

COLUMBIA LUTHERAN



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHERAN COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

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NO. 11



"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.... For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."—Isaiah 9:2 and 6.

Christmas Greetings and Meditations by Various Pastors

THE DELIVERER Carl A. V. Lund

Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me. Psalm 50: 15.

A sweeping and unqualified invitation and promise from the Almighty One.

Our trouble is not a lack of this or that of material things. Our trouble is SIN, expressed in SELFISHNESS.

Jesus Christ, the Deliverer has come. He takes away all our SINS. He sums up God's will in the one word LOVE. Love God above all things and your neighbor as yourself.

When we accept Him we have PEACE instead of trouble.

"My peace I give unto you."

"LIGHT—LIFE" John Bildt

The reason we have light in our homes and churches at Christmas is help

because we know that everything Jesus loves is associated with light. And when we are in the light we feel safe. When we are in the light we can see to read and sing. We can enjoy each other's gifts and rejoice with those whom we love. There would be no Christmas apart from light in our hearts and homes. Jesus came to drive away darkness of sin, in order that we might seek and find the path that leads to the "Light of Life."

CHRIST IS GOD'S GREAT GIFT Jos. A. Anderson.

"Unto you is born this day a Saviour."—Luke 2:11.

The greatest gift God could bestow: not a thing that can save but a Saviour. Let us contemplate this and thus appreciate the fact of a Saviour, not something unhuman and undivine,

Things of this kind, dead and yet perishable. God had long ago given man, but they were unable to save the heart from its load of sin, to satisfy man's innermost desire, or enable it to soar to the unseen, the eternal.

If we wish this Christmas to be above the sordid plane we may have it so by believing in Jesus, human and divine, the Saviour, God's only Christmas gift.

WORSHIP GIVES TRUE CHRISTMAS JOY Ernest J. Sakrison

When Christmas morn again comes around, let us wend our ways to the house of God. Let us meet in His "temple fair" to hear once more the ever new story of the coming of the Son of God in human flesh to help us and save us. Let us forget our temporal trials and worries and with

the worshipping throng thank and praise. In melodies sublime, our Heavenly Father for this unspeakably precious gift. Then, there shall also be music and holiday spirit in the air and a joyous holiday feeling in our heart on Christmas morn.

CHRIST DISPELS FEAR J. A. Martin.

"Be not afraid." These words were spoken by the angel to the shepherds that first Christmas morning. They were afraid! We would have been too. Today you and I are impressed with reverential fear. Ah, yes! "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord." A Saviour from sin! We should be afraid of sin, fear its consequences, but rejoice that Jesus is come into the world to save sinners. This greeting is to you from one who is saved by grace through faith in Christ with Jesus.



CHRIST LEADS TO TRUE OPTIMISM

Carl A. Bengtson

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light." (Is 9:2). Many are they who walk in darkness and pessimism. Many have persisted to remain in the gloom of unbelief in spite of all invitations of God to lead man into a joyous fellowship with the Saviour. There is nothing in all the world that is so much needed these days as joy and optimism springing from hearts overflowing with Divine joy. As we again approach the day when we celebrate His birth, may every reader of these lines experience an ever increasing joy in the Saviour.

CHRIST IS THE BEST CHRISTMAS GIFT

N. William Anderson.

"Our thoughts gather around the birth of the Christ child at Bethlehem . . . We call it Christmas!

We commemorate the birth of Jesus because He is our Heavenly Father's gift to a fallen world. His mission was to redeem us from sin.

To us has come the angelic song: "Peace and Good-will." This was made possible because of His sacrificial death upon the cross. Only when men accept Him in faith, can true peace be experienced, and a worthy Christmas Season be celebrated. As Lutheran Christians we gather to worship Him at our Christmas service and programs. We worship Him throughout the whole year. May we do so in humility and faith. Thank God for the world's best Christmas Gift.

CHRIST IS THE GREAT INFINITE

C. G. Bloomquist.

His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.—Is. 9:6.

Christ is more than a thousand names imply. Both angels and saints adore Him as wonderful. He counselled our salvation from eternity and has been the advisor of the great innumerable host. As mighty God He acts with infinite wisdom and power. All life proceeds from Him, and his people live in Him. He is the Prince of Peace and he shall establish it everlastingly among all his creatures.

Let us embrace Him anew this Christmas! Confess Him boldly before men!



"and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was."

CHRISTMAS, the season of love and rejoicing is here. God has visited His people and we behold His Star in the east, the Star of Jacob, the Messiah promised from old. Today we walk in the brightness of the coming of the Lord of Israel and rejoice in the blessing His reign has brought us. But there was a time when the people of the earth lay asleep in gross darkness. Heavy thunderclouds sailed back and forth over the threatening firmament, then and then ripped by a flashing "Thou shalt" and "Thou shalt not." At times a lone star would appear "And thy seed shall crush the serpent's head." "He shall rule with peace and on His Kingdom there shall be no end," only to disappear again in the night. Generations passed the borders of eternity without having seen the Light. Hearts lost faith in the promise. Hands were stretched toward heaven in agonizing agony, eyes dropped from the weariness of long, fruitless waiting.

Then suddenly a Light appeared in the east. Ripples of sunrays colored the horizon with golden ensigns of glory. Astonished the people arose from their slumber, gazing in wonder at the sky. Each cloud bore a silver lining, and over the hilltops was written in words of fire: "Fear not, for behold, unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

This was the Light that was promised of ages. This was the fulfillment of the covenant. And million hands reached out to receive it. Those who had accused their God now fell down in holy adoration, as high above in the brilliant sky the angels of God came forth from the Most Holy, filling the earth with praises to Him that had come to save the world from bondage. Long it re-echoed in the hills and the valleys, the song of the seraphs, each strain taken up by the trembling shepherds in the field: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

The church of Christ brings you the same message today. Behold, He is born, the Christ of God!



CHRIST IS THE SOURCE OF TRUE WISDOM

David E. Engberg.

"They presented unto him gifts: gold and frankincense, and myrrh." —Matt. 2:11.

They were **Wise Men**, indeed, these strangers from afar, who came to worship Jesus. They were wise, no doubt, in all the wisdom of men—yet their wisdom appeared, not in their knowledge of natural sciences, but in the fact that they sought Jesus. And having found Him, they worshipped Him and gave Him rich gifts.

One gift you, too, may bring and leave at the feet of the Saviour—your heart. Be wise! Give your heart to Jesus, and know the true peace and joy of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS BELONGS TO CHRIST

Elmer M. Johnson.

From the Capitol City of Washington we wish to send a message of Christmas joy to the readers of Columbia Lutheran. It is our prayer that this beautiful and festive season may be a true **Christ - Mass - Tide**, a season during which a holy and reverent worship of the Christ will be the chief concern of our people. Let us not, as is the custom of many, abbreviate Christmas to "Xmas," for "X" is the algebraic symbol for an unknown quantity. Rather, as we fellowship together this Yuletide, let us sing:

"True Godhead incarnate, omnipotent Word!
O come, let us hasten to worship the Lord!"

CHRIST'S MESSAGE IS EVER NEW

J. Truedson.

"The said I, Lo, I am come; in the roll of the book it is written of me; I delight to do thy will, O my God; Yes, thy law is within my heart."—Ps. 40:7-8.

This is our Lord's own greeting to his church. Although it is old, it is ever new to God's children. May we all accept it and with open hearts receive our dear Redeemer again in this blessed Christmas season! The old people in the Home for the Aged takes this occasion to greet you in the name of Him who was born in Bethlehem. May He bless you abundantly, you pastors for the sermons you have preached to us, you ladies who have visited us and brought us entertainments and gifts, and you who in various ways have contributed to our happiness. Immanuel!

CHRIST BRINGS PEACE

Samuel E. Johnson.

"They shall call His name Immanuel."

Soon will be heard the beautiful words, "Peace on earth,—Glory to God in the highest," and others. How beautiful are not our Christmas texts! Glorious as they are one seems to stand above all, "Immanuel." None can say more. Immanuel permits heaven to come to earth; it lifts earth and humanity to God; it heals the broken and reunites the separated. I am secure, salvation has come to me. Immanuel, God with us! In His name we greet you. Hear Him, keep Him, serve Him, here and in heaven forever.

GLORY TO GOD IS OUR FIRST CONCERN

H. P. Johnson.

My Christmas greeting comes from the sick-bed, where I have spent more than five months. I am glad to be able to say (Nov. 14) that during the last two weeks I have continuously improved. The doctor tells me that in about two weeks more I should be able to be up most of the time.

I greet you, dear friends, in the words of the angel: "Glory to God in the highest". Let our sickness and our health, our joy and our sorrow redound at all times to the glory of God, and all shall be well for both time and eternity.

JESUS LIFTS US

C. R. Swanson

The Gethsemane Church and its pastor, with gratitude for cooperation and courtesies shown by the "Columbia Lutheran" now and in the past, cordially wish the Editors a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. We also wish to extend the Season's Greetings to all readers of the Columbia Lutheran. May God grant you a Christmas Season abounding in love, peace and good will, which Jesus, the Christ Child, came to bring into the world. He came not only to show us God, He came to help us become God-like: increasingly so now, perfectly so hereafter.

May the New Year bring you material and spiritual prosperity.

A MAN RICHER in learning than in good works is like a tree with many branches and few roots; the first wind overthrows it. A man whose actions are greater than his learning is like a tree with few branches and many roots; all the winds of the world may storm against it, but cannot move it from its place.

Within the oyster's shell uncount
The purest pearl may hide,
Trust me you'll find a heart of truth
Within that rough outside.

—Mrs. Osgood.



Her Christmas

By Enoch S.

The lights burned low, and ghastly shadows fluttered over the room. Julia sat alone by the fireplace, her face hidden in her hands. There was a tear in her eye—one of those glittering pearls of sky-blue, which steal out of a mother's eye when her soul is filled with tender recollections of those whom she loved so dearly, but who now are gone. Christmas eve had already passed into night, the lights on the Christmas tree had died out, the merry Christmas songs were silent. But still she sat alone—waiting.

Now and then she lifted her head as if to listen. A sigh, heavy and mournful as if ascending from the innermost depths of her heart, stole out into the silent night. She looked absently into the fire. Ah! How happy they seemed, those little flames, as they leaped upward! But look there! A part of the wood has not yet been set afire and the vapors whistle and whiz in a dismal, melancholy way. How can that be. Is there a touch of sadness in happiness? Yes, her life!

Others were happy, but she! Ah, it had been a wonderful Christmas that one five years ago. Christmas! No, it had been more than so, it had been her wedding day, and all her friends had stood by her side and rejoiced with her in her great happiness. How she had hoped, how she had dreamed! Should not her future be one of constant happiness and joy! Indeed! But then came the war. Then came the thunderbolt from across the sea. Her husband killed! Yes. And then came the loneliness with an infant son. Here she stopped for a moment and passed her hand slowly over her forehead. Her boy! Her only joy and consolation! But now he lay burning with fever and ready to descend into the unknown.

She rose slowly and stepped softly into the sick room. The doctor was at the boy's side.

"Will he live?"

Her voice trembled. She gazed anxiously toward the doctor. He shook his head.

"Then . . . then . . . I shall . . . ?"

"Yes, madame, it is God's will."

God's will! Was it then God's will that she alone should be crushed under sorrow! What did he mean? And Christmas, too!

Her eyes were dimmed with tears. She was terrified. Her appearance was like that of a deer surrounded by enemies.

"God's will to take my child?"

She screamed. But then she remembered the sick child. And she whispered softly, tenderly. She kissed the feverish lips. She nearly collapsed over the frail body.

"Percy, my little Percy!"

She kissed him again.

"You won't leave mother, Percy dear."

She had his hands in hers now.

"Say that you won't leave mother alone."

The boy looked into her eyes. His little hand pointed upward. A faint smile lighted up his face. Then the hand fell back again. A wonderful light brightened his brow. Then he smiled again—a sweet, happy smile—and his eyes gleamed as the purple sky of sunset dying away into the summer night. Again his hand pointed upward. Again there was the same peaceful glow in his face.

"Percy!"—

Then she stooped down over him.

"Merciful Heaven! Please! It is Christmas!"

Again the boy opened his eyes. This time he looked with tender reproach at his mother.

"Mother!"

His voice was but a soft whisper—like a last kiss of the summer wind on a still night.

" . . . don't . . . you . . . know . . . the . . . little . . . angels . . . ?"

And then she heard the silence of the night speak. Yes, it was true. Life is too mean for my darling, its cold winds would kill you, it would make you wither like a flower in the hot sun, it would poison your heart. Shall mother keep that chilly North wind away from her darling? Yes, yes, I saw your angel . . . I know where you are . . . Oh, God, my child!

And there her only child lay asleep with his pale sweet face turned toward God.

"Percy!"

Then she sank down beside the dead—not as touched by the deep, solemn stillness of death, but as one mortally wounded.

"My child!"

It rang through the room like a desperate defiance to heaven.

Then she fumbled with her trembling fingers through her boy's hair and then—blackness.

* * *

Silently the night floated into the unknown. Morning still found the mother at the side of her boy.

"But I understand now," she whispered faintly between subdued moans "I know now why it is so. He was too good for me. He was too good for me. He was my Christmas present from God and now I return it to Him. And I do it willingly, for I know that my child is in a happier place than this . . . but . . . it hurts so . . ."

And then she wept again and felt so alone, alone, alone.

WORK IN GOD'S NAME

The conference board having placed the undersigned in charge of the field in Vancouver, B. C., it has been with hesitation and much prayer that we have taken up the work. The congregation has not only felt the general depression keenly, but due to various local conditions it must cope with an increased financial burden. Despite this the congregation has shown a fine spirit of cooperation and readiness to carry on the work.

The parsonage that had been rented out for some time was in need of a thorough renovation. A number of the men who are experts in the art of painting and decorating donated their services. The house was painted outside and all the rooms redecorated in light colors, and the floors scraped and polished. This had indeed made the parsonage more attractive in every way. A garage, a built-in feature in the basement, was another necessary improvement. When the parsonage was ready for occupancy the men of the Brotherhood lent their kindly assistance in helping the pastor and family with moving from New Westminster. This was greatly appreciated.

The services have been quite well attended and the different organizations have met in order. These gatherings have been marked with renewed interest, and we hope and pray that God in His mercy will bless the work to the honor and glory of His holy name and the salvation of souls. Hearty greetings and sincere wishes for a joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Columbia Lutheran readers.

O. W. Westling and family.

LET US MAGNIFY OUR CHURCHES

Let us pay tribute to the church. The race needs religion. It needs the ministry of saintly men and women. It needs prophets and makers of ideals. It needs meditation. It needs seekers after spiritual truth as well as scientific truth. The greatest scientists have found their faith deepened as their microscopes became more powerful and their telescopes reached farther and farther out into the starry universe. Each discovery leads to new mysteries, and reverence grows as curiosity carries man farther in his search for the eternal. Down through the ages the church has nonished ideals of service and brotherhood. Its ministers have been the friends of the ignorant, the sick, and the weak. Character-culture cannot leave God and the church out. Let us magnify our churches.

Nothing should so much diminish the satisfaction which we feel with ourselves as seeing that we disapprove at one time of that which we approve of at another.

—La Rochefoucauld.

COLUMBIA LUTHERAN

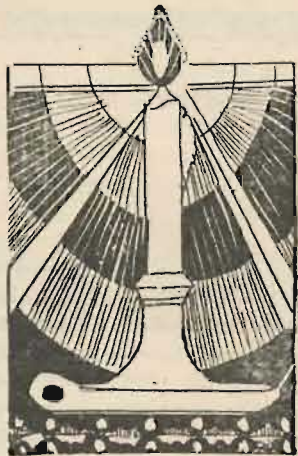
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Send out a beam of sunshine this Christmas! The value of one smile is greater than all other gifts you can bestow upon your fellowman.



It enriches those who receive, without impoverishing those who give.
It costs nothing but creates much.
It happens in a flash and the memory of it lasts forever.

None are so rich they can get along without it, and none so poor but are richer for its benefits.

It increases happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friends.

It is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and Nature's best antidote for trouble.

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen, for it is something that is no earthly good to anybody till it is given away!

For nobody needs a smile so much as those who have none to give!

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL

is the wish of

The Columbia Lutheran.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

I speak to youth. To YOUTH whose eyes are ever on the higher peaks of vision; to YOUTH whose ambition looms above the materialism of this fleeting world; to YOUTH in its enthusiasm and fiery realism!

You are at present the most important on earth, because you belong to the FUTURE. The past with its wonderful inventions and progress is backing you up. You have a foundation to work upon that no one before you ever had. The conflict of the past, its incessant labors, its joys and tears, laughter and heartache, have all been for you. Thru rain or sunshine it has gathered golden fruits of courage and valor for you to take and make your own.

The Church is yours. It stands today with its cup of goodness running over. It is there for you to accept or reject. If you ACCEPT it, you have chosen the noblest, the richest, and the finest treasure life has to offer. You have found the great leaders of the past, an Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Isaias, John the Baptist, Christ, Peter—and thousand other gigantic and noble characters who stand out like mighty peaks on the mountain range of an inspired humanity. You have found INSPIRATION thru that which is the most BEAUTIFUL, SUBLIME and PRECIOUS in life's highest ideals, noblest thoughts, and worthiest aims! And you have become the builders of IMMORTALITY on earth! You have become companions—Comrades and co-workers, if you please—of God!

But if you REJECT the challenge of the past, you have lost all the battles worth fighting, all the joys worth having, and all the beauty worth possessing. You have become the slave to materialism, ignorance, and to the passing shadows of finiteness and despair. You will live, but you will not know WHY you lived. You will be YOURSELF only and finally a NOBODY, because you have become selfish, narrow and miserable.

YOUTH! The Church needs you. And you need the church. Hand in hand you two may walk life's road, conquering and ever growing in virtues and nobility. TRUTH shall be your constant companion and FAITH your guiding star. With these two you shall scale the highest mountains.

HOW do you live in your own church? Is your congregation RICHER IN SPIRITUALITY, greater in MEMBERSHIP, nobler in CHARITY, richer, greater, nobler because YOU are a member? Are the services better attended because YOU have extended an invitation to your friend to attend? Is its reputation better because YOU have spoken well about it?

THINK IT OVER.

Then add just one more question: when you die, will the world be able to say over your grave: "I am better today because he lived, not because he died"?

THE CONFERENCE AT WORK

Rev. C. G. Bloomquist, Editor.

Many aged people who have planned to spend the balance of their days in one of our Homes for the Aged have either lost their little savings during this depression or they have them "frozen up" somewhere and thus cannot get the use of them. This has caused no little sadness to many an aged person. It will greatly enlarge our ability to serve these aged friends when our Homes become so well established that they can take over assets that are not in such form that we can accept them under present condition. Some day friends of these worn out fathers and mothers will turn over to these homes large sums of money to be administered in behalf of those who look to the church for care in old age. What blessed service shall we not then be able to render the needy!

The Bethel, the Emmas, and the

Gethsemane Lutheran Churches of Seattle have visited the new Home and donated many valuable articles. It is so pleasant up there that folks cannot help but visit the Home. You will find two or three beds in the Home for your accommodation when in the city. The First Home, with Miss Johnson in charge, has had its usual visits by Ladies' Aids, Missionary Societies, and other organizations. Our good people throughout the rural districts have remembered our Homes with very valuable consignments of fruits, vegetables, preserves, etc. We acknowledge gratefully all these gifts even though we make no mention of persons and groups who have so liberally remembered us. We assure all our friends that these gifts are appreciated.

* * *

It is manifestly our first duty to care for those of our own household before we extend our charities to those who have no connection with us. Every congregation within our Conference is probably organized in such a way as to actually know the situation of all its people and be ready to extend aid without the members needing to come and beg for consideration. It seems proper that we should know, not only all our own people, but also the folks represented in our Sunday Schools who have no other connection with us. Suppose each teacher in our various Sunday schools keeps in close touch with every home represented in the class, and then reports promptly to the proper persons every family in apparent need. Aid should surely be given all such families. They are a part of our sacred charge. Let us care for them also.

LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

A Timely Letter from the President of the Synod.

Rock Islands, Ill., Oct. 31, 1931.

TO THE PRESIDENTS OF THE CONFERENCES OF THE AUGUSTANA SYNOD.

Dear Brethren:

The President of the American Lutheran Conference, the Rev. Dr. Otto Mees, President also of Capital University, Columbus, O., suggests the following to the Presidents of the General Bodies constituting the American Lutheran Conference:

1. To send a letter to each of the Conference Presidents requesting that they seek to promote Pulpit and Altar fellowship within their boundaries between pastors of the American Lutheran Conference.

2. To have the Conference Presidents in turn urge, through a letter, that local and district conferences invite their American Lutheran Conference neighbors to their meetings.

I am indeed very glad to pass these suggestions on to you with my fullest endorsement. The sooner the pastors of the American Lutheran Conference become acquainted with each other and with the work of the various District Synods or Conferences, the better for all concerned. We can be very helpful to each other in many ways. Strengthening each other, the entire Church becomes the beneficiary as well.

Trusting that you share my opinion as to this matter and that you may find it agreeable to pass this request on to the pastors of your Conferences, I beg to remain,

Most cordially yours,

G. A. BRANDELLE.

AFTER COMMUNION

The solemn hour is at an end,
The holy rites are done;
We leave Thy temple, Lord, but Oh,
Go with us every one.
Dear Master, let us walk with Thee:
We dare not walk alone,
So full of danger is the world,
So far away our Home.
Oh, let us lean upon Thy love,
And trust Thy saving grace,
Until we reach the journey's end
And see Thee face to face.
—C. A. Wendell.

KNOW YOUR CONFERENCE

Rev. John Billdt, Editor.

THE IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Portland, Oregon.

Church Organized

The Immanuel Lutheran Church, Portland, is the oldest congregation in our entire conference. It is the oldest Augustana Synod church on the entire west coast, including the state of California. It was organized Dec. 28, 1879 by Rev. Peter Carlson, one of our most devoted missionary pastors of the Augustana Synod.

Pastors.

The organization meeting was held at "The Trinity Church Chapel," Fifth St., between Oak and Pine. Rev. Carlson served the congregation till June 6, 1880. Rev. J. Vender was called by the Synod Mission Board to succeed Rev. Carlson. He began his work in Immanuel in July, 1880, but stayed only till November 19th the following year, when ill health made it necessary for him to leave. Rev. Peter Carlson then returned to Immanuel in May, 1882, and served as its pastor until May 1, 1883.

Rev. J. W. Skans became Rev. Carlson's successor. He preached his initial sermon August 26th, 1883. He remained as pastor of Immanuel until his death, Sunday, July 10, 1904, a period of 21 years. Rev. Skans did a great work in Immanuel in the increase of membership as well as in building up in the hearts of its membership Christian characters.

About two weeks after the death of Rev. Skans, a meeting was called for the purpose of selecting a new pastor for the Immanuel. Rev. C. J. Renhard was chosen. He accepted the call and entered upon his work the same year. He remained until the year 1910. Rev. J. R. Olson was called to succeed him. Rev. A. V. Anderson became his successor in 1917. He served until 1927. That year the present pastor, Rev. Henry P. Johnson became its pastor and preached his initial sermon on Sunday, September 11, 1927.

Church Buildings.

The first church built by the Immanuel congregation was erected at Burnside St. between Ninth & Tenth Streets. Dedication of this little sanctuary took place April 8, 1883. Rev. J. Telleen, an other energetic missionary pastor, then stationed at San Francisco, Calif., preached the sermon over the text for the day. He also gave the dedicatory address. Rev. Peter Carlson conducted the dedication ceremony, assisted by Rev. Telleen. In 1905, the property on Burnside St. was sold. Lots were purchased on Nineteenth & Irving Streets. Parsonage was built immediately. Erection of the new



The Hymn. In the processional and the opening sentence the choir introduces the sentiment of the worship, in the hymn that follows the congregation pours forth its emotional answer. Thus the first hymn must be in harmony with the message already given by the choir. Generally it consists of a hymn describing the glory of God or the wonders of his creation or the majesty of his love. A prayer hymn in the beginning of the sermon is out of place, as we shall see in a later discussion.



Anthems for this month, as suggested by Professor N. A. Krantz, organist of the Salem Lutheran Church, Spokane:

- Dec. 6. "The Army of the Lord."—Scott. (Schirmer Ed. 7431.)
 Dec. 13.—"O Zion, that bringest Good Tidings."—Stainer. (Schirmer Ed. 3999.)
 Dec. 20.—"Prepare ye the Way."—Garrett. (Schirmer Ed. 4256.)
 Dec. 25.—"Tidings of Great Joy."—Wilson. (Lorenz, Dayton, Ohio.)
 Dec. 27.—"In Heaven We Love Abiding."—Shelley. (Schirmer Ed. 5140.)

church was begun in about a month. The first service in the basement of the new church was held April 1, 1906. On the following Pentecost day, the congregation met for the first time in the Church proper. A confirmation service was then conducted. The dedication of the new sanctuary took place September 2, 1906.

Church Members.

Those who were present at the organization meeting of Immanuel, Dec. 28, 1879 and who then signed their names to become charter members of the congregation were the following: Mr. Swen Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Rosander, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Larson, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ahlmen, Mr. H. Franks, Miss Johanna Carlson, Miss Johanna Sweuson, Miss Carol-



The First Chapel

an Peterson, Mr. M. Lundberg, Mr. Carl Peterson, Mr. J. M. Peterson, Mr. Albert Johnson, Miss Christina Westman, Mr. and Mrs. John Larson, Mr. Oscar Peterson, Mr. Nikolaus Benson, Miss Sara Thompson, Mr. C. P. Nelson, Miss Hilda Sofia Carlson. All of these charter members have passed on to their reward. Mr. J. A. Ahlmer

served as secretary at the organization meeting. Mr. C. L. Rosander served as the first treasurer. The first deacons were: Mr. C. L. Rosander, Mr. M. L. Larson, and Mr. Swen Anderson. The first trustees: Mr. M. Lundberg, Mr. C. P. Nelson, and Mr. Oscar Peterson.

The present Board of Administration. Deacons: Mr. Alfred Benson, Mr. Fred Olson, Mr. Edw. Gieberg, Mr. J. L. Anderson, Mr. Eric Ulin, Mr. E. O. H. Sundbom. Trustees: Mr. Albert Anderson, Mr. G. T. Anderson, Mr. Arvid Carlson, financial treasurer, Mr. L. F. Swanson, treasurer, Mr. Gust Malmquist, Mr. Hilmer Henrikson, Mr. Fred Peterson, Mr. Chester Johnson, Mr. John M. Nelson.

The present organist and Choir Director is Prof. Charles Swenson.

The Immanuel Lutheran Church observed its Fiftieth Anniversary March 16-17, 1930. The Anniversary sermon was delivered by Rev. C. J. Renhard one of the former pastors.

BE THE BEST

If you can't be a pine on the top of the hill.

Be a scrub in the valley—but be The best little scrub on the side of the hill;

Be a bush if you can't be a tree.

We can't all be captains; some have to be crew;

There's something for all of us here; There's big work to do, and there's lesser to do,

And the best we must do is the near.

If you can't be a highway, then just be a trail;

If you can't be a sun, be a star. It isn't by size that you win or you fall—

Be the BEST of whatever you are.

THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

By Mrs. S. E. Johnson, pres.

"Arise, shine, for the light is come."
—Isa. 60:1.

Only a Child—His Christmas gift.
Heralded by a star.
But a light was set in the dusk of the years
And the rays have shined afar.

And even in faith when the eyes of men
Behold His star in the night,
Their steps are turned to the way again
And they find in the Christ their Light.
—M. S. E.

Thruout our Conference the various branches of the W. M. S. are completing another year's work. We hope that our obligations to our Home Missions and that of Miss Anna Olson's salary will be met. These, we feel, come first and then we hope also that you will do all you can towards other causes which we are supporting within our Synod. In our work of love for our Master, may we behold Him walking beside us, that we might know and do His will.

The Warren W. M. S. held a Silver Tea in the church Nov. 3. A good program was presented consisting of musical selections and readings. Mrs. Samuel E. Johnson was invited as guest speaker. The purpose of this meeting was to gather funds for Miss Anna Olson's salary. Warren is a silver star society, and is to be commended on the splendid work they are doing for Missions.

The Portland district Juniors had a successful Rally Sunday, Nov. 15, in Immanuel church at Portland. The attendance was exceptionally good with four Bands having a 90% attendance. The Immanuel Juniors again won the attendance banner. Mrs. C. M. Franklin, district Secretary, deserves credit for the excellent program arranged. Each Band presented two numbers. The song, "Thy Remember Jesus," given by the Colton Juniors, will long echo in our hearts. O, that we could all live up to such a vow! The offering lifted, was for Bethphage Mission. Refreshments were served after the program. May God bless the work of our Juniors and their leaders.

Mrs. H. P. Johnson, our Conference literature Secretary, has a splendid line of folders and pageants for sale. Write her when you want anything in this line. Here is a list of pageants: "Toll the News"; "The Challenge of the Cross"; "The Message of the Cross"; "The Temple of Praise," this is a Missionary Thanksgiving Pageant; "Tread of Mission"; "Christ in America"; "Messengers of Hope" and many others. Also write Mrs. D. Lofgren, our Conference Industrial sec. for articles to sell at your district or special meetings. May the joys of Christmas be with each and every one of us not only on that day but every day of our life.

**THE WORD
TAUGHT IN OUR CHURCHES
DURING THE MONTH OF
DECEMBER**

Dec. 6.—2nd Advent: **Waiting for the Day of the Lord.**

Epistle Rom. 15:4-13.—“The Patience of Hope.”

Gospel Luke 12:35-40. “Waiting for the Lord.”

Thought: Today is the acceptable day—there might not be a tomorrow.

Dec. 13.—3d Advent: **The Forerunner of the Lord.**

Epistle 1 Cor. 4:1-5.—“The Judgment of God.”

Gospel Matt. 11:11-19.—“Testimony of Jesus.”

Thought: No higher tribute can be paid a man than Christ's: “Thou art the greatest!”

Dec. 20.—4th Advent: **The Lord is at Hand.**

Epistle Phil. 4:4-7.—“Rejoicing in the Lord.”

Gospel John 3:22-36.—“The Friend of the Bridegroom.”

Thought: Divine friendship leads to divine kinship.

Dec. 25.—Christmas: **The Nativity.**

Epistle Is. 9:2-7.—“The Prince of Peace.”

Gospel John 1:1-14.—“The Word Became Flesh.”

Thought: Christ holds heaven in one hand, the earth in the other; in Him both are united.

Dec. 27.—Sunday after Christmas.—**Childhood of Jesus.**

Epistle Gal. 4:1-7.—“Christ makes us children of God.”

Gospel Luke 12:32.—“The Little Flock.”

Thought: Would you have Power? Courage? Fearless Determination?—Christ offers them freely.

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among
men in whom he is well pleased.”

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!

turbines of Snoqualmie Falls, but to get the majestic roar of the fall and to look with awe upon its beauty in the morning sun, you must go there.

On the radio I heard the play by play announcements of a foot-ball game, and it was interesting, but it was a cheap substitute for a seat in that stadium; and I found myself looking about on the little group of listeners-in for a fellowship of interest when a score was called that pleased me. A man slapped his hands together and groaned his joy. It enriched mine. That is just human nature. We can't help it. We have an idea that these natural tendencies are to be used apart from our religion. That is a mistake. God designed that they should be controlled and diverted into channels that honor him. Thus the love and fellowship in the worship of God.

Aside from the fact that God calls for worship in assemblies, there are benefits that come to us through it. First, there is a tremendous satisfaction in knowing we are in the right place, as we stand or sit in the service. Certain one could not have that sense of rightness with God if he were lounging around the drug store, or even at home, on Sunday morning during church hour. There's a very impressive statement in Romans 14:22: “Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth.” There is great peace in knowing you are doing what God approves. As a great man of God once said to a group of young men, “The sermon may be dull and the music ‘punk,’ but you are in your place. And if you are in the spirit of worship, you will receive great blessings in church.”

Then too, you are in the company of God's people. If you count association as of any value, you are safer with that group who gather for the worship of God than in any other society on the Lord's Day. Maybe a few of the much advertised “hypocrites” will be present; but you will find them in greater numbers in other places than in the church.

By attending church you are not only bringing blessing to your own heart, but you are making your definite contribution to the help of others, and in that you honor God. “For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. For the sake of the house of Jehovah our God I will seek thy good.”

—Theodore Abener.

**FAITHFULNESS TO THE
CHURCH SERVICES**

Young people, consider today your natural enjoyment of fellowship—fellowship in anything. There are few of our many activities, physical, mental, or spiritual, that we like to engage in alone. God made us that way and we can not help it. We would rather work, play, sing, eat,—yes, even

study—with the crowd. We have been given a social nature and we like fellowship. The man who continuously seeks solitude and avoids company is usually looked upon as a freak. He is not normal.

God's word teaches us that he wants us to gather in groups to worship him. God definitely calls us to worship and has promised a blessing upon his servants assembled together, if only a few. “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Some people will tell you they can worship God quite as acceptably alone while absenting themselves from church services on Sunday morning, roaming in the woods and “communing with nature.” God wants you to commune with him, not with nature. Wires carry light and power from the

Narrow is the way that leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

* * *

I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee.

* * *

And the Angel said:

“Behold, I bring you glad tidings of great joy, for unto you is born this day a Saviour, which is Christ, the Lord.”

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

MARGARETTA GRANT, Editor

This section of the Columbia Lutheran is created and planned with special efforts to meet every Leaguer's approval. It is our sincere hope that we will receive from time to time your contributions to make it more interesting and more friendly. Remember all things work together for good to them that love God.

EDITORIAL

There are no words that can express my gratitude for the wonderful cooperation I have received from the pastors and Leaguers. It is my earnest prayer that we may continue working together forming Christian friendships and enlarging God's kingdom. Therefore my Christmas wish to you is that you may have the best that lifetime sends in this coming New Year. Merry Christmas, Leaguers, one and all!

Absolutely tender!
 Absolutely true!
 Understanding all things,
 Understanding you!
 Infinitely loving—
 Exquisitely near—
 This is God our Father,
 What have we to fear?

—F. M. N

Make a little fence of trust around to-day,

Fill the space with loving work and therein stay.

Look not through the sheltering bars,
 upon tomorrow,
 God will help thee bear what comes,
 of joy or sorrow.

Let thy God be all of goodness,
 All of Truth, of Love, of Life.
 But be sure thy "all" means "allness,"
 Then you'll find there is no strife,
 And the seeming sinful me,
 For if Good is omnipresent,
 Evil hath no place in me.

Therefore my daily prayer to thee,
 Is what I may do to others,
 As I would they should do to me
 And constantly guard my thot's my
 words and deeds,
 And learn that love meet all my needs.

PRECIOUS PROMISES

Peace I leave with you, My peace give I unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you; let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.



IN OLDEN DAYS

With the coming of such a festive season as Christmas there is much activity among the Leagues. Many are planning Christmas bazaars, festivals, and programs. These we will hear about in our next issue. But let's see what has happened since we last wrote. The Bellingham Leaguers are planning a Normal Student Reception on November 19th. This is an annual event and usually proves very profitable in that the League gains new members. We welcome Rev. J. A. Martin who has recently accepted the call as pastor of the Trinity Lutheran Church, Astoria. His League sponsors a "Round Table" discussion each Sunday evening a half hour before the service. The Salem League in Spokane conducts a Devotional Meeting on the first Friday of each month. This service includes only the young people in which they may discuss church doctrines and questions and problems of the day. In regard to the progress Thorsten Berggren says "We feel that these meetings are becoming a great inspiration as well as a strong and solid nucleus around which our League is building itself for the service of the Master." Miss Annette Sutherland, former pres. of the Gethsemane League of Seattle, has been recently appointed to the position of

13th. A great deal of new business was discussed after which a social hour was enjoyed with Miss Elsie Boren as hostess. Rev. and Mrs. Westling were the guests of the evening. The Sharon Luther League of Gresham, Oregon, has increased its membership considerably by a membership campaign which culminated in the losing side sponsoring a campfire party for the winning side. This proved to be a unique event. The huge bonfire spread its brilliancy far and wide. A splendid program was rendered followed by a wiener roast. On Halloween members and friends enjoyed a Progressive dinner party. A good attendance and a profitable sum to add to the Building Fund were gratifying results. The Messiah Luther League of Auburn held a Poverty Halloween Party October 30th. The business meeting was held on November 6th with the discussion of the evening being devoted to the pageant, "The Victorious Church" which is to be given in December. On Nov. 16 a group of Leaguers of the Immanuel League of Portland gathered at the Union depot to say goodbye to Mr. Waldie Hedburg, an active League member, who is to reside in Chicago. Misses Fredia Peterson, Esther Hendrickson and Lily Linder and Messrs. Evans Davies and Aivin Swanson entertained the League with a very successful Fall Festival. The Emmans choir of Seattle surprised Mrs. Carl Soderman on her birthday, October 30. The Gethsemane choir of Seattle are planning a concert on November 27th. The Gethsemane League held an interesting meeting on Nov. 6th with Rev. S. J. Samuel Johnson and Albert Anderson of Portland as guests. The League is sponsoring ice skating parties throughout the winter season. These afforded the Leaguers great enjoyment as well as financial results. The Augustana Luther League of Portland held an interesting meeting on Nov. 6th. Rev. Chas. Epple of the Faith Lutheran Church gave a splendid address on "Reasons for many Lutheran Synods." The League is now making preparations for the New Years wake. The main feature of the program will consist of a Pageant: "Ten Messengers," by Rev. Holmer Olson. The Augustana Luther League sends the following Yuletide greeting to their fellow Leaguers, "As you sing your "Glory to God in the highest, Peace on earth, good will to men," we hope you will think of the many Leaguers for whom our Saviour came to save. We shall all think of you and pray that we may all be richly blessed this happy Christmas season."

CHRISTMAS IS LOVE

Christmas love is one which grasps us and sways us into a feeling of giving a remembrance. A love that is not cold as a far-off beautiful star but rather as sunshine that comes and enfolds us, making us warm and glad, strong, bright and fruitful, - a beautiful memory of the first Christmas and God's great gift to us, Jesus Christ. It was such a love that ruled the hearts of the wise men who followed the star to where Jesus lay. It was with this love that God sent Jesus Christ into this world so that we could worship Him and know God's divine will. This is Christ's birthday! This is your birthday as well; the birthday of your Faith.

In all this world there is nothing more fair than the beautiful life which God has given you. How are you devoting this life? Are you giving your talents and services just for worldly praise or are you molding your life so that it will bring you eternal happiness? You can enrich the poorest home as no money could. You can enlighten the hardest lot. You can win others for Christ as Christ came to win you. And by doing so you may give and receive untold blessings.

Christ is in your home today. You may rejoice and say, "My Beloved is mine and I am His." Christ is Love. We have love, but we love men as long as they make the same return of that love, but Christ loves men because they need that love. We are kind to those who show some gratitude and appreciation. But "He is kind to the unthankful and the evil."

Christ suffered and died because of that love, His love covered the scorn and the trials of this sinful world. Let Christ be born anew in you today. Let His love fill you with joy, repentance, neighborly love, and faith to guide you from day to day in His steps. Serve Him, and pray that He may lay some soul upon your heart and love that soul thru you that you may nobly do your share in winning that soul for Him.

Let the tho't of love be with you,
Pass it not one single day,
It will ever be your sunshine
Health and joy in every way,
Use it when the dark clouds gather,
And all trouble soon will cease,
Just know God's great love forever,
It will bring you everlasting peace.

THE GREATEST GIFT

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16.)
God—The Greatest Love
So loved—The Greatest Degree
The world—The Greatest Company
That He gave—The Greatest Act
His only begotten Son—The Greatest Gift
That whosoever—The Greatest Opportunity
Believeth—The Greatest Simplicity
In Him—The Greatest Attraction
But—The Greatest Difference
Should not perish—The Greatest Promise
Have—The Greatest Certainty

God's River

The river of God is full of water. Ps. 65:9.

(Inspired by meditation on page 1 of the last issue of this paper.)

I looked unto the hill of Calvary
And saw a river flowing full and free,
I gazed and wondered where its source could be,
And saw the cross.

Upon that cross the Saviour bled and died,
When He for you and me was crucified,
And there the Fount of Life was opened wide
Upon the cross.

It flows adown the hill and through the vale,
E'en mid the desert sands it does not fail,
Where thirsting souls are fainting on the trail—
On from the cross.

Deep in its wondrous depths, O what supply!
There life, forgiveness, satisfaction lie,
And they who drink there-from shall never die;
Our gain, the cross.

There is no more a wilderness for me
Since I have found God's river full and free;
I would extol Thee, Christ, and worship Thee
Beneath the cross.

Everett, Wash.

—ELNA DANIELSON.

LET ME WALK WITH THE
MAN IN THE ROAD

'Tis only a half truth the poet has sung
Of the house by the side of the way:
Our Master had neither a house nor a
home
But He walked with the crowd day by
day.
And I think, when I read of the poet's
desire,
That the house by the road would be
good,
But the service is found in its tenderest
corn,
When we walk with the crowd in the road.
So I say, let me walk with the man in
the road,
Let me seek out the burdens that crush,
Let me speak a kind word of good cheer
to the weak,
Who are falling behind in the rush.
The are wounds to be healed, there are
breaks we must mend,
There's a cup of cold water to give:
And the man in the road by the side of
his friend,
Is the man who has learned to live.

Then tell me no more of the house by the
road,
There is only one place I can live,
It's there with the men who are tolling
along,
Who are needing the cheer I can give,
It is pleasant to lie in the house by the
way,
And befriend as the poet has said,
But the Master is bidding us "bear ye
the load,
For your rest waited yonder ahead."

I could not remain in the house by the
road,
And watch the toilers go on,
Their faces beclouded with pain and with
sin,
So burdened; their strength nearly gone,
I'll go to their side, I'll speak in good
cheer,
I'll help them carry their load,
And I'll smile at the man in the house by
the way
As I walk with the crowd in the road.

Out there in the road that goes by the
house,
Where the poet is singing his song,
I'll help falling brothers along,
Too busy to live in the house by the way,
Too happy for such an abode,
And my heart sings its praise to the Mas-
ter of all
Who is helping me serve in the road.

By Walter J. Gresham.

Submitted by Edith Olson,
Immanuel League.

CHRISTMAS is far other than a vision, a poetic rendition of the facts of life; it is an event set deep not only in the history of men, but in their faith, their worship, and their way of life. They have never risen to its level; they have never, by nifted effort, given its spirit the tremendous effectiveness of concerted action; but, even in their infirmity of intention and their feebleness of practice, Christmas has given their life on earth a diviner meaning and a kinder habit. It has enormously increased the value of that life; it is increasing the spiritual content of the thought of life in the minds of men; it is giving it a sweeter savor, a softer grace, a warmer atmosphere as men more and more interpret life in the light which streams from Bethlehem.—Hamilton Wright Mabie.

BIBLE RULES FOR GIVING

According to Income—

"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessings of the Lord thy God which He hath given thee."

Without Ostentation—

"But when thou giveth alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth."

Freely—

"Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils; freely ye have received, freely give."

With Simplicity—

"Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation; he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth with diligence: he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness."

Regularly, Every Week—

"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."

Cheerfully—

"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver."

BROTHERHOOD MEETS

Brotherhood Sunday and Every-Member-Canvass will be observed by the Salem Church, Mount Vernon, December 13. 36 volunteers are ready to start work on the Every-Member-Canvass Friday evening, Dec. 11 at 8 o'clock. At Sunday services Dr. John W. Unis, president of the conference brotherhood, will be the speaker. A grand Concert is to be given Dec. 15 by professor Arville Belstad of Seattle on the new pipe organ. The Choir will assist in the program.

IMMANUEL, PORTLAND

"The World's Redeemer" by Fred Holton will be rendered by the Choir Dec. 18. Early Matin is held Christmas day at six o'clock. Sunday School festival is held the same day at 7 p. m. The Luther Leagues of the Immanuel and the Augustana churches meet jointly at the Augustana church New Year's Eve.

FROM SEDRO-WOOLEY

Miss Irene Anderson has recently left for the eastern states, and her place as organist has been filled by Mr. Lawrence Mandahl. Dr. Jos. A. Anderson, pastor of the church, was the speaker recently at a Gustavus Adolphus festival in the Swedish Methodist church of Mount Vernon. A class of nine are at present enjoying instruction in confirmation.

CARLSBORG LUTHERAN CHURCH
Colton, Oregon.

Ernst J. Sakrison, pastor.
Alfred Danielson, treasurer.
Alfred Swanson, fin. secretary.
Mrs. Ernst J. Sakrison, organist.
Order of Services for December
December 6, Swedish 11 a. m.
December 13, English 11 a. m.
Christmas Day, "Julotta" 6 a. m.
Swedish an English sermons.
December 27, Swedish 11 a. m.
Children's Christmas Program 7:30
Dec. 31, New Year's Wake 9-12
Evening services according to weekly announcements.
Sunday School and Bible Classes every Sunday at 9:45 a. m.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Third and E. St. N. E., Auburn, Wash.

E. Arthur Larson, pastor.
758 So. 48th, Tacoma, Wash.
Martin Johnson, treasurer
Rt. 2, Box 82, Enumclaw, Wash.
Mrs. Magnus Johnson, organist
Rt. 2, Box 82, Enumclaw, Wash.
Miss Helen Nilson, S. S. Supt.
503 R. St. N. E., Auburn
December Services and Meetings
Sunday school every Sunday 10 a. m.
Church Services:
Dec. 8 and 20 8:00 p. m.
Dec. 13 and 27 11:00 a. m.
Dec. 24, 12:00 midnight, Christmas Matins Service.
Dec. 26 S. S. Christmas Program at 8:00 p. m.
Every Wednesday Bible Study 7:30; Choir 8:15.
Ladies Aid at Mrs. Joe Johnson's First Thursday Dec. 2:00 p. m.
Luther League, First Friday 8:00 p. m.
Jr. Miss. Band, last Sat. 2:00 p. m.
Conf. Class every Saturday 10:00 a. m.
Woman Missionary Society Friday, Dec. 11 at 2:00 p. m. at church.

THE HARP IS SILENT

The harp that once responded to the touch of a lovely soul has lost its merry melodies. Death came walking by and stilled the hand that thrilled it to exultant song.



Alva Hildur Theodora Karlstrom

has been given a harp whose strings cannot break and whose harmonies are eternally praising Him who is the Giver of Eternal Life.

Hildur was born in Seattle May 9, 1912. She was baptized in Bethany church, Green Lake, where her father, Rev. Otto R. Karlstrom, was then pastor. She was confirmed by Dr. C. R. Swanson in the Gethsemane church May 19, 1927, from where she was also buried last Sunday at 2 p. m. She graduated from the Roosevelt High School last spring and has lived in this city since. She died Wednesday, Nov. 18, after six weeks illness.

With Hildur a lovely soul passed. Her pleasing disposition, her beautiful character, her intense faith, and her childlike humility before God and man made her a devoted friend and a welcome guest wherever she went. Her greatest desire was to play harp, which art she had made a part of her life. The silence of that harp is now upon us. But God shall permit us to hear it once more — when the melody shall be eternal. May God comfort the grief-stricken parents and the brothers and teach us all how to carry our burdens until the mist is gone!

FROM THE SICKBEDS

Mrs. John Bildt, wife of Rev. John Bildt, Everett, Wash., is rapidly recovering from a major operation performed Oct. 28 at the General Hospital of that city. Mrs. Bildt returned home Nov. 13 and has improved very satisfactorily ever since.

In a letter from our Conference President, Rev. H. P. Johnson, we note with joy that every day brings more strength and power to his weakened body and that he is now looking forward to the resuming of his activities.

We thank God for his goodness in the restoration of both these friends to health and happiness.

TWO PASTORS BEGIN WORK IN CONFERENCE

Two pastors, both in their prime of life, have arrived to take up work in the conference. Both have settled in Portland District, Rev. J. A. Martin in Astoria, and A. I. Pierce in Warren. Rev. Martin continues the work so splendidly begun by our former conference president, the Rev. G. K. Andeen before his removal to a larger field, and Rev. Pierce takes up the work after Rev. Eric Wahlstrom, whose good labors in our conference were completed when he was selected by the Board of Directors of the Augustana College and Seminary as professor of Greek and New Testament Interpretation at the Seminary in Rock Island. Thus both pastors have a solid foundation to build upon, and it is our opinion that both will have a great future before them.

Inspiring receptions of welcome have been held in both places and splendid gifts have been extended the families. In Astoria the congregation was represented by Dr. R. W. Kulberg, who spoke encouraging words to the pastor and his family, and by Mr. J. Wicks, who expressed many valuable thoughts as to the ideal relationship between the congregation and its pastor. Rev. Samuel Johnson of Portland, who has acted as vice pastor of the congregation, spoke on behalf of the Portland District and the Conference. In Warren the festivities were conducted by Rev. A. M. Green, the vice pastor, assisted by nearly all the pastors of the district. After the program in the church, refreshments were served in the church parlors and a pleasant social hour was indulged in.

The pictures and the personal history of the pastors will be printed in the next issue of this paper.

YAKIMA, WASH.

A six room brick veneered bungalow is being erected by the Central Lutheran church at a cost of \$4,000 to be used as parsonage. A gift of \$2,000 was announced at the service on All Saints' Day. The gift was extended by Mr. Carl Peterson to be used by the congregation in its building operations. Mr. Peterson has shown on many occasions that his heart is warm for his church and the work of the Master. O. S. Hanson passed away Nov. 15 at the age of 67 years. Death came very unexpectedly to his many friends in Central of which he was a member. He leaves behind him a family of two children and wife.

OLYMPIA, WASH.

Christmas services are held at 5:30 Christmas Day. In the evening at 7:30 the Church School presents "Hail, Blessed Day," by Strodach, the pupils being vested in their white cassocks. The Church School of the First Church in Rochester renders its program Dec. 27, at 9 p. m.

NEW PIPE ORGAN INSTALLED

The new pipe organ, recently installed by the First Church, Tacoma, was duly dedicated to the service of God on the 8th day of November, when several pastors had gathered to rejoice with the congregation in its splendid achievements. The festive address was delivered by Dr. C. R. Swanson of Seattle. The new organ is the largest and most magnificent in the city. It has three manuals, over 1,300 pipes, 65 stops and couplers and a bell system of 21 bells. It is built by M. P. Müller, Inc. Professor Harold Hoeremans from the university of Washington played the dedication program. We hasten to congratulate the congregation and its pastor on this new addition to an already beautiful church.

WESTDALA, TROY, IDAHO

Agam Westdala mourns the loss of one of her members, John Alfred Smith, who was called by the angel of death Nov. 29th. Born in Ashtabula, Ohio, July 26, 1876, he was at the time of his death 55 years, 3 months, and 26 days of age. He was a valued member of the church.

"Julotta" with sermons in both languages Christmas Day at 5:30.

BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH

505 Adams Street
Olympia, Washington.
Rev. Elmer M. Johnson, B. D., pastor.
Res. 1625 Fourth Ave. E.—Phone 2332.
December Calendar:
Sundays:
Church school 9:45
Morning Worship 11:00
Vesper Service (Dec. 20th) 7:30
Christmas Matin Service, Christmas Day 5:30 a. m.
Christmas Festival Service, "Hail! Blessed Day."
Presented by the Church School
Christmas Day 7:30 p. m.
New Year's Eve -
Program 9:30
Social Hour 10:30
Devotional Service 11:30

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pender and Princess,
Vancouver, B. C.
Otto Wm. Westling, pastor
Res. 131 Princess—Phone High 611-X
Miss Greta Wall, organist
Mr. Joseph Olson, choir dir.
Sunday School 10 a. m.
English Service 11 a. m.
Swedish service 8 p. m.
Missionary Society 1st Wed. 2:30 p. m.
Ladies Aid 2nd & 4th Thurs. at 8 p. m.
Young People (Swedish) 1st Thurs. at 8 p. m.
Luther League 1st Fri. & 3rd Thurs. at 8 p. m.
Brotherhood 2nd Monday at 8 p. m.
Choir every Wednesday evening.
Special Holyday services:
"Julotta at 6:30 a. m.
Children's program Sunday eve the 27.
Watch-night program under the auspices of the Brotherhood.

FOR COLDS
Fry
Hope's New and Efficient
SALVE
Sold only at
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 Seattle

Pastor, Carl A. Bengtson, 165 W. 65 St.
 Treas., Frank Lillquist, 1432 W. 61 St.
 Organist, Mrs. Carl Soderman
 9705 14th Ave. N. W.
Order of Sunday Services:
 Sunday School 10:30 a. m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a. m.
 Luther League 6:30 p. m.

Organizations:
 Confirmation class, Sat's at 9:30 a. m.
 Choir rehearsal, Tuesdays, 7:45 p. m.
 Luther League, December 3 8 p. m.
 Confirmation Reunion, December 6.
 Tabitha Society, December 10 2 p. m.
 Lutheran Brotherhood, Dec. 11, 8 p. m.
 Woman's Missionary Society, Dec. 17, 8 p. m.
 Young Woman's Missionary Society, Dec. 18, 8 p. m.
 Junior Mission Band, Dec. 19, 2 p. m.
 Christmas Cantata by Choir Dec. 20, 7:30 p. m.
 Christmas party sponsored by Young Woman's Missionary Society at 8 p. m.
 Christmas Math Service at 6 a. m.
 Children's Christmas program, Dec. 27, 7:30 p. m.
 New Year's Watch by Luther League, December 31, at 9 p. m.

THE ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Cor. of Wetmore Ave. and 24th St.
 Everett, Wash.

Rev. John Bildt, B. D.
 1716 24th St. Phone White 862
 W. R. Swenson, Treasurer
 1130 Colby
 Mrs. Amelia Sellin, Organist
 Route 1
 Morning service 10:45 a. m.
 First Sunday, Swedish
 Evening service 7:30 p. m.
 First and third, English
 Sunday school 9:30 a. m.

RESULTS OF THE RECENT SUBSCRIPTION CONTEST

Standing According to Points:

Bethel, Seattle (1st prize, \$14.25)	439
Bethel, Tacoma (2nd prize, \$2.25)	425
Bethany, Port Blakely (3rd prize, \$1.13)	220
Augustana, Portland	184
Gethsemane, Seattle	145
Bethany, Seattle	139
Zion, Everett	128
Central, Yakima	126
Immanuel, Portland	057
Emmans, Seattle	005
First, Tacoma	001

Solicitors gaining the greatest number of subscriptions in each congregation:

Lyla Earl, Augustana, Portland	15
Martha Sundstrom, Bethel, Seattle	14
Carl Swanson, Gethsemane	11
Dorothy Peterson, Immanuel, Portl.	10
Hans Fahl, Central, Yakima	10
Kenneth Nordquist, Bethany, Seattle	6
Alice Swanson, Bethel, Tacoma	5
Rev. John Bildt, Zion, Everett	4
Elsa Lillquist, Emmaus, Seattle	3
Leonard Larson, Bethany, Port Blakely	3
Leonora Lindeman, First, Tacoma	2

We wish to thank the Luther Leagues and members of the Conference for their interest in gaining new subscriptions for COLUMBIA LUTHERAN. Some of the contestants did very well. Others were not able to as much as they may have desired, due to various circumstances. In justice to some Luther Leagues that are not represented we want to say that practically all of their members were already subscribers, whose subscriptions were largely paid up in advance. For that reason they were not in position to do much in this contest.

May we now ask for the good will and cooperation of the whole Conference for the coming year? May we ask every Luther League kindly to elect a local representative for COLUMBIA LUTHERAN, as was recommended at the Annual Convention in Spokane in September. With that support from the congregations CO-

LUMBIA LUTHERAN will in return serve the Conference.

REV. BILLDT PASSES 50th MILESTONE

An interesting meeting was held November 20 by the Luther League of Everett, Wash., at which time the entire congregation and many friends of our assistant editor, the Rev. John Bildt, pastor of the congregation, gathered to congratulate their pastor on his 50th birthday. Many songs, recitations and speeches were given in his honor and a gift of money extended him as a token of love and esteem. The program was led by Russell Peterson, president of the Luther League. A social hour followed the program. The Columbia Lutheran extends to Rev. Bildt its cordial well wishes for many more years of happiness and success.

REV. ANDERSON FETED

The Salem congregation, Spokane, gathered after the Vesper hour, Nov. 1, to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the arrival of their present pastor, the reverend N. William Anderson, to take over the duties of the congregation. The presidents of the different organizations within the church gave expression to the feeling of satisfaction for the work accomplished during the first five years and pledged their continued support and cooperation. The pastor was presented with a purse of money for which they were to purchase a gift as a remembrance of the occasion. During these years Rev. Anderson has already made a signal success in his local work as well as in the conference.

Prof. Swenson Surprised

Prof. Chas. Swenson, organist and Choir Director of the Immanuel church, Portland, was pleasantly surprised by his choir two weeks ago, when 50 of its members came to celebrate his birthday. A splendid program was rendered and a valuable gift presented.

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

So. 54th and I. St. ...Tacoma, Wash.
 E. Arthur Larson, pastor.
 758 So. 48th, Tacoma
 J. T. Johnson, treasurer, 5604 So. I. St.
 Miss Erna Berglund, organist,
 5218 So. I. St.
 Miss Helga Walberg, S. S. Supt.
 5410 So. Park Ave.

December Services and Meetings.
 Sunday school every Sun. 10:00 a. m.
 Church Services:

December 6 and 20 11:00 a. m.
 Dec. 13 and 27 7:30 p. m.
 Dec. 25, Christmas Matins 5:30 a. m.
 Dec. 27, S. S. Christmas Program at 7:30 p. m.
 Every Thursday Conf. class 4:00 p. m.
 Bible Study 7:30 p. m., Choir 8:15
 Ladies Aid at Mrs. C. Berglunds, Dec. 2, at 2:00 p. m.
 Luther League Christmas meeting at Miss Clara Jensen's Dec. 18, 8 p. m.
 Junior Miss. Band, first Sat. 2 p. m.
 W. M. Society, Dec. 4 at 8:00 p. m.

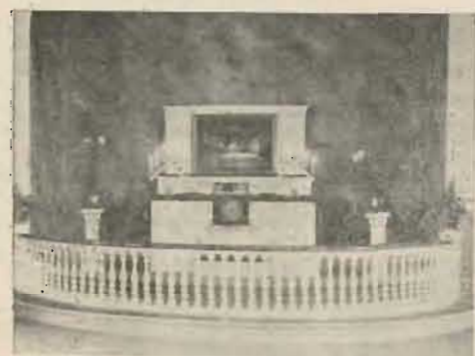
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 Ben Fredricks, treasurer
 Route 1, Burlington, Wash.
 Mrs. Jos. A. Anderson, organist
 407 State St.
 Mrs. Nils Fredrickson, S. S. Supt.
 R. F. D., Sedro-Woolley.
 Sunday school at 9:45 a. m.
 Services at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.
 Morning services in Swedish the first Sunday morning of each month.
 Ladies' Aid, Mrs. Allie Stromberg, pres., 1st, 3d, and 5th Thursday.
 Luther League, Adolph Fredrickson, pres., 2nd and 4th Wednesday

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The Choir meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m., the Trustees the first Monday, the Ladies Aid the first Thursday, the Missionary Society the last Thursday, the Priscilla Society the first Friday, the Luther League the fourth Friday, the Brotherhood the second Wednesday.

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

W. 64th & 22d Ave. N.W.
 Seattle
 Enoch Sandeen, B. D.
 pastor.
 2918 W. 64th St.
 Tel. HE. 1549
 John Abrahamson, treas., 1592 W. 57th.
 Claude Johnson, fin. sec., 2859 W. 67th.
 Ernest Oberg, organist,
 3214 W. 62nd.
 Mrs. Enoch Sandeen, Dir. of Music.

Miss Martha Sundstrom, associate organist and accompanist HE. 2422
 Miss Rada Johnson, S. S. Supt.
Services.
 Bible school 9:45 a. m.
 Worship 10:45 a. m.
 Bible Study 5:00 p. m.
 Service in Swedish fourth Sunday at 10:45 a. m.



Sunday school & Bible Classes 9:45
 Morning service at 11:00
 Evening service at 7:30
 Service in Swedish second and fourth Sunday at 3 p. m.
 Confirmation class Sat's 9 a. m.
 Missionary Society 1st Thurs. 8 p. m.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

7400 Woodlawn Avenue
 Phone Vermont 2586
 Seattle Washington
 Take car No. 20 to Latona, take Ballard University bus to Woodlawn Avenue
 Rev. C. G. Bloomquist, B. D., Pastor
 Res. 7313 Latona Avenue
 Phone Vermont 2391
 Thorild Swanson organist and accomp.
 Res. 911 Stewart St. Phone Main 2781
 Miss Mildred Johnson, Choir Director
 Res. 2236 W. 65th St. Ph. Sunset 2063
 Robert Carlson, Treasurer
 Res. 7610 15th Ave. N. E.

Brotherhood 1st Thursday 8 p. m.
 Junior Missionary Society Second Sunday at 2 p. m.
 Luther League Second and Fourth Thursday at 8:15 p. m.
 Althea Society 2nd Thursday 2 p. m.
 Choir every Tuesday at 8 p. m.
 Girls' Club 3d Thurs. at 8:15 p. m.



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Rt. 4, Troy, Idaho
Mrs. Oscar Kellberg, Organist
Elmer J. Johnson, S. S. Supt.
Clarence L. Johnson, Fin. Sec.
Mr. Alf Ekholm, Chairman of Board
Sunday School and Bible Classes at
10:00 a. m.
Morning Service at 11:00 (1st, 3rd &
5th Sundays, Swedish; 2nd and 4th
Sundays, English).
Evening Service (English) at 8:00.
Choir every Tuesday at 8:00 p. m.,
Junior Choir Saturday at 1:30 p. m.,
Ladies Aid, Second Thursday of month
Missionary Society meets quarterly,
Luther League, fourth Wednesday of
month.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

10th and Franklin Ave.
Astoria, Ore.
Rev. J. A. Martin, B. D., pastor.
Res. 561 Kensington Ave. Ph. 1392-L
Order of Sunday Services:
Sunday School and Bible classes 9:45
Morning Worship 11:00
Luther League "Round Table" 7:00
Evening Services 7:30
Calendar:
Board of Administration 1st Mon. 7:30
Dorcas 1st Tuesday 7:30
Ladies Aid 1st and 3rd Wed. 2:30
Luther League 1st & 3rd Thurs. 7:30
Birth Day Social last Friday 7:30
Junior Miss Band 3rd Sat. 2:30
W. M. S. 2nd Wed. every other
month 2:30
Choir Wed. evening each week 7:30
Confirmation Class Sat's. 9:30

**CHRISTMAS IN OUR
CHURCHES**

The Christmas season is being celebrated in our various churches with special services and festivities. Some of our congregations have not yet made their final arrangements, but we are glad to bring to the attention of our readers the plans of those who have already decided upon their schedule.

Salem, Spokane.

The choir of the church is practicing on a cantata which will be rendered sometimes during the holiday season. The Sunday School gives its program Sunday after Christmas at 5

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Cor. No. 19th and Irving Streets,
Portland, Oregon.
Rev. H. P. Johnson, pastor.
150 No. 19th St.—Ph. Broadway 1355
Organist and choir director
Prof. Chas. Swenson,
1550 East 32nd St.—Ph. Sellwood 3683
Sunday school 9:45 a. m.
English services 10:30 a. m.
Swedish services 11:45 a. m.
Vesper Services 5:15 p. m.
Luther League, 1st, 3rd and 5th Tues-
day at 8:15 p. m.
Syskonringen, 2nd and 4th Tuesday
at 8:15 p. m.
Brotherhood, 3rd Wed. at 8:00 p. m.
Ladies Aid, 1st Wednesday 2:00 p. m.
Woman Missionary Society, 2nd Wed-
nesday.
Young Woman's Missionary Society,
3rd Friday at 8:00 p. m.
Junior Mission Band, 2nd Saturday
afternoon at 1:30 p. m.
Confirmation class Saturdays 10 a. m.

p. m. "Julotta" is held Christmas Day at 6 a. m. The young people sponsor a New Year Watch Service Dec. 31 at 9 o'clock p. m. New Year services are held at 10:30 a. m. Jan. 1.

Bethel, Seattle.

Early Christmas Services are held Christmas morning at 5:30 in English and continued at 6:15 in Swedish. A Children's Program, "The Light of the World", is presented during the Vesper hour at 5 p. m. Sunday after Christmas, and a Song Vesper Sunday after New Year at 5 p. m. On this occasion the choir assisted by the Junior choir and special soloists will render Victor Bergquist's: "Christmas Cantata."

Ebenezer, Hartford.

Ebenezer believes in being up early—or late, according to interpretation—its Christmas service will begin at 12:15 a. m. and will be conducted in Swedish. The Choir has prepared special music for the occasion. The Children's program is to be given the same day at 2 p. m. On Dec. 31 the Luther League and the Ladies' Aid combine in giving New Year Watch Service that promises to be the best ever.

Zion, Everett.

Festivities begin on Sunday the 20th in the morning when the children of the Sunday School bring gifts to the Parkland Children's Home. This worthy service is called White Christmas. In the evening at 7:30 the Choir sponsors a special Christmas Song Service. At 5:30 Christmas morning services are held in English and in Swedish and at 7:30 the same day the Sunday School renders Mrs. Magnusson's program "The Light of the World." The Choir is well prepared to assist in both these programs. Sunday after Christmas is celebrated with services in the morning at 10:45 and special program in the evening. New Year Watch Services begin at 9 o'clock when the pastor speaks on the subject "The Open Door."

Salem, Mount Vernon.

Christmas Day is ushered in with Mattin services at 5:30 when sermons will be preached by the pastor in English and in Swedish. Sunday after Christmas begins with Morning Worship at 10:45 and concludes with Sunday School festivities at 7:45 p. m. Watch Night Services are sponsored by the Luther League and promise to be very interesting.

Bethany, Seattle.

Bethany celebrates Early Services at 6 o'clock Christmas Day. The services are conducted entirely in English. Children's Program is given in the evening of Sunday after Christmas. "The Light of the World" is the program chosen. The Choir will render a cantata: "King All Glorious," sometime during the festival season.

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Corner Broadway and Walnut
Spokane, Wash.
N. William Anderson, pastor
W. 1424 Broadway Ave.
Tel. Broadway 1298

Order of Services:

Sunday school 9:30 a. m.
English service 10:30 a. m.
Swedish service 11:30 a. m.
Vesper 5:00 p. m.

**GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

9th Ave. & Stewart St., Seattle, Wash.
Telephone Main 2781.
Rev. C. R. Swanson, D. D., Pastor.
Eddie Frisell, Parish Assistant.
John Sundsten, Organist.

Services:

Worship in Swedish 9 a. m.
Sunday School 10 a. m.
Worship in English 11 a. m.
Vesper 5 p. m.
Organization meetings every Friday evening.
Choir every Wednesday evening.

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1710 24th St., Everett, Wash.
Phone White 862
Mr. Henry Hendrickson, Treasurer
Rt. 4, Snohomish, Wash.
Miss Elvera Abrahamson, Organist
Lake Stevens, Wash.

Services

Service 1st and 3d Sunday 2:30 p. m.
First Sunday, Swedish
Sunday school every Sunday 10 a. m.
Elvera Abrahamson, Supt.
Luther League, first, third and
fifth Wednesday at 8 p. m.

Ladies Aid, first, third and fifth
Wednesday at 2 p. m.

**Salem Luth.
Churh**

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Mount Vernon, Wash.
Carl A. V. Lund, pastor.
Mrs. E. A. Soderman,
organist.
Mr. E. A. Soderman,
choir director.
Jens Lassen,
treasurer.
A. M. Lindquist,
mission treasurer.

Sunday school 9:45 a. m.
Morning service 10:45
Evening service 8:00



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DO YOU KNOW?

In this department we welcome questions from all our readers. We all like to have answers to our wonderings. It is helpful to us, helpful to others. Ask brief questions and to the point. You do not need to sign your name if you do not wish to do so.

Question: When the Sunday School Superintendent or any other lay member, man, woman, or youngster, conducts some meeting and in closing reads the Benediction, should they say "Thee" or "You," as it reads in the book, or should they say "Us"? Why did they print it that way in "Order for Sunday School"?

—Asker.
 Answer: I wish some one with better understanding than my own would be on hand to answer this question. The fact is: our Synod is not always consistent in its rules. In the former Church Service (Before the adoption of the New Hymnal) the Hand Book instructed the pastor to turn away from God's altar toward the congregation when reading the Confession of Sins while officially and liturgically the pastor should, of course, turn toward the common altar. This inconsistency has now been removed and all pastors who use the true liturgical form now turn toward the altar. In your question something else is involved. The benediction: "The Lord bless thee and keep thee, etc." is truly a ministerial blessing and should never be used by other leaders than the ordained ministers. It is called the Aronite blessing, set aside for the Aronite priesthood. Whenever used by anyone else the form "us" should be used instead of "Thee." The reason for this is that in the first place the benediction is given from God's throne of Grace, in the latter place it is asked for by his people. The true form to use is the Apostolic blessing: "May the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit abide with you." This is not a priestly blessing, but rather a greeting, and is considered as "the blessing of the New Testament Priesthood"—that is: of all the believers. Aside from this I take for granted that God is not as particular about this matter as we are, and that we shall be as pleasing before God whether we use the one form or the other. After all it is upon the heart it depends, not the form. It would be well, though, to have it printed right,—and I do believe the latest edition of the Sunday

School ritual has taken this into consideration.

Question: What is meant by the American Lutheran Conference?

—A. Peterson.
 Answer: The American Lutheran Conference is a voluntary cooperative union between orthodox Lutheran synods and divisions within the United States comprising the Augustana Synod (Swedish), the Norwegian Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Free Church (Norwegian), the American Lutheran Church (German Ohio, etc.) and the United Danish Church.

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