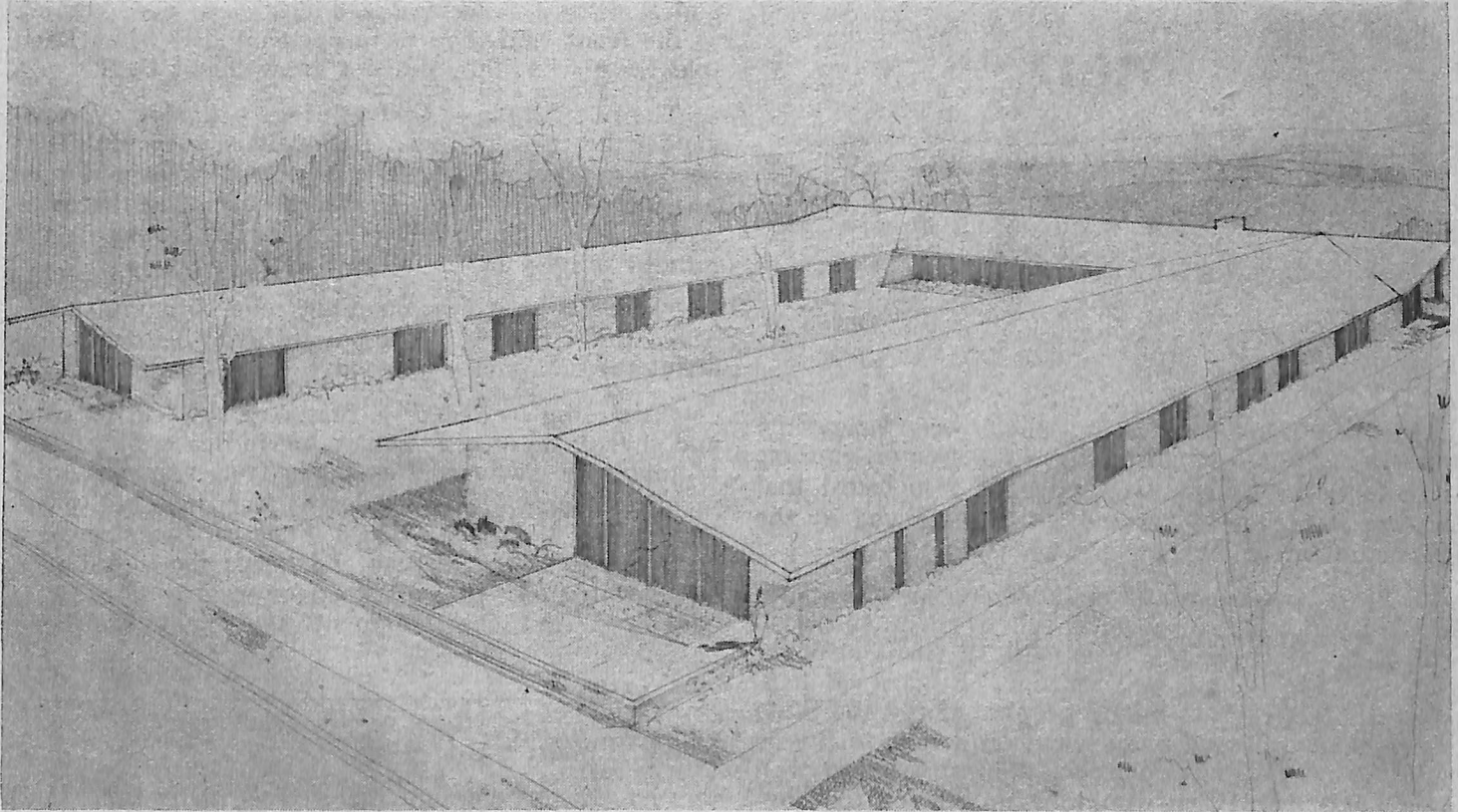


Lutheran Tidings

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Architect's Drawing of New Lutheran Home at Tyler, Minnesota

X Tyler Home for Aged

On the basis of the synodical convention decision of last year at Seattle, Washington, the Board of Welfare of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church has made plans to sponsor and build a new and larger Home for the Aged at Tyler, Minnesota. The present institution, designed for an orphanage in 1904, has been used ever since 1936 as an old people's home, but with accommodations for only twelve residents it has long since been too small.

The new home, a one-story brick structure in modern design, will house some thirty residents and can be enlarged still further as the need arises. The home will be built on a plot of ground donated by Danebod Lutheran Church between the parsonage and the gym hall.

A fund drive is now in progress. It is hoped that the sum of \$100,000.00 in cash or pledges can be raised before August 5. Committees in charge of the project consist of members of our churches at Ruthton, Diamond Lake, and Danebod, and from the community at large.

An attractive folder in two colors and with pictures describing the project has been mailed to all subscribers to LUTHERAN TIDINGS. In the Tyler area a volunteer committee will solicit funds by personal contact. People throughout the synod who wish to donate to the project by mail are asked to make out checks to Mr. Robert L. Seibert, Building Fund Treasurer, Tyler, Minnesota.

Good Will Toward Men

AAGE MOLLER

During childhood I heard people say repeatedly that we are now living in the era of grace or, as some termed it, the covenant of grace. I also heard that this era will come to an end and be followed by the full actuation of love.

I have seen numberless evidences of the truth that we are living in a world where grace and good will is the strongest. The grace attitude is stronger than the "eye for an eye" attitude. Recently it happened that a group of young people ignored the State Department ordinances and went on a tour to Russia and China. These people should have been so well immunized that there would be no chance for anything more than spectatorship. They had heard about the atrocities committed in the Soviet. They knew about the amoral politics of the Kremlin and the ruthless executions in China. They had listened to the constant anti-soviet propaganda for years, they cherished the comforts which our civilization can give to man, yet the desire to trust people and fraternize with them was stronger than the agencies of antipathy.

Dr. Marcus Bach and his wife traveled recently in Russia in order to get a true picture of the religious situation in the Soviet. He is rooted in a godfaith which a majority of atheism and petty pharisee orthodoxy cannot wring out of him. He knows that the Russian atheist is innately religious like all other people are, and that his avowed atheism will not prevent him from crossing over the established border, yet the young atheists impressed him strongly and no ideology or propaganda power could keep him from making fraternal contact with them. Young people who find that life is meaningful are always attractive. They have not come to see with Pasternak that Communism is a failure. They trust the teachings and the system of Communism, and to them the world will profit by accepting it. They do believe that on the level of Communism the conflicts will culminate in the perfect harmonious oneness with cooperation and personal freedom. They do take it for granted that "imperialist capitalism" is the satan who must

be renounced, therefore the numberless cars and kitchen gadgets in U. S. do not interest them very much. These people do not dissipate, and they cherish the opera. The rationalistic ethos of reason, virtue and a possible immortality has gone into their blood. When Bach asked them if they had in their souls a quest for more than Communism could give them, they said that the system gave them what they needed, yet they frankly admitted that Tolstoy, Dostoyevski and Berdyaev, fervent Christ disciples, were coming to the front, and they were open minded when Bach told them what they did not know about U. S.

The main thing is that atheism, orthodoxy, propaganda, the threat of war, nationalism, etc., could not keep him from making friends with people in Russia, nor could all that keep him from surmising that consistent and pagan atheism may be a servant in the infinite activity of the Holy Spirit.

These are but two examples out of a multitude. Each one of you who read this can tell his own story about the supremacy of good will.

"The sting of death" is fear. In a world of trust and charity there is no such sting in death, and death is unable to produce propaganda fear, war fear, and security fear. Demonic death fear has really no chance, for the good will of grace is the strongest, but it raves like a maniac and keeps the world in a state of tremor. It will keep on raving until it is exhausted, but the judgment against it has been passed.

Mark Twain Said —

I have been complimented a great many times, and they always embarrass me — I always feel they have not said enough.

Noise proves nothing. Often a hen who has merely laid an egg cackles as if she had laid an asteroid.

Have a place for everything and keep the thing somewhere else; this is not advice, it is merely custom.

The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.

Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been.

The core of our defense is the faith we have in the institutions we defend.

—Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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Ove Nielsen Sees

Opportunities Unlimited

New York—(NLC)—The “almost insurmountable needs of India” were vividly impressed upon the Rev. Ove R. Nielsen during a six-week survey of Lutheran World Relief’s material aid programs in Europe and Asia.

Mr. Nielsen, who is assistant executive secretary of LWR, said the agency’s activities are “only scratching the surface” in a land where the birth rate increases more rapidly than food production and where vocational training centers are essential to the continuing economy.

The Rev. Edwin A. Nerger, chairman of the Board of World Relief of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, accompanied Mr. Nielsen on the trip, which included visits to Austria, Germany, Yugoslavia, Jordan and India. They returned to the United States in late May.

Lutheran World Relief works in India in cooperation with Church World Service, Protestant relief agency of the National Council of Churches. Foodstuffs, mostly donated by the U. S. government, are distributed in 330 areas through the National Christian Council of India.

Mr. Nielsen stressed that there are literally millions of people who sorely need gifts of food, with only a fraction being reached through this program.

In Bombay, one of the cities visited by the LWR leaders, 69 milk-feeding centers provide liquid milk for undernourished children. “We saw two of these milk centers,” Mr. Nielsen said. “At the first one there were more than 200 children waiting in line with cups, and at the second there were 600.”

He described as most critical to the growth of children the period from weaning until four years of age. “It is this age group that we should try to help more and more,” he said.

In Ambur, another area of distribution in India, Mr. Nielsen saw examples of what milk can do for the health of a child. In one clinic he observed children who had been receiving milk through the CWS-LWR program for nine months. “They were robust and healthy,” he said. In contrast were other children who had just started to receive milk, some of whom were “in a physical condition which was shocking to behold.”

According to World Health Organization figures, in some areas of India at least 70 per cent of the children suffer from tuberculosis, Mr. Nielsen reported.

Government surplus corn and wheat are sent to India through LWR and are used in welfare institutions, with food shipments reaching approximately 182,000 recipients throughout the country. Of these 72,000 are in schools, 64,000 are in institutions, and

46,000 are helped through milk centers.

A visit to a camp where refugees from East Pakistan live in crowded, sub-human conditions convinced Mr. Nielsen that the Church should aid these people by providing vocational training programs which would train them to take their place in society.

“There is urgent need for self-help projects,” he said. “The opportunities for service to the people of India is nearly unlimited, there is need for more schools of all kinds — regular, trade and professional.”

The relief officials’ trip also included visits to refugee camps in Austria and Germany where they found refugees in “very crowded quarters, but in the main well provided for, with most family heads employed in industry.”

Also included on their itinerary was a visit to Lutheran World Federation headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, where they held conferences with various department heads.

In Yugoslavia, Mr. Nielsen tried some of the hot milk given to school children as a part of LWR’s supplementary feeding program in that country. “It had such a unique flavor that I asked what had been done to it,” he said. He learned that baked barley had been mixed with the milk to make it more tasty. At least two million school children are reached by the joint CWS-LWR program in Yugoslavia.

After lunching with Shiekh Abou Salem in Jordan, Mr. Nielsen and Mr. Nerger watched the distribution of “Dorcas Project” clothing to 153 boys and 70 girls. The Dorcas Project provides new clothing made by Lutheran women’s groups in the U. S. for Arab children.

“Some of the boys would dash off like rabbits when they received their garments, for fear that someone would take them away from them,” Mr. Nielsen said.

Although more than a million pounds of clothing are sent annually to the Jordan area for distribution, the LWR executive stated that much more clothing is needed.

Some 65,000 refugees and others are given food in this area through the LWF Department of World Service program, under the direction of Mr. Axel Christiansen.

Mr. Nerger, who is secretary of the Board of Directors of LWR, commented on the experiences of the trip. “I was impressed with a number of things,” he said, “the encouraging recovery of the war-scarred countries of Europe; the tragic problem of the Arab in Jordan; and the great, almost insoluble need of India.” He went on record as favoring a stronger LWR program to the latter country.

“Although East is East and West is West, I was

New Magazine

The first joint magazine of four Lutheran church bodies planning to merge in 1961 will appear this August. Sponsored by the parish education boards of the American Evangelical, Augustana, Suomi and United Lutheran Churches, the magazine named **RESOURCE** will serve church school teachers and other congregational leaders of parish education.

Announcement of the joint venture was made recently by the following executives of the four boards of parish education: **Pastors Howard Christensen, Detroit, Mich., AELC**; Lael H. Westberg, Minneapolis, Minn., Augustana; Robert P. Hetico, Waukegan, Ill., Suomi and S. White Rhyne, Philadelphia, Pa., ULCA.

Named as editor of the monthly magazine is the Reverend John M. Mangum, ULCA. Associate editor is Miss Beverly Schultz, Augustana, who will begin her work June 15. Other associate editors are Pastors Lawrence E. Nelson, Joseph W. Inslee and Lawrence M. Reese, all of the ULCA.

Editorial offices will be in the Muhlenberg Building, Philadelphia, Pa., where **RESOURCE** will be published.

The first issue, under an October publication date, will be available September 1, 1959, Mr. Mangum said. He expects an initial circulation of 50,000.

With its appearance, parish education periodicals of the church bodies are to be discontinued. They are Augustana's "Church School Teacher," AELC's "Teacher's Tidings," and ULCA's "Parish School."

According to Mr. Mangum, **RESOURCE** will be directed not only to congregational teachers and administrators in the Sunday, Weekday and Vacation Church Schools, but also to committees on parish education and professional church workers.

The 32-page magazine will contain articles explaining Lutheran teachings and helping leaders develop goals of Christian education consistent with

clearly impressed with a sense of oneness in the human family. We are divided only by an artificial barrier imposed by men of prejudice. Our work here must be a conquest of Christian understanding and an example of love," he said.

He added that everywhere the two men visited they received expressions of profound gratitude for the gifts which have been distributed by LWR during the past 13 years.

Lutheran World Relief is the material aid agency of the eight church bodies of the National Lutheran Council and of the Missouri Synod Board of World Relief, and as such is supported by seven million Lutherans in the United States.

them. Other articles will discuss the needs and characteristics of the pupil.

In addition there will be material guiding leaders in the best use of educational methods and equipment.

One section of **RESOURCE**, Mr. Mangum said, will guide the leader in "making objectives come alive by using specific teaching aids." This regular feature will review basic materials, books and audio-visuals and will list sources of teaching aids available to leaders. The purposes these helps can serve in teaching pupils will be suggested.

RESOURCE will also feature news of activities in parish education throughout the United States and Canada.

The magazine, in color, is to be published 11 times a year.

Mr. Mangum was graduated from Lenoir Rhyne College and the Philadelphia Lutheran Theological Seminary and received a master's degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. From 1946-48 he was assistant editor of "The Lutheran," news magazine of the ULCA. After serving for two years as pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church Westville, N. J., he became associate secretary of the Luther League of America, youth auxiliary of the ULCA.

Since 1956 Mr. Mangum has been with the ULCA board of parish education, where he has edited "Parish School."

The Need for Evangelism

To talk about the church's need for evangelism is like discussing a man's need for breathing, or a grain's need for growing. The church cannot be truly the church if it does not have a clear and living evangelistic purpose. Yet there is no word that has more confusion surrounding it in our church life than the word "evangelism." For many people the term brings to mind a stereotyped picture of a certain kind of revival meeting and this is all it means. Others, who see evangelism in somewhat broader terms, think of it as one emphasis in the program of activities that characterizes the efficient church. Evangelism in this setting is thought to refer only to the ways by which a church adds to its membership. Yet these are only partial views. Evangelism is a dimension of all the church is and does. It cannot be planned for like a membership drive. Sharing the gospel of Christ with other people is not like a matter of salesmanship. This gospel, to be believed, has to be lived. To live it means that Christians as individuals and as a church seek to confront every area of life with the meaning of what God is continually doing through Jesus Christ. Such a full-time pursuit, filled with all the commonplace interests of daily existence and all the brilliance of human imagination, inevitably reaches out to other people. "A city set on a hill cannot be hid." The gospel has to be proclaimed, witnessed to and shared, or the life goes out of it.

Robert W. Spike.

Footnotes to a World of Song

Enok Mortensen



DANISH-AMERICAN pastor, son of the renowned Bishop Grundtvig, visualized America as a rendezvous of nations. He believed implicitly that the Creator had designated America as a proving ground where it was to be demonstrated that people of all lands could congregate and succeed in building a better world. There would be one nation, one people; but this unity would not nullify individuality; for unity is not synonymous with uniformity. Each ethnic group would bring its own heritage of language and traditions, of folkways and culture, of wisdom and songs, thus providing building blocks for a new and better society.

We have not as yet fully attained that ideal, but there is a growing awareness of such potentialities. Communities as well as individuals are beginning to discover and appreciate their roots. "What the son (of the immigrant) wished to forget, the grandson want to remember," said Oscar Hendlin. "We do not," an immigrant has said, "belong to the past; the past belongs to us." Our singing need not be confined to our own songs. We may blend our voices with others. We have a world of song! When we folk dance, we have at our disposal dances of a hundred nations. When we break bread together we can share recipes and make a common meal into a sumptuous feast!

This vision was in the minds of those of us who many years ago planned the first edition of "A World of Song." The Danish immigrant loved to sing; and he brought with him hundreds of songs interpreting in poetic terms the love of his homeland, freedom and justice and the wide range of joy and sorrow in human living. These folk songs and folk-life songs were sung by the immigrants in their homes, at work, or when they gathered in meeting halls and church basements all over the new land. The heritage of song was priceless and it found tangible expression in a number of published songbooks. F. L. Grundtvig, mentioned above, edited several of these, one collection numbering no less than 834 songs.

In many instances not only the immigrant, but also his descendants perpetuated this treasure of songs. In the early twenties, however, the Danish language began to fade away and some of us began to think in terms of changing our cultural values into common currency. Songs began to be translated. In our own group the leaders in this effort were the pastors, J. C. Aaberg and S. D. Rodholm. There were several mimeographed collections and a few smaller booklets printed. Finally, in 1941, a committee appointed by the Danish-American Young People's League collected and published the first edition of "A World of Song."

The name was significant. We wanted to blend our voices with those of other lands. We sought to include not only our own, but the songs of all nations. We were not experts but we had the fortitude and the courage of the dilettante. We were explorers

in a new world. We were miners discovering new veins of precious metals. This attitude was also reflected in the format and form of the book. We used the unit plan with a ring binder in order to make it possible to keep on adding to the book which to us was a living and growing organism.

And we had the satisfaction of the book being bought and the songs being sung, not only in our own group, but far and wide. We printed a second edition, and a third. We now had ten units and in addition a supplement of "Scandinavian Singing Games and Folk Dances" (1948).

The book by this time had become big and bulky. Also, our stock was all but depleted and we began to plan another edition. We had worked with the book for many years. We were considerably older and, I trust, somewhat wiser. We had learned to become more critical and to assess values; and we felt that a thorough revision was needed. We wanted to weed out inferior material, to include songs which in the meantime had become familiar and dear to us, and to publish a definitive collection of songs as our contribution to American singing.

It was not an easy task. We met for days and days and came up with what we believed was a "final" selection — only to meet again weeks later and continue our revision. At long last we decided that there must be an end to this, and the result is the present — and fourth — edition of "A World of Song."

The new book is more compact and has fewer songs than the edition preceeding it. There are those who will miss songs which we left out. We miss some of them ourselves, but you can't have everything, and we felt compelled to include a lot of new material. A casual glance reveals the inclusion of a larger number of hymns. This was done in order to make the book more usable for many occasions and also because our own vistas of American hymnody had become widened. Basically, however, the book has not lost its original character. The hymns as well as the many morning and evening songs have a flavor of their own. Danish hymnody presents a strong contrast to the stress on emotionalism found in the so-called Gospel hymns. Danish hymns are scriptural but also lyrical. There is little emphasis on man's achievements and feelings. They are sung to the glory of God, but they are not other-worldly. On the contrary, they reflect man's earthly life and experiences. They abound in similies from nature, the variegated colors of the Danish countryside and the changing seasons. While for practical purposes we included a number of hymns familiar to most American congregations, we cherished the hope that our translated hymns might in time become familiar to a larger group.

In Danish we distinguish between folk songs and

folk-life songs. We have included a large number of folk songs from many lands — the songs that often rise out of the common experiences of a people, the author in many instances being unknown. Folk-life songs, on the other hand, are often creations of contemporary and well-known poets, but they express the love of nature and the common life. Denmark is rich in such songs, and we in America have so few of them. It would be difficult to find in Nebraska or anywhere else a farmer who grows lyrical about his daily chores! In Denmark there are hundreds of songs which glorify such common and prosaic tasks. A good example is Jeppe Aakjaer's song:

My farm on the hill in the light of the dawn,
The summer clouds drifting above it,
My cows in the pasture, the ducks in the pond,
The gold-spangled meadow, the cornfield beyond,
All this is my home and I love it!

Another example is "The Song of the Oats" by the same author or "The Tiller" by Mads Hansen.

There are songs from many lands and there are different types of songs; but deep in the minds of those of us who collected and published this book has been a desire to bring a new note into American singing. It is our conviction that life is whole, not fractional. It must not be pigeon-holed into neat little compartments. Man is created in the image of God. He is "no monkey destined to ape other animals — but a matchless and marvelous creature in whom divine forces shall proclaim, develop and clarify themselves through a thousand generations as a divine experiment" (Grundtvig, quoted by J. Knudsen).

In other words, he is destined for heaven, but his earthly life has a God-given value also. Perhaps this attitude and philosophy of life has been best expressed in our own times by Albert Schweitzer's phrase, "reverence for life." That's why all singing — hymns, folk songs, and even fun songs reflect our relation to one another, to our earthly life, and to God.

It has been our hope through "A Word of Song" to blend our voices with those of other peoples, and perhaps to add a strand or two that will live long enough to color the tapestry of American singing.

P.S.—Other members of the committee have been Erik K. Moller, Howard Christensen, Harry C. Jensen, Christence Jespersen, Harris A. Jespersen, C. Arild Olsen and Elise H. Olsen.

The book may be purchased from Grand View College Book Store, Des Moines, Iowa, at \$3 a copy.

TRUST

When nothing whereon to lean remains,
When strongholds crumble to dust;
When nothing is sure but that God still reigns,
That is just the time to trust.
'Tis better to walk by faith than sight,
In this path of yours and mine;
And the pitch black night when there's no light,
Is the time for our faith to shine.

—Christian Digest.

Bible Briefs

One of the most important Bible Society efforts for the future of India was the distribution in 1958 of the Scriptures to matriculates and graduates which amounted to 42,692 free copies of Gospels and Acts and New Testaments and Psalms, an increase of more than 7,000 over 1957. This distribution, begun in 1954, was of great importance to the late General Secretary Premanand Mahanty, who said in regard to this program: "This is the age of youth, for India has taken on a new lease of life to fill a new place in the world. The future of the Church lies largely in the hands of young men and women who from their earlier years have been fed with the Bread of Life." The program has now been extended to all educational institutions.

Talking Book Records for the blind distributed last year by the American Bible Society numbered 45,468. Distribution of both records and embossed Scriptures registered an increase of nearly fifteen per cent over the previous year. In response to urgent appeals two large shipments of Braille paper were delivered by the American Bible Society to the Bible Houses in Japan and Korea for local printing of Scriptures in Braille.

A Bible in every Christian home became the goal of the Bible Society of India and Ceylon in 1955. This project is carried on in close cooperation with the Churches, and so far 18,869 homes have been supplied with Bibles and New Testaments. When families are genuinely too poor to pay the ordinary selling price of a Bible, the local church comes to their aid. When the need is beyond the capacity of the church the Bible Society helps still further with additional grants and subsidies.

Last year a major revision of the Arabic Bible was undertaken by the Bible Societies in order to put the Word of God into current Arabic idiom. Already the revised translation of the Sermon on the Mount is being circulated, although the entire project will take several years.

First Time

On her first train trip, a little girl was put into an upper berth by her mother, who told her that God would watch over her.

As silence descended over the car, the little girl became alarmed and called out softly: "Mother, are you there?"

"Yes, dear," her mother replied. A little later, in a louder voice, the child called: "Daddy, are you there, too?"

"Yeah," was the reply.

After this had been repeated several times, one of the passengers finally lost patience and shouted:

"We're all here. Your father and mother and brothers and sisters and aunts and cousins. Now go to sleep!"

There was silence for a while. Then, in a hushed voice, the child called: "Mother — was that God?"

— John Conner.

Detroit Congregation Prepares for 82nd Convention of AELC

On August 11, 1959, the 82nd annual convention will begin at the Greenfield Methodist Church, 19370 Greenfield Road, Detroit. St. Peter's Church does not have the capacity to house the convention and is fortunate in securing the facilities of the Greenfield Methodist Church which is but two blocks south of our church, in the northwest area of Detroit.

As you know, Detroit is the world center of the automobile industry, an industry which provides the world with millions of pleasure and work vehicles each year. However, there are many other things in Detroit besides automobiles. The many churches of many denominations in a highly industrial metropolis make for an interesting backdrop to the activities of the AELC convention.

Many fine things can be said about Detroit, but rather than make this sound like a Chamber of Commerce bulletin, we shall let Detroit sell herself. The hospitality committee is busy gathering information about the various tours which can be made to see Detroit's industrial might as well as other points of interest. Specific information on these tours will be available to you when you arrive. These tours will be on the Monday **following** the convention. Some of the tours will be:

1. Greenfield Village.
2. Rotunda and the Ford Factory.
3. A general tour of the Art Center, Wayne University, Canada, Fisher Building, Belle Isle, and the Civic Center.

To assist those of you who are driving, the following information is given:

1. The Greenfield Methodist Church is approximately one mile south of the Northland Shopping Center.
2. Those driving in from the south on U. S. 24, stay on U. S. 24 until Eight Mile Road (Base Line Road). Then drive east to Greenfield and south on Greenfield one-half mile to the church.



St. Peter's Church, Detroit, Michigan

3. Those driving in on U. S. 16, stay on U. S. 16 until Eight Mile Road (Base Line Road). Then drive east to Greenfield and then south on Greenfield one-half mile to the church.
4. Those driving in on U. S. 10, stay on U. S. 10 until Eight Mile Road (Base Line Road). Then drive west to Greenfield and then south on Greenfield one-half mile to the church.

In case any of the delegates and guests need to be contacted during the convention the telephone numbers for the period of the convention are BRoadway 2-1583 or BRoadway 2-1584.

The Detroit congregation is pleased to have this opportunity to serve God and the American Evangelical Lutheran Church and hope that you will respond by attending this convention.

Paul J. Blinkilde,
President of the Congregation,
Chairman of the Convention Committee.

My Symphony

To live content with small means; to seek elegance rather than luxury, refinement rather than fashion; to be wealthy, not rich, to study hard, think quietly, talk gently, act frankly; to listen to the stars and birds, to babes and sages with open heart; to bear all cheerfully, do all bravely, await occasions, never hurry — in a word, to let the spiritual unbidden and unconscious grow up through the common. This is to be my symphony.

—Wm. Henry Channing.



Paging Youth

American Evangelical Luth.
Youth Fellowship

EDITOR: EVERETT NIELSEN

1100 Boyd,
Des Moines 16, Iowa

Michigan Approves Constitution

The Lake Michigan District of the AELYF approved a new and improved constitution at its annual convention July 3 and 4, 1959. The new constitution was fashioned after the new national constitution approved at Detroit last November.

The new district officers were elected, with the following results: Miss Ginger Olsen, Chicago, president; Ken Nielsen, Detroit, vice president; Miss Janet Mortensen, Chicago, secretary; Miss Jan Madison, Sidney, treasurer, and Rev. Donald Holm, Manistee, advisor.

The Lutheran Lantern, district newsletter, will be continued, with Greenville publishing. The district will finance it. An offering of \$150 will be sent by the district to help defray the expenses of the Youth Activities Director. Muskegon invited for Winter Retreat and Dwight for next year's camp.

Camping on Butternut

The Northern Lights District of the AELYF held its annual camp and convention near Luck, Wisconsin, on Little Butternut lake July 7-13. Approximately 40 full-time campers enjoyed the week of fellowship, fun and study. Several others from Minneapolis and Askov joined the group for the week end.

Bouquets of gratitude should go to everyone, but of special mention should be the host group and its pastor, Rev. Harald Petersen and the Camp Director, Rev. Calvin Rossman of Ruthton, Minnesota.

This is a new campsite, and is in the process of being developed. The "primitive" facilities did not hamper the spirit of the camp, demonstrated best by a unanimous vote to return next year. It is hoped that a shower and better beach facilities will be in use at that time.

The new "World of Song" was used extensively, with Mrs. Harris Jespersen well qualified to lead the group in singing. She and Rev. Enok Mortensen told some of the background and development of the book which helped everyone to appreciate it more.

Crafts, a well-prepared Bible study and lecture sessions added to the well-filled camp days and nights. Folk dancing of all types was greatly enjoyed. Rain cut out much of the athletic program, but the long walk to the girls' dorm provided the hiking (and other such activities).

The convention on Thursday was well planned and executed. Major points of business included planning to return to Luck for next year's camp and some addi-

tional improvements; voting \$125 to AELYF to help defray the expenses of the new Activities Director; reports from the local groups; "World of Song," "Yule," and "Paging Youth" reports; and the election of officers. Mr. Ardel Hansen and Mr. Harley Johansen, both of Luck, were elected president and vice president, respectively. Miss Lois Shriver of Tyler was elected secretary, and Mr. Eilif Jespersen of Circle Pines, treasurer. The district advisors will be Rev. Robert Hermansen, Dagmar, Mont., and Rev. Calvin Rossman.

The Dagmar-Volmer LYF was represented with a large number of campers. This is highly commendable because of the great travel barrier. Those groups who live much closer could look to Dagmar for a fine example in camp spirit.

Campfires, skits and stunts, fellowship, seranades, worship.....all these will long live in the minds of the campers as they review their week in Wisconsin. The close-knit fellowship was best expressed as each camper took his place at the Lord's Table and knelt in humility while receiving the life giving body and blood of the Savior.

AELYF: Revue and Prevue

The National Board of the AELYF will present a short program at St. Peter's Church, 19900 Greenfield during the synodical convention of the AELC. A presentation of the AELYF, past and future and a timely discussion will be held on Saturday evening, August 15. Folk dancing will follow. Do not miss this opportunity to participate in a fresh and inspiring presentation.

Over the Typewriter

We are home again, after three weeks or more of traveling to camps. It has been a fine experience and we are thankful for the opportunity to help where we can. During these next few weeks, we will be preparing to visit several local congregations to help in planning a good yearly program, preparing a new film-strip list, writing publicity for the convention at Nysted, Nebraska, November 6, 7 and 8, and other similar tasks. If you want the Synod Youth Activities Director at your LYF planning sessions this summer, write now to the address in the mast head!

How did the camps compare? This question has been asked us by many. It is impossible to pin point every difference and quality. The strength of each camp was different, but all were excellent experiences.

Iowa Camp Set

The Iowa District of the AELYF will hold its camp August 23-29, 1959, at the State 4-H camp near Luther, Iowa. The cost for the week is only \$19.50 with an inclusive \$4 registration fee due by August 1. Registrations should be sent to Rev. Harold E. Olsen, Pleasant Drive and Willow Lane, Cedar Falls, Iowa. Do it now!

Our Women's Work

MRS. AAGE PAULSEN, EDITOR

Beaver Crossing, Nebraska



To all Key Women of WMS

This is to ask you to be sure to send the names of your elected delegates to your district president before July 31 in order that the president may appoint the findings committees to act on the various reports for the convention business meetings at Detroit.

Will the Key Women also kindly notify your various groups that the speaker for the evening of August 15 is Mr. Herluf Jensen, Executive Secretary for the United Student Christian Council. His topic is: Students and the Life and Mission of the Church.

Please urge the women of your church to attend these meetings.

Reeta A. Petersen,
Secretary.

Hymn

(Sung to the tune of The Church's One Foundation)

Christ has no hands but our hands to do His work today;
He has no feet but our feet to lead men in His way;
He has no tongue but our tongues to tell men how He died;
He has no help but our help to bring them to His side.

We are the only Bible the careless world will read;
We are the sinner's Gospel, we are the scoffer's creed;
We are the Lord's last message written in deed and word —
What if the line is crooked? What if the type is blurred.

What if our hands are busy with other work than His?
What if our feet are walking where sin's allurements is?
What if our tongues are speaking of things His lips would
spurn?

How can we hope to help Him unless from Him we learn?

—Annie Johnson Flint.

Students and the Life and Missions of the Church

MR. HERLUF M. JENSEN

TOPIC FOR SATURDAY EVENING, AUGUST 15

Herluf M. Jensen, Executive Secretary of the United Student Christian Council, will present as his topic, "Students and the Life and Mission of the Church," when he addresses the AELC convention at the WMS meeting on Saturday evening, August 15.

The United Student Christian Council is an ecumenical federation of 12 nationally organized intercollegiate student Christian movements and nine denominational college and university work agencies seeking together to manifest in mission the unity which in Christ God gives His people. It is the U.S.A. member of the World's Student Christian Federation, and is a movement related to the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

Mr. Jensen has in a few years distinguished himself as a prominent leader in the Student Christian Movement. He is known personally to many members of the AELC as a student at Grand View College and Seminary and as the son of our Synod President, Dr. Alfred Jensen.

Herluf Jensen has attended Indiana University from where he was graduated from the Special Army Language Program in 1944. He received a BA degree at Harvard University; MA degree at University of Minnesota; he has also studied at Grand View College, Drake University, Fresno State College, American Evangelical Lutheran Church Seminary, and Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary.

Mr. Jensen served as president of the Lutheran Student Association of Marica, 1951-53; Lutheran Student Counsellor (part-time), Drake University, 1951-52;

Staff of World's Student Christian Federation, 1953-54. Since 1954, Executive Secretary of the United Student Christian Council in the USA, and Associate Director Department of Campus Christian Life, National Council of Churches. He is also the American Representative for the World's Student Christian Federation.

Mr. Jensen has traveled extensively in Western Europe and in Asia attending conferences and assemblies related to the Student Christian Movement. He serves on committees and boards of numerous national church related organizations.

Mr. and Mrs. Jensen make their home in New Jersey. They have three children, Tezanne 7, Lance 5, and Cynthia 2.

It is no longer realistic to think of missions in geographical terms only. All spheres of life are missionary situations. Missions in our own area are as important as foreign missions. The Student Christian Movement concerns itself with the Christian life of our campus youth. At the WMS meeting on Saturday evening Herluf Jensen will discuss the future of this powerful movement and its missionary task among our students as expressed through its concern with the Life and Mission of the Church.

"What is she so angry about," asked the puzzled bridesmaid. "The paper gave a full account of her wedding."

"It certainly did," agreed the maid of honor. "It even mentioned the fact that she was married to the well-known collector of antiques."

DISTRICT VIII WOMEN'S RETREAT, 1959

It was a small, but happy group of women, who attended this year's Retreat at the Lutheran Bible Camp, Mt. Cross, in the Santa Cruz mountains in California.

A Retreat like this is indeed a combination of many wonderful and different things. There is the pleasure of meeting old and new friends at this beautiful and secluded spot. It is an experience to get to know Mt. Cross, and for those who have been here before it is fun to go around and discover the improvements of the camp. (Heating systems had been installed in the dormitories and the dining hall since last year.)

Pastor Verner Hansen, Los Angeles, was our Camp Chaplain and led us in Bible study each morning in the dining hall, which can also be used as a church or chapel. The hall is all glass on the three sides, so the "pictures" on the walls and behind the altar are the trees and the blue sky outside. Pastor Hansen shared with us Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

All our speakers were excellent. Pastor Kenneth C. Senft (ULCA) told us about his work within the Lutheran World Federation. He also had heartwarming words about the coming merger, and he is by now well known to many of us here on the coast.

We also enjoyed getting acquainted with Pastor L. H. Maigaard from San Pablo, Calif. (Augustana) He was born in Des Moines.

His theme was "The Call of Christ," and in spite of a bad case of laryngitis, he brought his message over very, very well.

Pastor George R. Flora of Santa Clara, Calif., (ULCA), who has spent 14 years as a missionary in Africa held us spellbound for an hour and a half with a most enlightening and humorous talk about the development of the Negroes in Africa.

Our last speaker was Mrs. Bert Mackey of Warren, Ohio. She is president of the Women's Guild, Suomi Synod, and very well acquainted with our WMS. She spoke about the women's position in the coming merger and about the hopes and worries within the Finnish Synod for the future.

Quite a few visitors attended the meetings; one day we were over 50. The evenings were devoted to entertainment and community singing. Ladies from Watsonville, Salinas and Santa Cruz were in charge of these delightful hours of fellowship. Furthermore we were treated to a very fine old-fashioned musical hour, performed by "Vern and Ing," on violin and piano.

Mrs. Bessie Jensen of Watsonville and Mrs. Maren Sorensen of Salinas had both worked hard to get the best for us in every way. In spite of this the attendance was too small. (The minimum requirement for a camp is 50) so this will probably be the last retreat sponsored by the women of District VIII at Mt. Cross. Pastor Nussle, Salinas, volunteered to try to arrange to have Mt. Cross sponsor a "Women's Retreat Week"

or maybe a Family Week. It is possible that it could then become a joint effort within the four merging synods and draw a larger attendance.

For those of us who have attended the retreat, it will be sad if it is going to be something of the past. Mt. Cross Bible Camp is an ideal place for Lutherans to meet.

Johanne Knudsen,
Norwalk, Calif.

District VI Convention

Trinity Lutheran Church, Gayville, South Dakota, hereby extends an invitation to all delegates, pastors and visiting members, to be our guests during the District Convention, September 18, 19 and 20.

In order to secure a place to stay for all that want lodging, we ask you to register as soon as possible, by writing either Mr. Mark Miller, Gayville, S. D., or Rev. Harald Ibsen, Viborg, S. D. May God richly bless us in our fellowship together.

Harald Ibsen, Pastor.
Mark Miller, President.

INSTRUCTIONS

Congregations are reminded to elect delegates for the business meeting on the basis of one delegate for every 25 voting members or fraction thereof. Each congregation should also present a written report of its activities during the past year. Congregational treasurers who have not done so already should forward contributions to the district budget, 50 cents for each contributing member, to Mr. Jorgen Krog, Lake Benton, Minnesota, before September 1.

Calvin Rossman, District President.

Saluation of the Dawn

(From the Sanskrit)

Look to this day.

For it is the very life of life.

In its brief course lie all the verities and realities of your existence;

The glory of action,

The bliss of growth,

The splendor of beauty

For yesterday is but a dream and tomorrow is only a vision:

But today well lived, makes every yesterday a dream of happiness, and every tomorrow a vision of hope.

Look well therefore to this day.

Such is the salutation of the dawn.

The best jobs haven't been started. The best work hasn't been done.

Berton Braley.

World Refugee Year

Statement by World Council of Churches' Presidents

We are convinced that in our day and generation our greatest human tragedy is that of the refugee — homeless people all around the world.

The refugee and his family have, for more than a decade, been a challenge to our confession and compassion and must be a first call on the ministry of those whose Lord "had nowhere to lay his head."

We believe that, within the limits of our resources, the World Council of Churches has answered this call unremittingly and consistently, and we express our gratitude to our member churches who have made this possible.

Our ministry has not been motivated because all the refugees belong to our member churches — indeed most of them do not. We do it because Christ compels us. We have not, however, always been satisfied that the governments of the free world have been as constant in their concern for a problem which is not only one of human tragedy but, unremedied, is a continuing threat to peace and security. For this very reason we welcome with cordiality and renewed hope the decision of the United Nations to proclaim World Refugee Year.

Our Executive Committee, meeting in February, adopted the following resolution which we commend to your attention:

The Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches

NOTING with satisfaction that 59 governments, members of the United Nations "convinced of the need to make a further world-wide effort to help resolve the world refugee problem," have resolved to declare a World Refugee Year to begin in June 1959,

REAFFIRMING the ongoing and permanent concern of the World Council of Churches for homeless people, whoever they are and wherever they are,

WELCOMES most cordially the decision of the United Nations to proclaim such a year in the hope that all governments supporting the resolution will take some positive action to validate their votes,

AFFIRMS that the World Council of Churches, in addition to its permanent service, will do all in its power to cooperate in any constructive initiative taken by governments to solve the problems of refugees.

EMPHASIZES to governments and all concerned that there are so many refugees, and such difficult situations, that their problems simply cannot be solved in one year, yet earnestly hopes that the problems of many more may be solved in this year than in any previous year, and that the World Refugee Year may result in far greater attention to their needs in the years to follow,

PRAYS God's blessing on this initiative.

The time has now come for our churches to act in this new initiative and we therefore call anew for your prayers, your intensified action and your continuing charity.

SPECTATORS OR PARTICIPANTS

A writer, in a recent issue of *HARPERS*, is of the opinion that the three million additional fans who flocked to the major league ball parks in 1958 "came as refugees from TV sets." He says, "I rest my argument on the fact that baseball, far from being a spectator sport, as TV is trying to make it, is one of the most participating sports there is. It is impossible to attend a ball game without participating — not in the play, it's true, but in the atmosphere. Without atmosphere, baseball is nothing."

Whether or not this is true with respect to baseball we are not competent to judge. But we do know that there are situations in which it is far from the same to sit in front of a TV set or a radio and to participate in the actual event. One such case, the one with which we are concerned here, is a worship service.

It is sometimes said that one can get so many good services on the radio or TV that it is hardly necessary to attend church. It is surely true that there are some fine services that may be received in this way. (There is also an abundance of very poor ones.) But it is hardly the same as attending church. Indeed one may seriously question whether or not there has been a worship experience.

Significantly, it is quite incorrect to refer to a group gathered for worship as an audience. An audience, says Webster, is, "an assembly of hearers or spectators." One the other hand, a group of worshippers is a con-

gregation — "an assembly of persons gathered for Christian worship."

A worship service calls for active participation rather than passive reception. Perhaps this accounts for the fact that one often hears of people who are bored or who do not "get much out of the service." They try to play the role of spectator in what is inherently not a spectator situation. In worship one not only joins in the hymns and responses but in the very spirit of the occasion.

Then too, and not least, there is the fellowship. Fellowship is a major ingredient in worship, fellowship with God and fellowship with man. The first may be present in front of a TV set but the latter can hardly be present. If anything, radio and TV tend to destroy fellowship. Fellowship in worship can best, if not only, be known in the church. Further, one must never discount the kind of fellowship that takes place outside the church following the service. There is no substitute for this exchange of greetings and conversation among friends and neighbors.

Illness, lack of access or other very good reasons may keep people from being able to attend church. In such cases the radio and TV services can provide a substitute for worship. But, for those who are able to get to church, the substitute is a poor one indeed.

Pastor Thorvald Hansen,
Cozad, Nebraska.

OPINION AND COMMENT



OUR SECRETARY OF STATE is once again hard at the most responsible and most difficult part of his work — negotiating with Russian Communism. We have talked with many people recently who are almost fed up, as the saying goes. Why continue futile talks? their attitude seems to say. They have given up completely. Yet the talks go on, and must go on. The consequences of “no more talk” being too horrendous to consider, the only relief we can have from those consequences is the respite of negotiations. If we discontinue the talks, and ring Russia about with bases and isolate her and her satellites she would feel herself, as one leader has said, “under siege.” What could this do to the sagging revolutionary spirit of Communism? It might revive it dangerously, and put such fervor back into the faith of the Communists that anything might happen. The main problem of our Secretary, it would seem, is to refuse such compromises as might encourage Soviet intransigence, and yet still to keep contact. The most militant anti-Communists in our land point to the deadlock as evidence that further conciliatory attempts and negotiations are futile. When diplomacy breaks down, these voices have their field day. What they hope for, to replace negotiation, is hard to imagine. If one can proceed without regard for the human race, one might want to launch a crusade of some kind against Russia. But modern war conditions leave negotiation and continued communication as the only possible solution we can even consider. Personal contacts, cultural inter-changes, opening of travel restrictions — these offer at least a small hope of finding a basis of understanding between the East and the West. Meanwhile, our Secretary and all of us must bear up under all possible frustrations, and pray to the Almighty for strength to face up to whatever confronts us.

ONE HOPEFUL NOTE is heard above the discord. The Russians criticized Pasternak, but their treatment of him has been mild, really. His book suggests a strain of humanitarianism present in the Soviet, and his treatment by the Reds also seems to indicate some redemptive possibilities. If we are to negotiate, we must keep some kind of perspective. It is humanitarian, isn't it?, that in Russia anyone can receive free medical care as they need it? (Russia produces twice the number of medical doctors that we do.) Let's not give an inch to Communism — but let us see signs for hope when they do exist.

CONVENTION WEEK LOOMS just around tomorrow's corner. We had been hoping that an experiment would be tried with the convention time, starting it on a Thursday and ending it on a Tuesday, but the idea evidently was not possible, or not popular enough. So we begin on Tuesday evening, August 11, in that eagerly anticipated opening service, and will see the meeting come to its climax the following Sunday. What a privilege it is to attend synod conventions! Within

a very few years, this privilege will probably be a thing of the past. Next year's convention (invited by Waterloo, Iowa) will be one of the last, if the merger goes as scheduled. Those who have enjoyed conventions in the past will want to make special efforts to attend one of these last few. Our beloved synod will be meeting for the 82nd time, which makes us older than most of the Lutheran bodies now in existence. The convention will once again, as much as anything, be in search of the Holy Spirit, and the individual delegates will have the great enlarging experience of participating in the functioning of the church, at the planning level. Go to Detroit!

AS THIS IS written, (July 17), the Convention Reports have not yet arrived. When they do get out, pastors and delegates will have the duty and delight of reading what has been going on in the church during the past year. Sometimes delegates delay their careful reading of the Reports until they are on the way to the convention. Wouldn't it be wiser to read these Reports while still within the congregational circle so that they can be at least partially discussed at home before they are taken up in detail at Detroit?

AS THE ACTUAL merger draws nearer, it might be well to say a word about the procedure for forming the new church. The merger involves a constitutional change, and in our synod this raises the only question of procedure which we will face. Two successive conventions can approve the merger (by two-thirds majority) whereupon it will go into effect. This approval is given at our annual conventions. In the large ULCA, the merger must be approved by a two-thirds vote at the biennial convention. Then the matter is taken up by the separate 32 synods. The merger will be considered “ratified” when approval has been given by 22 of the individual synods. In the Suomi Synod (Finnish), a favorable vote on merger by an annual convention must be referred to the congregations so that all members may vote upon it. To be approved, the proposal must be considered by three-fourths of the congregations, and accepted by two-thirds of the total members voting. The next convention of the synod must then approve it by a two-thirds vote. In the fourth body, the Augustana Church, a plan has been worked out specifically for this issue, by the 100th annual “synod” (the Augustana name for conventions) at Hartford last month. The church at its annual “synod” must first take favorable action there. Next, the 13 “districts” or “conferences” of the church will be asked to take action of concurrence. The combined favorable vote of the conferences must represent no less than two-thirds of the confirmed membership of the church. A majority vote in each conference shall be interpreted as the vote of its entire confirmed membership. When such two-thirds concurrence has been achieved, the church at its annual convention must again, by two-thirds vote of delegates, taken final action on approval authorizing transfer of assets, and property, to the merged church. If no major hindrance develops, it is thus conceivable that the merged church could hold its constituting convention late in 1961 and begin to function in 1962. However, there seem to be some doubts, especially among Augustana spokesmen, that the approval can actually be confirmed that soon. No definite timetable has yet been set for the merger.

First in a Series

Musing About Music

Maria Kjaer

"Forasmuch as marriage is a holy estate, ordained of God, and to be held in honor by all....."

So you are going to be married! Will you permit an old friend to help you crystalize your thinking about wedding music? I hope your organist is a consecrated, dedicated and well trained Christian musician so that you can safely leave the detailed planning to him.

You have asked for the privilege of a church wedding because you wish God's blessing on your marriage and on this service. All music used at your wedding should "enhance the spiritual significance of the occasion;" should contribute towards a spirit of worship and be played or sung to the glory of God. With this in mind much of the music often considered proper for weddings becomes questionable. It is possible you are not familiar with wedding song literature. Let me show you some music you might particularly like.

Though I Speak With the Tongues..Brahms (difficult)
I Will Sing New Songs of Gladness.....Dvorak
The CallVaughn Williams
Wedding SongHenrich Schuetz
My Heart Ever Faithful.....Bach
Be Thou But Near.....Bach
Lord, Who at Canas Wedding Feast (found in Wedding Blessings-Bunjes)Buxtehude
O Love that Casts out Fear (found in Wedding Blessings-Bunjes) Bach
The Lord Bless You (duet) (found in Wedding Blessings-Bunjes) Bach
Wither Thou GoestCassler
God is My Shepherd.....Dvorak
The Lord is My Shepherd.....Malotte
Set Me as a Seal (Wedding Suite).....Clokey
O Perfect Love (Processional Solo).....Clokey

O Perfect Love.....Sowerby
O Christ Who Once Hast Deigned.....Lloyd
May Thy Blessing Rest Upon Them.....Jones
Entreat Me Not to Leave Thee.....Gaul
So is My Beloved.....Olmstead
Entreat Me Not.....Gounod

Wedding Prayer, Dunlap and Love Shall Abide, Reitz enjoy local popularity. Have you thought of having hymns or chorales sung by the soloist or the congregation? Any hymn appropriate to the church season might be considered in addition to this short list: **Jesu Priceless Treasure; Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring; Love Divine; O Perfect Love; Saviour Like A Shepherd; O Holy Spirit Come.**

If you are having music sung at your reception you might like to use these favorite songs: **How do I Love Thee, Lippe; Where'er You Walk, Handel; I Love Thee, Grieg.**

Your final choice of music must depend on your organist's training and repertoire. You will prefer simple things well done, to a pretentious struggle. Your organist will play preludial music for about 20 minutes before the service begins. The music could be melodious, joyful, festive, tender, dignified or serious in character. Love songs and operatic transcriptions are not appropriate. Wedding Music, Bk. I and II published by Concordia contains an excellent assortment of good music. You might like to add from this or a similiar list: **Hymnus, Fielitz; Pastorale, Milhaud; Aria, Heeremans; Prayer for the Innocent, McKay; Pastorale, Brydson; Benediction, Couperin; Selected Movements** from the larger organ works of Handel, Mendelssohn and Franck; **Chorale Preludes** by Brahms, Bach or any of the better composers. Seasonal music is sometimes appropriate.

The use of the traditional wedding marches is often questioned because of their operatic origins and a silly jingle we used to sing to the tune of the Wagner. The real question, after so many years of associating these marches with the American wedding scene, seems to be "Is this music worthy?" Do think about this.

Wedding Music, Bk. I, contains a good selection of suitable processional and recessional music. In addition many hymns and chorales can be used as processionals and **In Thee is Gladness, Bach**, is a good recessional.

May your wedding be all you have dreamed of and prayed for.

Mrs. Kjaer, wife of Dr. Jens Kjaer, Seattle pastor, is a professional organist. Her next article will deal with **Funeral Music.**

God's Autograph

Everywhere I find the signature, the autograph of God, and He will never deny His own handwriting. God has set His tabernacle in the dewdrop as surely as in the sun. No man can any more create the smallest flower than he could the greatest world.

— Joseph Parker.

81st Annual Convention of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church

AUGUST 11-16, 1959

The 82nd annual convention of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will take place at the Greenfield Methodist Church, 19370 Greenfield Road, Detroit 35, Michigan, upon invitation of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 19900 Greenfield Road, Detroit, 35, Mich. The business sessions, the main meetings and services will be held at Greenfield Methodist Church. The opening service of the convention is scheduled for Tuesday evening at 8, August 11. The business sessions of the convention will commence Wednesday, August 15, 9 a. m.

All congregations belonging to the Synod are urged to be represented at the convention by delegates chosen according to the by-laws of the Synod and all pastors are likewise urged to attend. Registration should be in the hands of the credentials committee of the convention not later than July 15. All delegates must be certified by the secretaries of their respective congregations. Name and address of the chairman of the registration and credentials committee appear in the invitation from St. Peter's Church printed below.

The convention will deal with all business submitted to it for action according to the rules governing the convention and found in the Synod by-laws as well as those governing the institutions, missions, councils and committees of the Synod.

The reports to be presented to the convention must be in the hands of the president of the Synod by May 20 in order that they may be printed in the Annual Report and distributed to the congregations and ministers for their study in due time before the convention.

Any member of a congregation or any congregation or pastor of the Synod may submit topics for the consideration of the convention according to Article VIII, par. 5, if such topics are received by the Synod president in time for publication in the July 5 issue of LUTHERAN TIDINGS.

Members and friends of the Synod are invited to attend the meetings and services of the convention. St. Peter's Lutheran Church will make announcement concerning the lodging and meals of delegates, pastors and guests.

May God guide, instruct and inspire us as we prepare ourselves for work and fellowship as offered by the convention. Only as we willingly and faithfully accept our responsibilities as members of the body of Christ will we experience His blessing. May God grant us a fruitful convention.

Des Moines, Iowa, April 24, 1959

Alfred Jensen.

Convention Invitation

The Congregation of St. Peter's Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Detroit, Michigan, is pleased to extend a hearty and sincere invitation to pastors, delegates and members of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church to attend its Annual Synodical Convention, which will be held here from August 11-16.

We are fortunate in having secured an excellent convention site at Greenfield Methodist Church, which is just two blocks south of our church. We are actively engaged in preparations and are anxiously awaiting the beginning of the Convention.

All pastors and delegates must send their registrations and credentials to our Registration Committee no later than July 15. The Registration Committee Chairman is Mr. George Everson, 19900 Greenfield Road, Detroit 35, Michigan.

We will provide housing for all the Convention personnel, pastors and delegates and will to the best of our ability accommodate guests.

We of the Detroit Congregation are pleased to have this opportunity to perpetuate the work of the Lord. May this Convention as its predecessors be an enriching Christian experience through its fellowship and spiritual enrichment.

Paul J. Blinkilde, President.
Howard Christensen, Pastor.

Topic for Discussion No. 1

That The Synod Representative for Eben-Ezer Lutheran Home and Hospital, Brush, Colorado, be chosen at the District VII Convention,

That The Synod Representative for Pioneer Memorial Home, Askov, Minnesota, be chosen at the District V Convention,

That The Synod Representative for the Des Moines Old People's Home Board be chosen at the District IV Convention,

That The Synod Representative for the Tyler Old People's Home be chosen at the District VI Convention,

That The Synod Representative for Solvang Lutheran Home, Solvang, California, be chosen at District VIII Convention,

And that the rules concerning such institutions be changed to accord with these changes.

Arnold D. Knudsen,
Junction City, Oregon.

Notice

The Board of Directors of Grand View College and Grand View Seminary proposes to the Annual Meeting of Grand View College and Grand View Seminary (August 14, 1959) that the following amendment be added to Article I of the By-Laws of Grand View College and Grand View Seminary as Section 8.

"The report of the secretary of the Board of Directors to the annual meeting shall contain, among other things, information regarding salaries, the number of students, and other statistical information. This report shall be considered by a findings committee appointed by the chairman and assistant chairman of the annual meeting. The rules for this findings committee shall be the same as those pertaining to the findings committees of the convention of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church."

What is beautiful is good, and who is good will soon be beautiful.
Sappho.

OUR CHURCH

Pioneer Lutheran, White, S. D., won first prize for a religious float during the 75th anniversary of the City of White.

Sunday, July 12th, the church was filled for the confirmation of eight adults and communion.

Bethany Lutheran, Badger, S. D. The church has now been completely furnished. The Ladies Aid donated one pulpit chair and Mrs. Carl Steffensen another in memory of her husband. And in memory of their parents the family of K. V. Andersen donated a hymn board. A friend has installed new doors for the sanctuary. Mr. and Mrs. N. P. Nielsen have given hand-wrought iron rails for the outside stairs.

Immanuel Lutheran, Lake Norden, S. D. During the 50th anniversary of the church, people were amazed to learn that since 1953 this congregation has spent about \$10,000. The moving of the church building, \$2,000; buying of lots and digging of basement; new oil furnace, \$1,200; new stove and sink, new cupboards at a cost of \$1,500; new carpeting for the church, \$700; and recently \$2,800 for 24 new pews and two pulpit chairs. For the celebration itself Mr. and Mrs. Jens Jensen donated two flower tables.

It was a great joy to meet with former pastors, Rev. Haakon Jorgensen, Rev. Frantz-Oluf Lund and Rev. Charles Terrell.

Salinas, California. Forty-one persons (including children) were received into membership at St. Ansgar's Church here in recent months. Fifty-five children took part in vacation school at the church this summer.

Brayton, Iowa. We in the L. T. Office are happy to welcome a new local church paper, the Brayton Lutheran Church News, the monthly publication of the newly formed congregation in this town in western Iowa. Pastor Joseph Sibert has begun work in the community. Plans are under way for the building of a new church to cost in the neighborhood of \$50,000.

Hartford, Conn. Pastor Harold Olsen and family are currently visiting Harold's home city, and he preached in our church here July 12.

Chicago, Ill. Pastor Peter Thomsen was installed as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church of Chicago at impressive services on July 12.

Cedar Falls, Iowa. Pastor and Mrs. Vagn Duus, Sybil, Erling and Verner, are now living here and busy with work in the home mission called North Cedar. . . . Pastor Ronald Jespersen, of Bethlehem Church in Cedar Falls, is once more at Mayo Clinic in Rochester for a hernia operation and a recheck of the lung condition which caused lung surgery on the pastor last winter.

ALC's Districts Ratify Merger by 30-1 Margin

Northfield, Minn.—(NLC)—Merger of the American Lutheran Church into a new church body that will bear its name was approved in the denomination's 13 districts by a margin of nearly 30 to 1.

Results of the balloting at district conventions this spring were announced by the Executive Committee of the ALC, which will unite next year with the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in a body of more than two million members.

A total of 2,678 votes were cast in favor of the merger and only 91 votes against it, the committee reported after counting the ballots here. The affirmative vote represented 96.92 per cent of the ballots and the negative 3.08 per cent.

All three of the uniting Churches adopted identical union resolutions at their conventions last year.

No referral was necessary in the ELC and UELC, but under the constitution of the ALC its merger actions were subject to ratification by the districts. Every pastor and every parish of the Church were given an opportunity to express themselves on the question of union and, as expected, voted overwhelming endorsement.

The outcome of the vote was reported to the Joint Union Committee for the three-way merger at a three-day meeting here, devoted largely to consideration of plans for the constituting convention of the new body to be known as "The American Lutheran Church."

The convention will be held in Minneapolis next April 22-24, preceded by the final conventions of the uniting Churches, April 19-21. The ALC will begin to function officially on January 1, 1961.

Suomi Synod Straw Vote Favors "Complete Unity"

(NY) Berkeley, Calif., July 10 — By an overwhelming majority, delegates to the 70th annual convention of the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (Suomi Synod) expressed themselves in favor of full participation in a merger with three other Lutheran church bodies.

In a straw vote, nearly 85 per cent of the delegates voted for "complete unity," rather than exercising an option to remain as a non-geographical synod in the new 3,000,000-member church body.

Delegates indicated that they prefer that "congregations of the Suomi Synod will merge organically with the geographical synods of the new church, but will retain the freedom to hold free conferences among congregations of Suomi Synod background." The vote was unofficial since definite

action is not scheduled until the constitution of the new church is ready for adoption at Suomi's 1960 convention at Virginia, Minn.

The Rev. Dr. Raymond Wargelin, Hancock, Mich., was elected by the synod to a second four-year term as president.

Larsen Again Heads UELC, To Serve Until Merger

Sydney, Mont.—(NLC)—Dr. William Larsen, 50, of Blair, Nebr., was re-elected here as president of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, to serve until consummation of its merger with two other Lutheran bodies.

Named at the UELC's 63rd annual convention, Dr. Larsen, who has completed one three-year term as head of the 67,000-member denomination, will continue in office for 18 months until January 1, 1961.

On that date, "The American Lutheran Church" of more than two million members will begin to function as a result of the merger of the UELC, the 1,119,000-member Evangelical Lutheran Church and the 1,005,000-member American Lutheran Church.

Dr. Larsen, as chairman of the Joint Union Committee for the three-way merger, will preside at the constituting convention of the new Church, to be held in Minneapolis next year, April 22-24. It was the UELC which a decade ago initiated the negotiations to unite the three bodies.

Resolutions were adopted by the delegates to preserve the corporate identity of the Church after the merger. This will enable the UELC to receive bequests and transact any other necessary business in the years following the establishment of the ALC. Similar action will be taken by the other uniting Churches.

The convention also took steps to bring its present fiscal year, now May 1 to April 30, in line with the fiscal years of its partners in the merger. To that end, the UELC will operate on two ten-month budgets to the end of next year. The budget for the next ten months was set at \$438,000. The first fiscal year of the new Church will begin February 1, 1961.

The statistician's report revealed that the UELC gained 2,403 baptized members during the past year for a total membership of 67,032, divided into 180 congregations, of which 12 are located in Canada. Total receipts of the congregations in 1958 were \$2,940,976 or \$74 per member.

More than 600 delegates and visitors were present at the sessions here, June 18-23, the unexpectedly high attendance being attributed to the fact that this was the last regular convention of the UELC. Its final convention will be held in Minneapolis next April in the days preceding the constituting convention of the merged church.

Dr. Lundeen Elected Augustana President

Hartford, Conn.—(NLC)—Dr. Malvin H. Lundeen of LaGrange, Ill., was elected president of the Augustana Lutheran Church at its 100th annual synod here, June 15-21. With nearly 600,000 members, it is the fifth largest Lutheran body in America.

Dr. Lundeen, 58, vice president of the denomination since 1951, succeeds Dr. Oscar A. Benson, 68, who has headed the Church for eight years. The latter was not eligible for reelection under a constitutional age limitation.

Dr. Lundeen was elected on the first ballot when he received 293 of 463 votes cast or 61 more than needed for a majority.

Now pastor of Grace Lutheran church in LaGrange, he will assume office for a four-year term on October 15, with headquarters in Minneapolis. His salary was fixed at \$13,200 annually.

His closest rival was Dr. Carl W. Segerhammar of Los Angeles, president of the Church's California Conference, who received 102 votes. In all, 37 candidates were proposed on a nominating ballot but most of these had only a few votes.

Dr. Segerhammar, 52, was later elected vice president of the Church for the remaining two years of Dr. Lundeen's term.

Dr. Lundeen is the 11th president in the 99-year history of the Augustana Church. In thanking the convention for the honor bestowed upon him, he noted that he would probably be its last president in view of the prospect of a merger.

Augustana is currently engaged in

JENSEN, JENS M.
TYLER, MINN.

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New Address _____
City _____

State _____

July 20, 1959

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, Minnesota.

union negotiations with the United Lutheran Church in America, the Suomi Synod and the American Evangelical Lutheran Church. If consummated, the merger will result in a three-million-member Church, the largest Lutheran body in America.

Dr. Lundeen has been chairman of the 52-member Joint Commission on Lutheran Unity, composed of representatives of the four negotiating Churches, since its creation in 1956.

Born in Chicago, Ill., in 1901, Dr. Lundeen is a graduate of Augustana College and Augustana Theological Seminary, both in Rock Island, Ill. He was awarded an honorary D. D. degree from the seminary in 1950. He was ordained in 1927, served as pastor of Grace Lutheran church in Des Moines, Iowa, until 1935, then as pastor of First Lutheran church in Ottumwa, Iowa, until 1954 when he came to his present pastorate in LaGrange, Ill.

Contributions to Solvang Lutheran Home

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of Mr. Harald Harkson, Solvang by A Friend	\$ 3.50
Mrs. A. W. Jensen	3.50
Mrs. Sorine Jensen	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Jorgen Andersen	3.00
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Jacobsen	3.50
Mr. and Mrs. Arne Sorensen	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Jepsen	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Roth	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. George Nielsen	2.00
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Mr. and Mrs. Ferd. Sorensen	2.00
Solvang Laundry	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Axel Berggren all of Solvang	3.00
Miss Thora Jorgensen	1.00
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Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Holst, Cedar Falls, Iowa	2.00
In memory of Cousin Harald Harkson and Aunt Clara and Uncle Henry Harkson, Portland, Oregon	10.00
In memory of Mary Armstrong, by Mr. and Mrs. Arne Sorensen, Solvang	5.00
In memory of Mr. Carl Fauersoe, Newman, by Mr. and Mrs. Leon Robinson, Canoga Park	10.00
In memory of Harold T. Nielsen, Solvang, by Mr. and Mrs. Chris Nielsen, Solvang	3.00
In memory of Mrs. Emma Pihl, Salinas, by Mr. and Mrs. Miller Rosendale, Miller's Lodge	5.00
In memory of Mrs. Dagmar Svenningsen, by Miss Emma Zacker, Santa Barbara	15.00
In memory of Mr. Simon Hansen, Emanuel Ev. Danish Lutheran Church, Los Angeles	10.00
In memory of Mrs. Mette Sand Hansen, Pacific Grove, by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Wilkens, Fresno	5.00
Mrs. Kirstine Eskelsen, Fresno	5.00

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Thom- sen, Del Rey	3.00
St. John's Church, Easton	7.50
Mrs. Bertha Jensen, Fresno	3.00
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Col. Chas. R. Blood and Mary E. Murphy, Pacific Grove	10.00
In memory of Mrs. Graven- gaard, by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Christensen, Whittier	5.00
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In memory of Mrs. Marie Jes- sen, Inglewood, by Los Ange- les Friends	13.00
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Hejls Mind Lodge of Dania No. 23, Solvang	100.00
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Dr. and Mrs. A. E. Brix, L. A.	25.00

Period from April 1, 1959 to June 30, 1959 \$728.50

We acknowledge each gift with a hearty thank you.

Sincere Greetings,

SOLVANG LUTHERAN HOME
Nis P. Pors, Treasurer.

There is no greater concurrence be- tween learning and wisdom.

Francis Bacon.