

# Lutheran Tidings

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Vol. XX

September 5, 1953

No. 3

## Everyday Life

Here below was man created  
Not up yonder in the skies;  
On this earth as God has made it,  
Here is where we fall or rise.  
Not in dreamy exaltation,  
But along some dusty trail,  
Will our highest aspiration  
Meet the test, succeed, or fail.

Build yourself a house to live in,  
Not a castle in the air.  
Live the life that God has given  
Man to live, to shape and share.  
Not like slaves or sluggish cattle  
But awake, alert and free.  
Aiming high, be brave in battle,  
Sing a song of victory!

H. V. Kaalund.

By S. D. Rodholm.

## Man Doesn't Live by Bread Alone

Man does not live by bread alone, but by beauty and harmony, truth and goodness, work and recreation, affection and friendship, aspiration and worship.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the splendor of the starry firmament at midnight, the glory of the heavens at dawn, the glorious blending of colors at sunset, the luxuriant loveliness of magnolia trees, the sheer magnificence of mountains.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the majesty of ocean breakers, the shimmer of moonlight on a calm lake, the flashing silver of a mountain torrent, the exquisite patterns of snow crystals, the exalted creations of master artists.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the sweet song of a mocking bird, the rustle of the wind in the trees, the magic of the maestro's violin, the grandeur of Handel's Messiah, the sublimity of a softly-lighted cathedral.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the fragrance of roses, the scent of orange blossoms, the smell of new mown hay, the clasp of a friend's hand, the tenderness of a mother's kiss.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the lyrics and sonnets of poets, the mature wisdom of sages, the holiness of saints, the biographies of great souls, the life-giving word of the Holy Scripture.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by comradeship and high adventure, seeking and finding, creating and cooperating, serving and sharing, loving and being loved.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by being faithful in prayer, responding to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, taking up the cross and following the living Christ finding and doing the loving will of God now and eternally.

—Mitch Sutherland.

From the "Church Messenger," Seattle.

# Newness of Life

(Eph. 1:2-14)

## "Newness of Life Begins With Unity in Christ"

(Editor's note: This message was delivered at the Annual Convention as one of a series of morning devotionals on the general theme of "Newness of Life." It is by Pastor Edwin Hansen, Muskegon, Michigan.)

During these morning devotional periods you are invited to hear a series of meditations dealing with the general topic: "Newness of Life," based upon passages from the epistle to the Ephesians. To me has been assigned the first of these, intended to show that newness of life must begin with unity in Christ.

What is meant by the expression, "Newness Of Life?" Perhaps we should clarify first what it is not. Serious reflection upon the subject in the light of scripture will reveal that it has little to do with outward circumstances, with race, color, education, occupation, age, rank or economic status. None of these can stand in the way of or hinder anyone from becoming a new man in Christ. Suppose an uncivilized Hottentot from Africa were transplanted into a civilized society, clothed in civilian attire, placed in a costly palace, surrounded with books, music, paintings and flowers, would these conditions make a new man of him? Certainly not. He would still remain a savage.

If some renegade of society who has misused his liberty, is separated from his evil companions and the temptations to which he yields, and is placed in a Christian society and constrained to take instruction in religion, would that make a new man of him? No! "Man's true life lies in the bent of his thoughts, the effections of his heart and the bias of his will." When these are directed toward evil, the old nature in man is supreme.

The obstacles which hinder the newness of life, the life in God, must be sought within and not without. They are to be found in the heart, the mind and the will, which resist authority, reject truth and ignore the love of God.

If then there is to be improvement in any human life, it must be in what is new—in a new condition, new impulses, new principles of the soul, in new associations and new help. Christianity comes to man with gifts of heavenly newness making possible a new life in Christ.

As one commentator suggests, Christianity establishes man in a "new covenant," gives him a "new commandment" by which to govern his life activities, makes him a "new creation," and transforms him into a "new man." It opens to him a "new way" to the Father by the Mediator of a "new testament," gives him a "new name" and teaches him a "new song." It inspires him with the hope of a "new heaven and a new earth," enables him to serve in "newness of spirit" and to walk in "newness of life."

From all this it will be evident that the new life of which we speak is of a spiritual quality and nature, having little to do with the body or external circumstances.

This new life is a life in unity with Jesus Christ. With profound gratitude St. Paul recognizes this and raises his voice in exaltation: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us in Christ** with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places." Let me lift out a few sentences and phrases from our text to show how St. Paul ties up the blessings of the new life with Jesus Christ. "**He chose us in Him** before the foundation of the world." "**He destined us in love** to be **His sons through Jesus Christ**," through whom the grace of God is given. "**In Him we have redemption** through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses." The plan and purpose of **God's will are set forth in Christ**, that all things both in heaven and on earth may be **unified in Him**. We are destined and appointed to live for the praise of His glory. **In Him we have heard** the word of truth, the gospel of salvation, **have believed**, and marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit.

In the epistle to the Romans St. Paul makes it clear that the new life has something to do with baptism, and that it is in baptism we have our unity with Christ. "We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." Rom. 6:4.

It may seem senseless to us that "new life," the life of the spirit, should be associated with a person. The person unacquainted with the gospel will to a great extent find it unintelligible. But Christ refers to this idea Himself when He says: "Abide in Me and I in you." John 15. St. Paul says: "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation." 2 Cor. 5:17

Christ is the very foundation of the new and higher life. Without Him, it would be utterly impossible. He is the Vine into which the Christian, in baptism, is grafted, and from which he draws his vitality, his vigor and fruitfulness. Christ is the Head of the body called the Church, of which the individual Christian is an active and obedient member.

How shall we manifest this new life? By being alive to God, alert, aware, responsive to Him. The renewed man will cultivate a personal knowledge of Christ and His way of salvation, of what Christ has done and suffered for him. He will recognize Christ's claim upon his gratitude, his faith, his love. He will accept life as a gift of God in Christ. He will consciously maintain a living fellowship with Christ, endeavor to grow in the manifestation of the new life that he may give positive evidence that he is spiritually alive.

A Lutheran Pastor of another synod tell of two families in his parish with whom he was well acquainted. One of these, a husband, wife and three children, lived in a home that radiated warmth, light and cheer at all times. It was a home of hospitality, kindness and friendliness. Pass it of an evening, and you might be greeted with music from within, or you might note people entering or leaving. Pass it during the day, and you might note the children



## Seventy-Five Years Old

Bethany Lutheran Church of Ludington, Michigan, this year celebrates its seventy-fifth year of service to God and community. The town in those early days was called Pere Marquette, and lies on the beautiful east shore of Lake Michigan about sixty miles north of Muskegon and a half-hour's drive south of Manistee. The pastor is John Christensen, who also serves Trinity Church of the township Victory.

In June this year the Jubilee festival was held, on the twenty-first day of the month, with former pastor Hans Juhl present to take part and to preach at the morning service. The all-day celebration consisted of morning worship, a congregational dinner and an afternoon pageant and an address by Pastor James Lund, of Manistee, entitled "How Big is a Church." The oldest member of the congregation, Mr. Ferdinand Christoffersen, also spoke, and the combined junior

playing in the yard, working in the garden or at some other task. The home is well kept both within and without, all members of the family helping to keep it so. The father is a member of the church council and the superintendent of the Sunday school at his church. He is also a member of the school board and a director of the board of associated charities in his community, an active lay worker in many activities.

The mother is a teacher in the Sunday school, the president of the Women's Missionary Society in the church, and a director of the public library board of the community. The children are all active in church and school and a credit to both as well as to the community.

Across the street is another home not unlike the first in outward appearance; but it does not glow with warmth and light in the evening. Visitors are rarely seen to enter or depart. The garden is in disorder. The house is badly in need of paint. Within, everything gives evidence of confusion and disorder. The mother always apologizes for dust and untidiness. From time to time the family has been approached about church membership, but the invitation is always declined. It is seldom, indeed, that anyone from the family attends church. Nor is the family interested in supporting any movement for the social welfare of the community. The adults have not voted in any election in years. The wife seldom leaves the home; the children are shy and backward, seemingly under constraint.

One of these homes is alive, the other dead. To be alive means to be aware, alert, responsive, participating in the life about you. Being dead means to be inert, dull, unresponsive, aloof, disintegrating.

Do you want to have the new life in Christ, to be truly alive to God, to be fruitful in goodness and grace? It may be yours through baptism, faith, fellowship and service for the living Christ. Planted in us in baptism, it is nourished by the Word of God, acted upon and guided by the working of the Holy Spirit.

and senior choirs contributed lovely music. In the evening the Sunday school and young people entertained with poems and skits and Mrs. Hans Juhl spoke of the early days when she and her husband occupied the Madison Street parsonage, from 1908 to 1915. Decorations inside and out added to the festivity for the several hundreds of guests who were present during the day; the guests came from far and wide.

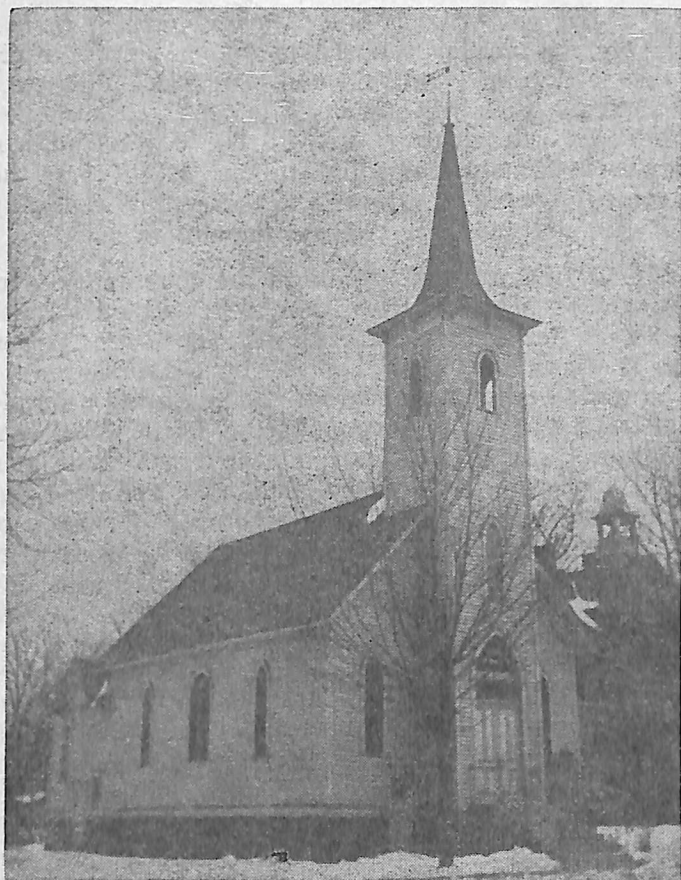
In 1877 Danish immigrants in the community worshiped together with Swedish and Norwegian peoples in a Scandinavian church. But difficulties arose when the Danes wished to be served by a Danish pastor who was to come from nearby. One amusing example illustrates the trying circumstances. Pastor H. Rosenstand, minister in Manistee, journeyed to Ludington to hold services in the Scandinavian Church. He was to contact one of the Danes who was a trustee of the church. When he arrived, a group of worshipers had gathered but the church was in darkness and the group was waiting outside. The trustee declared he could not open the doors until the arrival of the Norwegian and Swedish trustees. Finally a messenger was dispatched to bring them. One of them, the Swede, thrust a lantern into Pastor Rosenstand's face and demanded, "Is he a Lutheran?" Rosenstand answered yes. "Can he prove it?" came the mistrustful answer. Fortunately, Pastor Rosenstand carried with him a document issued by a Danish bishop. The Swede asked the Norwegian to hold the lantern while he took the paper and read: Carl Frederick Balslev of Ribe, Knight of Dannebrog, etc.— "That's correct," said the Swedish trustee, "he's a Lutheran." But still they refused to open the church doors until the Danes threatened to break them in. When finally the group was inside, they discovered there were no lights nor candles, and the church was unprepared for evening meetings. So candles were fetched, which were set in bottles, and the service at long last could begin.

Following the service Pastor Rosenstand asked if the group wished to organize a Danish Church and the vote was unanimous except for two votes. The Norwegian and the Swede were opposed.

The first organizational meeting was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Soren Clemmensen, June 16, 1878 and the congregation called itself the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church. The first pastor was S. C. Madsen and the second was Pastor Holger Strand-skov, both of whom remained only two years. Pastor J. Pedersen next became resident pastor and in 1888 the church became a member of the synod. There were then sixty members.

The Sunday school flourished and the children began an organ fund, finally buying an organ in 1895. But by this time Pastor Pedersen had left and for four years the people were served by itinerant pastors from Muskegon and Manistee. Pastor H. H. Ravn accepted the call in 1897 and remained for two and one half years; he and his family were the first occupants of the present parsonage. Next in line came Pastor Ole Gregersen who experienced the great sor-





**Bethany Lutheran Church  
Ludington, Michigan**

row of losing three of his children to black measles; they lie in Lakeview Cemetery and their graves are cared for by friends to this day.

At this time a huge project was undertaken. The church and parsonage lay two blocks apart and it was decided to move the church into an empty lot adjacent to the manse. For almost fifty years now the church property has been at its present location, the only Protestant church in the entire ward. The bell which still rings on Sunday was donated by the Young People Society at the time of the moving of the church. The altar railing, pulpit and balcony were built by Ferdinand Christoffersen, now 89 years old, still one of the steadiest church-goers in the congregation.

The next pastor was Hans Juhl, who had just been ordained, and who came in 1908. Living alone in a huge ten-room parsonage was not too pleasant, but he survived it for two years and then journeyed to Des Moines and brought back a bride. She arrived in time to be hostess to the national convention of the Synod, and her experience as instructor at Grand View prepared her to carry this huge undertaking off in splendid fashion. The congregation was small but sturdy, and Pastor Juhl confirmed 40 young people during his pastorate, which lasted until the coming of another newly ordained minister, Pastor Jens Holst. During the war years 1917-18 the pastor was E. N. Neilsen, and the organist was Miss Dagny Hansen, whom a number of Lutheran Tidings readers will remember as an exceptionally skilled musician.

Pastor J. L. J. Dixen came to Ludington in 1925 and during this period Mrs. F. W. Schumacher, a staunch member and friend of the congregation, began her long contribution to the music of the church. In 1927 a basement was dug for the church and church gatherings and suppers, etc., were moved from the Danish hall to the church itself. Four years later a call was sent to Erik Back, who was serving as seamen's missionary in New York. The depression arrived in Ludington at the same time and his pastorate was conducted under extremely difficult times. By this time the congregation had baptized over five hundred children and confirmed six hundred.

The eight years Pastor Back served the community marked the organization of the Be Loyal Club, a group of girls teen-age and up who have continued to contribute greatly in the work of Bethany. Also in these years the church was re-incorporated as Bethany Lutheran Church, for by this time a majority of the members were non-Danish-speaking.

The longest pastorate in the history of this church is that of John Christensen, who first arrived in 1938. He is still the pastor, though his period of service was interrupted for two years in 1943-45 when he was minister in Hartford, Conn. In this interim Pastor Verner Hansen, newly ordained from Grand View, was called and he and his wife remained until his service with the armed forces as chaplain began. John Christensen returned and the church is at present stronger than ever, with the future vouched for by the 112 members of the Sunday school. The average Sunday morning attendance at services is eighty. A new pipe organ, dedicated Christmas Eve, 1948, adds beauty and leadership to the worship, with Miss Margaret Rasmussen at the console. Mrs. Schumacher continues to direct the junior and senior choirs, while the other organizations, including a Young People Society, the "B. L. C.", the Ladies' Aid, (in years back know as the Ladies' Sewing Society) and a Stewardship Committee, function as adjuncts to the responsibility of the Church Board whose president is Viggo Christoffersen.

The pageant presented in the afternoon on the day of the Jubilee depicted various stages of history during the past seven and one-half decades. A large picture frame stage setting provided the background and foreground for the scenes, while the characters taking part were costumed to fit the periods shown. Mrs. Schumacher planned the pageant and it was presented by George Christoffersen, with various hymns featured both in Danish and English, one for each period.

It is interesting to note that both Bethany Church and Trinity Church, of Victory which John Christensen also serves, are at present considering plans to expand their buildings, the better to care for the needs of the growing Sunday schools.

Readers of LUTHERAN TIDINGS will join the editor in congratulating Bethany Lutheran Church on its long, faithful labour in the vineyard, and wish it God's blessing as its service to His Kingdom continues. (Prepared from materials sent by Mrs. F. W. Schumacher.)



## Dr. Arild Olsen On State Department Committee

Dr. Robert L. Johnson, retiring Administrator of the International Information Administration stated recently that Right Reverend Henry Knox Sherrill, D. D., Reverend Louie D. Newton, D. D., Most Reverend James H. Griffiths and Chaplain Joshua L. Goldberg are members of his Committee on Moral and Spiritual Resources. The three alternates of this Committee are, Dr. Roswell P. Barnes, **Dr. C. Arild Olsen**, and Father Frederick A. McGuire.

Dr. Johnson pointed out that shortly after he assumed his responsibilities as Administrator, he addressed himself to the expression of America's spiritual values in our overseas information program. The retiring Administrator pointed out that he makes no claim for initiating the idea of injecting religious content into the program, but he does feel that "moral and spiritual values are now emphasized more adequately than in the past."

Dr. Johnson said, "If we are to project a true picture of America to the world, our overseas information program must include some indication of our great spiritual heritage and must show the vital role played by spiritual values in our everyday lives." It was work on this aspect of the overseas information program that brought about the formation of this distinguished Committee on Moral and Spiritual Resources.

The Right Reverend Henry Knox Sherrill, D. D., presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States is an ex-Chaplain and formerly chairman of the General Commission of Chaplains. Bishop Sherrill served on the President's Commission on Civil Rights in 1947 and is a well-known author and lecturer. The Most Reverend James H. Griffiths, Auxiliary Bishop in New York City and Chancellor of the Military Ordinariate which oversees all Catholic Chaplains of the Armed Forces, has served in an advisory capacity to the Department of Defense on moral and spiritual values.

The Reverend Louie D. Newton, D. D., Pastor of the Druid Hills Baptist Church in Atlanta and well-known writer and editor, has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Baptist World Alliance since 1923 and is now American vice president of this world-wide organization. Reverend Newton is also a member of the British-American Commission of Fellowship of the Baptist World Alliance. Captain Joshua L. Goldberg, chief Jewish Chaplain of the United States Navy is also consultant on Jewish affairs to the Armed Forces Chaplain's Board. An outstanding member of the Rabbinate, Captain Goldberg is a widely traveled lecturer on subjects pertaining to Jewish and American life.

In addition to the four principal members of the Moral and Spiritual Resources Committee, the overseas information program's newest Committee will include three alternates. Father Frederick A. McGuire who spent 18 years in China, is with the National Secretariat at the National Catholic Welfare Council which is the coordinating office for American Catholic

missionaries throughout the world. Father McGuire, from 1946-1950, headed the Catholic welfare work throughout China cooperating with various government agencies.

Reverend Roswell P. Barnes, D. D., is Executive Secretary of the Division of Christian life and work of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States. Reverend Barnes is also chairman the Race Commission of the World Council of Churches and serves on the religious affairs panel of the German exchange program, Department of State.

**Dr. C. Arild Olsen** served as chief of the Religious Affairs Bureau of the U. S. military government in Germany and later in the same capacity under the Department of State.

## Grand View Board Meets

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors for Grand View College and Seminary was held Tuesday, August 25, at the College. The Board is self-organizing, and elected Dr. Erling Jensen as Chairman, Pastor C. A. Stub as vice Chairman, Mrs. Jens Thuesen as Treasurer and Mr. Harald Petersen as Secretary. On the Executive Committee the Chairman and the President of the Synod are members ex officio, while the elected members for the coming year are Pastor Stub, Mr. Thuesen and Mr. LaVern Hamborg. The Seminary Committee consists of Dr. Erling Jensen, Dr. Alfred Jensen, Mr. Jens Thuesen and Pastor Ronald Jespersen. The Board of Trustees of the Endowment Fund of G. V. C. and G. V. S. consists of Mr. Jens Thuesen, Mr. J. N. Chamberlain, Dr. Erling Jensen and the Synod Board.

On request of the Convention, the Board asked Dr. Johannes Knudsen to reconsider his resignation as Dean of the Seminary. Dr. Knudsen felt, however, that he had no reason to change his mind and that he must stand by his resignation. The Board then faced the question of the future of the Seminary. The Convention had instructed the Board to investigate two possible solutions: expanding the Seminary at Grand View or affiliating it with another Seminary elsewhere. Two committees were appointed to carry on this investigation. On the committee to investigate affiliation are Dr. Knudsen, Dr. A. Jensen and Dr. E. Jensen, with the latter as chairman. The Board requested them to consider Northwestern Seminary, Minneapolis, Chicago Theological Seminary, Maywood and Augustana Seminary, Rock Island, Ill. On the committee to look into maintaining the Seminary at its present location are: Pastor C. A. Stub, chairman, and Dr. Knudsen and Prof. Axel Kildegaard. Though authorized by the Convention to invite others than those closely connected with the Institutions to participate in these investigations, the Board declined to do so.



# Paging Youth

ESPECIALLY OF OUR D. A. Y. P. L.

Editor: Thorvald Hansen, 22 South 13th Street,  
Estherville, Iowa

## Forbidden Fruit

A Pocket Books, Inc., book, "The Confessions of St. Augustine," recently caught my eye amid the many magazines on a drugstore magazine rack. Soon thereafter I became absorbed in reading of this great man of the Christian Church.

Some aspects of St. Augustine's early life remind one of today's youth. He first lived to the extreme. For example, he found a thrill in stealing. He stole pears although he had better pears on a tree at home. The chief reason for stealing them, however, was that he might throw them at a neighbor's pigs.

Our youth may not contain or have contained a pear-stealing episode, but many of our actions are similar. We live to the extreme. Anything that appeals to our unquenchable quest for intoxicating pleasure determines our ambition and condition. Unless careful in such a quest, one often violates his responsibility to his God. One finds himself like the bird sleeping on the back of the turtle. The bird doesn't realize that the turtle drifts helplessly toward the brink of the river's falls. Soon both turtle and bird find themselves dashed helplessly, possibly to death, in the foaming, churning water below the falls. Similarly our youth find themselves helplessly caught in soul killing vices as they estrange themselves from God.

The strange thing lies in the fact that real life comes through living valiantly in God. We might not become Albert Schweitzer or E. Stanley Jones but a life dedicated in living unto Him leads men to great heights and accomplishments. Such an experience can only be found as Augustine found it. He had to rededicate his repentant heart to the Master in whose name he was baptized to find zest in life.

Augustine found his dedication to the Master a harder task than supposed. Being a brilliant man he became a student and teacher of the Greek classics. The Scriptures he could not understand for his pride made him blind to the message. His wit could not stoop to understanding such plain and simple truths, and his pride, combined to keep him from putting his whole trust in such words as these—"whosoever believeth in Him shall not die but have eternal life."

Twentieth century youth may not succumb to the Greek classics over the Scriptures, but pride in social position, our friendships, our ability to reason logically, may make us miss the Truth—the death of Jesus for our sins and the resurrection with its promise of eternity. A life steeped in pride resembles a wind-swept mountain-top where not a single flower can grow. A life in repentance and humility corresponds to a valley where the stream of God's grace flows to create a garden.

St. Augustine found that fruitful life when he discovered that he could boast of nothing in himself. Only the Saviour had anything of which to boast. Augustine, therefore, placed his whole life in the grace of God. Due to that searching of his soul and placing his soul in the redeeming power of Jesus Christ, Augustine changed a dissipated youth into a great Christian bishop, philosopher and saint.

God challenges youth to give a dedicated life to Him in return for a redeemed soul. The world challenges youth to a dedicated life in the Master in order that the world may become a better place in which to live. Won't we accept the challenge? We can do it in any walk of life which we choose to follow. Each occupation gives us an opportunity to serve our Saviour.

Pastor Walter E. Brown.

## Fall Festival

The Omaha young people are planning a Fall Festival for September 19 and 20. Y. P. groups from Kimballton and Oak Hill, in Iowa, and from Davey, Rosenborg and Marquette, in Nebraska, have been invited.

The festivities will begin at 2 o'clock on Saturday afternoon and will be brought to a close at 3 p. m., on Sunday. A good program has been planned with the Reverend Harold Riber, missionary to India, as guest speaker.

The following tentative program indicates other events planned for the two day affair.

### Saturday

- 2:00—Registration
- 4:00—4:30—Speaker, Harold Riber
- 4:30—6:00—Recreation
- 6:00—Supper
- 7:30—8:00—Speaker, Harold Riber
- 8:00—Folk dancing
- 10:30—11:00—Singing and devotion

### Sunday

- 9:30—Young People's Bible Class
- 10:45—Worship service
- 12:30—Dinner
- 2:00—3:00—Speaker, Harold Riber
- 3:00—Refreshments and homeward bound.

## Calling All Secretaries

All district and local secretaries are reminded that names and addresses of officers for 1953-54 should be sent to Dorene Andersen, the National Secretary, as soon as possible after elections have taken place.

Dorene, whose address is 1003 L Street, Aurora, Nebraska, would like to have as many of these names and addresses as possible by convention time (the end of October).



# Our Women's Work

Editor

Mrs. Ellen Knudsen, 907 Morton St., Des Moines 16, Iowa

Dear Ida Egede

Thank you for the letter asking if there is any help WMS can give to CHILD'S FRIEND. As far as finances are concerned, we are getting along quite well. Last year we were allowed from the budget \$650.00 and used but \$350.00. This was due, in part, to the gifts received and to the fact that many overdue subscriptions were paid up. What we need most is subscribers. Many of our Sunday schools do not use CHILD'S FRIEND or use it only for a small number of their children. In some communities of our church where the Sunday school does not subscribe there are a number of private subscribers, but we get much better coverage where the Sunday school subscribes. As you probably know, many of them now have the papers sent directly to each home instead of receiving them in a bundle for distribution Sunday morning. And they are very pleased with this new method.

However, in order to get more subscribers, we need a bigger and better paper. When I sent in my report to the Publications Committee I recommended that steps be taken to increase the size of CHILD'S FRIEND to twice the present size—that would be the size that BØRNEVENNEN used to be. That way we could include more varied material or longer stories so that the appeal could be greater. But the committee had already met—and so Enok Mortensen suggested that I talk to the committee assigned to the publications committee report at the convention and perhaps get them to include that in their report.

I would prefer one larger paper to two of the present size aimed at two different age groups. There are several reasons for this. Often we find that the material aimed at the little ones has been very interesting to the bigger ones and vice versa. With two papers we would not have the continuity of interest that we may find with people reading the same paper for a number of years. And we would have only one set of subscribers—which would be an advantage for practical reasons.

I do not say we do not want or need money contributions. But I do think we need a bigger paper. Of course, if we get that, we will need more than the \$500.00 allotted us on this year's proposed budget. I am sure a bigger paper would increase our subscription list, but that would take some time to work up.

Sincerely yours,

Ardis Petersen.

## The Annual Meeting

Luther Memorial Church was gently filled as the yearly business meeting of WMS was opened by our chairman, Mrs. Ida Egede. At least there were people in the front pews and several in the back row

and the murmur in between sounded genuine enough. I remember a time when the business meeting participation was so small we could have met most any place. This growth in numbers and in interest mirrors to some extent our women's desire to be a part of and a link in the work women must do today.

Mrs. Vagn Duus' open prayer, given in her own words, was a prayer for guidance and understanding. It was simply worded, but there was no mistaking the sincerity and the earnestness.

The treasurer's report filled two and a half type written sheets and looked wonderful. Women may be the spenders of the largest percentage of the world's capital, but they have a knack of contributing a good share also.

This was election year for the chairman and the assistant secretary. Mrs. Ida Egede was re-elected and Mrs. Delford Henderson, Juhl, Mich., was elected assistant secretary to replace Mrs. Emil Hansen, who did not wish re-election.

Our chairman called on the nine district representatives, or their alternates, to say something. There was a pleasant response from them all. It was a good idea, someone had, to have district representatives. It divides that responsibility at the same time as it brings us closer together.

Mrs. Gertrude Sorensen told interestingly about the work of the Mission church at Cedarloo. We voted to give the 600 dollars left in last years WMS Home Mission Fund to the Cedarloo Committee to be used as needed.

Several suggestions for our project for the coming year were made, they were all good, but in the last analysis the majority favored to continue another year with Home Missions. That will naturally not eliminate gifts to many other worthy causes, so let us prepare our work projects with this in mind that as we grow outwardly so also do our responsibilities increase.

Nanna Mortensen suggested that we think about the possibility of having a women's retreat sometime in the future. She even offered to scrub up the whole of Danebod, if we wished to come there. I was a "Sommerpige" at Danebod in the days when "Koneskole" was in style. Today women are more self-reliant and would likely plan for women leadership, but we need to take time out to get together for days of fellowship and work. I already have a mental picture of banners with "Forward to Danebod" carried by women from Wilbur, Granly, Cedarloo, Hay Springs, Canwood, Tacoma, Nysted, and Newark, traveling toward Danebod in '54-'55-'56—.

It was voted to give the collection Saturday eve-



## "Highlights and Sidelights"

### 76th Annual Convention

Des Moines, Iowa, August 11-16, 1953

(Continued)

News magazines have the distinct advantage over daily papers that they can treat an event after several days of reflection, and need not deal with it the day it happens. At this writing we can look back at the convention more calmly and under no pressure to meet a printing deadline such as was the case with the first "Highlights" article, when the material was prepared at white heat in order that it might be fresh and reach the homes soon after the delegates did. And in retrospect the convention also has lost its bustle and hurry; the on-the-surface concern with the schedule, with various committee meetings, with meals served at definite hours (and never seriously delayed), and the other commotions attendant on the Annual Meeting which plague the delegates, especially those on hand for the first time, have been forgotten, while the deeper impressions have survived.

Enok Mortensen's message on Sunday morning,

ning to the Church Extension Fund. They received it a year ago, but much of our hope for the growth of our Synod must lie with our Church Extension and, according to the Convention report, p. 45 and 46, they can't find the needed funds.

Our regular WMS part of the Convention Program followed immediately after the business meeting. There was full house as Rev. Marvin Nygaard gave the opening prayer. Beside our two speakers, two excellent soloists gave us a royal treat. La Vern Larkowski sang, "The Lord is My Shepherd" and Mrs. Alf Utoft sang, "Lord, Speak to Me." Good music is one of the powers which can take away the self in us and make us receptive to the voice from above.

Rev. Ottar Jorgensen was the first speaker and his theme was, "Children shall follow where fathers passed." His emphasis was on the continuity of the best values which have characterized WMS and our church. We have much to be thankful for, we have much to work for.

Listening to Mary Riber, our second speaker, I was reminded of the touch of a soft sweet breeze, the comfort of a mother's dear embrace and the commitment of an adult to a chosen work. Her talk was in the form of five word pictures of the work among the Santals. I hope the Ribers will not need speaking invitations while they are home. We need to hear them.

Rev. Marvin Nygaard was in charge of the offering which was taken by the youngest of our Pastor's wives. It exceeded last years offering and amounted to over three hundred and seven dollars.

We were lead in the closing prayer by Rev. Nygaard and so closed an evening rich in hope and rich in thanksgiving.

Ellen Knudsen.

"He Appeared To Me Also," was commented on by many through the day. He stressed that the centrality of Paul's message was his experience of the personal Christ. Confronting God is the essence of religious experience. In the next issue of LUTHERAN TIDINGS we will print the sermon in full. It was not long but the service itself lasted two hours. There are always those who feel that one service should not last two hours, (but those who protest against this will probably be delighted to sit out a 17 inning ball game or a three hour double feature movie.) The Sunday service at the Annual Meeting always is long, and the reason is something to rejoice over, since it is usually caused by large attendance at the Communion Table. The modern trend of streamlining the practical difficulties involved in serving large groups Communion is not always praiseworthy. The Communion "fellowship" is just that—a **fellowship** which can be enriched by large numbers; the time involved should hardly be considered, except insofar as it makes us conscious of how large the fellowship is. Grand View Church, filled to overflowing, was impressive and the worship and music a real experience. Luther Memorial Choir, which sang on several occasions during the meeting, gave of itself inspiringly; George Bruners directing and solo work were of high caliber. Others will be writing about the Danish service, where President Jensen preached.

Dean Alfred Nielsen of Grand View College had just returned from Europe, and his account of his travels was delightful. Not often nowadays do we hear tribute paid to England, but Historian Nielsen, sifting through sands of time, found much good to be said about the English who have played so prominent a part in the history, language, literature and tradition of our own nation. Nor do we often hear kind things said about the Germans, but there was a strong undercurrent of admiration in the speaker's words about Germany. Nothing more need be said about this lecture; we will be hearing from Alfred Nielsen when he resumes his column in the near future.

Two speakers for Sunday evening seemed beforehand an overdose after a long week of listening, but both Alfred Sorensen and Holger Andersen, pastors, confined themselves to twenty-five minutes each, and each in his own way brought thought-provoking words. Holger Andersen stressed the difference between speaking and preaching "about Christ" and actually preaching Christianity out of experience. Pastor Sorensen laid upon our consciences the Christian duty of brotherliness even to the farthest downfallen. No-one can make this appeal quite like Alfred Sorensen, and his theme "Is it nothing to you, all ye who pass by" was a moving exhortation. The closing festivities gave opportunity for greetings and expressions of appreciation.

President Jensen pointed out, as the business sessions closed, that for the first time in his long remembrance, the Convention was adjourning without accepting an invitation for the next Convention when one was offered. In this connection, we were sorry that the chair confined the discussion to the people



from Tacoma and Chicago, plus the synod president. His ruling of "no campaigning" seemed to us a little hasty and of no real benefit. Could there be any harm in a delegate's or a pastor's comments in favor or in opposition on this subject? On other subjects we allow free discussion. Likewise, in the elections it seems archaic to confine descriptions of candidates for office to a statement of their business, profession, or work. (If one candidate is absent, the other candidate cannot even identify himself except by name!) Our conventions now are so large, and our ballots so long, that it is almost impossible for delegates to learn to know candidates by investigating them on their own between Friday night when the lists are posted and Saturday morning when the ballots are marked. We are convinced that many ballots are marked by people who know nothing whatever about the person they are trying to elect. What kind of selection is that? One solution might be to have the names posted earlier in the week. It can be argued that the work of the nominating committee is not completed until Friday. Nevertheless, **some** of its work is done; the lists could be posted a little at a time, as the nominees inform the committee of their willingness to run. Even this is not entirely satisfactory, however. An incumbents voting record on important issues ought to be made known, for example, in order for a fair evaluation to be made of his fitness for re-election. . . . Whether it is under Roberts Rules, or by arbitrary will of the chair, the "no campaigning" ruling could bear re-examination. Campaigning is freely indulged in off the floor. Could there be any harm in allowing it on the floor?

The official corrected Minutes will soon be in the hands of pastors and delegates. They are worth studying, especially by members of congregations who were not present. Behind the facade of Synod structure which appears the same in many respects as it has for years, changes are taking place which can make vast alterations in the nature of our work and fellowship. Changing the name of the Synod is only one indication of these rumblings. The statistics pointed out in President Jensen's report are another such indication. In the Minutes can be found still further indications. We need not deplore these changes, necessarily. Almost all of them are fine, if not inevitable. A surprising thing about the Conventions, and one of the most interesting "sidelights," is the alertness and awareness of the laity who attend. The complicated parliamentary procedures, the involved committee reports, financial and otherwise, the far-flung scope of some of our work, especially in co-operation with other bodies, such as in the world Council, do not seem too detailed for active understanding by average lay people. This bodes well for our future. For if we are to continue alone as a Synod, the widest possible understanding and participation by devoted lay people will be necessary. The delegates at the 76th Convention worked hard and shirked nothing, so that we left with the impression that if some things had not been carried off too well, it was not for lack of trying. Who will be so presumptuous as to say whether or not we were guided and sustained by His Spirit? Our faith leads us to think that we were.

## A Call to Christian Stewardship

### The Builders Mistake

Edwin Markhams parable of the Builder has a lesson for all of us. He pictured a certain rich man who wanted to do good. One day he saw the hovel in which a poor carpenter lived with his large family. After pondering the matter for some time the rich man called the carpenter to him and put in his hands the plans for a beautiful house. He asked the carpenter if he would build him such a house on a certain lovely sunny hillside on the edge of town. "I want it to be as fine and as sturdy as possible." "Use only the best materials, employ only the best workmen." Do not spare any expense to make this the finest house it can be." He said he was going on a journey and hoped the house would be finished when he returned. The carpenter saw this as his chance. Other men with an opportunity like this would make plenty for themselves on the side. Why shouldn't he? He rationalized by saying he owed it to his family. So he skimmed on materials. He employed inexperienced help at low wages and covered their mistakes with paint. When the rich man returned the house was finished. The carpenter brought the keys to him and said, "I followed your instructions and have completed your house as you told me to." "I'm glad," said the rich man, and handing the keys back to the builder he continued, "Here are the keys. They are yours. I had you build that house for yourself. You and your family are to live in it." In the years that followed, the carpenter never ceased to regret the way in which he cheated himself. "Had I but known," he would say to himself, "that I was building the house for myself!"

We are all builders. Tomorrow we will be the people we are building today.

O. R. N.

### Solvang Lutheran Home, Inc.

(Home For Aged)

SOLVANG, CALIFORNIA

#### FIRST ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CONDITION

February 1 to June 30, 1953

#### Assets:

Cash in bank as per audited books	\$ 929.10
Land valuation	5,000.00
Site improvements, (sewer, water, electrical, sidewalks, curbs, ditching, grading, lawn and shrubs)	6,041.63
Building "F"—6 rooms, (3 baths, utility room, heating system)	22,312.19
Building "E"—8 rooms, (4 baths, 2 utility rooms, community snack kitchen, heating system)	29,716.16
Equipment (office and household)	957.13
Furniture and fixtures	2,870.66
Prepaid insurance	678.23
Inventory, expendable supplies	348.66
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$68,853.76</b>

#### Liabilities:

Due building contractor	\$ 5,801.37
Trade accounts payable	348.66
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 6,150.03</b>
<b>Total assets, net surplus</b>	<b>\$62,703.73</b>

\*\*Outstanding pledges \$7,500.00

B. P. Christensen, Executive Manager.



## How Good is the Martin Luther Film?

The high points of an exciting career come to life again in the newly produced film "Martin Luther." The theatre marquee advertised to all downtown Des Moines that this picture was about "the man who changed the world." If the aim of the film was to show how this change came about, it accomplished its purpose. The movie is surprisingly well done.

"Martin Luther" is not an attempt at film biography. Such a project and purpose would have been far too inclusive and encompassing for one film effort. Instead, the script writers have wisely stressed only the portions of the career of this Middle Ages iconoclast which involved him in direct opposition to the Church of his day. No attempt is made to show the childhood development of the personality of this man, or the psychological difficulties of his youth, such as are so central in many books written about Luther, (notably Jacob Knudsen's "Angst." It is simply accepted that the disgrace and corruption existing in the Church were so blatant and inexcusable that the young Luther, once he had been led into the priesthood, could not allow them to go unprotected. His protest resulted in Protestantism, and the film portrays the development of this problem with intensity, but also with a commendable restraint and dignity. This restraint is in evidence through the entire story; we have become so used to movie producers draining the last drop of sensationalism out of every dramatic situation that it is pleasing to find things handled with taste. And Luther's life is filled with dramatic instances.

But several scenes return to mind readily because of the force with which they are presented: Young Martin stopping his friends on the stairs to insist that God's grace and a man's faith are the means of salvation, not the good works that men can perform or buy. Luther standing before his judges, prepared to argue and dissertate and defend, and learning that he is to have no hearing. The climactic moment when the famous words "Here I stand" are uttered. The several studies of the face of Melancthon in three-quarter view and in profile as the great brain behind that face races.

The other scenes which we sat expectantly waiting for never came; those possibly apocryphal incidents such as the ink-well episode, the lightning bolt affair, and others which Hollywood would have played to the hilt, mercifully were omitted. More important was the complete lack of any attempt to explain the Reformation by sociological causes, as has been the modern practice. It is true that Luther and Columbus can be thought of as contemporaries. But did Protestantism result because of the new worlds that opened up? Were the Turks, as has been actually held in our time, the real cause of the Reformation? Did the political structure of the Holy Roman Empire make the Reformation inevitable?—that great but tottering empire which has been called neither "holy" nor "Roman." The film leaves these questions to be debated in other arenas.

In "Martin Luther" the man himself was the heart of the movement, and this soul's search for righteousness became the instrument of God in bringing into being something new. So the Reformation emerges in the Louis de Rochemont production as a spiritual movement, not economic, political, or sociological. We may be grateful for these omissions.

In our day, the actors and actresses in movies have assumed such importance that people ask "Who is in it?" much more often than they ask "What is in it?" or "Who Wrote It?" We can't at the moment recall the names of any of the people taking part, but we have the distinct feeling that the whole was well cast. Luther was unglamorized, except that from what we have read of him in biographical literature he would appear to have been considerably more rugged and even cruder than he is here portrayed. The others in the story are "true" and believable. It is quite obvious that behind the scenes in the making of this feature has been the steading influence of the Lutheran church which has never permitted any deviation from the highest motives.

This started as a review of a motion picture, but we see now that we have concerned ourselves mostly with what was **not** in the film rather than with what is in it. May we mention still another omission? Luther was a happy student in school, fond of music, and in "The Bourse of St. George" there would often be heard the sound of ringing laughter. He was referred to as the "musician" by the others at Thuringia, and was looked on as a lively genial comrade, skilled at singing and lute-playing. A very little of this human conviviality is to be found in "Martin Luther." In fact, the tone of the film as a whole is rather depressive and moody. There is little of the gaily and comradeship of 16th Century university life; when Luther enters, solemnity and heaviness enter with him, and we wonder if this is wholly faithful to facts. Luther understood the folk-life of his day, and out of simple enjoyment of fellowship grew the love for humanity which was the complement to the other facet of his life which was burdened with guilt complexities. He looked upon people, ignorant and superstitious as they were, with a compassion that must have arisen out of his understanding of what Grundtvig later on developed in the congregational life at Vartov.

The inspiration found in "Martin Luther" thus comes from the sight of great courage, steadfastness of purpose, and a presentation of Lutheran doctrine. The photography is technically excellent, though somewhat dark, which adds to the excessive moodiness. Had the film been done in color, and had some of the inspiration been communicated in happiness and joyfulness, the whole might have been even more uplifting.

Nevertheless, this picture is far better, far greater than we had expected. There is not one amateurish touch to be found, which cannot be said of any other church-sponsored effort we have seen. Pastors of all faiths, not only Lutherans, can unhesitatingly recom-



mend it. This might be said even to Catholics, since Luther promoted a reformation within, as well as without, the Church of his day.

"Martin Luther" is slated for general release all over the nation this month. Washington, D. C. will have it Sept. 30 and the New York premiere will be Sept. 9 at Radio City where it will show five or six times daily for an indefinite period. The success of this film has been phenomenal, competing with popular commercial pictures, and in Minneapolis its premiere broke all records for all films of any type. When first planned, "Martin Luther" was intended for church use only; however, it has been proved that public demand will support it wherever it is presented.

## Views From Our Readers

**BUE BENNIKE**

Fru Bennike of Elling, Denmark, has asked me to bring greetings to the friends of her husband in the United States. My best opportunity for doing that is LUTHERAN TIDINGS. There are people in Cordova, Omaha and elsewhere who gratefully remember him. He worked in the church between 1917 and 1930. Bennike and I had looked forward to a reunion, and it did not happen. Yesterday morning I was ready to go to Elling and deliver an address. Then came a message announcing his death. At the coffee tables in the parish hall there was a reception after the funeral. Many expressed sincere gratitude for the work Bennike had done in Vendsyssel, for his aversion to popularity, his selfless preaching, his hearty relationship with old and sick people, his frank way of saying what to him was the truth. He was a true son of Vallekilde Church and School, yet he was distinctly a man who lived a personal life.

To me it was a delight to meet his wife and their two adopted children, his brothers, Evald Kristensen and others.

**Aage Moller.**

### ONWARD

There are three thoughts I would like to share with the readers of LUTHERAN TIDINGS.

As Christians we must never forget to look upward, many examples could be brought out to certify this admonition. I will just mention two or three. First Psalm 121: "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth."

Also Paul's letter to the Ephesians: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." Is there anything more wonderful and rich? When signs and times point to trials and tribulations we are also admonished by Christ to look up. Luke 21:28: "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up and lift your heads for your redemption draweth nigh."

But Christians must also remember their opportunities and obligations here on earth. Jesus spoke these words to his disciples: "Behold I say unto you: Lift up your eyes and look on the fields for they are white already to harvest."

If we are faithful workers we have this wonder-

ful promise: "Lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world."

That could remind us of a third admonition: "Look forward!" And then I am especially thinking of our personal sanctification—the building up of our Christian character. Paul and John have something to say concerning this matter. "For our conversation is in heaven from whence we look for the savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." Phil. 3:21. "But we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is." I John 3:2

Let us look forward also to the Sabbath day in Heaven. "Some day I know for sin no longer slaving, each thought and word and deed unstained and pure. I shall not even fear a sinful craving; my purity and bliss might e'er obscure."

**P. Rasmussen.**

## District I Convention

District I will hold its annual convention at Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hartford, Conn., Friday, September 25-Sunday, September 27, 1953.

Congregations are asked to be represented by delegates in accordance with our constitution.

**Viggo M. Hansen,**  
District President.

In accordance with the above announcement Our Savior's Congregation invites members and friends of our church work to be guests for the convention. Please send registrations at least one week in advance of the meeting to Rev. Willard Garred, 170 Russ St., Hartford 6, Conn.

**Willard Garred, Pastor.**

**Arthur H. Jeppesen, President.**

## Program For The Dist. I Convention

**Hartford, Conn., September 25-27**

**Friday, September 25**

2:30 P. M. Meeting for pastors. Topic for discussion introduced by Pastor Kirkegaard Jensen.

8:00 P. M. Opening service, Rev. Einar Anderson

**Saturday, September 26**

9:15 A. M. Devotions. Speaker, Pastor J. H. Jorgensen

10:00 A. M. Business session

12:00 Noon. Luncheon

2:00 P. M. Business session continued

6:00 P. M. Supper

8:00 P. M. Evening meeting. Topic for discussion: "From a layman's point of view." Introduced by Mr. David Coleman

**Sunday, September 27**

10:00 A. M. Service. Sermon preached by Pastor Vincent Ligouri. Holy Communion administered by Pastor Willard Garred.

12:00 Noon. Dinner

2:00 P. M. Lecture by Pastor George Mellby

Closing meeting.

The business session may be interrupted Saturday afternoon by a brief lecture by a speaker to be announced.



## District II Convention

The Michigan District of our Church will meet for its annual convention at Ludington, Michigan September 18-20. The opening service is scheduled for Friday evening, the closing meeting Sunday afternoon. All pastors should be in attendance and each congregation should send a full quota of delegates—one for each 25 voting members or fraction thereof. All members and friends of our Michigan congregations are welcome to participate in our church fellowship. Please send your reservations as early as possible to the local registration committee mentioned below. May we look for a large gathering at Ludington?

**Edwin E. Hansen,**  
District President.

We of Bethany Lutheran Church at Ludington, Michigan, herewith extend a hearty invitation to pastors, delegates, members and friends of District II to be our guests during the District Convention to be held here Sept. 18-20. We shall endeavor to do our best to make those days pleasant for you.

Kindly send your registration as early as possible, preferable no less than two weeks before the convention date to:

**Mr. Clarence Fønnesbeck,**  
306 Loomis St., Ludington, Mich.

**K. Viggo Christoffersen,** President  
**John Christensen,** Pastor.

### DISTRICT II CONVENTION PROGRAM

**Ludington, Michigan, September 18-20, 1953**

CONVENTION THEME: "The Church Proclaims The World's Greatest Truths."

#### Friday Evening

8:00 Opening meeeting.  
"The Greatest Theological Truth"—John 4:24  
Rev. Peter Thomsen, Greenville

#### Saturday Morning

9:00 Bible Hour  
"The Greatest Practical Truth"—Matt. 22:37-39  
Rev. John Enselmann, Grayling  
9:45 Business session  
12:00 Noon period

#### Saturday Afternoon

1:30 Business session continued at the church in Victory 8 miles N. E.  
3:45 "The Greatest Sociological Truth"—Matt. 7:12  
A Discussion Period introduced and led by  
Rev. Harry Andersen, Marlette  
5:30 Supper Period at Victory Town Hall

#### Saturday Evening

7:00 District Women's Mission Society  
8:00 "Something About The United Lutheran Church"  
Dr. Frank Madsen, Pres. Michigan Synod,  
U.L.C.A.

#### Sunday Morning

9:30 Communion Service  
Rev. John Christensen, Ludington  
10:45 Morning Worship Service at Ludington  
Rev. Edwin Hansen, Muskegon

10:45 Morning Worship Service at Victory Church  
Rev. Svend Jorgensen, Detroit  
12:15 Noon

#### Sunday Afternoon

2:30 Closing Meeting  
"The Greatest Evangelical Truth"—John 3:16  
Rev. James Lund, Manistee  
Farewells.

(Subject to minor changes)

## District IV Convention

In accordance with the accompanying invitation, District IV of our synod will meet in annual convention at Kimballton, Iowa, September 25-27. The meetings will begin Friday, 2:30 p. m., and close Sunday evening.

All congregations are urged to send as many delegates as they are entitled to send. All pastors in the District are urged to come; and we hope there will be many guests and friends of our church.

May I also remind all committees functioning in the District to be ready to report on their activity for the past year.

With sincere good wishes for a good convention.

**C. A. Stub,** District President.

The Immanuel Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kimballton, Iowa, hereby extends a hearty invitation to all members, pastors and friends of our church to be our guests during the District convention to be held during the week-end, September 25-27.

Registrations should be in the hand of one of the undersigned by September 20th.

Respectfully,

**Holger Strandskov,** Pastor.  
Kimballton, Iowa.

**Herald Jensen,** President.  
Route 1, Exira, Iowa.

### PROGRAM

**Kimballton, Iowa, September 25-27, 1953**

#### Friday, September 25

2:30 P. M. Devotions and Bible Hour by Rev. Paul Wikman  
3:10 P. M. Coffee  
3:30 P. M. Business Session  
6:00 P. M. Supper  
8:00 P. M. Worship Service, Dr. Johs. Knudsen, speaker

#### Saturday, September 26

9:00 A. M. Devotions and Bible Hour by Rev. Ronald Jespersen  
9:30 A. M. Business Session  
12:00 Noon. Dinner  
2:00 P. M. Lecture by Dean A. C. Nielsen  
3:00 P. M. Coffee  
3:20 P. M. Business Session  
6:00 Supper  
7:00 P. M. W. M. S. Business Meeting



8:00 P. M. Lutheran Welfare, Rev. Paul A. Boe, sponsored by W. M. S.

#### Sunday, September 27

9:30 A. M. Children's Service by Rev. A. E. Sorensen  
 10:30 A. M. Morning Worship and Holy Communion  
     Sermon by Rev. Holger O. Nielsen  
     Holy Communion by Rev. Richard H. Sorensen  
 12:00 Noon. Dinner  
 2:30 P. M. Addresses by Dr. Alfred J. Beil and Dr. Alfred Jensen  
 8:00 P. M. Closing Meeting, Rev. Verner Hansen, speaker  
     Closing Remarks.

### District V Convention

District V will meet for its annual meeting in Alden, Minnesota, on October 2-4, 1953. The meeting will open with a short devotional period at 2 o'clock on October 2. This will be followed by a discussion of the work of the district, so all delegates are urged to be present at that time. Remember that each congregation is allowed one delegate for every 25 voting members. Let us make this meeting three days of strong fellowship with one another by a large representation from all our congregations.

**Harold Petersen,**  
 District President.

The First Lutheran Church of Alden, Minnesota, hereby invites all the pastors, delegates, members and friends of the Congregations in District V to the District Convention. Furthermore, we extend this invitation to friends of District IV and VI to spend Sunday with us.

Will all of you please send us your registration by Sept. 26 or as soon thereafter as possible to: Mr. P. C. Petersen, Alden, Minnesota.

We hope that each congregation will be well represented. Come even though you are not a delegate to help share the fellowship of work and song.

**Mr. Axel Skov,** President  
**Vagn Duus,** Pastor.

### District VI Convention

The congregation at Viborg, South Dakota, invites friends of our work and members of our congregations to attend the annual District Meeting at Viborg, South Dakota, September the 18 to the 20th. All guests and delegates are asked to register with Niels Jespersen, Viborg, South Dakota. Supper will be served at 6 p. m., Friday evening. The opening meeting will begin at 8 o'clock.

**Dwight Andersen,**  
 President of Congregation.  
**Harald Ibsen,** Pastor.  
**Enok Mortensen,**  
 President of District VI.

### District IX Convention

The Annual Meeting of District 9 will be held at The Hope Lutheran Church, Enumclaw, Washington, September 12th and 13th.

The meeting will be opened with Devotion Saturday morning at 9 a. m. All delegates and pastors are asked to be present at that time.

We extend a welcome to attend this convention to the membership of our churches, and, to friends. All delegates are requested to bring a written report from their respective congregations.

In order to accommodate you with lodging, and in order to plan the meals please register one week before the meeting with the president of the congregation or the pastor.

**Martin Petersen,** President.  
 R. F. D. 2, Enumclaw, Wash.  
**Svend Holm,** Pastor.  
**Holger M. Andersen,** Dist. Pres.

### District IX Convention Program

at

Hope Lutheran Church, Enumclaw, Washington

#### Saturday, September 12, 1953

9:00-9:30 A. M.—Devotions—Rev. John Federsen.  
 9:30-12:00—Business Meeting.  
 12:00 Noon—Dinner.  
 1:30 P. M.—Business Session continued.  
 2:30-4:30 P. M.—Excursion, Green River Gorge, with coffee recess.  
 6:00 P. M.—Supper.  
 8:00-9:00 P. M.—Women's Mission Society Meeting.  
 9:00-10:00 P. M.—Coffee, Singing, Speakers.

#### Sunday, September 13, 1953

9:45-10:45 A. M.—Sunday School.  
 11:00 A. M.—Worship service with Communion. Message by Rev. Harold E. Olsen. Liturgy, Rev. Svend Holm. Communion, Rev. Holm and Rev. Olsen.  
 1:00 P. M.—Dinner.  
 2:30-3:30 P. M.—Lecture, Rev. Holger M. Andersen.  
 3:30-4:30 P. M.—Choir Singing and coffee recess.  
 4:30-5:30 P. M.—Laymen's Discussion Hour.  
 6:00 P. M.—Supper.  
 7:30 P. M.—Lecture, Dr. J. C. Kjaer.  
 Closing—Coffee at Parsonage.

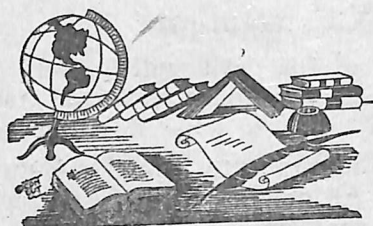
**Lutheran Tidings** - PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN  
 EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Office of Publication: Lutheran Tidings, Askov, Minnesota.  
 Editor: Rev. Verner Hansen, 1336 Morton Ave., Des Moines 16, Iowa  
 Circulation Manager: Svend Petersen, Askov, Minnesota.

Subscription price: 1 year, \$1.25; 2 years, \$2.25

Published semi-monthly on the 5th and 20th of each month. Entered as second class matter September 16, 1942, at the post office at Askov, Minn., under the act of March 3, 1879.





## OPINION AND COMMENT

This issue of LUTHERAN TIDINGS announces the loss of two more of our ministers, one by death, the other by resigning. Though no longer working in our Synod, Bue Bennike was one of our own, trained and ordained by our group. He was one of the five ministers which the congregational fellowship of our church in Racine has produced. Racine's present pastor is now leaving to return to the U. L. C. which he left a number of years ago to accept a call to Racine. Once more we are reminded that death and retirement and resignation are a constant drain on our ministerial supply. The record of Racine in sending five of its sons into the ministry cannot be duplicated everywhere, but each congregation ought to present at least one of its own in every generation. That would be the minimum required for replenishing the ranks. Every local board ought to discuss this matter several times a year so that no possible neglect can occur. Several investigations, as reported during the business sessions and in the evening meeting at the Convention devoted to this subject, have revealed that one of the principle reasons young men do not take up the ministry is that the need for their services has never been adequately presented to them. We are not talking about financial help, though that would indeed be fine. (It is very rare that financial lack is the reason for youth turning into other fields.) Young men must be challenged, and our Seminary would not be in its present predicament if congregations everywhere had done all they might.

**Speaking of the Seminary,** we confess we were a little shocked to see that the sub-committee chosen by the Board of Directors to investigate expanding the Seminary facilities at its present location consists of three members, two of whom have publicly stated their opinion that the Seminary cannot be expanded but ought to be relocated. We should hardly expect such a committee to embark on such an investigation with all the enthusiasm and lack of prejudice which the committee ought to have. The whole question of the training of our ministers is important and has many ramifications. It is a little known fact, for example, that though we as a Synod have required four years of college in addition to the three year Seminary course for only a very short time, only about twenty of the ministers in the whole Synod do not have at least that much schooling. Many have much more. Academically, our ministry is not as lacking as many seem to feel.

**It is fitting** here to mention yet another 75th Anniversary, this one by a sister church-paper, "The Christian Herald." The September issue of this periodical will mark seventy-five years of steadily growing service in its particular field. "The Christian Herald"

was founded by a business man, Louis Klopsch, as a news weekly with no pictures nor advertising. Its first editor was one of the most spectacular clergymen of the 19th Century, T. DeWitt Talmadge. Its present editor is no less eminent, Dr. Dan Poling. The anniversary edition will run to almost half a million copies, somewhat larger than its regular subscription list of 375,000. Pearl Buck, Lloyd Douglas and other famous authors have been its contributors, and two famous best-sellers became known within its pages. Charles Sheldon, past editor, wrote "In His Steps" which has had the most fabulous career of any book other than the Bible itself, and has sold forty million copies. The Pollyanna stories of Eleanor Porter also first went to Herald readers. This periodical contains some of the best reading for Christian lay people available, and we are happy to contribute this space to help mark the occasion.

**We read with pleasure** that the National Lutheran Council and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are co-operating in yet another field. Together they have purchased a five-story office building in Washington, D. C., to serve as joint headquarters for their respective activities at the nation's capital. The building, costing a quarter of a million dollars, is held in title by the N. L. C. but 40 per cent of the cost was assumed by the Missouri Church. Seventy four rooms will be shared by the two owners. The building is unique in other respects. It was torn down in 1902 but each stone was marked so that in rebuilding with the same materials the original architectural design could be preserved. This further instance of co-operation by two bodies who in other respects are far apart is heartening.

**Our Waterloo, Iowa, Congregation,** "St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church," recently sent us a copy of their newly proposed constitution and by-laws. Many of the constitutions and by-laws of our churches are in sad need of revision. Provisions found in some of them are actually downright unbelievable in our time, though no doubt they were perfectly acceptable in their day. We know of one instance where the constitution, until it was revised, provided that the pastor of the church was to be president of the congregation as well!

**It may be necessary,** though it ought not to be, to point out that unsigned articles in LUTHERAN TIDINGS are authored by the editor. We would get just as weary of signing all such items as the readers would weary of reading our constantly recurring signature. This clarification is made in answer to several recent inquiries.

**Contributions are welcomed.** We are especially anxious for small items for use in the column headed "Our Church" for which we are entirely dependent on others. Put us on your mailing lists so that we get your local papers regularly. Pastors should not hesitate to send in information, even though it concerns them personally. A postcard, a letter, a manuscript—send us anything you think may be a contribution of interest to our readers.



## Speakers Named For One-Day Seminars

New York — (NLC) — Twenty-four speakers from six church bodies have been chosen to address the fifty-five Lutheran One-Day Seminars that will be held throughout the United States and Canada from late September to early November. The biennial sessions, being held for the eighth time, are sponsored by the American Lutheran Conference.

Completion of plans for the seminars were announced here by Dr. Joseph Simonson, who has directed the program since 1946. As Dr. Simonson is scheduled to leave the U. S. on Sept. 18 to assume his new post as U.S. Ambassador to Ethiopia, future details of the seminars will be handled by Miss Amy W. Muri of St. Paul, Minn., who performed a similar service in 1951.

Dr. Bernhard Christensen, president of Augsburg College and Theological Seminary in Minneapolis, Minn., is chairman of the committee in charge of the seminars, which will be devoted to the general theme, "Lutheran Participation in Contemporary America." Sub-topics to be developed by the speakers will be "In Theological and Ecumenical Thought" and "In Community and Civic Life."

Representing the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will be the Rev. J. H. Gockel, Wilmette, Ill.; Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffman, New York City; the Rev. Kenneth R. Hoffman, Hyattsville, Md.; the Rev. E. P. Weber, West Lafayette, Ind.; Prof. Robert W. Bertram, Valparaiso, Ind.; the Rev. Paul J. Schulze, Bellevue, Wash.; the Rev. Carl J. Hoffman, Minneapolis, Minn.; and the Rev. H. C. Duwe, Evanston, Ill.

Speakers from the United Lutheran Church in America will be the Rev. Robert J. Schenk, Elgin, Ill.; Dr. R. R. Belter, Burlington, Iowa; Dr. John F. Futchs, Denver, Colo.; Dr. C. Franklin Koch, New York City; the Rev. Eldred H. Trede, Chicago, Ill.; Dr. John R. Brokhoff, Atlanta, Ga.; and Dr. Hermut T. Lehmann, Waterloo, Ont.

The American Lutheran Church will be represented by the Rev. J. Victor Murtland, Washington, D. C.; Dr. E. W. Mueller, Chicago, Ill.; and Dr. Gerhard E. Lenski, Berkeley, Calif.; the Evangelical Lutheran Church by Dr. Christian Preus, Fergus Falls, Minn.; the Rev. Theodore Heimark, Minneapolis, Minn.; and the Rev. G. S. Thompson, Thief River Falls, Minn.; the Augustana Lutheran Church by Dr. A. D. Mattson, Rock Island, Ill., and the Rev. William J. Hüllengren, St. Paul, Minn.; the American Evangelical Lutheran Church by Dr. Johannes Knudsen, Des Moines, Iowa.

The seminars, arranged in twelve series, will be held as follows:

Sept. 22—Great Falls, Mont.; 23—Spokane, Wash.; 24—Portland, Ore.; 25—Seattle, Wash.; 28—Vancouver, British

Columbia. Speakers, Gockel and Murtland.

Sept. 22—Menominee, Mich.; 23—Duluth-Superior; 24—Minneapolis-St. Paul; 25—Eau Claire, Wis. Speakers, Mattson and Schenk.

Sept. 21—Peoria, Ill.; 22—St. Louis, Mo.; 23—Chicago, Ill.; 24—Milwaukee, Wis.; 25—Oshkosh, Wis. Speakers, Oswald Hoffman and Preus.

Sept. 27—Pittsburgh, Pa.; 28—Buffalo, N. Y.; 29—Cleveland, O.; 30—Toledo, O.; Oct. 1—Detroit, Mich.; 2—Saginaw, Mich. Speakers, Kenneth Hoffman and Belter.

Sept. 28—Minot, N. D.; 29—Grand Forks, N. D.; 30—Fargo-Moorhead; Oct. 1—Aberdeen, S. D.; 2—Sioux Falls, S. D. Speakers, Knudsen and Futchs.

Oct. 5—New Haven, Conn.; 6—Boston, Mass.; 7—New York, N. Y.; 8—Philadelphia, Pa.; 9—Washington, D. C. Speakers, Weber and Heimark.

Oct. 6—Columbus, O.; 7—Dayton, O.; 8—Indianapolis, Ind.; 9—Ft. Wayne, Ind. Speakers, Bertram and Mueller.

Oct. 5—Kansas City, Mo.; 6—Denver, Colo.; 7—Omaha, Nebr.; 8—Des Moines, Iowa; 9—Mason City, Iowa. Speakers, Schulze and Koch.

Oct. 6—Madison, Wis.; 7—LaCrosse, Wis.; 8—Rochester, Minn.; 9—Davenport, Iowa. Speakers, Trede and Carl Hoffman.

Oct. 13—Houston, Texas; 14—San Antonio, Texas; 15—Dallas, Texas. Speakers, Thompson and Brokhoff.

Oct. 20—Oakland, Calif.; 21—Fresno, Calif.; 22—Los Angeles, Calif.; 23—San Diego, Calif. Speakers, Thompson and Lenski.

Oct. 29—Winnipeg; 30—Saskatoon; Nov. 1—Edmonton; 2—Regina; 3—Calgary. Speakers, Lehmann in Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Regina; Duwe in Edmonton and Calgary; Hüllengren in Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Regina and Calgary.

## To Discuss Church, World Issues At Ashram

Interlochen, Mich.—(NLC)—Lutheran students from colleges, universities and seminaries throughout the U. S. will gather at the National Music Camp here for the annual Ashram of the Lutheran Student Association of America, August 29 to September 4.

Highlights of this year's Ashram or "corporate spiritual quest" will be eighteen seminar groups meeting simultaneously to discuss crucial issues of importance to the Church and "The World Struggle—from the Perspective of the Gospel."

Discussions will be led by prominent Lutheran leaders, including Dr. Rolf Syrdal of the foreign missions board of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Rev. Harold Letts, social action secretary of the United Lutheran Church in America, Dr. Clarence E. Krumbholz of

the National Lutheran Council's Division of Welfare, Dr. Robert E. Van Deusen of the Washington public relations office of the NLC, Dr. H. Conrad Hoyer and the Rev. Nels Bergstrom of the NLC's Division of American Missions, the Rev. E. F. Wendt of Fort Collins, Colo., the Rev. David Conrad of Montgomery, Ala., and the Rev. Robbin Skyles of Chicago.

Seminars will be conducted in three periods, with the last devoted to consideration of the distinctive witness of individual Christian students and evangelism strategy according to the varying campus situations—state and private universities, teachers' colleges, Lutheran church colleges, seminaries and graduate schools.

Special interest groups will also meet to help students choose Christian vocations and to guide them to participation in social action.

Herluf M. Jensen, LSAA's first full-time president, will deliver the keynote address of this year's Ashram, speaking on "Powers and Principalities." He was re-elected to head the LSAA prior to last year's Ashram at Estes Park, Colo. Last December and January he attended the World Conference of Christian Youth at Trancore, India, where he was named to the general committee of the World's Student Christian Federation.

The Ashram Sunday morning worship service on August 30 will be broadcast on the CBS "Church of the Air," (10 a. m., EDT) with Dr. Edmund Steimle, professor of practical theology at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, preaching the sermon. Liturgist will be Dr. Warren Quanbeck of Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., the Ashram chaplain. Music will be provided by the Wartburg (Waverly, Iowa) College Choir, directed by Prof. Edwin Leimohn.

Bible study at the Ashram will be led by Dr. Howard Tillman Kuist of Princeton Theological Seminary, who gave similar service last year. He is the author of a study guide on Jeremiah, which will be used during the Ashram.

Platform addresses on successive evenings will be given by Dr. Conrad Bergendoff, president of Augustana College at Rock Island, Ill., speaking on "the Centrality of the University;" Dr. Theodore S. Liefeld of Capital University at Columbus, O., on "The Contrite Heart and the Confident Spirit;" and Dr. Lawrence Stavig, president of Augustana College at Sioux Falls, S. D., on "Christus Victor."

Orientation to the liturgical heritage of the Lutheran Church will be led for the students by the Rev. Donald R. Heiges, executive secretary of the NLC's Division of Student Service.

A special feature of the Ashram will be an exhibit of Christian art, including from 60 to 80 entries of paintings, sculptures, architect's drawings and models, organized under the direction of Karen Elness of the art department of St. Olaf College at Northfield, Minn.



## OUR CHURCH

District VII Convention will be held October 9, 10, 11 at Kronborg, Nebr. Details will appear in a later issue of LUTHERAN TIDINGS.

Pastor Robert Schmidt has resigned from his pastorate at Bethania Lutheran Church, Racine, Wisconsin. He is to be pastor of the ULC church at Portage, Wis., where he will begin his work this winter. During Pastor Schmidt's ministry at Bethania, the congregation completed an entirely new church building and parsonage in a newly developed section of town, probably the most beautiful and functional church plant of any in our synod.

Miss Muriel S. Nielsen, missionary from our synod to India, has been receiving much misdirected mail considerably delayed. Here is her correct address:

Gaoranb Girls School  
P. O. Haltugaon  
Goalpara District  
Assam, India.

Pastor Verner Hansen will speak at the annual "Septemberfest" in Nysted the first week-end in September, and will also lecture and show color slides from Korea in Marquette and Cozad, Nebr.

Pastor and Mrs. Enok Mortensen celebrate their silver wedding anniversary September 30 at Tyler, Minn.

Pastor Clayton Nielsen will visit Askov, Minn., to be guest speaker at the annual Harvest Festival, Sept. 20.

The Fall Get-Together will be held in Omaha Sept. 19-20, with Pastor Harold Riber as the invited speaker. He will

address the group three times and also preach at worship in the morning.

The Ladies' Aid in Seattle entertained two speakers from Denmark recently. Pastor E. Kragh-Schwarz gave an interesting talk on the life of the martyred and beloved Kaj Munk. Mrs. Christensen, affiliated with the Danish Girl Scout Movement, who is touring America studying the Girl Scouts of America under the Julia Lowe's Friendship Fund, also spoke.

A new baby daughter, Kathleen Paula, was born to Pastor and Mrs. Walter Brown, of Ruthton-Diamond Lake, August 3.

Pastor Paul Wikman has accepted the call from St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, of Chicago (southside) and has resigned his pastorate at Ringsted, Iowa.

Pastor Bue Bennike of Elling, Denmark, suddenly passed away early in August. He was a former pastor in our Synod.

President Alfred Jensen is at the present time on tour in California.

### 26 WORKERS HANDLE EXPANDING LWF RELIEF PROGRAM IN SYRIA

Geneva — (NLC) — Twenty-six persons are now employed by the Lutheran World Federation Department of Lutheran World Service to carry on relief activities among refugees in Syria, according to a report issued at federation headquarters here.

Christian Christiansen, the LWF's representative in Syria, informed officials here that he has had to expand his staff because of the increased medical service provided by the federation's two general polyclinics and its special children's clinic and because of the increasing flow of relief supplies distributed to refugees.

In addition to relief supplies from Lutheran World Relief in the U. S., clothing is being received from Denmark at the rate of ten tons per month, while 16 tons arrived from Norway early in July. During the first seven months of 1953, the LWF distributed 9,452 family parcels and thus served from 45,000 to 50,000 refugees.

"By its way of distribution," Mr. Christiansen said, "our relief department is building up respect for and confidence in our work so that the Syrian Government recently turned over to us a collection of clothing, which they received as a gift from Brazil, to distribute together with and in the same way as we distribute our own good."

He also revealed that more than 50 refugee leaders, political as well as religious, had asked the Syrian Government to "tell the Lutheran World Federation how grateful all are for the work you are doing." All the signers of the request were Moslems.

## SYNOD OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Rev. Alfred Jensen,  
1232 Pennsylvania Ave.,  
Des Moines 16, Iowa.

SECRETARY: Rev. Holger O. Nielsen,  
1410 Main St., Cedar Falls, Iowa.

TREASURER: Charles Lauritzen,  
222 Pollard Ave., Dwight, Ill.

TRUSTEE: Olaf R. Juhl,  
30 W. Minnehaha Parkway  
Minneapolis 19, Minn.

TRUSTEE: Erling V. Jensen,  
1104 Boyd Street  
Des Moines 16, Iowa.

TRUSTEE: August Sorensen,  
Ringsted, Iowa.

TRUSTEE: Holger Rasmussen,  
Marlette, Mich.

## California District Fall Meeting

The membership of the California District of our church is hereby reminded that our annual Fall meeting will be held at Solvang during the days of October 1st through the 4th. The meeting will begin Thursday evening with a service in Bethania Church and will end Sunday afternoon October 4th in time for everyone to get home for Monday morning. The pastors of the District will be on hand to speak as will other invited speakers. We hope to have a complete program for the next issue of Lutheran Tidings. In the meantime plan now to be with us. We have set this week-end for our meeting in order to enable all who attend the annual meeting of the Solvang Lutheran Home (October 2nd) to be with us.

A. E. Farstrup,  
District President.

## WANTED

Cook Helper at  
GRAND VIEW COLLEGE  
Beginning September 13.

Write  
HARRY JENSEN  
Grand View College  
Des Moines, Iowa

NEW ADDRESS—If you move, then write your name and new address in the space provided. Be sure to state what congregation you belong to. Clip this out so that the old address is included and mail to LUTHERAN TIDINGS, Askov, Minn.

September 5, 1953

I am a member of \_\_\_\_\_ the congregation at \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

REV. CLAYTON NIELSEN  
WITHEE, WIS.  
5-1