions mastered, all intent / To serve the weak and diffident;  
Not one to truckle to the great, / He stoops to men of low estate;  
A learner still, but resolute / To lead and guide where men dispute;  
A beggar in his nothingness, / A herald scattering largesse;  
A man in battle, womanly / Beside the beds of misery;  
In clarity of vision old, / A child to trust and cling and hold;  
Aspiring high, he does not rise / To slight the small, or to despise;  
To grief no stranger, ever one / To give men's joy his benison,  
Aloof from enviousness alone;  
Clean in thought and true in word,  
Peace is his love, but sloth's abhorred;  
**Foursquare he stands and solidly**  
— and he is not at all like me.<sup>41</sup>

Whoever therefore presents himself as a candidate for the study of theology with a view to entering the public ministry of the church ought to bring qualifications with him at entrance into his seminary training program. The seminary catalog, on the basis of the above cited pastoral passages, states that "the fundamental requirements for admission to the seminary are an unimpeachable Christian character and a heart-felt desire to enter the public ministry."<sup>42</sup> To seek to ensure that students do come with these desirable qualifications, seminaries generally require letters of recommendation from various sources attesting to the good character and perceived potential of the applicants.

Surely it is the desire of the staff at our seminary also to help the students cultivate these qualities more deeply while they are in residence, so that they will be examples to their eventual flocks, even as the staff will have opportunity during the years of study to observe to what extent these qualifications appear to be present in the men before them and to provide them necessary individual counsel also in these areas of their life which will greatly impact their ministry. Especially the admissions committee has great responsibility in seeking to screen out prospects who do not demonstrate the necessary qualifications for the ministry; occasionally the administration has at some later point reluctantly had to dismiss a student from the program for failure to "measure up."

It is the qualification of aptitude for teaching (I Timothy 3, 2 and II Timothy 2, 2) that becomes an important focus for the preparation that takes place in a seminary program. The

authors of *Shepherds under Christ* make clear what the goal is in this area:

This [mental endowment] involves the ability to learn, to remember, to use the imagination, to evaluate, to think logically, to present clearly. It also involves being able to communicate by commanding respect, maintaining discipline, speaking distinctly enough to be understood and loudly enough to be heard, and in general to fill the role of a leader. These gifts need to be cultivated and exercised through academic training and channeled by means of a thorough theoretical and practical theological training. The lack of the aptitude to teach disqualifies a man for the office of pastor, the loss of it likewise. . . . Laying a sound foundation for the aptitude to teach is necessary because the pastor is to be "not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil" (I Timothy 3:6).<sup>43</sup>

## THE CURRICULUM

Because the Evangelical Lutheran Synod has for the past fifty years had its own preparatory school for its messengers of peace, it is not inappropriate in review to ask in what that preparation has consisted. From the inception of the seminary it was understood that this institution would be geared to the preparation of individuals for the office of the public ministry, in particular to prepare men for work in the parish ministry and on the mission fields. As indicated in the earlier part of this essay, there is no single outward form or program by which the church has through the centuries prepared people for this office. An effective training program will be geared to the needs of the church, and those needs, as well as the basic means to fill those needs, are clearly set forth in the Holy Scriptures.

Man is by nature a fallen creature, suffering mortally from his self-inflicted wounds. His sin has separated him from his Creator God and has left him sorely in need of being restored to a harmonious relationship with that eternal Being from whom he has been so deeply alienated. That restoration is an impossible task for him to undertake, despite his often ill-advised attempts to seek it on his own. Fallen man will in the end be forced to acknowledge his utter dependence on the mercy of God.

He will not find a satisfactory solution to his problem except in our Lord Jesus Christ, the only Savior of the world, and in the eternal counsels of God, which are revealed only in the divine word which He has chosen to hand down to us through his holy prophets and apostles. It is therefore to be understood that any messenger training program is to focus on, gain its direction from, and derive its power from that Word of God. On this matter also we are in accord with Martin Luther, who was wont to say: *Die ganze Schrift treibt Christum!* (The entire Scripture urges Christ!) In an age when we are pressured to think that more and more matters extraneous to the Word of God are necessary for the preparation of the messengers of peace, it behooves us to beware of thereby drifting from our moorings.

That the Word of our Lord is the principal focus of the seminary's efforts to prepare messengers of peace is manifested in its curriculum. In the school catalog under "Program of Study" the opening words are those of the Apostle Paul written to Timothy: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." II Timothy 2, 15.<sup>44</sup> The reason for concern for the handling of this word of truth is the clear announcement through the same Apostle Paul that "faith comes from a message heard," Romans 10, 17, and in this case the message is that of the Gospel, which is "the power of God to salvation to everyone who believes." Romans 1, 16.

The catalog further states that "all instruction and training at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary is conducted in the light of the Gospel. The Holy Scriptures are regarded as the inspired and inerrant Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions as a correct exposition of the teachings of the Bible."<sup>45</sup> The curriculum is divided into four departments which coincide with the four major subdivisions of Christian theology.<sup>46</sup>

### **BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

The first of these general categories is that of Biblical Theology. In this area of the curriculum there is direct study of the Bible in the Hebrew and Greek languages in which this collection of books was written by the appointed holy men of God as they were "borne along" by the Holy Spirit of God. (II Peter 1. 21) For this reason one finds it readily understandable that one of the academic requirements is "a good working knowledge of Greek and Hebrew."<sup>47</sup> Certain isagogical or introductory courses do precisely what those modifying words suggest, namely, introduce the student to the nature, content and authorship of the books of both the Old and New Testament. In the exegetical courses there is in-depth study of selected books of the two testaments, such as Genesis, Psalms (especially the Messianic Psalms) and Isaiah in the Old Testament, and the Gospels, Romans and Galatians in the New Testament.

A course in hermeneutics helps to prepare the students for the task of exegesis, for it instructs in the history, principles and techniques of interpretation of the Scriptures, while the courses in exegesis put the hermeneutical principles to practice in mining the full and divinely intended meaning from the passages under study. Hermeneutics is thus defined as the art or science of interpretation, while exegesis is the actual practice of this art or science. The desired result of such labors is the arrival not at a "what it means to me" interpretation, but at the "Holy Spirit intended" meaning.

The work of the public ministry has been described as the task of teaching men to listen—to listen to the voice of their Good Shepherd.<sup>48</sup>

Three barriers to this kind of listening exist: the barriers of language, of history, and of the flesh. The barrier of language can be largely overcome by learning the biblical languages, for which task many helps are available. Not all people are in a position to learn the Biblical languages, and it is not necessary that all do so. Nevertheless, "to be able, with a little effort [or even with considerable effort—JBM] to hear the voice of the Good Shepherd more distinctly and more fully, and not make the effort? . . . [W]hat shall we call it but ingratitude to the God who has given us both the languages and the means of mastering them? The languages are not a burden; they are a gift and a privilege."<sup>49</sup>

For hurdling the barrier of time there is need to retrace our steps in history to listen to what the Voice meant for God's people then and there. It is possible to locate stiles across the fence so that we can better see under what conditions this or that word was spoken. To know the context in which words are spoken is to have a head start on understanding what they mean. This statement is not to be understood, however, as asserting that a total reconstruction or recall of history is necessary to an appreciation of the simple doctrinal truths of Holy Writ.

The final barrier is the most difficult to surmount, the barrier of our natural sinful flesh. No son of Adam wants to hear the voice of God, even as our fallen progenitor stated to a seeking God: "I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid." Genesis 3, 10. Nor *can* he of himself really hear it, as Paul forthrightly states: "The natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." I Corinthians 3, 14. We can teach men to overcome the barrier of language, we can teach them to overcome the barrier of history, but we cannot in a strict sense teach them to overcome the barrier of the flesh. Here only God himself by his saving grace and powerful word can make "willing people out of resisting and unwilling people."<sup>50</sup> And so it can rightly be said: "Unless our preacher and pastor, by the powerful grace of God, passes the barrier of the flesh, his skills in language and his knowledge of history are nothing and worse than nothing; *they feed his pride and inflate his ego*. But when he has learned to deny himself and follow the voice, then this skill and this knowledge are precious things indeed."<sup>51</sup>

### SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

The second category of curriculum studies is designated as Systematic Theology, in which the teachings of the Bible are arranged in a different scheme for study. Systematic Theology is essentially Biblical Theology, and differs from it only in its approach and organization, for instead of studying the Scriptures book by book, it studies that divine Word doctrine by doc-

trine. This study serially answers the question: What does the Bible have to say about such matters as God, creation, angels, man, Scripture itself, Christ, redemption, conversion, justification, sanctification, the Means of Grace, the church, the public ministry, eternal election, the last things?

A sub-division of Systematic Theology is titled Symbolics, a study of the symbols or confessional statements of various churches, principally the confessional writings contained in the Lutheran *Book of Concord*. These latter confessions, from the Three Ecumenical Creeds to the Formula of Concord, have arisen throughout the history of the New Testament church in response to some particular problem or need. It is still required among us that for entrance into the public ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod one subscribe to the Book of Concord, for these confessions are a correct exposition of the Word of God and define clearly for us what it means to be truly Lutheran.

### **HISTORICAL THEOLOGY**

In Historical Theology the Christian Church in its life and teachings is studied from the standpoint of history. The seminary catalog declares that "a major purpose of historical theology is to reveal the gracious, always-present hand of the Triune God ruling over His Church."<sup>52</sup> That study is often made according to various periods of history, such as that of the Apostolic and post-Apostolic church, of the church of the Middle Ages, of the church at the time of the Lutheran Reformation in Germany, of Lutheranism in the United States, and various subdivisions of any of these, especially the last mentioned. One may also find the individual course limited to the study of the history of missions in the church. To learn how the Lord has dealt with His church down through the centuries is to learn much about how He will deal with the church in the future.

### **PRACTICAL THEOLOGY**

The final category of the curriculum has been termed Practical Theology, so called because it deals with the art of putting into practice, or applying, the teachings of Scripture to the members of the church in their real life situations. Because the *preaching* of the Gospel is at the heart of the practical life of the messenger of God, the study of Homiletics is vital to the curriculum. Throughout the seminary program ample time is therefore spent on the preparation and delivery of sermons,<sup>53</sup> the substance of which is largely furnished from the courses in dogmatics and exegesis. Courses in Pastoral Theology seek to prepare the budding messenger also for the day by day performance of his holy office, both in respect to his relationship with his Chief Shepherd, and in his daily care of the flock entrusted to him.



The pastoral office necessarily involves the care of souls,<sup>54</sup> for which a review of the many situations that will confront a pastor, and the proper application of the word of the Lord to the same, will greatly aid him who desires to be of significant help to his parishioners as he strives to keep them in the saving company of their Lord. And because the forms of worship and the liturgy, as well as the hymnody, of the church continue to have a strong influence on the life of the God's people, examination of the historical development, as well as the importance, of liturgical forms finds a necessary and welcome niche in the realm of practical theology.

For three years academic studies in the above departments of theology are carried on in the environs of the seminary. In our training system a fourth year of preparation is ordinarily added to the three academic school years.<sup>55</sup> This year is ideally spent working in a synod parish under the guidance and supervision of a supervising pastor. In effect this portion of the program would best be categorized as belonging to the department of Practical Theology, for here the student learns first-hand how to shoulder the many responsibilities of the parish pastor, at the same time continuing his pursuit of deepening his Biblical faith and knowledge and of enhancing his confessional understanding. At the conclusion of this final seminary year he will, God willing, be approved by the constituted church authorities for entrance into the public ministry and recommended to the church as a candidate of theology.<sup>56</sup>

All of this preparation of the seminary student takes place in order that he might be a **messenger of peace**. Though the holder of the office of the public ministry is to proclaim the whole counsel of God (Acts 20, 28), which includes His revelation of both Law and Gospel, the proclamation of the former is to prepare the way for the rightful proclamation of the latter. Surely anyone who finds himself called into this office desires to be known as a minister of the Gospel or a messenger of peace, for it is finally the Gospel of peace alone which can bring comfort and strength to troubled souls.

Peace is of the very essence of the Gospel. Jesus Christ is himself the Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9, 6) This is not an earthly and temporal peace, but a spiritual and eternal peace. Our God is also the author of temporal peace, but he has not promised that that kind of peace will ever be ours in this world, nor is it always necessary to our true welfare. One speaks of peace in contrast to war. The war in question here is the result of man's spiritual rebellion against his Maker, which made him a candidate for eternal punishment. From his sinful side there was no prospect of gaining peace with the God whose will he had

grossly violated. Man's rebellion consisted in his wanting to be like God in ways which were not permitted him. It was man who, yielding to Satan's temptation, started the war, the results of which he could not undo, for he was incapable on his own of reversing his steps. God alone can bring about that reversal; wherefore the prophet prays: "Turn us back to you, O Lord, and we shall be restored." Lamentations 5, 21.<sup>57</sup>

The great message of the Gospel is that God has established this peace with men through His Son. Paul states also that, after having gained this peace for mankind, Christ "came and preached peace to you who were afar off, and to those who were near." Ephesians 2, 17. And the same apostle, when writing to Christians in Rome, exults in the descriptive words with which we opened this presentation: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10, 15. Because our Lord Jesus Christ is the Preacher par excellence, His feet are, in the imagery of the prophet, more beautiful than all others, and any lesser messenger of that same glorious news should be exceedingly grateful and pleased to be able to walk in the footprints of such a forerunner.

As long, therefore, as our Lord permits us to conduct Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary as a school for preparing messengers of this spiritual and eternal peace, may we heartily support the endeavor by encouraging God's gifted young men to study for this high calling, by continually praying for the success of this preparatory work, and by willingly offering our gifts, in order that the peace of God which passes all understanding may continue to sound forth among us in the manner described by Nicolai Grundtvig:

Peace to us the church doth tell,  
'Tis her welcome and farewell,  
Peace was our baptismal dower,  
Peace shall bless our dying hour;  
Peace be with you, full and free,  
Now and through eternity.<sup>58</sup>

**The Word of our God Stands Forever!**

## Appendix I

### Graduates of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary

**1947**

Robert D. Preus

**1948**

Levine K. Hagen

Iver C. Johnson

**1949**

Leigh D. Jordahl

Reuben Stock

Neil N. Hilton

**1950**

Theodore A. Aaberg

John Moldstad, Sr.

**1951**

Neil Jordahl

Ruben Ude

**1952**

Hugo J. Handberg

Stanley Holt

Paul G. Madson

Paul G. Petersen

Lyle Rasch

**1953**

Gerhardt Becker

Elmer Boniek

Otto Drevlow

Julius Larsen

George M. Orvick

Glenn E. Reichwald

Wilhelm W. Petersen

Arthur Schultz

**1954**

Richard Hawley

James Hanson

Richard A. Newgard

**1955**

Keith Olmanson

Desmond Jose

**1956**

Richard Kuehne

Herbert Larson

Robert A. Moldstad

Victor I. Theiste

**1957**

Norman A. Madson, Jr.

**1958**

Robert Thorson

Gerhard Weseloh

**1959**

Gunnar Staalsett

**1960**

David Lillegard

**1961**

No graduates

**1962**

George H. Gullixson

Theodore F. Kuster

Peter Chang

**1963**

James Olsen

**1964**

No graduates

**1965**

No graduates

**1966**

Wayne L. M. Halvorson

Thomas A. Kuster

Erling T. Teigen

**1967**

Rodger M. Dale

James Lillo

Steven P. Quist

**1968**

No graduates

**1969**

Roger Fallk

Paul Jecklin

**1970**

M. Dale Christopherson

Paul J. Haugen

Ronald L. Mathison

David J. Nelson

John K. Schmidt

Frederick W. Theiste

**1971**

Warren A. Granke

Tosten D. Skaaland

John E. Smith

**1972**

Martin Teigen

**1973**

Mark Marozick

Thomas Mickelson

Christian G. Morales

Paul Schneider

John Shep

**1974**

Mark O. Harstad

**1975**

E. C. Frederick

Stubenvoll

Howard F. Aufderheide

Wayne Dobratz

**1976**

Erwin J. Ekhooff

Theodore G. Gullixson

Dennis Schlicht

**1977**

Charles J. Keeler

Nile B. Merseth

Steven P. Petersen

Kenneth V. Schmidt

**1978**

Theodore E. Aaberg

Timothy E. Erickson

Michael C. Krentz

Gaylin R. Schmeling

Otto Trebelhorn

William B. Kessel

Juan Rubio

**1979**

Bruce R. Bestervelt

Jerrold R. Dalke

Philip M. Vangen

**1980**

Joseph P. Burkhardt

Craig A. Ferkenstad

Matthew E. Luttman

Daniel P. Metzger

John A. Moldstad, Jr.

**1981**

Daniel N. Faugstad

**1982**

Roger R. Fehr  
 Russell R. Halverson  
 Gregory J. Haugen  
 Bradley J. Homan  
 David C. Thompson  
 John R. Wilde  
 Richard C. Long

**1983**

John S. Dukleth  
 James A. Krikava  
 Glenn R. Obenberger  
 Thomas E. Petersen  
 Martin J. Doepel  
 Allen J. Quist

**1984**

Darryl L. Bakke  
 Thomas H. Fox  
 Daniel J. Larson  
 Daniel F. McMiller  
 Steve R. Sparley  
 Kenneth E. Mellon

**1985**

Timothy J. Bartels  
 Markos DeGarmeaux  
 John J. Petersen  
 Thomas L. Rank  
 Donald L. Moldstad  
 Frank Fiedler III

**1986**

Harvey Abrahamson  
 Richard Gudgeon  
 David J. Hoyord  
 Robert A. Lawson  
 Jonathan Madson

**1987**

Mark F. Bartels  
 Michael K. Smith

**1988**

Micah W. Ernst  
 Daniel K. Schroeder

**1989**

Daniel A. Basel  
 Michael A. Madson  
 Richard P. Tragasz  
 Gregory R. Bork

**1990**

James M. Braun  
 Mark A. Wold  
 Kurt A. Smith

**1991**

Victor Settje  
 Richard Fyffe

**1992**

David L. Meyer  
 Alexander K. Ring

**1993**

Kent T. Dethlefsen  
 Mark W. Tuffin

**1994**

Jon S. Bruss  
 James R. Krueger  
 Roger C. Holtz

**1995**

Joseph C. Abrahamson  
 Ronald E. Pederson  
 Ernest B. Geistfeld  
 Gundars Bakulis  
 Gene R. Lilienthal  
 Michael J. Langlais

**1996**

Erik Gernander  
 Jerome Gernander  
 Konstantin Mamberger  
 Anthony Pittenger  
 Terry Schultz  
 Stephen Schmidt  
 Bruce Schwark

**ENDNOTES**

<sup>1</sup>N. F. S. Grundtvig, 1845, *The Lutheran Hymnary*, No. 49.

<sup>2</sup>See Isaiah 52, 7.

<sup>3</sup>See Appendix I attached to this essay.

<sup>4</sup>This program was understandably called the Mequon Program in our circles, while in Wisconsin Synod circles it was known as the Bethany Program. (Many of the students compromised by calling it the Meq-Beth Program.)

<sup>5</sup>*Qarah B'shem Yaweh* in Hebrew.

<sup>6</sup>*LW*, American Edition, Vol. 2, p. 286. Emphasis added.

<sup>7</sup>The Holy Record also shows that Moses inadvisedly elected himself to a leadership role before he was sufficiently prepared for it.

<sup>8</sup>Cf. Deuteronomy 18, 15 and I Peter 2, 25.

<sup>9</sup>Cf. I Samuel 2.

<sup>10</sup>Cf. II Kings 2.

<sup>11</sup>Greek: ψευδοπροφηται

<sup>12</sup>Cf. Galatians 1, 17. 18.

<sup>13</sup>Prof. Louis J. Sieck in *Lutheran Cyclopedia*, p. 683.

<sup>14</sup>In dogmatics Scholasticism tried to comprehend, harmonize and prove doctrines rationally.

<sup>15</sup>*The Book of Concord*, Tappert Edition, p. 338; emphasis added.

<sup>16</sup>For further consideration of this aspect of the seminary program, see later.

<sup>17</sup>In the religious context rationalism may be defined as "reliance on reason as the basis for the establishment of religious truth."

<sup>18</sup>Prof. Sieck, p. 685.

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

<sup>20</sup>The members of the search team were Pastors J. A. Ottesen and Nils Brandt, who in 1857 made their visit to the seminaries at St. Louis, Columbus, and Buffalo, after which they published a lengthy report in *Maanedstidende*, the monthly periodical of the church body.

For an expression of the theological rapport between the Norwegian Synod and the Missouri Synod, and also the former's use of the latter's seminary, see Carl S. Meyer, *Pioneers Find Friends* (Luther College Press, Decorah, Iowa, 1963.)

<sup>21</sup>In 1875 the Missouri Synod had moved its so-called "practical" seminary to Springfield, Illinois. At that time the Norwegian Synod placed Pastor Ole Asperheim as its professor on the Springfield faculty, where he served but one year. (See following footnote.)

<sup>22</sup>This institution began as a "practical" seminary, with Ole Asperheim and F. A. Schmidt comprising the faculty. Two years later, in 1878, a theoretical department was added. That autumn nine students were registered in the theoretical department and fifteen in the practical. Professor Asperheim now resigned under pressure from his colleague because of the former's criticism of the Missouri Synod. (See *Striving for Ministry*, Edited by Quanbeck, Fevold and Frost, APH 1977, pp. 21ff.)

It is somewhat ironic that in a few short years that same colleague would himself become a bitter enemy of the leader of the Missouri Synod, C. F. W. Walther, in the election controversy of the eighties.

<sup>23</sup>In Norwegian, *en rybbet høne*, as the reorganized synod was scornfully referred to by one of the merger folk.

<sup>24</sup>1931 *Synod Report*, p. 131. Could it have been that the memorial service at the convention in honor of the noted theologian of the Missouri Synod, Dr. Franz Pieper, whose death had been reported only days before the convention, helped to prompt the delegates to this action?

Cf. also *Beretning af Den Norske Synode* [Synod Report] 1931 for three personal testimonies (in English) delivered by clergymen of the Synod who had studied under the venerable Doctor Pieper.

<sup>25</sup>1942 *Synod Report*, p. 58.

<sup>26</sup>1943 *Synod Report*, p. 70.

<sup>27</sup>The U. S. government granted bona fide seminary students a 4-D classification exempting them from military service.

<sup>28</sup>1946 *Synod Report*, p. 62.

<sup>29</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 65.

<sup>30</sup>Robert Preus transferred from Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN for the second semester.

<sup>31</sup>Pres. S. C. Ylvisaker, Professors A. Fremder, M. Galstad, B. W. Teigen, P. A. Zimmermann.

<sup>32</sup>1946 *Synod Report*, p. 64. The Selective Service Act remained in force also for some time after the conclusion of WWII.

<sup>33</sup>Following Dr. Ylvisaker's brief years in this office, 1946-50, B. W. Teigen occupied the same for the years 1950-70, and his successor, R. M. Branstad, for the years 1970-76, at which point T. A. Aaberg was elected to the sole presidency of the seminary.

<sup>34</sup>Eleanor Wilson, former member of the Bethany College Faculty, endowed this chair primarily in the interest of the college, but with the specification that "a portion of the chairholder's time....be devoted to training seminary students in communications skills." Seminary Catalog, p. 22.

<sup>35</sup>1974 *Synod Report*, p. 83.

<sup>36</sup>The removal of the seminary to a nearby site permits Bethany College, by its purchase of the existing seminary building, to expand its facilities more advantageously.

<sup>37</sup>He had suffered for several years from sarcoidosis of the lungs, an illness that increasingly robbed him of a vital oxygen supply and finally brought about his death on January 8, 1980, at the age of fifty-four years.

<sup>38</sup>Cf. *LW*, American Edition, Vol. 13, pp. 304ff.

<sup>39</sup>These two phrases, when employed in distinction from each other, have the following meanings: 1) on *behalf of* denotes *as the agent of, on the part of*; 2) in *behalf of* denotes *in the interest of, for the benefit of*.

It should be understood without special emphasis at this point that such ministry is always "in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ." *The Lutheran Hymnary*, p. 16. Cf. also *The Liturgical Service of the Lutheran Church*, by Dahle and Johnshoy, APH, p. 14: "By the authority of God, and of my holy office."

<sup>40</sup>Cf. *LW* American Edition, *Ibid.* p. 329ff.

<sup>41</sup>Translated from the German by Martin Franzmann; to be found in the November 1952 issue of *The Clergy Bulletin* [Norwegian Synod Clergy].

<sup>42</sup>Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary Catalog 1995-98, p. 12.

<sup>43</sup>Schuetze and Habeck, *The Shepherd under Christ*, NWPB 1974, p. 12.

<sup>44</sup>Seminary Catalog, *ibid.*, p. 12.

<sup>45</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 19.

<sup>46</sup>*Ibid.*, pp. 26ff.

<sup>47</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 12.

<sup>48</sup>Cf. Franzmann, Martin A., in *Toward a More Excellent Ministry*, edited by Caemmerer/Fuerbringer, CPH 1964, p. 81ff.

<sup>49</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 85.

<sup>50</sup>Cf. *Formula of Concord*, SD, Article II, 88 et al.

<sup>51</sup>Franzmann, *ibid.*, p. 89.

<sup>52</sup>Seminary catalog, p. 29.

<sup>53</sup>The terms **sermon** and **homily** are virtual synonyms, the former of Latin and the latter of Greek derivation.

<sup>54</sup>The endearing terms **Seelsorger** and **Sjælesørger** (German and Norwegian terms, respectively, meaning one who cares for souls) have never seemingly caught on in translation into the English language.

<sup>55</sup>In unusual cases, such as where older students are deemed by the seminary faculty to have had the equivalent of a vicar year (or internship) in their life and work in the church before attending the seminary—or even during their attendance—the fourth year may be waived.

<sup>56</sup>Present procedure calls for the seminary faculty to recommend the student to the Board of Regents for the Master of Theology degree and/or the degree of Candidate of Theology, and the Board of Regents to approve the recommendation.

<sup>57</sup>For a convention essay by B. W. Teigen entitled "**Peace—Temporal, Spiritual, Eternal**" see 1945 Synod Report, pp. 30ff.

<sup>58</sup>Cf. note 1.

## DOCTRINE COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE 1996 ELS CONVENTION

With no change having occurred in its membership since the previous convention, the Doctrine Committee of the ELS reports that it has sought to carry out its work in accord with the guidelines established by its governing agency, the synodical convention. In addition to holding its regularly scheduled four meetings per year, in which matters of doctrinal and practical concern are discussed, the committee had representation at a joint meeting with members of the Commission on Inter-Church Relations of the WELS in January. It also appointed members to serve as delegates to the second triennial convention of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference held in Quebradillas, Puerto Rico, in April: Pres. George Orvick and Chairman Gaylin Schmeling as voting delegates, Dr. Wilhelm Petersen and Professors Adolph Harstad (convention essayist), Juul Madson and John Moldstad (convention chaplain) as advisory delegates. [A report of this convention may be found in the president's report to the ELS convention.]

Chairman Schmeling represented the Doctrine Committee as an official visitor at the biennial convention of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod held in Saginaw, Michigan, in 1995, as well as at the annual convention of the Lutheran Confessional Synod held in Decatur, Illinois; he was also an unofficial observer at the convention of the LCMS in St. Louis, Missouri.

Because its members provide the principal membership of the Colloquy Committee, the Doctrine Committee also reports that during the past year two Lutheran clergymen, formerly of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, have through individual colloquies been approved by the colloquy committee for call into the ELS: Pastors Rodney Flohr and David Raetz.

In response to a request from the ELS Board for Education and Youth to examine a Christian Day School Handbook prepared under its auspices, the Doctrine Committee has reviewed the manual and approved it in respect to its doctrinal content.

In respect to the committee's continuing study of the doctrine of the ministry, especially the doctrine of the *public* ministry, the committee can at this time only reiterate its hope to have at least a study document available within the next year. To that end it also continues to solicit from the membership of the ELS expressions of information and concern in regard to this undertaking.

For information regarding progress in the production of the Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary the convention is directed to the report of the synodical Committee on Worship. Interest in the project appears to be growing, and for those who easily become impatient while awaiting the appearance of the commissioned volume, the Doctrine Committee exhorts to renewed patience in the synod's undertaking such an important project without benefit of having even one full-time worker assigned to its production.

The committee also regretfully takes note of the retirement of Prof. Wilbert Gawrisch from the chairmanship of the CICR of WELS, a post he has held since the retirement of Prof. Carl Lawrenz. Even before his entrance into the service of the WELS, Wilbert Gawrisch had served as teacher/principal of the ELS Mt. Olive Lutheran Christian Day School in Mankato. His able successor to head the CICR is Professor Lyle Lange of Martin Luther College in New Ulm.

### THE LORD'S SUPPER STATEMENT

Last summer the Doctrine Committee resubmitted to the synod for consideration—and recommended for adoption—a revised version of point 9b of the synod's statement on the Lord's Supper that had been adopted in 1989. Pursuant to the substitute resolution of last year's convention to refer the matter back to the Doctrine Committee with instruction to "consider the phrase 'without the inter-

vention of any other cause or agency' as a substitute for the words 'before the reception' in the 1989 Thesis 9b (1995 ELS Report, p. 111)," the committee did study this suggestion in accord with the convention recommendation—in part jointly with three clergymen of the synod who in signing a memorial to the convention had expressed dissatisfaction with the committee's recommendation of last summer. Furthermore, pursuant to the 1995 convention's accompanying Resolution 1 B "that the Doctrine Committee announce and hold an open hearing on the matter" (ibid.), your Doctrine Committee did arrange for and conduct a two-hour open hearing at the time of the General Pastoral Conference in Bloomington, Minnesota, in January.

Because both the discussion at this open hearing, as well as the committee's own protracted deliberation on the matter of the wording of this document, revealed significant support neither for the suggested substitute wording that originated from the floor of the convention, nor for a need to alter the wording proposed by the Doctrine Committee, your Doctrine Committee offers to the 1996 convention the same recommendation that it first made to the 1994 convention and repeated last year. The recommendation is that the present wording of 9b of the document in question be revised to read:

**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 AC XXII 6, p. 50; Ap XI, 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 the Lord to the people" (Ap XXIV 80, p. 264; see also SC VI 1-2, p. 351; SA Part III VI 1, p. 311; AC XXII 6, p. 50; Ap X 4, pp. 179-80), 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 are from the Tappert Edition.**

It is the steadfast and unanimous conviction of the Doctrine Committee that the above proposed revision, together with the remaining body of the statement on the Lord's Supper, confesses what is necessary to a biblical and confessional Lutheran understanding regarding the time of the real presence in the sacrament. We believe that the full statement accords in every way with the teaching of Holy Scripture on this doctrine, and that it should therefore be adopted, in order that we may continue confidently to enjoy this God-given means of grace for the undeserved blessing it bestows upon us, namely, the true body and blood of Christ, the Lamb of God, who has taken away the sin of the world and now bestows the resulting forgiveness on us in His sacred Supper.

May God be praised henceforth and blest forever!

Who, Himself both gift and giver,

With His own flesh and blood our souls doth nourish;

May they grow thereby and flourish!

Lord, have mercy on us!

By Thy holy body, Lord, the same

Which from Thine own mother Mary came,

By the drops which Thou did'st bleed,

Help us in the hour of need.

Lord, have mercy on us! (M. Luther)

G. Schmeling, chairman  
J. Madson, secretary



DOCTRINE  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD

**Resolution No. 1: 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 Lord's Supper as adopted in 1989 has led to concern by the use of the phrase "before the reception," and,*

*WHEREAS, The discussions which have taken place regarding the Lord's Supper have been beneficial and have led to a fuller understanding of the rich blessing which the Lord has given to His church by this sacrament and have prompted a deeper understanding of our Luthran Confessions, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee's proposed revision of Point (b) of Thesis Nine, when taken together with the entire statement, expresses Scriptural truth by using the language of the Lutheran Confession, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee has carried out the instructions of the synod as directed by the synod in 1995, namely:*

*"A. BE IT RESOLVED, That resolution #1, A, B, and C be referred back to the synod's Doctrine Committee with the instruction that they consider the phrase 'without the intervention of any other cause or agency' as a substitute for the words 'before the reception' in the 1989 Thesis 9b, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Doctrine Committee announces and holds an open hearing on the matter possibly concurrently with the January General Pastoral Conference" 3 12 (1995 Synod Report, page 111), and,*

*WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee stated concerning its findings, "Because both the discussion at this open hearing, as well as the committee's own protracted deliberation on the matter of the wording of this document, revealed significant support neither for the suggested substitute wording that originated from the floor of the convention, nor for a need to alter the wording proposed by the Doctrine Committee," and,*

*WHEREAS, Memorials have been received from St. Timothy, Lombard; Faith, Irvine; Christ the King, Bell Gardens; and from the Bethany Seminary faculty urging the synod to adopt the Doctrine Committee's proposed revision of Point (b) of Thesis Nine, and,*

WHEREAS, These memorials have been reviewed and discussed in depth,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the Doctrine Committee's proposed revision of Point (b) of Thesis Nine, to wit:

**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 AC XXII 6, p. 50; Ap XI, p. 179; Ap XXIV 80, p. 264; FC SD VII 10-11, p. 571). **The Scripture and 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 the Lord to the people"** (Ap XXIV 80, p. 264; see also SC VI 1-2. p. 351; SA Part III VI 1, p. 311; AC XXII 6, p. 50; Ap X 4, pp. 179-80), **that they are "truly offered with 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 are from the Tappert Edition.**

and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the adoption of the Doctrine Committee's proposal be the response to the memorials that were presented on this subject, and,

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks those who have diligently studied and labored over this matter.

Prof. E. Teigen registered his protest to the adoption of this resolution.

The Rev. M. Teigen and the Rev. R. Lawson registered their negative votes.

## **Resolution No. 2: The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

WHEREAS, Our association with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) is one which the synod treasures and from which both our synods have benefited, and,

WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee and the Commission for Inter-Church Relations (CICR) of the WELS have worked closely through the years in the continuing struggle to preserve and defend the pure doctrines of God's Word, and,

WHEREAS, Chairman Wilbert Gawrisch of the CICR has ably led the CICR and has been a valued partner in the Lord's word, and,

WHEREAS, Professor Gawrisch has now retired from his position on the CICR,

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its gratitude to God for the strong bonds of fellowship which exist between our synod and the WELS, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its gratitude to Professor Gawrisch for his faithful and valued leadership and his brotherly assistance and counsel through the years, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That we ask the Lord of the Church to continue to bless the treasured association between our two synods and that he richly bless Professor Gawrisch in his retirement years.*

# **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; Mr. Harold Theiste, secretary, Plymouth, MN; the Rev. Ed. Bryant, 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 Petersen, Madison, WI; advisory members—The Rev. Milton E. Tweit, Lawler, IA, and the Rev. Lawrence Burgdorf, St. Louis, MO.

## **THE FACULTY AND STAFF**

The following persons have served on the faculty and administrative professional staff during the 1995-96 school year.

## **FULL-TIME FACULTY AND STAFF**

Joseph Abrahamson, Assistant Librarian  
Peter Bloedel, Theater  
Norma Brown, Head Librarian  
Jon Bruss, Greek, Humanities, Latin  
Kris Bruss, Speech, Freshman Writing, Freshman Seminar  
William Bukowski, Art  
Gregory Costello, Director of Administrative Computing and Controller  
Mark DeGarmeaux, Chaplain  
Mark Harstad, Hebrew, History, Religion  
Arlene Hilding, Music  
Steve Jaeger, Director of Admissions  
Calvin Johnson, Financial Aid Director  
Lyle Jones, Physical Education, Soccer, Women's Basketball  
William Kessel, Sociology, Religion, Geography, Anthropology  
Tom Kuster, Chair of Speech/English Communications  
Patty Lussy, Health, Counseling  
Todd Marzinske, Mathematics, Physics  
Dennis Marzolf, Music, Choral Groups, Voice  
Daniel Metzger, German, Literature  
Marvin Meyer, President  
Paul Moxness, Instrumental Music, Fine Arts Coordinator  
Dennis Natvig, Business Manager, Treasurer  
Steve Reagles, Communication, Religion  
Jay Roth, Associate Director of Admissions  
Ed Schutters, Biology  
Lance Schwartz, Alumni Affairs  
John Sehloff, Biology, Computer Science  
Dean Shoop, Accounting, Mathematics, Economics  
Erling Teigen, Religion, Communication, Philosophy  
David Thompson, Dean of Student Services, Religion  
Katy Thompson, Admissions Counselor  
Paul Tweit, Vice President for Administrative Affairs  
Art Westphal, Athletic Director, Men's Basketball and Baseball  
Don Westphal, Admissions Counselor, Public Relations Director  
Mark Wiechmann, Psychology, Counseling  
Jean Wiechmann, Registrar, Learning Specialist, Sociology

Richard Wiechmann, Development Officer  
 Paul Wold, Bookstore Manager  
 Ronald Younge, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Biology

## **PART-TIME**

Vivian Bohmbach, Piano  
 John Born, Art  
 Lewis Crose, Political Science  
 Ramona Czer, Communication  
 Tatjana Durand, Spanish  
 Robert Gnagy, Communication  
 Rudolph Honsey, Hebrew  
 Fred Inman, Physics  
 Esther Iverson, Costume Director  
 Lynette Jones, Physical Education, Volleyball and Softball Coach  
 Mary Kelley, Institutional Computer Science  
 Julie Kjeer, Mathematics  
 Laura Matzke, Music  
 Tanya Norris, Mathematics  
 Nancy Regenscheid, Chemistry  
 Stephen Rolfsrud, Political Science  
 Barbara Strassburg, Art  
 Rebecca Strom, Mathematics  
 Cynthia Weberg, Chemistry  
 Nancy Wiechmann, Business  
 Derek Woodley, Physical Education

## **EMERITI**

Sophia Anderson  
 Louella Balcziak  
 Edna Busekist  
 Norman S. Holte  
 Rudolph Honsey  
 Sigurd Lee  
 Bjarne Teigen  
 Cynthia Weberg

## **STAFF**

Our staff continues to place their professional development high on their priority list, as does the college. Several faculty are working on additional degrees and many others have been active in seminars and conferences in their related fields.

During a special service on February 12, the college observed the following anniversaries:

25 years	Clarice E. Madson	Head of Library Clerical Services
20 years	Melvina L. Aaberg	Secretary to Synod and Seminary Presidents
15 years	Dean W. Shoop	Business, Accounting, Economics
15 years	Cynthia A. Weberg	Chemistry
15 years	Mark E. Wiechmann	Psychology, Counseling
10 years	Wm. B. Kessel	Sociology, Religion, Geography, Anthropology
10 years	Audrey J. Winkler	Information Secretary

This past academic year we had several new faculty and/or administrators join our staff—Miss Norma Brown, as Director of Library Services; Mr. Joseph Abrahamson, as Associate Director of Library Services; Prof. Kris Bruss, in Communications; Prof. Edward Schutters, in Biology; Prof. Mark DeGarmeaux, in Religion and College Chaplain; Mr. Lance Schwartz, in Alumni Affairs; and Mr. Paul Wold, as bookstore manager.

As we look to the fall of 1996, we are looking at the possibility of adding professors in the areas of Communication and Sociology. Mr. Eric Woller will join the staff on January 1, 1997, in Chemistry. With the addition of all the modern technology on campus, there is also the need to add one staff person in that area.

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 1995-96 enrollment was as follows:

	1st Semester	2nd Semester
Freshmen	229	205
Sophomores	150	160
Specials*	15	15
Part-Time	<u>15</u>	<u>17</u>
	409	397
FTE	402	388

\*Includes PSEOP Students

At the time of this report there was optimism for the fall term regarding numbers and quality of students. It must be noted, however, that applications are down from a year ago.

## **CURRICULUM AND OTHER ACADEMIC PROJECTS**

There continues to be a great deal of study regarding curricula offerings. Through this process Bethany makes every effort to offer her students the very best education.

A faculty committee was appointed in the fall of 1995 to respond to the resolution of the Board of Regents regarding the possibility of offering a limited number of baccalaureates through a 2+2 program. The committee was instructed to bring recommendations to the May '96 meeting of the board. Their report is to recommend programs should the board decide to move forward with the 2+2.

The college has committed itself to a major planning process. The services of Compass, a consulting firm for institutional advancement, are being utilized. The plan should be complete by late summer and should direct us well into the 21st Century.

## **PHYSICAL PLANT**

Trinity Chapel was available for use at the beginning of the spring semester. It is absolutely a marvelous facility. The dedication of the facility will take place June 16, 1996, as part of Synod Sunday activities. The building has been built to the glory of God and in the memory of His faithful servant, Marvin M. Schwan.

Anderson Hall (women's dormitory) was expanded and completely renovated during the summer of 1995. It was ready for use at the beginning of our present school year. The cost of the renovation was \$1.2 million. Our women have thoroughly enjoyed their updated residence.

Construction of additional parking lots is underway, with completion set for mid June. The new lots will add over 200 parking stalls—a great addition to the campus.

Plans are underway to renovate our men's residence during the summer of 1996. The plans call for significant updating and additional space for relaxation. The number of beds available will decline by 18.

Programming of the needs for our campus resource center (library) has begun. It is hoped that the needs can be identified by late spring and the design work can begin in early summer. It is possible that construction could begin in early spring of 1997 for a new library.

## 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 \$50,000 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.

## FINANCES AND AUXILIARY SERVICES

The 1994-95 school year ended with a small balance of \$49,600, which was used to reduce the amount owed on our tunnel project of a couple years ago. Consequently, the accumulative deficit for our Current Fund remains the same—\$57,000. It is the hope and prayer of the Board of Regents and the college administration that the present school year will end with a surplus so we will remove the previous deficits.

Gifts continue to assist Bethany in her effort to deliver to the students a quality Christian education. The president and the Board of Regents are grateful to the members of our synod, individuals, corporations, and foundations that are so willing to support the programs at Bethany.

The following is a summary of revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995:

### REVENUES

Tuition and Fees	\$2,674,977
Government Grants	8,897
Synod Subsidy	157,000
Housing Assistance	84,000
Maintenance Assistance	21,500
Capital Improvements	22,221
Private Gifts and Grants	562,061
Endowment Income	168,987
Sales and Services of Student Activities	24,854
Other Sources	101,389
Auxiliary Enterprises	1,454,510
Matured Deferred Gifts	<u>16,631</u>
	\$5,297,027

### EXPENDITURES

Educational and General	\$2,860,646
Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds	589,565
Scholarships and Grants	770,970
Auxiliary Enterprises	<u>1,005,857</u>
	5,234,038
Fund Balance	62,989
Prior Year's Fund Balance	(57,351)
Transfer to Funds Functioning as	
Endowments	<u>(62,989)</u>
Current Fund Balance	\$ (57,351)

## CONCLUSION

It has been another wonderful year for Bethany Lutheran College. The Lord continues to bless us with an increase in student numbers, dedicated faculty and staff, and the ability to improve our campus facilities. It seems that we could ask for no more. But more important than these—the blessing that the precious Gospel message of the Risen Christ remains steadfast on the campus of Bethany Lutheran College. The presentation of that message is as clear today as it was when the institution was founded by our church. Thanks be to God.

Raymond M. Branstad, chairman

Harold Theiste, secretary

Marvin G. Meyer, president

## ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS— Bethany Lutheran College

This supplementary report is in response to Resolution No. 3: Four-Year Program, page 120 of the proceedings of the 78th convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

During the 1995-96 academic year, the faculty of Bethany Lutheran College carefully studied possible four-year programs and presented to the May '96 meeting of the Board of Regents this report. With this report, and the recommendations of the college president, the Board of Regents comes to the 1996 convention with the following:

WHEREAS, There has been a great deal of discussion in recent years regarding Bethany Lutheran College and the advisability of offering baccalaureate programs, and,

WHEREAS, The opportunities for support have significantly improved in the last five years, and,

WHEREAS, The strength of the Bethany Lutheran College faculty has been greatly improved, and,

WHEREAS, There appears to be strong student support for degree elevation, and,

WHEREAS, The faculty have responded to the Board of Regent's request for a study of possible four-year programs, and,

WHEREAS, The good Lord has showered his blessings on Bethany Lutheran College during its entire history, and,

WHEREAS, We have confidence in his promise "Lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world," and,

WHEREAS, As a Christian institution we seek to influence our world in as many aspects of our total life as possible, and,

WHEREAS, We continue to strive to preserve and strengthen the mission for which the college was established,

THEREFORE:

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents thank the faculty and the 2 + 2 Committee for their efforts and the time devoted to the project, and,
- B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the college offer two baccalaureate programs beginning in the fall of 1999: one in communications and the other to be determined not later than January 1998, and,
- C. BE IT RESOLVED, That an individual be added to the faculty of Bethany Lutheran College by the fall of 1997 to work closely with the Board for Education & Youth regarding certification of teachers and with those students pursuing a degree in education, and,



D. BE IT RESOLVED, That the above be the first steps in a process leading to the development of an institution structured to have a broad range of four-year baccalaureate programs not later than 2016.

Marvin G. Meyer, president  
Raymond M. Branstad, chairman  
Harold Theiste, secretary

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

"Our own seminary is no longer merely a child of our fond desires, but is become a living reality." Thus wrote Dr. Norman A. Madson, Sr., in his first report to the synod following the establishment of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary in the fall of 1946. Ever since that time the seminary has been "a living reality." Over these past fifty years the seminary has played a vital role in the history of our synod, training men for the Gospel ministry. As we praise and thank our heavenly Father for the many blessings that He has showered upon our "school of the prophets" over these many years, we also beseech His continued blessings as we go into the future, and to that end may our prayer be:

Preserve this ministry  
While harvest-days are keeping;  
And since the fields are white  
And hands are few for reaping,  
Send workers forth, O Lord,  
The sheaves to gather in  
That not a soul be lost  
Which Thou art come to win.

### **BOARD OF REGENTS**

The Board of Regents, which is responsible for the operation of the seminary, met quarterly during the school year and the seminary president 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 1995-96 school year: Adolph Harstad, John Moldstad, Jr., Glenn Reichwald, Rudolph Honsey, Thomas Kuster, and Wilhelm Petersen. It should also be mentioned that Professor Adolph Harstad was on sabbatical the first semester of the school year working on a Bible commentary series sponsored by Concordia Publishing House.

### **GLENN REICHWALD DEATH**

Professor Glenn Reichwald, who taught the first semester of the 1995-96 school year, died of a heart attack at the end of the semester. Professor Reichwald, whose call was to Bethany College, taught courses at the seminary from time to time and we at the seminary are appreciative of his services rendered to the seminary over the years.

## ENROLLMENT

The enrollment at the seminary this past year was 15 and broken down as follows: 4 Juniors, 4 Middlers, 2 Seniors, and 5 Vicars. The vicars who served their vicarages were: Stephen Schmidt at Emmaus Lutheran and St. Timothy Lutheran in the Chicago, IL, area; Jerry Gernander at King of Grace Lutheran, Golden Valley, MN; Erik Gernander at Peace Lutheran, Deshler, OH; Anthony Pittenger, Bethany Lutheran, Port Orchard, WA; and Bruce Schwark, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran, Grass Valley, CA and Our Savior Lutheran, Bishop, CA. We are also pleased to report that the enrollment prospects for the 1996-97 school year look very promising at this point.

## ACTIVITIES

The annual recognition dinner for the seniors, sponsored by the Aid Association for Lutherans, was held on the evening of April 18th. This is always a pleasant evening for the students and staff and we are grateful to AAL for sponsoring this dinner.

Our annual Vicar Workshop was held at the end of the school year. It began with a financial workshop for the students and wives. Rachel Anthony, former Home Economics instructor at Bethany College, spoke on day-to-day budgeting in family life; Mr. Wilbur Lieske presented information of the Social Security system; and Joel Petersen, an insurance broker, spoke on the importance of adequate insurance during working years and the advisability of planning now for retirement. The workshop was well received by the students.

The following day the returning vicars reported on certain phases of their respective vicarages. Other participants in the workshop were Mr. Paul Tweit who explained the Synod's Pension and Insurance Plan; Richard Wiechmann on Deferred Giving; Lance Schwartz on the bookstore; and President Orvick on our synodical work and the pastor's involvement in this work. The workshop concluded with the vicarage assignments for the next year and presentation of calls by President Orvick.

The seminary graduation was held in the college auditorium on Synod Sunday evening with President Petersen delivering the sermon.

A summer institute was held at the seminary July 17-19. An exegetical study of the first epistle of Peter was led by Professor John Moldstad, Jr. A total of 14 attended the institute, two of whom were from our sister synod, the WELS. A similar institute is planned this summer for our pastors in the Florida-Georgia circuit. We are also grateful to AAL for sponsoring these summer institutes.

The seminary, together with the college, sponsored the annual Reformation Lectures on October 26-27 in the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center. The lectures this year centered on the life and work of Dr. Hermann Sasse, a confessional Lutheran who labored for confessional Lutheranism under very trying times. Interestingly, Dr. Sasse was the first lecturer of what is now known as the annual Reformation Lectures. Dr. Sasse delivered those lectures in 1965, so this was the 30th anniversary of our Lecture Series. This year also marked the centennial of Dr. Sasse's birth. The guest lecturer this year was Dr. Ronald Feuerhahn, associate professor of Historical Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. The reactors to the lectures were President Emeritus Armin Schuetze of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, WI, and Pastor David Webber of Trinity Lutheran Church, Brewster, MA. The lectures and reactions are included in the December 1995 issue of the *Lutheran Synod Quarterly*. This issue is available for \$2.00 per copy.

## LUTHERAN SYNOD QUARTERLY

The *Lutheran Synod Quarterly* is the theological journal of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. We are happy to report that subscriptions to it continue to grow and we receive many favorable comments from subscribers. A growing number of lay people subscribe to this journal. Many of the articles are of a nature that our laity can appreciate. The subscription price is \$8.00 per year

and can be obtained by writing to Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, 447 North Division Street, Mankato, MN 56001.

### **SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS**

The Scholarship Endowment Funds continue to be a blessing to the seminary students. Several scholarship funds have been set up in memory of individuals and the annual dividends are used to help students with their tuition costs. The students are most appreciative of this financial assistance as they pursue their theological education. Then there is also a General Scholarship Fund to which individuals and organizations donate during the year and which is also used to render assistance to students in need. It is our concern that no one desiring to study for the ministry be denied a theological education for lack of funds.

### **FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY**

This year marks the 50th anniversary of our seminary. Established in 1946, it has been carrying out its important mission of training men for the pastoral ministry. Our gracious Lord has instituted the office of the ministry for the blessing of His people. It is through the ministry of Word and Sacrament that the Holy Spirit creates, nourishes and strengthens faith in the hearts of His people. We will observe the 50th anniversary in connection with the seminary graduation on Synod Sunday evening. A special project for our anniversary observance is a new synod-seminary building which is now under construction and which should be ready for the 1996-97 school year next fall. The Lord has made all of this possible through a generous benefactor and also a special synodical offering which is now underway. All thanks and praise to God for these marvelous blessings which He has placed before us.

### **FINANCES**

The following is a summary of budget receipts and expenditures for the past fiscal year July 1, 1994–June 30, 1995.

#### **REVENUES**

Tuition and Fees	\$ 48,480.00
Synod Subsidy	\$ 55,999.98
Gifts and Grants	\$ 42,910.72
Endowment Income	\$ 16,411.81
Other Sources	\$ 11,838.35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$175,640.86</b>

#### **EXPENDITURES**

Education & General	\$188,069.00
Maintenance & Utilities	\$ 6,077.17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$194,146.17</b>
Decrease	(\$ 18,503.31)

Wilhelm W. Petersen, president  
Raymond M. Branstad, chairman  
Harold Theiste, secretary

**HIGHER EDUCATION  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Anniversaries of College and Seminary Staff**

*WHEREAS, The following anniversaries have been observed,*  
25 years    *Clarice E. Madson      Head of Library Clerical*

*Services*

20 years    *Melvina L. Aaberg      Secretary to Synod and*  
*Seminary Presidents*

15 years    *Dean W. Shoop      Business, Accounting,*  
*Economics*

15 years    *Cynthia A. Weberg      Chemistry*

15 years    *Mark E. Wiechmann      Psychology, Counseling*

10 years    *Wm. B. Kessel      Sociology, Religion,*  
*Geography, Anthropology*

10 years    *Audrey J. Winkler      Information Secretary*

*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 their ongoing service in His kingdom.*

**Resolution No. 2: Proposed Four-Year Program**

*WHEREAS, There has been a great deal of discussion in recent years regarding Bethany Lutheran College and the advisability of offering baccalaureate programs, and,*

*WHEREAS, The opportunities of support have significantly improved in the last few years, and,*

*WHEREAS, The strength of Bethany Lutheran College faculty has been greatly improved, and,*

*WHEREAS, There appears to be strong student support for degree elevation, and,*

*WHEREAS, The faculty have responded to the Board of Regent's request for a study of possible four-year programs, and,*

*WHEREAS, The good Lord has showered his blessing on Bethany Lutheran College during its entire history, and,*

*WHEREAS, We have confidence in His promise "Lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world," and,*

*WHEREAS, As a Christian institution we seek to influence our world in as many aspects of our total life as possible, and,*

*WHEREAS, We continue to strive to preserve and strengthen the mission for which the college was established,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Regents thanks the faculty and the 2 + 2 Committee for their effort and the time devoted to the project, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the college offers two baccalaureate programs beginning in the fall of 1999: one in communica-*

tions, and the other to be determined not later than January 1998, and,

C. **BE IT RESOLVED**, That an individual be added to the faculty of Bethany Lutheran College by the fall of 1997 to work closely with the Board for Education and Youth regarding certification of teachers and with those students pursuing a degree in education, and,

D. **BE IT RESOLVED**, That the above be the first steps in a process leading to the development of an institution structured to have a broad range of four-year baccalaureate programs not later than 2016.

### **Resolution No. 3: Trinity Chapel**

*WHEREAS*, The Lord has blessed us with a marvelous place of worship on the Bethany Lutheran College Campus, and,

*WHEREAS*, This chapel will be available for the worship of our Triune God,

A. **BE IT RESOLVED**, That the synod thanks the Lord of the Church for this blessing, and,

B. **BE IT RESOLVED**, That the synod thanks all involved in the planning and construction of the chapel.

### **Resolution No. 4: 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 Lutheran College Auxiliary continues to be committed to the welfare of the college through its prayers and its financial support, 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 Lutheran College Women's Auxiliary, and all the others for their generous support.

### **Resolution No. 5: College Staff**

*WHEREAS*, God has graciously blessed us through the service of dedicated Bethany Staff, and,

*WHEREAS*, God has seen fit, in His wise providence, to call to His side His servants, Professor Glenn Reichwald, Professor Sophia Anderson, and Mrs. Cary Thompson,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the synod extends condolences to the families as we all await reunion with them in glory.

**Resolution No. 6: Seminary Enrollment**

*WHEREAS, The seminary continues to experience favorable enrollment, and,*

*WHEREAS, There continues to be a need for "MESSENGERS OF PEACE,"*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages its pastors and all its members to look for candidates who would be qualified for the office of the public ministry and encourages them to enroll in the seminary.*

**Resolution No. 7: Fiftieth Anniversary of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary**

*WHEREAS, The Lord of Glory has blessed Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary over these past 50 years with faithful faculty who have prepared, "MESSENGERS OF PEACE,"*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That on this 50th Anniversary of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary we continue to praise our God from whom all blessings flow.*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR EDUCATION AND YOUTH

The Board for Education and Youth met twice since the last synod convention, once in October and again in February. The increased funds made available from *His Truth for Our Youth* thankoffering have made it possible to carry out additional work and projects. The board continues to assist God's people in carrying out the God-given task of sharing the truth of His Word. This is done with encouragement and assistance to congregations for the purpose of strengthening God's people from our little ones to our senior citizens.

Again, during the year, Pastor Charles Keeler served 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. Thus the board is divided into three subcommittees.

### SUBCOMMITTEE FOR PARISH EDUCATION

The subcommittee on Parish Education assists educational agencies in our synod's congregations. New members Pastor Martin Teigen and Pastor Mark Wold joined Pastor Craig Ferkenstad who serves as chairman of the Parish Education subcommittee and as secretary for Sunday schools.

We have continued the past projects of Advent and Lent devotions and the Sunday School teachers' newsletter. A mailing containing cooperative learning worksheets for confirmation has been sent to pastors serving congregations. We have been reviewing materials and will soon complete two major projects: a book of object lessons written by Mrs. Joslyn Moldstad and a workbook with lessons written by Pastor Craig Ferkenstad which correspond with the paintings in the booklet *In Remembrance of His Mercy*.

The subcommittee continues to assist congregations to honor Sunday School teachers for years of service (10, 15, 20, etc.). Sunday School institutes were held in Circuits 6 & 7. The subcommittee encourages these to be held and has a long-range plan of preparing an institute which can be conducted in all the circuits of the synod.

The subcommittee intends to prepare additional Vacation Bible School materials based on Martin Luther's Small Catechism because the VBS materials of the major publishers have only an evangelism focus rather than an indoctrination focus. The subcommittee has had difficulty finding pastors who can work on this project because of busy schedules. Pastor Theodore Gullixson has submitted a series of readings from the catechism; these are prepared as a bulletin insert which can be obtained from the subcommittee now as this project is being produced or later when they are all completed. We continue to seek Bible study materials that are being produced by pastors for individual congregations so that they may be made available for the congregations of the synod.

### SUBCOMMITTEE ON YOUTH WORK

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

The 1995 LYA Convention was held at Bethany Lutheran College in July with 180 youth in attendance. The convention theme was "One Thing Needful." Devotions and Bible studies centered on our worship life as Christians. The 1996 LYA Convention will be held in Bowling Green, Ohio, July 25-28th. The 1997 Convention is being planned for Florida and in 1998 we are looking into the possibility of Colorado.

In 1995 the subcommittee provided \$100-\$150 grants toward 10 area youth retreats throughout the synod in N. Minnesota (2), Missouri (2), Michigan, Florida (2), Massachusetts, Wisconsin and Arizona. We also provided \$600 toward the Youth Honor Choir program. Camp Coordinator, Mr. Ron O'Neill reported high attendance at our 6 synod youth camps. The subcommittee allocates a small subsidy toward our synod camps each year.

The subcommittee continues to publish the youth magazine, *Young Branches*. The number of issues was down this past year due to a move by the editor, Pastor Donald Moldstad. We are planning to produce 6 issues in 1996. A new teen devotional book is slated for presentation at the synod convention in June, 1996. Pastor Mark Bartels served as the managing editor. A teen song book is presently being worked on.

Pastor Moldstad gave a presentation at the seminary regarding the role of the pastoral office regarding youth. Other projects we are working on include: a training video for lay youth leaders, and a Bible Study on the Christian Family, to be written by Prof. David Thompson. We are also investigating the possibility of hosting a youth convention for the young people in our Peru mission.

We continue to encourage and support any work that is done for the young souls of our ELS congregations, with the hope of keeping them at the feet of their Good Shepherd.

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

The subcommittee on Christian Day Schools assists congregations which endeavor to train their children through a Christian Day School. Members of the subcommittee are: Mr. 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 Scarville Lutheran School, Scarville, Iowa on October 19th and 20th. The teachers in the Pacific Northwest Conference met at Yelm, Washington on January 12th. Beth Davis attended this conference and visited the schools as a representative of the Midwest conference. 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.

Over 1995, seventeen teachers took 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 imposed on the staffs of Christian Day Schools, and in the encouragement and support of all our teachers becoming synodically certified.

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, Princeton Lutheran School was assisted in the purchase of a new facility, and Lakewood Lutheran in Tacoma, Washington, was assisted in the update of a portion of their curriculum. Several other projects are being considered. Your gifts from the Anniversary Thankoffering, in addition to our regular budget, have made the funding of special projects such as these possible. We thank you for having made these funds available to help schools in need of assistance.

Our teacher conference exchange program continues to work toward the goal of teacher unity. Under this program, one teacher of our synod represents his or her colleagues at their sister conference. The third representative of this program, Mrs. Beth Davis from King of Grace, Golden Valley, visited the West Coast Teachers Conference this past January. The program continues as 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. This is not only an opportunity to share in fellowship, but a chance to appreciate the special challenges faced in each conference.



We would also like to welcome a new school to our synod. Last fall, Our Savior's Lutheran School in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, opened with 15 students in grades K and 1 under the teaching of Mrs. Barbara Huhnerkoch. We rejoice in their efforts, and pray for their continued success.

At our February meeting, the final version of the HANDBOOK FOR CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS was presented. Though not yet published, we hope to have it out soon.

The CDS Subcommittee has completed work on the revision of the certification rules. At the last convention, these were sent to the self study committee for review, which work has not been completed. In conjunction with the anticipated publication of the requirements, we are working to develop both a liturgics class and a course for teaching religion.

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, and share with you the benefits and practical requirements for 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	\$17,650
Yearly Increment	\$225*

Teachers who hold a Master's Degree:

Base Salary	\$18,700
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 wish to establish a maximum range or salary cap for automatic increments, such as 25 years, etc.

To both of the above add the following:

Pension to be figured at 6% of the above.

Paid health insurance, synod plan or the equivalent.

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

Additional Recommendations:

1. Other duties assigned to a teacher, but not those expected because of regular congregational membership, such as principalship, should be adequately remunerated.
2. Congregations are encouraged to provide financial support for the teacher's continuing education, and teachers should be encouraged to take a minimum of three credit hours of graduate or undergraduate work during each three-year period. Congregations may also wish to establish a salary incentive program to encourage teachers to take additional course work by providing incremental increases based on additional credits, such as after 12, 24, etc.
3. The congregation should insist that the teachers attend the annual teacher's conference, and should provide ways and means to do so.
4. The congregation should encourage all male teachers to attend the synod convention and become permanent advisory members to the synod. Congregations should assist these teachers by providing ways and means to attend.

5. A sick leave of ten days shall be granted each year. These shall be accumulated to a maximum of fifty days. For any sick leave beyond the accumulated amount, the cost of substitute teaching may be deducted from the salary of the teacher who is absent.
6. Personal emergency leaves are not to exceed five days each year. The cost of substitute teaching is to be deducted from the teacher's salary for all days over five days. In the event of a death or serious illness in the immediate family, an additional leave shall be considered, its extent to be determined by the congregational Board of Christian Education.
7. Each substitute teacher shall be paid a minimum of \$60 per day.

## CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL STATISTICS 1995-96

Teachers:

Full-Time Men:	15
Full-Time Women:	41
Part-Time Women:	<u>18</u>
Total:	74

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

Total Number: 16

Preschools Only: 2

Enrollment by Grade:

Pre-S	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<u>203</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>90</u>
Total Enrollment:				1,163 Pre-K through 8					
				(1,201 in 1995)					
				960 K through 8					
				(933 in 1995)					

James Schneck  
Secretary of Schools

## JOINT CONCERNS

The board thanks the men and women who served on the Family Life Commission. During their duration they helped the board with some suggestions of projects in the area of work among families. As time and finances permit, the board will seek to implement some of the projects. One of the first projects to be done will be a synod-wide Bible study on the family. The board asks that the synod continue to support this work on behalf of the families in our congregations.

We thank the synod for its continued emphasis on the importance of work among all ages in our churches. May the Lord of the Church grant us continued grace to do His will in feeding His sheep.

Jonathan N. Madson, secretary

## **EDUCATION AND YOUTH ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

### **Resolution No. 1: Production of Board for Education and Youth Parish Education Materials**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Education and Youth Subcommittee for Parish Education has commendably undertaken the production of devotional materials for our parish families, a newsletter for Sunday School teachers, a cooperative learning worksheet, and is in the process of producing still more materials that will soon be released,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Education and Youth Subcommittee for Parish Education vigorously promotes the use of these materials, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That this subcommittee solicits help from our pastors in developing future materials.*

### **Resolution No. 2: Sunday School Institutes**

*WHEREAS, Two of our synod's circuits held Sunday School institutes in the past year, and,*

*WHEREAS, Such institutes are valuable tools for aiding our Synod's Sunday Schools, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Education and Youth Subcommittee on Parish Education has a long-range plan of "preparing an institute which can be conducted in all the circuits of the synod."*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That each of our Synod's Circuit Visitors promotes a Sunday School Institute within his circuit, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the subcommittee expedites its long-range planning, and present "an institute which can be conducted in all the circuits of the synod" by the time of the 1998 ELS Synod Convention.*

### **Resolution No. 3: Bible Studies Database**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Education and Youth Subcommittee on Youth Work is seeking Bible Study materials that are being produced by pastors and youth leaders for individual congregations so that they may be made available for the congregations of the synod,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Education and Youth Subcommittee on Youth Work requests of the synod's pastors that they submit such materials to them, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the subcommittee considers preparing a database so that these may be indexed and made available to the congregations, pastors, and members of the ELS.*

### **Resolution No. 4: Youth Education**

*WHEREAS, Through annual conventions, retreats and camps, Youth Honor Choir, and the periodical Young Branches, the doctrines and practices of the Evangelical Lutheran Church have been proclaimed and taught to the young people of the ELS, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Subcommittee on Youth work has been able to give grants to aid our youth in attending these to reinforce the teachings of Scripture, and,*

*WHEREAS, Our young men and women are tempted on all sides to abandon their baptismal faith,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Education and Youth continues and furthers its strong emphasis on proper biblical teaching and practice.*

#### **Resolution No. 5: Salary Schedule**

*WHEREAS, The Salary Schedule recommended by the Board for Education and Youth Subcommittee on Christian Day Schools is a realistic minimum salary, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board is striving to bring the synod's recommended salary schedule more in line with that of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, in order to facilitate the calling of candidates from that synod,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the recommended Salary Schedule for Christian Day School Teachers.*

#### **Resolution No. 6: Family Life Commission**

*WHEREAS, The Family Life Commission has completed its work under the auspices of the Board of Education and Youth, and,*

*WHEREAS, It has provided ample material for the Board for Education and Youth to continue a number of the projects recommended by the commission,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Family Life Commission be excused with thanks, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Education and Youth continues to work toward providing biblical and confessional materials for the strengthening of the families of our Lutheran parishes.*

#### **Resolution No. 7: Christian Day School Development**

*WHEREAS, Christian Day Schools are of great benefit to our synod in the feeding of God's lambs, and,*

*WHEREAS, The congregations of the synod have repeatedly been encouraged to begin new Christian Day Schools, and,*

*WHEREAS, It is difficult for many congregations to develop start-up funds,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That beginning in 1998, 3% of the annual matching funds be dedicated to this effort, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That a portion of these funds be used to send school counselors into our synod's congregations to promote the formation of Christian Day Schools, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Education and Youth administers these funds in order to aid in the creation and expansion of Evangelical Lutheran Synod Christian Day Schools.*

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

Matthew 28: 18-20 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (NIV) Jesus spoke these words to his first disciples. Today he speaks them to his church on earth through His written Word. On your behalf the Board for Home Missions, under the authority and command of our Lord Jesus, seeks to carry out His will by establishing new churches. In these mission churches Word and Sacrament are administered by missionaries for the salvation of those who hear and believe. How grateful we are that we are partners with God in this great work of discipling the nations. We are humbled and pleased to announce that our missions grew by about 130 souls this past year. Your missions made a significant contribution to all the work of the synod by giving \$43,453.92!

## **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; the Rev. Richard Wiechmann, treasurer; the Rev. Steven Petersen, field secretary; the Rev. Steven Reagles, secretary; and Mr. John Merseth. Those members marked with an asterisk (\*) also serve on the Trustee/Home Mission Subcommittee. Chairman Ekhoﬀ also serves on the Planning and Coordinating Committee.

## **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 calls and during the synod convention and the general pastor's conference.

Board members have made regular visits to current mission fields, attended installations of mission pastors, dedications of churches, and made consultations with missionaries and mission congregations. Also trips were made to investigate prospective mission fields.

## **MISSION PROPERTY**

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, Florida, purchased property.

## **SELF SUPPORT ACHIEVED**

Christ Lutheran Church, Port Saint Lucie, Florida, achieved self support. We congratulate them for their dedicated work over the years.

## **NEW WORK**

The board began new work in Cartersville, Georgia in the late summer of 1995. The Rev. Joel Willitz is the exploratory missionary.

## **MISSION ORGANIZES**

Abiding Word Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, Ohio, Kenneth Mellon, pastor incorporated since the last synod convention and has made application to join the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

## **CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL**

The board is pleased to announce that the Christian Day School at its mission, Saved by Grace Lutheran Church, Gresham, Oregon, is doing very well. The subsidy for the school will continue for another four years.

## OTHER MATTERS

The board continues to review the work of the missionaries and the subsidy grants to the congregations on a quarterly basis. The board accomplishes this through the receipt of regular reports from the missionaries and treasurers of the congregations, telephone conversations and on site visits.

The board resolved to call a part-time missions counselor. The basic duties of this person would be to serve as staff to the board and work in the areas of site selection, personnel development, policy implementation and financial management. The counselor is to develop expertise in home mission work on behalf of the synod. The Home Missions Counselor will conduct communications between the Board of Trustees and Board for Home Missions and the individual missions and maintain records of the agreements established by these boards and the missions. This matter has been referred to the Board of Trustees for discussion and action.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Warroad, Minnesota, voted to join the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

The board continues to work with a 10-year plan of funding for missions. This plan involves present and projected congregational subsidies, projected new starts, present and projected capital interest subsidies, present and future board expenses, and sources of income. This plan is regularly presented to the trustees and the Planning and Coordinating Committee.

The board has concluded that its present salary formula is satisfactory for all of our missionaries. The board did discuss, at length, a "regional" or indexed salary as well as a percentage increase for years of service. However, the board is seeking professional advice regarding the salary scale.

The board continues to work closely with the trustees in the purchase of new properties and church buildings for missions.

## SALARY PACKAGE FOR 1997

\$19,800 base, car allowance at \$3,000, yearly increment at \$250 up to 20 years, pension at 6% of base, car allowance, and increment. Health insurance to be paid in full at the lowest deductible, housing and utilities to be provided, continuing education allowance at \$150 per year. Vacation time 1-5 years; 2 Sundays and 20 days; 6-15 years, 3 Sundays and 25 days; 16 plus years, 4 Sundays and 30 days.

## OPERATING SUBSIDY BUDGETS

	1995 Budget:	1996 Budget:	1997 Proposed Budget:
<b>EXPLORATORY MISSIONS</b>			
Abiding Word, Bowling Green, OH	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Lamb of God, Cartersville, GA		\$ 55,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
<b>HOME MISSIONS</b>			
Redeemer, Scottsdale, AZ		\$ 40,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Family of God, Riviera, AZ	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
New Life, Sebring, FL	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 2,500.00	
Lord of Life, Holland, MI	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 31,000.00
Messiah, Puyallup, WA	\$ 41,500.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 32,000.00
Peace, Lakeland, FL	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 29,500.00	\$ 24,500.00
Resurrection, Winter Haven, FL	\$ 41,000.00	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 32,000.00

**CONGREGATIONS****RECEIVING SUPPORT**

Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	\$ 16,000.00		
Zion, Irwin, PA	\$ 12,800.00	\$ 10,800.00	\$ 8,800.00

**BOARD EXPENSES**

New Mission Start		\$	\$ 55,000.00
Advertising/Printing	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Board Expenses	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Moving Expenses	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$324,550.00</b>	<b>\$359,300.00</b>	<b>\$357,300.00</b>
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**CAPITAL INTEREST SUBSIDY BUDGETS**

	1995 Budget:	1996 Budget:	1997 Proposed Budget:
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 27,900.00	\$ 27,900.00
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	\$ 25,240.00	\$ 18,750.00	\$ 18,750.00
New Life, Sebring, FL	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 13,000.00
Lord of Life, Holland, MI		\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Messiah, Puyallup, WA		\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Peace, Lakeland, FL			\$ 30,000.00
Resurrection, Winter Haven, FL		\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Abiding Word, Bowling Green, OH			\$ 20,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 51,640.00</b>	<b>\$139,650.00</b>	<b>\$189,650.00</b>

In 1995, the synod allotted \$118,000 for the Home Mission Program. The remainder of the money which was needed to fund the Home Mission Program came from special gifts, Lutheran Brotherhood, Schwan Sales Enterprises and earned and accumulated interest.

**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 Program Subsidy Grants which have been made available to many of our home mission congregations. We thank Aid Associations for Lutherans for funding our Home Mission Seminar. We are especially grateful to Schwan Sales Enterprises for matching the synod offerings in 1996 and contributing \$550,000.00 of that match toward a new mission.

The work we are doing is of eternal importance. May God continue to be with us and bless us! To God alone be the glory!

Erwin Ekhooff, chairman

**HOME MISSIONS****ACTION OF THE SYNOD****Resolution No. 1: Home Mission Work 1995**

*WHEREAS, Christ Lutheran Church, Port Saint Lucie, Florida, achieved self-support this past year, and,*

*WHEREAS, New work has begun in Cartersville, Georgia, and,*

*WHEREAS, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, Florida, purchased property, and,*

*WHEREAS, Abiding Word Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, Ohio, has incorporated and has made application to join the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions reports an increase of 130 souls under the care of the synod's home missionaries,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod acknowledges the exemplary work of the home missionaries and congregations in evangelism, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Board for Home Missions to continue reaching out to the people of the United States with the Gospel.*

#### **Resolution No. 2: Financial Contributions from Home Missions**

*WHEREAS, The mission congregations contributed \$43,453.92 to the Lord's work through the synod,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Lord for the example set by these new congregations in supporting His work in the synod.*

#### **Resolution No. 3: Salary Package for 1997**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions has recommended a salary package for home missionaries,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts this recommendation.*

#### **Resolution No. 4: Supporting Funds**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions in conjunction with missions is purchasing properties such as Resurrection Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, Florida, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions finances the construction of new missions, and,*

*WHEREAS, Such purchases and construction require large sums of money, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions receives significant financial resources from the synod, individuals, and private organizations,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod acknowledges the generous support given for missions, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod continues to support the expansion of home missions.*

#### **Resolution No. 5: Work of the Board for Home Missions**

*WHEREAS, The Lord has blessed the ELS through the Board for Home Missions in establishing 18 new mission congregations over the past fifteen years, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions continues to plan to open at least one new home mission a year,*



*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the board for their obedience to the command of Christ as stated in Chapter III of the Constitution of our synod, "The synod exists to carry out the command of Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel to every creature" (St. Mark 16:15, St. Matthew 28:1-20).*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod continues toward the goal of opening at least one new home mission a year.*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

"Dear heavenly Father, wherever there are consecrated men and women engaged in the blessed task of bringing the Gospel to the heathen, do Thou give success to their labors, and open hearts so that Thy saving Word will be received. Establish Thy Church in the midst of Thine enemies, and let the fruits of true righteousness abound. Give Thy protection to all of our missionaries that work in foreign lands. Ward off persecution from them, keep them healthy and strong, and give them the grace to be always faithful to You, and at last receive them, and those they lead to Christ, into heaven. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen!" (LUTHERAN BOOK OF PRAYER)

**BOARD PERSONNEL**—The Board for Foreign Missions is made up of four pastors and three laymen. They are: The Rev. Paul Anderson, chairman; Mr. Marlin Goebel, vice chairman; the Rev. Wayne Halvorson, recording secretary; Mr. Robert Soule, treasurer; the Rev. Norman A. Madson, field secretary; Prof. Adolph Harstad, information officer; Mr. Ken Loomis, mass media consultant. The board held quarterly 2-day meetings—the last Monday & Tuesday of January, April, July and October. President Orvick attends our meetings ex-officio. A representative from the board of Thoughts of Faith regularly attends our meetings.

**FIELD PERSONNEL**—At present there are two missionaries serving in Peru. They are the Rev. Timothy Erickson and the Rev. David Haeuser. Missionary Erickson serves as the administrator of the mission, national pastor adviser, and part-time teacher in the seminary. Missionary Haeuser is the head of the seminary program, national pastor adviser, and assists with preaching. There are four ordained national pastors. They are Fidel Convecio, who works in the Chiquian-Pacllon area north of Lima; Roberto Berrospid and Abraham Rosario who work in the Lima area; and Segundo Gutierrez, who works in the Cimbote area some 300 miles up the northwest coast. Several vicars from the seminary also assist in the work.

In Chile we have two missionaries. They are the Rev. Jim Olsen, evangelist and church planter; and the Rev. Timothy Bartels, evangelist and church planter. Amy Gernander Chandia has assisted our missionaries in various ways again this past year: Sunday School teacher, ladies' Bible class leader, office work and the like. Amy was married last summer to Gilberto Chandia. For lack of funding for her position, she will no longer be under the Mission's payroll after April of 1996. She has already gotten a teaching position in a Chilean school and will continue to help out as much in the mission as she is able to.

**FUTURE WORKERS FOR THE FIELD**—As this report was being compiled at the end of February the Rev. Mark Wold of Lengby, Minnesota was holding the call to Peru, and the Rev. Oto Rodriquez, a pastor in the Mexico Lutheran Church (sister synod of the WELS), was holding the call to our Chile mission.

The board has also requested of the synod's assignment committee that they assign a graduate from our seminary to each of the South American fields.

**STATISTICS (Peru)**—There are 27 preaching/teaching stations. Baptized membership 738, communicant membership 419, voting members 84. There were 21 baptisms during the year, and 21 confirmations. 2,999 communed.

**(Chile)**—In the La Cisterna area where Tim Bartels works there are about 50 baptized members, 30 of which are confirmed. In the Las Vertientes area where Jim Olsen works there are 42 baptized members, of which 20 are confirmed. Tim Bartels is also serving a group in San Bernardo, a southern suburb of Santiago. Jim Olsen makes regular trips to the south of Chile to minister to contacts he has made through members at Las Vertientes.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### 1. **FULL-TIME or PART-TIME FOREIGN MISSION COUNSELOR**—

Because of increasing work for the chairman and field secretary of the board, and with a view toward doing things more efficiently, the board has been considering a full-time, or at least part-time mission counselor. The Board for Home Missions is doing likewise.

### 2. **WORLD MISSIONARY CONFERENCE**—Thanks to a generous benefactor here in the US, our board was able to plan and carry out the first world conference for our ELS foreign missionaries. It was held in Lima, Peru in the middle of November, and it brought together missionaries from Ukraine, Czech Republic, Australia, Chile and Peru. The grant monies allowed the bringing along of wives to the conference. During the week some special sessions were conducted to address their needs as well. The conference had good papers and discussions, as well as good Christian fellowship. It is hoped that similar conferences may be held every two or three years.

### 3. **ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR THOSE CALLED TO THE FOREIGN FIELD**—A sub-committee of our board is presently working on setting up a program to better prepare new missionaries going to the field. The board feels that it has been remiss in this in the past and wants to rectify the situation. WELS has a program from which we can learn. They have a 10-hour orientation prior to the acceptance of a Call; 20 hours or orientation after a Call has been accepted; and another session of orientation once the missionary and his family have arrived on the field.

### 4. **CHRISTIAN-LUTHERAN SCHOOL IN LIMA CHURCHES**—The national pastors are very interested in starting some Christian Day Schools. Our board has asked them to come up with some specific plans, and we shall see if we can secure funding. Such schools would be of great benefit to our mission effort in the Lima area.

### 5. **CONFERENCES FOR CHILE & PERU WORKERS**—Our board is encouraging our missionaries in South America to explore possibilities of having missionary and national pastor conferences for our Chile and Peru workers. Funding would have to be found also for such conferences, but it can be. Such conferences should be beneficial to both missionaries and national pastors.

### 6. **BLC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PERUVIANS & CHILEANS**—The board is most appreciative of the tuition—board and room scholarships that Bethany is offering to members of our churches in Peru and Chile. The first recipient of such a scholarship will very likely be a young man from Chile. In spite of the free tuition—board and room there are some expenses for these youth students from SA, like air flights and monthly personal needs. We hope to solicit through Mission-News money gifts to assist these students.

### 7. **NEW WORK IN PRAGUE, Czech Republic**—Pastor Jim Krikava, who was with the Thoughts of Faith work in Plzen has, during the past year, begun work in Prague. While he is not under our board financially, we do encourage him in his work and look forward to regular reports from him as to how the work is progressing.

8. **HELPING HANDS**—Contributions to this fund during 1995 totaled \$72,030, and interest gained from the \$600,000 endowment was \$35,985. We wish to thank once again the many people who supported the HH program with their monthly, quarterly, or yearly gifts.
9. **FAITH MISSION SOCIETY**—This Mission Society once again did much throughout the year to publicize and financially support our synod's mission endeavors. The quarterly MISSION NEWS again had wonderful articles and pictures promoting the work being done in the various parts of the world. Jean and Marlin Goebel, the publishers of MISSION NEWS, are hereby duly thanked. During 1995 a total of \$14,673 was given for our Peru Mission through FMS, and \$2,417 was given to our Chile Mission.
10. **AUSTRALIA**—While the work being done in Australia is technically not our board's mission work, yet, because we are helping the confessional Lutheran churches (ELSA) in that country with monies given by a generous benefactor, we do, in a sense, look upon the work in Australia as also being our work. Pastor Mark Tuffin, a graduate of our Bethany Seminary and a native of Australia, serves a congregation in Brisbane. Pastor Peter Prange (WELS) serves a congregation at Maryborough. A group in South Australia also wants to call a pastor from either ELS or WELS.

# **11. 1996 BUDGET**

## **THE REVISED 1996 BUDGET**

	Tim Erickson (18 years)	David Haeuser (20+ years)	New Man (1/2 yr.) (No years)	Jim Olsen (20+ years)
Base salary	\$21,120	\$21,120	\$10,560	\$21,120
Increment	4,500	5,000	—	5,000
Rent	9,600	11,400	6,000	8,700
Children's schooling	14,650	13,150	—	—
*Pension	1,717	1,747	724	1,747
Totals	\$51,587	\$52,417	\$17,284	\$36,567

	Tim Bartels (11 years)	Sem. Prof. (20 years)	New Man (1/2) (No years)
Base salary	\$21,120	\$21,120	\$10,560
Increment	2,750	5,000	—
Rent	14,000	12,000	6,000
Children's schooling	15,600	10,000	—
*Pension	1,612	1,747	724
Totals	\$55,082	\$49,867	\$17,284

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

Total salaries—\$280,088

**OTHER EXPENSES**

	Peru (2-1/2 Men)	Chile (3-1/2 Men)
Health Insurance	\$12,000	\$16,800
Car Allowance	7,500	10,500
Vehicle Replacement	6,000	8,000
Furloughs	10,000	10,000
Board Expenses	3,500	3,500
Office Supplies	5,000	5,000
Printing & Literature	3,000	3,000
Furnishing Replacement	1,000	1,000
Utilities & Insurance	8,000	12,000
Language Study	2,000	2,000
Field Travel	3,000	2,000
Visa Expense	1,000	1,500
Personnel Change on field	5,000	5,000
Accountant (Lawyer)	2,000	3,600
Term Insurance	450	600
Secretary	3,000	—
College student airfare	5,000	—
National Congregation Support	<u>6,000</u>	<u>—</u>
	\$83,450	\$84,500

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF NEEDS**

Salaries	\$280,088
Peru "Other"	83,450
Chile "Other"	84,500
Peru Seminary	36,000
Peru Nat. Pastors	<u>30,000</u>
Total	\$514,038

**EXPECTED INCOME IN 1996**

Synod Budget	\$108,000
Chile Seminary (Schwan)	85,000
Interest Adj (Schwan)	65,000
Peru Seminary (Schwan)	51,000
Synod Bud. Match (Schwan)	50,000
Helping Hands Donations	40,000
Helping Hands Interest	30,000
HH Yearly Gift (Schwan)	30,000
Take from Fett Fund	47,038
WOW Fund Interest	5,000
Miscellaneous Gifts	<u>3,000</u>
Total	\$514,038

Norman Madson, field secretary

Thoughts of Faith, Inc.  
Balance Sheet  
As of December 31, 1995  
See Accountants' Compilation Report

	Restricted					Unrestricted	Endowment	Total
	MCOW	Ukraine	Agriculture	Czech	Corporate	Total	Ukraine	
<b>Assets</b>								
<b>Current Assets</b>								
Petty cash checking					\$48	\$48		\$48
General checking					82,427	82,427		82,427
Due from Corporate					0	0	100,000	100,000
Cash - Medical Clinic on Wheels								0
Cash - Ternopil		(1,214)			(1,214)	(1,214)		(1,214)
Cash - Kiev		12,852			12,852	12,852		12,852
Cash - Czech Republic				12,008	12,008	12,008		12,008
Cash - Agriculture			2,945		2,945	2,945		2,945
Total cash and checking	0	11,638	2,945	12,008	82,475	109,066	100,000	209,066
Inventory - literature		24,800			24,800	24,800		24,800
<b>Total current assets</b>	0	36,438	2,945	12,008	82,475	133,866	100,000	233,866
<b>Investments</b>								
Selfreliance Credit Union							136,401	136,401
Schwab							2	2
Firststar Trust					576,891	576,891	808,037	1,384,928
Note receivable - Schwark		3,344			3,344	3,344		3,344
Note receivable - Makinen		6,400			6,400	6,400		6,400
Loan receivable		3,437			3,437	3,437		3,437
Total investments	0	13,181	0	0	576,891	590,072	944,440	1,534,512
<b>Property and Equipment</b>								
Cost	526,566	1,021,707	561,151	1,758,464	72,214	3,940,102		3,940,102
Accumulated depreciation	(321,276)	(374,006)	(4,290)	(190,897)	(50,861)	(941,330)		(941,330)
Net property and equipment	205,290	647,701	556,861	1,567,567	21,353	2,998,772	0	2,998,772
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$205,290</u>	<u>\$697,320</u>	<u>\$559,806</u>	<u>\$1,579,575</u>	<u>\$680,719</u>	<u>\$3,722,710</u>	<u>\$1,044,440</u>	<u>\$4,767,150</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>								
<b>Current liabilities</b>								
Accounts payable					\$30,335	\$30,335		\$30,335
Payroll taxes payable					4,692	4,692		4,692
Accrued wages					0	0		0
Loan payable - cheese plant					2,703	2,703		2,703
Due to Programs and Endowment				500,000	100,000	600,000	67,402	667,402
Deferred contribution - Schwan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	0	0	0	500,000	137,730	637,730	67,402	705,132
<b>Net Assets</b>								
Unrestricted							(67,402)	(67,402)
Restricted - operating fund	0	49,619	2,945	(487,992)	521,636	86,208		86,208
Restricted - capital fund	205,290	647,701	556,861	1,567,567	21,353	2,998,772		2,998,772
Endowment							1,044,440	1,044,440
Total net assets	205,290	697,320	559,806	1,079,575	542,989	3,084,980	(67,402)	4,062,018
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<u>\$205,290</u>	<u>\$697,320</u>	<u>\$559,806</u>	<u>\$1,579,575</u>	<u>\$680,719</u>	<u>\$3,722,710</u>	<u>\$1,044,440</u>	<u>\$4,767,150</u>

Norman Madson, field secretary

**FOREIGN MISSIONS**  
**ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Called Workers in the South American Fields**

*WHEREAS, The synod has encouraged the Board for Foreign Missions to aggressively seek candidates for the South American fields by issuing calls simultaneously to both Chile and Peru (S.R. 1995; Pg. 139), and,*

*WHEREAS, The synod also resolved that the Board for Foreign Missions consider calling Candidates of Theology directly to the mission field, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Lord has provided candidate of Theology, Terry Shultz, to serve in Peru and the Rev. Oto Rodriguez to serve in Chile,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Foreign Missions be commended for its aggressive search for workers to the South American fields, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks the Lord for providing these workers.*

**Resolution No. 2: Preparation and Support for Foreign Missionaries**

*WHEREAS, The first World Missionary Conference proved to be beneficial to the missionaries and their families, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions is presently working on an orientation program for new missionaries entering the field, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions is encouraging our South American missionaries to explore possibilities of having missionary and national pastor conferences,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the Board for Foreign Missions for its foresight in these endeavors, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Board for Foreign Missions to continue its efforts to enhance the preparation and support of our foreign missionaries.*

**Resolution No. 3: Christian Lutheran Schools in Peru**

*WHEREAS, The national pastors are very interested in starting Christian Day Schools in Peru,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod, through the Board for Foreign Missions, continues to encourage the Peruvian national pastors in their efforts to establish such an important spiritual nourishment and outreach program for the Peruvian youth.*

**Resolution No. 4: Bethany Lutheran College Scholarships for Foreign Mission Students**

*WHEREAS, Bethany Lutheran College has established a pro-*

*gram of tuition / board and room scholarships to members of our foreign mission churches, and,*

*WHEREAS, There are additional expenses for these students, such as travel and monthly personal needs,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks Bethany Lutheran College for establishing this scholarship program, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Board for Foreign Missions to actively pursue methods of obtaining additional financial assistance for these foreign mission students.*

**Resolution No. 5: Work in Ukraine, Czech Republic, Latvia and Australia**

*WHEREAS, Pastor James Krikava has recently begun work in Prague, Czech Republic, and,*

*WHEREAS, Pastors Mark Tuffin and Peter Prange continue serving in Australia, and,*

*WHEREAS, Thoughts of Faith continues to support mission work in Ukraine, Czech Republic and Latvia,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks these workers for their faithful service and encourages them to continue their efforts in spreading the Gospel.*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR EVANGELISM

*May God bestow on us His grace,  
With blessings rich provide us,  
And may the brightness of His face  
To life eternal guide us;  
That we His saving work may know,  
And what is His good pleasure,  
And also to the heathen show  
Christ's riches without measure,  
And unto God convert them.  
(Lutheran Hymnary 29, verse 1)*

The words of this hymn by Martin Luther neatly summarize the goal of the Christian faith: eternal life given by God's grace. In the last three lines we are also reminded of the work of spreading the good news of Christ's redemptive work to those lost souls who do not know their Savior and have no certainty of eternal life. It is the hope and prayer of the members of the Board for Evangelism that we will, by God's grace, continue to encourage such work among the congregations of our synod. May we do so with love for those who need the forgiveness of our Lord; may we do so with integrity and consistency with all the teachings of the Word of God.

The board met three times since the 1995 synod convention: September 1995, and February and May 1996. The board members are: The Rev. Michael Smith, chairman, the Rev. T. Rank, secretary, Mr. H. Ringen and Mr. B. Peterson, the Rev. J. Burkhardt, a member of the board for the past decade and our chairman, resigned from the board in January of 1996. The board is grateful for his many years of leadership and service with us and thanks him for the many contributions he made to our work. The president appointed the Rev. K. Mellon to fill the vacancy.

The board plans to continue its work of encouraging the work of spreading the Gospel and providing sound biblical and confessional materials. New titles to the "We're Glad You Asked About . . ." series of tracts will be introduced at the 1996 synod convention. Also, a series of sermons on evangelism, collected from pastors of the synod, will be given to every pastor in order to provide a resource for preaching on this aspect of the work of God's kingdom. In addition, a number of Bible studies will also be provided.

The "Evangelism Notes" newsletter is turning out to be more of an annual publication than semi-annual or quarterly. However, the board plans to continue publishing it for distribution at synod convention and perhaps also at the annual pastoral conference.

A workshop on evangelism is being developed and is in rough draft form at this time. The goal is to begin presentations of this workshop around the synod in the upcoming year. The workshop is for both pastors and congregational members.

The Board for Evangelism plans to provide access to a variety of evangelism materials through a collection of sample advertisements, mailings, etc., used by E.L.S. home missionaries and other pastors. The goal is to have a packet of samples available upon request to congregations/pastors looking for ideas for evangelism. The board's budget for 1996 is \$9,000.00.

The great need for the Gospel is evident all around us, whether we live in rural areas of the synod, suburban, or inner city. We want to meet that need for the Gospel by teaching of conversion and spreading the Gospel according to God's Word and as we confess it in the Lutheran confessions:

Just as little as a person who is physically dead can by his own powers prepare or accommodate himself to regain temporal life, so



little can a man who is spiritually dead, in sin, prepare or address himself by his own power to obtain spiritual and heavenly righteousness and life, unless the Son of God has liberated him from the death of sin and made him alive (*Formula of Concord*, Solid Declaration, II, 11).

People need Jesus Christ, and they only receive Him through God's Word and sacraments. Our Lord has blessed our synod with the wonderful treasure of the forgiveness of sins, obtained by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. May God help us to be bold in proclaiming the faith handed down to us, confessing both by our actions and by our words.

Thomas L. Rank, secretary

## **EVANGELISM**

### **ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

#### **Resolution No. 1: Work of the Board for Evangelism**

*WHEREAS*, We are reminded by the Report of the Board for Evangelism of the work of spreading the good news of Christ's redemptive work to those lost souls who do not know their Savior and have no certainty of eternal life,

*BE IT RESOLVED*, That the synod encourages the Board for Evangelism to continue to assist the congregations and pastors of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in their work of bringing lost souls to the knowledge of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

#### **Resolution No. 2: Production of Evangelism Materials**

*WHEREAS*, The Board for Evangelism has been producing sound confessional and biblical evangelism materials,

A. *BE IT RESOLVED*, That the synod encourages the Board for Evangelism to continue to produce tracts, Bible Studies, the "Evangelism Notes" publication, etc., and,

B. *BE IT RESOLVED*, That they continue to produce and/or examine additional materials for distribution, and,

C. *BE IT RESOLVED*, That special consideration be given toward producing photocopy or camera ready materials.

#### **Resolution No. 3: Evangelism Workshop**

*WHEREAS*, The Board for Evangelism has developed an evangelism workshop, and,

*WHEREAS*, This workshop is to take place at the circuit and/or regional level,

A. *BE IT RESOLVED*, That the synod encourages the Board for Evangelism to present the evangelism workshops throughout the synod, and,

B. *BE IT RESOLVED*, That the synod encourages the circuits, winkels, and congregations to give their full attendance and support to these workshops.

#### **Resolution No. 4: Sample Evangelism Materials**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism is providing a variety of evangelism materials through a collection of sample advertisements, mailings, etc.,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the Board for Evangelism in its work of assembling the packet of sample materials, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages its congregations to review these materials and to utilize them as need dictates.*

#### **Resolution No. 5: Doctrinally Sound Evangelism Materials**

*WHEREAS, Biblically questionable evangelism materials are readily available from a variety of different sources, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism has been producing doctrinally sound materials,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages its Board for Evangelism to continue preparing materials based upon the clear presentation of Law and Gospel, with the focus upon the ministry of Word and Sacrament.*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE

The conference call meetings of the Board for Christian Service have been held since our last report to the synod.

The board was organized by re-electing Mr. Don Heiliger as chairman, the Rev. John E. Smith was re-elected secretary, Mr. Stanley Reinholtz was elected insurance manager, the Rev. David Hoyord 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: Pastor and Christian Day School Term Life Insurance.

Just a reminder to each congregation that at the last convention the term life insurance for pastors and teachers was increased from \$30,000 to \$50,000. This means that the new premium for each called worker is \$162.00 per year. We encourage each congregation to pay this premium for its called worker or workers. Otherwise the synod has to pick up the premium.

2. Re: Resolution No. 2, B, page 143, 1995 ELS Synod Report, that was referred back to the board.

Resolution No. 2, B, was referred back to our board because we didn't state how we would fund this increase in insurance for our pastors and teachers.

The board resolved in 1996 to pick up the amount that the congregations do not pay out of the money that it received from the budget matching in 1994. Then the board raised the amount set aside to pick up the difference that congregations don't pay to \$5,000.00 in our budget for 1997. And if \$5,000 is not enough, we will again pick up the difference from the 1994 matching money.

3. Re: Report on Pastors' and Teachers' Retirement

We continue to encourage all congregations to provide adequate retirement funds for their called workers.

4. Re: World Needs Fund

From the World Needs Fund, the board sent \$2,000 to our Peruvian Mission to supply medical and nutritional help for a TB patient. In July \$4,000 was sent to Gethsemane Lutheran Church (WELS) Oklahoma City, to be used for relief resulting from the bombing there. In October \$2,000 was sent to assist a family in our mission in Chili who lost everything they owned in a fire. We also supplied funds to assist a pastor in our synod. The board always tries to put any money given to the World Needs Fund to good use.

5. Re: WELS Care Line for all members of the ELS

The Wisconsin Synod maintains a Care Line for all members of our synod and theirs. The toll free number is 1-800-422-7341. We encourage our members to use this service and thank the Wisconsin Synod for providing it.

6. Re: Needs of Pastor' Widows.

The Board for Christian Service is recommending a \$10 monthly increase in subsidy beginning January 1, 1997.

7. Re: Proposed Budget for 1997

Subsidy Payments	\$13,472.80
Retirement Payments	4,146.36
Group Life Insurance	5,000.00
Board Expenses	1,000.00
Total	<u>\$23,619.16</u>

John E. Smith, secretary

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Pastors' and Christian Day School Teachers' Term Life Insurance**

*WHEREAS, The synod increased the term life insurance for pastors and teachers from \$30,000 to \$50,000, and,*

*WHEREAS, This means the new premium for each called worker is \$162.00 per year, 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 the synod encourages each congregation to pay this premium for its full time called worker(s), and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod strongly recommends that the Board for Christian Service bring this entire matter of term life insurance to the attention of all congregations of the synod.*

**Resolution No. 2: Pastors' and Teachers' Retirement**

*WHEREAS, Many of the synod's clergy are serving small congregations which are unable to contribute to their pastor's retirement plan, and,*

*WHEREAS, This reduces the pastor's present retirement investments and later retirement income, and,*

*WHEREAS, "The laborer is worthy of his hire,"*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Christian Service studies the feasibility of the synod providing a pension plan funded proportionately by congregations, similar in structure to our Laymen's Equalization Plan.*

**Resolution No. 3: World Needs Fund**

*WHEREAS, Distributions from the World Needs Fund included the sending of \$2,000 to our Peruvian Mission for specific medical and nutritional supplies; and \$4,000 to Gethsemane Lutheran Church (WELS) for relief following the Oklahoma City bombing there in July 1995; and \$2,000 to Chile Mission for assisting a family losing all possessions in a fire; and funds to assist an ELS pastor, and,*

*WHEREAS, The board always tries to use offerings given to the World Needs Fund wisely and in Christian love for others, just as Christ instructed us to do and gave us His example,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks God for the ability to assist people in such physical needs, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod evangelically instructs its congregational members continually in such giving as God gives us opportunity and resources to do so in the love of Christ for all men, "especially those who are of the household of faith."*

#### **Resolution No. 4: WELS Care-Line for WELS and ELS Members**

*WHEREAS, The synod encourages its people to go primarily to their pastor for any spiritual need to receive God's grace in Absolution, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Wisconsin Synod maintains a Christian counseling program called WELS Care-Line (1-800-422-7341), available for lay people, pastors and teachers of WELS and ELS,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That our synod and its members continue to thank WELS for this service, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That by publicizing the purpose and telephone number of the Care-Line to synod members, we encourage our members confidently to make appropriate use of this Care-Line in any matter that does not infringe on the Call of their particular pastor(s).*

#### **Resolution No. 5: Needs of Pastors' Widows**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Christian Service diligently reviewed its subsidy payment schedules for the sake of increasing its monthly subsidies to individuals receiving such help,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the board for deciding to give an increase of \$10 monthly in subsidy to such individuals beginning January 1, 1997.*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS

Board members: Chairman. Robert Deering, Lance Schwartz, the Rev. Walther Gullixson, the Rev. James Korthals, Howard Siewert & the Rev. Roger Holtz.

The Board for Publications reluctantly accepted the resignation of the Rev. Paul Madson as *Sentinel* Editor after 13 years of dedicated service. The pressure of producing a monthly magazine is a heavy load and we are very grateful for the time and effort put forth by the Rev. Madson. We also thank the congregations which he served for allowing him to perform this service.

The Rev. Theodore Gullixson of Escondido, California has been selected by the board to serve as the new editor. He is well prepared to carry on this important work on behalf of our synod. His acceptance of this position is much appreciated and the board asks for God's blessings upon his labors.

The board urges the congregations of the synod to adopt the blanket subscription plan so that every household receives a copy of our church paper. In this day and age when there is so much material in print that is not suitable for the Christian reader or is of a secular nature, surely our *Lutheran Sentinel* should be in every home.

The cost of publishing continues to increase each year and therefore it was necessary for the board to increase the annual subscription cost of the *Sentinel* from \$5.00 to \$6.00 for the blanket subscription.

In addition to the *Lutheran Sentinel*, the board oversees the publication of *The Lutheran Synod Quarterly*, the *Convention Report*, and about a dozen bulletin inserts.

The board has several projects in process or under consideration. These include a model constitution, a Bible study series, and a teen devotion booklet.

The board asked itself if the Board for Publications should be responsible for the content of "everything" that is published within the synod. The consensus is that "no, this board cannot oversee every printed piece" and it is understood that other responsible boards and committees will occasionally undertake such endeavors.

The board stands ready to help other boards and committees with the publishing of any materials and invites and encourages them to make use of the expertise that exists within this group.

Howard L. Siewert, secretary

### PUBLICATIONS ACTION OF THE SYNOD

#### Resolution No. 1: Retiring *Sentinel* Editor

*WHEREAS, The Rev. Paul Madsen has retired as editor of the Lutheran Sentinel, and,*

*WHEREAS, During his tenure as editor, he consistently wrote timely, thought-provoking, edifying editorials, and assembled and published an excellent Christ-centered publication,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its deepest gratitude for Pastor Madsen's 13 years of faithful, dedicated service, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, The Board for Publications considers*

*making some of these editorials available in booklet form.*

**Resolution 2:**

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thanks Pastor Gullixson for accepting this position of responsibility and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod asks for the Lord's blessing upon Pastor Gullixson's labor in this difficult task and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the congregations and pastors of the synod be encouraged to give their full cooperation to Pastor Gullixson by submitting articles and pictures for publication.*

**Resolution No. 3: Blanket Subscriptions for the *Lutheran Sentinel***

*WHEREAS, A great deal of hard work goes into the publication of our Lutheran Sentinel and,*

*WHEREAS, These labors result in uplifting, informative, and Biblically-sound articles, as well as reports regarding the work of our ELS in spreading the saving truths of Scripture and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Publications urges congregations to adopt a blanket subscription plan so that every household receives a copy of this excellent publication and,*

*WHEREAS, By means of such a plan inactive members may be reached, thus rekindling their faith and activity,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That in congregations which do not have the blanket subscription plan, the synod encourages the pastor to present outstanding articles and features of the Sentinel in order to publicize it in the congregation and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That after promoting the Sentinel in their midst, these pastors encourage their congregation's voters to adopt the blanket subscription plan and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That if the congregation chooses not to adopt the blanket subscription plan, the pastor promotes individual subscription or a congregational bulk order.*

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP

At the time of the preparation of this report, close to five years have passed since the synod in its 1991 convention resolved "That the worship committee be encouraged to examine the possibility of assembling and publishing a hymnal that reflects the liturgical and hymnic heritage of the ELS." Pursuant to that resolution the committee, constituted then as well as now of Dennis Marzolf, chairman, Mark DeGarmeaux, and the undersigned, undertook the work of assembling and preparing materials for an EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN HYMNARY. Now, after four more conventions and twelve more encouraging and enabling resolutions by the synod, and a great amount of intensive labor, also by others together with the committee, our much awaited hymnbook is approaching with all possible careful dispatch the time of its publication.

A little more than a month ago as this is being submitted, Professor Marzolf sent all of our ELS pastors an "Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary Update." Since this "Update" is still current in its information and comprehends information which also the lay delegates to our upcoming convention should have, we hereby incorporate the following paragraphs from it in this report.

Work on the book proceeds at a feverish pace; paper prices are rising, and we would like to have the book at the printer as soon as possible. Nonetheless, we proceed with caution; the editing and proofreading processes are by far the most time consuming and tedious. Let me give you an outline of the steps involved:

1. The engraver sends a preliminary engraving to the editor at MorningStar Music in St. Louis.
2. He edits the copy, and sends it to me for further editing.
3. I send copies of the preliminary engraving to the members of the Worship Committee and to a group of volunteer proofreaders throughout the synod.
4. They proof the copy (keep in mind *all* that they must proof: text, musical setting, textual attributions . . . who wrote it, when, what was the original title, who translated it, etc.; musical attributions . . . who composed the melody, who composed the harmonic setting, what were the dates of composition, etc.); and return the copies to me.
5. I combine all of the comments from the proofreaders on a master proof and return it to St. Louis.
6. MorningStar then sends the proof to the engraver for corrections.
7. Final proof is prepared.

Every page in the proposed Hymnary must go through this process. It takes a lot of time, and *should* take a lot of time so that our worship book has a minimum of typographical errors.

When all the proofing is completed, indexes must be prepared, and final copyright secured. At that point the entire book will be reviewed again by the Doctrine Committee of the synod. Following that review the book will be sent to the printer.

The committee wants to express its deep gratitude for all the encouragement and support which, since the inception of this hymnary project, has been given by the synod with its convention resolutions, as well as for that which has been given by the Board of Trustees and the Doctrine Committee and by many congregations and individuals. 6500 copies of the first printing of 10,000 have been spoken for, and funds continue to come in to pay for pre-publication orders and memorials. We also want to express our deep appreciation for the countless hours which have been contributed by individuals who, though not on the committee, have given a great deal of assistance in various important ways toward



the production of the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN HYMNARY. It is only with their help that this undertaking is nearing its completion. Though we are not able to project a firm publication date at the time of this writing, we do hope to be able to do so at the time of the convention.

Harry Bartels, secretary

**WORSHIP**  
**ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: The New *Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary***

*WHEREAS, Our Lord has richly blessed the efforts of the Committee on Worship to produce a new Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary of very high quality, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees has authorized a first printing of 10,000 copies, and,*

*WHEREAS, 6,500 copies have already been ordered through pre-subscription, and,*

*WHEREAS, The Lutheran Hymnal will no longer be published, and,*

*WHEREAS, There appears to be a potential for a greater market, both within our synod and beyond it, and,*

*WHEREAS, A larger printing would be more economical in the long run than a succession of smaller printings and could bring down the selling price of the books,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod expresses its joyful and heartfelt thanksgiving to our Lord for using the talents of our brethren and for this precious gift to our synod, and potentially, to His Church, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Committee on Worship be thanked for its efforts, together with all who helped them in this project.*

# REPORT OF THE SELF STUDY COMMITTEE

The Self Study Committee 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 to it and submits the following recommendations:

## GUIDELINES FOR SYNODICAL DISCIPLINE

The Self Study Committee has carried out the resolution of the synod (1995 Synod Report, p. 204, Resolution #6) by reviewing the by-laws of Bethany Lutheran College and Seminary, Inc. Article II E 8 relative to disciplinary matters. The Self Study Committee has concluded that the matter of providing "due process" is adequately safeguarded. In order to further clarify the appeals process the Self Study Committee proposes that Article III D, which reads as follows, "The suspended party has the right to appeal the decision. This appeal shall be addressed to the convention through its president (cf. Guidelines for Appeals to the Synod)," be revised to read, "The suspended party has the right to appeal the decision of the synodical president. This appeal shall be addressed to the convention through its president (cf. Guidelines for Appeals to the Synod)." (See 1995 Synod Report, p. 151).

## CERTIFICATION RULES FOR TEACHERS OF THE ELS

The matter of certification rules for teachers of the ELS was referred to the Self Study Committee for study and recommendation (1995 Synod Report, p. 128, Resolution #6). The committee has carefully considered this in consultation with the Board for Education and Youth and submits the following:

- A. In order for the Board of Education and Youth to certify a teacher, the candidate must demonstrate that he/she
  - 1. is "apt to teach" (academically) and,
  - 2. is trained to teach religion doctrinally consistent with the Holy Scriptures and the confession and constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and,
  - 3. has successfully completed a Bachelor's degree program in the Christian Education Curricula at Bethany Lutheran College or the Teacher Education Program at Dr. Martin Luther College (WELS).
- B. Graduates of other institutions may be certified by completing the following steps:
  - 1. submission of the ELS Certification application which includes philosophy of education, transcripts, and letters of recommendation, and,
  - 2. completion of a successful evaluation by the Board for Education and Youth. This evaluation will include an examination to determine whether the candidate is in doctrinal agreement with the Holy Scriptures and the confession and constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and whether the candidate has completed adequate courses which are related specifically to Christian Education.

## TWO ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD FOR EVANGELISM

Increasing the membership of the Board for Evangelism from five to seven members was referred to the Self Study Committee for study and recommendation (1995 Synod Report, p. 142, Resolution #4). The committee submits the following:

WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism in its production of materials may call for additional help from volunteers outside the membership of the board, and,

WHEREAS, There are materials available from sources outside of our synod, and,

WHEREAS, The membership of the Board for Evangelism was increased from three (3) to five (5) in 1988, and,

WHEREAS, Funding from the synodical budget is limited,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the membership of the board for Evangelism remain at three (3) clergy and two (2) laymen.

### **THE SELF STUDY COMMITTEE AS A PERMANENT BOARD**

The committee submits the following:

WHEREAS, The 1995 synod convention resolved that the president of the synod appoint three (3) members of the Self Study Committee and that two (2) members be nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the synod (1995 Synod Report, p. 206, Resolution 8 A.), and,

WHEREAS, Details for implementation such as composition, terms, and all pertinent guidelines were referred to the Self Study Committee for recommendation (1995 Synod Report, p. 206, Resolution 8 B.),

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Self Study Committee shall consist of five (5) members, three (3) to be appointed by the president of the synod for three (3) year terms, and two (2) to be elected by the synod for three (3) year terms, and,
- B. BE IT RESOLVED, That in 1996 the president shall appoint two (2) clergy, one (1) for a term of three (3) years and the other for a term of one (1) year, and one (1) layman for a term of two (2) years, and,
- C. BE IT RESOLVED, That in 1996 the synod shall elect one (1) clergy for a term of three (3) years, and one (1) layman for a term of two (2) years, and,
- D. BE IT RESOLVED, That after 1996 as each term of office expires it shall be filled by appointment by the president or election by the synod, and,
- E. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Self Study Committee shall annually elect a chairman and secretary at its meeting following the synod convention, and,
- F. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Self Study Committee shall meet as necessary, and,
- G. BE IT RESOLVED, That matters for study and consideration by the Self Study Committee shall be assigned to it by the synod, by its board of trustees, or by its president, and,
- H. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Self Study Committee shall carefully review all matters assigned to it, draw up recommendations and report to each regular convention of the synod, and,
- I. BE IT RESOLVED, That the above resolutions serve as the guidelines for the Self Study Committee and be included as such in the ELS Handbook.

## **LARGER BOARD OF REGENTS**

The Board of Regents proposes the following changes in Article II, pages 19 & 20 of the ELS Handbook. The Self Study Committee concurs and recommends that the synod adopt the following:

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **Board of Regents**

##### **A. Personnel**

1. The business of this corporation shall be managed by a Board of Regents, consisting of individuals elected at the regular meeting of the corporation (Type A), and those individuals appointed by the Board of Regents (Type B).
2. The Board of Regents shall consist of twelve (12) members, nine (9) Type A and three (3) Type B. Type A membership shall be made up of not more than five (5) or less than three (3) clergy. Type B membership shall be made up of not more than two (2) or less than (1) clergy.
3. Each member of the Board of Regents, whether Type A or Type B, shall be a member in good standing of the corporation according to Articles VI and IX of the Articles of Incorporation. Upon termination of membership in said corporation his membership in the Board of Regents shall automatically cease.

##### **B. Election and Term of Office**

1. Type A membership of the Board of Regents:  
Members shall be elected by the participating members of the corporation at an annual meeting for a term of three (3) years as the term of the initial regents, described in Article VI of the Articles of Incorporation, expires.
2. Type B membership of the Board of Regents:  
Members shall be appointed by the Board of Regents for a term of three (3) years. No Type B member of the Board of Regents shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.\*

## **BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS GUIDELINES**

The Planning and Coordinating Committee recommends a change in the guidelines for the Board for Publications. The Self Study Committee concurs and recommends the following to replace items a. and b. under #4 page 37 of the ELS Handbook:

- a. The board shall encourage and assist in the publication of promotional materials.
- b. The board shall solicit, publish, and distribute such materials in consultation with the officers and boards of the synod.
- c. The board shall invite and encourage other boards and committees to make use of the resources and expertise within the Board for Publications.

Richard Newgard, secretary

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP

The Board for Stewardship accomplished its main business by conducting two meetings: September 14, 1995, and April 18-19, 1996. All other goals were achieved by individual members through personal assignment and telephone conversation.

The members of the board are the Rev. Paul Schneider, chairman; Mr. Howard Hougan, vice chairman; the Rev. Rodger Dale, secretary; Mr. Timothy Peterson; Mr. Allen Wollenzien. 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. A listing of congregational contributions to the synodical budget for the past eleven years has also been provided.

(2) Future planning continues for the production of a special seminar for pastors.

(3) Bulletin inserts have been published in cooperation with the Board for Publications.

(4) A special offering was conducted on December 3, 1995, to help reduce the budget deficit, which resulted in December gifts of \$147,441.51. 1995 was a great year for the budget, receiving a total of \$791,325.04. In 1995, 71 congregations gave less than in 1994 and 57 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 this ministry by loaning money which will be used by our congregations for loans.

(6) The board continues to be concerned about all members of the synod keeping informed on the work of the synod as well as on the message of stewardship. Church Councils should keep the work of our synod on their agenda.

(7) The board continues to try 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 seasons.

(9) Work continues to be done on a mission statement as directed by the Planning & Coordinating Committee.

(10) A new stewardship program "Living for Jesus" will be made available for pastors to use in teaching God's principles of stewardship within the congregations.

(11) The Seminary Anniversary Thankoffering is off to a good start. It is certainly God's will for His people to provide a place for future pastors to be trained. It should always be remembered that special offerings are given in addition to the regular synodical budget offerings. What a blessing to be able to build this new seminary and remain "debt free."

(12) What blessings continue to be received by our Evangelical Lutheran Synod, especially with the entire synodical budgetary income being matched by a generous donor. In 1995 a total of over \$1,194,584 dollars was received in matching funds.

Thanks and praise go to almighty God for blessing the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. May the gracious Lord continue to bless this board with faithfulness to His holy and inspired Word. The board continues to study Biblical stewardship and how it might assist the pastors and congregations of the ELS in teaching these principles. Only the Holy Spirit working through the Means of Grace creates and strengthens the faith which moves cheerful givers to be generous with offerings for the Lord's Work. May God's will always be done here on earth as it is in heaven and may He receive all the glory! Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—1995

	1995 Budget	1995 Non-Budget	1995 Total
Abiding Word, Bowling Green, OH	\$ 1,833.00	\$ 995.00	\$ 2,828.00
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	\$ 2,689.20	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,689.20
Bethany, Ames, IA	840.00	0.00	840.00
Bethany, The Dalles, OR	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00
Bethany, Luverne, MN	10,848.00	285.00	11,133.00
Bethany, Port Orchard, WA	23,113.53	368.75	23,482.28
Bethany, Princeton, MN	9,625.50	60.00	9,685.50
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	848.60	107.72	956.32
Calvary, Ulen, MN	1,800.51	80.00	1,880.51
Center, Scarville, IA	2,342.00	15.00	2,357.00
Chico Mission, Chico, CA	200.00	0.00	200.00
Christ, Klamath Falls, OR	3,405.00	0.00	3,405.00
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	2,652.98	1,755.95	4,408.93
Christ, Sutherlin, OR	2,203.25	10.00	2,213.25
Christ, Windsor, CA	4,948.47	228.00	5,176.47
Christ the King, Bell Gardens, CA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Christ the King, Green Bay, WI	2,700.00	0.00	2,700.00
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	2,285.00	0.00	2,285.00
Concordia, Hood River, OR	421.90	0.00	421.90
East Paint Creek, Waterville, IA	6,239.00	230.00	6,469.00
Emmaus, Chicago, IL	1,080.35	0.00	1,080.35
English, Cottonwood, MN	13,302.27	68.00	13,370.27
Faith, Alpena, MI	0.00	0.00	0.00
Faith, Clara City, MN	3,511.00	2,105.00	5,616.00
Faith, East Jordan, MI	1,168.47	0.00	1,168.47
Faith, Hillman, MI	91.00	0.00	91.00
Faith, Litchfield, IL	5,130.93	0.00	5,130.93
Faith, Orange County, CA	1,705.00	0.00	1,705.00
Faith, Oregon, WI	5,868.37	0.00	5,868.37
Faith, Parkersburg, IA	1,000.00	100.00	1,100.00
Faith, San Antonio, TX	6,093.40	2,420.00	8,513.40
Family of God, Riviera, AZ	330.00	0.00	330.00
First, Suttons Bay, MI	830.00	108.00	938.00
First American, Mayville, ND	303.00	35.00	338.00
First English, Ashland, WI	0.00	0.00	0.00
First Evanger, Fertile, MN	2,265.00	0.00	2,265.00
First Shell Rock, Northwood, IA	5,807.00	170.00	5,977.00
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	5,967.87	0.00	5,967.87
Forest, Forest City, IA	161.00	90.00	251.00
Gloria Dei, Saginaw, MI	3,764.13	0.00	3,764.13
Good Shepherd, Bloomer, WI	2,775.00	32.00	2,807.00
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	6,647.30	814.25	7,461.55
Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	205.83	0.00	205.83
Good Shepherd, Vallejo, CA	3,200.00	0.00	3,200.00
Grace, Crookston, MN	591.00	0.00	591.00
Grace, Hillsboro, OR	1,240.00	236.16	1,476.16
Grace, Hobart, IN	1,215.91	118.93	1,334.84
Grace, Madison, WI	7,100.00	415.00	7,515.00
Grace, Piedmont, MO	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grace, Vero Beach, FL	36,329.57	2,115.00	38,444.57
Grace, Weston, OH	4,187.85	447.00	4,634.85
Hartland, Hartland, MN	3,026.77	110.00	3,136.77

	1995 Budget	1995 Non-Budget	1995 Total
Heritage, Apple Valley, MN	8,285.03	25.00	8,310.03
Holton, Holton, MI	3,822.00	300.00	4,122.00
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	41,392.46	1,321.91	42,714.37
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	21,683.77	2,150.00	23,833.77
Holy Trinity, Okauchee, WI	45,983.93	0.00	45,983.93
Immanuel, Audubon, MN	9,760.00	520.00	10,280.00
Immanuel, Riceville, IA	686.77	0.00	686.77
Jerico, New Hampton, IA	15,369.25	1,724.85	17,094.10
King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	51,002.92	447.96	51,450.88
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	1,321.50	104.00	1,425.50
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	763.45	168.00	931.45
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	2,389.10	0.00	2,389.10
Lord of Life, Holland, MI	2,868.69	66.00	2,934.69
Manchester, Manchester, MN	2,334.00	5.00	2,339.00
Messiah, Puyallup, WA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mt. Olive, Mankato, MN	34,010.70	1,147.00	35,157.70
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	1,002.00	10.00	1,012.00
Nazareth, Trail, MN	1,334.00	77.00	1,411.00
New Life, Sebring, FL	4,019.63	158.00	4,177.63
Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI	1,476.75	21.00	1,497.75
Norseland, St. Peter, MN	10,868.14	445.00	11,313.14
Norwegian Grove, Gaylord, MN	8,258.02	516.00	8,774.02
Oak Park, Oklee, MN	448.50	110.00	558.50
Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	385.00	165.42	550.42
Our Savior's, Albert Lea, MN	15,620.00	503.50	16,123.50
Our Savior's, Amherst Junction, WI	1,654.00	0.00	1,654.00
Our Savior's, Bagley, MN	3,192.50	230.55	3,423.05
Our Savior's, Belview, MN	2,786.50	110.00	2,896.50
Our Savior, Bishop, CA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Our Savior's, Elderon, WI	1,775.00	33.00	1,808.00
Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	310.00	40.00	359.00
Our Savior's, Hawley, MN	52.00	0.00	52.00
Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City, AZ	10,371.00	578.00	10,949.00
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	4,865.92	440.00	5,305.92
Our Saviour's, Madison, WI	2,840.00	130.00	2,970.00
Our Savior, Naples, FL	13,694.00	129.00	13,823.00
Our Savior's, Princeton, MN	17,569.62	0.00	17,569.62
Parkland, Tacoma, WA	7,958.00	1,871.76	9,829.76
Peace, Deshler, OH	3,910.20	12,062.32	15,972.52
Peace, Jefferson City, MO	683.25	105.00	788.25
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	8,576.20	0.00	8,576.20
Peace, Lakeland, FL	2,885.55	0.00	2,885.55
Pilgrim, Waterloo, IA	2,099.75	150.00	2,249.75
Pinehurst, Eau Claire, WI	4,703.00	0.00	4,703.00
Pinewood, Burlington, MA	5,696.00	35.00	5,731.00
Redeemer, Iola, WI	1,013.00	1,106.00	2,119.00
Redeemer, New Hampton, IA	1,087.75	325.00	1,412.75
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Resurrection, WinterHaven, FL	3,685.05	0.00	3,685.05
Richland, Thornton, IA	5,433.09	200.00	5,633.09
River Heights, East Grand Forks, MN	9,389.02	375.00	9,764.02
Rock Dell, Belview, MN	5,537.74	205.00	5,742.74
Rose Dell Trinity, Jasper, MN	693.00	0.00	693.00
Saude, Lawler, IA	14,597.00	1,323.54	15,920.54

	1995 Budget	1995 Non-Budget	1995 Total
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	7,500.00	48.00	7,548.00
Scriptural, Cape Girardeau, MO	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley, CA	1,447.60	90.00	1,537.60
Somber, Northwood, IA	2,029.05	0.00	2,029.05
St. Luke, Mount Vernon, IA	0.00	0.00	0.00
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	1,163.00	0.00	1,163.00
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	15,701.69	268.00	15,969.69
St. Matthew, Detroit, MI	500.00	1,000.00	1,500.00
St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	2,820.00	0.00	2,820.00
St. Paul, Clintonville, WI	12,354.05	0.00	12,354.05
St. Paul, Escondido, CA	2,129.00	411.19	2,540.19
St. Paul, Lengby, MN	2,817.00	0.00	2,817.00
St. Paul's, Portage, WI	100.00	22.00	122.00
St. Petri, Grygla, MN	176.00	0.00	176.00
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	18,705.70	1,285.00	19,990.70
Synod, Scarville, IA	7,708.75	325.00	8,033.75
Trinity, Brewster, MA	3,072.00	95.00	3,167.00
Trinity, Calmar, IA	1,147.00	65.00	1,212.00
Trinity, Rogers City, MI	81.00	0.00	81.00
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	5,201.00	135.00	5,336.00
Trinity, West Bend, WI	27,467.62	531.60	27,999.22
Wayfarers' Chapel, Ventura, CA	150.00	0.00	150.00
Western Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, WI	5,172.00	248.67	5,420.67
West Paint Creek, Waukon, IA	809.75	10.00	819.75
Zion, North Huntingdon, PA	490.00	0.00	490.00
Zion, Thompson, IA	1,196.00	0.00	1,196.00
Zion, Tracy, MN	4,745.50	30.00	4,775.50



# BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD

## Total for Years Indicated

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Abiding Word, Bowling Green, OH	\$ 99	\$ 186	\$ 1,030	\$ 207	\$ 397	\$ 1,557	\$ 1,833
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	279	318	420	665	365	700	2,689
Bethany, Ames, IA	116	—	—	—	293	—	840
Bethany, The Dalles, OR	11,144	11,960	15,191	8,884	10,638	14,978	1,600
Bethany, Luverne, MN	12,000	13,220	10,170	10,120	10,000	17,917	10,848
Bethany, Port Orchard, WA	14,618	11,633	11,024	11,703	10,971	11,020	23,114
Bethany, Princeton, MN	315	420	105	—	—	—	9,626
Bethel, Yuba City, CA	1,495	2,040	1,285	713	577	839	—
Bethlehem, Warroad, MN	3,154	2,449	3,640	3,021	3,231	3,854	849
Calvary, Ulen, MN	3,288	4,316	3,191	2,482	1,649	2,392	1,801
Center, Scarville, IA	561	425	520	440	480	480	2,342
Chico Mission, Chico, CA	1,290	670	2,007	1,185	2,766	2,819	200
Christ, Klamath Falls, OR	5,033	2,231	1,739	1,090	1,210	2,173	3,405
Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL	934	1,900	1,951	2,173	1,191	1,540	2,653
Christ, Sutherlin, OR	3,690	4,682	5,667	9,550	8,000	9,720	2,203
Christ, Windsor, CA	9,720	3,804	4,911	4,134	—	—	4,948
Christ the King, Bell Gardens, CA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Christ the King, Green Bay, WI	946	1,578	775	1,435	2,035	2,037	2,700
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	—	234	135	—	—	—	2,285
Concordia, Hood River, OR	6,378	5,145	4,948	4,110	4,309	4,774	422
East Paint Creek, Waterville, IA	199	754	2,526	1,881	1,257	738	6,239
Emmaus, Chicago, IL	14,238	12,240	14,124	11,442	11,161	12,187	1,080
English, Cottonwood, MN	219	584	718	—	820	200	13,302
Faith, Alpena, MI	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Faith, Clara City, MN	632	95	1,000	—	850	—	3,511
Faith, East Jordan, MI	835	277	1,247	378	523	—	1,168
Faith, Hillman, MI	—	—	411	2,022	2,477	3,821	91
Faith, Litchfield, IL	2,220	2,840	3,235	2,800	1,355	1,200	5,131
Faith, Orange County, CA	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,705

# BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

## Total for Years Indicated

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Faith, Oregon, WI	2,405	3,210	4,333	3,908	4,105	3,889	5,868
Faith, Parkersburg, IA	2,256	1,770	1,435	1,100	1,197	800	1,000
Faith, San Antonio, TX	3,798	2,997	3,021	3,327	4,391	4,425	6,093
Family of God, Riviera, AZ	805	1,780	2,584	1,660	3,431	2,666	330
First, Suttons Bay, MI	2,129	2,280	2,373	2,152	1,981	2,771	830
First American, Mayville, ND	6,480	4,394	3,113	1,763	1,565	1,200	303
First English, Ashland, WI	150	300	100	300	—	238	—
First Evangel, Fertile, MN	1,652	1,536	1,614	1,365	1,373	1,801	2,265
First Shell Rock, Northwood, IA	5,539	6,490	4,990	4,046	6,422	7,730	5,807
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	5,909	5,583	8,029	5,912	—	—	5,968
Forest, Forest City, IA	2,533	1,855	1,718	1,140	549	1,407	161
Gloria Dei, Saginaw, MI	982	1,239	3,059	9,319	5,367	5,935	3,764
Good Shepherd, Bloomer, WI	2,060	2,167	1,982	2,003	1,860	2,950	2,775
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	4,338	5,827	6,333	4,525	6,703	5,607	6,647
Good Shepherd, Richardson, TX	284	2,634	167	1,099	312	510	206
Good Shepherd, Vallejo, CA	6,000	6,300	6,615	2,756	—	—	3,200
Grace, Crookston, MN	10	1,024	—	—	200	201	591
Grace, Hillsboro, OR	—	—	—	—	—	1,930	1,240
Grace, Hobart, IN	—	—	—	—	—	2,129	1,216
Grace, Madison, WI	26,650	9,510	15,975	12,840	6,665	6,600	7,100
Grace, Piedmont, MO	1,807	1,932	821	34	—	142	—
Grace, Vero Beach, FL	28,112	29,664	24,503	27,226	34,962	31,543	36,330
Grace, Weston, OH	1,462	2,579	3,642	3,125	3,239	3,946	4,188
Hartland, Hartland, MN	4,833	2,939	3,784	2,969	2,960	3,153	3,027
Heritage, Apple Valley, MN	5,512	1,413	8,292	9,141	6,949	11,073	8,285
Holton, Holton, MI	5,023	7,665	2,475	3,043	3,635	5,002	3,822
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	34,026	35,248	36,923	31,514	42,652	46,887	41,392
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	18,572	19,459	20,090	23,118	23,523	34,073	21,684
Holy Trinity, Okauchee, WI	17,844	22,700	32,693	24,308	26,565	29,541	45,984

# BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

## Total for Years Indicated

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Immanuel, Audubon, MN	6,614	9,406	7,736	7,418	8,076	8,409	9,760
Immanuel, Riceville, IA	1,413	1,505	1,461	833	1,097	2,961	687
Jerico, New Hampton, IA	20,107	20,174	22,786	18,039	17,435	14,318	15,369
King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	50,719	46,770	55,250	40,780	55,520	53,260	51,003
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	2,052	1,967	3,202	1,388	2,329	1,735	1,322
Lakewood, Tacoma, WA	3,220	2,869	1,727	865	973	771	763
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	2,226	3,147	2,422	2,243	2,262	2,884	2,389
Lord of Life, Holland, MI	—	—	—	—	—	2,002	2,869
Manchester, Manchester, MN	1,080	494	1,112	912	146	421	2,334
Mt. Olive, Mankato, MN	26,108	30,851	27,500	29,306	30,683	30,829	34,011
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	1,083	1,160	1,353	1,286	1,032	1,008	1,002
Nazareth, Trail, MN	1,183	3,047	1,742	2,072	955	1,402	1,334
New Life, Sebring, FL	—	—	5,101	1,172	2,275	4,217	4,020
Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI	1,548	870	1,704	1,500	1,503	1,535	1,477
Norseland, St. Peter, MN	18,263	17,824	17,266	10,481	21,828	20,859	10,868
Norwegian Grove, Gaylord, MN	7,074	7,501	7,276	6,131	6,172	8,491	8,258
Oak Park, Oklee, MN	2,811	3,385	3,165	3,000	3,150	2,750	449
Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	1,724	1,176	874	1,143	375	535	385
Our Savior's, Albert Lea, MN	22,356	22,096	25,218	19,335	15,233	19,590	15,620
Our Savior's, Amherst Jct., WI	1,370	2,003	1,703	1,057	1,234	839	1,654
Our Savior's, Bagley, MN	2,897	3,163	2,200	4,587	2,000	5,169	3,193
Our Savior's, Belview, MN	3,678	3,996	4,401	2,914	2,205	3,860	2,787
Our Savior, Bishop, CA	4,192	3,823	2,799	340	—	—	—
Our Savior's Elderon, WI	1,825	1,800	1,830	1,600	1,700	1,800	1,775
Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	688	1,685	1,545	1,000	550	575	310
Our Savior's, Hawley, MN	1,535	1,406	1,071	977	500	260	52
Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City, AZ	12,478	11,378	11,927	12,067	11,914	12,750	10,371
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	3,438	3,964	5,271	6,174	6,415	7,260	4,866
Our Saviour's, Madison, WI	1,215	830	1,230	1,652	1,565	2,305	2,840

# BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

## Total for Years Indicated

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Our Savior, Naples, FL	10,738	4,500	5,300	5,531	6,000	14,332	13,694
Our Savior's, Princeton, MN	16,094	18,574	18,365	17,283	13,474	16,218	17,570
Parkland, Tacoma, WA	3,191	4,629	6,042	8,971	3,247	5,103	7,958
Peace, Deshler, OH	12,737	11,034	10,966	9,594	1,433	5,180	3,910
Peace, Jefferson City, MO	3,233	1,323	403	436	410	513	683
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	—	2,783	4,926	6,096	6,847	9,480	8,576
Peace, Lakeland, FL	—	—	—	—	2,439	2,776	2,886
Pilgrim, Waterloo, IA	2,026	432	800	1,350	2,149	1,994	2,100
Pinehurst, Eau Claire, WI	2,636	2,365	1,290	100	3,044	2,543	4,703
Pinewood, Burlington, MA	3,988	5,076	4,500	5,193	5,100	5,888	5,596
Redeemer, Iola, WI	1,138	585	790	550	440	1,208	1,013
Redeemer, New Hampton, IA	3,363	2,891	2,853	2,514	2,650	1,480	1,088
Resurrection, Marietta, GA	27	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resurrection, WinterHaven, FL	—	—	—	—	—	893	3,685
Richland, Thornton, IA	12,871	16,437	14,175	15,662	8,620	7,652	5,433
River Heights, East Grand Forks, MN	17,686	11,802	20,156	43,768	12,083	10,755	9,389
Rock Dell, Belview, MN	5,233	6,075	6,032	5,348	3,765	6,742	5,538
Rose Dell Trinity, Jasper, MN	1,060	2,106	1,066	1,307	1,418	1,113	693
Saude, Lawler, IA	14,439	14,695	15,698	15,336	12,116	18,420	14,597
Saved by Grace, Gresham, OR	—	2,453	4,139	4,675	6,169	6,500	7,500
Scriptural, Cape Girardeau, MO	21	45	1,263	952	265	49	—
Shepherd of the Hills, Grass Valley, CA	741	536	856	837	1,516	1,238	1,448
Somber, Northwood, IA	2,528	2,197	2,718	2,211	2,059	2,293	2,029
St. Luke, Mount Vernon, WA	—	30	72	112	—	—	—
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	—	1,264	1,633	2,018	2,061	1,324	1,163
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	21,023	15,379	18,957	11,383	13,696	15,463	15,702
St. Matthew, Detroit, MI	1,191	794	745	295	303	379	500

# BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYNOD—continued

## Total for Years Indicated

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	4,012	4,458	3,704	2,551	2,675	2,400	2,820
St. Paul, Clintonville, WI	8,638	7,440	6,862	4,310	6,424	8,080	12,354
St. Paul, Escondido, CA	1,098	606	1,340	1,471	120	7,418	2,129
St. Paul, Lengby, MN	1,825	1,947	2,396	2,883	2,405	2,444	2,817
St. Paul's, Portage, WI	2,164	161	50	87	—	137	100
St. Petri, Grygla, MN	305	602	405	—	385	215	176
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	14,130	16,187	14,839	15,643	17,056	16,640	18,706
Synod, Scarville, IA	13,704	13,128	12,057	9,463	9,641	8,355	7,709
Trinity, Brewster, MA	4,368	4,018	5,361	3,920	2,985	2,677	3,072
Trinity, Calmar, IA	2,205	1,033	842	715	630	1,289	1,147
Trinity, Rogers City, MI	—	—	—	—	—	—	81
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	4,204	4,604	5,392	4,604	5,657	6,372	5,201
Trinity, West Bend, WI	19,532	21,223	18,872	21,140	17,329	32,215	27,468
Wayfarers' Chapel, Ventura, CA	2,460	2,410	2,425	1,700	1,200	923	150
Western Koshkonong, Cottage Grove, WI	7,030	6,270	3,040	5,030	3,290	6,775	5,172
West Paint Creek, Waukon, IA	990	—	2,927	1,077	783	1,604	810
Zion, North Huntingdon, PA	—	—	—	—	—	—	490
Zion, Thompson, IA	1,843	1,266	2	1,140	1,443	1,449	1,196
Zion, Tracy, MN	7,766	5,100	3,571	13,662	5,728	8,868	4,746
Budget Totals for Year	\$741,918	\$721,535	\$762,962	\$712,868	\$672,319	\$795,441	\$791,325

## Parochial Stats ELS History

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
<b>Congregations</b>	89	89	95	98	99	106	108	108	110	109	108	110
<b>Pastors</b>	57	68	71	74	83	87	93	96	101	99	103	107
<b>Baptized</b>	17,426	16,179	17,321	17,804	18,355	19,571	19,634	19,705	20,044	19,885	19,795	20,025
<b>Confirmed</b>	12,303	11,532	12,525	13,097	13,489	14,504	14,652	14,833	15,081	14,968	14,909	15,165
<b>Av. Sunday</b>	7,090	7,359	7,934	8,209	8,227	9,452	9,099	9,108	8,922	9,296	9,133	8,997
<b>Bible Class</b>	529	680	832	853	1,114	1,132	1,183	1,382	1,361	1,597	1,641	1,697
<b>Sun School</b>	3,866	3,153	3,377	3,298	3,295	3,407	3,280	3,491	2,987	3,031	2,239	2,991
<b>Day School</b>	398	428	484	499	527	640	712	689	697	763	879	863
<b>Home Cont.</b>	1,067,650	1,138,953	1,296,326	1,519,749	1,739,255	2,114,998	2,290,697	2,629,719	2,750,703	3,154,804	3,461,387	3,767,977
<b>All Other</b>	314,335	295,941	330,052	411,732	438,875	521,018	546,899	783,543	833,611	828,819	801,071	804,822
<b>Synod Budget</b>	269,179	190,678	300,308	313,156	349,322	424,689	424,265	484,167	534,515	601,309	659,126	710,689
<b>TOTAL SYNOD</b>	301,196	212,213	415,748	393,498	527,679	648,313	602,059	804,819	839,538	851,308	770,229	826,759

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
<b>Congregations</b>	111	112	116	120	123	123	125	128	126	126	125	128
<b>Pastors</b>	113	123	127	130	130	139	140	149	154	151	156	159
<b>Baptized</b>	20,556	20,246	19,850	19,942	21,454	21,378	21,544	21,630	21,347	21,535	21,493	25,379
<b>Confirmed</b>	15,576	15,396	15,012	15,083	15,892	15,518	15,740	16,181	16,004	15,929	15,780	15,960
<b>Av. Sunday</b>	8,592	9,076	8,769	8,975	9,220	9,341	10,348	9,402	9,340	9,575	9,063	9,595
<b>Bible Class</b>	1,489	2,343	1,949	1,914	1,874	1,875	1,908	2,001	1,935	1,909	1,913	2,059
<b>Sun School</b>	2,863	3,039	2,916	2,932	3,098	3,290	3,191	3,233	3,168	3,210	2,967	3,055
<b>Day School</b>	800	872	752	882	930	1,060	977	1,010	1,047	1,173	1,090	1,175
<b>Home Cont.</b>	3,842,625	4,647,714	4,725,783	4,996,111	5,298,882	5,713,773	6,186,648	6,527,076	6,657,338	6,944,522	6,759,222	7,288,521
<b>All Other</b>	838,788	931,677	791,586	1,050,715	1,082,198	1,043,612	1,342,321	1,193,789	1,030,445	1,271,058	1,100,660	1,195,698
<b>Synod Budget</b>	692,012	718,222	719,357	722,656	725,861	740,809	741,918	721,535	762,962	712,868	672,394	795,441
<b>TOTAL SYNOD</b>	770,460	1,051,201	1,233,445	1,167,666	1,355,481	2,488,835	1,791,897	1,751,037	2,936,977	2,801,268	1,925,541	2,813,480

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 1995 convention period.

### Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

Balance on Hand 3/19/95		\$ 938.31
Receipts:		
Church Assessments	\$23,166.00	
Interest Income	<u>\$ 24.45</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>\$23,190.45</u>
Total		\$24,128.76
Disbursements:		
Delegates:		
Air Fares and Mileage	\$21,411.87	
Loan Repay to ELS	\$ 1,000.00	
Printing and Postage	<u>\$ 50.27</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>\$22,462.14</u>
Balance on Hand 3/12/96		<u>\$ 1,666.62</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 or a pastor.
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 25-26, 1995 and on January 29-30, 1996.

The committee is composed of the following people. The officers of the synod: the Rev. George Orvick, president; the Rev. Glenn Obenberger, vice president; the Rev. Alf Merseth, secretary; and Mr. Leroy Meyer, treasurer. The representatives of the boards of the synod: the Rev. John Smith, Board for Christian Service; the Rev. C. Keeler, Board for Education and Youth; the Rev. T. Rank, Board for Evangelism; the Rev. W. C. Gullixson, Board for Publications; the Rev. E. Ekhooff, 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.

### 1996 BUDGET

At its September 25-26, 1995 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 1996 meeting the treasurer reported that the 1995 fiscal year had ended with a budget overage of \$1,325.04. After considerable discussion of the great blessings that the Lord has showered upon our synod, the committee, herewith, presents to the synod a budget of \$800,000 for the 1997 fiscal year, allocated as follows:

#### BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Operations (22% of \$800,000)	\$176,000	
Maintenance on college	21,500	
Maintenance on residences	4,000	
Interest	5,800	
Faculty Housing Allowance		
(\$84,000 less \$16,000 interest applied)	68,000	275,300

#### BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Operations	68,000	
Maintenance on residences	2,000	70,000

CHRISTIAN SERVICE 23,700

EDUCATION AND YOUTH 31,000

EVANGELISM 9,000

FOREIGN MISSIONS 140,000

HOME MISSIONS 158,000

PUBLICATIONS 32,000

#### SYNOD FUND

Interest	9,000	
Deferred Giving Counselor	43,000	
Boards, committees, etc.	54,000	
Administration	52,000	
House payment, utilities, etc.	15,000	173,000

CAPITAL BUDGET 11,000

**TOTAL** 923,000

Apply matching funds allocation (123,000)

**TOTAL SYNODICAL BUDGET FOR 1997** \$800,000



## PLANNING

The committee always spends time studying the expenses of each department in the synod with a continuous view toward their efficiency. It 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 enrollment increases the college mens' dormitory needs renovation and possible future expansion to provide ample dormitory space; try to increase enrollment of ELS students; continue study of possible 3- and 4-year tracks in special areas; enhance the college staff for spiritual life, religious instruction and counseling. Other necessary capital improvements such as parking, library addition and renovation, science and math building are future considerations.

**BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY** The construction of new facilities is under way. Completion could be in time for use this fall.

**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, AAL or some other retirement plan. The board continues to manage the synod's World Needs Fund.

**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; 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 1995 on the following dates: February 14-15, May 9, August 15 and November 14-15. The board met via conference telephone call on March 16, July 10, July 20, 1995 and on March 6, 1996. Also in mid March, the secretary conducted a canvass of all the members of the Board of Trustees. Business conducted by the board at its regular meeting on February 13-14, 1996 will be included in this report.

The Trustee-Regents Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of those boards met on the following dates: January 30, April 21, November 1, 1995 and on February 1, 1996. 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 1995. 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. Ekhoft serves as chairman of this subcommittee and the undersigned as its secretary.

The Trustee-Foreign Missions Subcommittee consisting of three members from each of those boards met 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, Alf Merseth and George Orvick of the Board of Trustees and R. M. Branstad, William Overn and Milton Tweit of the Board of Regents have met frequently during the year to monitor the construction going

on at Bethany Lutheran College. The construction of Trinity Chapel was completed during the year. The committee is now monitoring the construction of the Seminary/Synod Office Building.

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 has met four times this past year. The members of the Committee on Archives and History are: Prof. Sigurd Lee, chairman; Prof. J. B. Madson, secretary; the Rev. W. C. Gullixson, Dr. Gerhard Lee, Mr. Gerhard Solli and Pres. Em. N. S. Holte, archivist. The members are elected annually by the Board of Trustees of the synod. The committee is proposing the organization of an Evangelical Lutheran Synod Historical Society.

### **ACCESSIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY IN 1995**

#### **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**

Trustees—Constitution and By Laws of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod; revised 1986.

Board for Publications: Lutheran Sentinel subscription lists for 1991, 1992, 1993. Bulletin inserts: Lenten Devotions; Foreign Missions.

Charitable Giving Promotion in the Synod: 1972-1992: Statistics.

Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary Update: Easter 1994.

The Divine Service, A "New English" Rite Jan. 1993.

"Helping Hands."

Board for Evangelism "Evangelism and You."

Foreign Mission "Our ELS Mission in Santiago, Chile 1992-93."

"Thoughts of Faith" Oct. 1991.

Evangelism Committee: brochure "What's Going on Among Lutherans Today."

Circuit #11, Washington-Oregon, a packet of minutes 1979-1986.

Circuit #10 Women's Missionary Rally "Christ in Chile" 11/5/94 at Lake Havasu City, AZ. And report of same.

"Mission News" 1994 and 1995.

Foreign Missions: Peru; pictures of the Rev. and Mrs. David Lillegard, Pres. G. Orvick, the Rev. Norman Madson and others. Five pictures from Lima.

Anniversary Thankoffering 1978, "Gratitude for Grace" calendar; and "Grace for Grace 1853-1943, 1918-1943." From Pres. Orvick.

Board for Education & Youth: "Young Branches" Sept. 1, 1992 and 1994.

Board for Education and Youth: Videos: "His Truth for Our Youth"; "Truth for Youth Guidelines" and "Partners in the Gospel" Part 1 and 2. From R. Wiechmann.

Packet of Worship Committee Notes for "Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary," Jan. 1933.

Synod Sunday Opening Service bulletins for 1981, 1982 and 50th Anniversary 1968; also June 18, 1995.

Enlarged pages of ELS Revised Catechism; 1973-81 and Notes; and packet of Catechism Review Committee Minutes 1973-75, 3/4".

Lutheran Youth Camp picture 1961.

ELS Laymen's Equalization report.

Food Drive for BLC and Kasota Home, promotion packet.

Packet of music sung at the Synod Convention 1982.

ELS/WELS Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum, Sixth Annual meeting 1971, Reports, essays, minutes, program, reviews, etc.

Home Missions: Commissioning of the Rev. Kenneth Mellon at Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, Ohio.

General Pastoral Conference Daily Worship Bulletin 1988.

ELS 75th Anniversary Choral Festival 1993.

Board for Education and Youth: Bible Study "How can I learn to use my Bible?" John Moldstad Jr.

Promotion of Synod Thankoffering 1978; letters to delegates, congregations and pastors in 1975 and 1976.

Article on Synodical Conference in the Badger Lutheran 8/4/60.

Board for Stewardship: "Foundation for Faith" "Evangelical Lutheran Synod," History, Character, Doctrine. "Managing My Master's Money."

The Nominating Committee: 1978—Request for Nominations.

Board for Education and Youth: Sunday School Teachers Institutes 1976.

WELS "Lutherans for Life" information.

"Thoughts of Faith": Catechism in Czech language; Worship Service folder, Dedication of Dr. Martin Luther School in Plzen, Worship services in Prague, Czechoslovakia, Oct. 8, 1995. From Pres. Orvick.

Board for Education and Youth: Minutes, financial reports and correspondence, 1990. From Jonathan Madson.

"Bethany Report" Spring 1994; Fall 1994.

Admission's Promotions: Athletics and "Basis for Excellence"; Videos "A Unique Experience," "A Wise Choice" 1986; the 1994-95 Speech Team.

S. C. Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center:: Admissions brochure.

BLC Admissions Promotions: "A Golden Opportunity."

"Antigone" by Sophocles. Directed by Prof. S. Lee.

"Pirates of Penzance" by Choraliers, 1995.

"The Paul Ylvisaker Center for Personal and Public Responsibility" and the Inaugural Festival for the same. April 6, 1995. Letters, brochures, news releases and invitations. From E. Teigen.

Post Cards of Bethany Ladies College 1912-1913 from Mrs. Ivan Gesche.

"Bethany's Role" by Eugene "Tarz" Luth. From WCG.

"Bethany College only girl's school in the German Lutheran Church 1917." Fr. WCG.

Mrs. John Silber's history of Bethany Ladies Seminary's first three years.

A video of the Sports and Fitness Center Dedication Service.

A picture of Fall Clean-up Day—early 1930's: Gig Solli, Al Natvig. From Roberta Haller Strom.

"Buy Bricks—Build Bethany."

Bethany Women's Club.

Blue Waters Classic 1992.

Opening Service 8/22/92.

"Prisoner of 2nd Avenue" N. Simon Nov. 1992.

Alumni Reunion picture of class of 1962 in 1992; class of 1952 in 1992.

Picture of class of 1932.

Picture of "Tables."

Five slides of Bethany Lutheran College. 1988.

"Parents Weekend" Oct. 1992; Service Folder 10/9/94.

Athletic Schedule 1992-93; pictures of Derryl Sager, Bret Rusert and Southsack Sivongsay.

"Mientka Duo" piano and cello concert 9/17/92.

Bethany Scroll Sept. '92; May 1995.

Intramural Sports pictures; and Win Leaders in N.J.C.A.A.; and basketball history.

"Alumni Kids" picture from 1992-93.

Handel's "Messiah" program 12/15/92.

Mrs. Theresa Gutske Burgess 100th birthday, Apr. 23, 1992: letters from Pres. M. Meyer, Jean Hansen to S. Lee, and Mrs. John Silber.

Bethany Scrolls from 1933-38 from Mrs. Ruth Wetzel, Chaska, MN.  
 Obituary and gift from Fritz Torgerson.  
 Opening Service 1995.  
 Hall of Fame inaugural; Inductions of Prof. A. J. Natvig, the Rev. Gottfred Guldberg, Dr. Dwain Mintz, Mr. Bruno Wilinski: Scroll clippings, Awards, etc.  
 Winter Festival Banquet Program 1/28/95.  
 "Getting to Know You" 1976-77; Who? 1978; "Who's Who at Bethany" 1979.  
 "Mug City" 1980-81; "Who Are You?" 1981-82; Who's Who? 1983-84; "Who's Who?" 1984-85. Student Handbooks 1984-1994.  
 Concert Choir at MN convention of American Choral Directors 11/23/91.  
 Viking Basketball 1994-95 clippings and statistical summary.  
 Schwan Partners Appreciation Luncheon 5/3/1995 Program. Pictures Pres. Meyer, Mr. Marvin Schwan, Brit Taylor, John Ylvisaker, Pat Meyer, Mrs. M. Schwan, Wm. Overn.  
 Photographs: campus scenes 1988; interior: chapel, library, Old Main, Faculty, Staff, Student Life 1988-1993.  
 Soccer: Photo, Roster, Schedule, Records 1981-82.  
 "Mankato, the city with a future," 1912 booklet. From Prof. S. Lee.  
 Commencement Program 1995.  
 Chaplain—Service Folders for September 1994 and Sept. 1995.  
 "The Bethany Cook Book."  
 Pictures from 1920. From Elsie Seifert.  
 ACT-College Outcome Measures Program (COMP) summary results.  
 Academic Profile of 1994-95 Freshman Class.  
 Fall Enrollment Statistics 1994.  
 Newspaper articles in Mankato Free Press praise student accomplishments. Also in "Lutheran News."  
 College Profiler: academic area 1994.  
 Scholarship Program 1994-95. From Academic Dean and Registrar.  
 Basketball program 1991-92. Viking Notes.  
 Choir Tour itinerary 1994. Video of Bethany Choir Apr. 24, 1994.  
 National Lutheran Choral Festival, Prof. Dennis Marzolf.  
 "Music for the Season"; Choir and instrumentalists; Fine Arts Events Calendar. N.C.I.S.C. "Who Are We?"  
 Media Relations: Metro Lutheran Sept. 1990; Free Press 6/94 "Work to begin on Bethany's Chapel: and "Bethany Seminary Advances" 7/1995.  
 "Bethany Seminary Plans should Be Given O.K." 7/28/95.  
 Minnesota Valley Chorale Renaissance Masters.  
 "High Amid the Trees" Vol. 1, #2, May 1995.  
 Concert Band.  
 Speech Team Fall 1994.  
 Picture Book: "Memories" 1975.  
 Bethany Scroll Annual 1929.  
 Fidelis: 1937 and 1940. Pictures: Old Main and Gates. From Renata Rolf Winson.  
 Baseball statistics for 1994, and news clippings. From Art Westphal.  
 Bethany Bulletins: July 1945; Jan.-Mar. 1960; Four in 1959.  
 House Moving pictures.  
 Bethany Women's Auxiliary 1994-95: Minutes; gifts received; programs.  
 Heritage Society: application for membership.

### BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Reformation Lecture Promotion: 1990.  
 Reformation Lecture Vespers; and the Rev. Robert Preus lecture on "The Theology of Martin Luther" Oct. 28, 1992.  
 Reformation Lecture by B. W. Teigen 1975.  
 Reformation Lecture Vespers at Mr. Olive Lutheran Church 10/27/94.  
 Seminary Graduation Vespers 6/19/94, 6/18/95.

## CONGREGATIONS AND PERSONS

Bethany Lutheran Church Bulletin (now Mt. Olive Lutheran Church) October 18, 1942, featuring Christian Education by the Rev. C. M. Gullerud.

Parkland Lutheran School 100th Anniversary: News item and picture from 1894 in Tacoma News Tribune, Oct. 15, 1994. Washington State.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grants Pass, Ore. J. Ruppel, pastor 8 x 11 picture of church.

Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, FL Dedication Service Folder: 12/4/94.

Ascension Ev. Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI Dedication Folder and Dedication Service 12/14/75.

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL "Charter Sunday" Church Bulletin and Charter of Members and Friends. The Rev. M. E. Thompson.

News article of the passing of Dagfinn Mannsaker of Norway, a relative of Pres. Orvick's mother.

Saude Jerico History of Norwegians in 1800's, by Craig Ferkenstad.

St. Martin Lutheran Church, Shawano, WI 125th Anniversary booklet.

King of Grace Ev. Lutheran Church and School Dedication Service 1/6/1985.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Escondido, CA brochure; 25th Anniversary history and service and pictorial church directory; Circuit Newsletter, May 1995. "Symbols in the Church." From T. G. Gullixson.

Our Saviour's Ev. Lutheran Church, Madison, WI 1978 "Program Schedule" and 90th Anniversary.

Fairview Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN Architect drawing of Credence Table 1956.

Manchester-Hartland Parish picture of ladies quilting.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Lake Havasu City, Ariz. picture of charter members, 1989; Kindergarten graduation with pictures 5/31/95 and promotion of school.

First American Lutheran Church, Mayville, ND. picture of Rachel Johnson.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Naples, FL postcard picture.

Saude Lutheran Church, Saude, Iowa 100th Anniversary History.

Pinehurst Ev. Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI Dedication folder 1955.

East and West Paint Creek Lutheran Churches Centennial Literature, containing sermons by J. B. Unseth, C. M. Gullerud, E. G. Unseth, J. A. O. Preus, and M. H. Otto. Pastoral letter from 1962.

East Paint Creek Lutheran Church, three pictures; and West Paint Creek Lutheran Church Annual Report 1960-61.

St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Lombard, Ill. Easter Service Bulletin 1958.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and School, Canoga Park, CA Service of Dedication.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Princeton, MN 75th Anniversary program, services and history. 6/25/95.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lengby, MN 100th Anniversary history, 1887-1987; and pictorial of the parish; and newspaper history. From Rev. Lawson.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bagley, MN 25th Anniversary history 1953; and Service of Dedication 5/15/1988.

Norwegian Lutheran Synod Church, Saude, Iowa picture.

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN subdivision plat 1954.

Jenson Beach Lutheran Church, Jenson Beach, FL, official records.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lakeland, FL 10th Anniversary Service folder.

Faith Lutheran Church, Oregon, WI 15th Anniversary Bulletin.

St. Paul's Ladies Guild, Escondido, CA History 1971-1995.

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Kennesaw, GA, Installation of Pastor Dan Schroeder.

English Lutheran Church, Cottonwood, MN Dedication Service and booklet 1957.

King of Grace Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, MN: Brochure, "King of Grace," "King of Grace Lutheran School," "King of Grace-Building for Eternity," "King of Grace-Strategic Plan," and Photo booklet.

Picture of the first orphanage of the Norwegian Synod in 1870's at the former Governor's Mansion (later the Seminary) now in Stoughton, WI. Filed in Holy Cross Lutheran Church file.

"English translations of the Bible" by R. Honsey and "Fort Ridgley Talk" on Indian Uprisings 1849 from files of Rev. Theo. Aaberg, Sr.

Dr. R. Wiederenders' of Dubuque, Iowa, letter to Rev. A. M. Harstad 3/20/83. A letter to "Billy Petersen" 1983. "The Union Movement and the Minority" 1917 by J. C. K. Preus and Dr. J. H. C. Fritz "The Preacher's Manual," copies of selected pages. From Prof. Adolph Harstad.

"Twin Oaks" picture: Western Koshkonong, where first Norwegian Lutheran Sermon was preached by an ordained pastor: 9/2/1844 by Dietrichson. Fr. W.C.G.

Picture of a Church on a prairie: "Washington Prairie Church"? Fr. W.C.G.

The Rev. M. Luttman and wife—picture in newspaper at Lombard, IL 9/84 and installation bulletin.

The Rev. Richard Newgard's installation bulletin at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN 12/7/1980.

The Rev. H. A. Theiste's funeral service bulletin.

Mrs. Bernice Lillegard (Rev. G. O.) funeral service bulletin.

The Rev. Alexander Ring's ordination and installation as Assistant Pastor at Parkland Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA 7/12/92.

The Rev. Rodger M. Dale's ordination at Thornton, Iowa 6/4/67: bulletin.

The Rev. Steven Petersen installation at Forest Ev. Lutheran Church, Forest City, Iowa 5/22/1977 and ordination at Thompson, Iowa. His installation at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison, WI 10/7/1984. And his installation at Heritage Lutheran Church, Apple Valley, MN in 1980.

Dr. C. F. W. Walther's death featured in Milwaukee, WI Free Press of October 8, 1911. Also in the New York Lutheran Nov. 1911. Also in the Wisconsin Lutheran Nov. 1911. And in the Lutheran Witness 10/26/11; the service was May 14, 1911 at St. Louis, MO. From Ed May.

Candidate Mark Wold's ordination and installation service at Lengby and Bagley, MN 7/1/1990.

The Rev. Paul Anderson and Otto Trebelhorn picture of installation at Ascension Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

The Rev. C. Ferkenstad and men at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Bloomer, WI. Burning of parsonage mortgage (copy).

The Rev. M. Krentz's installation picture and picture of original church building at Holton Lutheran Church, Holton, MI.

The Rev. George Lillegard's Obituary and Service 6/18/1965.

Mr. Silas Born (teacher) life history by Mrs. Born to Rev. H. Handberg.

Mr. Charles Zitzmann (teacher) life history.

The Rev. Prof. Thomas Kuster: News clipping of adoptions 1977.

B. M. Holt "My Reasons for opposing the Norwegian Lutheran Church" 1917.

Packet of pictures (Luther, Bibles, Twin Oaks, etc.).

? Norwegian Sermon 1 John 3. ? Sermon Outline 1 Cor. 12, 1-10.

Luther College Sunday Association Program May 1, 1904.

The Rev. William C. Mack's installation at Peace Lutheran Church, Lakeland, FL 2/5/95.

The Rev. G. A. Gullixson's letter to a former member about to be confirmed, June 25, 1912.

The Rev. Henry Ingebritson's Wedding Announcement.

The Rev. C. M. Gullerud's Obituary and Funeral Service.

Pictures of Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center under construction and as completed.

Prof. Milton Otto files: 12 boxes. From Mr. M. Otto, June 1995.

The Rev. Paul Anderson: Biographical sketch; copy of Certificate of Ordination; information sheet for Obot Idim.

Dean N. A. Madson letter to Rev. Hugo Handberg Aug. 30, 1952, and reply; regarding work in Grand Forks, ND.

### **BOOKS AND MAGAZINES**

"Frau Burgelin und ihre Sohne" by Gabrielle Reuter, Berlin 1899.

A. B. Landstads "Salmebog" 1909.

"Nye Testamente" 1868 Christiania. A Grøndahl; Ole Olsen 1871.

"Kristelig Kalender" M. F. Wiese 1891.

"Eine Union in de Wahrheit" by G. Ggswein 1886 St. Louis, MO.

"Wittenberg Concordie" vom 1536. From Rev. G. Schweikert 1941.

"Luther College Catalog" 1918-1919—58th year.

Wood Cuts of pictures from 1937 and 1942 "Fun Fair". B. L. C.

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod: History of the English District; Iowa District Proceedings 1934, Dr. W. A. Meyer "Creation" and "The Missionary" by Dr. J. W. Behnken; Iowa District Proceedings 1936, "The Providence of God"; Iowa District Proceedings 1943 "The Prophetic Office of Christ" O. Koch; Iowa District Proceedings 1945 "The Lutheran Pastor" M. Steege. And Our Savior's Ev. Lutheran Church St. Paul, MN 25th Anniversary book; F. L. Oberschulte, pastor. From Rev. A. V. Kuster.

"Das Augsburger Bekenntnis 1530-1930" at Augsburg.

Luther and the Catechism Service with children.

Ev. Luth. Kirketidende Feb. 22, 1899 "Den Ev. Luth. Frikirke i Danmark" by O. E. B.

"A Historic American Church" Pulcher Press.

### **BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE AND SEMINARY PROPERTIES**

The Board of Trustees and its members on the Building Committee have worked with the Board of Regents and its members on the Building Committee in the completion of Trinity Chapel and in the preparation of the 5th floor of Old Main for occupancy by students. At the present time construction is continuing on the Seminary/Synod Office building.

The roof on the present seminary building will be replaced during the summer of 1996.

Six new tennis courts were constructed on the Bethany Field at a cost of \$118,000.

### **BUDGET 1995**

Since the 1995 budget contributions exceeded the budget by \$1,325.04 totaling \$791,325.04 the Board of Trustees decided to leave the budget for 1996 at \$790,000 as adopted by the 1995 Synod Convention.

### **CHRIST THE CORNERSTONE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

The Warranty Deed to synod's Scottsdale, AZ property has been signed by Christ the Cornerstone congregation and is in hand. Church Mutual Insurance Company has paid all the synod's legal bills though it would not have had to.

### **GENERAL**

The synod received a \$40,000 Program Subsidy Grant from Lutheran Brotherhood for 1995. These funds were used for the mission in Winter Haven, FL. The use of these funds is reported to Lutheran Brotherhood at the end of the year.

The Program Subsidy Grant for 1996 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.

A loan of \$14,000 was made to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Yelm, WA to help it through a period of financial difficulty.



An additional loan of \$6,500 was extended to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Brownsburg, IN to replace its heating-air conditioning system.

The Board of Trustees approved a \$750,000 construction loan to King of Grace Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, MN for the construction of a gymnasium and an addition to its school.

A construction loan of \$265,000 was granted to Heritage Lutheran Church, Apple Valley, MN for the construction of its new church edifice. This loan has been repaid in full.

The Board of Trustees approved the arrangement that R. Wiechmann be employed as Deferred Giving Counselor 2/3 by the synod and 1/3 by the college. Salary as adjusted accordingly.

## **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, Pres. em. Norman Holte, Prof. Sigurd Lee, Mr. Gerhard Lee, Prof. J. B. Madson and Mr. Gerhard Solli are serving one-year terms on the Committee on Archives and History.

The trustees elected to serve on the Trustee-Regents Subcommittee are Albin Levorson, Wilbur Lieske and Alf Merseth.

The trustees elected to serve on the Trustee-Home Missions Subcommittee are Martin Doepel, Alf Merseth and Glenn Obenberger.

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.

George Orvick, 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 synod obtained a \$285,000 loan from AAL for the construction of a church edifice for Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, FL. At this time, the congregation is making payments in the amount of \$1,400 per month.

Land was purchased and construction of a church edifice is under way for the Resurrection Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL. A construction loan, not to exceed \$300,000 from the Partners in the Gospel Fund has been extended to the congregation for this construction.

## **ADDENDUM to the REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **THE MATCHING FUNDS FOR 1997**

The Board of Trustees recommends that the matching funds for 1997 be allocated as follows:

New Home Mission	\$550,000
Foreign Missions	100,000
Budget Supplement	123,000
Board of Trustees	177,000
Debt Reduction	<u>50,000</u>
TOTAL	1,000,000

Alf Merseth, secretary  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Summary of Income and Expenditures and Changes in General Fund Balance (Deficit)

Year ended December 31, 1995

Budget contributions		\$791,325.04
Operating expenditures	\$1,886,645.83	
Less:		
Income from publications	\$43,359.75	
Matching funds applied to budget	6,713.78	
Foreign missions Helping Hands funds for operating expenditures	144,060.82	
Foreign missions Seminary funds for operating expenditures	93,030.42	
Foreign missions excess expenditures funded from reserves	366,196.99	
Home missions special contributions for operating expenditures	40,000.00	
Home missions excess expenditures funded from reserves	<u>249,609.70</u>	<u>942,971.46</u>
Net expenditures before interest income		943,674.37
Interest income	<u>149,668.09</u>	
Net expenditures		<u>794,006.28</u>
Net operating income		(2,681.24)
Other changes in General Fund Balance:		
Increases:		
Estates appropriated for debt reduction	16,532.45	
Special contribution for debt reduction	1,101.65	
Matching funds for debt reduction	44,410.00	
Decreases:		
Payments on mortgages and loans	<u>(31,524.61)</u>	
Net increase - other changes		<u>30,519.49</u>
Net increase for year		27,838.25
General Fund (deficit) - December 31, 1994		<u>(213,973.66)</u>
General Fund (deficit) - December 31, 1995		<u>(\$186,135.41)</u>

## WILLS AND GIFTS

The Leonard Ask estate was settled. The synod received \$44,984.41.

Alf Merseth, secretary  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod

# **THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The ELS Committee on Archives and History recommends:

1. That the synod approves the organization of The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Historical Society, and,
2. That the synod approves the adoption of the proposed constitution for the Historical Society.

## **PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS ELS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

### **ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Historical Society.

### **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

- a. To promote interest in the historical and doctrinal heritage of Lutheranism, particularly of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and its institutions.
- b. To stimulate historical research and publish its results.
- c. To aid the archivist in the collection and preservation of articles of historical value.
- d. To publish a bulletin containing articles of news and interest.
- e. To provide volunteer assistance to the archivist.
- f. To serve as a general advisory and correlating agency for the historical interests within the synod, including significant Lutheran and synodical anniversaries.

### **ARTICLE III: NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

It is expressly declared that the society is not organized for profit and that no salary, compensation or emolument shall be paid to its members. The officers and editor may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

### **ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The society shall operate under the control of a Board of Directors of nine members (See Bylaws #1).

### **ARTICLE V: AFFILIATION WITH THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**

The society is an agency of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and shall be subject to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

### **ARTICLE VI: MEMBERSHIP**

Any communicant member of the synod, or of a synod in fellowship with the ELS, may become a voting member by payment of dues. Any other individual or any organization interested in the work and purpose of the society may become an associate member with no voting privileges by paying associate member dues. Any individual or organization may subscribe to its publication.

### **ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS**

1. Annual business meetings: The annual business meeting of the society shall be held in the spring of each year for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors and conducting such other business as may come before the meeting. Written notice of the annual meeting shall be mailed to the membership at least forty-five days before the date of the meeting.
2. Special meetings may be called by the president with the approval of the Board of Directors or at the written request of one-fourth of the membership, or twenty members, whichever is the smaller number. Written notice of such meetings shall be mailed to the membership at least forty-five days in advance.
3. Quorum and vote required for legal action: At least five Board members, one of whom shall be the president or vice president, and one-fourth of the

membership or twenty voting members, whichever is the smaller number, shall constitute a quorum. A majority of the votes cast shall be required to take action.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: BYLAWS**

The membership of the Historical Society has the authority to prepare, adopt or amend such bylaws as may be desirable to carry out the administrative practices of the society. They shall in no way conflict with the constitution and bylaws of the ELS. A majority vote of the members present at a regularly called meeting shall be necessary to adopt or amend the bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE IX: DISSOLUTION**

In the event of the dissolution of the Historical Society its property, funds and other assets shall pass to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

#### **ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to this constitution must be proposed in writing by at least five members and filed with the secretary sixty days in advance of the annual business meeting. Copies of the proposed amendments shall be mailed by the secretary to all members at least forty-five days in advance of the annual business meeting. A majority of those members present and voting at the annual business meeting is required for passage of an amendment.

### **BYLAWS**

#### **ARTICLE I: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

1. Membership and election: The Board of Directors shall consist of nine members: The President of the Synod, the Secretary of the Synod, the Synod's Archivist, a pastor appointed by the President of the Synod for a three-year term, the remaining five members to be elected by the membership of the Society for three-year terms, one or two to be elected each year. No director may serve more than three consecutive terms. The board shall serve as a nominating committee which shall present a slate of candidates to the annual meeting of the society. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor.

2. Duties of the Board of Directors:

- a. The board shall select from its membership the officers of the society: a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.
- b. It shall facilitate the achievement of the purposes for which the society was established.
- c. It shall provide for the publication of a bulletin and appoint an editor of the same.
- d. It shall arrange for the annual meeting of the society, prepare an agenda, provide for an interesting and informative program and present a report on the activities of the board and the society.

#### **ARTICLE II: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

1. Duties of the president: The president shall preside at the meetings of the Board of Directors and of the society and shall perform such other duties as may be entrusted to the office by the Board of Directors or by the society.

2. Duties of the vice president: The vice president shall conduct meetings in the absence of the president and perform such duties as may be entrusted to the office by the Board of Directors or by the society.

3. The secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the society and of the Board of Directors. Such minutes shall be duly signed by the secretary and presented at the succeeding meeting for approval.

4. Duties of the treasurer: The treasurer shall have charge of the financial affairs of the society, subject in all matters relative thereto to the control of the Board of Directors. The treasurer is authorized to receive and to receipt, and, upon vouchers duly authorized by the Board of Directors, to make dis-

bursements from all funds of the society. All funds shall forthwith be deposited with the financial institution designated by the Board of Directors. Regular and faithful accounts of all moneys thus received or disbursed must be kept, and all accounts must be submitted annually for audit.

#### ARTICLE III: CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP AND DUES (Cf. Const. Art. VI)

1. Voting membership: Any communicant member of the synod, or of a synod in fellowship with the ELS.
2. Associate member (non-voting)
3. Institutional membership
4. Family membership
5. Dues: The Board of Directors shall establish dues on an annual basis to be ratified at the annual meeting.

#### ARTICLE IV: DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

1. The members of this society shall advance its objects
  - a) by attending its meetings and taking part in the discussions,
  - b) by participating in the election of officers.
  - c) by contributing to and reading its publications,
  - d) by increasing its membership,
  - e) by paying dues, adding, if possible, to historical collections of the synod's archives and museum, and
  - f) by providing volunteer assistance to the archivist.
2. Only voting members may hold office.
3. Associate members may attend meetings and participate in discussion but have no voting privileges.
4. Members shall encourage and assist congregations in establishing their own archives and historical groups.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Since the 1995 convention the Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents have met jointly on November 14, 1995 and February 13, 1996.

The synod's president, G. Orvick serves as chairman and the synod's secretary, A. Merseth serves as secretary.

The purpose of these joint meetings has been the continuing study of the plans for the Seminary/Synod Office Building, the construction of which the synod approved at its 1995 convention. (1995 Synod Report, pp. 202-203, Res. 1) The two boards, in their joint meeting on November 14, 1995, saw and discussed at length the plans presented by Architect Ron Buelow. They took the following actions:

**RESOLVED**, That the Trustees and Regents, in joint meeting on November 14, 1995, approve the plans for the Seminary/Synod Building as presented.

Construction of the Seminary/Synod Building began in the latter part of November and is progressing satisfactorily.

The Building Committee continues monitoring the progress and making minor alterations from time to time as necessary.

Other items of future concern that have been discussed are: 1) Campus Planning, including parking possibilities and future building sites. 2) The possible acquisition of a retreat center.

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 15, 1995, 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 Prof. Richard Wiechmann were elected in 1994. Mr. Robert Brown and Mr. Wilbur Lieske were elected in 1995. 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.

An accounting is found in the "Financial Statements and Accountants' Review Report."

Alf Merseth, secretary

## REPORT OF THE ANNIVERSARY OFFERING COMMITTEE

The 1995 synod convention resolved that "the synod expresses its gratitude to God by conducting a two-year Offering of Praise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary."

The theme chosen for the Anniversary Offering is "*Messengers of Peace*" which reflects our Lord's words concerning His chosen servants in Isaiah 52:7.

The offering began throughout our synod on Sunday, January 28 as the committee had been instructed to begin the offering "as soon as possible." Inclement weather delayed the start of the offering in many congregations. The offering will continue for two years, through January 1998.

The goal of the offering is to bring gifts of thanksgiving which total \$400,000 which, when added to money from other sources, will completely pay for the construction of the new seminary/synod building.

Publicity has been provided in the form of brochures, posters, bulletin inserts, *Sentinel* articles, and letters to the pastors.

Committee members are: The Rev. Richard Wiechmann, chairman; the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, executive secretary; Synod President George Orvick; Seminary President Wilhelm Petersen; Seminary Professor John Moldstad, Jr.; and the Rev. Paul Schneider.

Craig A. Ferkenstad, secretary

## MEMORIALS

### SUBJECT: THE DOCTRINE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- WHEREAS, Some of the clergy of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod have publicly stated the belief: "In a valid celebration of the Lord's Supper, the body and blood of Christ are *immediately* present after the words of institution have been recited by the pastor."; and now wish to use the wording "before the reception" as a confessional statement to explain the presence of the body and blood of Christ in the sacrament; and,
- WHEREAS, This wording does not take into account the context of Scripture (whether or not Christ had already distributed the elements prior to speaking His effectual words); and,
- WHEREAS, Ignoring this context on either side of the issue would add to Scripture by claiming as doctrine a personal interpretation not plainly stated in the Bible; and,
- WHEREAS, The adoption of such wording has already lead to attempts in writings of synodical theologians to bind the conscience with the imposition of various other human practices such as the total consumption of the reliquia; and,
- WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee has already written and publicly presented a doctrinal statement of the Lord's Supper at the 1994 synod convention (page 83); and,
- WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee's statement plainly sets forth our beliefs about the Lord's Supper in the clear words of Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions; and,
- WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee's statement guards the truth of the true presence of Christ's body and blood in the sacrament and preserves the doctrine of the effectual power residing alone in the Words of Christ without resorting to further explanation or human reason; and,

WHEREAS, We state that our acceptance of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions is unconditional such that we would neither *add to* nor subtract from Scripture;

RESOLVED, That the synod in convention in 1996 go on record as affirming our acceptance of the Doctrine Committee statement printed on page 83 of the 1994 proceedings; and,

RESOLVED, That such affirmation by the synod in convention—should it be forthcoming—be the answer to any further memorials to change our doctrine of the Lord's Supper as presented in this statement from the Doctrine Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,  
St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church  
The Rev. Paul Zager, pastor  
Mr. Todd Hafner, cong. chairman  
Mr. Leroy Meyer, director of elders

**SUBJECT: THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**FROM:** Members of Christ The King Lutheran Church, Bell Gardens, California

**TO:** 1996 Synod Convention of the ELS

WHEREAS, the Doctrine Committee of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod has given us a revision of Thesis 9b of the ELS Lord's Supper Statement which we believe is both Scriptural and Confessional, which reads as follows:

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; FCS D 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 the Lord to the people" (AP XXIV 80, p. 264; see also SC VII-2, p. 351; SA Part III VI 1, p. 311; AC XXII 6, p. 50; AP X 4, pp. 179-80), 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).

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT: We hereby urge the synod to adopt the proposed 9b of the ELS Doctrine Committee as stated above.

Gary L. Sieberg, President  
Daniel Verner, Recording Secretary

**SUBJECT: DOCTRINE COMMITTEE'S STATEMENT ON THE LORD'S SUPPER**

WHEREAS, The doctrine of the Lord's Supper has been studied and discussed in our synod for several years, and,

WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee has submitted a statement on the Lord's Supper that is Scriptural and Confessional, and,

WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee has carried out a resolution of the 1995 Synodical Convention to hold an open hearing to consider the phrase "without the intervention of any other cause or agency" as a substitute for the words "before the reception" in the 1989 Theses #9b, (Cf. S.R. 1955, p. 111), and,

WHEREAS, This open hearing was held at the 1996 General Pastoral Conference, and,

WHEREAS, According to the Doctrine Committee report to the 1996 Synodical Convention the open hearing at the General Pastoral Conference revealed no significant support for the substitute wording, and,



WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee is re-submitting its original recommendation to the 1996 Synodical Convention, and,

WHEREAS, The seminary faculty is in full agreement with the report of the Doctrine Committee,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the undersigned faculty members of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary urge the synod to adopt the report of the Doctrine Committee at its 1996 Synodical Convention.

SIGNATURES: A. Harstad, J. Moldstad, Jr., W. Petersen, J. B. Madson, W. Kessel, R. Honsey, and S. Reagles

**SUBJECT: THE LORD'S SUPPER**

WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod has given us a revision of Thesis 9b of the ELS Lord's Supper Statement which we believe is both Scriptural and Confessional, and which reads as follows:

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 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 the Lord to the people" (Ap XXIV 80, p. 264; see also SC VII-2, p. 351; SA Part III VI 1, p. 311; AC XXII 6, p. 40; Ap X 4, pp. 179-80), 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), and,

WHEREAS, However, some of our ELS clergy at the 1995 ELS Synod Convention stated in written form to the convention: "We do not insist that the word 'immediately' must be used; but we do BELIEVE (emphasis mine) that the following is a valid expression of the teaching of our Lutheran Confessions on this matter: 'In a valid celebration of the Lord's Supper, the body and blood of Christ are immediately present after the words of institution have been recited by the pastor.'" (p. 187, 1995 Annual Report of the ELS); thus confessing that their statement is something that they BELIEVE to be true; but, it is not something that they have proven to be true from either the Scriptures or the Confessions,

THERE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT WE HEREBY URGE THE SYNOD TO:

1. Adopt the proposed 9b as stated above.
2. State to those submitting the above quote (see 2nd Whereas above) that we agree that they have the right to what they believe to be true, as an opinion; however, we reject the idea that either Scriptures or the Confessions teach the idea that "In a valid celebration of the Lord's Supper, the body and blood of Christ are immediately present after the words of institution have been recited by the pastor," and therefore remind the brethren that what they believe to be true is their OPINION, and therefore must not be taught as a doctrine in the Church of God.

Passed by Voter's Assembly of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Irvine California, April 21, 1996.

Rodney J. Arends, President  
Christian Wulf, Secretary

## *RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE*

### *ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the following communications be approved:*

Letters of greetings have been sent to the following in the name of the assembled convention:

The Rev. Timothy Bartels  
Lay Worker Amy Gernander  
The Rev. Mark Tuffin  
The Rev. James Krikava  
The Rev. John Shep  
The Rev. Timothy Erickson  
The Rev. David Haeuser  
The Rev. and Mrs. Matthew Luttman  
The Rev. and Mrs. Steven Sparley  
Teachers Silas and Mary Born  
The Rev. Roger Falk  
The Rev. Egil Edvardson  
The Rev. Larry Cross  
The Rev. Roger Kovaciny

Letters of condolence have been sent to the following:

The Rev. David Thompson  
Mrs. Ruth Reichwald  
The Rev. and Mrs. Carl Rusch  
The Rev. and Mrs. Paul Anderson

Letters recognizing years of service have been sent to the following:

The Rev. Paul Madson  
The Rev. Alf Merseth  
The Rev. Milton Tweit  
The Rev. Paul Anderson  
Professor Juul Madson  
The Rev. Harold Vetter  
The Rev. James Wuebben  
The Rev. Leonard Buelow  
The Rev. John Krueger  
The Rev. Tosten Skaaland  
The Rev. John Smith

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AND**  
**ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**DECEMBER 31, 1995**

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Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Statement of Activities

Statement of Cash Flows

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**Wolf & Company LLP**  
Certified Public Accountants

2100 Clearwater Dr.,  
Oak Brook, Illinois 6005,  
(708) 545-4500 FAX: (708) 545-4501

ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT

Board of Trustees  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
Mankato, Minnesota

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial position of the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD (a nonprofit corporation) as of December 31, 1995, and the related statements of changes in net assets, activities and cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the management of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

A review consists principally of inquiries of organization personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

*Wolf & Company LLP*

Oak Brook, Illinois  
April 5, 1996

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 1995

A.S.S.E.T.S

Cash:

Checking	\$ 1,169,162
Savings	2,674
Accounts receivable	552,647
Inventory of publications	13,023
Prepaid expenses	2,000
Loans receivable (Notes 3 and 7)	2,003,120
Investments (Note 4):	
Money market funds	37,998
Investment management funds	6,788,728
Notes receivable	281,756
Real estate and buildings (Note 5)	<u>10,915,315</u>

Total assets	<u>\$ 21,766,423</u>
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LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities:

Accounts payable	\$ 49,821
Accrued interest	3,212
Notes payable (Note 6):	
Working capital	200,000
Investment program	238,593
Life Loan Plan	48,500
Mortgages payable (Note 7)	<u>690,800</u>

Total liabilities	<u>1,230,926</u>
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Net assets (Note 8):

Unrestricted	(43,834)
Temporarily restricted	5,009,970
Permanently restricted	<u>15,569,361</u>

Total net assets	<u>20,535,497</u>
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Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 21,766,423</u>
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See accompanying notes and accountants' review report.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Permanently Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Net assets, as previously reported	\$ (96,034)	\$ 3,127,710	\$ 10,481,842	\$ 13,513,518
Restatement (Note 2)	<u>-</u>	<u>897,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>897,018</u>
Balance, as restated	(96,034)	4,024,728	10,481,842	14,410,536
Excess of revenues, gains and other support over expenses	52,200	985,242	624,237	1,661,679
Additions and improvements to real estate at Bethany Lutheran College, funded by gifts and grants to College, net of depreciation and disposals (Note 5)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,463,282</u>	<u>4,463,282</u>
	<u>\$ (43,834)</u>	<u>\$ 5,009,970</u>	<u>\$ 15,569,361</u>	<u>\$ 20,535,497</u>

See accompanying notes and accountants' review report.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Revenues, gains and other support:				
Contributions:				
Budgetary	\$ 765,924	\$ 25,401	\$ -	\$ 791,325
Estate and trust	24,799		87,593	112,392
Special purpose:				
Bethany Lutheran Seminary	-	80,416	-	80,416
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	-	14,000	8,232	22,232
Foreign missions	-	285,736	-	285,736
Aid Association for Lutherans	-	16,000	-	16,000
Lutheran Brotherhood	-	42,000	-	42,000
Helping Hands	-	44,507	-	44,507
Matching funds	44,410	1,150,174	-	1,194,584
Hymnary project	-	24,000	-	24,000
Others	1,101	44,339	-	45,440
Investment income	106,534	316,014	-	422,548
Investment income - President's Office Endowment	43,134	-	-	43,134
Publications income	43,360	-	-	43,360
Realized and unrealized gains on long-term investments	16,095	309,496	410,082	735,673
Net assets released from restrictions:				
Satisfaction of program restrictions	<u>1,208,746</u>	<u>(1,208,746)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,254,103</u>	<u>1,143,337</u>	<u>505,907</u>	<u>3,903,347</u>
Expenses:				
Bethany Lutheran College	157,000	-	-	157,000
Bethany Lutheran Seminary	61,000	-	-	61,000
Home missions	407,609	-	-	407,609
Foreign missions	711,288	-	-	711,288
Publications	76,236	-	-	76,236
Evangelism	12,880	-	-	12,880
Christian service	20,669	-	-	20,669
Education and youth	28,628	-	-	28,628
Synod Fund	413,531	-	-	413,531
Other programs and costs	134,537	-	-	134,537
1994 matching funds distributed	147,000	-	-	147,000
Seminary additions	-	104,289	(104,289)	-
Disposal of residences	-	71,290	-	71,290
Debt paid from unrestricted funds	<u>31,525</u>	<u>(17,484)</u>	<u>(14,041)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,201,903</u>	<u>158,095</u>	<u>(118,330)</u>	<u>2,241,668</u>
Excess of revenues, gains and other support over expenses	<u>\$ 52,200</u>	<u>\$ 985,242</u>	<u>\$ 624,237</u>	<u>\$ 1,661,679</u>

See accompanying notes and accountants' review report.



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

Cash flows from operating activities:

Excess of revenues, gains and other support over expenses	\$ 1,661,679
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Market value gains	(735,673)
Write-off of residences	71,290
Increase in accounts receivable	(212,609)
Decrease in inventory of publications	3,839
Increase in prepaid expenses	(2,000)
Increase in accounts payables	24,753
Decrease in accrued liabilities	<u>(219)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>811,060</u>

Cash flows from investing activities:

Purchase of investments	(342,912)
Loans to congregations	(496,145)
Repayment of loans	393,388
Seminary additions	(104,289)
Reduction of notes receivable	<u>3,701</u>
Net cash used by investing activities	<u>(546,257)</u>

Cash flows from financing activities:

Proceeds from mortgages	261,070
Repayment of investment plan notes	(102,839)
Debt paid	<u>(31,525)</u>
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>126,706</u>

Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	391,509
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Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>818,325</u>
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Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 1,209,834</u>
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Consisting of the following:

Checking	\$ 1,169,162
Savings	2,674
Money market funds	<u>37,998</u>
	<u>\$ 1,209,834</u>

Supplemental cash flow information:

Cash paid for interest	<u>\$ 104,534</u>
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See accompanying notes and accountants' review report.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(See Accountants' Review Report)

1. Organization and Operations

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod (the "Synod") is a national organization of Lutheran congregations. The Synod's purpose is to provide programs and support for various church purposes such as evangelism, missions, education, Bethany Lutheran College, and Bethany Lutheran Seminary. The Synod holds title to the property used by both Bethany Lutheran College and Seminary, for which nominal rent is received.

The Synod is a not-for-profit organization and is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Recognition of Donor Restrictions

Support that is restricted by the donor is reported as an increase in unrestricted net assets if the restriction expires in the reporting period in which the support is recognized. All other donor-restricted support is reported as an increase in temporarily or permanently restricted net assets, depending on the nature of the restriction. When a restriction expires, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets.

Financial Statement Presentation

In 1995, the Synod adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 117, "Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations." Under SFAS No. 117, the Synod is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets. In addition, the Synod is required to present a statement of cash flows. As permitted by this new statement, the Synod has discontinued its use of fund accounting and has, accordingly, reclassified its financial statements to present the three classes of net assets required. This reclassification had no effect on the net change in net assets for 1995.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Cont.)  
(See Accountants' Review Report)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont.)

Contributions

The Synod also has adopted SFAS No. 116, "Accounting for Contributions Received and Contributions Made", in 1995. In accordance with SFAS No. 116, contributions received are recorded as unrestricted, temporarily restricted, or permanently restricted support depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions. As permitted by SFAS No. 116, the Synod has retroactively applied the provisions of this new statement by restating net assets as of December 31, 1994. The increase of \$897,018 made to net assets as of December 31, 1994 represents program restricted contributions previously reported as deferred revenue. Under SFAS No. 116, such contributions are required to be reported as temporarily restricted support and are then reclassified to unrestricted net assets upon expiration of the program restriction.

Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statements of cash flows, the Synod considers all unrestricted highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of three months or less, excluding investment management accounts, to be cash equivalents.

Inventory

Inventory consists of publications held for sale and are reported at lower of cost or market.

Investments

Investments in managed accounts are reported at current market value.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Cont.)  
(See Accountants' Review Report)

3. Loans Receivable

Loans receivable consist of various secured and unsecured loans to member congregations. Interest is at various rates. The loans are primarily made to finance construction or similar projects. Activity during 1995 was as follows:

Outstanding loans, December 31, 1994	\$ 1,900,363
Loans made during 1995	496,145
Loans collected during 1995	<u>(393,388)</u>
Outstanding loans, December 31, 1995	<u>\$ 2,003,120</u>

4. Investments

Investments consist of various investment management accounts. The accounts include securities and various funds, including U.S. Treasuries, corporate bonds, domestic and foreign equities, cash funds, and futures contracts.

Investments at December 31, 1995 are comprised of the following:

U.S. Treasury instruments and Treasury funds	\$ 2,032,288
Corporate bonds and bond funds	811,136
Domestic equities and equity funds	2,669,024
Foreign equity funds	488,618
Short-term money funds and other	<u>787,662</u>
	<u>\$ 6,788,728</u>

As of December 31, 1995, investments were allocated as follows:

Unrestricted	\$ 943,698
Temporarily restricted	3,893,502
Permanently restricted (endowments)	<u>1,951,528</u>
	<u>\$ 6,788,728</u>

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Cont.)  
(See Accountants' Review Report)

5. Real Estate and Buildings

The Synod owns real estate and buildings leased to Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Seminary, related tax exempt organizations. Amounts shown for the College are from its audited balance sheet at June 30, 1995. Additions and improvements to College facilities totaled \$4,904,175 during the College's fiscal year, and were primarily paid from private gifts and grants received by the College. The Synod also owns five residences occupied by Synod, College and Seminary officials. A summary of real estate included in the balance sheet at December 31, 1995 is as follows:

College property, plant and equipment, at cost	\$ 15,158,219
Less accumulated depreciation	(4,450,899)
Less obligations of the College, secured by real estate	<u>(564,336)</u>
	10,142,984
Seminary real estate, at cost	460,487
Residences, primarily at cost	<u>311,844</u>
	<u>\$ 10,915,315</u>

6. Notes Payable

The working capital note is a 6% unsecured demand loan from a congregation.

Investment program notes are unsecured amounts loaned by individuals, congregations and organizations for varying periods at interest rates ranging principally from zero to 6%.

Life Loan Plan notes are unsecured amounts loaned by individuals at interest rates from zero to 6%.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Cont.)  
 (See Accountants' Review Report)

7. Mortgages Payable

Mortgages payable at December 31, 1995 consist of the following:

Payable to Aid Association for Lutherans, due in monthly payments of \$2,723 including interest at 8%. Secured by a loan to a congregation.	\$ 306,579
Unsecured mortgage payable to a congregation due in various annual installments plus interest.	11,100
Payable to Norwest, due in monthly installments of \$229 including interest at 7.75%. Secured by loan to congregation. Balance was retired in January, 1996.	14,821
Payable to Aid Association for Lutherans, dated May, 1995 in the amount of \$285,000. Due in monthly payments of \$2,384 including interest at 8%. Secured by loan to congregation.	281,543
Mortgage payable, secured by residence, payable in monthly installments of \$965 including interest at 10%.	<u>76,757</u>
	<u>\$ 690,800</u>

Future maturities of mortgages payable are as follows:

1996	\$ 44,777
1997	20,510
1998	22,311
1999	24,271
2000	26,405
Thereafter	<u>552,526</u>
	<u>\$ 690,800</u>

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Cont.)  
 (See Accountants' Review Report)

8. Nature of Fund Restrictions

Temporarily restricted funds at December 31, 1995 consist of the following programs:

Partners in the Gospel unexpended income	\$ 220,751
Matching funds for Seminary construction	1,017,849
General Foreign Mission Fund	80,093
Other Foreign Mission unexpended funds	316,929
Charitable Gift Annuity Fund	155,118
Home Mission Reserve Fund	147,806
Home Mission Expansion Fund	1,488,217
Challenge Fund	13,151
Hymnary Project	42,769
Foreign Mission Seminary Endowment Fund	1,152,773
His Truth for Our Youth unexpended income	38,158
Others	101,270
Residences	<u>235,086</u>
	<u>\$ 5,009,970</u>

Permanently restricted funds at December 31, 1995 consist of the following programs:

Church Extension and Loan Fund	\$ 370,670
Marvin and Delores Schwan Foreign Mission Trust Fund	679,015
Partners in the Gospel Home Missions Fund	1,858,175
His Truth for Our Youth	426,484
Merle R. Aasen Estate - Missions	11,318
Merle R. Aasen Seminary Scholarship Fund	6,801
President's Office Endowment Fund	743,665
Whipple-Olson-Wilson Endowment Fund	113,727
Board of Trustees - Donated Funds	756,035
Bethany College property	10,142,984
Bethany Seminary property	<u>460,487</u>
	<u>\$ 15,569,361</u>

9. Contingencies

The Synod is contingently liable as a guarantor on mortgage loans for Bethany (Port Orchard, Washington), Our Savior (Lakeland, Florida) and Christ (Windsor, California).

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Cont.)  
(See Accountants' Review Report)

10. Concentrations of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Synod to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash, mutual funds, bonds and marketable securities. The Synod places substantially all of its cash and liquid investments with high-quality financial institutions and limits the amount of credit exposure to any one financial institution; however, cash balances may periodically exceed federally insured limits. At December 31, 1995, cash in bank exceeded federally insured amounts by \$1,122,711. Marketable securities and other investments, consisting of both debt and equity instruments, are placed in a variety of managed funds administered by different investment managers in order to limit credit risk. As of December 31, 1995, management considers the Synod to have no significant concentration of credit risk.



## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **Financial Statements**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Year ended December 31, 1995

**BALANCE SHEET**  
 Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 December 31, 1995

**EXHIBIT I**

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>GENERAL FUND(01)</b>	<b>CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND(02)</b>	<b>BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE(03)</b>	<b>BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY(04)</b>	<b>RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE(05)</b>	<b>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Cash - checking account	\$1,169,162.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,169,162.06
Accounts receivable - contributions and other income	552,647.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	552,647.06
Inventory of publications	13,022.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,022.87
Prepaid expenses	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
Investments:							
Investment management accounts	55,361.67	591,534.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,141,831.29	6,788,727.73
Savings accounts and CD's	2,674.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,674.45
Money market funds	37,997.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37,997.75
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	350,227.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,652,892.35	2,003,119.51
Notes receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	281,756.75	281,756.75
Real estate and buildings (Notes B and C)	0.00	0.00	10,142,984.00	460,487.10	311,843.71	0.00	10,915,314.81
	1,832,865.86	941,761.93	10,142,984.00	460,487.10	311,843.71	8,076,480.39	21,766,422.99
Due from (to) other funds	20,258.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(20,258.49)	0.00
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$1,853,124.35</b>	<b>\$941,761.93</b>	<b>\$10,142,984.00</b>	<b>\$460,487.10</b>	<b>\$311,843.71</b>	<b>\$8,056,221.90</b>	<b>\$21,766,422.99</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>							
Liabilities:							
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	238,592.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	238,592.83
Life Loan Plan	48,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48,500.00
Accounts payable	49,822.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49,822.22
Accrued interest payable	3,211.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,211.86
Unexpended restricted income (Note E)	1,737,725.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,737,725.68
Mortgages payable	0.00	332,499.35	0.00	0.00	76,756.75	281,543.48	690,799.58
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,039,259.76</b>	<b>571,092.18</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>76,756.75</b>	<b>281,543.48</b>	<b>2,968,652.17</b>
Fund balances (deficit):							
Unrestricted:							
Designated for investment	0.00	370,669.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	898,335.63	1,269,005.38
Undesignated	(186,135.41)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(186,135.41)
	(186,135.41)	370,669.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	898,335.63	1,082,869.97
Restricted (Note F)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,876,342.79	6,876,342.79
Net investment in real estate and buildings	0.00	0.00	10,142,984.00	460,487.10	235,086.96	0.00	10,838,558.06
<b>Total fund balances (deficit)</b>	<b>(186,135.41)</b>	<b>370,669.75</b>	<b>10,142,984.00</b>	<b>460,487.10</b>	<b>235,086.96</b>	<b>7,774,678.42</b>	<b>18,797,770.82</b>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balances</b>	<b>\$1,853,124.35</b>	<b>\$941,761.93</b>	<b>\$10,142,984.00</b>	<b>\$460,487.10</b>	<b>\$311,843.71</b>	<b>\$8,056,221.90</b>	<b>\$21,766,422.99</b>

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
 Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 Year ended December 31, 1995

**EXHIBIT II**

	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, 1994	(\$213,973.66	\$283,190.25	\$5,665,665.00	\$356,198.23	\$285,188.72	\$7,137,250.36	\$13,513,518.90
ADD:							
Bequests	0.00	44,984.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	42,609.10	87,593.51
Contributions received - net	1,101.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,232.46	23,334.11
Matching funds for debt reduction	44,410.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44,410.00
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	104,288.87	0.00	77,775.10	182,063.97
Portion of unrestricted estates appropriated for General Fund debt reduction and to ELS Foundation	16,532.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,266.21	24,798.66
Market value gains(losses)	0.00	42,495.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	693,178.26	735,673.35
Principal payments on President's house charged to budget	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,701.05	0.00	3,701.05
Residences incorporated into BLC campus	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(71,287.20)	0.00	(71,287.20)
Payments on liabilities by General Fund	(31,524.61)	0.00	14,040.22	0.00	17,484.39	0.00	0.00
Bethany Lutheran College net value adjustment at June 30, 1995(Note B)	0.00	0.00	4,463,278.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,463,278.78
Excess of income over expenditures and appropriations for the period	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	30,519.49	87,479.50	4,477,319.00	104,288.87	(50,101.76)	844,061.13	5,493,566.23
	(183,454.17	370,669.75	10,142,984.00	460,487.10	235,086.96	7,981,311.49	19,007,085.13
DEDUCT:							
Excess of expenditures and appropriations over income for the period	2,681.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,681.24
Annuity amortization	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,576.07	5,576.07
Distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	201,057.00	201,057.00
	2,681.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	206,633.07	209,314.31
BALANCES (Deficit) - end of period	(\$186,135.41	\$370,669.75	\$10,142,984.00	\$460,487.10	\$235,086.96	\$7,774,678.42	\$18,797,770.82

**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 Year ended December 31, 1995

**EXHIBIT III**

(Page 1 of 3)

**INCOME**

## Contributions:

## Budgetary:

Restricted	\$25,400.86	
Unrestricted	765,924.18	

\$791,325.04

## Estate and trust income:

Restricted		87,593.51
Unrestricted		24,798.66

## For special purposes:

Bethany Lutheran College special	747.00	
Bethany Lutheran Seminary special	80,415.56	
Bethesda Lutheran Home	251.00	
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	14,967.83	
Faith Mission Society	1,003.81	
Foreign missions special	285,735.61	
Home missions special	12,273.44	
Lutheran Brotherhood:		
Evangelism	1,000.00	
Strengthening lay leadership	1,000.00	
Home mission program subsidy(lump-sum)	40,000.00	
Aid Association for Lutherans:		
Church leaders' workshop	3,000.00	
Seminary offering expenses	13,000.00	
"World Needs"	10,678.42	
"Helping Hands"	44,507.03	
"Thoughts of Faith"	4,740.05	
75th Anniversary Offering - "Truth for Our Youth"	7,264.63	
Matching funds	1,194,584.00	
Hymnary project	24,000.00	
Christian Day Schools	1,013.75	
Miscellaneous	1,166.65	
Congregational assistance	3,100.23	
WELS Lutherans for Life	596.00	
Lutheran Heritage Hour	268.00	
Australian parish	4,798.10	

1,750,111.11

Total contributions - carried forward

2,653,828.32

**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - CONTINUED**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1995

**EXHIBIT III**

(Page 2 of 3)

Total contributions - brought forward		\$2,653,828.32
Investment income:		
Restricted:		
Merle R. Aasen Estate	\$600.00	
Merle R. Aasen Seminary Scholarship Fund	360.54	
President's Office Endowment Fund	43,134.34	
"Helping Hands"	35,994.99	
"Partners in the Gospel"	90,289.90	
W-O-W Fund	6,028.75	
Foreign Mission Seminary Fund	61,109.24	
General Foreign Mission Fund	8,631.71	
Home missions reserves	77,415.10	
Home Missions SS Endowment Fund	103.34	
Challenge Fund	360.00	
1995 matching funds for Seminary	12,705.33	
"Truth for Our Youth"	22,415.64	
Unrestricted:		
Loans receivable	23,278.30	
NOW checking account	10,459.45	
Other - unrestricted endowment	72,796.00	
Total investment income		465,682.63
Total income from all sources		3,119,510.95
Less income for special purposes		2,153,719.16
Total income available for current purposes - carried forward		965,791.79
EXPENDITURES		
Bethany Lutheran College	156,999.96	
Bethany Lutheran Seminary	60,999.96	
Home missions	407,609.70	
Foreign missions	711,288.23	
Education and youth	28,627.78	
Evangelism	12,879.88	
Christian service	20,669.07	
Publications	76,235.91	
Synod fund	410,031.50	
Capital budget	3,499.84	
"World Needs"	8,000.00	
Hymnary project	16,554.26	
Evangelism grant	2,376.48	
Strengthening lay leadership	1,320.41	
Seminary offering expenses	8,559.11	
Family life commission	853.55	
Visitors' conference	4,020.30	
Total expenditures - carried forward	1,930,525.94	

**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - CONTINUED**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota

Year ended December 31, 1995

**EXHIBIT III**

(Page 3 of 3)

Total income available for current purposes - brought forward		\$965,791.79
Total expenditures - brought forward		\$1,930,525.94
Less expenditures financed by special funds:		
Home missions grants and reserves	\$289,609.70	
Foreign missions reserves	366,196.99	
"Helping Hands" Fund	144,060.82	
Foreign Mission Seminary		
Endowment Fund income	93,030.42	
"World Needs" Fund	8,000.00	
Hymnary project	16,554.26	
Strengthening lay leadership	1,320.41	
Family life commission	853.55	
Visitors' conference	4,020.30	
Youth projects grants	2,196.00	
Evangelism grant	2,376.48	
Seminary offering expenses grant	8,559.11	
Matching funds applied to budget	6,713.78	
	<u>943,491.82</u>	
Publications income	43,359.75	986,851.57
Expenditures financed by income available for current purposes		<u>943,674.37</u>
Excess of income over expenditures		22,117.42
<b>APPROPRIATED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b>		
Portion of unrestricted estates:		
For General Fund debt reduction	16,532.45	
To Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	<u>8,266.21</u>	<u>24,798.66</u>
Excess of expenditures and appropriations over income - (decrease) in General Fund balance		<u><u>(\$2,681.24)</u></u>

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1995

**EXHIBIT IV**

(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.

No provision is made for depreciation of equipment and furniture. The cost of such items is 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, 1995. The current, endowment and reserve funds of the College are not included in the assets of the Synod. The amount of \$10,142,984.00 was determined as follows:

Per audit report of the College as of June 30, 1995:

Total invested in plant

\$10,707,320.00

Less obligations of the plant fund

564,336.00

Total net investment in plant - June 30, 1995

\$10,142,984.00

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1995

**EXHIBIT IV**

(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	4	\$282,543.71
Appraisal - internal	1	29,300.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	5	\$311,843.71
	=====	=====

- (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		\$220,751.16
Other home missions unexpended restricted income		15,504.07
Foreign missions unexpended restricted income		316,925.66
Grants		16,212.92
"World Needs"		5,460.44
Truth for Youth Fund income		38,158.38
1995 matching funds for Seminary construction	\$1,109,433.00	
1995 income thereon	12,705.33	
1995 expenditures	(104,288.87)	1,017,849.46
Hymnary project		42,768.74
Other		64,094.85
		<hr/>
		<u>\$1,737,725.68</u>



**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 1995

**EXHIBIT IV**  
(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)	\$11,318.25
Merle R. Aasen Seminary Scholarship Fund (to be invested permanently with income for scholarships)	6,801.34
President's Office Endowment Fund	743,665.31
Marvin and Delores Schwan Foreign Mission Trust Fund	679,014.56
Partners in the Gospel Home Missions Fund	1,858,174.53
Whipple-Olson-Wilson Endowment Fund	113,727.16
Foreign Mission Seminary Endowment Fund	1,152,773.36
General Foreign Mission Fund	80,092.99
Charitable Gift Annuity Fund	155,118.13
Home Mission Reserve Fund	147,806.12
Home Mission Expansion Fund	1,488,216.33
75th Anniversary Fund - "His Truth for Our Youth"	426,483.97
Challenge Fund	13,150.74
	<u>\$6,876,342.79</u>

(G) The Evangelical Lutheran Synod is contingently liable as co-signor on mortgage loans for Bethany (Port Orchard, Washington), Our Savior (Lakeland, Florida) and Christ (Windsor, California).

**LOANS RECEIVABLE**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 Year ended December 31, 1995

**SCHEDULE A****Church Extension and Loan Fund**

	TOTAL LOANS	BALANCE 12-31-94	NEW LOANS 1995	PAID 1995	TOTAL PAID	BALANCE 12-31-95
<b>CONGREGATION</b>						
Bethany - Ames, Iowa	\$2,162.21	\$1,062.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,062.21
Faith - Oregon, Wisconsin:						
Church	155,500.62	113,248.35	0.00	1,876.80	44,129.07	111,371.55
Parsonage	65,143.02	46,079.13	0.00	3,636.40	22,700.29	42,442.73
Good Shepherd - Richardson, Texas	384,977.59	133,455.01	0.00	674.08	252,196.66	132,780.93
Grace - Crookston, Minnesota	63,946.76	45,263.13	0.00	2,729.29	21,412.92	42,533.84
Heritage - Apple Valley, Minnesota	428,728.05	63,807.72	265,000.00	328,807.72	428,728.05	0.00
Lakewood - Tacoma, Washington	15,500.00	8,081.71	0.00	3,256.37	10,674.66	4,825.34
Our Redeemer, Yelm, Washington	12,000.00	0.00	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	12,000.00
Trinity - Sebastian, Florida	161,225.00	10,795.45	0.00	7,584.89	158,014.44	3,210.56
	<u>\$1,289,183.25</u>	<u>\$421,792.71</u>	<u>\$277,000.00</u>	<u>\$348,565.55</u>	<u>\$938,956.09</u>	<u>\$350,227.16</u>

**Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation****Partners in the Gospel Home Missions Fund**

Bethlehem - Warroad, Minnesota	\$54,858.31	\$45,255.28	\$0.00	\$2,173.91	\$11,776.94	\$43,081.37
Christ - Port St. Lucie, Florida	60,986.63	31,083.19	0.00	5,659.37	35,562.81	25,423.82
Redeemer - Scottsdale, Arizona	306,624.44	245,423.91	56,014.09	0.00	5,186.44	301,438.00
Family of God - Riviera, Arizona	127,800.00	116,745.45	0.00	1,795.56	12,850.11	114,949.89
Good Shepherd - Brownsburg, Indiana	68,000.00	47,988.08	0.00	4,118.60	24,130.52	43,869.48
Peace - Kissimmee, Florida	414,408.72	393,812.38	8,596.34	8,189.12	20,189.12	394,219.60
Resurrection - Winter Haven, Florida	150,749.23	0.00	150,749.23	0.00	0.00	150,749.23
Saved by Grace - Gresham, Oregon	326,953.69	309,468.12	1,484.44	9,629.65	25,630.78	301,322.91
	<u>\$1,510,381.02</u>	<u>\$1,189,776.41</u>	<u>\$216,844.10</u>	<u>\$31,566.21</u>	<u>\$135,326.72</u>	<u>\$1,375,054.30</u>

**Home Mission Reserve Fund**

Saved by Grace - Gresham, Oregon	\$97,500.00	\$86,263.62	\$0.00	\$11,856.29	\$23,092.67	\$74,407.33
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**Home Mission Expansion Fund**

Peace - Lakeland, Florida	\$205,530.72	\$202,529.58	\$2,301.14	\$1,400.00	\$2,100.00	\$203,430.72
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**BALANCE SHEET AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
Year ended December 31, 1995

**SCHEDULE B**  
Page 1 of 3

**ASSETS**

**Investments:**

Investment management accounts  
Loans receivable from congregations  
Notes receivable

Due from (to) other funds

**TOTAL ASSETS**

**LIABILITIES**

Notes payable

**FUND BALANCES**

Balances - December 31, 1994

Add:

Bequests  
Contributions - net  
Income  
Estates appropriated by  
Board of Trustees  
Annuity amortization  
Distributions  
Market value gains(losses)

Balances - end of period

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES**

MERLE R. AASEN ESTATE(07)	MERLE R. AASEN SEMINARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND(08)	PRESIDENT'S OFFICE ENDOWMENT FUND(09)	MARVIN AND DELORES SCHWAN FOREIGN MISSION TRUST FUND(10)	PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL HOME MISSIONS FUND(11)	WHIPPLE - OLSON - WILSON ENDOWMENT FUND(12)
\$11,318.25	\$6,801.34	\$666,908.56	\$679,014.56	\$580,663.71	\$113,727.16
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,375,054.30	0.00
0.00	0.00	76,756.75	0.00	184,000.00	0.00
11,318.25	6,801.34	743,665.31	679,014.56	2,139,718.01	113,727.16
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>\$11,318.25</b>	<b>\$6,801.34</b>	<b>\$743,665.31</b>	<b>\$679,014.56</b>	<b>\$2,139,718.01</b>	<b>\$113,727.16</b>
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$281,543.48	\$0.00
10,000.00	6,009.00	666,193.10	599,916.49	1,795,228.29	100,479.18
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	967.83	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1,318.25	792.34	77,472.21	79,098.07	61,978.41	13,247.98
1,318.25	792.34	77,472.21	79,098.07	62,946.24	13,247.98
11,318.25	6,801.34	743,665.31	679,014.56	1,858,174.53	113,727.16
<b>\$11,318.25</b>	<b>\$6,801.34</b>	<b>\$743,665.31</b>	<b>\$679,014.56</b>	<b>\$2,139,718.01</b>	<b>\$113,727.16</b>

**BALANCE SHEET AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
Year ended December 31, 1995

**SCHEDULE B**  
Page 2 of 3

	<b>RESTRICTED</b>					
	FOREIGN MISSION SEMINARY ENDOWMENT FUND(13)	GENERAL FOREIGN MISSION FUND(14)	CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY FUND(15)	HOME MISSION RESERVE FUND(16)	HOME MISSION EXPANSION FUND(18)	75TH ANNIVERSARY FUND(20)
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Investments:						
Investment management accounts	\$1,152,773.36	\$80,092.99	\$164,376.62	\$73,398.79	\$1,284,785.61	\$426,483.97
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	0.00	0.00	74,407.33	203,430.72	0.00
Notes receivable	0.00	0.00	11,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1,152,773.36	80,092.99	175,376.62	147,806.12	1,488,216.33	426,483.97
Due from (to) other funds	0.00	(0.00)	(20,258.49)	0.00	(0.00)	0.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,152,773.36</b>	<b>\$80,092.99</b>	<b>\$155,118.13</b>	<b>\$147,806.12</b>	<b>\$1,488,216.33</b>	<b>\$426,483.97</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Notes payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>						
Balances - December 31, 1994	1,018,487.30	143,861.82	158,694.20	131,345.04	1,390,132.66	369,961.67
Add:						
Bequests	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Contributions - net	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	7,264.63
Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,735.56	67,679.54	0.00
Estates appropriated by Board of Trustees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Annuity amortization	0.00	0.00	(5,576.07)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Distributions	0.00	(82,736.63)	0.00	0.00	(118,320.37)	0.00
Market value gains(losses)	134,286.06	18,967.80	0.00	6,725.52	148,724.50	49,257.67
	134,286.06	(63,768.83)	(3,576.07)	16,461.08	98,083.67	56,522.30
Balances - end of period	1,152,773.36	80,092.99	155,118.13	147,806.12	1,488,216.33	426,483.97
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$1,152,773.36</b>	<b>\$80,092.99</b>	<b>\$155,118.13</b>	<b>\$147,806.12</b>	<b>\$1,488,216.33</b>	<b>\$426,483.97</b>

**BALANCE SHEET AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
Year ended December 31, 1995

**SCHEDULE B**  
Page 3 of 3

ASSETS	UNRESTRICTED BOARD OF TRUSTEES					TOTAL - ALL FUNDS
	CHALLENGE FUND(21)	TOTAL	DONATED(30)	DESIGNATED(35)	TOTAL	
Investments:						
Investment management accounts	\$13,150.74	\$5,253,495.66	\$746,034.86	\$142,300.77	\$888,335.63	\$6,141,831.29
Loans receivable from congregations	0.00	1,652,892.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,652,892.35
Notes receivable	0.00	271,756.75	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	281,756.75
	13,150.74	7,178,144.76	756,034.86	142,300.77	898,335.63	8,076,480.39
Due from (to) other funds	0.00	(20,258.49)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(20,258.49)
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$13,150.74</b>	<b>\$7,157,886.27</b>	<b>\$756,034.86</b>	<b>\$142,300.77</b>	<b>\$898,335.63</b>	<b>\$8,056,221.90</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Notes payable	\$0.00	\$281,543.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$281,543.48
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>						
Balances - December 31, 1994	0.00	6,390,308.75	629,002.08	117,939.53	746,941.61	7,137,250.36
Add:						
Bequests	0.00	0.00	42,609.10	0.00	42,609.10	42,609.10
Contributions - net	12,000.00	22,232.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,232.46
Income	360.00	77,775.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	77,775.10
Estates appropriated by						
Board of Trustees	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,266.21	8,266.21	8,266.21
Annuity amortization	0.00	(5,576.07)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(5,576.07)
Distributions	0.00	(201,057.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(201,057.00)
Market value gains(losses)	790.74	592,659.55	84,423.68	16,095.03	100,518.71	693,178.26
	13,150.74	486,034.04	127,032.78	24,361.24	151,394.02	637,428.06
Balances - end of period	13,150.74	6,876,342.79	756,034.86	142,300.77	898,335.63	7,774,678.42
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$13,150.74</b>	<b>\$7,157,886.27</b>	<b>\$756,034.86</b>	<b>\$142,300.77</b>	<b>\$898,335.63</b>	<b>\$8,056,221.90</b>

**SYNOD FUND**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 Year ended December 31, 1995

**SCHEDULE C**

Bethany College:		
Maintenance - college	\$21,500.00	
Maintenance - residences	4,000.00	
Interest	8,181.12	
Faculty housing allowance	84,000.00	\$117,681.12
Bethany Seminary - maintenance - residences		4,643.56
Administration:		
Officers' expenses	34,550.03	
Salaries and stipends	71,312.93	
Retirement, social security & insurance benefits	13,988.16	
Housing expenses	15,457.30	
Seminary office expenses	1,188.38	136,496.80
Boards, committees, etc.:		
Archives committee	4,264.40	
Colloquy committee	0.00	
ELS convention	6,400.74	
Doctrine committee	4,086.34	
Insurance	7,662.50	
ELS/WELS Forum	0.00	
Nominations committee	1,353.07	
Planning and coordinating committee	3,853.24	
Professional services	18,603.33	
Pastors' equalization fund	8,877.00	
Stewardship committee	5,151.19	
Board of Trustees	10,885.24	
Visitors' expenses	7,892.13	
Worship committee	1,543.43	
Ad hoc committee	0.00	
Other	5,783.66	86,356.27
Deferred giving counselor		31,716.24
Interest:		
Working capital loan	12,000.00	
Life loan plan	1,920.00	
Investment program	14,500.38	
Church property mortgages	4,717.13	33,137.51
TOTAL - Synod Fund expenses		<u>\$410,031.50</u>

## FINANCES

### ACTION OF THE SYNOD

#### **Resolution No. 1: Accountants' Review Report**

*WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees desires that the membership of the synod have confidence in the synod's financial accounting procedures, and,*

*WHEREAS, It is good business practice to have an independent review of the financial statements of any organization, and,*

*WHEREAS, Wolf & Company (CPA's), upon completion of its review, stated "we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles,"*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends Treasurer Meyer for his continued service, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees be encouraged to continue such periodic reviews by an independent agency to maintain synodical members' confidence with regard to synodical financial accounting procedures and reporting.*

#### **Resolution No. 2: Financial Reports**

*WHEREAS, The following reports were read and approved,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod accepts the following reports,*

*A. Board for Stewardship*

*B. Layman's Delegate Equalization Fund Committee*

*C. Planning and Coordinating Committee*

*D. Board of Trustees*

*E. Treasurer*

*F. Board of Trustees and Regents*

*G. ELS Foundation*

#### **Resolution No. 3: 1997 Budget**

*WHEREAS, The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed 1997 budget,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the following budget for 1997.*

##### **BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE**

Operations (22% of \$800,000)	\$176,000	
Maintenance on college	21,500	
Maintenance on residences	4,000	
Interest	5,800	
Faculty Housing Allowance		
(\$84,000 less \$16,000		
interest applied)	68,000	<b>275,300</b>

### **BETHANY LUTHERAN SEMINARY**

Operations	68,000	
Maintenance on residences	2,000	<b>70,000</b>

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE** **23,700**

**EDUCATION AND YOUTH** **31,000**

**EVANGELISM** **9,000**

**FOREIGN MISSIONS** **140,000**

**HOME MISSIONS** **158,000**

**PUBLICATIONS** **32,000**

### **SYNOD FUND**

Interest	9,000	
Deferred Giving Counselor	43,000	
Boards, committees, etc.	54,000	
Administration	52,000	
House payment, utilities, etc.	15,000	<b>173,000</b>

**CAPITAL BUDGET** **11,000**

**TOTAL** **923,000**

Apply matching funds allocation **(123,000)**

**TOTAL SYNODICAL BUDGET FOR 1997** **\$800,000**

### **Resolution No. 4: 1997 Matching Funds**

*WHEREAS, The Finance Committee has reviewed the Board of Trustees' proposed allocation for 1997 matching funds,*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the following allocation of matching funds for 1997.*

New Home Mission	\$ 550,000
Foreign Missions	100,000
Budget Supplement	123,000
Board of Trustees	177,000
Debt Reduction	<u>50,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

### **Resolution No. 5: "Messengers of Peace" Anniversary Offering**

*WHEREAS, The new Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary building is presently under construction, and,*

*WHEREAS, Our Messengers of Peace Anniversary Offering is progressing slowly, and,*

*WHEREAS, Our \$400,000 offering goal can be attained only as our gracious Lord leads our members to a strong commitment, and,*

*WHEREAS, It is highly desirable to meet our goal so that we can pay all construction costs as well as establish an endowment fund for the operation of the building,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod asks God for His blessing upon this Anniversary Offering, and,*



*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod asks its pastors and lay delegates to communicate by all possible means the Anniversary Offering update information to their respective congregations, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod asks the pastors and lay delegates at this convention to take home the Anniversary Offering thermometers for their parish (updating the thermometers from time to time) and to post them prominently so that congregation members will be reminded of our Anniversary Offering.*

#### **Resolution No. 6: Stewardship Matters**

*WHEREAS, The Lord has continued to bless us in accordance with the promise recorded in Luke 6:38—"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over." and,*

*WHEREAS, "all His promises are yes" by the life, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and,*

*WHEREAS, Every breath we take, every moment of each day, even to eternity, is a gift of our gracious God, and,*

*WHEREAS, Our whole life is a continuous opportunity to give Him thanks and praise for our temporal and spiritual blessings,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That all pastors and delegates encourage their congregations to be mindful of their high office as stewards both of God's mysteries and His earthly blessings, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That all within our synod be encouraged to be faithful with their time, talents and treasures in support of our common synodical work, both at home and abroad, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That all congregations be encouraged to use the new stewardship materials titled "Living for Jesus" to teach the Lord's stewardship principles.*

#### **Resolution No. 7: Stewardship Matters**

*WHEREAS, The president of our synod in his address to the 79th Convention expressed concern by saying "Since we receive gifts from generous donors, there is a real danger that we no longer feel responsible for the work of our synod ourselves," and,*

*WHEREAS, Good stewardship of our financial gifts properly proceeds from the love of Christ and the many blessings His grace has bestowed upon us as we look at the needs and opportunities set before us,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages each congregation and each individual member of the synod to take this matter to heart, and to pray that our God would so motivate us all to bear conscious responsibility for the total Gospel work we do as a synod, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod reminds itself that the*

*intent of the gracious donor in offering the matching funds program was to enable our synod to **expand** programs and endeavors beyond what we could accomplish without this assistance.*

## **HIGHER EDUCATION AND MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEE ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

### **Resolution No. 1: Expansion of the Board of Regents**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the whole report, including the proposed addition, be referred back to the Board of Regents for further study in consultation with the Self Study Committee.*

## **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

### **Resolution No. 1: Guidelines for the Self-Study Committee**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the guidelines for the Self-Study Committee as a permanent board as printed in the report of the Self-Study Committee.*

### **Resolution No. 2: Guidelines for Synodical Discipline**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the revision of the Guidelines for Synodical Discipline as printed in the report of the Self-Study Committee.*

### **Resolution No. 3: Full-Time Administrator**

*WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions has "resolved to call a part-time missions counselor," and,*

*WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions "has been considering a full-time, or at least part-time mission counselor," and,*

*WHEREAS, The president of the synod stated that "we have now come to the point where we need to consider adding an additional position," and,*

*WHEREAS, "The Board of Trustees . . . has begun a planning process enlisting the aid of a consultant to help determine what our next step should be and what the duties and responsibilities of a new position would include and how it would relate to our present administrative organization,"*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the whole matter of an additional full-time administrator be referred to the Board of Trustees for further study and for report to the 1997 synod convention.*

### **Resolution No. 4: Certification Rules for Teachers of the ELS**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the Certification Rules for Teachers of the ELS as printed in the report of the Self-*

*Study Committee except that statement A.3: "has successfully completed a Bachelor's degree program in the Christian Education Curricula at Bethany Lutheran College or the Teacher Education Program at Dr. Martin Luther College (WELS)" be changed to read "has successfully completed the Christian Education Curricula at Bethany Lutheran College and a Bachelor's degree program in Education or the Teacher Education Program at Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota (WELS)."*

**Resolution No. 5: Board for Evangelism**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the resolution of the Self-Study Committee as printed.*

**Resolution No. 6: Board for Publication Guidelines**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the changes to the Guidelines of the Board for Publications as printed in the report of the Self-Study Committee.*

**Resolution No. 7: The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Historical Society**

*WHEREAS, The organization of an Evangelical Lutheran Synod Historical Society would "help create interest in our roots through research and the publishing of a bulletin," and,*

*WHEREAS, This society would work closely with the Committee on Archives and History to preserve and use the materials in the synod archives,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod establishes the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Historical Society, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod authorizes the Committee on Archives and History to appoint the first Board of Directors for the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Historical Society.*

**Resolution No. 8: The date of the 1997 Evangelical Lutheran Synod Convention**

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the Evangelical Lutheran Synod convenes on June 15-19, 1997 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 the Saturday & Sunday session, June 15-16, 1996, 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 17, 1996, 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 17, 1996, 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 18, 1996, 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 18, 1996, 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 19, 1996, 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 session, June 19, 1996, 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 read and approve the secretary's minutes for Thursday, June 20, 1996.*

**PASTORAL CONFERENCE RECORDS  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

**Resolution No. 1: Pastoral Conference Records**

*WHEREAS, Ten sets of conference minutes from around the synod were reviewed by the floor committee, and,*

*WHEREAS, The records show that the various conferences have been diligent in discussing doctrinal, exegetical, and practical papers, troublesome casuistry questions, and also circuit events,*

*A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod commends the various conferences for their ongoing activities, and,*

*B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the conferences to continue regular meetings, and,*

*C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourages the conference secretaries, whenever possible or feasible, to include the response or advice given in cases of casuistry or regarding questions of practice.*

# 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	3249 Windmill Point Blvd.	10:00	J. Madson	
Lakeland-Our Savior	6920 N. Socrum Loop Road	9:30	D. Raetz	
Lakeland-Peace	CR 540A	10:30		
Naples-Our Savior	10,000 Airport Road N.	8:00 & 10:30 (S 9:00)	R. Dale	
Port St. Lucie-Christ	1592 S.E. Floresta Dr.	8:00 & 10:00	C. Keeler	
Sebastian-Trinity	611 Schumann Dr.	10:00	D. Lillegard	
Sebring-New Life	3725 Hammock Rd.	8:30 & 10:45 (Summer 10:00)	R. Fyffe	
Vero Beach-Grace	1150 41st Ave.	10:00	K. Smith	
Winter Haven-Resurrection	357 Banyan Dr.	10:00	M. Thompson	
<b>GEORGIA</b>				
Cartersville-Lamb of God	80 Oakridge Dr.	10:00	J. Willitz	
Resurrection	909 Acworth Due West Road	*	D. Schroeder	

## CIRCUIT NO. 2

<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>				
Brewster-Trinity	1883 Main Street	9:30	D. Webber	
Burlington-Pinewood	24 Wilmington Rd.	10:45 (S 10:00)	T. Fox	

## CIRCUIT NO. 3

<b>INDIANA</b>				
Brownsburg-Good Shepherd	204 East Main	10:15	H. Bartels	
<b>MICHIGAN</b>				
Alpena-Faith	233 Cavanaugh	9:00	H. Gieschen	
Detroit-St. Matthew	4973 Cabot St.	10:30 (S 9:30)	L. Vinton	
E. Jordan-Faith	02145 Wilson Rd.	11:30	J. Londgren	
Hillman-Faith	24640 Veterans Memorial Hwy.	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	
Rogers City-Trinity	6134 US 23 North	10:00	T. Smuda	
Saginaw-Gloria Dei	5250 Mackinaw Rd.	8:00 & 10:45 (S 9:00)	J. K. Smith	
Suttons Bay-First	321 St. Mary's Ave.	10:00	K. Uhlenbrauck	

## OHIO

Bowling Green- Abiding Word	Bowling Green Women's Club	10:00	K. Mellon	
Deshler-Peace	5-039 Rd. G	9:30	D. Basel	
Weston-Grace	20425 Taylor St.	10:00 8:45	P. Lehmann	

## PENNSYLVANIA

Irwin-Zion	600 Pine St.	10:30	B. Leonatti	
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# **CIRCUIT NO. 4**

## **ILLINOIS**

Chicago-Emmaus	5440 W. Gladys	10:45	S. Schmidt
Chicago-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**

Lake Station-Grace	3930 Central Ave.	8:00	F. Lams
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## **WISCONSIN**

Cottage Grove-Western			
Koshkonong	2642 Church St.	10:00	M. Marozick
		(S 9:30)	
Madison-Grace	1 South Rosa Rd.	10:15	J. J. Petersen
		(S 9:30)	
Madison-Holy Cross	2670 Milwaukee St.	8:15 & 10:30	S. Petersen
		(S 8:15	M. Bartels
		& 10:00)	
Madison-Our Saviour's	1201 Droster Rd.	10:15 & 5:30	B. Homan
		(Sat. 8:00) (S 9:00 a.m.)	
Okauchee-Holy Trinity	35181 Wis. Ave.	7:45 & 10:15	G. Schmeling
		(S 7:45 & 9:30)	
Oregon-Faith	143 Washington St.	9:00 &	J. Korthals
		Sat. 6:00 p.m. (S 9:00 a.m. & Thurs. 7:00 p.m.)	
Portage-St. Paul's	6 miles N.W. on Hwy. 127	9:00	M. Doepele
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	M. Doepele

# **CIRCUIT NO. 5**

## **WISCONSIN**

Amherst Junction-Our Savior's	5 N.E.	9:30	
Bloomer-Good Shepherd	1504 Vine Street	10:30	R. Holtz
		(S 10:00)	
Clintonville-St. Paul	31 N. Park St.	10:30	Erik Gernander
		(S 10:00)	
Eau Claire-Ascension	1500 Peterson Ave.	9:00	J. Krueger
Eau Claire-Concordia	3715 London Road	8:00 & 10:30	F. Theiste
	(7:00 p.m. Monday)	(S 9:00)	
Eau Claire-Pinehurst	3304 Fern Ct.	9:00	J. Wuebben
		(Mon. 6:30 p.m.)	
Elderon-Our Savior's	Hwy 49 N.	9:00	T. Skaaland
Green Bay-Christ the King	P.O. Box 11473	9:30	L. Buelow
Iola-Redeemer	125 North St.	9:00	H. Vetter
Marinette-First Trinity	920 Wells St.	8:00	F. Stubenvoll
		& 10:00 (S 9:00)	
Omro-Messiah			W. Mack
Shawano-St. Martin	Rt. 5, Belle Plain Ave.	9:00	Erik Gernander
		(S 8:30)	

# CIRCUIT NO. 6

## IOWA

Ames-Bethany	3109 Diamond	11:00	R. Pederson
Calmar-Trinity	306 Clark St.	8:30 or 10:30 (S 8:00 or 10:00)	H. Abrahamson
Forest City-Forest	546 West M. St.	9:00	R. Newgard
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 2940 Stevens Trail	*	K. Dethlefsen
New Hampton-Jerico	9 N 3 E 2940 Stevens Trail	*	K. Dethlefsen
New Hampton-Redeemer	611 West Court	8:30 or 10:30 (S 8:00 or 10:00)	H. Abrahamson
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.	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	226 Monroe St., Thompson	9:00	R. Newgard
Thornton-Richland	300 Elm St.	10:30 (S 10:00)	Jerry Gernander
Waterloo-Pilgrim	3815 Ansborough	9:30	G. Haugen
Waterville-East Paint Creek	1751 Gronna Dr. 2N	10:00 (S 9:30)	P. Madson
Waukon-West Paint Creek	Elan Dr. 6E	10:00 (S 9:30)	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	Box 187, Highway 10	9:30	J. Moldstad, Sr.
Bagley-Our Savior's	5 miles W on Highway 2	9:00	M. Wold
Crookston-Grace	1221 Barette St.	10:30	E. Geistfeld
East Grand Forks-River Heights	2214 Tenth Ave. N.W.	10:15 (S 9:00)	M. Langlais
Fertile-First Evanger	Washington & Elm Sts.	8:30	E. Geistfeld
Grygla-St. Petri	3 W 1 N	*	D. Faugstad
Hawley-Our Savior's	6th & Joseph	9:00 or 11:00 (S 9:00 or 10:30)	
Lengby-St. Paul	Lengby	10:30	M. Wold
Oklee-Oak Park	8 miles north, 4 miles east	11:00 (S 10:00)	



Trail-Mount Olive	Trail	8:30	
Trail-Nazareth	9 mi. N 2 mi. E	*	D. Faugstad
Ulen-Calvary	207 First St. NW	9:00	
		or 11:00	
		(S 9:00 or 10:30)	

# **NORTH DAKOTA**

Mayville-First American	213 at 3rd Ave. NE	11:00	D. Nelson
		(S 10:00)	

## **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
	(Schedule changes every 4 months)	(S 8:30 10:00)	
Belview-Rock Dell	4 miles NE	8:30 or 11:00	M. Teigen
		(S 8:30 10:00)	
Clara City-Faith	18 North Main St.	8:00	J. Smith
		(S 10:30)	
Cold Spring-Gloria Dei	601 S. Red River Ave.	10:00	R. Flohr
		(S 9:00)	
Cottonwood-English	110 E. Main St.	10:00 (S 8:30)	J. Smith
Gaylord-Norwegian Grove	8 S of Gaylord Hwy 22	9:00	C. Ferkenstad
		or 10:30	
Golden Valley-King of Grace	6000 Duluth St.	8:15 & 10:45	E. Ekhoﬀ
		(S 8:15 & 10:00)	
Jasper-Rose Dell Trinity	Jasper	9:00	G. Lilienthal
		(S 8:30)	
Luverne-Bethany	720 North Kniss	10:30	G. Lilienthal
		(S 10:00)	
Mankato-Mt. Olive	1123 Marsh St.	8:30	D. Moldstad
		& 10:45	
		(S 8:30 & 10:00)	
Princeton-Bethany	801 So. 6th St.	8:15 & 10:45	R. Lawson
		(S 9:00)	
		(Wed. 7:00 p.m.)	
Princeton-Our Savior's	18977 17th St.	9:45 (S 9:00)	R. Fehr
St. Peter-Norseland	10 NW of St. Peter, Hwy. #22	9:00	C. Ferkenstad
		or 10:30	
Tracy-Zion	2nd and Emory Sts.	10:15	N. Madson
		(S 9:30)	

## **CIRCUIT NO. 9**

# **MISSOURI**

Cape Girardeau-Scriptural	3587 County Road 635	8:30	H. Larson
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

Fort Mojave-Family of God	1863 Pandero Rd.	9:00	C. Wosje
Lake Havasu City-Our Saviour	3163 Maricopa Ave.	8:30 & 11:00	H. Huhnerkoch
Scottsdale-Redeemer	7670 East Jomax Rd.		

### CALIFORNIA

Bell Gardens-Christ the King	6541 Eastern Avenue	9:00	D. Sabrowsky
Bishop-Our Savior	162 Sneden St.	9:30	Bruce Schwark
Cedar Ridge-Shepherd of the Hills	Hwy. 174	10:00	R. Waldschmidt
Escondido-St. Paul	1418 Bear Valley Parkway	10:00	T. Gullixson
Fillmore-Wayfarers' Lutheran	461 3rd St.	9:30	J. Schmidt
Irvine-Faith	13955 Yale Ave.	9:30	D. Sabrowsky
Windsor-Christ	125 Shiloh Road	10:30	

## CIRCUIT NO. 11

### OREGON

Grants Pass-Our Savior	230 Buysman Way	9:30	J. Ruppel
Gresham-Saved by Grace	2010 NE Division St.	9:30	N. Krause
Hillsboro-Grace	4435 S.E. Tualatin Valley Hwy.	10:00	
Hood River-Concordia	11th & Pine St.	9:00	K. Anderson
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	Box R, 161 W. Second St.	8:30	F. Fiedler III
The Dalles-Bethany	2323 East 12th St.	11:00	K. Anderson

### WASHINGTON

Mt. Vernon-St. Luke	1524 E. Blackburn Rd.	11:00 (S 9:30)	J. Dalke
Port Orchard-Bethany	151 Tremont W	8:15 & 11:00	E. Bryant
			A. Pittenger
Puyallup-Messiah	11415 Meridian Ave. E.	11:00 (S 9:00)	W. Larson
Tacoma-Lakewood	10202 112th St. S.W.	11:00 (S 10:00)	H. Mosley, Jr.
Tacoma-Parkland	12309 Pacific Ave.	8:30	G. Obenberger
		& 11:00	A. Ring
Yelm-Our Redeemer	805 Yelm Ave. E.	10:30 (S 9:00)	V. Settje
			Thurs. 7:00 p.m.)

\*Consult Pastor.

## PRESCHOOLS AND CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS

### **Bethany Lutheran Elementary School**

151 Tremont West  
Port Orchard, WA 98366-3737  
360-876-1300, Fax 360-876-5098  
(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

### **Concordia Preschool**

3715 London Road  
Eau Claire, WI 54703  
715-834-0921  
(Preschool Only)

### **Heritage Lutheran Preschool**

13401 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd.  
Apple Valley, MN 55124  
612-431-6225  
(Preschool Only)

### **Holton Lutheran School**

6655 Marvin Road  
Holton, MI 49425  
616-821-0032  
(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

### **Holy Cross Lutheran School**

2670 Milwaukee St.  
Madison, WI 53704  
608-249-0601  
(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

### **Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran School**

P.O. Box 44  
35181 Wisconsin Ave.  
Okauchee, WI 53069  
414-567-0669, Fax 414-567-0669  
(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

### **King of Grace Lutheran School**

6000 Duluth St.  
Golden Valley, MN 55422  
612-546-3131  
(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

### **Lakewood Lutheran School**

10202 112th Street SW  
Tacoma, WA 98498  
206-584-6024  
(Preschool through Third Grade)

### **Mt. Olive Lutheran School**

1123 Marsh St.  
Mankato, MN 56001  
507-345-7927  
(Kindergarten through Eighth Grade)

### **Our Redeemer Lutheran School**

805 Yelm Ave. E.  
Yelm, WA 98597  
206-458-7310  
(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

### **Our Savior's Lutheran School**

3163 Maricopa Dr.  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406  
602-855-8811  
(Preschool and Kindergarten)

### **Parkland Lutheran School**

12309 Pacific Avenue  
P.O. Box 44006  
Tacoma, WA 98444  
206-537-1901  
(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

### **Princeton Lutheran School**

801 S. 6th Street  
Princeton, MN 55371  
612-389-3070  
(First through Eighth Grade)

### **River Heights Lutheran School**

2214 10th Ave. NW  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721  
218-773-7101  
(Preschool and Kindergarten)

### **Saved By Grace Lutheran School**

2010 NE Division Street  
Gresham, OR 97030  
503-492-7796  
(Kindergarten through Eighth Grade)

### **Scarville Lutheran School**

Box 28  
Scarville, IA 50473  
515-568-3372  
(Kindergarten through Eighth Grade)

### **Trinity Lutheran School**

1268 Pleasant Valley Road  
West Bend, WI 53095  
414-675-6627  
(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

### **Western Koshkonong Lutheran School**

2632 Church Street  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527  
608-873-6011  
(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

## **FOREIGN MISSIONS**

### **CENTRO CHRISTIANO LUTHERANO EL PERU, SOUTH AMERICA**

#### **THE SEMINARY BUILDING**

Enrique Barron 964  
Santa Beatriz  
Lima 1, Peru, S.A.  
Tel: 011-51-14-33-126  
Fax 011-51-14-33-126  
e-mail: postmast@mselp.org.pe

#### **NATIONAL PASTORS**

Berrospid, Roberto  
Convercio, Fidel  
Gutierrez, Segundo  
Rosario, Abraham

#### **MISSIONARIES**

##### **ERICKSON, TIMOTHY**

Mar Peruano #256  
Neptuno, Surco  
Lima 33, Peru, S.A.

##### **HAEUSER, DAVID**

Los Ficus 287, Urb. Camacho  
Lima 12, Peru, S.A.  
Tel: 011-51-14-35-9111

#### **MAILING ADDRESS**

Name of Missionary  
Skyway USA  
2886 N.W. 79th Ave., Box 136  
Miami, Florida 33122

### **CHILE, SOUTH AMERICA**

#### **MISSIONARIES**

##### **RODRIGUEZ, OTHONIEL**

Vista Hermosa 240  
Correo Las Vertientes  
Santiago, Chile, S.A.  
Tel: 011-562-871-1285

##### **BARTELS, TIMOTHY**

191 O'Connel  
Las Condes  
Santiago, Chile, S.A.  
Tel: 011-562-211-6756

Church Property Phone:  
011-562-558-4101

#### **LAY WORKER**

#### **MAILING ADDRESS**

Name of Missionary  
Exp #1141  
P.O. Box 025285  
Miami, Florida 33102-5285

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## **THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION**

"The EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION is established for the purpose of soliciting gifts, other than for current operating funds, for the Synod, its agencies, and as requested, for its congregations and for the theological seminary, college, and other institutions related to the Synod. The FOUNDATION is to encourage the making of wills, gift annuity agreements, trust agreements, insurance contracts, etc., under which the Synod or any of its parts or agencies may become an actual or contingent beneficiary."—(Adopted by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, 1969.)

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---

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Foreign Missions

Informe Estadístico 1995			Sínodo Evangélico Luterano del Perú																			
No.	Congregación	Pastor	Miembros Bautizados	Miembros Confirmados	Miembros Votantes	Bautismos de Niños	Adultos	Confirmaciones de Niños	Adultos	Comulgados	Matrimonio	Sepulturas	Cultos Especiales	Promedio Asistencia	Cultos Regulares	Promedio Escuela	Escuela Domingal	Estudio Biblico	No. de Profesores	Esc. Biblio Vacacional	Colegio Secundario	Patrimonio
	Cono Sur de Lima																					
1	Mariano Melgar	G. Asto (a)	22	11	3					15						12	6					
2	San Gabriel Norte	A. Robles (v)	29	10	3			2		189						48	14					
3	San Gabriel Sur	G. Asto (a)	27	18	9	1		1		316						48	18	12	9	4	34	\$5,000.00
4	Villa Solidaridad	A. Robles (v)	15	5	2					63						48	12					
5	Villa Maria del Triunfo	A. Robles (v)								12						26	8					
	Otros		11	5												20	7	10				
	Cono Norte de Lima																					
6	Año Nuevo	A. Rosario (p)	58	38	2		2	4	3	234	1	1	2	56	48	20	20	10	2	40	10	\$25,000.00
7	Tahuantinsuyo	A. Rosario (p)	24	14	3	3			3	5	65			1	26	46	13	15	5	2	28	12
	Otros		6	6										1	8			5				
	Callao																					
8	Reynoso	R. Berrospid (p)	78	52	3	2				1	1,261	1		1		63	42	25	12	2	44	\$15,000.00
	Otros		27	17																		
	Lima																					
9	Sta. Beatriz	Misioneros	22	17	4	2				661	1		3	163	48	21		20			6	\$60,000.00
10	Santa Anita	Misioneros	9	5	2	1			3	60					45	9		6				
	Otros		25	11	2							1										
	Panamericana Norte																					
11	Ancón	B. Capulán (v)	20	13	3	1				68		1			48	15						\$1,600.00
12	Puente Piedra	A. Rosario (p)	24	12	3				2	96		1	1	35	46	14	13	3	1	32	6	\$8,000.00
13	Zapallal	J. Estrada (l)	5	3													30			1	35	
14	Angamos, Ventanilla	R. Berrospid (p)	2	2													13		1	13		\$100.00
	Otros																					
	Provincias de Lima																					
15	Barranca	O. Rivas (l)	14	7	3																	
16	Huacho	O. Fernandez (v)	14	6	2	2		1	1	60												
17	Callete	A. Robles (v)	19	9	1					83						25	20		10			
18	Chuncay-Huasi	O. Fernandez (v)	6				6									20	10	10				
	Otros																					
	Bolognesi de Ancash																					
19	Chiquiní	F. Convecio (p)	21	12		2		1	1	68			2	10	52	13	12	27	1			\$3,000.00
20	Llmac	F. Convecio (p)	47	39	10					70					52	23						\$2,500.00
21	Pacllón	F. Convecio (p)	102	64	19	6				7	374	2	2	38	52	27		40	4			\$4,000.00
22	Pocpa	F. Convecio (p)	10	5		5				3					24	24						
	Otros		32	8	1																	
	Ancash																					
23	Chimbote	S. Gutierrez (p)	46	22	7			2		425					52	32	25	24	2			\$9,500.00
24	Huarez	F. Convecio (p)	7	2	1	1									22	4	3	14				
25	Vista Alegre, Coris	F. Lozano (l)	23	15						70					33	14		29	2			\$1,100.00
26	Marque, Coris	F. Lozano (l)	17	6						28					30	17		21				
	Otros															17	20					
	Otros Departamentos del Perú																					
24	Cajamarca	S. Gutierrez (p)	15	11					1	70						24	24		24			
	Otros																					
Total de Centro Cristiano			778	446	83	32	2	15	26	4,288	3	6	13	64	949	427	188	259	22	226	34	\$134,800.00
(a) = alumno (student) (v) = vicar (p) = pastor (l) = laico (layman)																						

National Pastors  
Robert Berrospid  
Fidel Convecio  
Segundo Gutierrez  
Abraham Rosario

Location		Congregation		Pastor		Members		Baptized		Confirmed					Services			Day Schools		Sunday Schools		Other Schools Enrollment		Students								
						Baptized	Con-firmed	Visitors	Children	Adults	Children				Adults	Communed	Marriages	Burials	Special	Average Attendance	Sunday	Average Attendance	Enrollment	Teachers	Enrollment	Bible Class	Teachers	Vocational Bible School	Released Time	Summer Camp	Synodical Institutions	Public HS, College
Chile	Santiago	Lalgleña Cristiana De La Reforma Luterana	Timothy Bartels James Olsen	42	30		19		9		617	3		7	16	52	30		8													
Czech Republic	Pízen	Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Czechoslovakia	James Krikava Matthew Luttman Steven Sparley	94	46	20	12	6	3	11	1,175			6	98	52	71	117	15			68										
Peru	Santa Beatriz, Lima	Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Peru	Timothy Erickson David Haesser	778	446	83	32	2	15	26	4,288	3	6	13	64	949	427	63	5	188	259	22	226			34						

Number	State	Location	Circuit	Congregation	Membership	Pastor	Members			Baptized	Confirmed	Communed	Marriages	Burials	Services			Day Schools		Sunday Schools		Other Schools Enrollment		Students	Contributions			Value of Property	Debt on Property	Legacies				
							Baptized	Con-firmed	Voters						Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Special	Average Attendance	Sunday	Average Attendance	Enroll-ment		Teachers	Enroll-ment	Bible Class				Teachers	Vacation Bible School	Released Time	Summer Camp
1	Ariz.	Fort Mojave	10	Family of God Luth.	1	C. Wojas	83	47	13	2		258			5	28	53	32		26	10	7	18				25,750	851	134,000	112,800				
2	Ariz.	Lake Havasu City	10	Our Saviour	1	H. Hühnerkoch	226	193	62	8	1	1,659	1	1	11	83	83	148	15	2	30	34	6	58				92,632	12,288	519,659	60,359			
3	Ariz.	Scottsdale	11	Vacant	1	D. Sabrowsky	32	20	7						16	12	52	22	5															
4	Calif.	Ball Gardens	10	Christ the King	1	B. Schwark	31	28	8			172			1	11	51	16			2	6	1					33,124	145,000	200,000				
5	Calif.	Chico	10	Chico	1	R. Waldschmidt	6	4																										
6	Calif.	Eacondido	10	St. Paul	1	T. Gullixson	160	96	37	4	1	1			3	10	35	47	61		12	6	3	13				40,878	6,666	250,000		200		
7	Calif.	Cedar Ridge	10	Shepherd of the Hills	1	R. Waldschmidt	28	18	5	1	1	201			1	12	12	52	26									16,940	2,697					
8	Calif.	Fillmore	10	Wayfarers' Chapel	1	J. Schmidt	40	36	10			358			1	2	24	52	33		6	16	3					43,121	100	180,000				
9	Calif.	Irvine	10	Faith	1	D. Sabrowsky	105	95	24	2	2	634			1	12	32	52	70		11	30	4					54,000	5,400	500,000	210,000			
10	Calif.	Windsor	10	Christ	1	Vacant	52	42	5		2	342	1	1	10	14	52	31		10		3						69,680	8,576	450,000	300,000			
11	Fla.	Kissimmee	1	Peace	1	J. N. Madison	95	85	29	4	3	1,379	2		12	52	52	79		9	18	2	4	2	6			69,680	8,576	450,000	300,000			
12	Fla.	Lakeland	1	Our Savior	1	David Raetz	162	137	25	4	1	1,075	1	1	14	67	53	100		6	30	3	13	3				74,298	5,970	285,000	81,000			
13	Fla.	Naples	1	Our Savior	1	R. Dale	198	157	24	4	2	1,664	5	7	16	57	73	102		13	25	6						144,746	13,753	117,762	175,000			
14	Fla.	Port St. Lucie	1	Christ	1	C. Keeler	202	157	20	6	5	1,540	2	2	13	50	52	117		16	35	4	20					88,225	6,489	300,000		175,000		
15	Fla.	Sebastian	1	Trinity	1	D. Lillegard	116	98	21	1	1	1,443			2	11	56	53	76		18	30	5	19				65,579	4,915	180,000	5,000			
16	Fla.	Selbring	1	New Life	1	R. Pyffe	75	66	24			1,265			2	14	49	68		6	25	2	5					62,370	2,882	350,000	212,102			
17	Fla.	South Lakeland	1	Peace	1	Vacant	46	36	15		1				10	16	52	34		10	8	2						29,196	2,919					
18	Fla.	Vero Beach	1	Grace	1	K. Smith	295	252	35	4	2	2,836	2	5	11	100	52	160		39	62	7	55	21	8			114,022	55,898	1,500,000	2,000			
19	Fla.	Winter Haven	1	Resurrection	1	M. Thompson	74	60	23	4	1	1,040			11	30	53	53		8	30	2						64,246	3,685					
20	Ga.	Cartersville	1	Lamb of God	2	J. Willis	24	13	7	1		48			3	21	6	23		14	7	4						1,873	137					
21	Ga.	Kennesaw	1	Resurrection	1	D. Schroeder	48	29	12	4	1				11	31	29	29		14	7	4						5	17,660		150,000	30,000		
22	Ga.	Kennesaw	1	Resurrection	1	D. Schroeder	48	29	12	4	1				11	31	29	29		14	7	4						5	17,660		150,000	30,000		
23	Ill.	Chicago	3	Emmanuel	1	S. Schmidt	102	63	12	1		293			14	10	52	34		3	7	2	21	1										
24	Ill.	Chicago	4	St. Mark's	1	H. Behrens	27	27	7			217			1	2	17	52	19									11,966	1,630					
25	Ill.	Litchfield	4	Faith	1	W. Frick	116	82	20	1	3	1,001			1	15	44	52	69		36	22	8	31				16,468	5,282	49,000		15,000		
26	Ind.	Lombard	4	St. Timothy	1	P. Zager	176	123	19	4	2	1,175	1	1	2	16	38	66	58		26	12	10	26				103,949	19,930	869,000	151,153	131,264		
27	Ind.	Lake Station	4	St. Paul	1	H. Lams	78	47	7	1	1	1,487	1	2	13	63	53	86		27	22	7	75	22				89,618	4,129					
28	Ind.	Brownswag	3	Good Shepherd	1	R. Bartels	62	62	15	1		1,325			14	42	53	64		32	24	7	18					61,189	7,620					
29	Iowa	Ames	6	Bethany	1	R. Pederson	46	38	10		1	395			10	16	53	22		6	8							24,590	620	190,000	68,797			
30	Iowa	Calmar	6	Trinity	1	H. Abrahamson	65	52	13	3		240			1	9	19	53	26		1	4	1					3	23,745	1,961				
31	Iowa	Forest City	6	Forest	1	R. Newgard	69	63	15	1	2				1	7	38	52	40		10	2						8	17,975	239	35,000		27,500	
32	Iowa	Lake Mills	6	Lake Mills	1	A. Merseth	80	63	18			386			1	11	41	50	28		13	3	17					13,763	1,500	65,000				
33	Iowa	Lake Mills	6	Lake Mills	1	A. Merseth	80	63	18			386			1	11	41	50	28		13	3	17					13,763	1,500	65,000				
34	Iowa	Lawler	6	Saude	1	K. Dethlefsen	140	112	60	4		800			3	7	30	52	80		23	10	6					7	9,231	2,731				
35	Iowa	New Hampton	6	Jerico	1	K. Dethlefsen	149	130	65			775			2	7	60	52	62		8	12	3	36	3	2			10	34,163	16,000	226,800		
36	Iowa	New Hampton	6	Redeemer	1	H. Abrahamson	135	112	42		1	379			1	9	37	53	41		12	4	8					4	28,787	1,773	282,900			
37	Iowa	Northwood	6	First Shell Rock	1	A. Merseth	93	81	20	1		378			5	11	32	51	26		12	4	6	13	3			4	16,135	5,862	110,000			
38	Iowa	Northwood	6	Somber	1	A. Merseth	34	27	10	1	1	194			3	3	24	43	24									6,507	2,004	75,000				
39	Iowa	Parkersburg	6	Immanuel	1	D. Larson	126	106	31	1	2	622	1		9	19	47	70		18	16	4	20					9	42,000	9				
40	Iowa	Parkersburg	6	Immanuel	1	A. Merseth	22	22	8						8	11	50	15										3	8,834	904	30,000			
41	Iowa	Scarsville	6	Center	1	T. Rank	89	70	27	1		469	1	2	4	68	51	26		8	16	3	1					23,652	2,275					
42	Iowa	Scarsville	6	Scarsville	1	T. Rank	109	75	29	4	1	882	1	1	9	70	50	64		20	2	18	22	5	17			7	8	50,800	8,027			
43	Iowa	Thompson	6	Zion	1	R. Newgard	60	56	12	2	1	360			10	25	52	27											20,000	1,167			30,000	
44	Iowa	Thornburg	6	Immanuel	1	J. Gensender	96	80	24			465	1	3	10	60	51	60			3	10	2											
45	Iowa	Waterloo	6	Immanuel	1	G. Haugen	102	77	29	2		455	1	1	11	33	33	69										14	38,955	2,300	300,000			
46	Iowa	Waterville	6	East Point Creek	1	P. Madison	55	47	22	1		520			2	8	24	52	35		7	6	2	7				3	21,530	6,270	125,000			
47	Iowa	Watson	2	West Palm Creek	1	P. Madison	20	20	12	1	1	203			1	8	24	52	35										12,315	1,850	105,000			
48	Mass.	Brewster	2	Trinity	1	D. Webber	80	67	21	3	1	1			1	2	15	28	55		11	34	6					5	55,421	2,403				
49	Mass.	Burlington	2	Pinewood	1	T. Fox	129	93	34	3	2	905	2		12	49	51	78		21	35	4	42					5	77,354	7,100	925,000		6,900	
50	Mich.	Alpena	1	Faith	1	H. Gieschen	33	23	6		2				1	11	10	52	20		9	5	4	10				2	12,000	311	31,000			
51	Mich.	Detroit	3	St. Matthew	1	L. Vinton	141	129	20	1	2	3			2	21	51	54	75		20	29	3	45										
52	Mich.	East Jordan	3	Faith	1	J. Longren	27	27	3																									
53	Mich.	Hillman	3	Faith	1	H. Gieschen	65	45	6	3	1	4			1	12	10	52	30		12	4	4	19	4			5	23,000	400	115,000			
54	Mich.	Holland	3	Lord of Life	1	M. Smith	34	34	8	4		1			1	4	41	53	44		18	14	5					2	18,964	2,802				
55	Mich.	Holton	3	Holton	1	M. Krentz	247	297	41	13	4	5	1,521	2	1	15	86	53	145	24	2	79	14	7	49	3	31		81,135	3,822	582,000	171,000		
56	Mich.	Midland	3	Holy Scripture	1	P. Schneider	290	209	37	5	3	2	1,843	4	3	17	90	54	124	1	51	71	4	38				1	93,264					



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