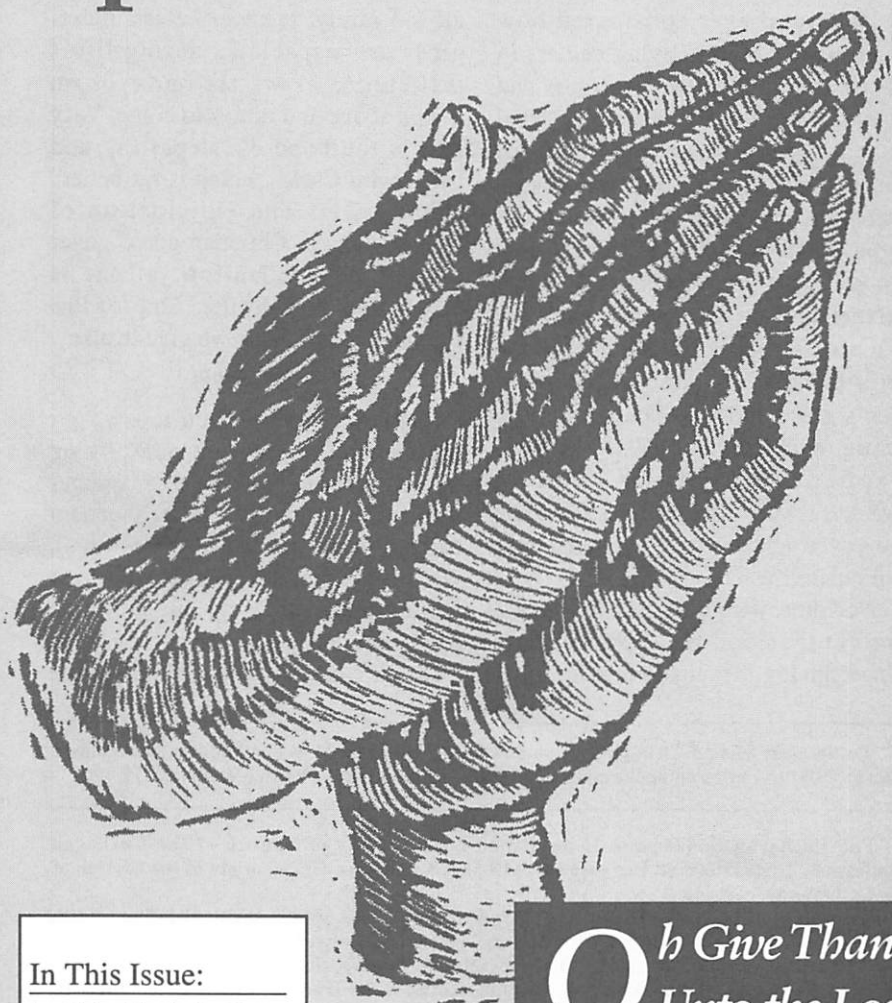


# Lutheran Spokesman



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- \* Love Always Trusts
- \* 1993 Seminary Grads
- \* Mt. Olive, Lamar, CO

**O** *h Give Thanks  
Unto the Lord  
For He is Good! And  
His Mercy Endures  
Forever. Amen*

# Giving Thanks For Now



ery soon in our special Thanksgiving sermons and family gatherings we will count our blessings anew and say with David: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy Name" (Ps. 103:1).

Have you ever considered how much of our Thanksgiving centers in the past? Fittingly, we remember and marvel at the Lord's intervening hand of grace in the salvation story, our nation's history, and our own past—and we give thanks. Spiritual hindsight has its advantages. True, it may not be 20/20 from our limited human perspective, for the eyes of faith are still necessary. Yet it is much easier to look back and trace the threat of God's grace and providential purpose being woven through the multi-textured fabric of our lives. In wonderful and difficult times, God has preserved and blessed us, spiritually and otherwise.

Nor dare we minimize the impact our future hope has upon us this Thanksgiving. Though called to mind

all too rarely, it nevertheless undergirds us—especially during life's difficulties as we fix our eyes on things above and things to come. Very real is the hope of "departing and being with Christ, which is far better" (Php. 1:21). The anticipation of eternity for the Christian could never exceed its realization, but it is nonetheless faith-lifting. And for this sure and certain hope we give thanks.

## The Present

However, like the ten lepers, our problems often lie with now. Being the recipient of a healing far greater than leprosy (not to mention abundant daily spiritual and earthly blessings), we too somehow forget, neither feeling nor expressing our gratitude for the present.

Look, for example, at the simple

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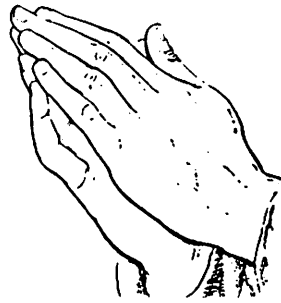
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(albeit fleeting) earthly joys with which your God has blessed you, as you journey through life's stages—the joys of carefree childhood, the security of loving Christian parents, the excitements and discoveries of adolescence, the challenge and commitment of beginning a life-long career, the courtship and honeymoon of young love, the smiles and loves exchanged with one's infants and toddlers, the parental joy of watching our children grow and mature, the quiet contentment and companionship of midlife, the peace and satisfaction of retirement—all these life-stages were and are lived "in the Lord" by many of us.

Yet our joy in these life-phases as gifts from God never seems to measure up to either our prior expectations or nostalgic memories of them. Why do we sometimes neither recognize nor appreciate the value of God's blessings (earthly and spiritual) until they are gone? Why are our hopes so wonderful before and our memories so precious later, but our "on the spot" appreciation so often lacking?

As with all spiritual weaknesses, the dilemma lies within our hearts, our sinful nature. It takes our eyes off the Gift-Giver and focuses them on this life and its allurements and distractions; it preoccupies and overwhelms us with our daily struggles and frustrations; it leads us to take what



we have and are in Christ for granted; it causes us to feel we deserve any good that is coming our way; it dwells not on what we have, but on what we feel we are lacking. The result: forgetful, selfish, and ungrateful hearts for which we desperately need daily forgiveness.

The apostle's Spirit-inspired solution is neither profound nor difficult: "I have learned in whatever state I *am to be content*" (Phil. 4:11). Only a faith which daily trusts and cherishes his Savior and His Gospel could genuinely make every day Thanksgiving Day—whether in prison or free, whatever his circumstances. In every life-stage and situation, God's people have immediate basis and opportunity for contentment and thanksgiving.

Gratitude should not be a time-delayed response. "Rejoice (be rejoicing) in the Lord always"—which includes now!

—Pastor David Schierenbeck



**Dear Spokesman readers:**

*Printed on the following pages are some of the table prayers we are personally acquainted with through our Christian family and friends. Do you know of and/or use any other table prayers than these? Would you like to share them with the rest of us? Please forward them to the Spokesman editor, and we may print them in a future issue. Thank you.*



# **“Oh give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good....”**

*The eyes of all wait upon Thee, O Lord,  
And Thou givest them their meat in due season;  
Thou openest Thine hand and satisfiest  
the desire of every living thing.*

*We thank Thee, Lord God, heavenly Father,  
Through Jesus Christ, Thy dear Son,  
For food and drink and all Thy benefits.*

*As Thou, O Lord, art kind and good  
And gracious in forgiving —  
Let us receive our daily bread  
With meekness and thanksgiving.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, be Thou our guest,  
Our morning joy, our evening rest;  
And with our daily bread impart  
Thy love and peace to every heart.*

*We live not, Lord, by bread alone,  
Without Thy blessing bread were stone.  
For bread and for Thy kindly Word  
We thank and bless Thee, God our Lord.*

*Lord Jesus, Thou hast been our guest;  
We thank Thee for this food so blest.  
Oh, may Thy grace to us be given  
One day to be Thy guests in heaven.*

*For food and all Thy gifts of love,  
We give Thee thanks and praise.  
Look down, Oh Father, from above,  
And bless us all our days.*

*At this table be our host,  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;  
Food and drink are from above,  
Tokens of Thy heavenly love.*

*We thank You, dear Lord Jesus,  
That You our guest have been;  
Please stay with us forever,  
And save us from all sin.*

*Be present at our table, Lord;  
Be here and everywhere adored;  
These mercies bless and grant that we  
May strengthened for Thy service be.  
(Or Thy children bless and grant that we  
May feast in paradise with Thee.)*

*Heavenly Father, bless us and these Thy gifts  
Which we have received through Thy bountiful  
goodness,  
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*



The "New" Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Lamar, CO (see p. 14ff).



# Christ, the Power of God and the Wisdom of God — Studies in I Corinthians

## Chapter Nine

### Free To Serve

Too many in America have made a travesty of freedom, thinking that it is a license to do absolutely whatever they want. What “they” want might be evil, damaging, outrageous, selfish, sexually gratuitous, irresponsible; but in the name of freedom they do what they want. God is not consulted. Not even acknowledged.

One president suggested that freedom is the opportunity for self-discipline, the privilege to live the way a person should anyway.

God has given us a unique kind of freedom—a rescue from the bondage of sin and death. He did this through His unique Son, Jesus Christ. His blood was the ransom price. When ransoms are paid, people are freed. Christ’s redemptive sacrifice was sufficient to ransom all men without exception from their sins.

We have not been freed so we can return to the sinful, cesspool life style from which we’ve been rescued. Those who are dead to sin don’t live in it any more. We have been buried with Christ by baptism into death. That means the death of our sin. We have been freed then for a new service: to “be Christ’s own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve

Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness...”

#### When in Rome...

The apostle Paul spent a number of chapters in his first letter to the Corinthians detailing the nature and responsibilities of our freedom in Christ. He was concerned that no one use his liberty in a reckless and irresponsible way and injure blood-bought souls in the process.

Paul’s freedom in Christ gave Him quite a number of privileges, some of which He enumerated in chapter nine. He was an apostle. He had the right (freedom!) to eat what he wanted. He could be married. He had every right to earn a living from the ministry to which the Lord called him.

His freedom meant that he also might not eat or not marry. He could also choose to earn a living some other way than from the ministry of the gospel.

The exercise of his freedom was always in the service of a greater priority: the salvation of souls. It was in connection with the task of preaching the gospel that Paul felt a compulsion, a “necessity.” “For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to

boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel" (I Cor. 9:6).

Paul would adjust his style of living and alter the various uses of his freedom in order to have the opportunity to preach the precious gospel of salvation to someone. When among the Jews, He was not going to trample on their traditions and life style with his own. He might lose an opportunity to make a disciple. When among the non-Jews, he would melt into their situation for the same opportunity. When in Rome... But not "doing what is sinful."

### Self-discipline

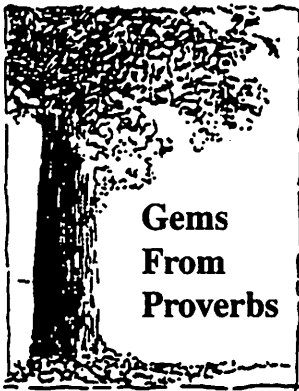
Paul hints at the responsibility of spiritual freedom when he closes chapter nine with a lesson in being in condition. He uses the familiar example of an athlete who needs to train and condition himself in order to compete. Paul wanted to make sure that even poor physical condition on his part would not be a cause for someone to turn away from him and the message of grace in Christ which he was preaching.

The opportunity to win a soul shaped everything he did. May it always be so with us!

—Pastor Michael Sydow



*"He who works his land will have abundant food, but he who chases fantasies lacks judgment" (Prov. 12:11).*



Several years ago when our family took a short vacation to the Black Hills, one of the places I wanted to show them was the little town of Deadwood. I had remembered it as a charming spot that took visitors back to the Old West, the Black Hills gold rush of 1876, and famous characters such as Wild Bill Hickock and

Calamity Jane. But after driving through the town we decided not even to stop because it had become a little casino gambling mecca, its little souvenir shops filled with slot machines.

What we saw in Deadwood, South Dakota is appearing in various forms all over the country. Gambling seems to be everywhere: in state lotteries, in casinos on Indian reservations, at dog and horse tracks. Virtually every time a state or local government is short of revenue, someone suggests allowing some form of gambling, which is then supposed to bring in lots of money. And wherever family is offered, the people come and stand in line to risk their money.

It is not hard to explain. The prospect of gain without labor is a powerful incentive, and none of us is

completely immune to it. Scratching a lottery ticket or pulling the handle on a slot machine is a lot easier than working. But the promise of gain from gambling is mostly a lie. The promoters of state lotteries like to tell about the few winners, but conveniently neglect to mention the many losers. Gambling is surely in the category of the “fantasies” in our proverb. The Hebrew word in the proverb means something vain, empty.

(It could also be said here that winning at gambling is not a God-pleasing way of making money, but that is a subject for another article.)

I mention gambling prominently here because it has become so widespread in our country. But the gambler is not the only one who “chases fantasies.” Anyone who falls for a get-rich-quick scheme, anyone who day-dreams about sudden riches rather than working his land, that is, tending to work and responsibilities and making realistic plans, is also chasing fantasies.

Our proverb says that those who chase fantasies lack judgment. But exactly what is it that is wrong with their judgment? They do not take into account that it is God who provides our daily bread and that He would have us depend on Him for it each day. “Give us this day our daily bread,” Jesus taught us to pray. Winning the lottery jackpot would not make us any more secure than we are today; we would still need to depend on God for daily needs. But all that money would bring with it powerful temptations to stop trusting in God day by day.

Far better to work our land and trust in our God. His love for us He has demonstrated by sending His Son Jesus Christ to die for us. This is no fantasy. “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” ( Rom. 8:32).

—*Pastor John Klatt*



**What Is This Thing Called Love? —**

## **LOVE ALWAYS TRUSTS**

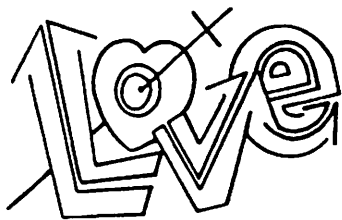
There was a man who put his child on top of the refrigerator and told him to jump off into his waiting arms. When the young lad jumped, dad purposely missed him and let him crash to the floor. “Now you know not to trust anybody,” he said.

At some level everyone feels compelled to trust something or someone. Even when people fail, a person will ache to be able to trust his eyes,

or his instincts, or his understanding of the facts.

One of the key features of the love which is the backbone and foundation of marriages is trust. We notice this when a marriage starts to break down. One of the first symptoms is suspicion. That’s lack of trust. A healthy marriage is one in which husband and wife trust one another implicitly—knowing that their spouse will be





truthful, will keep promises, and be willing to forgive the other when sinned against.

The premier biblical example of trust is the little child. There's no need to teach trust. It's only as they grow older that children begin to move farther away from the total dependence which characterized their first existence. Jesus said it: "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Mt. 18:6). And "Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child (does) will by no means enter it" (Mk. 10:15). Never demean child-like faith!

### Unbelief To Faith

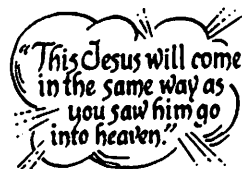
Adam and Eve thought they had a better idea. The temptation was to go-it-alone. They could be their own gods. They breached the trust relationship with almighty God for what they thought was a better way. The rest of history has been a record of God's plan to rescue people from themselves and restore the trust relationship

which they gave up. He gave us Someone worthy of our trust, sending His Son Jesus Christ to be the atoning sacrifice to eradicate sin in His consideration of us.

In chapter thirteen of his first letter to the Corinthian Christians the apostle Paul is offering his advice—a much better way—to consider and handle the difficulties and disruptions which had plagued the congregation. That way is *love*. "Love believes all things" (I Cor. 13:7b). Love always trusts rather than yield to every suspicious doubt or unfounded accusation. Christians with the gift of love rise above the sinful nature and its inclination to "believe anything" about our neighbor. Rather we trust in the power of God to overcome lingering sin and weakness.

Love helps us overcome generalizations about people's miscues and social blunders, interpreting their actions in the best possible way—that's putting the best construction on everything. This special agape-love is a protection against our jumping to faulty conclusions about our neighbor based on incomplete information. It generates a contentment to accept what we say to and about one another as dependable.

Sometimes love needs to be heroic. More often love is for every day... what we face as pilgrims on our journey through this hostile territory. "Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah..."  
—Pastor Michael Sydow



# Our 1993 Seminary Graduates Enter Their First Fields of Labor

## Wayne Eichstadt — Tacoma, Washington

Wayne Charles Eichstadt was born on June 15, 1968 to Melvin and Irene Eichstadt in Austin, Minnesota. He has been a lifetime member of St. Paul's congregation in Austin and attended their Christian Day School. Following grade school he attended Immanuel Lutheran in Eau Claire, graduating from the High School in 1986, from the College pre-theology department (BA degree) in 1990, and from the Seminary in May of this year.

Through the CLC Board of Missions the Lord called Wayne as the CLC Missionary-at-large, with his first assignment in the Tacoma, Washington area. He accepted the call

and was ordained and installed on July 4. The installation was conducted in the morning worship service at Redemption congregation in Lynnwood, Washington. The installation was performed by Pastor Bertram Naumann who used the words of Scripture found in Acts 17:10-12 to give "An example for Pastor and People: the Fair-minded Bereans."

Wayne is now living in an apart-



Pastor Eichstadt and His Parents

## You Could Have Been... But God Said, "No!"

Somewhere along the way of life  
One question we all faced,  
"How shall I use this life of mine,  
This precious time of grace?"

As public servants of the Word  
God moved our hearts to say  
That we would use His gifts to us  
As He would show the way.

We could have been a lot of things  
As we look at the past.  
Our thoughts might go a bit like this,  
With God's Word at the last!

*You could have been a bachelor still  
And lived without a wife.  
But God said, "No, you need a spouse—  
You need her in your life."*

"For she will bear your children and  
Stand by you every day;  
She'll be the one who helps you out  
With counsel on your way.

"Your children all will bless you as  
Two wondrous gifts of God;  
Your children's offspring all will love  
Their Grandma and Grandpa."

*You could have been a carpenter  
And many structures build;  
And form your own construction firm—  
The need for homes fulfill.*

But "No," God said, "You'll build my Church  
Upon My holy Word;  
And Christ will be the cornerstone;  
Of course, of this you've heard.

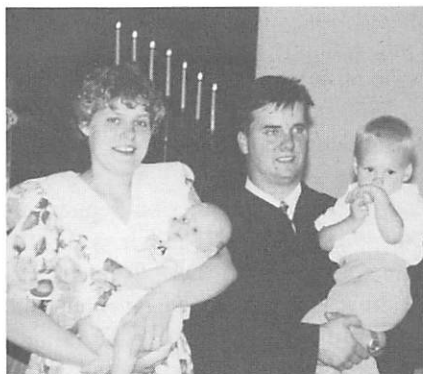
ment complex in DuPont, Washington (about 10 miles south of Tacoma) which is also the village in which the worship services are being held.

The new pastor is encouraged and supported by the enthusiastic and mission-minded group of Christian brothers and sisters. Pastor and people alike are excited at the mission prospects of a largely unchurched population, a growing community, and a substantial military population who could very well carry the Gospel as they are relocated to other communities.



**Andrew Schaller —  
Corpus Christi, Texas**

July 4 was a special day for a new seminary graduate and for a new congregation. On this day Andrew Schaller was installed as the first pastor of Resurrection Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi. The history of Resurrection is the story of how God works through faithful believers to proclaim His saving Gospel.



**Pastor & Mrs. Schaller and Family**

Zion Lutheran of Corpus Christi had been served by Pastors Daniel Fleischer, Arvid Gullerud, and Paul Larsen before disbanding in 1986. This was not the end of the story. In 1990 former families of Zion, looking for the faithful proclamation of the Word they had enjoyed, reorganized as Resurrection Lutheran Church. This congregation was begun and nurtured by people within the congregation. For those involved it was a spiritually strengthening experience. It

"Not straw or sand or some such stuff  
Are worthy things to use;  
But gold and silver, precious stones  
Are things that you will choose."

*A golfing pro you could have been  
And show folks how it's done;  
To stay within the fairway and  
To make a hole-in-one.*

The Lord said, "No, that's not for you  
I'll give you just one clue;  
And when you answer this aright  
You'll know just what to do.

"How many birdies does it take,  
How many eagles soar,  
To fin'ly reach beyond this world  
And open heaven's door?"

*You could have guided hunters up  
High in a mountain range;  
And stalked the prey with expertise  
O'er hills and rocks and sage.*

But God said, "No, you'll hunt, indeed,  
And go where I will lead;  
You'll search to find the long lost souls  
Who must from sin be freed.

"For all the elk and deer and moose  
And caribou and bear  
That one might bag throughout one's life  
With one soul can't compare."

*You could have been a farmer and  
Raised animals and grain;  
And so performed the service thus  
Our bodies to sustain.*

But God said, "No, I'll tell you what,  
You'd like to plant some seed?  
You'd like to watch it germinate?  
You'd like to feed and weed?"

"Then here's some seed that you will plant—  
It's God's sweet Gospel Truth;  
It germinates in people's hearts  
And grows and brings forth fruit."

was in many ways reminiscent of how congregations were established in the book of Acts.

The Lord provided a pastor for Resurrection in the person of Andrew Schaller. Andrew was born to Pastor & Mrs. Walter Schaller on September 26, 1968 (while his father was still attending Immanuel Seminary). Andrew is a product of our church's commitment to provide pastors and teachers for the public ministry. He graduated from Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary. These young pastors and teachers are the future not merely of our church body, but especially of our commitment to "make disciples of all nations."

The new Pastor Schaller brings a family to the Corpus Christi church family. He was married to Alice

Nissen of Morris, Minnesota on August 11, 1990. The Lord has blessed them with Jacob Andrew (b. August 15, 1991) and Isaac Matthew (b. May 4, 1993). During the years in the seminary Andrew and Alice served as dorm parents for South Hall (girls' dorm at ILC).

As Resurrection Lutheran Church has now received its first pastor, it is an exciting time for both the congregation and the new pastor. As we learn to value highly the members of each congregation and their talents, we also learn to value very highly our pastors and teachers for the sake of the work they do. We pray that God would bless and keep this congregation and bless the ministry of the Word as proclaimed through their new pastor-elect.



*A realtor you could have been—  
That would have challenged you;  
You might have sold some mansions and  
Some houses old and new.*

But God said, "No, here's what you'll do  
You'll handle just one place;  
It's been all built and furnished and  
It's got a lot of space.

"For this house is my kingdom and  
It's big enough for all;  
It's wonderful, it's beautiful,  
There's joy from wall to wall.

*You could have been an engineer  
The field—'lectricity;  
You could have planned the chipboards for  
Computer circuitry.*

But God said, "No, I've something else  
That I'll involve you in;  
I'll give you power to change the hearts  
Of people lost in sin.

"With power of the Spirit I'll  
Work through the words you say;  
And give the people a new life  
In Christ the Truth—the Way."

*You could have been a lot of things  
And served your Savior well;  
But you He gave the privilege  
Both young and old to tell.*

How God has come to save us all  
From spiritual disgrace;  
And find in Him true peace in time  
And when we see His face.

He found a way to use you best  
In His most wondrous grace;  
Through you He poured out blessings in  
His Church and every place...

Where you were called His work to do  
To glorify His name;  
That all who came to know the Lord  
Would share in heav'nly fame.

*(Written by Pastor L. Dale Redlin on the  
occasion of the 50th anniversary of Pastor  
Norbert Reim's ordination into the holy  
ministry.)*

**Daniel Avery—  
Caledonia, Minnesota**

Dan was born and raised around the Saginaw, Michigan area. He attended public grade school there, and also Michigan Lutheran Seminary, a Wisconsin Synod high school in Saginaw. After attending Northwestern College, Watertown, Wis. for



**Pastor & Mrs. Avery**

a year and a half, he went to Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, in January of 1987 to complete his college education. Playing a large role in this "change of direction" for the pre-ministerial student was his finding, and reading, the CLC's Journal of Theology and Lutheran Spokesman.

In the fall of 1988 Dan met Elizabeth Pfeiffer when she transferred to Immanuel, Eau Claire, from Immanuel High School, Mankato. (Elizabeth had grown up in Fond du

Lac, Wis. and Mankato, Minn.) The year after Elizabeth entered college, Dan entered Immanuel Seminary. In May of 1991 they were married in Mankato.

Last spring both Mr. & Mrs. Avery were graduated—he from seminary and she from college. Dan had received the Divine Call to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Caledonia, Minnesota through the Call Committee for graduates. He accepted the Call and the Avery's moved to Caledonia in May. Installation of the new pastor took place on June 6. The newly-formed (and self-supporting!—Ed.) congregation warmly received its very first resident pastor and wife.

After discussing the need for a school in the congregation, even though there are only two school-age children, a motion was passed to begin a Christian Day School immediately. By the provision and grace of God, Mrs. Elizabeth Avery had her teaching degree. Redeemer congregation called her, and she accepted. Pastor Avery installed his wife as teacher on September 5th. Two days later the first classes were conducted in the new Redeemer school.



*(Compiled by the staff from information provided by the new pastors.)*



Looking Back  
in the  
*Lutheran  
Spokesman*

*From October 1963...*

**EAU CLAIRE CAMPUS DEDICATED.** September 1, 1963 dawned bright and clear on the campus of Immanuel Lutheran College. The Lord had provided a good and pleasant day for the

opening service and dedication. Many people came from far and near to rejoice with the faculty and student body over the privilege of opening the new school term on the beautiful campus with its green lawns, wooded expanse, and comfortable buildings. The people had come to bring their sons and daughters and to join in the prayer and worship, which served to set aside the campus and its buildings as the home of our Christian institution of learning.

The service was held in the circle in front of the main building. Here the people were seated in the shade of the pines and the elm as the sun dipped to the west at four o'clock. Pastor W. Schuetze, of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin delivered the sermon on the basis of Psalm 118:23-25. His theme was "The Joyous Dedication Event—a Testimony of the Boundless Grace of God." Pastor Rollin Reim served as the liturgist, Professor Robert Dommer presided at the organ, and Professor C. M. Gullerud was the officiant at the rite of dedication. The congregation of 550 people sang the hymns from hearts full of thanksgiving to a gracious God for His gifts and brought an offering to the fund set

*"Oh give thanks . . ." God's  
gift to us thirty years  
ago keeps on giving:  
ILC, Eau Claire*

aside for relocation expenses. After the service the friends of Immanuel Lutheran College streamed through the halls of the college and particularly inspected the classroom-dormitory building and the seminary house which stood as the fruit of many hours of loving labor on the part of men and women who had given of their time and effort.

The academic opening of the school took place on Monday, September 2, with registration and orientation talks. Students have arrived from the following states: Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota, Michigan, Colorado, Washington, California, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming, Massachusetts. Although some of the schoolroom and dormitory equipment had not arrived for the opening, our school year was off to a good start, for the countenance of the Lord was lifted upon us, and peace and grace were His gift to us.

*—(Prof. C. M. Gullerud)*



## Partners in the Gospel...

### Mount Olive Lutheran Church Lamar, Colorado

The first English speaking Lutheran church in the Lamar area, Mount Olive Lutheran, began as a mission of

the Wisconsin Synod in 1934. The City Hall served as a worship place until the Fall of 1936 when the Wis-

consin Synod loaned Mt. Olive \$2,000 to build a church and parsonage. Property in town was obtained for \$200. The building was built from a church that Mt. Olive bought in Wiley, Colorado and rebuilt in Lamar. The building was dedicated to the Lord on April 11, 1937.

This building served the congregation's needs for over 50 years, surviving the flood of 1965, numerous hail storms, as well as the break from the Wisconsin Synod that Mt. Olive made in 1961.

Over the years, age and weather had taken its toll on the church building which required constant attention.

In November of 1992 it was brought to the attention of the voters of Mt. Olive that extensive repairs to the roof were necessary. Rather than spend money on more repairs, it was suggested that Mt. Olive relocate. The Lord graciously led the members to consider a used building at 811 South First Street in Lamar. At a voters' meeting it was decided by majority vote to purchase the building. This building was built in an "L" shape, incorporating parsonage, fellowship hall, and sanctuary in one building.

The "new" building was in rough shape, but it was felt that with its brick construction it would require



### **Grace Lutheran School—Fridley, Minnesota**

*The opening of Grace Lutheran School of Fridley was authorized by the congregation in January of 1976, and began with nine children in grades 1-6 in September of that year. Its highest enrollment was 44. Presently it is 25. The congregation has steadfastly supported this nursery for Christian growth which the Lord has planted among us. In recent years it has become an instrument for mission outreach, and continues to be an active supplier of young scholars to Immanuel Lutheran High School, Eau Claire. Two of its graduates have gone on to the Lord's ministry in the CLC. The present staff consists of Elizabeth Sydow, Karen Strike, and James Lau, Principal.—Pastor Daniel Fleischer*

less maintenance and would last longer than the older building on West Parmenter.

Money was raised within the congregation and the new building was purchased in December. (Mt. Olive has since received a loan from the CLC so that the bank was paid and Mt. Olive's payments could go to support CLC projects.)

Remodeling began almost immediately. The parsonage was cleaned up, the rooms were painted, wood was stripped, stained and varnished, and new carpet was laid.

Remodeling of the church was then undertaken. Walls were torn out or put in and then painted. The new carpeting was installed by professionals. All the rest of the remodeling, inside and out, was completed by the members of Mt. Olive, with the help of relatives of some of the members.

Mt. Olive held its first service in the new building on January 31. Dedication was postponed until the spring time, so that members of other CLC congregations who wished to attend would not be held up by bad weather.

Mt. Olive's new home was dedicated to the service of the Lord on April 25, 1993. Forty-seven people were in attendance as President Fleischer preached on Second Corinthians 5:18-21 under the theme "The True Beauty of God's House is the Message of Christ that is Heard Within." The service was followed by a fellowship dinner served by the ladies of Mt. Olive.

It has been several months since the new church was dedicated. The congregation remains small, but by the Lord's grace, Mt. Olive remains a

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beacon of the true and saving gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ on the South-eastern plains of Colorado.

—Pastor Joel Fleischer



#### Installation

By the authority of the Divine Call and with the approval of President Daniel Fleischer, the undersigned installed Miss Carolyn Gerbitz as teacher and principal of St. Paul's Lutheran School on September 5, 1993. The Lord's words of encouragement and exhortation came from 2 Peter 1:17-19.

—Pastor John K. Pfeiffer

**Clarification** (Footnote to *LOVE GOVERNS CHRISTIAN LIBERTY*, September 1993 Spokesman, p. 4ff) -

To illustrate matters "neither commanded nor forbidden" by Scripture, where love will decide "whether I do or don't," I listed—as one example—*buying a lottery ticket*.

A thoughtful reader believes we are sending the wrong message to suggest "that buying a lottery ticket could be a proper exercise of Christian liberty."

The example was not well chosen. As with smoking (another example cited) there is little, if any good reason for choosing this activity, even when love would not cause one to forego it (see I Corinthians 8). Christian wisdom and judgment make a strong case against it.

—Pastor Rollin A. Reim