

# Emmaus Messenger

From *EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH*

Volume VII

January, 1953

Number 1

## YOUR HOME

The song writer has said, "Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home." These familiar words have struck a responsive cord in the hearts of people, for whether our home is a mansion or a modest cottage, in it we find love and warmth, a repose from the busy world.

The Home is also a place of training. In the home a child's character is formed. Our personality traits, our way of thinking, our attitudes toward life are formed in that original schoolroom—the home. That is why a Christian home is so important to the future: "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Your Church makes a vital contribution to your home. Church attendance binds the members together in an act of worship. The Church instructs in the training of Children in the way of Christ. Church going families are happier families. A satisfying Church life is the foundation to a satisfying home life.

The Home and the Church have been vital partners down through the years. The Home helps to undergird the Church, and the Church helps to undergird the Home. Attendance at the services of Divine Worship helps to bind the Church and Home together.

Thus it is, that your contributions and pledges to your Church also help to support your home and family life, for that which strengthens the Church also strengthens the home. You and your family have a vital stake in the future of your Church. Support it with loyalty and generosity.

# Emmaus Messenger

Published Monthly by the

1952



## EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

1134 Mound Avenue Racine, Wisconsin  
SIGURD D. PETERSEN, Pastor

Phone: Dial 3-2896 1130 Mound Avenue  
Publication Committee: Harry Andersen, Milton Burdick, Russel Petersen

Editor: Pastor Sigurd D. Petersen

Lutheran Publishing House

### SUNDAY SERVICES

Family Church and School ..... 9:00 A.M.  
Worship Service ..... 10:30 A.M.  
Luther League 1st & 3rd Sun. .... 6:30 P.M.

### OTHER MEETINGS

Church Choir ..... Each Thursday 7:45 P.M.  
Church Council ..... First Tuesday 8:00 P.M.  
Circle Meetings .... First Wednesday & First Thursday  
Junior-Hi Club ..... 2nd and 4th Wednesday 6:45 P.M.  
Benevolent Society ..... Second Monday 8:00 P.M.  
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Danish Ladies' Aid ..... Second Wednesday 2:00 P.M.  
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Ladies' Aid ..... Third Wednesday 2:30 P.M.  
Sunday School Teachers .... Fourth Tuesday 8:00 P.M.  
Confirmation Classes ..... Saturday 9:00 & 10:00 A.M.  
Ushers' Club ..... As announced  
Cradle Roll Workers ..... As announced

It is customary that the pastor give a report of his work to the congregation at the end of each year. I find myself in the awkward position of trying to determine what has been "my work" and what has been the "work of you people." Certainly a large amount of planning, thinking, and real hard work has been done the past year for which I can take no personal credit. To those who labored so well we owe our deepest gratitude. Personally I am grateful to such. For every assistance in the work of our church, even the least, I am very thankful.

At the close of this year we would like to take recognition of Pastor N. P. Sorensen's assistance at communion services during the past years. He is contemplating moving to Waukegan to make his home with his daughter and family.

Here is a tabulation of ministerial acts performed the past year:

Baptisms .....	30
Confirmed .....	19
Adults instructed for membership .....	5
Weddings .....	9
Funerals .....	11
Total Communicants .....	1137
Individual Communicants .....	390
Pastoral Visitations .....	730

A breakdown of these visitations show that I made 240 sick calls, 128 visits to Old People and 170 calls on homes. The remainder were of various types.

This year, because of our Sunday morning program, has required considerable more preparation of my sermons and Bible lectures. Whatever I have done I have done gladly for the sake of people.

I always feel a certain hesitancy in speaking of my work in terms of figures, but when one clothes these dry bones with human beings a year's work in the ministry represents a lot of hours spent with people and for people with a constant care for souls and a continual prayer that God will bless each individual.

1952 has been of momentous importance to the life of our church. This hardly needs to be mentioned. As a congregation we have committed ourselves to a program that bespeaks vision and faith. In this coming year the real test will come. Let us keep our vision of a new field of service in God's kingdom for the spiritual good of many people over years to come.

After a full year's program of two services each Sunday morning we can at least begin to evaluate its merits. I think we can say that the principle involved in the "Family Church and School" has proven to be sound. Of the 90 families represented in our Sunday School less than 20 homes were in any way represented at our morning worship a year ago. Now there are at least 45 homes where parents and children are quite regular in church and the largest percentage of the children are in attendance at the worship. When we get our second service built up again, we shall be doing a type of church work for which we can be happy. Our people should be urged to help make both our services effective. They can do so by their attendance.

A Junior-Hi Club has been organized this year. It has been active under the leadership of some of our women. The work of our other organizations has been along the usual lines. I believe the circles have taken firm root among our women and now should be able to reach out to include more of the women of our church.

There are evidences that a spirit of unity and purpose is emerging among our people and with it a joy and confidence in the work and future of our church. Where a spirit of gladness prevails, there also will be the Spirit of God.

1953

The New Year is two days old as I write this message to you whom I call "my people." It is with real care I think of you and wish for you the best in the coming year. There are some areas of life which are of paramount importance to us: our health, our homes, our work, our country, and our church, all of which blend to make life what it is for us. I wish that you may have good health, that your homes may be happy havens of rest and strength, and that your work may be satisfying. With deepest concern we all pray for the welfare of our country, especially that the Korean war may be stopped.

As your pastor I am deeply conscious of the fact that the Church with its ministry should bring spiritual factors to bear upon every area of life. It should help to interpret life in the light of God's purpose with each one of us. It should give us the courage, insight, and strength to live victorious lives ever conscious of God's guidance and benediction. The means at the church's disposal, namely the Word of God and the Sacraments, as well as the spiritual experiences of worship and prayer, have brought the spiritual strength that have glorified the lives of millions.

I wish we might all sharpen our concept of what church membership means. It is, if we are sincere, an open avowal that we believe in Jesus Christ, who is called the Head of the Church by St. Paul. It means that we are openly His followers and worship Him as Lord and Savior. Church membership also means that we recognize that faith in Christ creates a fellowship which we cannot desert, a fellowship bound together in mutual respect and love.

No man can find the fullest measure of life by living for himself. Even families cannot live for themselves alone. The "love of the brethren" is not just a suggestion for generous and gracious living. It is a "must" for spiritual health and happiness. In a church God has given us people to love. They are our people in a very real sense. That it may be difficult to love some of them for all of us serves a very needed discipline in Christian growth.

It is very difficult to foster this love and to give it a chance for expression—which, perhaps, amounts to the same thing. But we can help to make our church strong. We can be loyal. We can attend its services regularly. We can give the needed financial support. We can take interest in the many people that belong to us. Surely there must be ways in which we can all love our people effectively.

No one is more keenly aware than I am of the fact that we, as a church, fail to be for people what we ought. Never must we cease to find better ways to help bring God's grace with its saving power to as many as possible. But no church ever completely fails when it offers its people the fellowship of worship, the preaching of the Word of God, the assurance of common prayer, confession of faith, and forgiveness of sin in the simple but meaningful worship of the Sunday service. In the measure of our love and devotion to our church shall we be blessed through it. We trust that the year 1953 will be a good year, rich in God's blessing.

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**Baptisms:**

Linda Lee Matson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Matson, Jr., born December 14, 1950, baptized December 14, 1951. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Hess, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Matson.

Kerry Alan Rayner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Rayner, born August 31, 1952, baptized December 28. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Thomsen.

Victor Henry Lipke II, son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lipke, born June 9, 1952, baptized January 1, 1953. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Johnson.

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Louise Burdick, December 27. She died at the age of 78. She was the mother of Mr. Stanley Burdick.

**New Members:** The two services on Sunday, January 4, were combined to make it possible for every one to witness the installation of the Church Council and reception of new members. It was a pleasure to welcome as members the following:

Mrs. Charles Clausen, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eggert, Mr. Victor Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Krogh, Mrs. Joseph Nyiri and her son, Joseph, Mr. Chester Poniatowski, Mr. Milton Schultz.

**The Building Committee:**

No further decision has been made since the last issue of the Messenger was published. On January 8th Mr. Ollrogge, the architect, will present his revised plans to the Committee. The Christmas day offering was approximately \$2075.00.

**The Fall Festival:**

The Circles and Ladies' Aids report a very satisfying sale on December 3. The fellowship of work and common interest was enjoyable. The profit from the sale was in excess of \$600 most of which is for the building fund.

**Christmas at Emmaus:**

Most of the organizations of our church observed Christmas with their usual parties. Highlighting our festivities were the Children's Service, beautifully rendered by the children, the Christmas Day service which was better attended than for some years, and the Brotherhood Party.

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## Do We Keep Lent?

Not with self-imposed restrictions on normal living. What is right the rest of the year is right in Lent. Our understanding is that Christian living is a continuous and complete consecration of life to Christ.

Denials in the realm of secular affairs are not sporadic but constant lest we live by the "flesh" and not by the "Spirit." In fact, a vital spirituality is possible only under the discipline of denials.

Lent is a spiritual discipline, not because we are required to keep it, but because the Church consciously chooses this period of the church year for a definite emphasis in connection with the sufferings of Christ. We are confronted with the solemn truth that Christ died for our sins.

With sober thought we reflect upon the fact of sin in our lives and remember that repentance is the only right attitude of a sinner and upon which basis alone sin can be forgiven.

The Cross of Christ is strategically set in focus lest we forget God's love and grace which is revealed in the death of Christ. We sharpen our wits to the point where we understand that since Christ died for our sins, we must be dead to sin and alive to God, walking in a newness of life.

Lent becomes a genuine experience of total salvation through Christ.

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## JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

From Rev. James C. Petersen's "Pastoral Letter"  
 Salt Lake City

The secret of grasping the nucleus of the doctrine of justification by faith (which is really the heart of the whole Christian Gospel) cannot possibly be realized until by the Holy Spirit our soul's attention is focused on Christ as the object of our faith. All saving merit is in our Saviour, there is no meritorious goodness in our faith. Saving faith consists in personal surrender and trust, as also our Catechism puts it, "I give myself to Him with full confidence," or, "To believe in Jesus Christ is to yield ourselves wholly to Him as our Saviour." Even this giving ourselves to Jesus is wrought by the Holy Spirit through God's Word. Therefore we do rightfully sing: "All Glory Be To God On High." Now, this matter of being forgiven and justified before God by grace is the starting point and source of a God-pleasing life and all good works. The life of sanctification, then, is a continuous thanksgiving and consecration to God and a godly life, all wrought by His power that works in the hearts of His own.

CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION to this great Bible doctrine meets us from various fronts. It is not strange that the pride of worldly men should at first revolt against it, for the doctrine of Justification by Faith is humiliating, it is a secret the grasp of which has to be "given" to men from above (Matt. 13:11). Nor need we think it so strange that the original natives of Utah do not readily take to the doctrine of Justification by Faith, nor should we be too quick to simply criticize them for holding to the claim of salvation by good works. Even their statement in their "Articles of Faith" (Page 479), calling "Justification by Faith Alone" a "pernicious doctrine," need not cause personal offense among us as western neighbors. For we are here not to argue but to give a living testimony of our historic and Biblical faith. It may be a little harder for us to be lenient with some leading Protestant men who either seriously or cynically betray their Christian heritage—and shall we say, cheat the Christian laymen who call and support them in office to teach the Scriptural truth. Or perhaps we should rather pity those leaders because of the unethical predicament they get themselves into, namely by affirming the Creed with their church and undermining it in their writings.

ONE OF SEVERAL SUCH EXAMPLES may be noted in a long article in The Journal of Religion, Univ. of Chicago Press, October issue, by Dr. Walter Lawrie who quite crudely advocates quick abrogation of the historic Protestant doctrine of "Justification by Faith Alone." Most of Dr. Lawrie's objections to it are time-worn, such as "It belittles morality," "It is opposed to the teachings of Jesus, particularly opposed to the Sermon on the Mount," "It hinders union with the Catholic Church." The last of these is true, and the others could be plainly answered by confirmands. The author fairly points out that not all the words of this Protestant doctrine are directly from the Bible, but he fails utterly in trying to prove they do not correspond with

Paul's thought. He thinks the Neo-Lutherans will succeed in "explaining away" or "discarding" the doctrine which in four centuries has been claimed to be the issue on which the church would stand or fall.

**YOUR PASTOR'S REASON FOR WRITING SO PLAINLY ON SUCH SUBJECTS** is that he believes that if Christian laymen of America can wake up and think and pray for a spiritual awakening then God will graciously send it, and then people will study their Bibles while the Holy Spirit makes clear to also our generation the eternal issues of sin and grace. I do not fear that the reference about the essence of our holy religion being "a hollow nut" will drive my people to unbelief. A real jolt may rather lead to a new grip on "The faith of our fathers."

**CHRISTIAN ASSURANCE IN ONE'S HEART**—if it is true, created by God through His Word and inner experience—is not only "very full of comfort", it is a divine power in a man's life both unto a good and honest life and also to an industrious and useful life. It is also in such a course that God builds His church, i.e. the church that stands against the storms and which sets marks and bears fruit. Just think of the Norwegian Lutheran farmers in the pioneer days of Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and men of other nationalities as well, Christian laymen who would talk together about Sin and Grace in terms of plain Biblical theology and practical Christianity until Congregations, Christian communities, and eventually nation-wide synods grew out of their testimonies. A "hollow nut"? Not when we know the Kernel is the love of God poured forth through the vicarious atonement of His Son (John 3:16; I John 2:2). Ye Lutheran churchmen, do you want to revert to the pre-Reformation spiritual bondage of uncertainty and confusion and fear, believing that you are justified before God only in the degree that you are good? How good did this religion make men? How moral? True, the church is still on this sinful earth, but evangelical Christianity has set its marks of victory and of righteous living—and the secret is the love of God, the love that will abundantly pardon.

#### MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

"Great Texts on the Atonement" will be the general theme for this year's mid-week Lenten services which will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. There will be Holy Communion at this first Lenten service. The time for the meetings is 7:45 P. M.

Feb. 18—Isaiah 53 ..... The Suffering Servant  
 Feb. 25—John 10:14-18 ..... Christ Chose to Suffer  
 Mar. 4—I Peter 1:13-21 ..... With His Blood  
 Mar. 11—Heb. 9:23-28 ..... Once For All  
 Mar. 18—II Cor. 5:14-21 ..... Reconciled to God  
 Mar. 25—Rev. 5:6-14 ..... Worthy Is the Lamb  
 Maundy Thursday—April 1  
 I Cor. 11:23-26 The Lord's Supper and the Atonement

No one is more keenly aware than I am of the fact that we, as a church, fail to be for people what we ought. Never must we cease to find better ways to help bring God's grace with its saving power to as many as possible. But no church ever completely fails when it offers its people the fellowship of worship, the preaching of the Word of God, the assurance of common prayer, confession of faith, and forgiveness of sin in the simple but meaningful worship of the Sunday service. In the measure of our love and devotion to our church shall we be blessed through it. We trust that the year 1953 will be a good year, rich in God's blessing.

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**CHAIRMAN FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Henry Andersen has been appointed to head a committee that will be responsible for securing the needed finances for the new church building.

**BROTHERHOOD**

A Father and Son banquet is being planned for the 17th of March. The Lutheran Men of Racine will meet at Atonement Church, February 17.

**ILLNESS**

The pastor can report that December and January had more cases of severe illness than any corresponding period during his ministry in Emmaus. But God has in most cases richly blessed with healing and renewed health. Reuben Andersen died January 6th, in our way of thinking too early in life. Into all of your experiences of sickness, pain, and sorrow your pastor enters with real sympathy and understanding with an earnest prayer that God will always abundantly bless.

**OUR BUILDING PROGRAM**

So often the question is asked, "When will the new church be built?" At this time it is impossible to say for sure. Within the next couple of months the plans for the new church should be finished and the fund-raising campaign under way. From then on much will depend upon how soon money is available sufficiently to begin construction.

**THINGS WORTH STRIVING FOR**

- "I will not worry.
- "I will not be afraid.
- "I will not give way to anger.
- "I will not yield to envy, jealousy or hatred.
- "I will be kind to every man, woman and child with whom I come in contact.
- "I will trust in God and bravely face the future."

Read these words again. Cut them out and paste or pin them where you will see them often.

**ANSWER FOR YOURSELF**

"What kind of a church would our church be, if every member were just like me?"

These lines rhyme well. Surely, they jingle, like bells Repeat them; sing them, whistle them. Every one 'just like me'. Such a church ought to please me. Would it please the Master? What kind of meetings would we have? Every member, 'just like me'. How about our Young People's Society, the Sunday School, the business sessions? And the church treasurer? How much would we have to give the Lord? "Just like me."

What would the unconverted say of such a church? How soon would God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven?

Say it again and again for yourself: "What kind of a church would our church be, if every member were just like me?"

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## EASTER WEEK

March 29 - April 5

These services are planned for our proper observances of these festive days of the church year.

### PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29

9:00 A.M. — Family Church and School.  
Special program of colored slides  
for the children.  
10:30 A.M. — Festive Service.

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

9:00 A.M. — Family Church and School.  
Special music by the choir.  
10:30 A.M. — Festive Easter Service.

### TWO COMMUNION SERVICES

Maundy Thursday, 7:45 P.M.  
Good Friday, 7:45 P.M.

### GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3

Three-Hour Services, 12:00 Noon  
Atonement Church, Wright Ave.  
Holy Communion, Carmel Ave.  
Emmanuel Church, High St.

No single week so emphasizes the central truths of Christianity as Easter. Christ died and rose again for man. From there on there has been assurance of personal salvation from sin and death. Faithful attendance at the services of our church is the least we can do to bear witness to our faith and express our gratitude to God. A blessed Easter to all.  
Pastor Petersen

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## ONCE IN A LIFETIME

By Glenn H. Asquith

Building a church is an opportunity that comes only once in a lifetime to most men and women. ONCE IN A LIFETIME to have some small share in the construction of the one edifice which stands out sharply distinct among all other buildings in the community! The church has a voice of its own which is heard even by the passerby.

Among the buildings which make up a neighborhood, only the church speaks to men of the reality of God, of access to forgiveness and newness of life, of the eternal and permanent. Even though some of the members of a church may be known for imperfections, nevertheless the church building stands as a pure witness. In the nighttime many men see steeples against the stars, and in the nighttime of their souls they continue to link stars and steeples.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME to join in the sacrifice of many to build, or rebuild, or restore a church into which men and women and boys and girls may come to seek out their Creator! The church houses some mysterious Presence that is "closer than breathing, and nearer than hands or feet." When the young man, Isaiah, went into his church he felt this presence and cried out, "Holy, Holy, Holy!" In a dedicated church building there is a holiness which will rub off on the souls of earnest inquirers.

If the church speaks to the men outside, how gently and eloquently it speaks to the man who comes within the doors! The authority of truth sings from rafters, stained-glass windows, and hanging lamps.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME to have part in the one task which will produce in the world a building not wholly "made with hands"! With a church, the "brush-marks" of human hands seem to be lost forever, leaving only a structure which God has made of the love and generosity and work and faith of all who gave themselves to its beginning and completion.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME to become co-laborers with skilled and devoted men of earlier generations whose knowledge and consecration raised the cathedrals and churches which are still ours to enjoy!

ONCE IN A LIFETIME to stand within the creative field of the church! Out of the church have come the impulses and purposes which have given us free education, hospitals, orphanages, community brotherhood.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME some have had the glad experience of helping in the building of a church. Some are having that opportunity now, some will hear the call later. A few will hear the challenge and turn away from the sacrifice involved, and their money and days will fall away from them uninvested in the greatest enterprise of all time.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME an opportunity to build a church! And yet who can define a church building? Like the Greek philosopher who tried to describe God and found it impossible, who can presume to set down the meaning of a church?

The church is unexplainable. The stones and brick and timbers can be explained, but God adds something to the building which is not in the blueprints and specifications, and it becomes a church.

—From "The Christian Herald"

### ONE GREAT EVENING — APRIL 8

#### The Loyalty Dinner

To start our Building Fund Canvass a loyalty dinner is planned for the evening of April 8th. It will be served at the Lutheran High School by the Women's Guild of that institution. Every confirmed member of our church will be given a free ticket and a near 100% attendance is expected.

The initial arrangements have been made by the leader of the circles, Mrs. Henry Lund. The distribution of tickets will be handled by the women of the circles. At least 45 women will participate in this job.

No pledge will be received at this dinner. The purpose of the dinner is to acquaint the members with the needs, to inspire, and to give us all a sense of being united in this undertaking. This is the kick-off meeting for the canvass workers.

All pledges will be received at the homes by men of our church. By April 8th all the captains and their teams will have been organized and they themselves will have made their pledges. Their work will begin the days immediately following the kick-off dinner.

### CHURCH NEWS

**The Easter Offering** will be for the synodical missions. The Church Council wishes to call to the attention of our people the fact that we are in need of an exceptionally good offering. Kindly use your Easter envelope.

**The Benevolent Society**, at its February meeting decided to abandon after a useful service of 70 years within the congregation. The society was formally organized in 1883 and has paid sick and death benefits of nearly \$29,000.

Nine members of the Luther League attended a retreat at Oregon, Wis., March 13-15. Transportation was furnished by Alice Klingberg and Harry Andersen.

**Baptisms** at Emmaus: Sandra Lee Nielsen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sigfried Nielsen, born September 8, 1952, was baptized February 15. Sponsors: Miss Mary Anders and Donald Nielsen.

Thomas Guy Christensen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Christensen, born January 19, 1953, was baptized March 8. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Soren Christensen.

**Funeral services** were held for Mrs. Soren Nelson, February 23. She was 82 years old at the time of her death.

**An Institute for Young People** on the general subject of Preparation for Life will be sponsored by the National Lutheran Council Churches and held at Atonement Lutheran Church. Two groups will receive instructions; the junior confirmands and not yet seniors in High School, and High School Seniors and unmarried persons. The dates: Every Monday evening from April 13 to May 11. Ask your pastor for more details.

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EMMAUS MESSENGER

**THE WORDS OF THE CROSS**

**FATHER, FORGIVE THEM; FOR THEY KNOW  
NOT WHAT THEY DO** Luke 23:34.

Jesus, in Thy dying woes,  
Even while Thy lifeblood flows,  
Craving pardon for Thy foes:  
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

**TODAY SHALT THOU BE WITH ME IN PARA-  
DISE.** Luke 23:43.

Jesus, pitying the sighs  
Of the thief who near Thee dies,  
Promising him Paradise:  
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

**WOMAN, BEHOLD THY SON! BEHOLD THY  
MOTHER!** John 19:26-27.

Jesus, loving to the end  
Her whose heart Thy sorrows rend,  
And Thy dearest human friend:  
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

**MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FOR-  
SAKEN ME?** Matt. 27:46.

Jesus, whelmed in fears unknown,  
With our evil left alone,  
While no light from heaven is shown:  
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

**I THIRST.** John 19:28.

Jesus, in Thy thirst and pain,  
While Thy wounds Thy lifeblood drain  
Thirsting more our love to gain:  
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

**IT IS FINISHED.** John 19:30.

Jesus, all our ransom paid,  
All Thy Father's will obeyed;  
By Thy sufferings perfect made:  
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

**FATHER, INTO THY HANDS I COMMEND MY  
SPIRIT.** Luke 23:46.

Jesus, all Thy labor vast,  
All Thy woe and conflict past;  
Yielding up Thy soul at last:  
Hear us, Holy Jesus.

—Author Unknown  
Author Unknown

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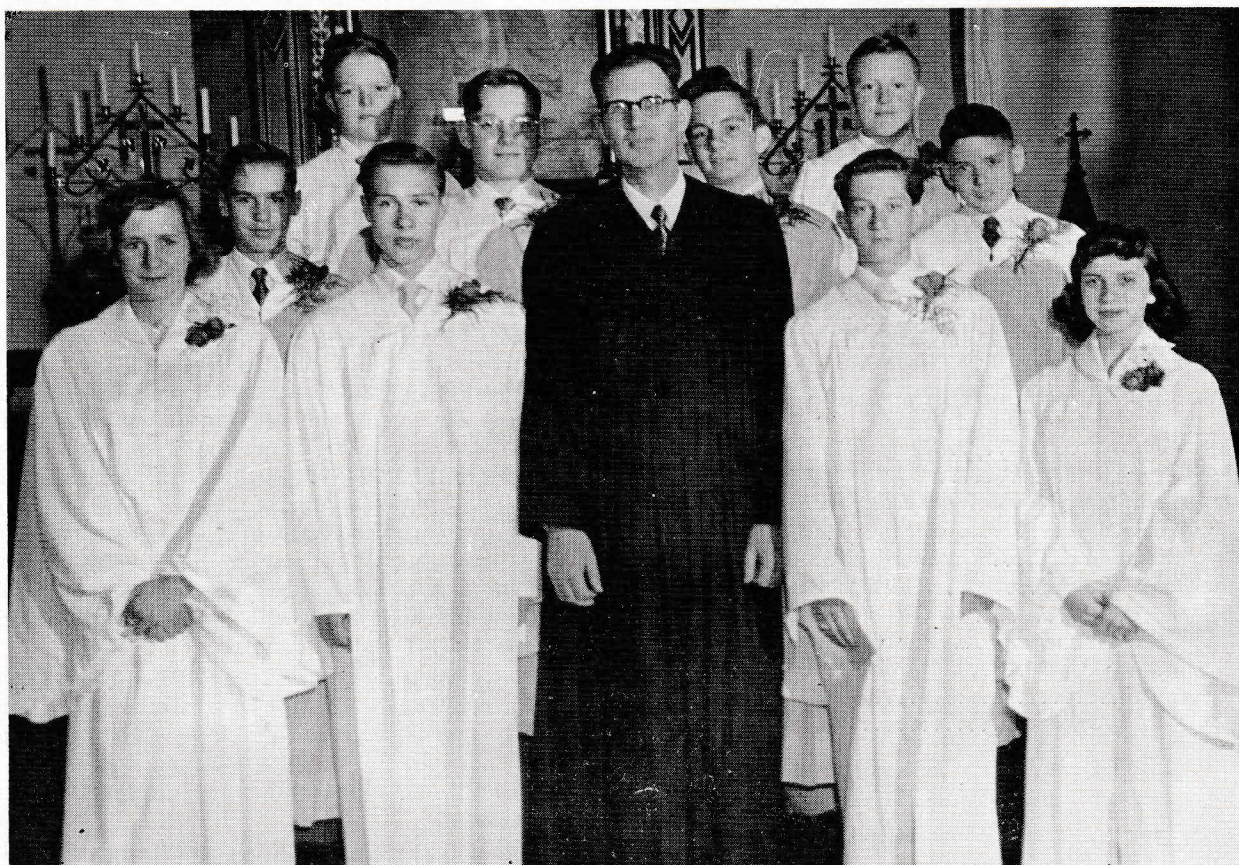
# Emmaus Messenger

From EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume VII

June, 1953

Number 5



## Confirmation Class - 1953

Front row: (left to right) Judith Meyer, Harley Hansen, Rev. Petersen, Dennis Andersen, Joanne Uebe

Back row: James Hansen, Charles Clausen, Daniel Finn, David Hansen, Donald Petersen, and James Bohn

DON'T NEGLECT  
YOUR CHURCH  
IN SUMMERTIME!

YOUR CHURCH  
COMES  
FIRST!

# Emmaus Messenger

Published Monthly by the

EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

1134 Mound Avenue

Racine, Wisconsin

SIGURD D. PETERSEN, Pastor

Phone: Dial 3-2896 1130 Mound Avenue

Publication Committee: Harry Andersen, Milton Burdick.

Editor: Pastor Sigurd D. Petersen

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Worship Service .....10:30 A.M.  
Luther League, every other Sunday.....6:30 P.M.

## OTHER MEETINGS

Church Choir ..... Each Thursday 7:45 P.M.  
Church Council ..... First Tuesday 8:00 P.M.  
Circle Meetings ... First Wednesday & First Thursday  
Mission Society ..... Second Tuesday 8:00 P.M.  
Danish Ladies Aid ..... Second Wednesday 2:00 P.M.  
Brotherhood ..... Third Tuesday 8:00 P.M.  
Ladies Aid ..... Third Wednesday 2:30 P.M.  
Sunday School Teachers ....Fourth Tuesday 8:00 P.M.  
Confirmation Classes ..... Saturday 9:00 & 10:00 A.M.  
Ushers Club ..... As announced  
Cradle Roll Workers ..... As announced

## THIS I BELIEVE

### A paper prepared by one of the confirmands.

God the Father is the creator of this world we live in. He created all that exists. The world was created by God's word. First, it was raw material and God, step by step, made the earth suitable for the higher forms of life. He created what we call the laws of nature, the law of heredity, the law of gravity, and all the other laws of the universe. After the earth was made a suitable place to live in, man was created.

Jesus Christ is true God and true man. Jesus came into this world to save man from sin. This was God's plan. It was revealed immediately after the fall of Adam and Eve. The people of the Old Testament were saved by faith in the Christ that was to come. The people of the New Testament are saved by faith in the Christ that has come. Christ came in "the fulness of the time," that is, the time when the preparatory work for His coming had been completed within Israel and when the conditions outside of Israel were ripe for the spreading of the gospel. There are four reasons why Jesus Christ is true God.

- I. God calls Him His beloved Son.
- II. Jesus Himself declares it.
- III. His life was sinless and holy. Christ was as different from sinful man as only God can be. He fulfilled God's will both in letter and in spirit.
- IV. The apostle states that Jesus Christ was declared to be the Son of God with power. . . . by the resurrection from the dead.

Jesus Christ was true man. He was born of a woman and grew and developed like any other child. "Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." He found it necessary to eat and sleep. He became tired and He suffered and died. He was a man such as God intended each of us to be.

Experience taught man the difference between body and spirit. Inside of man there was a power that he could neither see nor describe. It is called spirit. It is more powerful than his body for without the spirit the body is dead. To man, spirit, soul, and life came to mean practically the same. Life in all forms is created by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit also creates spiritual life, that is, trust in Jesus Christ and love and obedience to Him.

Pentecost Sunday is the birthday of the church. The Holy Christian Church is not built on any human foundation. Its foundation is Jesus Christ. The only members of the Christian Church are God's children. It is the Holy Spirit and not the vote of the congregation that inscribes a person on the records of God's church. He made me a member when I was baptized. He brought me into fellowship with Jesus Christ and added me to the Holy Christian Church.

The Holy Spirit does all His work in my soul, from first to last, through the Word and Sacraments. Apart from these means of grace there is no sanctification; as there is no call, no enlightening, no forgiveness of sins, no faith, no regeneration, no preservation, and no glorification.

The use of God's Word is necessary for my sanctification. I must use it in my home and I must attend the services where God's Word is preached. When confirmed, I should be a frequent guest at the Lord's Supper. To this must be added prayer. Unless I open my heart to God in prayer, the Holy Spirit cannot do His work in me.

## PARABLE OF THE VACATIONIST

Now it came to pass, as the summer drew nigh, that Mr. Church Member lifted up his eyes unto the hills and said, "Lo, the hot days cometh and even now are at hand. Come let us go unto the heights, where cool breezes refresh us and glorious scenes await."

"Thou speakest wisely," quoth Mrs. Church Member. "Yet, three, yea, four things, must we do before we go."

"Three things I can think of, but not four," responded Mr. Church Member. "We must arrange

for the flowers to be weeded, the chickens fed, and the mail forwarded, but the fourth eludes my mind."

"The fourth is like unto the first three, yet more important than all. Thou shalt dig down into thy purse and pay thy Church Pledge that the good name of the Church be preserved, and that it may be well with thee, for verily I say unto thee, thou hast more money now than thou wilt have when thou dost return."

And it came to pass that Mr. Church Member paid his pedge for the summer, and the treasurer rejoiced greatly, saying, "Of a truth, there are those who care for the Lord's work."

And it was so.

#### RESIST THAT IMPULSE!

When the weather is hot. . . .when the sun is shining and the birds are singing. . . .when every impulse seems to call you AWAY from your Church—then is the time to remember that you need SPIRITUAL refreshment just as badly as you need bodily refreshment.

You need the great spiritual benefits that you derive from attendance at church.

#### OUR PLEDGES FOR THE NEW CHURCH

As of June 1st, the subscription for the new church was \$63,821.00. The canvass for pledges is not complete at this writing. The results are gratifying. Payments on the pledges began May 31, a week earlier than was requested by the committee.

#### THE BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT, JUNE 7TH:

From Western Printing	\$ 20,000.00
From Mr. W. Wadewitz	30,000.00
Cash on Hand, May 30	5,956.37
Offering, May 31	1,381.25
Offering, June 7	1,281.70

Total \$ 58,519.32

The Finance Committee expresses its thanks to all our people for the fine response. It urges regular giving and requests that each contribution be clearly indicated in the third space on the offering envelope.

#### EMMAUS NOTES

**Baptisms:** Scott Leith Petersen, born April 25, 1952, baptized June 5, 1953. Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Everett Petersen. Sponsors: Columbine Rasmussen and Colleen Dixon.

Mark S. Schultz, born November 24, 1952, baptized June 7, 1953. Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Warren Schultz. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anthony.

Dawn Lynn Anthony, born, May 30, 1951, baptized June 7, 1953. Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anthony. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Warren Schultz.

Christine Kay Rohner, born, March 30, 1953, baptized June 11, 1953. Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Jacob

Rohner. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Albright and David Hasenbach.

Deborah Jo Bear, born, February 10, 1953, baptized June 14, 1953. Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bear. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Poulsen.

**Funerals:** Mrs. Lena Matsen was buried April 18; Peter C. Petersen, June 4; Clarence Johnson, June 4.

In her will Mrs. Lena Matsen designated the Emmaus

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Lutheran Church as one of her beneficiaries. The gift is \$500.00.

The Sunday School children have received church banks for their convenience to help raise funds for our new church. The Sunday School superintendent suggested to the children that they try to earn some money to put in the banks.

Our daily Vacation Bible School begins August 3rd and will be in session two weeks. The Annual Church Picnic, on August 16, will climax this summer activity of our church. The picnic will be at Old Settlers' Park, Union Grove.

The women of the church enjoyed an evening of fellowship June 3. The party was sponsored by the circles.

Our young people were the guests of Our Savior's Luther League June 3.

A number of our young people have graduated from High School this month. Congratulations!

The Girl Scout Troop which was organized after Christmas, has been meeting each Saturday afternoon. This spring when they had "Fly Up" they gave a program and party for their mothers. The girls are: Jean Stone, Carolyn Lund, Joyce Andersen, JoAnn Petersen, Verla Mae Petersen, Farrell Norwick, Barbara Wolter, Virginia Hansen, and Maeanne Andersen. Mrs. Mark Petersen and Mrs. Elmo Andersen are the leaders. We would like to start a troop of brownies next fall. Girls 7 to 9 are eligible to join brownies.

**Two Sons of Emmaus Ordained.**

Edward Andersen, son of Pastor E. R. Andersen, was ordained May 24. He will be pastor at the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church at Orinda, California.

George Demant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Demant, will be ordained at Atlantic, Iowa, June 21. He will serve the Shennington-Warren parish of our Wisconsin District.



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# Emmaus Messenger

From EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume VII

July, 1953

Number 6

## Active in Church

CONCERNING ACTIVE PART IN THE CHURCH, it should be the normal practice of every member to join heartily and prayerfully in the regular worship on the Lord's Day. Our believing fathers and their children were greatly blest through faithful church attendance. May we, indeed, be true followers of them! The Lord is not unmindful of certain men of industrial labor and professions who are hindered from regular church attendance, and if they are honest with Him He will grant them special grace for their life and tasks. Nor must any church demand attendance in a legalistic fashion. It is when a person feels his inner spiritual need of the worship hour with God's people, as well as a desire to honor and worship God, that he will want to come to church whenever possible. And if such inner desire is missing it is time to examine oneself in deep earnest. Moreover, to be an active church member includes an earnest and prayerful desire to live a daily life to the honor of our Savior who gave Himself for our salvation. A true Christian will daily confess his shortcomings to God, and thus receive forgiveness and strength unto spiritual growth and victory, and will pray for grace to win others for Christ.

—Selected.

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CHRISTIAN STEWARD-

SHIP MEANS

RIGHT USE OF MEANS

# Emmaus Messenger

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SIGURD D. PETERSEN, Pastor

Phone: Dial 3-2896 1130 Mound Avenue

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Editor: Pastor Sigurd D. Petersen

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Ushers Club ..... As announced  
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## THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

It was my privilege to attend our synodical convention at Atlantic, Iowa last week. With some impressions and reflections fairly fresh in my mind, I feel the urge to share such with you.

The significance of a local congregation's affiliation with a synodical church body has at least two aspects: 1. The local church thereby becomes the recipient of services rendered by the larger group which it cannot perform for itself, such as the training and ordination of pastors, higher Christian education, Christian literature including material for the parish school. 2. The synod offers the local church the opportunity of participating in essential church work on the larger scene which is necessary for its own existence and the total Christian impact on the world about us. This aspect of synodical importance is evident in home mission, foreign mission, charities, Christian higher education, and inter-synodical co-operation.

Those of us who have followed the establishment of new congregations several places will readily appreciate the importance of this joint effort of our synodical

home mission. The 10,000 congregations of the National Lutheran Council, of which we are one, are exerting an ever growing influence, the whole scope of which is too large to describe here. Through this agency of the Lutheran Church we are bearing a most significant witness in this generation throughout the world.

The various Synodical boards give their reports and present resolutions at the convention. Perhaps the board that comes closest to church work on the congregational level is the Board of Parish Education. This year it touched on something very vital. We quote from its report:

We are doing very little in the field of adult instruction in our synod. In comparing attendance at Adult Bible Classes with that of other Lutheran bodies, we find ours is very much below. In searching for a reason for this, we are certain this is due to our lack of stressing the importance of adult Christian education in our synod. We find that our larger sister Lutheran bodies have much stronger adult departments in their church schools. When this condition was brought to the attention of the board, it was decided that the following resolution be brought to the attention of our convention:

"Be it resolved that the importance of adult instruction receive renewed emphasis in our synod and that church school rallies and institutes give special attention to the why and how of Bible class instruction and interest the adult membership of our congregations in attending such classes."

The resolution was, of course, adopted. All this is of direct interest to us as a congregation for that has been one of our main emphases in connection with our own Family Service.

The Board of Parish Education requested of the convention that it recommend a new Sunday School curriculum. This it did. It is known as the "American Uniform Sunday Church School Series." That which is particularly new about this series is the Parent's Manual. "With the aid of this scrupulously prepared manual the Christian parent will finally be given the material with which to fulfil his God-appointed obligation to direct the spiritual nurture of his child in the home. This manual is meant as a study guide for parents in a parent's class on Sunday."

The description of this Sunday School system left me enthusiastic. Here was something that emphasized the family unit, giving the family suggestions for home study together, for "living the lesson" and, for daily devotions. It brings the whole family as a unit into the life and functions of the church. The principle involved parallels and supplements what we are trying to do in our Family Church and School.

Of this I am convinced: If we are willing to follow the guidance of our church and give our time and energy, we shall experience rich blessings from God in terms of happier and more successful living.

## REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE

The drawing of the plans for the new church are in the final stages. On the evening of August the 9th

colored slides of both the inside and the outside of the church will be shown to the congregation for approval. Then three or four months will be needed to complete the working drawings preparatory to the letting of bids to contractors.

The architecture of the new church has definite modern designs with a touch of the old colonial church retained. Your committee feels it is in line with the general sentiment of our people, that it has distinction and beauty, and that it retains something very churchly.

#### REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

To date slightly over \$65,000 has been pledged toward the new church. The last five Sundays brought through the offerings \$4,491.90 as payments on these pledges. Present assets, including sale of church and cash on hand, total \$60,448.72. Sometime in the near future a more complete report will be given. In the meantime we may expect an average weekly income of \$450 to \$500. We urge our people to be regular in their weekly giving through their offering envelopes.

#### MEMORIAL GIFTS

Gifts in memory of some dear one will be gratefully accepted for the new church. If you have in mind to give such loving remembrances, consult the Building Committee or your pastor. You may wish to supply some furnishings for the church or give directly to the building fund. Every memorial gift will be so designated in a proper manner.

Have you thought of including your church as a beneficiary in your will? It is a very worthy way in which to put your material substance to work for God's kingdom long after your days of labor are done.

#### EMMAUS NOTES

**Baptism:** Linda Marie Nielsen, daughter of Julius Erik and Ella Nielsen, born April 1, 1953, was baptized June 28. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Hans Christiansen.

**August 3-14:** Daily Vacation Bible School. The teachers are Mrs. Al Beck, Mrs. Harold Quirk, Mrs. Glenn Monefeldt, Mrs. Mark Petersen, and Mrs. Milton Schultz. Children beyond walking distance will receive transportation. Kindly let us know if your child will need transportation.

The Annual Picnic will be at Old Settlers' Park at Union Grove, August 16th.

When ordering your Christmas cards, gift wrapping and ribbon, kindly remember Circle No. 4. They can furnish you with any type card you would like, also personalized cards, stationery, notes, napkins, and wedding announcements. You may see these supplies at the parsonage, or any member of the circle will be glad to serve you. Mrs. Mark Petersen is the leader of this circle.

Circle No. 6 has a nice line of plastic articles, dish cloths, scouring pads, and miscellaneous articles. See Mrs. Harold Quirk, their leader, if you are interested in any of these things for your personal use or for gifts.

The pastor and his family are vacationing at Land o' Lakes, Wisconsin, July 6-19. Any communication can reach him by mail by addressing such to Mrs. Laura (Emil) Petersen, or by calling 2166, Land o' Lakes.

Gerald Martin is serving with the Army in Korea.

**Hospitalized this month:** Laurier Durand, Mrs. Chris Sorensen, Mrs. Roy Steward, and Adolf Hansen.

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**Our Adult Bible Class:** It meets a recognized need. It is a going concern. It lends itself to discussion of a variety of subjects. It is for all adults of our church. If you desire to attend the second service, you can attend the Bible Class by coming to church 9:45 A.M. at the close of the worship part of our first service.

**"SIXTEEN TIMES TO SEND FOR A PASTOR"**

1. When a loved one is seriously ill and facing death.
2. When a relative continues to be despondent following the death of a loved one.
3. When you are facing a surgical operation.
4. When you are facing adjustment to a physical handicap.
5. When you are going through a long convalescence.
6. Following the birth of a baby.
7. When you desire to join the church.
8. When you have begun to worry about excessive drinking.
9. When a loved one is drinking excessively.
10. When you are having difficulty in your marriage.
11. When you are choosing a life work and feel uncertain about your choice.
12. When you are choosing a life mate and have doubts about your choice.
13. When as a parent you are concerned about either of the above decisions for your son or daughter.
14. When you are discouraged and life has lost its meaning.
15. When a loved one has become despondent for no obvious reason.
16. When the behavior of a loved one shows marked and rapid change, whether it is toward excessive misbehavior or excessive interest in religion; both are indications of serious personality disturbances.

—The above article is from Religion and Health magazine through the courtesy of Nebraska Lutheran Social Service.

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# Emmaus Messenger

From EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume VII

Racine, Wisconsin, September, 1953

Number 7

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## This Is Our Sunday Morning Program

Now as school begins and we in our church put forth a new and concerted effort to make our work more effective and truly of service to our people, it may be well to outline our program. Most of you are well acquainted with the fact that we have two worship services on Sunday morning but for those who do not understand or have been misinformed these facts are stated.

At 9:00 a.m. we have a service planned to meet the needs of families with children. The first forty-minute period is a worship service for the whole family and takes the place of the opening exercise at Sunday School. After this worship period a class session follows for another thirty minutes in which the children are instructed in their lessons and the parents and young people go to their adult classes.

The greatest function of church is to bring its people together for the worship of God. The church worships God. There is no greater lesson for a child to learn than the worship of God with the congregation. And there

is no greater influence for good in family life than the Sunday morning trip to church by the whole family. The failure to meet the worship needs of the family is tragic.

The Bible Class for all adults attending the first service is meeting a recognized need within the church. It is just the thing which our Synod in convention this summer voted to promote. All adults at the first service are urged to stay lest they make our program ineffective.

The service at 10:30 a.m. is the regular worship service of any congregation. Perhaps, as a general practice, those of our people who have no children of school age and who are not interested in the adult class, will be most satisfied with this full complete service. That is for the individual to decide. What we ask is that we all try to understand our church's program, and then each one help to make it a success by faithful participation and prayer. God can work miracles with a group of people devoted to Him and their church.

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# Emmaus Messenger

Published Monthly by the

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1134 Mound Avenue

Racine, Wisconsin

SIGURD D. PETERSEN, Pastor

Phone: Dial 3-2896 1130 Mound Avenue

Publication Committee: Harry Andersen, Milton Burdick.

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## THE CHURCH HUMBLY SUBMITS

One of the cardinal virtues that always appeals to us is modesty. It is a saving quality in a Christian, but sometimes it almost renders us speechless about the great things we have found in our Christian faith. There is, however, a way of saying, as Paul did to a king, "I wish that you were as I am," when we remember to add, as he did, "except for my limitations." Our invitation to people to come to Christ and His church must always be "Let us together try to go where Jesus leads," not "Come up where I am."

The Church humbly submits to every man the truth of its message as revealed in the Gospel. The message calmly asserts that God has intentions with human life which are experienced in fellowship with Him, that there are fixed religious and moral principles by which man can make his all-important choices in life, and that, when we are tempted, there are clear teachings revealing the mind of a living Lord.

The Church humbly agrees with the man who said, "Christian people are amazingly tough. A wonder

which church life constantly reveals is the way in which the members can come through terrific disasters, not crushed, but smiling and triumphant." It confidently proclaims that Jesus Christ really saves the "lost"—those lost in their sin, weaknesses, confusion, and hopelessness. It points with joy to the record of its homes. Whereas one-fifth of all marriages end in divorce, one-fiftieth of the couples which have an active church connection are separated.

The Church knows it can help men face death and relate that inevitable experience to life. Though conscious of its many failings the Church knows itself to be God's appointed means for giving blessings which every life needs and that when we worship with others, God does something miraculous in us. It knows what men need for that need has been met in its own members. "Amid all the stifling pressure of material cares, men need the Church's reminders of God. They need the habit of church attendance as a dependable framework for existence. They need the physical act of walking into the doors to reimpress on their minds the reality of spiritual things. Men need the Church's teachings and its promptings to virtue and duty. They need the opportunities for service to God and to men which it affords. In a world where bewildered people are groping for a faith, Christians need their church membership as a way of letting their neighbors know what they have found." —George E. Sweazy.

## EMMAUS NOTES

Daily Vacation Bible School was held the first two weeks in August with a total enrollment of 97 pupils, of which 60 had perfect attendance. The teachers were Mrs. Al. Beck, Mrs. Glenn Monefeldt, Mrs. Mark Petersen, Mrs. Milton Schultz, and Mrs. Harold Quirk. Harry Andersen, George Grabher, Joan Lund, Mrs. Finn, Mrs. Wisby, and Pastor Petersen helped with transportation. The school ended with a trip out to the new church site on Yout and Summit. The children roamed around on the spacious lots for half an hour. Then all joined hands and outlined the shape of the new church. This little performance was not only prophetic in anticipating the new church, but it was also symbolic of the fact that these children and the homes they represent are the church—the living stones, as Scripture declares. Movies were taken of this our first "meeting" on the new site.

The Annual Picnic at Old Settlers' Park August 16

**FAMILIES IN CHURCH**

**MAKE**

**A GOOD CHURCH**

was well attended. We had a very beautiful and enjoyable day and a fine fellowship.

Confirmation Instruction will begin September 26. Children entering eighth grade—or of that age group—should attend the classes. Seniors meet at 9:00 a.m. Juniors (beginners) at 10:00 a.m.

**Baptisms:** Julie Rae Psiones, daughter of John and Shirley Psiones, born June 9, 1953, was baptized July 26. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Warren Scheel.

Gary Alan Kasprovich, son of Harold and Elaine Kasprovich, born July 3, 1953, was baptized August 23. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Roman Kasprovich.

**Weddings:** John L. Anderson and Joann J. Johnson, August 22.

Frank J. Dostalík and Leone Derwae, August 22.

**Funerals:** Maurice S. Makholm, age 62, August 3.  
George H. Hansen, age 49, August 7.  
Raymond Jorgensen, age 38, August 21.

#### RALLY DAY—SEPTEMBER 13

This year the Sunday School staff is sending the Rally Day Cards to the parents inviting them to bring their children on the annual Rally Day which comes every year the Sunday after the Public Schools open. Every teacher is fully aware of the importance of the parents' cooperation in religious training of their children. On this day the children are asked to bring their church banks with their contribution to the new church.

#### OUR NEW CHURCH

At the August 9th congregational meeting the architect's preliminary drawings of our new church were approved and he and the building committee were authorized to continue with the working plans preparatory to receiving bids by contractors. It is hoped that in the near future every home will be furnished with a picture of the drawings.

As of this date our total financial assets, including sale of property, cash on hand, and pledges are \$122,325.48. The building committee hopes to keep the cost of the church within the \$200,000 mark. If we all keep our pledges paid up, it should be possible to begin building next spring.

**YOUR PAID PLEDGES  
ARE  
ACCUMULATING ASSETS**

#### MAN DOESN'T LIVE BY BREAD ALONE

Man does not live by bread alone, but by beauty and harmony, truth and goodness, work and recreation, affection and friendship, aspiration and worship.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the splendor of the starry firmament at midnight, the glory of the heavens at dawn, the glorious blending of colors at

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EMMAUS MESSENGER

sunset, the luxuriant loveliness of magnolia trees, the sheer magnificence of mountains.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the majesty of ocean breakers, the shimmer of moonlight on a calm lake, the flashing silver of a mountain torrent, the exquisite patterns of snow crystals, the exalted creations of master artists.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the sweet song of a mocking bird, the rustle of the wind in the trees, the magic of the maestro's violin, the grandeur of Handel's Messiah, the sublimity of a softly-lighted cathedral.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the fragrance of roses, the scent of orange blossoms, the smell of new mown hay, the clasp of a friend's hand, the tenderness of a mother's kiss.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by the lyrics and sonnets of poets, the mature wisdom of sages, the holiness of saints, the biographies of great souls, the life-giving word of the Holy Scripture.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by comradeship and high adventure, seeking and finding, creating and cooperating, serving and sharing, loving and being loved.

Man does not live by bread alone, but by being faithful in prayer, responding to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, taking up the cross and following the living Christ, finding and doing the loving will of God now and eternally.

—Mitch Sutherland  
(From UPC Bulletin)

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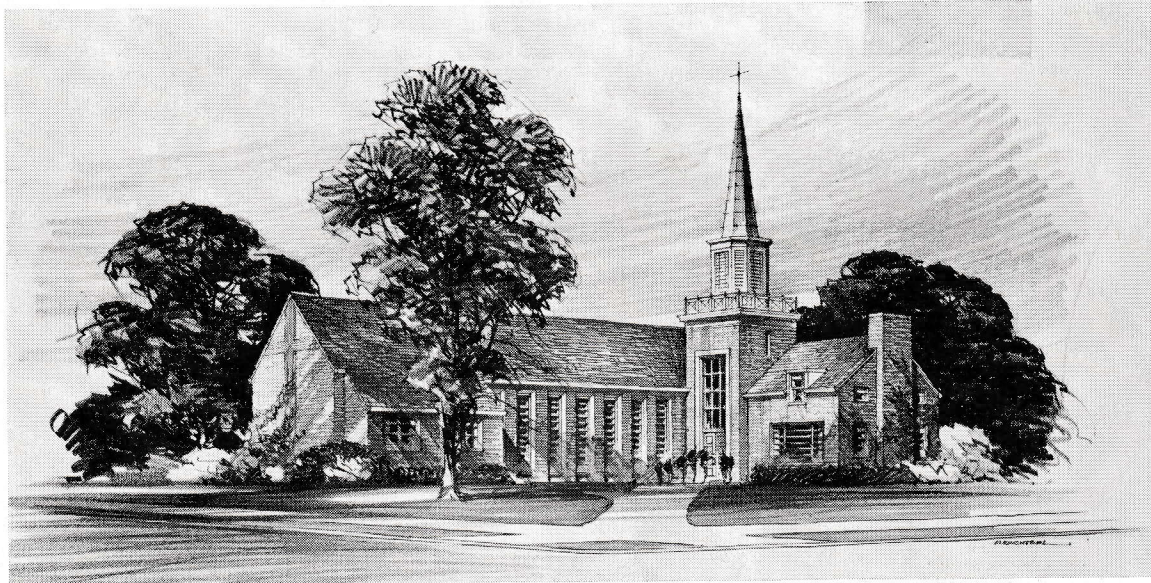
# Emmaus Messenger

From EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume VII

Racine, Wisconsin, October, 1953

Number 8



## Our New Church

This picture is the architect's drawing of our new church to be built on Yout St. and Summit Ave. It is suggestive of the Old Colonial architecture but is greatly simplified by the use of contemporary lines. The over-all size of the main part of the church is 108 feet 6 inches by 36 feet 8 inches, outside measure. The parish unit, including the tower, is 40 feet x 28 feet. The church will seat 280 in the nave, 29 in the choir transept, 51 in the balcony, and has an overflow capacity of 151, making an over-all seating possibility of 511 people.

It will facilitate such extra rooms as a sacristy, working sacristy, narthex (or hall), wardrobe, mother's room, church office, church parlor, utility room, kitchen, large assembly room, and from 8 to 12 class rooms depending on how the available space is divided.

The intention is to use crab-orchard stone for the masonry. The general structure of the church has been approved by the congregation. The building committee,

sensing a desire on the part of the congregation, has decided to add 18 inches to the width of the original plans. This will make our new church a trifle wider and considerably longer than our present church.

The general agreement on the plans of the new church has been remarkably cordial. What differences there are in desire and likes have been unselfishly subordinated to the over-all wishes of the congregation. It is a most commendable spirit.

The building committee and the architect are now working with the thought of beginning building in the Spring of 1954—next Spring. That is only six months hence. Let us make one great united effort to make this possible. These are the months in which a little extra effort in our giving will mean very much. And let us not cease praying for God's continuous blessing. Prayer always lightens our burdens, and we retain a sense of working with God.

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## SPIRIT-RICH BUT MONEY-POOR

by Hoover T. Grimsby,

Pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church, Milwaukee

"Soft-pedal the money question. Just preach the Gospel. We want a spiritual minister here." Such was the advice given to a young pastor who recently came to his first parish. This advice I am sure, whether given audibly or inaudibly, is extensively present within the Christian Church today. No wonder the church of Jesus Christ is Spirit-Rich but Money-Poor.

How we need to hear the pointed words of the Master of Men as He spoke unhesitatingly about the subject of a man and his money! Money, according to the Master of Men, is a symbol of life. It is congealed sweat and toil. When one receives his check at the end of the week or the month, it represents his life and personality. The choice then presents itself of investing this stored up personality as a steward or of withholding it for oneself. The real proof of one's acceptance of the Lordship of Christ is the recognition of His sovereignty in

the realm of all possessions. No Christian can therefore by-pass the money question.

### Need for Self-Examination

During the past Lenten season at Ascension, a self-examination questionnaire was placed in the hands of each of our 3400 communicant members. The questionnaire contained inquiries necessary to point up one's relationship with his Lord and to make an evaluation as to his faithfulness and loyalty. Most of the questions dealt with the subject of Christian faith. One question dealing with financial stewardship was divided into three parts and had some extremely interesting and pertinent conclusions. In one phase of this question, 94% of the replies stated that the member was aware of his accountability to God for the manner in which his money was spent. The second phase of the question asked, "What percentage of your income do you give to God?" The surprising result—only 50% of the people answered this question. The reason for their failure to answer is reflected in the result of the final phase of this question—"Is your gift sufficient?" Approximately two-thirds answered "NO" to this question. Since the people realize that they are NOT sharing their possessions as they should with the Lord and His Kingdom, there is a definite problem of motivating these members toward a living stewardship.

It is interesting to note that neither Christ nor Paul, who spoke to us so dramatically concerning the importance of our gifts, ever made the appeal on the basis of fear, duty, or obligation. The emphasis rested rather on a radical GRATITUDE on the part of the individual Christian resulting from a RESPONSIVE LOVE.

### Stewardship Is a Privilege

God's grace, which is the unmerited goodness of God to men, lies at the base of everything which is known as Christian Stewardship. Christianity therefore, is built on giving. "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." Christ gave Himself as a sacrifice for the sin of the world—without which giving there could be no Christians today. Christianity then is a gift that cannot be earned. It can only be accepted through faith in Christ who gave His life for man. And Jesus Christ, in His final command and injunction to His followers, stated: "Freely ye have received, therefore freely give." Freely in self—freely in substance.

William R. Harper, the dynamic first President of the University of Chicago, was once introduced to a group as the greatest beggar in the world. He replied thoughtfully, "I have never begged a dollar in my life—but I have given a lot of people great opportunities for usefulness."

If stewardship is one of the great and necessary expressions of a man's relationship to Jesus Christ, then let us be about our duty of giving great opportunities for usefulness. In this endeavor, let us make use of every means of assistance at our disposal. Let us set ourselves to the task of making God's Will supreme

in all the relationships of life. Let us have the imagination to see that the redemption of the world lies in the collection plate. Let us put into the hands of Christ the machinery through which His spirit of salvation can be brought to human beings. Let us witness to the great injunction of the Lord of the Church: "Freely ye have received, therefore freely give."

#### HOME VISITATION

There is nothing any person desires more than to know he or she is wanted and appreciated. The church, above all, should make its people feel wanted. Now that the drive for pledges to the new church is completed, it seems a good time to keep the majority of the men active on the pledge teams organized in a group for home visitation, adding to this group their wives, when possible, and others willing to give some time to the church. The group will meet the first Sunday of each month at 2:30 P.M. for instruction. Each couple will be asked to visit two homes a month.

L. W. A.

A year rushes by rapidly. It is again time to fill our envelopes for Lutheran World Action. Literature and offering envelopes will be sent to each home. Don't overlook it!

#### SYNODICAL MISSIONS

We are all conscious of the fact that the building of a new church places extra demands on our generosity. In spite of this, however, it is difficult to see how we can curtail on our regular obligations to local and synodical work. Our church depends on us to take our part with other congregations. Our quota to the synodical budget is \$3610.

In thinking of this one is reminded of Mr. Everette Mitchell's remark made at the Lutheran Men of Racine meeting, while he was talking about Finland and her spending of one-third of her income to feed refugees, he said, "Think of this when we are inclined to feel our churches are asking too often and too much."

#### EMMAUS NOTES

**Wedding:** Joseph J. Kubes and Patricia E. Meyer were married Sept. 5.

**Funeral:** Adolph H. Hanson, age 78, Sept. 24.

**Rummage Sale:** All the circles are sponsoring a rummage sale the first of October at the Playdium. The proceeds will go to the Building Fund.

**Circle No. 2:** All Emmaus members and friends are invited to Miss Ragna Lenestrand's home, 2044 Kinzie Ave., Sunday afternoon, October 4th, from 2 to 7 o'clock,

for coffee and cake. Gordon Petersen will have merchandise from Denmark for sale. The profits will go to the Building Fund.

**Circle No. 4:** When you need greeting cards, stationery, notes, and gift wrappings, Circle No. 4 will be happy to serve you. They have a very nice line of Christmas supplies. See them at the parsonage or speak to one of the circle members.

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**EMMAUS MESSENGER**

**Circle No. 6:** This circle will have a Hobby Show Thursday, Oct. 15, afternoon and evening. Any lady in our church who would like to display a hobby, please call Mrs. John Lange (2-7517) or Mrs. Harold Quirk (4-7938). Cake and coffee will be served in the afternoon and a light supper in the evening.—Remember Circle No. 6 has plastics and gift articles for sale.

**The Fall Festival** sponsored by the ladies of the church will be held Wed., December 2.

**Circle No. 4** served a supper in honor of the Ball Team Sept. 16.

**The Ladies' Aid** has candy for sale. Mrs. Milton Burdick is in charge.

**THE DISTRICT CONVENTION**

Three delegates from Emmaus attended the Wisconsin District Convention at Oregon, Sept. 17-20. They were Mr. Harry Andersen and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Scheel.

Our District consists of 23 congregations which are served by 18 pastors. Of these congregations six receive financial aid from the District—Shennington, Brooklyn, Clinton, Pewaukee, Milwaukee, and Washington Island. The work in these parishes and their requests for aid are reviewed annually.

The District will sponsor two Bible Camps next year—a Children's Camp and a Youth's Camp. It took action to organize a Bethany Home Association which will seek to obtain ownership of the Bethany Children's Home, not now being used, from the Synod and to establish a convalescent home for the aged.

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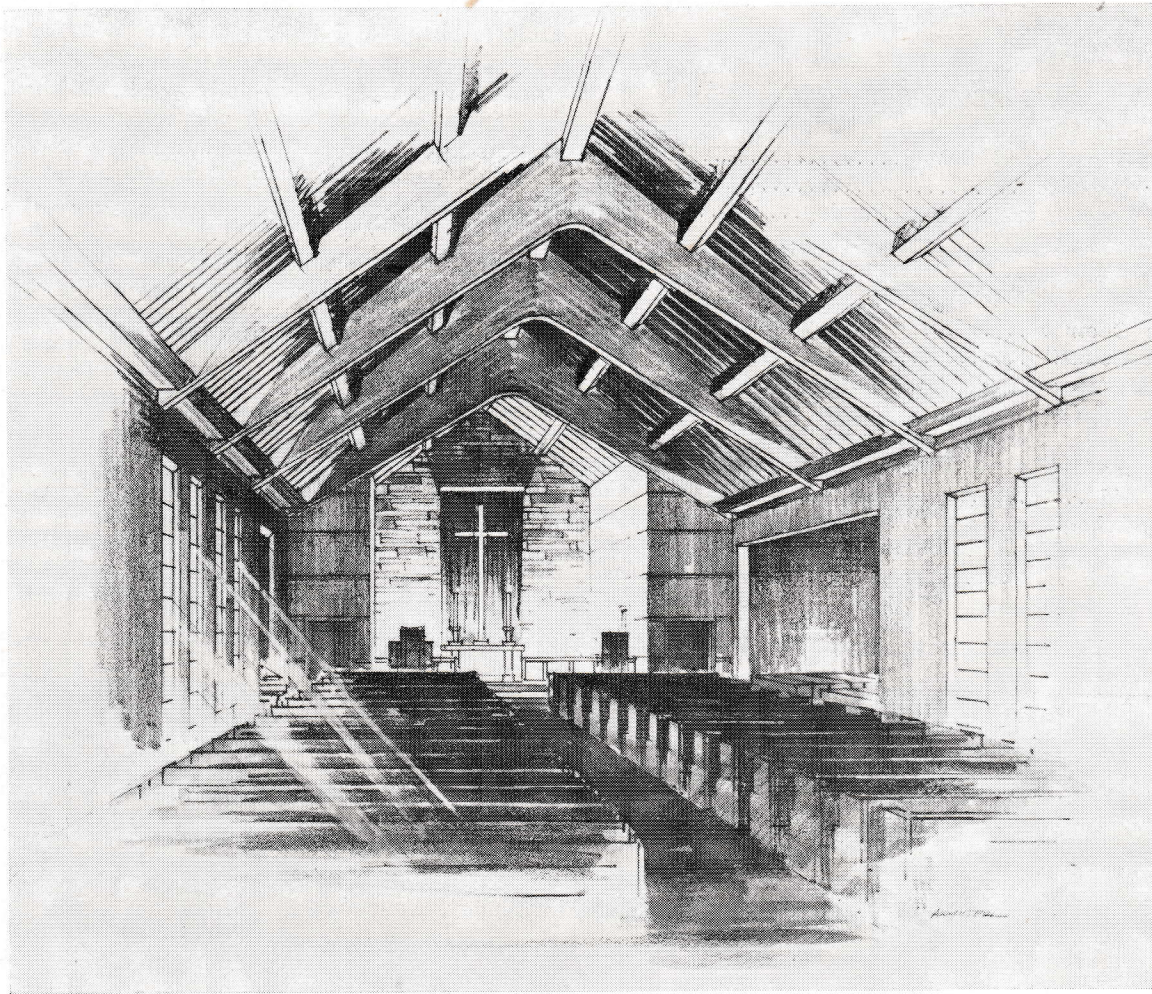
From EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume VII

Racine, Wisconsin, November, 1953

Number 9

## Interior View of Our New Church



### The Interior of Our New Church

Although it is difficult to get a true perspective of our church from this drawing, it gives us an idea of how the interior will be. The back of the chancel will be masonry. The altar, too, will be of stone. Above the altar will hang a large dossal drape and cross. The side of the chancel will be wood paneling. The ceiling will be light stained wood with wood-covered steel beams. The side walls of the church itself will be plastered. These are the general features. Some of the details are subject to change.

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Cradle Roll Workers ..... As announced

## A THANKSGIVING MEDITATION

"The earth is the Lord's.' Once that truth is understood our perspective changes. Our attention is drawn from the created to the Creator. He who made all things good is Himself good and altogether adorable. The more we adore God the less will we be trapped by material things. The soul starves on mere possessions. It thrives on gratitude to God. In the recognition of the things of this world, with its beauty and strength, as of God, lies the possibility of a true enjoyment of God's creation.

"This world is God's long table and we are His temporary guests. Our visit at this table is a very short one, but if it is a reverent visit and if we truly love the host, He will invite us eternally from this temporal table to His great Living Room, the Heavenly Home.

"The Seventh Commandment should help us to become more and more gracious guests. It should nurture inner attitudes which will make us increasingly Host-conscious and Gift-conscious throughout our stay. It should teach us how to graciously accept the privileges and meet the responsibilities which these privileges involve.

"There are some things which good guests do not do. They don't find fault with the plans of the host. They don't carve their initials into the furniture. They don't manhandle the property. They don't refuse to pass things as they sit with other guests. They don't fail to say 'please' and 'thank you.' And they don't try to take things with them as they prepare to leave.

"Likewise, there are some things which Christians will not do in their relation to the furnishings of God's world. They remember that godliness with contentment is great gain. They do not arrogantly and profanely mouth the word, 'mine.' They say it humbly if at all, and always with a prayer. They do not need-



Rev. H. Inadomi

## DR. AND MRS. H. INADOMI

These friends from Japan will be guests of our Racine churches Sunday, November 29. Mrs. H. Inadomi will speak at our Family Service, 9:00 A.M. and at an afternoon meeting at Our Savior's. Dr. Inadomi will speak at the morning service at Immanuel and again at an evening service at Gethsemane. We are invited to these services.



Mrs. H. Inadomi

lessly destroy. They are not careless wasters or selfish spenders. They do not refuse to share. They are not misers. They are not demanding and ungrateful."

### THANKSGIVING CLOTHING DRIVE

Now is the time to bring your used clothing for Lutheran World Relief. There is still much need for clothing in Korea, West Germany, and the Holy Land: suits, overcoats, underwear, blankets, shoes, rubbers, layettes. Don't forget the children. Bring your clothing to the church by Thanksgiving Day. Many of these people are not Lutheran. This is a Christ-motivated love-action. They are naked—and we're giving them clothing in Jesus' Name. Racine and Kenosha must fill a freight car.

### EMMAUS NOTES

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Emma Keykal October 3 and for Andrew W. Wendt October 21.

Every-Member Pledge Sunday has been set by the Church Council for November 15. Please come to church that Sunday and make your pledge toward the financial support of your church. When we do our duty to our church gladly and willingly a fine spirit permeates all and we ourselves are blessed.

Thanksgiving Day—November 26. A worship service of gratitude to God for another Harvest will be held at 10:00 a.m. Whatever we may do on this day will be quite meaningless without a true thanksgiving to God.

The Wisconsin Luther League Convention will be at Denmark, Wisconsin, November 5—7. Some of our young people are planning to go.

Our Service Men—Jim Woodward and John Martin have recently joined the armed services of our nation. If the parents of our service men will kindly give the pastor their boys' addresses, they will be published in the next issue of the Messenger.

Memorial gifts to the Building Fund:

- \$10.00 In Memory of Mrs. Emma Keykal, by the Evening Sewing Club.
- 5.00 In Memory of Pastor Petersen's Mother, by Circle No. 4.
- 1.00 In Memory of Pastor Petersen's Mother, by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Steffensen, Clinton, Wis.

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MAKES FOR  
A HAPPY MONDAY**

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**MY CHURCH**

Deep in my heart I know that the Church is of God. That in spite of human frailties she has brought blessings untold to all generations, including my own. That she has made my community and my country a better place in which to live, to work, to establish a home, and to rear my children. That I would not want to live or die in a land where no church spires point its people heavenward.

I also know that the Church continues to live triumphantly even when men and nations reject her by indifference or open hostility.

In this knowledge I gladly give myself to my Church and offer her my loyal support by intelligent membership, regular attendance, generous giving, ardent prayer, and devoted service.

THE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU!

**FALL FESTIVAL**

November 19

Sponsored by Women of Emmaus

- |                  |                |
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