

# LUTHERAN SPOKESMAN

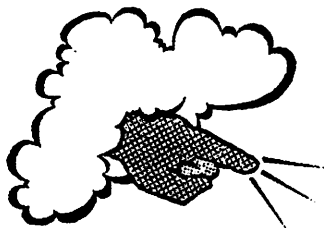
In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day" and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning-the first day. And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "Sky." And there was evening, and there was morning-the second day. And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning-the third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as sign to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights-the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning-the fourth day. And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." And there was evening, and there was morning-the fifth day. And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals according to their kinds." And it was so. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves, on the ground." Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground-everything that has the breath of life in it-I give every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning-the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

## IN THIS ISSUE

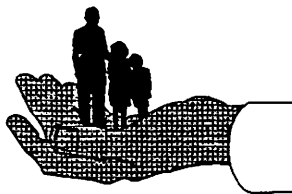
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"But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in mercy and truth" (Ps. 86:15).

## Fickle Finger



or



## Loving Hand?

**I**n a heartwarming animated Disney movie, a cricket sings "Fate is kind; She brings to those who love, the sweet fulfilment of, their secret longings . . ." And the heart of a child wants this to be true. But experience teaches that "fate" can just as often be very cruel. To outward view, both happiness and misery seem to be distributed at random, which leads the world to struggle with the very idea that there is a God, and that He is indeed good.

To try to explain this puzzle the

ancient Greeks invented the three Fates called the *Moirai*. The first was Clotho (Spinner) who spun the thread of life. The second was Lachesis (Disposer of Lots) who determined its length. Finally there was Atropos (Inflexible) who cut the thread. This was no heartwarming trio. In fact, they were known as "daughters of the night," and Lachesis, who pulled the length of the thread, was blind! (Hence the phrase "blind fate.") When presented with unexplainable suffering, the Greeks could shrug their shoulders and blame it all on the

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fickle finger of these daughters of the night.

There are just as many worshipers of the "Fates" as ever. They range from the ignorant and superstitious to the highly educated and cultured. The godless astrologer and the godless astronomer have this in common: they believe that good and evil happen more or less randomly, and that the best we can do is to try to predict coming events, handling damage control as we go. Likewise, it doesn't matter whether you are an unbelieving shaman or an unbelieving scientist; in either case there is no reason for confidence in your creator, no assurance that there is someone in control who cares for your well-being.

Neither science nor superstition can paint the true portrait of God in His grace. Only God's own Word can do that: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit" (1 Cor. 2:9-10).

In His Word the true God has graciously revealed to us what no one could have foreseen or calculated: that nothing happens by accident, and that all things are working for the good of those who place their confidence for salvation in Jesus alone.

### **Christ Bore Our Burden!**

An unbelieving eye sees the horrible effects of sin in the world and places the blame at God's door. "After all," they reason, "if there IS an all-powerful God, why would He let this happen?"

The eye of faith sees the sin of the

world as well. Yet it sees this sin, first and foremost, as our burden that Christ bore for us. It sees sin as it was nailed to the cross with Christ. It stands in wonder at what God was willing to do in order to DO AWAY with all suffering, sorrow, pain, and tears. God was willing to suffer in our place, to give up His precious Son to pay the price for our guilt. The eye of faith does not challenge God for letting evil things happen, because it has ample evidence that God is AGAINST all suffering, sorrow, pain, and loss. He proved it by what He did!

A Christian, of course, experiences his share of pain and sorrow in this life. God's Word tells him to expect it! Still, he knows that a parent has the right — yes, the responsibility — to discipline a child for his ultimate good. So he also recognizes the loving hand of his Father when he is chastised, with confidence that the Father seeks only his good, and that of others around him.

Modern "science" and godless philosophy would try to picture God as arbitrary and uncaring. If the universe had come about by chance and the human race by "survival of the fittest," then we might as well cast our lot with the fickle "daughters of the night."

But in the Gospel our Father's loving hand is revealed. The hand that struck His own Son for our sakes now tenderly holds us close! "Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see," Jesus said (Lk. 10:23).

Through our struggle in this vale of tears, let's appreciate the import of Jesus' words, and share His Word with others!

—Pastor Bruce Naumann

# "Jesus . . . was transfigured..."

## Matthew 17

*" . . . and also true man, born of the virgin Mary." So we confess our belief that Jesus was true man as well as true God. But do we always realize how human He was? Did He ever feel "down"? Though we cannot imagine Jesus being depressed, encouragement was in order at times.*

Jesus had been active in His ministry for over two and a half years. The attitude of the religious leaders of the Jews had changed from neutral curiosity to active hostility. Recently Jesus had healed the man born blind. The Pharisees obstinately refused to acknowledge the miracle. In their frustration they "cast him (the healed man) out" (Jn. 9:34).

In the days that lay ahead, the opposition of the Jewish leaders would only increase. In a few months their hatred and rage would lead them to crucify Jesus. As true God, Jesus knew exactly what would happen. As true man, it was not a pleasant prospect to face bitter rejection and finally an agonizing death.

His heavenly Father arranged the transfiguration to help Him. Jesus took Peter, James, and John to a mountain top. Jesus "was transfigured before them. His face shone as the sun, and His clothes became white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him."

### A Preview Of His Glory

As a preview of the heavenly glory that He would have after the work of redemption was complete, His face and clothing shone as brightly as the sun. As the Son of God He had always had that glory. But soon He would



fully enjoy that glory as true man also.

The Father sent Moses and Elijah to speak with Jesus. The purpose was encouragement. Through Moses God had given His people the old covenant of the law which pointed ahead to the Savior. Through Moses God had recorded the early promises which would be fulfilled in Jesus. Elijah had been sent by God to defend and support the worship of the true God through which the hope for a Savior was preserved.

Moses and Elijah talked with Jesus. No doubt they encouraged Him to carry out the redemption that they had held before the people in their own time. By their testimony and that of His heavenly Father, as demonstrated by the glory with which He shone, Jesus was strengthened and encour-

aged in carrying out what lay before Him.

Though we do not know what lies before us, there are times when we are discouraged. We need encouragement and strengthening also. We are to find that help where Jesus did. His Father is our Father, too.

Let us go with Jesus to the mountain top. Let us look to Moses

and Elijah and learn from the help that God gave them during their sojourn on earth. The promises that God gave to and through them were carried out. The promises God has given us through His Word will be carried out just as surely. He will sustain us in our fight of faith so that we might enter into His eternal glory.

—Pastor Keith Olmanson



## LESSONS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

“That We Might Have Hope” (Rom. 15:4)

*Genesis Chapters Twenty-one To Twenty-three*

### The Sacrifice Of Isaac

The Lord is forever faithful to His promises — that we might have hope. Abraham, with a child-like faith in God's promise to him, took God at His Word. In the face of death, hope became the reality of Life.

Call to mind the promise of God: in Genesis 3:15 God gave to our first parents (who had come under the curse of death by not taking God at His Word) the promise of a Seed who would save them from their sin and death.

In Genesis 4:1 we learn that Adam and Eve believed this promise and thought that their first-born was the promised "Man, the Lord"!

God affirmed that promise at the time that He called Abram to leave his home and go to a place to be designated by God. There He would bless Abram: "...in you all people in

the world will be blessed" (Gen. 12:3). The Savior-Seed promised to Adam and Eve would come for all people as a descendant of Abram.

In Genesis 21:1 we heard: "...the Lord did for Sarah what He promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son when he was old, at the time God mentioned." This promised son born to Abraham and Sarah in their old age (not Ishmael, the son of their own making) was indeed the evidence of God's faithfulness to His promise. The Seed would descend through Isaac!

#### How Can This Be?!

In Genesis 22 we are permitted to witness how Abraham's faith in the faithfulness of God to keep His promise was tested by God. He instructs Abraham: "Take your only son, Isaac, whom you love . . . go to

Moriah, and sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the hills I will point out to you." How can this be?!

God gave mankind the promise of Life over against merited death. That Life-giver was promised to all the people of the earth (that we might have hope). He was not Adam and Eve's first son, but would arrive in the fullness of God's appointed time. God selected Abram to receive the promise of the Savior-descendant. And that Savior would come through the descendants of his only son, Isaac. How can it be that God, who is faithful to His Word and promise, now commands Abraham to take this son-of-the-promise and sacrifice him on an altar of death?

Here we need to remember that God has made many other promises for our good. Among them is the promise which St. Paul writes to the Corinthians in the second letter (10:13): "You haven't been tempted more than you could expect. And you can trust God. He will not let you be tested more than you can stand. But when you are tested, He will also make a way out so you can bear it."

The same Holy Spirit, who teaches us to believe with child-like trust what God has promised, also keeps us in that trust when we are tested lest we fall from faith and lose the Life which is our promised Gift from God! When God tested the trust that Abraham had in the promise of the Seed, that trust overcame the horrors of reason and death, the loss of the Promise, and the loss of his only beloved son.

In chapter 22:4-5 we note that Abraham states as a matter of faith, not fact: "we'll come back to you!" In verses 6-8 we hear Abraham's reply of

simple faith: "God will provide Himself with a sheep for the burnt offering!" In verses 9 and 10 we see Abraham poised to perform what God had required of him: ". . . Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and laid him on the wood on the altar. As Abraham reached for the knife and took it in his hand to sacrifice his son...."

### **The Obedience Of Faith**

All this is the obedience of faith, not the strength of Abraham's character or dedicated ego. Abraham knows by faith that God is faithful and will keep His promise through the lineage of Isaac, and not another. Abraham, Isaac, and all people will have the sure Hope of Life through the Savior-Seed.

In verses 11-14 we observe that an angel was sent by God to provide the way of escape: "Abraham . . . don't lay your hands on the boy...don't do anything to him . . . When Abraham looked around, he saw behind him a ram caught by his horns in a bush . . . So Abraham went and got the ram and sacrificed him as a burnt offering instead of his son." God remains faithful to His Promise!

Abraham dedicates this place of faith-testing with the name: **THE LORD WILL PROVIDE** (literally, **THE LORD SEES TO IT**), that we all may have hope. Amen and Amen! The test of Abraham concludes with the restatement of the promise of the Lord (v. 18a): "In your Descendant all the people of the earth will be blessed."

Do we sense the lesson for us in this sacred record? In this life we are

frequently tempted and tested. Whenever we remember the Word which the Lord has spoken to us, His gracious promises, we live by the obedience of faith which the Spirit has worked in us. We too find the way of escape, the ram which God provides for us. We have the Hope that Abraham had, the promise (Gospel) of

God's love that saved us from death and gave us the gift of life in Christ. We too must declare: The Lord sees to it; He is faithful to His Promise; we have a sure hope!

Thank you, Lord, for this lesson of hope. Confirm it in us by your Holy Spirit!

—Prof. Gordon Radtke



## **"New Creatures In Christ"**

(2 Cor. 5:17)

### **Studies in Second Corinthians**

#### *Chapter 2*

## **VICTORY ON PARADE**

If you are over 45 and a member of a CLC charter church you probably carry a vivid, painful memory. It is the division within congregations, the splitting which so often marked the movement of conscience which led to the formation of a new fellowship. Those who spoke for faithfulness to Gospel truth in former churches were called trouble-makers or worse. Many were deeply offended by the bitterness that abounded.

#### **How Can This Be?**

You would think that such conflict could not occur among people whose hearts and minds are guarded by the peace of God in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:7). Yet it is just there that Satan's schemes must be exposed and defeated (2 Cor. 2:11). And there is no gentle way to deal with this adversary of "deep guile and great might." Christians do need "stomach for

battle."

Sometimes church members become allies and instruments of Satan. Perhaps unwittingly. So in Corinth. When factions there mounted a campaign to discredit Paul and his gospel, he engaged them powerfully with a "painful visit" and by letter (2 Cor. 2:1-3).

Much of the correspondence is no longer at hand (2:3-4) for the Bible student today. But we have enough in our First and Second Corinthians to show how the Lord's apostle met the challenge. False teaching such as the denial of resurrection (1 Cor. 15:12) was countered with glorious instruction in the truth so vital to our hope in Christ. As always, it is the *gospel* as the power of God (1 Cor. 1:18) that carries the day.

#### **Enlisting The Saints**

Another Satanic tactic was to get

the congregation to accept gross immorality in their midst (1 Cor. 5:1, 2 Cor. 2:5). In this the apostle got the believers involved in the ministry of church discipline.

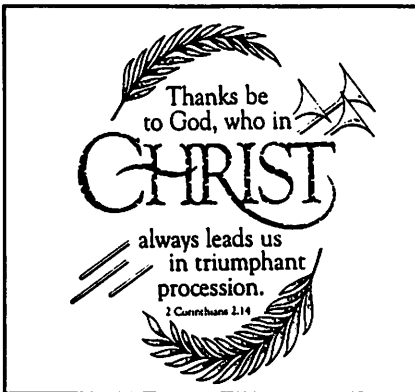
Did it work? Our chapter 2 (vv. 5-11) gives a happy report. The offender (probably a promoter of the rebellion) was dealt with firmly by the majority of the church. The Spirit granted him a change of heart. Now the Corinthians are admonished to give the penitent the warm embrace of love (never easy when you have been grieved by the penitent's previous actions). What a victory! The kind that makes for rejoicing in heaven (Luke 15:7). What was lost is found. Again, Satan is outwitted.

### Always In Triumph

Christian warfare knows many seeming setbacks. So often what we see and experience in the world suggests that the gospel enterprise is failing. Paul's best-laid plans failed time and again. Titus did not rendezvous with the apostle at Troas as had been expected (2 Cor. 2:13). Paul was distraught.

Often it is in such times of near despair that there "steals upon the ear the distant triumph song." Paul is given the grace to see and claim victory in the midst of it all. He sees himself in Christ in the midst of a *triumphal procession*.

Today a victorious general like MacArthur or Schwarzkopf might enjoy a ticker-tape parade in New York. In Bible times it was even more dramatic. As the victor led his troops into a city there was an air about them. Burning spice-incense enveloped them with a fragrant aroma. How



the day was sweetened for the triumphant!

Using this imagery, Paul exults: *"Thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of Him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life" (2:14-16).*

### An Attitude

What was true for the apostle remains true for all who "do not peddle the word of God for profit" but on the contrary in Christ speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God (2:17). For they are "the aroma of Christ." In Him they go from victory to victory.

For decades the CLC has enjoyed much freedom from internal warfare. Drawn together by oneness of mind and thought (1 Cor. 1:10), we have tasted the peace in which the work of the gospel thrives. After the battle, however, we are still called to be the aroma of Christ, marching in His victory parade.

— Rollin A. Reim



" . . . I visited the Canyon on three different occasions, and twice hiked its trails from river to rim. I discovered that not only are the evolutionist's "missing links" truly missing — their whole "ladder of life" is missing!"

## **Climbing The "Ladder of Life" In The Grand Canyon**

Several years ago, I was challenged by an evolutionist colleague to visit the Grand Canyon in Arizona. He assured me that a hike into the Grand Canyon would be a "sure-cure for creationism." Here, he said, I would see that the many layers of rock forming the walls of the Canyon get progressively older as one descends from the rim (where the rocks are "only" about 60-million years old) to the bottom (where the rocks are said to be well over a billion years old). Then, he claimed, as I ascended the wall of the Canyon I would be climbing the evolutionary "ladder of life"! He assured me that the fossils in each succeeding layer of rock would reveal the progressive steps of over a billion years of evolutionary history, ranging from the first living cells to the early reptiles. Surely, if one is to see physical evidence of the progressive stages of evolution anywhere on earth, the Grand Canyon should be the place to look. Well, after researching the Grand Canyon, I accepted the challenge to pay it a visit. In fact, I visited the Canyon on three different occasions, and twice hiked its trails from river to rim. I discovered that not only are the evolutionist's "missing links" truly missing — their whole "ladder of life" is missing!

The Grand Canyon is about 270 miles long and, in places, over a mile deep. Its walls reveal 21 distinct layers of mostly sedimentary rock. The deepest, and presumably oldest, layers of sedimentary rock in the Grand Canyon are collectively known as Precambrian strata. For over 100 years geologists have searched for fossils in Precambrian layers all over the earth in hope that they might see how the first living organisms evolved. In the Canyon, as elsewhere, *Precambrian* fossils are largely limited to curious dome-shaped laminated structures called "stromatolites." While there is some question whether these stromatolites are really a product of living organisms, similar structures are formed in our oceans today by mats of one-celled photosynthetic organisms called "cyanobacteria."

The next three layers of the Canyon (Tapeats Sandstone, Bright Angel Shale and Muav Limestone) are collectively identified as *Cambrian* strata and are said to range from 600 million to 400 million years old. Here, many fossils of trilobites, oysters, clams, corals, worms and brachiopods are suddenly found. All of these are marine invertebrates, and all (with the possible exception of trilobites) have representatives living in our oceans



Dr. David Menton

today. Paleontologists speak of the great "*Cambrian explosion*" because all over the world these layers show the sudden appearance of fossils representing virtually every phylum of animals. In *not a single case* is there fossil evidence to show what their presumed ancestors looked like — they appear all at once and fully formed!

The next two fossil bearing layers encountered in our climb up the Canyon's "ladder of life" are the Redwall Limestone (said to be 300-million years old) and the Supai group (200 million years old). These layers contain fossils of more marine invertebrates including three relatively simple types not seen in the lower layers — the bryozoans, crinoids and foraminiferans. All three have living representatives in our oceans today. The foraminiferans are of particular interest because they are a phylum of one-celled marine organisms that evolutionists consider to be among the first forms of life to have evolved a nucleus. Why, then, are these "primitive" single-cell organisms first encountered halfway up our "ladder of

life"? So far, our "ladder" seems to be pretty much a "one rung" affair, with no obvious vector of evolutionary progress. It gets worse, however. The next rung shows evidence of foot prints — but no feet!

One of the most amazing facts about the Grand Canyon is that *no one has ever found a single fossilized bone in the Canyon!* Beginning in the Supai layer and extending upward into the Hermit and Coconino layers, countless fossilized *foot prints* of over 20 species of amphibians and reptiles suddenly appear — but no fossils of their bones or teeth! The bones of tetrapods (four-legged animals) that could have made these foot prints have only been found in more superficial strata located several miles away from the Canyon. Interestingly, the occurrence of foot prints in strata well below the layers in which fossilized bones are first found is not unique to the Grand Canyon. Geologists concede that this is a *world-wide phenomenon!* How then can we consider the fossils in the geologic column to be a reliable record of evolutionary succession? Are we to believe that foot prints evolved 150-million years before feet? Those who accept the Biblical account of Noah's flood might prefer to think that the common occurrence of foot prints in strata below those bearing the bodies themselves reveals something about how long these tetrapods could tread water before drowning!

Even more amazing is the fact that most of the fossil footprints in the Coconino *are headed in the same direction!* Are we to believe that for 10 million years, amphibians and reptiles mostly walked in the same

direction? Not only are the majority of these foot prints headed in a northerly direction, but this direction generally slopes *uphill!* While camping in the Canyon, I heard a park ranger give a lecture on its fossils. She was quite serious when she explained that geologists now believe the reason most fossil foot prints head uphill is that the reptiles who made them *always walked uphill* (leaving foot prints), but had a habit of *sliding down a hill!* Certainly, one could make a more plausible argument for reptiles running uphill to escape the advancing waters of Noah's Flood, than one could for "lazy lizards." The top two layers of the Canyon are the Toroweap and Kaibab layers. Neither layer shows evidence of foot prints of any kind and, of course, there is still no trace of bones. Fish teeth have been found in the Kaibab, but this is clearly a case of too little, too late. To add insult to injury, the Kaibab Limestone layer at the very top of our "ladder of life" shows the only evidence to be found in the Canyon of fossilized *sponges!* This is embarrassing to evolutionists, because

sponges are a loose collection of living cells that are believed to be the first multicellular organisms to have evolved on earth.

It's easy to come away from the Grand Canyon thinking you have made a startling discovery that evolutionists ought to know about — there is no evidence of evolutionary progress in the fossils of the geologic column! I was surprised to learn that evolutionists are already aware of this fact, although you would never guess it from the evolutionary indoctrination presented in public schools and popular media. Harvard evolutionist Stephen J. Gould appears to have no illusions about the evidence for evolutionary succession in the geologic column when he says: "*I regard the failure to find a clear vector of progress in life's history as the most puzzling fact of the fossil record.*" (*Natural History Vol. 93, p.23.*) A hike to the bottom of the Grand Canyon is a sure cure for evolutionism, but don't expect to climb out on the "ladder of life" — it isn't there!

—Dr. David N. Menton

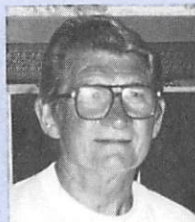


The CLC Board of Missions together at last summer's Convention: Mr. Don Ohlmann, Chairman (Valentine, NE); Pastor Robert List, Secretary (Spokane, WA); Mr. Lee Krueger (Markesan, WI); Pastor Walter Schaller (Lemmon, SD).

## Thank You, Brownie!

A few weeks ago the editor received a note which read in part:

*"...This is a note to remind you that the November issue of the Spokesman will be my last cover design. After twenty some years of doing the cover art and designs, I feel it would be wise to get some 'new blood' on the Spokesman staff. I've enjoyed every minute of time spent in doing the covers, but now with increased age (turned 70 in Sept.) I find it becoming much more time-consuming and have more difficulty in drawing....I'm sure you will be able to find a replacement in the CLC that can do equal or better work than I have done...."*



**Brownie Bernthal**

The note is from Mr. Waldemar Bernthal — known affectionately as "Brownie" to family and friends — of our Hales Corners, Wisconsin congregation.

We understand when a long-time, gifted, and reliable co-worker finds it necessary to step down and "take it easier" than before. The press of a deadline hangs overhead and weighs on all those associated with a periodical such as our little magazine.

We understand — but that doesn't make the "parting" any easier. We recall some impassioned words from a pastor on the conference floor a few years back. In the course of discussion the subject of *Spokesman* covers came up; the comment was along the lines that "if you want to see some of the best truly Lutheran artwork of the last few decades, check out what Mr. Bernthal does for the *Lutheran Spokesman* covers!"

Long-time subscribers to the *Spokesman* may want to flip back over the covers of the last twenty years or so. Those which are pen and ink drawings were more often than not the careful artistry of our retiring friend. In recent years Matthew Schaser, Brownie's son-in-law and for some time companion artist on the staff, has used graphic arts to transpose some of Brownie's work. Some covers, such as those for Volumes 35 & 36 have been Matt's own ideas.

The fact that the cover of a magazine is the first thing seen by prospective readers underscores how important its message is. And as the aforementioned pastor suggested, a glance at a Bernthal-produced cover conveys the message that the pages inside contain the Bible's Good News in Christ Jesus, the Savior. Such a message is the "truly Lutheran" one which the *Lutheran Spokesman* has always wanted to convey to the world.

No one is indispensable to the Lord's work. We have no doubt that the hole being left by Brownie's leave-taking can be filled. Yet we would be remiss to take for granted his able and faithful efforts. For all of you we say: "Thanks for your inspiring artwork, Brownie — it will be missed! God's blessings on you and your family!"

—The Editor



Pastor & Mrs. David Schmidt & Family

## *Our 1994 Seminary Graduate*

David Schmidt was born in Springfield, Ohio on August 19, 1960 — the same year in which the CLC was formed. He felt, from an early age, that he was meant to serve the Lord as a minister, though he would not find out about the CLC's existence until many years later. When he did, the decision he must make was very clear to him. David left the church body in which he was born and raised to join the CLC.

David attended public school in Ohio through ninth grade and then Michigan Lutheran Seminary, a Wisconsin Synod (WELS) high school in Saginaw. During his second year of attendance at Northwestern College in Watertown, Wisconsin the Lord led him back to Ohio, where he met and married Rebecca Hensley of Tipp City, Ohio.

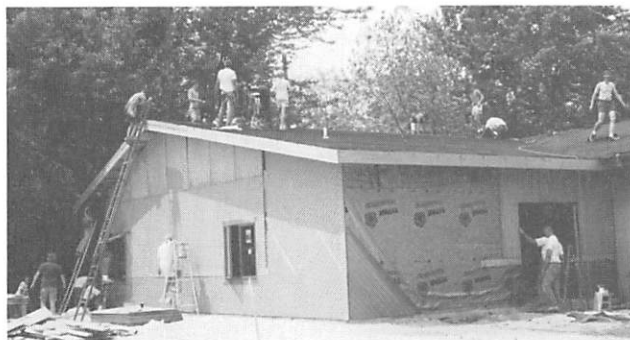
Six months later they moved to Minneapolis where David had found work with Republic Airlines. It was here they were blessed with their first child. David knew, however, that this

was not to be his life's work. He once again heeded the call to study for the ministry by entering the WELS program for married pre-ministerial students at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato. It was here that the Lord led David into the CLC and also blessed them with a second daughter.

After working in Ohio for four years, David again followed the Lord's call and attended ILC in Eau Claire. During this time Becky also attended Immanuel Lutheran College for two years in the teaching program. David graduated in May of 1994 and was installed as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Addison (Chicago), Illinois.

The Schmidts and their three children — Rachael (13), Leah (9), and Nathan (2) — are enjoying the blessings of their new home and their new church family. May the Lord continue to guide David through his years of service and graciously keep him in His Word.





**Messiah  
Lutheran  
School Under  
Construction.**

*Building Project at Messiah, Hales Corners —*

## "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

On August 24, 1993 when Messiah Lutheran School opened, it became quite evident that more room was already needed. School was started with 21 students of all eight grades in a 25 X 16 foot classroom. By January 1994, enrollment had increased to 26. The upper grades were moved into the sanctuary with pews and desks moved in and out as church services and school days dictated.

A building committee was appointed to explore the options available to the congregation. Three basic options were given to the membership to consider: keep the school as is, sell the existing church and property and relocate, or build additional classroom space using mostly volunteer help.

The voters decided to add two classrooms off the back of the present building, adding about 1500 square feet including two 20 X 30 foot classrooms. A folding wall separates the rooms to allow for much needed space for occasional fellowship activities.

Other improvements were made including an expanded narthex, a pastor's study, and a church/school office where the old classroom was.

Ground-breaking was held during services on June 19, 1994. Construction began in earnest on July 11, 1994 by the raising of the pre-constructed walls. At the end of the day the roof trusses were installed. By the end of the first week — with the help of volunteers from within Messiah, as well as from other CLC churches — the roofing was installed and the first coat of paint was on the siding. During the coming days and weeks the volunteer labor continued



**The Jack Mayhew family. Mrs. Louise Mayhew teaches in the Day School in Valentine, Nebraska.**

under the watchful (and patient) eye of Jack Mayhew from Grace congregation, Valentine, Nebraska, our construction manager.

On August 23rd, by the grace of God and the permission of the Building Inspector, school opened on time. This was accomplished much to

the relief of the building committee who less than ten months before had no idea where to start.

*"Praise God from whom all blessings flow...."*

—Bryon J. Nelson  
*Lay-Member of Messiah*



## Prince Of Peace Hosts Luncheon



On October 1, 1994 the Ladies' Aid of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, South Dakota sponsored a luncheon for CLC women from surrounding cities. Women came from CLC congregations in Bismarck, Jamestown, and Fargo, No. Dakota; Detroit Lakes, Minn.; and Lemmon, Bowdle, Ipswich, and Faulkton, So. Dakota.

A total of about 50 women were in attendance. As they arrived around 11:00 a.m. they were registered, and name tags were given out identifying their name and home congregation. After a delicious noon meal some of the women sang the song, "I will give thanks" as the table prayer and "Go now in peace" as a closing benediction.

The focus of the luncheon came

after the meal at about 1:00 p.m. with three presentations given by members of Prince of Peace. Lisa McNeely served as emcee. Gweneth Hansen presented a talk on prayer, prayer journals, and prayer chains. The Rev. Paul Krause and his wife Collette presented a discussion on keeping young people active in the church. Cindy Odenbach rounded out the afternoon with a talk about the hidden agenda of public education. The presentations prompted a good amount of discussion.

The Hecla community center was attractively decorated in a fall theme. Four door prizes were given out during the course of the afternoon. The doings ended about 3:30 p.m.

—From a Report  
by Pastor Paul Krause

# Announcements

## Installations

As authorized by CLC President Daniel Fleischer, I installed Mr. Barry Hay as upper grade teacher and principal of Faith Lutheran School, Markesan, Wisconsin on August 14, 1994.

— Michael A. Sydow, Pastor

As authorized by CLC President Daniel Fleischer, I installed John K. Pfeiffer as a member of the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, Wisconsin on December 16, 1994.

— Michael A. Sydow, Secretary  
ILC Board of Regents

As authorized by President Daniel Fleischer, I installed Stephen Kurtzahn as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Austin, Minnesota on January 8, 1995.

—Roland A. Gurgel



### **HYMNWORKS is Now Available!**

HYMNWORKS is a series of church bulletin inserts on the hymnwriters of *The Lutheran Hymnal*.

Every HYMNWORKS insert presents an overview of the life, work, and confession of a hymn writer found in *The Lutheran Hymnal*. With each insert you will discover an informative four-page biographical sketch together with a printing of one hymn for use by your congregation. As you and your fellow members read the stories and sing the hymns of these writers, you will gain a better appreciation for the content of your Lutheran hymnal.

HYMNWORKS is now available for congregational use in quantities of 25 sets or more. Each set of twelve bulletin inserts is priced at 84 cents — that's 48 total pages of hard-to-find information for 84 cents!

To order or for more information on HYMNWORKS, call: ISC Press at 608-935-9746; or write to: ISC Press, Box 144, Dodgeville, WI 53533.

### **Pacific Coast Pastoral Conference Holy Cross, Phoenix, Arizona February 14-16, 1995**

#### **Agenda:**

- \* An Exegetical Study of Revelation 20 — Jerome Barthels
- \* Old Testament Exegesis, Hosea 2:18ff (2:16ff English) — Michael Eichstadt
- \* New Testament Exegesis, 1 Thessalonians 4:13ff - Norbert Reim
- \* How Broad are the Applications for "Malicious Desertion" as Grounds for Divorce? — Paul Schaller
- \* What is the "Repentance of God"? — Robert List
- \* A Study of the Doctrinal Controversies in the Old Synodical Conference — Arvid Gullerud
- \* Fulfilling Our Responsibility toward Members who Neglect the Means of Grace — Wayne Eichstadt
- \* A Biographical Sketch of an Early Church Father — David Naumann

Chaplain: Peter Reim

Conference Speaker: Bertram Naumann

—Pastor Bruce Naumann, Secretary