

COLUMBIA

CHRISTMAS

1 9 3 5

LUTHERAN

Larson, Rev A E
244 So 5th St
St Paul, Minn



"And They Shall Worship the King Together."



Christmas Greetings



Again the wonderful Christmas season is with us and we celebrate the birth of our Saviour. I desire in this brief message to send my sincere greetings to all my brethren in the ministry and to all the congregations of the Columbia Conference. My prayer for you all is that we may be closer drawn to Christ and that our hearts may rejoice in our blessed Christian hope. Paul expresses my wish in his letter to the Philippians. Ch. 3:1 and 4:4. "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice."

It is evident that there is a great lack of this true joy in the world today. This is true also among our Christian people. There are so many circumstances surrounding us that causes the human heart to be heavy with concern. The bondage of sin and the maladjustments in which the world finds itself today, has its effects upon all of us. The prophet Isaiah in 9:2 speaks about the "people that walk in darkness." Even today there is much spiritual darkness, in spite of all efforts to present to the world "The Great Light." Is. 9:2.

God has no greater desire for us than that we walk in His ways. His messenger, the Church of Christ, has brought and is still bringing to the world, the "Glad Tidings." We have been living through a period, when the Church has been despised and rejected of men, even as they do with Jesus Christ. Many have rejected God's message, and have thought themselves capable of living without Christ. Instead

they adopted crass materialism as their God. I believe there are signs that many of these people are reconsidering, yes, even admitting their foolishness. They are discouraged in soul and body. They are seeking, groping about, if perchance they might find peace and joy and satisfaction elsewhere.

Some such souls find their way to our churches. In many of our congregations we find more "visitors" than for many a year. This will be especially true during the coming Christmas festivities. We pastors, and members of our churches should therefore prayerfully prepare ourselves, so that the Saviour and the message of saving Grace may be permitted to speak mightily to ourselves and others as we hear again the story of God's great love to men. God help us so that we will not be classed among the many who celebrate "Just another Christmas."

God's will for mankind was expressed in the most Heavenly Christmas Carol ever sung on earth: "Peace on Earth, Good will towards Men." God desires no greater good for us and all the people of the world than that our weary hearts receive this peace that passeth all understanding. If the world will not receive it, it has not much peace and joy to expect, but as for us, His children by faith in Jesus Christ, let us accept this gift anew, go forward rejoicing in Christ, and thus make this Christmas Season a truly Happy and Blessed one.

N. Wm. ANDERSON

President of the Columbia Conference





THE LOWLY SHEPHERDS

by
ELMER M. JOHNSON



It seems most fitting that, out on those blue Judaeen hills, Gabriel should be chosen to preach the first Christmas sermon of the "glad tidings of great joy" and that the angelic choir of heaven should be the first chorons to sing "Gloria in Excelsis": but that such simple, humble persons as the Shepherds should be the first to hear the sermon and enjoy the angelic anthem, is a most surprising fact. Kings, priests, scribes were denied the unspeakably great privilege which was granted the shepherds, poor in spirit, humble and lowly. God deemed them the fittest to be the first recipients of the heavenly proclamation.

You and I can learn much from the deportment of these Shepherds as to what should be the attitude of our heart and mind as we celebrate the Christmas-tide of 1935.

1. We should receive the heavenly manifestation with reverence and awe.
2. We should believe what the heavenly messenger tells us.
3. We should go with haste in search of the Christ.
4. Having found Him, we should freely confess Him before the world.
5. Finally, we should go back to our ordinary pursuits of life glorifying God.



"THE GUIDING STAR"

By
REV. C. S. ODELL



To be led to Jesus! Wonder of grace! Miracle of miracles! What a gracious guide, a gleaming, beaming star, to lead us to the True new-born Morning Star. In the dazzling radiance of this heaven-born Star our natural guide vanishes, darkness disperses, morn awakens, a new glorious day shines resplendently over the world.

Suddenly myriads of new and living stars shine forth in heaven's spiritual firmament, radiating the glory of God's new-born Star, becoming living guides of this New Life-giving Guide. Lo! Christmas privileges even you to be one of them. Become a guide, then, by following the real Christmas Star that leads beyond an earthly Bethlehem, that never sets nor disappears, but shines universally and forever for all mankind.



"THE SAVIOUR EVERLASTING"

By
REV. ROGER P. OLIVER



Gift giving and the social side of Christmas is getting to be a racket. Stores have us singing their hymns of buying even before Thanksgiving and it won't be long before they send their suggestions for presents right after Labor Day with the first chilly day. Christmas started out to be a Holy-Day and has wound up into a holly-day.

What a horrible contrast this is to the first Christmas, in Bethlehem, when God gave us his greatest gift, "An Everlasting Saviour." Simplicity, humbleness, and naturalness were descriptions given to that incomparable event.

Lack-lustre humans are ever on a quest to splash, sheen and shimmer, sparkle and gloss, to the season of Christmas. They crave the dazzle and frazzle of the stores, the thrill hours of parties, the Indian custom of giving gifts to those who will give in return.

A man or woman may be dressed like a silver sprayed Christmas tree with all the frill and furbelow that goes with it, but God's X-ray eye sees the heart.

May every Christian therefore not forget that above all the effort to give glorified decoration to Christmas, there is a seraphic song of the angels that tells of the Saviour Everlasting.





☩ To ☩ tidings, ☩ long ☩ by ☩ prophets ☩ borne Hast ☩ Thou ☩ fulfillme



All ☩ Hail ☩ to ☩ Thee, ☩ O ☩ Blessed ☩ Morn

GOD BLESS YOU ALL!



It is with pleasure we welcome each month the Columbia Lutheran with its news about our pastors and congregations in the Columbia Conference. As we rip open the wrapping and smooth out the pages time and space vanish and we are back on the Coast listening to the drip of rain, looking into a damp gray sky or in the evening walking through fog in which the street lamps look like dull, far away moons.

Yes, there are clear days to be remembered with high blue sky, fleecy cumulus clouds sailing over mighty mountains where snowcaps sparkle in brilliant sunlight. We close our eyes and look upon lofty views of glittering sun-drenched waters of the Sound, framed within the shores of Evergreens, and thrill to the boom of the surf on the Coast at Mora or are lulled into gentle reverie by the melodies of lapping water on the beach.

We remember fine fellowship among brethren and recall weeks at Burton and Samamish with the Tacoma-Mt. Baker Luther Leaguers which we shall always remember and count among our sweetest experiences. As we read, we say "God bless you all and prosper you in your labor. May your patience not wear thin and your courage not falter and may your strength be equal to your task and your wisdom sufficient for your problems.

May God grant you, pastors and congregations, a Christmas season rich in joy and filled with the peace that "Passeth understanding."

With cordial greetngs from us all to you all.

Ernest G. Svenson
Sioux Falls, S. D.



And the angel said unto the
you good tidings of
to all people

Rev. and Mrs. Roger P. Ollver.

Rev. and Mrs. C. E. Lindquist.

Rev. and Mrs. E. A. Larson.

Rev. and Mrs. John Bildt.

Rev. and Mrs. Elmer M. Johnson.

Rev. and Mrs. C. R. Swanson.

Rev. and Mrs. Jos. Anderson.

Rev. and Mrs. C. Arthur Johnson.

Rev. and Mrs. Ernst J. Sakrison.

Rev. and Mrs. C. J. Renhard.

Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Anderson.

Rev. and Mrs. Carl A. V. Lund.

Rev. and Mrs. A.

Rev. and Mrs. E.

Rev. and Mrs. W.

Rev. and Mrs. C.



of ☩ Heaven! ☩ Singing ☩ ringing, ☩ Sounds ☩ are ☩ blending, ☩ Praises ☩

t ♣ given. ♣ O ♣ sacred ♣ and ♣ immortal day, ♣ When ♣ unto ♣ earth,



GREETINGS, BRETHREN!



The editor permits a greeting in this issue from a new pastor to all of you who have been laboring longer in Columbia Conference work. This I do with readiness and happiness. This salutation comes from the background of a truly spiritual fellowship experienced in the recent Pastoral Conference in Seattle.

This greeting comes with a view to that Christian celebration soon to be enjoyed, the birth of our Lord and Saviour, the Christ of promise, the Messiah of all people who make use of His provided redemption. I beg to include pastors, their families, the members of the congregations, and that larger circle of souls that come directly or more indirectly under the guiding, healing and sanctifying grace of the Word. To all of you may the grace, peace and blessing of God be abundantly multiplied unto eternal life through the Christ of God.

—Reuben E. Norling.

The Editor of the Columbia Lutheran has kindly asked us to write a greeting to the Columbia Conference. We are glad to do so. We are happy to join the ranks of the praying, sacrificing Christians of the Conference. We believe that there are many opportunities for service in God's Vineyard out here in the West. The harvest is plenteous. And though we may sow in tears, we rest assured we shall reap in joy. For our future is indeed as bright as the promises of God." Let us therefore by God's grace step out on these promises, "expecting great things from Him and attempting great things for Him." Thus blood bought, precious souls will be saved, and many will rejoice that a Savior has been born.

Axel E. Berg and family.



n, Fear not; for, behold, I bring
reat joy, which shall be
.—Luke 2:10.

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tings

ham Slegel.
l A. Bengtson.

Rev. and Mrs. N. Wm. Anderson.
Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Truedson.
Rev. and Mrs. Otto R. Karlstrom.
Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Martin.
Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Edlund.
Rev. and Mrs. A. M. Green.
Rev. and Mrs. Harry W. Lundblad.
Rev. and Mrs. Paul V. Randolph.
Rev. and Mrs. C. O. Thunberg.
Rev. and Mrs. Reuben E. Norling.
Rev. and Mrs. Axel E. Berg.
Rev. and Mrs. C. S. Odell.

sending ♣ Unto ♣ Heaven ♣ For ♣ the ♣ Lord ♣ to ♣ mankind ♣ given



in ♣ glorious ♣ ray, ♣ Descends ♣ the ♣ grace



THE COLUMBIA CONFERENCE HOME FOR THE AGED

By DR. C. R. SWANSON

Long before the Columbia Conference Home for the Aged was established, there were men and women in our Conference, who, feeling the need of such a Home, prayed for God's guidance for its founding in our midst. No definite steps were taken, however, until the latter part of the year 1920, when a special meeting of the Columbia Conference was called to convene in the Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Seattle, Wash., Oct. 20th, 1920, for the purpose of considering the matter of establishing a home for the aged. Previous to this time, the officers of the Conference had gathered information about homes for the aged in general, studied different locations, and secured an option upon a centrally located property, the purchase of which was recommended to the Conference. After a lengthy and thorough discussion, it was decided to found a home for aged people, and to buy the property proposed by the Conference Board. This property was a modern, twelve room, brick house, located on North 48th Street and Plinney Ave., Seattle, Wash., and only two blocks south of the beautiful Woodland Park. In accordance with the instructions of the Conference Board, the officers of this board purchased the property at a cost of \$18,000.00, and took it over on Nov. 1st, 1920.

A committee from the Board was appointed to furnish the new home, and to look after the details of the management. This committee was composed of Dr. C. R. Swanson, chairman, Mr. B. T. Erholm, secretary, and Dr. G. A. Magnusson, treasurer. Miss Anna Johnson of Seattle was engaged as the matron, which position she has held up to the present time, and the duties of which, she has discharged in a very competent and efficient manner.

The home, which could accommodate twelve people, was opened on December 1st, 1920, and was filled in a very short time. Applicants were so numer-

ous that the Board realized that it would be advisable and urgent to enlarge the home in the immediate future. For that reason, the lot adjoining the property on the east, was bought for \$1,525.00. At the annual meeting of the Conference in 1922, it was unanimously decided to empower the Board to build the needed addition. This addition consisted of 23 rooms, was built at a cost of \$16,738.36, and was dedicated Oct. 15th, 1922. Again in a short time, the home was unable to receive all those who wished to enter, and once more the question of expansion arose. In 1924 the second addition was built for the sum of



CONFERENCE HOME FOR THE AGED, SEATTLE

\$22,650.00, and dedicated March, 1925. The home had now a capacity of 62 people, but in a very short while it filled. In order to provide more room, a property adjoining the main building was purchased for \$5,800.00 in 1925. It consisted of a lot and an eight room house. This house and the main building were connected with a vestibule. As a result of this enlargement, rooms for nine more people were provided.

When the question of adequate quarters to meet the demand arose again at the Annual Assembly of the Conference in Portland, Oregon, 1931, the following resolution was adopted:

"That the Conference Board herewith is authorized and empowered to lease from the Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Seattle, its Girl's

Hospice for a period of five years at a rental of \$60.00 per month, and with the expenditure of such an amount as it may find necessary for the repairing of the home, this home when thus leased and repaired to be used for the accommodation of such aged folk who apply for admission to the Home for the Aged, but cannot be accommodated in the same."

In accordance with this resolution, the Hospice was leased and remodeled at a cost of \$3,918.97. The Hospice was opened Aug. 15th, 1931, and in a short time, was filled to its capacity. Miss Marie Strandberg, a graduate nurse, was engaged as the first matron of

the Hospice. She served up to Sept. 1932, was succeeded by Miss Mabel Okerlund, also a graduate nurse. When Miss Okerlund resigned the latter part of July, 1935, Miss Martha Norling became the matron. Miss Norling, like Miss Strandberg and Miss Okerlund, is a graduate nurse.

The equipment throughout the homes is in all respects modern and up-to-date. The quality of the food and the care given is the best.

Medical attention is provided for the residents. In the past, a number of physicians have donated their services. For the last eight years, Dr. John W. Unis has served as house physician without remuneration. Trained nurses are also employed to look after the sick.

The spiritual needs of the residents



are supplied by divine services, morning and evening by Rev. J. E. Truedson, who has served the institution for the past twelve years. Our local pastors also have held services and assisted in visitation. Ladies Aids and Missionary Societies from different churches in Seattle and its vicinity have visited the homes frequently, rendered programs, and served refreshments.

In 15 years, 234 persons have been admitted into the Columbia Conference Home for the Aged. Of this number, 119 entered as Life Members, and 115 paying by the month or through charity. A total of 62 Life Members have died, and 10 have left the home. Of those paying by the month, 40 have died, and 60 have left the home. At present, there are 47 Life Members, and 76 paying by the month or maintained by charity.

The Lutheran Hospice has accepted 45 persons. Of these 20 were Life Members, and 25 entered on a monthly basis or through charity. From this number, some have died and some have left the home. At this writing, there are 12 persons at the Hospice, 6 of which are Life Members, and 6 of which are paying on a monthly basis.

The 73 individuals who are residents in the Homes at this time represent 7 nationalities and 8 church affiliations. Despite this variety of nationalities, the spirit that permeates the Homes is both agreeable and congenial. What is more commendable, too, is that an excellent Christian, home-like atmosphere is everywhere in evidence. As a rule, the residents feel at home, and speak well of the food and the care they are given.

The finances during the past 15 years have been amply cared for by the income from those entering the Home, by gifts and donations, and by the support of the Seattle Community Fund. The property and equipment is valued at \$67,000.00. The Conference Board of Trustees are responsible for the management of the homes, but the supervision and details is delegated to a committee of four, who are members of the Conference Board. This committee is made up of Dr. C. R.

Swanson, chairman and superintendent, Rev. C. A. Bengtson, secretary, Mr. R. W. Peterson, treasurer, and Dr. G. A. Magnusson.

The great number of applications for admission into the homes, which come to us from all parts of the Northwest, assure us that the "Old Folks



DR. C. R. SWANSON, Founder
Home" idea is growing in favor among the people in general, and is being recognized as the best and most satisfactory way of giving proper care to aged people. It is true that an up-to-date home of this kind can provide necessities and comforts which the ordinary aged person living alone, or sometimes even when living with his children, cannot afford. For example, by cooperation and organization, 72 people can afford a comfortable building with warm rooms, can employ matrons, cooks, nurses, and other servants necessary for the proper care of their bodily and spiritual needs. These facts, being recognized and generally conceded, assure our homes of more financial support and patronage. A few have al-

ready remembered the homes in their last wills and testaments. We feel confident that from now on many more will remember the institutions which care for men and women in the twilight years of their lives. All things considered, we are warranted in saying that the Columbia Conference Home for the Aged and the Lutheran Hospice have a great mission to perform and a glorious future.

"EVEN TO OLD AGE I AM HE,
AND EVEN TO HOARY HAIRS
WILL I CARRY YOU"—Is. 46:4.

CONFERENCE HISTORY

By Rev. J. A. Edlund
Cont. from last issue

Here was a turning point in ever so many lives. The consolation of the Scriptures and the Sacraments became vital and the Church became a haven of rest for sinburdened souls. God, in His mercy, looked to these struggling, wandering pilgrims in a strange land. By degrees they came in possession of homes, though more humble than those they had left behind them and God sent pastors to shepherd their souls. They had, in a way, come to the Land of Promise.

During 1849-1856 five ordained pastors from the church of Sweden came to this country to gather their people into a church body independent of Sweden. These were: L. P. Eshjörn, Erland Carl on, T. N. Haseelquist, Jonas Swenson and O. C. T. Andrén. Eshjörn came in 1849 and the others were here by 1856. They were pious and earnest, learned and practical men. They preached in as many places that they could reach, establishing congregations in the most promising fields, looking up good laymen, who were able to help them in this sea of humanity. Their efforts were not in vain.

By 1860 there were seven more ordained ministers picked up among these emigrants. What the latter lacked in education was made up in true humility and love to God and fellow men. One of these, Eric Norelius, had a good education from his native land and finished his studies at a Theol. Seminary in Ohio.

These Swedish ministers and their



congregations together with some Norwegian pastors and their flocks had for some years been a part of an independent church body under the name of the Luth. Synod of Northern Ills. In fact, a few Swedish and Norwegian pastors and some German and American ministers and some laymen started this synod. The Scandinavians laid great stress on a pure doctrine; the others held that the Augsburg Confession was "mainly correct."

From the beginning of this unnatural union there was a constant wrangle at their synodical meetings about the topic of strict adherence to Lutheran faith. Rev. Esbjörn was called to take care of the Scandinavian department at their school at Springfield, Ill., in connection with an other Lutheran church body. Here Esbjörn came in contact with the future great president of our lands, Abe Lincoln, and became a tutor for one of his boys. Very soon Esbjörn found that it was useless to try and mix the oil of true Bible teaching with the muddy waters of semi-reformed doctrine.

In April, 1860, Esbjörn simply took his students—16 out of 18—and fled (we might say) to Chicago and started a school of his own in the basement of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of that city. And here we have the cradle of the Augustana Synod. The Swedes and Norwegians organized a Synod of their own, June 5, 1860, at Clinton, Rock Co., Wis. The Swedes were in the majority and the 12 Swedish Lutheran pastors at the organization of the Augustana Synod are of special interest to us on this 75th anniversary of our School and Church body to take place at Rock Island the first week in June. I have mentioned the five ordained ministers from Sweden. The others are: Boren, Cederstrom, Håkanson, Norelius, A. Andren, Beckman and Peter Carlson. The last named: Peter Carlson, is of most interest to us, for he was the pioneer pastor of the work among the Swedes out here in the West and he organized more congregations among our people on this Coast than any one else. We would think, that the most of our people would gladly flock about a minister



from their own land, having the same faith as their forefathers, but such was not the case. The baser influences under which they had come had sunk deep into their souls. Many were fooled to think that the Methodists and the Baptists were a better set of people than the Lutherans, so that many joined the ranks of these. The majority were indifferent or antagonistic to religion in any form.

We can not refrain from saying a few words about those 12 pastors, who were born in Sweden 1808-1833 and were present, when the Augustana Synod came into existence. They were men of sterling qualities, in the best sense of the word: five were ordained in Sweden, as we have stated, and seven were ordained by the Lutheran Synod of Northern Illinois.

1. L. P. Esbjörn was the first on the field, coming to U. S. in 1849, and organized the mother church of the future Augustana Synod at Andover, Ill., in 1850 with only 10 members. He was called to train young men for the ministry first at Springfield, Ill., 1858, and at Chicago 1860-1863. As a scholar he ranked high. He spent his declining years as pastor in Sweden till his death in 1870.

2. T. N. Hasselquist was a tower of strength to body and soul: he started our church paper, Augustana, in 1856 and remained its editor for about 25 years. He succeeded Esbjörn as professor and president of our school in 1863; first at Paxton, Ill., and then at Rock Island till his death in 1891. He became the first president of the Synod 1860-1870.

3. Jonas Swenson was undoubtedly the greatest preacher of these 12 men. He became the 2nd president of synod, but died in 1873, only 45 years old. He was the father of Carl A. Swenson, president of Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas.

(To be continued)

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Lutheran Church, an organized confessional body, came into being with the publication of the Augsburg Confession in 1530 and thus celebrates its 405th anniversary in the present year.

The Lutheran Church is the largest Protestant Church in the world, numbering some 100,000,000 adherents. Following the World War, and as a result of the many celebrations of the Quadricentennial of the Reformation in 1917, the first Lutheran World Convention was held on August 19 - 24, 1923, at Eisenach, Germany, representatives from twenty-two countries being present. A second convention was held in 1929 at Copenhagen, Denmark, New York's Bronx Borough. Luther's on June 27 to July 4. The third convention has been held this last October in Paris, France.

Lutherans were in America as early as 1529, an entire Lutheran colony being located in Venezuela, South America. As for their history in North America, the man who is credited with having built the first habitat for white men on Manhattan Island in 1613 was a Lutheran. The first white child to be born north of Virginia was a Lutheran boy, born on Manhattan Island in 1614. The first Lutherans to settle permanently in North America came to Manhattan Island in 1623. Among them was one Jonas Bronck, whose name is perpetuated in present day Small Catechism translated into the language of the Indians was the first book printed for the Red Men. The Lutheran Church's influence in the development of American history has been so great as to have called forth special volumes.

The Lutheran Church is the third largest body among American Protestant churches in point of number, having a total of 4,234,122 baptised members.

The Lutheran Church has correctly been characterized as the Bible church. Its unwavering confessionalism as its most treasured possession, and to its faithful adherence to this policy it attributes its remarkable growth.

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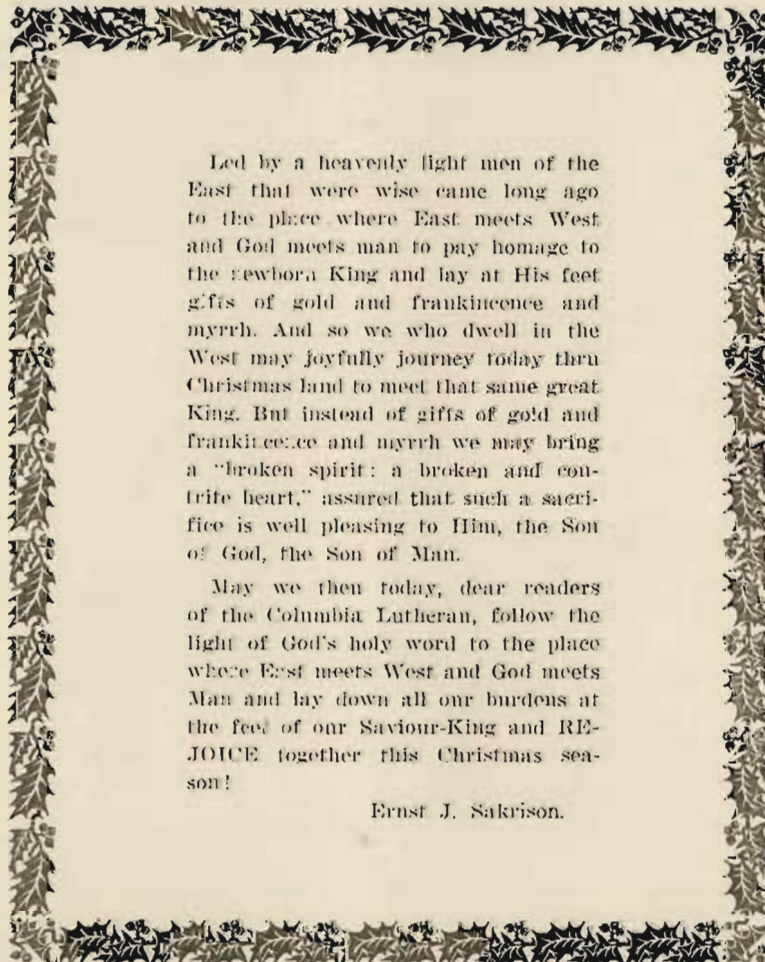
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Editor and Manager



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU!

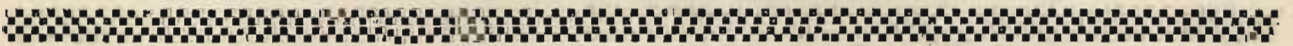
This is Christmas and we all feel
happy. The Columbia Lutheran has
labored twelve months this year to
make itself useful to you and the Con-
ference which it serves. Most likely
your conference paper is the only one
of its kind in the country published in
two colors every month. We thought
you would like it. We hope you did.



Led by a heavenly light men of the
East that were wise came long ago
to the place where East meets West
and God meets man to pay homage to
the newborn King and lay at His feet
gifts of gold and frankincense and
myrrh. And so we who dwell in the
West may joyfully journey today thru
Christmas land to meet that same great
King. But instead of gifts of gold and
frankincense and myrrh we may bring
a "broken spirit: a broken and con-
trite heart," assured that such a sacri-
fice is well pleasing to Him, the Son
of God, the Son of Man.

May we then today, dear readers
of the Columbia Lutheran, follow the
light of God's holy word to the place
where East meets West and God meets
Man and lay down all our burdens at
the feet of our Saviour-King and RE-
JOICE together this Christmas sea-
son!

Ernst J. Sakrison.





Our heavenly Father's Christmas greeting comes again with "Peace on Earth and Good Will Toward Men." The world was in need of such a Christmas greeting nineteen centuries ago, and the world is in need of it today. The demon of wars is stirring up nation against nation and kingdom against kingdom. And the sad fact is that the people and especially the leaders of the nations are blindfolded by the demon of war to such a degree that they are voting billions and billions of dollars for wars and preparations of wars, while millions of men are unemployed, homeless, naked and hungry, existing in breadlines and by meager hand outs.

But the **CRIES OF THE NEEDY** are entered into the **EARS OF THE LORD OF SABAOTH**. And the answer is:

THE NEEDY shall not always be **FORGOTTEN**. The **EXPECTATION** of the **POOR** shall not **PERISH FOREVER**.

God's Christmas greeting "Good Will Toward Men" comes to all, rich and poor alike. But it surely means that those who are blessed with this world's goods must show their **GOOD WILL** by **SHARING** it with those in need.

Christ said: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

The Christmas Spirit of Cheer and Good Will Toward Men, will again manifest itself in millions of Christmas Gifts. Let us not forget the poor and needy in our Christmas giving.

—O. R. Karlstrom



LUTHER LEAGUE

LUTHER LEAGUE MISSION PROJECT

By Georgia Johnson

Auburn \$ 5.00
Hoquiam-Aberdeen 12.42

Here is the splendid beginning which has been made on the missionary project for which the Columbia Conference Luther League voted last September to raise an average of 5c a month per member.

Miss Helga Anderson of Emmaus, Seattle, appointed mission secretary by the president, Mr. Marcus Renhardt, devised a plan of sending deputation teams of Leaguers to any league in the conference requesting this service to assist in raising its quota.

Auburn was the first to request this service, and through a free-will offering after the program gave \$5.00 for the project. Hoquiam-Aberdeen was next, so down the Sunday evening, November 17, went Miss Helga Anderson, Misses Signe and Georgia Johnson, and Mr. Milan von Lany to present a program consisting of pictures from the African field, musical numbers, and talks on Luther League and missions, all of which resulted in a free-will offering of \$12.42.

Requests for programs in the near future have come in from Augustana, Portland, for December 6, Everett, and Ruston, Tacoma, for later dates.

The offer made by Rev. Sandeen, editor of Columbia Lutheran, that 25c of every new subscription secured for the paper will go to the project, is still good through December. Here is an easy way for some of you Leaguers to make your quota.

The following pastors have been asked to assist in working on the project in their districts: Rev. William Siegel, Spokane; Rev. Harry Lundblad, Mt. Baker, and Rev. Paul Randolph, Portland.

The two comparatively small leagues mentioned above have practically raised their quota. Have YOU begun to do your share?



The prayers and co-operation of every league in the conference are needed, for the cause of foreign missions and for YOUR OWN SAKE also. In the words of E. Stanley Jones, "Our churches are filled with spiritual depression because there is so little spiritual expression." Express yourself in love for your brother outside the fold, and your league will grow.

NEWS FROM TACOMA

At the meeting, Friday, November 8, the League of First, Tacoma, went through the church and had the symbols and windows explained to them, by Rev. E. A. Larson.

The Annual Lutefisk dinner will be given again this year, by the L. L., the date set for Friday, December 13, with Leonard Wesson in charge.

The boys are getting ready to play basketball again this year.

The gospel teams are arranging a Christmas program. They will also make a tour of the homes of the sick and shut-ins, during the Christmas season, and sing Christmas carols. Several programs have been given already, at the Lutheran Compass Mission.

Ruston League is still growing, with the addition of new members every month. Plans are being made to raise money for the erection of a basement under the chapel, the first attempt being a play to be given in January or February.

Arrangements are being made to have the program of the Missionary Committee presented at Ruston.

WEDDING BELLS



A beautiful and impressive ceremony was solemnized Saturday evening, November 2, at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Seattle when Miss Esther C. Johnson, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Johnson, became the bride of Mr. Clarence H. Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gust H. Anderson. The Rev. Dr. C. R. Swanson read the marriage vows.

The church was decorated with tall standards of yellow and white chrysanthemums with palms and green huckleberry leaves. Marking the pews down each aisle, were candelabra entwined with chrysanthemums and tied with white ribbon.

Miss Hildur Johnson, sister of the bride, was the maid of honor, wearing green moire, while the bridesmaids Miss Alda Johnson, another sister of the bride, Miss Elsie Anderson, the bridegroom's sister, and Miss Peggy Kemp wore yellow moire.

Little Miss Lorraine McDonald, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. McDonald, was the junior bridesmaid.

Mr. Desmond Canavan was best man while the ushers were Mr. Carl Johnson, Mr. Chester Moork and Mr. Ivar Bernth.

Preceding the ceremony, Mrs. J. A. Martin, aunt of the bride, sang "Oh, Promise Me" and "Speak to Me of Love," accompanied by Miss Elaine Johnson on the organ, who also played the wedding marches, and Miss May Bernth on the harp. Miss Bernth also played softly during the ceremony.

Yakima leaguers attended the Luther League rally in Kennewick Sunday afternoon and evening, Nov. 17.

Rev. R. A. Hansen of Ellensburg and C. Arthur Johnson of Yakima spoke and Yakima leaguers furnished music. These meetings have proved very beneficial to the young people. Thoughts and ideas were exchanged and a social hour was enjoyed by all.



PORTLAND DISTRICT NEWS



On Friday, November 1st, Misses Dorothy Peterson and Fredia Peterson of the Immanuel league, Portland, entertained with a shower at the home of the former for the pleasure of Miss Viola Benson. Viola is planning to leave around the first of December for Washington, D. C., where she will be married to Mr. Albert Ehrenstrom, a former Portland boy. He has been fortunate in obtaining a position in the Government offices in Washington and has been working there for several months.

Upon her arrival there, Viola will stop for a day with Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Kurkoski. Mrs. Kurkoski is the former Alice Henrikson of Immanuel, who was married early this summer in Portland and is now making her home in Washington.

Those attending the shower were delighted to see Mrs. Rudolph Hanson, who had returned that week to Portland after a year's sojourn in Sweden.

On October 30th, the league held its annual Fall Festival, which is always anticipated with much pleasure by the leaguers. A program, consisting of a group of vocal solos by Mr. Elmo Brous, and some amusing original skits by several leaguers, was presented. Several letters and wires from out-of-town members were read. After playing some games, everyone enjoyed a "feed" of pumpkin pie, cookies and coffee. Everyone felt that this was one of the best meetings held this year.



The Luther League Choir of the Augustana Church, Portland, gave a concert Sunday evening, November 17. Several choir numbers, a Young Men's quartet, Girls trio, and several vocal and instrumental numbers by league members were greatly enjoyed by a large audience. The offering of the evening was turned over to the league to use in purchasing music.

At the last regular meeting of the L. L. a topical discussion was led by Walter Carlson on "Making the Most of My Opportunities." All the leaguers entered into the discussion with much interest and many joined in the sentence prayers preceding the discussion. At this meeting plans were also made for the distribution of food for the needy, for the Christmas season. This will be done through the Portland Lutheran Welfare organization. Also plans for the New Year's Wake which will be held at our church with the Immanuel as special guests, were made.

Under the leadership of Student Pastor Rudolph Anderson, the Elim church and Luther League of Brush Prairie is again active, holding all regular Sunday services and two monthly league meetings. At these League meetings Mr. Anderson is leading the young people in a study of the Gospel of John.

The Elim League is now a regular member of the Portland District Luther League, and we certainly bid them welcome and wish them many blessings in their work with the young people of their community.

The Ladies Aid have been busy as they just finished holding a very successful ice cream social and are now actively engaged in preparing for their annual bazaar to be held on December 6.

A Thanksgiving service was held on Thanksgiving night with the Luther League serving refreshments and having charge of the social hour.



The Luther League of Bethany, Warren, held its annual Thanksgiving Festival Nov. 28th.

Hildur Peterson spent the Thanksgiving holidays at the home of her mother, Mrs. Augusta Peterson. Miss Peterson is on the teaching staff of the Hood River public schools.

June Dahlgren was home to visit her folks over the Thanksgiving weekend. Miss Dahlgren is a student at Willamette University in Salem.

Central, Yakima



Inspiring evangelistic meetings were held Nov. 10-13 in this church under the auspices of the Tacoma District. The meetings were directed by Rev. Enoch Saudeen, president of the district, and participating pastors were Dr. C. R. Swanson, Rev. Roger P. Oliver, Rev. Carl A. Bengtson of Seattle, Rev. Elmer J. Johnson of Olympia and Rev. E. Arthur Larson of Ta-

coma. Urged on by the success of this meeting the pastors present resolved to institute a new kind of mission meeting for future occasions—a return to the Apostolic method of house to house visit. These visits will be followed by a mass meeting in the church.

AUGUSTANA, PORTLAND



"Sanctification" was the theme for the district meeting recently held at

Augustana. The sermons were inspiring and the programs well arranged. Thanksgiving Day was properly celebrated at Augustana with special services and programs. The annual festival program was held on Wednesday evening with record attendance. An illustrated lecture on the African mission field was held under the auspices of the Luther League Dec. 6. Mr. Milan von Lany of Seattle was the speaker.



"THE LIGHT HATH COME"



"God said: Let there be light." (Gen. 1:3) Such was the first spoken word of God ever recorded. The reason for it is also written: "Darkness was upon the face of the waters." Centuries later Isaiah wrote: "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light." (Is. 9:2) The reason we find in these words: "A sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity." (Chap. 1:4.) Again centuries elapsed, and the "shepherds keeping watch by night over their flocks," saw an angel of the Lord who stood by them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them." (Luke 2:8,9) Why? "There is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." (v. 11) And the great objective was: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased." (v. 14) When the child was "presented to the Lord," Simeon who received Him into his arms, blessed God, and said that He was to be "A light for revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Thy people Israel." Jesus, Himself, declared: "I am the light of the world." (John 8:12) In the book of Revelations we read of the New Jerusalem: "And the city hath no need of the Sun, neither of the moon, to shine upon it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the lamp thereof is the Lamb. And the nations shall walk amidst the light thereof: and the kings of the earth bring glory into it."

Mrs. J. A. Martin,



CHILDHOOD SANCTIFIED



Jesus, the Son of God, was born in a manger. How marvellous! There was no room for Jesus in the inn. How pathetic! Who would ever have dared to guess or suggest that this babe, which was wrapped in swaddling clothes, was, verily, the King of all kings? But the Most High spoke and we understand and see that, amid the common place in life, Jesus Christ, the God-man, took His beginning.

Who but God can know what lies in store for a child born into this world? Even the shepherds on the hills of Judea and the wise men from the East but very little understood the divine purpose and will in relation to the infant Jesus. But they did worship Him! Can we do anything less? Not far into the future can we mortals peer and see what it has to offer a babe in its cradle. Little, after all, do we know of its innate possibilities and hidden talents.

The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem as a babe has, in a new and beautiful way, sanctified childhood. Every child should, therefore, have presented to it in the home and church Jesus as the Savior and the Ideal. What possibilities are then opened up for that child in later years to make lasting and worthwhile contributions to the community, the church and the world at large! Tell to the children early in life the story of Jesus and His love.

—Rev. Paul V. Randolph.




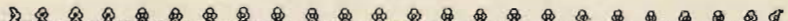
Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace. He who was born in Bethlehem as a Saviour, is born unto us as a Prince of Peace. He is my Prince of Peace, the eternal fountain of peace at which my troubled soul may slake its burning thirst. Such He is and such He is given to me of God.

Here is a great prophecy that Christ is a Prince of Peace, and that the Messianic kingdom is a kingdom of peace. This peace is a fruit of Christ's appearance. Peace on earth was sung by the angels at the birth of Jesus. Peace with God and mutual peace among men is one of the most glorious spiritual gifts that Christ brings.



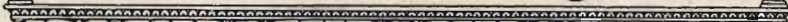
We should not only think of Jesus as a Babe, but as a new born King, a Prince of Peace. He came to restore what sin had destroyed. He asks to be made the sole ruler of every department of our life. When we surrender to Him, we shall be made fit instruments in His hand to build amidst the wreck and pain of today a true kingdom of righteousness and peace.

—Rev. E. Arthur Larson.





Christ is born on Earth today



Christmas is "Good news" for "all people!" There is something so universally human about this festal day. Rich and poor, cultured and unlearned, old and young rejoice in its reality. The content of the day itself is too vast and immense for any merely earthly vessel. It overflows all our rites and forms. It puts an end to the pretense of monopoly. It heralds God's great gift to "all people." Christ is the gift.

Sometimes truth appears in garments of pristine white. It dazzles us with its naked glory. In the Christmas message, "Christ is born today," the truth of the divine incarnation is refracted to our frail human vision through the healing and comforting rays of ineffable beauty. How could a mortal ever hope to look upon the face of the All Holy and live? Yet we may rapturously gaze upon the features of the tiny Babe in the Bethlehem manger. What do we know about the "Only begotten Son?" Yet we may behold His glory, as He lies in His human Mother's arms. Sometimes, too, truth seems cold and, therefore, unconvincing. In the Christmas glow, truth glows with the warm radiance of accessibility and kinship. We are not afraid of the truth of the Incarnation when it is "wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." There is something so gentle and so gracious about this supreme disclosure of God, that we are comforted, not terrified, by its reality.



Christmas lays siege to the universal heart because it blends so matchlessly the elements of fact and fancy. The fancies, however, do not hold an influential place. They are the fringe

and froth of reality. At the heart of it all is the great Christmas fact. There it stands immovable, unchangeable, imbedded in history, rooted in reality. The mysterious, heaven-begotten birth of the Saviour is the supreme fact of history. It is the bed-rock of the whole superstructure of our faith. We will not long keep Christmas as a festival of cheer and good will unless we keep Christ at the Center of it all.

Many thoughtful Christian people are concerned lest we permit the sweet solace of a traditional Christmas observance to dull the edge of our appetite for that greater experience, wherein the whole human family shall be brought under the sway of Him whom angels heralded so long ago. "How dare we go on" vibrant challenging voices are saying to-day, "when half the world is hungry, and all the world is burdened and bewildered?" What better way for us to celebrate the coming of the Christ Child than to pray that our whole conception of Christmas may be recast in terms of the angelic message, and that our Christian enterprise may be remoulded and recentered in HIM, the only Prince of the whole world's peace. To go back to Him, no, to go forever forward to where He stands, the incarnate pledge of humanity's redemption, "the only wise God, our Saviour."

We worship Thee! we bless Thee!
To Thee alone we sing!
We praise Thee and confess Thee,
Our Saviour and our King!

REV. C. ARTHUR JOHNSON



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REV. SIEGEL HONORED

A unique "Welcome Home" was tendered Rev. and Mr. Wm. Siegel of Spokane on their return from the East recently. Upon entering the church to attend a Brotherhood meeting, the pastor and wife were promptly escorted to the platform and handed a piece of chalk with the request to write down on the blackboard the total amount the pastor had paid on a new car. As the pastor wrote the sum as requested, a check was handed him for the full amount plus gasoline money. Mrs. C. W. Hanson, who had taken care of the children during the absence of the parents was also remembered with a gift from the congregation. Mrs. Siegel also received a huge basket of chrysanthemums.

SALEM, MOUNT VERNON

The W. M. S. of the Salem church at Mt. Vernon, Wash., held a Mothers and Daughters banquet on the evening of Oct. 28.

This is a meeting usually held in May to celebrate Mother's Day, but as it was inconvenient at that time this year, it was decided to meet in the fall instead.

We had the great pleasure of having Mrs. Bildt with us and she gave a very interesting talk on her recent trip to Sweden. She described everything in such a vivid manner that it was most pleasing to her hearers. And also she gave us the feminine viewpoint which we do not hear so often.

The banquet was a success in every respect as nearly a hundred women and girls were in attendance.

Angelika Olson.

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