

JEN-977
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PACKET 5

THOMSEN, FREDERICK WILLIAM
1906-1990

309 F. Wm. Thomsen

Individual Questionnaire for

Biographical Record of Ministers

of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (in America) and its parent synods:
The United Danish Ev. Luth. Church, The Danish Ev. Luth. Church Association
in America and The Danish Ev. Luth. Church in North America.

(Compiled for the Synodical Historical Archives)

Personal Data: (Please give all information you can)

Full name: ... Frederick William Thomsen

Parents: T.M. Thomsen and wife, Kristine nee Sorensen, Denver, Colo. (once at Audubon)

Born when: June 29, 1906 where: ... Hjoerring, Denmark

Baptized when and where: ... baptized as infant at local Lutheran church

Confirmed when and where: ... Our Savior's Ch. Audubon, Iowa ... by whom: Fred C.M. Hansen

If immigrant, date of arrival in America: ... 1912 ... located where: Racine, Wis.

Date of ordination: Feb. 18, 1945 where: ... Blair, Nebr. ... by whom: N.C. Carlsen

If not in above synods, when and where accepted as member pastor of our synod:

Retired from active ministry when: ... why:

Located where: ... occupation:

If dead, what date: ... where: ... cause:

Buried where ... date

Marriage: (1) to whom ... date and place:

Wife's birthdate and place:

Her parents: ... location:

If wife is dead, give date

(2) Second wife (if any; give same information about her)

309 F. Wm. Thomsen

The Universal Language of Art

Photos and Story by James Denney

Below—The Rev. F. W. Thomsen and Sister Leonarda watch as workmen finish assembling the Good Shepherd.



Lutheran pastor works with nuns inside Mount Marty College gymnasium.

Yankton, S. D.

WHEN architect Warren Dixon of Mitchell, S. D., discussed with Sacred Heart Hospital officials their plans for a new addition, he urged that "something beautiful should be on the outside."

Recalling the conversation recently, Sister Leonarda Longen, O.S.B., stated that Mr. Dixon specifically asked for a mosaic and "suggested that I direct the work."

Sister Leonarda is art instructor in Mount Marty College for Women, a sister institution to the hospital-college complex which is stationed on a high bluff overlooking the Missouri River and Nebraska's rolling countryside to the south.

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The hospital and college are operated by the Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict.

"While I was complimented by Mr. Dixon's confidence in my ability," said the Sister, "I felt we needed another guiding hand."

Sister Leonarda and other sisters began at once to search for an artist by visiting churches and colleges where mosaics had been done to decorate buildings.

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IN THEIR search, the sisters were directed to see a large mosaic on the science building at Dana College in Blair. They were impressed.

"No one was around," said Sister Leonarda, "so when we returned to Yankton, we wrote the college president and asked for the name of the artist."

Thus the sisters became acquainted with the Rev. F. W. (Bill) Thomsen, who has been with the Dana art department for more than 20 years and until recently served as dean of men.

And thus was created an informal example of ecumenism, with an ordained minister of the American Lutheran Church working side-by-side with nuns of the Roman Catholic Church to a common goal.

Pastor Thomsen about nine years ago became interested in mosaics and concentrated his talent in this direction. He has assembled mosaics for churches and other buildings in Nebraska, Iowa and Wisconsin.

"The Sacred Heart project was the most challenging," he said. "I accepted the contract because I enjoy a challenge."

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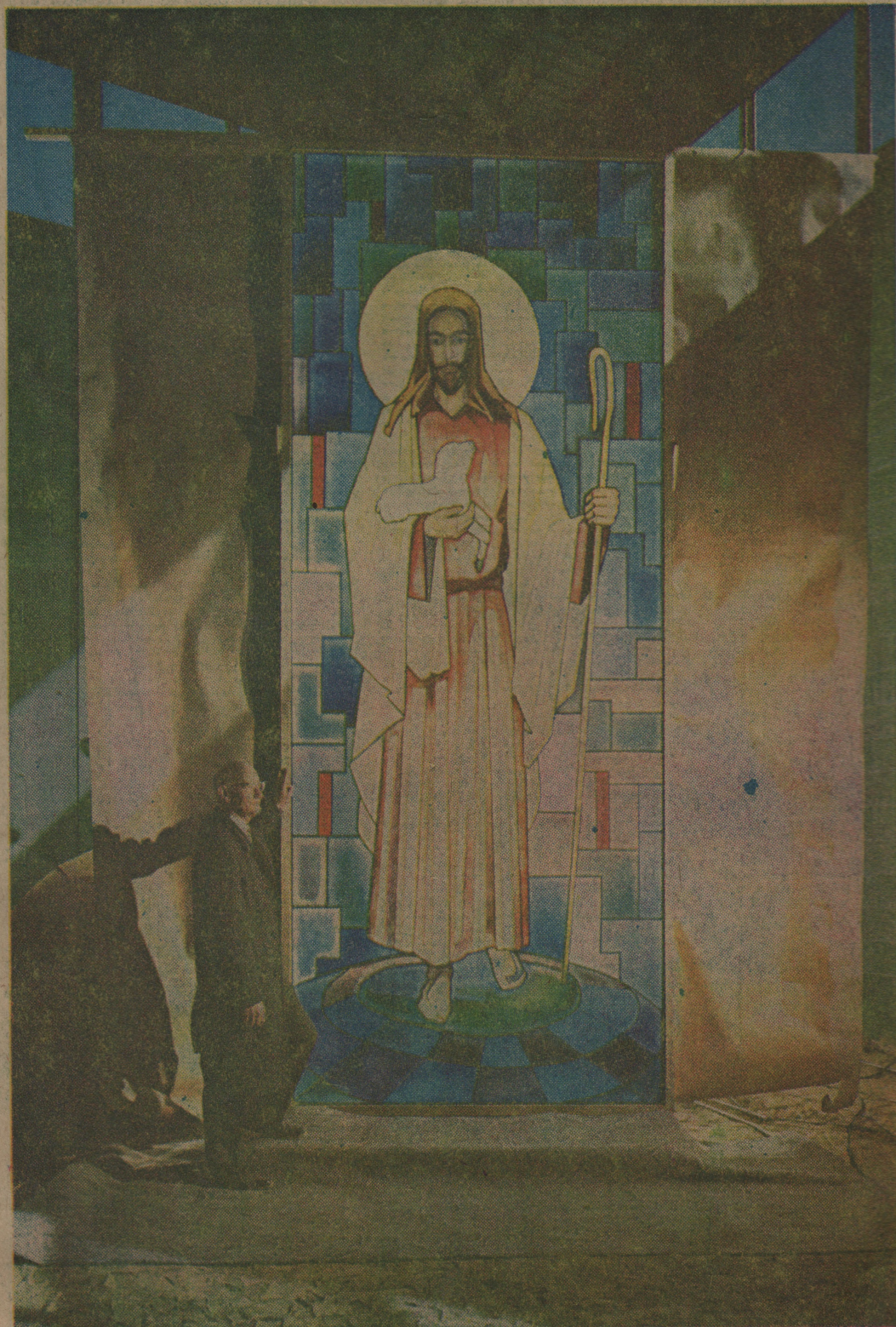
IT WAS agreed that the Good Shepherd would be the best image to portray. He would stand holding a wounded lamb. In addition to the symbolism, the letters of Sacred Heart Hospital also were to be made of the tiny pieces of bright colors.

The Rev. Mr. Thomsen spent more than a

Omaha World-Herald

Published every weekday at World-Herald Square, Omaha, Neb., 68102.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1967—36 PAGES.



Good Shepherd window . . . towers above its creator, Dr. Thomsen.

Apollo C Wait fo

Late Bulletins—

Cartel Pro

Washington (UPI) — The Justice Department announced this afternoon that it has filed a trust investigation into the operation of a cartel which allegedly schemed to control the vital new heart drug. It is claimed that firms from England, West Germany, the Netherlands, manipulated the production and manufacture of quinine and quinidine.

Blast Rips N.Y. Pier

New York (UPI)—An explosion on an island pier this afternoon, destroyed a Norwegian freighter Fernfield and damaged the pier. The cause was not known.

Markets in Brief

Chicago—Wheat futures advanced on fair demand while corn futures were steady.

Omaha—Better light demand for wheat much as 25c higher under current weights turned lower under new weights. Fat cattle were steady. Corn steady to 1c advance.

Judge Leahy Steps Do

Wants to Prosecute
Will Join Knowlton

By James Iv

A brief but colorful municipal court career in the Municipal Judge

Leahy submitted his resignation Thursday. County Attorney Donald Knowlton said Leahy, 37, will join his new post May 1.

"I want to get into the field of criminal justice."

Dana Artist Molds Colorful Pattern—

New Skills Emblazon Church Panes

122 resin and fiber glass win-
dows which will be installed
at St. John's Lutheran Church
in Beatrice, Neb.

These are small compared
with the Good Shepherd win-
dow made for Terra Heights
Baptist Church of Topeka.

It is large enough to
nearly fill the end wall of the
A-frame building.

The figure of the Good
Shepherd holding a lamb cov-
ers most of the 16-foot-high
center section. The 32-foot-8-
inch window is completed

Dr. Thomsen, a graduate of
the Cleveland, O., Institute of
Art, has been at Dana 26
years. He was commissioned
to design the Good Shepherd
window by its manufacturer,
Tuf-Glas Building Products,
Inc., of Blair.

True stained-glass windows
are just that — hunks of

Turn to Page 2, Column 6

of his spare time forming the
skills.

Dr. Thomsen spends some
on new products and new
stained glass of old, but call
downs he designs resemble the
at Dana College here. Win-
head of the Art Department.

He is Dr. F. W. Thomsen,
soon grace a church.

to create windows which will
appropriate time for an artist

The days of Lent seem an
Blair, Neb.

World-Herald Staff Writer

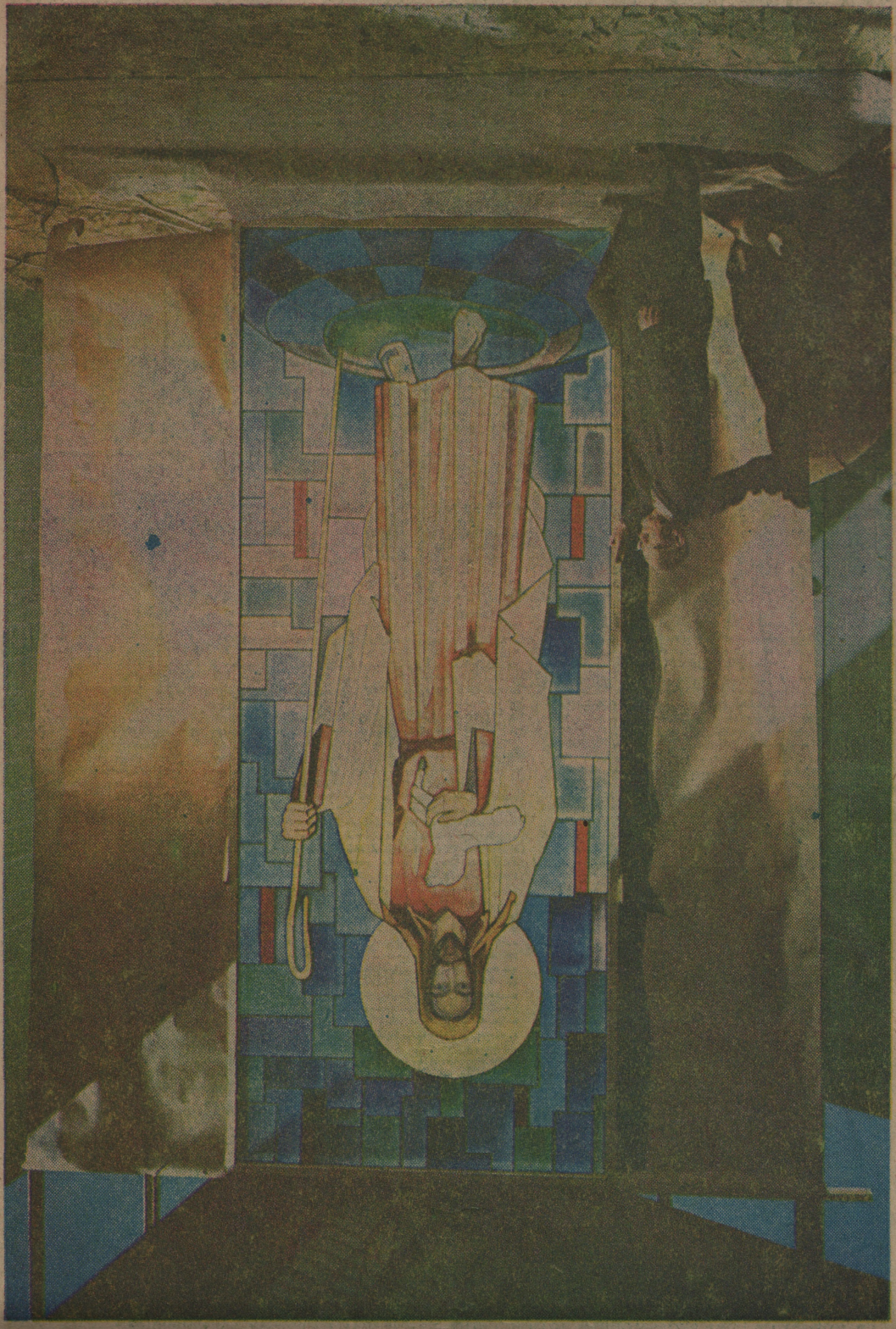
By Gerald Wade

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—World-Herald Colorphoto by Earle Bunker and Ed Rath.



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Artist, New Products Give Church Panes Color Pattern

Continued from Page 1

stained glass held together by lead and braced by rods. They are elaborate jig-saw puzzles.

The demand by churches for colorful windows has not slackened but there is a lack of craftsmen capable of creating them, said Francis J. Smith, former Omahan who is president of Tuf-Glas.

Color is poured in a mold which is sandwiched between two panels of resin reinforced by fiber glass. The panels are kept separate in a wood frame.

The same technique is used to make decorative doors, wall panels and dividers for homes and offices. Nearly anything can be placed between the panels. One doctor in Blair has a set with sea shells and star fish.

Mr. Smith believes the church windows have impact because there is no lead to distort the picture. The process, he said, "adds a three-dimensional effect making the figures more life-like."

There are two other factors Mr. Smith likes to talk about—the double panel insulates and the windows should be able to withstand winds of one hundred miles an hour.

The panel material is mixed in a liquid state and allowed to cure under heat and pressure. Color is molded in. It is mixed into nearly any shade from basic red, yellow and blue pigments.

Color can be translucent or opaque, depending on the

shading needed and the amount of light transmission wanted.

The panels or windows can be as thin as five-eighths of an inch or as thick as wished. The Good Shepherd window is 1 1/4 inches with 1 3/4-inches mahogany framing around the three sections.

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