

Lutheran spokesman

August 1988
Vol. 31, No. 2
(ISSN 0024-7537)



IN THIS ISSUE

- *Rejoice in the Lord!
- *Convention Proceedings
- *Pastor Gilbert A. Sydow
- *Tracing the Acts

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

**"Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice"
(Phil. 4:4)**

REJOICING IN THE LORD

How can a prisoner be ringing all the joy bells in the cathedral? The letter to the Philippians has been called "the Epistle of Joy." The word *rejoice* occurs eleven times and the noun *joy* is found five times. Often the apostle returns to this appeal: "Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice."

As we again gather for another CLC convention, our eighteenth, let us set the keynote with the ringing of the joybells of life. The message of this letter will form the basis of our daily devotions. The letter is for times out of joint, for days when "men's hearts are failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." It is our prayer that our study of Paul's letter to the Philippians will be a guide to our feet and a light directing our minds into God's presence where there are fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore, and thus find new joy for daily living and service.

This letter is like a fragment from an intimate diary, like a letter from a friend to a friend. No other letter of Paul so reveals the warm affection and the deep love of Paul for his friends, and their love of him. This is probably the most pleasantly personal epistle that has come from his pen.

Joybells Of Life

Fifty or more years ago almost all of our churches had a church bell. It was such a treasure and so intimate a part of the church that as our grandparents came to this country they would frequently bring their church bells with them. As our churches were built church bells resounded across the plains and prairies of our land to the joy of God's people. Many churches rang their bells at sunset Saturday night, at the death of a member, before weddings, during the funeral procession, on New Year's Eve, and, of course, before

Postmaster: Second Class postage paid at Lake Mills, IA 50450. Send address corrections (Form 3579) to Lutheran Spokesman, 2750 Oxford Street North, Roseville, MN 55113.

The Lutheran Spokesman is published monthly by the Church of the Lutheran Confession, 2750 Oxford St. N., Roseville, MN 55113, and is an official organ of the Church of the Lutheran Confession.

Editor: Paul Fleischer, E. 11315 Broadway, Spokane, WA 99206; Assistant Editor: D. Lau; Artist: W. Bernthal; Staff (Also District Reporters): V. Fossum (Eastern), J. Klatt (West Central), D. Koenig, K. Luebke, R. Mackensen, B. J. Naumann, K. Olmanson (Minnesota), Rollin Reim (Pacific Coast), Ronald Roehl (Wisconsin), Ross Roehl, P. Schaller, W. V. Schaller, J. Schierenbeck, D. Sweet, M. Sydow, M. Thom.

Material submitted for publication should be sent to Editor Paul Fleischer one month before date of publication. Announcements and other short notices should also be sent Editor Fleischer.

Business Manager: Benno Sydow, 2750 Oxford St. N., Roseville, MN 55113. Individual subscriptions: \$6.00 for one year; \$11.00 for two years; \$16.00 for three years. Subscriptions sent in bulk to congregations: \$5.00



every church service (and often three times during the Lord's Prayer).

Church bells, school bells, dinner bells, sleigh bells, iron bells, silver bells, wedding bells, cow bells, golden bells—everywhere there are bells. But the greatest bell of all is the one not made with hands—a bell neither heard nor seen—a bell which God in His mercy has created within each and everyone of us. When that bell within us rings, we are happy and rejoice. When this bell is silenced or muffled, we become sad and remorseful.

Some people have never rung this bell within them because they are without faith in Christ and the change which He brings in the heart. In conversion a man's heart becomes a bell, and with every beat of the heart it rings with joy. You can almost hear them ringing within you right now.

Isn't it true, however, that there are moments and days when we get so

choked up with the cares and problems of this life that we almost completely silence or muffle this bell within us? It happens to all of us. It happened to the Christians in Philippi in the days of the apostle Paul. That's why he wrote to them and to us: "Rejoice in the Lord alway; and again I say, Rejoice." In sickness or health, poverty or prosperity, at work or at play, on Sundays and Mondays, at a wedding or at a funeral, day or night—it makes no difference. In every situation the apostle calls upon God's people to rejoice and to let the joybells within them ring.

The closer a person is to Christ the greater his joy. When David committed adultery and murder he concluded that God no longer loved him. He writes in the psalm that his bones ached all the day and at night he could wet his pillow with tears. Judas committed suicide because he doubted God's love. Really, what purpose or joy would there be in

life if our Father in heaven no longer loved us? In a better day David writes: "In thy presence is fulness of joy." As he prayed in his penitential psalm: "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation." St. Peter says that Christians have a joy unspeakable. St. John says: "I write these things that your joy may be full."

No, it isn't a sin to smile, to laugh, to enjoy yourself. Let those joybells of life ring within you. As we go about planning and passing resolutions that have to do with the Lord's Kingdom and His work, let us do it with a song in our heart, ringing the joybells of life within us.

Paul's Secret

The apostle makes a good suggestion: "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." Because God gave you His Son Jesus Christ as the Savior, you can cast all your care on Him and He cares for you. That was St. Paul's secret for rejoicing in trouble. He wrapped all his troubles into one bundle and gave them to God and left them there. In the jail at Philippi he practiced what he was preaching, for there he sang praises at midnight. The prisoners heard Paul and Silas express their joy.

Living in a hostile world, the Christian may lose all things. But if he continues in faith, he never loses Christ. Even in circumstances where joy is hard to find, even in conditions in which there seems to be nothing but discomfort and pain and heartache, the Christian's joy remains. All the threats and terror of life shall not separate the Christian from the love of God in



Convention Ministers: P. Tiefel, M. Gullerud

Christ Jesus, his Lord. Waves of disappointment may roll high, stormy winds may beat against us, everything to which we had clung may seem to be swept away—but Christ abides unchanged and unchangeable, always the everlasting portion of those who trust in His grace and rest in His love. Because our joy is *in the Lord* we say with Paul we are "as sorrowful yet always rejoicing." Joy in the Lord is an undisturbed rejoicing that triumphs over any and all circumstances.

May our every committee meeting, our every resolution, our every endeavor bespeak the joybells of life within us. So let us now go about our work at this convention ringing the joybells of life. "REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS; AND AGAIN I SAY, REJOICE!"

—Arvid Gullerud



Convention Chaplain: A. Gullerud; Memorial Service Speaker: G. Barthels

STEWARDS OF HIS GRACE

Highlights of the Eighteenth Convention—June 20-24, 1988



Stewards at Work: Pastor E. Albrecht "at the mike."

One of our church conventions is much like an annual stockholders' meeting, according to chaplain Arvid Gullerud. We all have a stake in the enterprise. The board(s) give an accounting of the work done and make their proposals for the coming term. The C.E.O. (President) offers his appraisals, defines problems to be addressed, and sounds an optimistic note for the future. The shareholders (delegates) elect officers and vote their judgment on proposals placed before them.

It's all about STEWARDSHIP. What have we got to work with? What opportunities are there for the use of our resources? To whom do we give account?

INSTRUCTION AND INSPIRATION

The daily devotionals took direction from the book of Philippians, under the theme *The Joybells of Life*. An exuberant note of spiritual joy pervaded the atmosphere as the papers were heard. Pastor David Sweet of Marquette, MI spoke on *Our Particular Grace: God's Grace for Sinners*. Pastor emeritus Robert A. Reim spoke on *Stewards of Our Resources—A Natural Responsibility of Those Touched by His Grace*. Day School principal Ross Roehl completed the trilogy with *Our Particular Opportunities*. All three essays

were received with profound appreciation. Surely they will be read and discussed in many a congregational Bible class. Here they supplied the motivation for the intense labors of the week. Twelve-hour days, mostly.

MISSIONS

With the retirement of Pastor Ralph Schaller (most recently in service at Fairfax, VA), the Missionary-at-Large program will be under review and possible redirection by the Board. Meanwhile the work in the Washington D.C. area will be the care of the Rev. Michael Wilke. The Rev. Michael Sprengeler, another 1988 graduate, will do exploratory work in Albuquerque, NM.

The report of Foreign Missions carried special excitement with the account of Missionary David Koenig, our first resident mission advisor in a foreign field. He presented a memorable visual report of what is being done in the new Efa Bible Institute. The promise and the needs of this endeavor of the Nigerian Church of the Lutheran Confession (NCLC) are so great that we will send another worker into that field as soon as the Board finds it feasible. This fall Pastor Norbert Reim will be sent on a visitation trip to the Church of the Lutheran Confession in India (CLCI) and the Bharath Ev. Lutheran Church (BELC).

An exciting prospect for new endeavor came in a report of the Rev. Mark Bohde, who has just recently been received as a member of the CLC pastoral corps by colloquy. He has been working among the Hmong people who have taken asylum in the U.S. since the war in Vietnam, where they

assisted our troops. A colony of them in St. Paul, MN is Bohde's present field of opportunity.

An ambitious goal was adopted for the Mission Development Fund, which gets its support from direct gifts. The Nigeria mission house, the India visitation, travel expense of the second Nigerian missionary, Bibles, educational materials and advertising. These are the projects for the 1988-1990 biennium.

IMMANUEL

A 14% increase in enrollment this past school year and a close-to-capacity expectation for this fall added urgency to the Regents' request for an additional professorship. The new man will begin teaching in fall of 1989. Also helpful in this forward step was the happy fact that all school accounts for 1986-87 were paid in full by the end of the school year. This, in large part, was due to the expanded resources of the *Student Aid Fund* which is also supplied by direct gifts. Although there will be a \$50 per semester tuition increase this coming year, there is joy in the fact that careful stewardship of the school still allows for a very modest schedule of costs. Probably the lowest among comparable schools.

A special committee will be studying ways to assist ILC teachers in becoming certifiable in the states where they are called to work.

DOCTRINAL MATTERS

It was noted from the reports that doctrinal discussions with the Colorado Lutheran Seminary (CLS) and the Lutheran Conference of Confessional

ELECTIONS

CLC Officers

President: Pastor Daniel Fleischer*
Vice President: Pastor Rollin Reim*
Secretary: Pastor Paul F. Nolting*
Moderator: Prof. Ronald Roehl*

Board of Missions

Pastor David Schierenbeck, Chm
(1992)*

Pastor Robert List, Sec. (1990)

Mr. Lee Kreuger (1992)*

Mr. Don Ohlmann (1990)

Board of Regents

Pastor Michael Sydow, Chm. (1992)*

Pastor Vance Fossum, Sec. (1990)

Mr. Marlin Beekman (1992)*

Mr. Douglas Bester (1990)

Board of Trustees

Mr. Philip Radichel, Chm. (1992)*

Pastor James Sandeen, Sec. (1990)

Pastor John Schierenbeck (1992)*

Mr. Larry Dassow (1990)

Board of Education

Teacher LeRoy Hulke (1992)*

Mr. Gayle Stelter (1992)*

Pastor L. D. Redlin (1990)

Prof. Robert Rehm (1990)

*Elected (or re-elected) at this convention

APPOINTMENTS

Board of Doctrine

Pastor Robert Reim

Pastor David Lau

Pastor M. J. Witt

Prof. L. W. Schierenbeck

Mr. Frank Paull

ILC Certification Study Committee

Pastor L. D. Redlin

Teacher James Lau

Prof. Robert Rehm

Mr. James Gullerud

Constitution Committee

Pastor M. J. Witt

Pastor Robert Reim

Mr. Clyde Jones

Kinship Committee (India Orphans)

Pastor Walter Schaller

Pastor Paul Naumann

Pastor David Fuerstenau

Mr. Jack Mayhew

Mr. John Wiechlemon

Mr. Don Ohlmann (Miss. Bd.

Advisor)

Journal of Theology

Prof. John Lau, Editor

Pastor Elton Hallauer, Managing

Editor

Mr. Benno Sydow, Circulation

Manager

Staff: Pastor Roland A. Gurgel,

Pastor David Lau, Pastor Paul F.
Nolting, Pastor John Pfeiffer, Prof.
Robert Dommer, Prof. Paul D.
Nolting, Prof. C. M. Gullerud,
Advisor.

Hymnal Review Committee

Pastor Paul Schaller

Prof. Robert Dommer

Prof. John Reim

Prof. Gene Schreyer

Mr. James Doring

CLC Statistician

Mr. Harvey Callies

Auditor

Mr. Steven Lentz

Historian-Archivist

Prof. John Lau

CLC Directory

Pastor Rollin Reim

Lutheran Spokesman

Pastor Paul Fleischer, Editor

Pastor David Lau, Assistant Editor

Mr. Benno Sydow, Business Manager

(Note: See the masthead on p. 2 for
the balance of the *Spokesman*
staff.)

Ministry by Mail

Pastor Paul F. Nolting, Editor

Miss Susan Nolting, Business

Manager

(The Convention Ratifies All Appointments)



"Coffee
Break"
outside
Field-
house

Fellowship (LCCF) have, by mutual agreement, been suspended.

Responding to reports of discussions held to date with the Wisconsin EV. Lutheran Synod, the convention directed President Fleischer "to take every opportunity to resume discussions." Continuation of the meetings awaits the outcome of an invitation by

WELS to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) to participate.

Although it was noted that there is no apparent disagreement among our synodical churches in the matter, encouragement was given for study in "various forums on the role of women in the church, so that all might speak the same thing."



"Lunch
Break"
in
Ingram
Hall

**CLC
Officers:**
R. A. Reim
R. Roehl
D. Fleischer
P. F. Nolting



HYMNS

The work of the hymnal committee is to be extended in the form of a brief supplement of selected hymns.

TRANSLATIONS

When the Board of Education reported its findings from an extensive survey of the most respected modern Bible translations, it was evident that no consensus exists in favor of any one of those reviewed (NIV, AAT, NKJV, KJV, NASB) by our pastors and professors. While acquaintance with the King James Version is encouraged because of its use in many treasured writings, it was resolved that "no regulation regarding the use of a single Bible translation shall be imposed upon individuals or institutions of the CLC who publish or prepare instructional materials of any kind." While such freedom was regarded as necessary for the task of teaching the whole counsel of God to each generation, it was urged that explanation and instruction regarding sig-

nificant change be given before such is implemented. This out of Christian love, to prevent offense which might otherwise arise.

CATECHISM

Work already well under way on a new Catechism revision by Pastor Michael Sydow was recognized and appreciated. Although budgetary funds were not made available for this project, it was resolved that other funding should be sought.

BUDGET

For several years we have operated with a COOPERATIVE BUDGET PLAN, according to which congregations of the CLC declare in advance what they expect to give toward the CLC budget. In effect, this has previously set a limit of sorts to what the convention would adopt as a program. Yet actual offerings have of late exceeded these projections. So it was decided that the CBP should be "a

guideline rather than a mandatory cap."

With this approach, it was possible to address a matter of high priority, the code for compensation packages of CLC subsidized workers. A carefully designed, graduated structure was submitted by a hard-working floor committee. What was finally adopted results in a 7.7% increase over the budget proposed in the Prospectus. Walking by faith rather than by the sight which the CBP affords!

The convention chose to speak a word of encouragement to CLC independent (non-subsidized) congregations on the subject of compensation. An annual review of compensation for called pastors and teachers was recommended, using the CLC code as a guide.

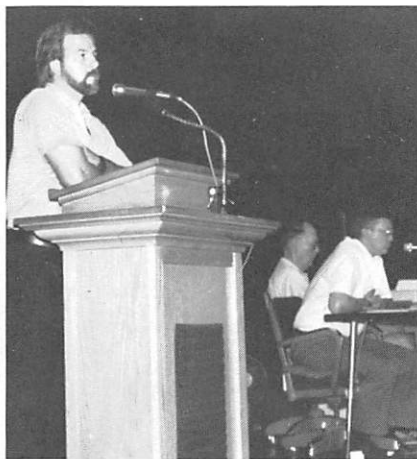
PEOPLE

A special memorial service was conducted by Pastor George Barthels to give thanks for the ministry of workers whose "course was run" during the Biennium. Pastors Harold Duehlmeier, Helmuth Rutz, and Gilbert Sydow were remembered. Also Charles Sandeen, a member of the Board of Trustees for two decades of our history.

Recognition was also in order for the 50th anniversary in ministry of Pastor George Barthels, who was also our Moderator for so many years. Another multi-generian, Professor Lester Schierenbeck, spoke the Word for this.

In addition to the Rev. Mark Bohde, previously mentioned, a warm welcome was given to Pastor David Sweet and Teacher Robert Snell—all declared eligible for calls after doctrinal colloquy.

Indian Landing Lutheran Church of
10



At the Podium: Pastor D. Libby, Education Committee Chairman.

Rochester, NY has asked the CLC to provide pastoral services. Retired Professor Roland Gurgel has agreed to serve there on a temporary basis.

CONVENTION SERVICES

Always the highlight of convention week, the Communion Celebration Service was conducted this time by Pastor Mark Gullerud, Liturgist; Pastor Paul Tiefel, Preacher; and Professor John Reim, organist.

Pastor John Klatt shared the organ bench for various services, giving us a beautiful sample of what can be expected from the pipe organ which is being redesigned, enlarged, and voiced by recently retired Professor Robert Dommer. This fine instrument, conservatively valued at \$160,000 will be dedicated at the time of the new school term in late August.

The daily convention log, produced by John Reim, is the source of most of this data.

—Rollin A. Reim, Reporter

"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved . . . For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:12, 20).

How Can We Say Such A Thing?

Imagine being taken by temple "police" into the same courtroom where Jesus stood. The judges are sitting in a semi-circle on a platform above you. There is Annas, "retired" high priest, and his son, Caiaphas, the acting high priest, along with others of his priestly family. These are the same people who assembled to condemn Jesus! Now you have been hauled before them because you and a fellow disciple have just healed a man who had been unable to walk since birth. What could possibly be wrong with that?

Ah, but you have been telling everyone that Jesus of Nazareth healed the man, and that this Jesus has been raised from the dead to be the Savior of sinners! (Acts 3:26) This is what has really angered the Jewish Court, and this is why you are to be examined by them. The answer of Peter and John is as simple as it is provocative: *There is no salvation in any other except Jesus Christ.*

But how can YOU say such a thing?

Age of Relativism

You, dear Christian reader, live in an age of moral and religious relativism. Yesterday's Pontius Pilate asked: "What is truth?" Today's Proud Populace answers: "Whatever each one feels in his own heart." Living in the midst of

such popular religious philosophies as positive thinkers, Eastern religionists, New Age enthusiasts, and humanists, who are you to say that any religious system which is acceptable to many people is UNacceptable to God?

Have we not heard our friends and neighbors claim that God will accept everyone who tries his best to do good in this life, whether he be Moslem, Mormon, Jew, or whatever? Even many Lutherans in the larger denominations accept "the *validity* of other religions of other people"—according to a 1972 survey (*A Study of Generations*, p. 172). The self-righteous world chokes on the "exclusive truth" claim of the Christian faith. How difficult it often is for us in such a climate of religious relativism to boldly proclaim that Jesus is the *only* Way, Truth, and Life by which a person shall gain acceptance with God. (cf. John 14:6)

Pray For Boldness!

But we have been with Jesus! The boldness of Peter and John was a real surprise to the Jewish Court, who knew that they were not professionally trained men from the rabbinical schools. But "they had been with Jesus" (4:13)! This was the reason for their boldness!

It is true that on the night of Jesus'

betrayal Peter wanted nothing to do with him. But it was Peter's bold self-confidence that had led to his downfall before the fires of temptation. He died that night, and was brought back from the dead to live in Christ by repentance and faith. Now, before the Council, Peter's boldness no longer rested on his own might or right, but on the might and right of Jesus. Now he was able to say, "Jesus is not only *my* Savior, but the *only* Savior for all the world!"

We have been with Jesus too, if by means of our baptism "*into* Jesus Christ" we were baptized "*into* His death." (cf. Rom. 6:4ff) Now, just as He was raised from the dead even so we walk with Him in a new life. Part of being with Jesus in the resurrection life is our willingness to speak of the salvation that comes through Him alone.

This is *not* chiefly the pastor's work because he has been trained for it. It is *not* professional training that is needed. Peter and John were fishermen, and this was still obvious to everyone. You have known the pains of a troubled conscience, the fear of death and the day of judgment. And if you are a Christian, then by divine grace you have found that only faith in the perfect life, suffering and death of God's only Son for the sins of the world has brought you the peace of conscience and the certain hope of heaven you have today. This means that YOU are an authority on the most important question of human existence: How is a person saved from his sins?

Jesus—The Only Way!

But **MUST** we say that Jesus Christ is the *only* way to salvation when our

neighbor may not want to hear such a thing? Good question.

When Peter and John were commanded and threatened "not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus," they answered without hesitation: "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you be the judge. But as for us, we cannot help but

" . . . Nothing has changed since that day. All people still need a Savior—ABSOLUTELY! And God has given no other name for us to preach as Savior except that of our crucified, risen, and ascended Lord Jesus."

speaking the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:19, 20).

Nothing could be more right before God, who delivered Jesus for our offenses and raised Him again for our justification (Rom. 4:25), than to preach this Christ as the only Savior under heaven. For Peter and John it was not a question of whether their Gospel would be accepted by those who heard it, or whether they would suffer somehow for sharing it.

It was a matter of what God had declared by the resurrection of Jesus Christ to be the only true and right way to heaven. It was a matter of obedience to Him and love toward others.

Nothing has changed since that day. All people still need a Savior—ABSOLUTELY! And God has given no other name for us to preach as Savior except that of our crucified, risen, and ascended Lord Jesus.

The souls of our friends and neighbors are dying around us every day. The question is: Can WE who have been with Jesus say that there is no salvation in any other except Jesus Christ?

WE not only CAN, WE MUST!

"Now Lord, . . . grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word . . ." for You are God and Your holy Servant Jesus is the One You have anointed as Savior!

"And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:31).

—V. Fossum

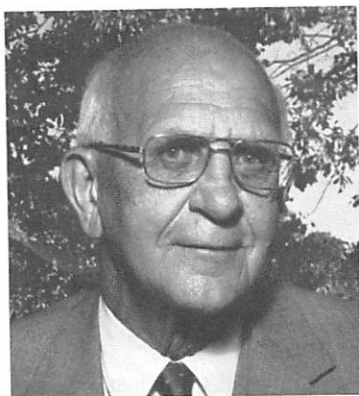


Gilbert A. Sydow

Pastor Gilbert Sydow of Eagan passed away on Wednesday, May 25, 1988 at Lake Ridge Healthcare Center in Roseville, Minnesota. He was born on September 19, 1914 in Rib Lake, Wisconsin. On October 4, 1914 he was baptized into our Savior's grace by his father, Pastor Arthur Sydow. He spent the days of his youth in Tacoma, Washington where he attended Pacific Lutheran College for his high school and first two years of college education. He graduated from Northwestern College, Watertown, Wisconsin in 1936 and from Wisconsin Lutheran Theological Seminary, Mequon, WI in 1939.

Pastor Sydow's public ministry included five congregations of the Pacific Northwest District of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. He also served the District as editor of the *Evangelist* and as vice president.

In 1960 Pastor Sydow became a charter member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession and continued to live in Ellensburg, WA where he served St. Paul's Lutheran Church.



In the fall of 1959 Pastor Sydow was instrumental in the starting of Redemption Church in Seattle. He served this group until Pastor Norbert Reim accepted a call to this area in 1963.

In addition to his pastoral duties he worked six years in the receiving and marking department of J.C. Penney. He accepted a call to Faith Lutheran Church, New Ulm, Minnesota in 1965, which he served until his retirement in 1979.

He served the CLC in a number of other capacities including the Board of Doctrine, Chairman of the Board of

Regents of Immanuel Lutheran College, Editor of the *Lutheran Spokesman*, Business Manager of the CLC Bookhouse, and Conference Visitor. After retiring he also served CLC congregations as vacancy pastor in Carlsbad, NM; Opportunity, WA; Detroit Lakes and Rochester, MN. From 1981-1983 he served St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Rochester, MN and Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN.

On November 1, 1940 he was united in marriage with Ruth Schwartz. The Lord blessed them with seven children and seventeen grandchildren.

Pastor Gilbert Sydow was a steadfast and stalwart champion of the Gospel of Life. He gloried in what God did for all men in His grace through His Son. It was a joy for him as a faithful

minister of the Word of Truth to explore the facets of Gospel Truth and then to talk, preach, teach, and write about those Truths. God worked His gracious miracle of comfort and assurance in Pastor Sydow and it showed. All of us, especially his co-workers, will feel impoverished by his absence.

May the good Lord comfort all of us with the assurance that Pastor Sydow had entered eternal rest in Jesus.

The funeral service was held at Grace Lutheran Church, Fridley, Minnesota on May 28. The undersigned preached the sermon based on the words of Jesus: "Because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19b). Pastor Daniel Fleischer served as liturgist. Interment took place at the Bloomer Cemetery, Bloomer, Wisconsin.

—M. J. Witt



GRADUATION DAY AT ILC

May 21 at ILC in just one word?
How about "bloomtime"?

Whoever entered the campus on that sunny day could hardly escape noticing the thick row of lilac bushes on the lawn of Northwest Hall—bushes which unofficially welcomed one and all with their gorgeous array of lavender blooms (all in keeping with the colors chosen by the Senior class, of course).

There was to be seen, however, a type of blossoming that's even more wonderful. For this was Graduation Day—a time at which special recognition is given to the spiritual and intellectual growth which the Lord gra-

ciously brings about in the lives of His people.

From budding beginnings Christ successfully nurtured His children and presented a number of men and women for the edification of His Church. From the High School department thirty were graduated. From the College department six graduates received an Associate of Arts degree, two received a Bachelor of Arts degree, and one received a Bachelor of Science degree. From the Seminary department three Candidates for the Holy Ministry were given their diplomas.

President G. Radtke addressed the

assembly with a sermon entitled: "This You Take With You" on the basis of Joshua 1:6-9. During the service, Teacher-elect Mary Timm, and Pastors-elect David Naumann, Michael Sprengeler, and Michael Wilke were addressed directly by the speaker, reminded of the challenges and hardships which the devil would deliberately put in their paths, and were then given powerful assurances of the Lord's protection, direction, and love.

Musical fruits of faith were also presented in the course of the morning. Under the direction of Prof. Carstensen, various groups of students and graduates sang "Ye Lands, to the Lord Make a Jubilant Noise," "Thy Way, Not Mine, O Lord." and "Shepherd of

Tender Youth."

Also of musical interest, so to speak, was the official retirement of Professor Robert Dommer from the ILC faculty. Speaking as the Chairman of the Board of Regents, Pastor M. Sydow reflected upon the dedication and faithfulness to his calling which Prof. Dommer put on untiring display through his 29 years with Immanuel. And certainly, his Gospel-centered instruction was one of the fairest flowers to bloom at the Spirit's blessed school.

"The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing is come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land" (Song of Solomon 2:12).

—Prof. John Reim

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1988

Our daily devotions this month are taken chiefly from the third and fourth books of Moses: Leviticus and Numbers. We concentrate on the historical portions of these books rather than on those parts dealing mainly with Old Testament sacrifices and ceremonies. We who are New Testament Christians need to remember what the apostle Paul wrote to the Colossians (Col. 2:16-17): "Let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ."

The historical portions of these books have great value for us today. For it is in connection with this specific historical record that the apostle Paul wrote: "All these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, on whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:11-12).

Date	Scripture	Theme	Hymn
1	Leviticus 8:1-13	Aaron and his sons were anointed as priests.	83 (2-5)
2	Leviticus 9:22-10:11	Nadab and Abihu died because they disobeyed God.	21
3	Leviticus 16:1-19	Aaron was given directions for the celebration of Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement).	386
4	Leviticus 16:20-34	Jesus is our "scapegoat" to whom our sins have been transferred.	328
5	Hebrews 9:1-15	Jesus obtained eternal redemption for all by His blood.	220
6	Leviticus 24:10-23	The blasphemer was put to death at God's command.	264
7	Leviticus 26:1-13	God promised wonderful blessings to an obedient nation.	572
8	Leviticus 26:14-26	God threatened horrible disasters to a disobedient nation.	579
9	Leviticus 26:27-46	God promised to remember His Gospel covenant with Abraham.	583
10	Numbers 6:1-27	God gave the law of the Nazirite vow and the Aaronic blessing.	50
11	Numbers 9:15-23	God directed them on their journeys by His cloud.	54
12	Numbers 10:29-36	Moses invited his brother-in-law Hobab to share in the blessings of Israel.	500
13	Numbers 11:1-23	The people complained, and Moses complained.	31
14	Numbers 11:24-35	God sent His Spirit with blessing, but also judgment on the rebellious.	416

Change of Address

Pastor Thomas Schuetze
8074 5th Street
Bowdle, SD 57428
Phone (605) 285-6379

Marie A. Olmanson
2831 Spring Cypress Rd.
Spring, TX 77388
Phone (713) 288-0971

Summer Plans for Mt. Zion, Detroit

The arrival of Seminary student Steve Sippert makes it possible for an increase in activity at the Mt. Zion congregation in Detroit. Plans have been made to offer regular 9:00 a.m. worship services every Sunday, with Holy Communion on the second Sunday of each month. These 9:00 a.m. services will begin July 24 and continue into September. In addition, a Sunday School and Bible Class are planned to be held after the morning service. A Vacation Bible School is also scheduled for July 11-15, an important first for the children of this congregation. A visitation of potential members will also take place. Therefore it is requested that the names, addresses, and phone numbers of CLC members living in the Detroit area, or of any others who may be interested, be supplied as soon as possible. This information can be sent to Steve Sippert, 66325 M-152 West, Dowagiac, MI 49047. Phone 616-424-3035.

15	Numbers 12:1-16	Miriam was chastised for her sin of self-righteous pride.	317
16	Numbers 13:1-20	Moses sent twelve spies to the land of promise.	540
17	Numbers 13:21-33	Ten of the spies frightened the people with their report.	424
18	Numbers 14:1-20	Joshua and Caleb were unable to calm the unbelieving nation.	410
19	Numbers 14:20-38	That whole generation had to die in the wilderness.	610
20	Numbers 14:39-45; Numbers 15:30-36	"Keep back Your servants from presumptuous sins" (Psalm 19).	582
21	Numbers 26:1-19	Korah, Dathan, and Abiram dared to rebel against God.	265
22	Numbers 16:20-40	The earth swallow the rebels.	414
23	Numbers 16:41-17:13	The people blamed Moses and Aaron for what was their own fault.	267
24	Numbers 20:1-13	Even Moses failed to glorify the name of the Lord.	320
25	Numbers 20:14-29	Edom (Esau) showed no mercy to Israel (Jacob).	474
26	Numbers 21:1-9	God gave us Jesus as our "bronze serpent on a pole."	245
27	Numbers 21:21-35	God gave his people a foretaste of victory in their conquest of Kings Sihon and Og.	434
28	Psalms 105:26-45	No one can say that God was not good to Israel.	33
29	Psalms 106:13-33	God wants us to learn something from the blunders of our fathers.	411
30	Psalms 136	Thanks be to God for His unfailing mercy!	570

—D. Lau