

#1

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MARCH, 1928

BETHEL COMPANION

VOL. XXVIII. ROCK ISLAND, ILL., AND CHICAGO, ILL.

No. 3



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Getsemane.

Hur nämns det pinorum, där Jesus
vakat
i stjärnlös natt allena med sin Gud
och vredens bittra kalk till dräggen
smakat,
en himmelsk hjälte uti hjärtats skrud,
där, liksom månen höljd av molnens
dimma,
hans själ förmörkades i kvalets tim-
mar,
Belastad med all världens skuld och
ve?

Getsemane.

Hur nämns den valplats, där hans
kärlek stridit,
och där han, lydig intill döden,
sträckt
sin hand mot snaran, som hans bödlar
vridit,
och milt till Judaskyssen kinden
räckt.
Dit man gått ut med svärd och facklor
många
en värnlös man, ett menlöst lamm att
fånga,
så fläckfritt som den snö vi falla se?

Getsemane.

Hur nämns det vilorum, där I, som
liden
och fångat sökt uti den vida värld
er själaro, den ljuva himlafriden,
en fristad funnen och en vänlig härd,
där äntligen på ängar, evigt gröna,
msusad av olivelundar sköna
min själ likt jagad hind sig trygg
kan se?

Getsemane?

Hur nämns det rum, den böneskola
höga,
där, fastän hjärtat rycks av synd och
sorg,
jag lyfta får med barnslig tro mitt
öga
till nådastolen uti himlens borg;
där Herrens ängel uppå vita vingar
med nådens kalk från himlen ned sig
svingar
att tröst och mod åt kvalda hjärtat
ge?

Getsemane.

Hur nämns den sköna förgård till det
eden,
som genom Adams fall förlorat var,
men som på nytt, se'n efter striden
freden
blev vunnen, för de fromma öppnats
har?
Ej står en ängel där med svärd, som
brinner.
Din Frälsare du blott vid porten fin-
ner.
"Gå ej förbi", så hörs han vänligt be-
"Getsemane!"

Getsemane, till dina svala lunder
jag vandra vill på vallfärd alla dar.
Getsemane, i smärtans bittra stunder
giv mig den frid, som världen icke
har!
När hon en gång kommer, min sista
timma,
din helga bild skall i mitt inre glim-
ma,
och lugnt skall döden jag i ögat se—
Getsemane.

K. GEROK.



BETHEL COMPANION

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Mr. Gilbert C. Bengtson, Editor.

Mr. J. A. Walgren, Mgr., 6200 Peoria St.

Sw. Ev. Luth. Bethel Church

Cor. 62nd and Peoria Streets.

During the vacancy members and friends may make their requests known to the acting pastor, Gilbert C. Bengtson, 6206 Peoria St. Tel. Res. Wentworth 2173, office Wentworth 5591 or to the vice pastor, Dr. H. E. Sandstedt, 5755 S. Wells St. Tel. Normal 2150.

De tre kors.

"Och då de kommo till det ställe, som kallas huvudskalleplatsen, där korsfäste de honom och missgärningsmännen, den ene på den högra sidan, den andre på den vänstra". Luk. 23: 33.

De tre personer, som skola avrättas, äro redan där. Somliga av åskådarna smäda. Somliga blicka upp med hotfulla drag, knappt ur stånd att styra sina händer. Somliga stå i tyst fasa. Somliga gråta högljutt. Somliga fröjda sig och klappa händerna, att illgärningsmännen äntligen skola bliva straffade. Soldaterna, med dragna svärd, driva tillbaka hopen, som tränger sig in på dem, att de icke måtte bliva förhindrade i utförandet av det verk, som är dem ålagt. "Tillbaka!" ropa de åt den påträngande skaran, "tillbaka! Haven I aldrig sett en människa avrättas?"

Se, där stå nu tre kors i en rad!

De äro just nedsatta i jorden, dessa träd, och bära var sin frukt. Kom hit, min vän, och se! Vi ställa dig vid korset till höger. Se, huru otrons gift strömmar ned därifrån. Se, huru förskräckligt det ändå är att dö utan Kristus. Läs det i de förvridna dragen i hans ansikte. Vi ställa dig vid korset till vänster. Se, det är sinnesändringens kors. Se, huru gott det är att i tron på sin Frälsare få sluta sitt liv.

Men vi ställa dig framför korset i mitten. Här finner du kärlekens fullmogna frukt. Blotta ditt huvud. Du har aldrig förr skådat, vad du här får se. I evangeli fulla, strålände härliga ljus ser du, att det var ett lidandets kors. Jorden och helvetet hade gjort sitt värsta: även himmelen är sluten, då Sonen ropar: "Min Gud, min Gud, vi ha-ver du övergivit mig?" Men du ser även, att det är ett försoningens kors. Mannen på högra sidan led för sina egna synder; så gjorde ock mannen på den vänstra. Mannen på mellersta korset dog *för dig*. Stanna länge framför detta kors, att du må se, vad Kristus har gjort för dig för att frälsa din själ. Skalder hava besjungit det, bildhuggare hava sökt att föreviga det i marmor, martyrer hava i elden blickat upp därtill, och kristna, som dött en stilla död i sina hem, hava lutat sina huvuden därtill. O, må vi alla slå våra armar däromkring i helig kärlek. Håll dig vid det korset. Allting annat skall förgås, om du ej håller dig fast där. Men vid korset är du trygg, om än världen omkring dig förginges.

O, om jag kunde i edra själar outplånligt inskriva, vad dessa tre kors lära oss! Den högra sidan visar dig otrons elände, det på den vänstra vad det är att hava syndernas förlåtelse, under det att från det mellersta korset himmelens ljus strömmar ned i din själ, då det säger till dig: "Jag har älskat dig med evig kärlek. Starka vatten kunna icke släcka kärlek, strömmar ej förkväva den. Genom mina sår skall du varda helad".

Vid foten av detta kors lägga vi då ned synd, sorg, liv, död, allt. Vi äro fångar: Kristus löser de fångna. Vi äro törstiga: Kristus är frälsningens flod, som släcker vår törst. Vi äro dödsdömda: Kristus smakade döden, att vi måtte undfå livet. Vi kastas omkring på ett oroligt hav: Kristus kommer gående på vågorna och säger: "Rädens icke, det är jag." Vi äro i mörker. Kristus säger: "Jag är den klara morgonstjärnan". Vi äro sjuka: Kristus är salvan i Gilead. Vi dö: Kristus ropar: "Jag är uppståndelsen och livet; vilken som tror på mig, han skall leva, om han än död bleve". Vi behöva frälsas: "Tro på Herren Jesus, så bliver du och ditt hus frälst". Vi behöva rättfärdiggöras: "Eftersom vi nu blivit rättfärdiga genom tron, hava vi frid med Gud genom vår Herre Jesus Kristus". Jag fruktar fördömsel: "Det är ingen fördömsel för dem som äro i Kristus Jesus. Han led korset. Han aktade ej smäleken. Han smakade döden och helvetets ångest. Han vann livets krona. Himmels härskaror besjunga

det. Världar ropa till världar runt omkring himmelen: "Ära, ära, ära!" Och vi stämma in: "Ära vare Lammet, som dödat är och som har igenlöst oss åt Gud med sitt blod!"

TALMAGE.

The Fruitage of the Observance of Lent and Easter.

1 Cor. 5. 7, 8.

Beautiful and profitable to our spiritual life is the observance of the church year. The various seasons and festivals, the lessons for each Sunday unfold the life of Christ and direct our minds to Him whom we worship as our Saviour. Especially is this true of the Lenten season and the celebration of Easter, the most important part of the church year.

Paul exhorts the Corinthians: "Let us keep the feast," and he reminds them that "even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us." During the Lenten season, upon which we have now entered, our attention will be called to Christ our passover, sacrificed for us. The world passover reminds us of the deliverance of Israel out of Egypt. When Jehovah smote all the first-born in the land of Egypt, a lamb had been slain in each Israelitish household and the blood of the lamb had been put on the two side-posts and on the lintel upon the houses of the Israelites. Jehovah *passed over*, that is, he spared the houses of the children of Israel, for they were marked with the blood of the lambs that had been slain. In commemoration of this great deliverance the Israel-

ites later celebrated the feast of Passover. *Our* passover is Jesus Christ, sacrificed for us. He is the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. We are saved with his holy, precious blood, shed for us on the cross of Calvary; he has purchased us from sin and death with his innocent sufferings and death. May the meditations of this Lenten season strengthen our faith in Christ, increase our love of Christ our passover, sacrificed for us.

During the feast of passover the Israelites were required to have all leaven removed from their houses. Alluding to this custom, Paul exhorts us to "keep the feast (of Easter), not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." Having been reminded again during the Lenten season that Christ gave his very life to save us from eternal ruin, that we are his own because he died for us, all the old impurities must be purged out from our lives. Malice and wickedness have no place in the life of a Christian, from whom Christ our passover is sacrificed. When Christ died on the cross of Calvary, our sin and guilt died with him, it was wiped out in the sight of God, washed away through the blood of Jesus. As the Saviour rose from death, so we must rise from the grave of sin to a new life of holiness in the service of Christ. The observance of Lent and Easter is worse than useless if it will not make us better men and women, better

servants of him who for our sake became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Let us purge out the old leaven. May our Christianity be not a mere sham, may we hate all malice and wickedness, may we rise from the night of sin and enter into the new life, the glorious liberty of the children of God, may we be Christians in sincerity and in truth. B. LEDERER.

The Lutheran Observance of Lent.

The season of Lent commemorates the Passion of the Saviour. The Church has observed it from its earliest days. It begins 46 days before Easter (40 days besides the Sundays). The period of 40 days was chosen in memory of our Lord's fast of 40 days in the wilderness and his 40 hours' rest in the tomb. Another reason for the length of the period is given by old writers who say that as the children of Israel journeyed 40 years in the wilderness ere they reached the Promised Land, so the Church journeys through these 40 days of self-denial and fasting to a realization of the glorious victory of Christ.

But the purpose of Lent in the Church year is not only commemorative. It has always been considered as a period of deep meditation on the sufferings of Christ, a period of self-denial and self-examination preparatory to the holy communion and the Easter festival.

In the Roman Catholic Church Lent was soon perverted into a period of external fasting and meaningless ceremonies. Abstinence from

food, from pleasure and from many of the ordinary events of life, together with a strict attention to masses, religious exercises and vigils is still the significance of Lent to the Romanists.

The Lutheran Church has always held fast to the true observance of Lent. To use it as a time of spiritual refreshment, a season of meditation, a period of seeking unto God with the aim of becoming more faithful followers of Him who by His atoning death has made us heirs of eternal glory. Selfdenial and fasting we regard as helpful means to the end in view, and when used as such are a "good external discipline," but in themselves they are worthless. We repudiate the Roman Catholic doctrine of Lent.

The Reformed Churches may well thank the Lutheran Church for thus maintaining the true observance of Lent as over against the externalism of Rome. Some of the American denominations, sick of that modern sentimental revivalism, are trying to imitate us in this observance. They realize the necessity of some set time and method for the quickening of the spiritual life of their members; but they are still far from appreciating the solemn, serious, devotional spirit which characterizes the Lutheran observance of Lent. And though many have transferred their revivalistic propaganda to the weeks preceding Easter, yet they are not ready to adopt the devotional and educational methods of winning souls for Christ. We must hold up the true standard.

How important it is in our day of sectarianism, humanitarianism and indifference, that a certain portion of the year be set aside for the special consideration of the more strictly sacrificial events in the life of Christ and to follow Him step by step in His journey to the cross. Popular thought in pulpit as well as in press during the rest of the year is so full of ethical theories, speculations, and external activities, that it is a relief to get back to the great objective truths of the Gospel. Amidst all the haziness and uncertainty of religious ethics and philosophy there is nothing that can keep us from making shipwreck of our faith like the simple facts of the atonement, the vicarious sufferings and death of the God-man. How insignificant is the wisdom and learning of scholars and theologians compared with the profound yet simple verities of the Passion history! It answers the all-important question of the troubled soul, "What must I do to be saved?" It brings us into the right relation with Christ, our atoning Priest, that we may follow Him also as our Prophet and King.

Devout reading of the Bible, daily prayer, serious meditation, frequent attendance on public worship, self-examination and higher resolves mark the Lutheran's observance of Lent. In order that more time may be had for these things and that the mind may be in the proper mood, it is well to deny ourselves many things that might otherwise be enjoyed. Abstinence or self-denial,

however, must never be over-emphasized or made meritorious in itself. The contemplation of what God has done for us through Christ, and spiritual self-improvement must always be paramount in our observance of Lent. With that aim in view, we as Lutherans can steer clear of the Scylla of barren externalism and ritualistic formalism on the one side and the Charybdis of false evangelism and sentimental revivalism on the other. H. WENNERMARK.

Purple Stains of a Dawn Most Glorious.

The impressive Lenten season of the Church year is at hand. Thru the Word presented to us we may gaze, yea, even enter in the Holy of Holies. There we behold our Great High Priest in the act of offering the Perfect Sacrifice. The spotless Lamb of God, our Redeemer and our Lord, is both priest and offering. Step by step we may follow Him thru the thorny and rugged pathway of suffering and death for our aims. With awe we view Him as the sins of the world nail Him to the cross. That rugged cross we may see transformed from a cursed tree to a life giving stream that flows on and on. And from that altar betwixt heaven and earth we may hear the most wonderful words. They tell of salvation for others, prayers for offenders, forgiveness for transgressors. And, as the sacrifice is completed, we may hear the words of triumph: *It is finished.*

What do those words mean to us! Jesus, nailed to the cross, for the

sins of the world. Jesus, giving Himself for your and my transgressions. Words that give us a right to come to the cross with our whole burden of sin and receive life eternal. For our transgressions are blotted out as Jesus triumphs over sin and death. At the cross we may exchange death for everlasting life with God. The truly contrite and penitent heart may rise from the cross and go away rejoicing for Jesus has borne the burden of sins for all and redemption *is finished.*

We may have the prospects of certain death changed to life eternal. Come, see your Saviour as He is presented to us in the precious Word. See what it cost to redeem our souls. Let the Spirit cause our conscience to be pricked and our eyes opened to the reality that He suffered for us. That we might see in the awful sacrifice the Lamb of God who died for us. And too, that we might, on Easter Day, greet a Risen Lord. Then, on our resurrection day, we shall know His full Love and join a host in praise to Him that never shall thru all eternity be *finished.*



With the death of *Mr. John E. Nelson* the first cross in the Church Book for the year 1928 has been placed before the name of a member. Mr. Nelson was born Jan. 9, 1860, in Nedre Luleå, Rutvike, Norrbotten, Sweden. In 1883 he left his mother

land and came to Chicago where he was to make his home during the rest of his life. Here in the city he pursued the carpentry trade and made a success of his labor. In 1888 he was married to Johanna Oström who, together with the children, Bertha and Carl, now mourn the loss of a good father and faithful husband. The family joined Salem and in 1900 transferred their membership to Bethel. A few days previous to his death Mr. Nelson contracted bronchial pneumonia resulting in his death on February 15th, having reached the age of 68 years. Funeral services were held from the church on February 18th, at which time Dr. H. E. Sandstedt spoke in Swedish on words chosen from Jn. 14. 1—14. Miss Roselyn Paulson sang two well selected and well rendered solos and Mr. Bengtson read the obituary and made a few remarks in English. After these services the funeral train wended its way thru freshly fallen snow to Oak Hill where the mortal remains were tenderly laid at rest. The congregation extends their sympathy to the bereaved family.

Assignments.

Districts have now been assigned to the members of the Board of Administration in the following order:

DIST.	DEACON	TRUSTEE
1.	C. A. Knutson	A. W. Marker
2.	C. F. Seaberg	A. H. Ahlberg
3.	Claus Johnson	A. H. Bratlie
4.	James E. Nelson	Chas. Burgeson
5.	Hebert Larson	Hugo Johnson
6.	Otto Swanson	Einar Carlson

7. Peter Broman Albin Ahlberg
8. G. O. Johanson Lawrence Larson
9. Ronald Frick Melvin Olson

Coming Events.

The Illinois Conference will hold its annual Convention at the First Church, Moline, Ill., on March 20—25. Bethel will be represented at these sessions by Mr. John Westberg.

Two weeks of Special Lenten and Evangelistic services will be held in our church during the weeks of March 25—April 8th. These services will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings and visiting pastors will be present at some of these services.

The District Luther League will conduct their annual Lenten Service on Sunday evening, March 25th, at 7:30 p. m. The meeting will be held at the chapel of the Augustana Home for the Aged. Special choir music and an excellent speaker will be presented.

Palm Sunday will be Confirmation Day at Bethel when this year's class will be presented for Confirmation at the Morning worship. The class consists of seventeen members.

Rev. C. Emil Bergquist will preach his introductory sermon at Bethel in the evening of Palm Sunday, April 1st. Special programs for that day is being arranged by the various departments of our church activity.

The First Communion for the Confirmands will be celebrated on the evening of Maundy Thursday and at which time we hope that

many of our members will also partake of the blessed Sacrament.

The Choir will present the cantata "The Crucifixion and Resurrection" by W. Berwald on Good Friday evening.

News Notes.

Rev. C. G. H. Ahnquist, a school mate from former days at Gustavus Adolphus College, now pastor at Everet, Wash., was a guest at the parsonage Feb. 10—12 while attending the Synodical Luther League Council held here in the city on the above dates.

At the last District Luther League meeting held at Grace Church the Rev. William Siegel was elected president of the District and with the enthusiasm he is manifesting the District League can look forward to a very active year in the league work.

We had the pleasure of attending a very pleasant reception and luncheon at the Women's Mission Home given in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Hobart Johnson on February 27th. The following day a small group of their intimate friends gathered at the La Salle Street Station to bid them God-speed as they set out for our mission field in Africa. They set sail for London on March 2nd, where Dr. Johnson will spend six months of further study.

The Augustana League of Chicago held its annual banquet at the Hotel La Salle on February 24th. From every angle the banquet was a grand success. Rev. Otterbein gave an excellent address on "Successful Living." Excellent music was furnished

by the Oriental Male Quartette and by Miss Lois Albright, violinist. As usual the southsiders were present in full force.

One of our Members, Miss Dorothy Graham, is mourning the loss of her father who passed away on January 11th after a few days illness. We extend our sympathy to Miss Dorothy and her mother, Mrs. Hannah Graham.

The Board of Administration has sanctioned the issuing of a new Church Directory to be ready about May 1st. Work has already begun in assembling the material for this booklet and changes of addresses and other corrections from the present directory is gratefully received.

Among the deaths recorded in the pastoral acts we also notice the passing of a former Bethel Member. Mrs. Sophie Nelson, 6617 Carpenter St. The funeral was held at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Esther Larson, 6635 Carpenter st. Just three weeks previous friends of the family gathered in this home for a similar purpose when an uncle, Mr. Emil Nelson, was laid to rest. To Mrs. Larson and family her many Bethel friends extend heartfelt sympathy.

A drive to raise the endowment fund of Augustana College and make it possible for our institution to carry on its progressive program of higher education is being inaugurated. An advanced information program for our District churches was held at Bethlehem Church on February 28th, when representatives from our various churches were present to hear the

pleas from leaders in this movement. A very fine dinner was served the delegates by the Bethlehem ladies. Several of our members were present at the time and it is hoped that when the drive, scheduled for May 20—28 comes, all our members will have their interest keyed up for the interest of our own school, Augustana College.

The extensive reparation in the parsonage has been completed and the home is now ready to receive its new occupants, Rev. Bergquist and family. It is indeed a pleasure to have the privilege of spending the closing weeks of our stay in Bethel in such pleasant surroundings and is the more appreciated after the turmoil of the past few weeks when alterations were in progress. We know that in due season the congregation will take official steps to express their thanks to the faithful workers who have sacrificed time, labor and money in bringing about the transformation. However, we shall assume all the dignity we can muster and on behalf of the congregation extend to the members and others who have labored so faithfully and express the appreciation of the church for your grateful services. And personally we add our own thanks for it has been a joy amid the chaos to note the spirit of sacrifice and also enjoy the fellowship of members at real work. Our thanks also include the women who came willingly and efficiently added the needed finishing touches to complete the transformation. Your thoughtfulness is highly appreciated.

With the New Year came several changes in our various Church boards. For the information of the members we will list the officers now serving on the various boards. The Church Council selected Mr. Claus Johnson as vice chairman with Carl Seaberg as secretary and Mr. Chas. Knutson as treasurer of the Aid Fund. Mr. A. H. Ahlberg is the new chairman of the Board of Trustees. Mr. A. W. Marker is treasurer of the congregation and Melvin Olson holds the position of Financial Secretary. In the Board of Administration Mr. Herbert Larson is vice chairman and Hugo Johnson secretary. With April 1st nearly at hand the roster of officers will be completed when Rev. Bergquist will assume the office now vacant on these boards.

Con Denser Says:

Custom is a poor excuse for making the same mistake twice.

As men grow more experienced they talk less and say more.

It is well to remember that it is a mistake to forget a favor.

When a man tells you all his troubles he becomes one of yours.

Some people seem to think it necessary to keep telling how little they went to school.

Nine men out of ten earn the money that the tenth man gets.

Do some people a favor and they expect you to keep up the good work.

If you want to flatter a man tell him he is working too hard.

It is just as well to look out for

the man who is always looking out for himself.

Some fools put on more airs than a wise man could grind out on a hand organ.

It's easy to get all the credit you want when you don't want it.

Money can be lost in more ways than won.

It doesn't pay to advertise unless you are able to deliver the goods.

It doesn't take much of a genius to discover a scheme that won't work.

For every gold brick on the market there is a purchaser born.

The more a man accomplishes the less time he has to talk about it.

When it comes to mistakes the supply always exceeds the demand.

A good man is known by the acquaintances he cuts loose from.

If a man is incompetent he usually charges it up to bad luck.

There are too many persons walking around who are not content with wasting their own time.

About the meanest person on record is the one who double crosses his or her friends.

Character writes itself on a man's face with indelible ink.

Beware of the man who apologizes when he does you a favor.

The funny actions of some people are due to their lack of the sense of humor.

Pastoral Acts.

BAPTISM.

Feb. 12: Dorothy Lucille, daughter of Arthur and Minnie Olson, 5801 Sangamon St.

FUNERALS.

Jan. 5: John E. Anderson, 6225 S. Racine Ave., aged 51 years, 3 months and 19 days.

Jan. 11: Mrs. Sophie Anna Nelson, 6617 Carpenter St., aged 75 years, and 15 days.

Jan. 14: Fred Graham, 7743 East End Ave., aged 56 years, 4 months and 18 days.

Feb. 9: Mrs. Minnie Nelson, 6539 Hermitage Ave., aged 21 years, 4 months and 8 days.

Feb. 18: John Erik Nelson, 5942 Carpenter St., aged 68 years, 1 month and 6 days.

NEW MEMBERS.

Feb. 12: Gustaf Adolph Carlson, 5418 Albany Ave.

Feb. 12: Gustaf William Erickson, 5922 Sangamon St.

Our Societies.

Missionsföreningen. Missionsföreningen höll sitt möte den 3 februari i mrs Westers hem, 7346 Michigan ave. Mötet öppnades på sedvanligt sätt med sång och bibelläsning samt bön av ordföranden. Bethphage sparbössor, som ha varit ute under året, inkallades nu vid detta möte. Mr Bengtson sjöng två välvalda sånger, varefter en riklig kollekt upptogs. Mötet slutade med en sångvers samt bön. Nästa möte blir i kyrkan på inbjudan av fruarna Edwin Johnson och Grell.

Aprilmötet kommer även att hållas i kyrkan då fruarna Anderson och Ahlson inbjuder.

Mrs C. KNUTSON, sekr.

Brotherhood. The Brotherhood held its monthly meeting February 20th in the church school room. The meeting was opened by the singing of a hymn and Mr. Herbert Larson led us in prayer. The minutes were read and approved and a report given by the auditing committee. The newly elected officers for 1928 were then installed by Mr. Bengtson. Some discussion then ensued about having a concert in April. A committee consisting of Messrs. J. Westberg, H. Larson, C. A. Nelson were appointed to arrange the same. Mr. Herbert Larson suggested that all members of the Board of Administration should become members of the Brotherhood. After singing two patriotic songs the meeting closed with a prayer by Mr. Bengtson. CHARLES NELSON, Sec'y.

Sunday School Staff. The regular monthly meeting of the Sunday school workers was held on Thursday evening, Feb. 2nd. Due to the fact that every few teachers were present little or no business was transacted though several matters of interest and importance were discussed. Among items of interest was the discussion of the Pin System reintroduced which already seems to have with it very good results in regard to attendance. The new paper, 'Little Folks' for the beginners has been introduced giving our little tots material that they will enjoy. The teachers are asked

to kindly keep in mind that the First Thursday is always Teachers Night and every member of the Sunday school Staff should be present at these meetings. Our next meeting is Febr. 1st.

HELEN E. LARSON, Sec'y.

Junior Mission Band. At the last Junior Mission Band a very enjoyable afternoon was spent by the members. Several songs were sung at the opening of the meeting. The program began with a duet by Leroy Swanson and Bernard Aanerud, 'Sweet Hour of Prayer' after which each member gave a prayer. Bernard Aanerud och Robert Anderson read a poem and Laura Valles gave a Swedish poem that was especially enjoyed by all. The members learned a new Chorus "Romans ten and nine." Miss Carlson told a story about a missionary in North Carolina as a closing number on the program. Eleven members were present, almost twice the number present at the last meeting. Next time the members look for a similar increase. After the Benediction the members departed for their homes.

GLEN ANDERSON, Sec'y.

Senior Luther League. The second successive Sunday afternoon meeting of the Senior Luther League was held on Sunday, February 5th. It seems that our leaguers are very enthusiastic about our new meeting day and we have surely had a splendid attendance. The program of the day was most enjoyable. Two of the leaguers had been chosen to talk on two characters in the Bible and being Candle-

mas Sunday, Simon and Hannah were chosen, Margaret Johnson telling us about Hannah and Stanley Carlson, about Simeon.

Our May Sale Plans were further discussed and other items of business were taken up. Delicious refreshments were served by the committee in charge and all voted a successful meeting. Our next meeting will be held the first Sunday in March at 5 o'clock sharp. All welcome. SVEA JOHNSON, Sec'y.

Bethel Circle. Bethel Circle was entertained on February 14th by Svea Broman and Alice Westberg at their home, 6837 Sangamon St. After opening the meeting in the usual way the business of the evening was conducted. It was voted to increase the dues to 25 cents per month beginning at once. A program consisting of several recitations by Lorraine Aanerud and songs by Eulalia Westberg. Bible study, covering the 4th chapter of the Epistle of James, was conducted by Mr. Bengtson. The president thanked those who appeared on the program as well as the hostesses. The meeting closed with prayer by Ruth Gustafson. Dues and collections amounted to \$12.15. Delicious refreshments in keeping with the day were served by the hostesses. The next meeting, March 14th, the Circle will be entertained by Elvie Aanerud and Peggy Anderson at the Aanerud home, 8115 S. Green St. All welcome.

EDNA GUSTAFSON, Sec'y.

The Choir. The Choir has had a very busy season for quite some

time but in spite of the unusually heavy program the members took 'time out' to accept an invitation to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Johnson, 8245 Champlain Ave. after a rather strenuous attempt at practising a few songs there the practise was disbanded to enjoy a social time in this beautiful new home. Very delicious refreshments were served by the hostess. The choir members wish to express their appreciation for this splendid treat and all agreed that Mrs. Johnson is a splendid cook.

On February 12th, the Choir made a journey to Batavia, Ill. Before leaving the church after the morning worship, the members partook of a splendid meal prepared by the Mesdames Otto Swanson and Axel Johnson, served in the church parlors. The trip was made via the Electric and at about 3.30 the destination was reached. At the Vesper service in the Bethany Lutheran Church our Choir sang a group of anthems. The Bethany Young People entertained and served the Choir members royally after the service. Arriving home safe and sound the members conclude that it was a day well spent.

On Good Friday the Choir will give a Cantata, 'The Crucifixion and Resurrection' by W. Berwald.

MARGARET JOHNSON,
reporter.

Dorcas. Dorcas föreningen höll sitt möte den 15 februari på inbjudning av fruarna Ahlberg, Adlerz, Ahlstedt, Aanerud. Mötet öppnades som sedvanligt är, varefter

ordföranden mrs Johnson hälsade alla välkomna. Protokollet upplästes och antogs. Kassören rapporterade att där var \$125.09 i kassan. Distrikt och visit kommittéen rapporterade att där gjorts 43 besök under månaden. Hela kommittéen hade besökt mrs Larson, 6245 Carpenter st. samt även på ålderdomshemmet hos mrs Widell fast alla av Bethel medlemmar blevo bjudna på kaffe. Blommor ha skänkts till mrs Gust Larson, mrs Gustafson, mrs Ludvig Nelson, mrs Björk. Alla dessa vänner tacka för blommor och besök. Tacksamhetskrivelser upplästes av undertecknad från mrs Lindquist och mrs Hallenberg varide tacka för blommor och besök. Föreningen har inlagt nya mattor i köket i pastorshuset och även hade några av fruarna hjälpt att göra rent i pastorshuset efter reparationer därinne. Ordföranden tackade för detta arbete samt även de fruar som serverade middag till dem som arbetade. Mrs C. A. Nelson som hade 7:de distriktet i visit kommittéen kunde ej tjänstgöra på grund av sjukdom, och lovade mrs Ahlson att taga hennes plats. Det beslöts att betala mrs Pearson \$4.00 för tvättning av altarduken och även beslöts att klippa den i tre delar. Inbjudning för nästa möte den 21 mars av fruarna Hanna Anderson, Robert Anderson, A. Almer, Mary Anderson. Födelsedagsgåvor inlämnades av fruarna Marker, R. Anderson, Lundell, Seeberg, M. Erickson. Ett vackert program utfördes varefter mrs Johnson tackade alla som deltog likaså dem som ser-

verade. Mötet avslöts med att gemensamt läsa Herrens välsignelse och sjöngs den lilla sångversen "O Jesus, bliv när oss." Gott kaffe med dopp serverades. Medlemsavgiften blev \$42.00, hjälpfonden \$4.05.

MRS J. E. NELSON, sekr.

Young People's Column.

The education of our fathers, or forefathers, as a whole was not much to boast about judging from the viewpoint of the average individual's education today—a few short years, or perhaps months, in some far off village or country school, whenever he could be spared from home duties, was his entire schooling.

Nevertheless, his education consisted of an essential religious knowledge. He could boast of an insight into the Bible, a knowledge of the catechism and the psalms, and a familiarity with church history and the lives of the great religious leaders. He bore a reverend respect for the Bible and a profound trust in God. Today the student spends from ten to twenty years in school generally, graduating from high school or college and going into the postgraduate courses of college. From year to year more courses are added to the stores of multiplying knowledge—yet with all this knowledge he learns nothing of religion except what his church or his Christian home have taught him if he were fortunate enough to have either. The student graduates are fully conversant with the great political leaders of history, the great war heroes, the philosophers and writ-

ers, but know nothing about the great religious leaders who did as much if not more to influence and revolutionize the world. Our school system claims to be comprehensive in valuable information yet gracefully evades this vital factor—religious education.

The present day student is prone to regard religion skeptically, believing it to be a myth rather than truth—quite the contrary of his forebears. This is undoubtedly influenced by his ignorance of religious facts. Industry and science have progressed with rapid strides since “grandfather’s time” but we wonder whether the world has progressed religiously.

One of the Leaguers.

Financial Secretary’s Report for 1927.

RECEIPTS.

Dues Collected.

Aanerud, Bernard	\$10.00
Adlertz, Chas.	30.00
Ahlberg, A. H.	15.00
Ahlson, Alice	3.00
Alexon, John	6.00
Alexon, Jennie	6.00
Anderberg, Mrs. Anna.....	8.00
Anderson, Andrew	19.40
Anderson, Carl G.....	12.85
Anderson, Hugo	15.00
Anderson, Aaron	15.00
Anderson, Bernice	3.00
Anderson, Stanley	6.70
Anderson, Car. A.....	35.00
Alm, Mrs.	10.00
Anderson, Carl Ivar.....	9.00
Bahrd, Minnie	9.50
Benson, Amalia	3.00
Benson, Christina	5.00
Benson, John A.....	25.00
Borgstrand, Carl A.....	10.00
Bostrom, Mrs. Anna.....	7.00
Burgeson, C. E.....	10.00
Burke, Mrs. Albert.....	3.60
Burgeson, Bennett	6.85
Carlson, John A.....	20.00
Carlson, Anna	14.00
Carlson, Vega	2.10
Chevalier, Judith	6.20
Christensen, Mrs. N.....	5.00
Christensen, Martin	9.00
Dahl, Gust Wm.....	.50
Dahlberg, E.	25.00
Dahlberg, Jennie	11.80
Davidson, S. P.....	50.00
Ekvall, Mrs. Ida.....	15.00
Erickson, August	10.00
Fahlstrom, Carl	5.00
Forsgren, Gust	5.00
Garrett, J. H.....	25.00
Gereke, Paul	10.00
Gilling, Mrs. Geo.....	14.00
Graham, Dorothy	5.30
Haarlow, W. O.....	15.00
Hageman, Claus	37.80
Hageman, Einar	31.20
Hallberg, Nancy	6.00
Hammar, A.	15.00
Hawkinson, Mrs. Anna.....	29.00
Heike, Mrs.	20.00
Helberg, Ellen	12.50
Helberg, Edwin	16.00
Herlin, A. T.....	30.00
Herlin, Grace	15.00
Herlin, Theo. R.....	20.00
Hult, John G.....	25.00
Johanson, Albertina	20.00
Johanson, Einar	15.50
Johnson, Roy P.....	5.00
Johnson, Carl H. E.....	4.70
Johnson, Josephine	9.50
Johnson, Mrs. J. A.....	7.00
Johnson, Mrs. A.....	14.00
Johnson, Florence	4.10
Johnson, Emma	15.00
Johnson, Mrs. Alfred E.....	15.00
Johnson, Mrs. Goran	7.00
Johnson, Mauritz	1.45
Johnson, Olive	9.00
Johnson, Peter H. G.....	11.00
Johnson, Carl E.....	11.00
Johnson, Edith	10.00
Johnson, Wm.	15.00

Joneson, And. G.....	26.00	Olson, Rudolph	28.00
Johnson, L. W.....	10.00	Olson, Nanna	15.00
Johnson, Julia	15.00	Paulson, Raymond	30.00
Karlson, C. R.....	25.00	Pearson, Amy	14.00
Kjellberg, J.	9.90	Pearson, Clarence	10.00
Knudson, Mrs. Mabel.....	7.00	Pearson, John L.....	30.00
Larson, Anders	15.00	Rodine, Stanley	11.00
Larson, Anna	14.80	Ryding, Dorothy	3.00
Larson, Elvira	15.25	Samuelson, Mrs. Erhart.....	14.00
Larson, Emmy	14.00	Seaberg, Carl F.....	35.00
Larson, Esther	1.00	Seaberg, Fred	4.75
Larson, Hildur	10.00	Seaberg, Carrie	15.00
Lagerstrom, Otto	14.00	Seberg, Clara O.....	7.00
Lagerstrom, Ebba	7.00	Seberg, C. O.....	10.00
Lagerstrom, Ethel	7.00	Sorensen, Hazel	18.35
Lawson, A. A.....	6.25	Starquist, Tillie	15.00
Lawson, Alfreda	5.00	Schaffer, Anna	10.00
Lawson, C. E.....	5.00	Schantz, Bernice	4.00
Liden, John V.....	23.50	Schantz, Lawrence	6.50
Lindstrom, J. E.....	12.00	Schaffer, Alma	20.50
Love, Mrs. Mark.....	10.00	Sundstrom, J. P.....	30.00
Laxstrom, Ebba	5.05	Swanson, Bert	6.25
McHugh, Ellen	20.00	Wahlen, A. G.....	55.00
Magnuson, Mrs. Christina...	10.00	Wahlen, Richard	10.00
Matson, Victor	16.00	Westberg, C. A.....	20.00
Modin, Herman	25.00	Willander, A. A.....	14.00
Monson, August	20.00	Westberg, Eleanor	14.00
Morris, Carolina	7.00	Westberg, Florence	14.00
Nelson, August	30.00	Westberg, Carl	10.00
Nelson, Chas. A.....	30.00	Westberg, Fred	10.00
Nelson, Olof T.....	30.00		
Nelson, Pearl	14.00		
Nelson, N. A.....	5.00		
Nelson, Ruth	7.00		
Nelson, Clyde	1.00		
Nelson, Alphild	11.10		
Nelson, Marvel	6.65		
Nelson, Elizabeth	14.00		
Malm, Chas. and Family....	75.00		
Olson, Alden	20.00		
Olson, Ella	15.00		
Olson, F. O.....	15.00		
Olson, L. A.....	25.00		
Olson, Helen	15.00		
Olson, Lawrence V.....	15.00		
Olson, Manfred	1.00		
Olson, Ranghild	7.00		
Olson, Chester	10.18		
Olson, Carl	20.00		
Olson, Hilding	20.00		

\$2,279.53

Envelope System from 1926.

Anderson, Karlina	\$ 1.20
Anderson, Ruth .....	.15
Anderson, Mrs. E.....	3.50
Anderson, Esther E.....	2.80
Anderson, Frank .....	.50
Anderson, Mary .....	.75
Anderson, Edna	7.00
Anderson, Hilda	4.00
Anderson, Eda	1.05
Bohlin, Mrs. L.....	2.00
Borgstrand, Carl A.....	5.00
Burke, Mrs. A. E.....	5.00
Carlson, Esther M.....	3.00
Crook, Wm. A. J.....	2.00
Carlson, Clara	5.90
Dahlman, Florence .....	.30
Erickson, Vernon .....	.30

Fogelson, Mrs. M.....	.50	Almer, Mr. Carl.....	25.00
Hallenberg, Linnea .....	.20	Anderson, Mr. Carl.....	20.00
Hult, Esther	1.20	Anderson, Miss Vivian.....	2.00
Hageman, Mildred	1.00	Anderson, Mr. & Mrs. Robert	25.00
Isackson, Mrs. Hedda.....	.60	Anderson, Miss Edna.....	4.90
Johnson, Gust .....	.40	Anderson, Miss Hilda.....	4.95
Johnson, Stanley .....	.15	Anderson, Mrs. Hannah.....	18.25
Johnson, Thyra .....	.20	Anderson, Miss Elsa.....	5.05
Janson, Wm. ....	.80	Anderson, Mrs. Lena.....	5.85
Johnson, Florence .....	.10	Anderson, Miss Esther E....	15.25
Johnson, Evelyn .....	.10	Anderson, Miss Dorothy.....	.47
Johnson, C. E.....	1.50	Anderson, Mrs. Ida Maria...	16.50
Johnson, Teckla	4.00	Anderson, Miss Anna Maria.	15.60
Johnson, Hugo L.....	2.00	Anderson, Mr. & Mrs. August	15.00
Johnson, Gilbert .....	.60	Anderson, Miss Ruth.....	2.60
Johnson, Carl F.....	2.00	Anderson, Miss Hilda.....	1.15
Knutson, G. ....	.80	Anderson, Mr. John G.....	7.50
Krause, Olga	2.10	Anderson, Miss Esther.....	13.15
Kjellberg, J.	3.00	Anderson, Mrs. John.....	11.53
Larsen, Mrs. Erick.....	2.80	Anderson, Miss Ruth.....	1.16
Newman, Ray .....	.30	Anderson, Mrs. Augusta....	10.75
Newstrom, Melba	1.25	Anderson, Miss Florence....	20.25
Nelson, Ray E.....	4.00	Anderson, Miss Olga.....	15.75
Olson, Robert .....	.10	Anderson, Mrs. John.....	1.50
Paulson, Ruth	2.00	Anderson, Miss Genevieve A.	
Anderson, Mabel Paulson....	7.00	T. ....	.60
Olson, Æone	1.20	Anderson, Mr. & Mrs. Elmer	26.00
Paulson, Ethel	7.00	Anderson, Mr. Andrew.....	10.00
Rodine, Mrs. C. O.....	2.60	Anderson, Mr. & Mrs. J. A.	25.00
Sandin, Robert	1.00	Anderson, Mr. Gilbert.....	15.00
Sandin, Mildred .....	.25	Anderson, Mr. George.....	15.00
Tronerud, C. M.....	6.00	Anderson, Mr. Frank.....	16.00
Wahlen, Adolph	5.00	Anderson, Miss Dorothy.....	13.52
Westberg, Alice	2.25	Anderson, Miss Bernice....	.50
Willander, A.	2.00	Anderson, J. E.	9.66
Johnson, Mr. B.....	2.50	Benson, Mr. Bernard.....	13.50

Envelopes for 1927.

Aanerud, Mr. & Mrs. Louis. .	\$23.05	Benson, Mr. Nestor.....	23.70
Aanerud, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard	25.50	Benson, Mr. Adolph.....	20.05
Abrahamson, Mr. & Mrs. Arlie	25.00	Bengtson, Mr. & Mrs. N. M..	3.50
Ahlberg, Mrs. Anna.....	14.90	Billings, Mr. & Mrs. B.....	25.00
Ahlberg, Miss Signe.....	25.50	Billings, Mr. Arthur.....	20.00
Ahlberg, Miss Esther.....	31.05	Billings, Miss Judith.....	15.00
Ahlberg, Mr. Hjalmer.....	1.00	Bjork, Mr. & Mrs. Carl....	15.00
Ahlberg, Mr. Albin.....	10.00	Bjork, Mr. & Mrs. Stanley..	32.00
Ahlson, Mr. & Mrs. Anton..	26.00	Blomgren, Miss Freda.....	17.50
Ahlson, Miss Alice.....	7.35	Bohlin, Mrs. Elof.....	6.00
Ahlstedt, Mrs. Wm.....	16.00	Boland, Miss Violet.....	17.80
Almer, Mrs. Albert.....	15.00	Bratlie, Mr. & Mrs. Hans...	31.85
Almer, Mr. Arthur.....	20.00	Bratlie, Mrs. Ernest.....	26.00
		Bratlie, Mr. & Mrs. Herbert	9.00

Broman, Mrs. Clara.....	14.40	Engus, Mr. Earl.....	.40
Broman, Miss Svea.....	14.40	Erickson, Miss Eleanor.....	1.05
Broman, Mr. & Mrs. P.....	26.60	Fagerberg, Miss Hilma.....	5.20
Brusewitz, Mrs. Anna.....	7.00	Finnegan, Mrs. Johanna....	1.50
Burgeson, Mr. & Mrs. Chas..	26.00	Flood, Mr. Gordon.....	6.60
Burgeson, Mr. & Mrs. J.....	15.00	Foster, Mrs. Walter.....	7.00
Burgeson, Mr. Stanley.....	14.25	Foster, Miss Pauline.....	5.00
Burgeson, Mr. Bennett.....	8.60	Fogelson, Mrs. Mary.....	8.10
Burgeson, Mr. & Mrs. John..	20.00	Frick, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald G.	58.20
Burgeson, John A., Jr.....	3.85	Fors, Dr. A. P.....	20.00
Burke, Robert	3.00	Gustafson, Mrs. Anna.....	15.40
Borgstrand, Carl	2.00	Gustafson, Miss Ruth.....	22.75
Benson, Mr. Rudolph.....	1.50	Gustafson, Mrs. Nella.....	8.05
Benson, Mr. Otto.....	.20	Gustafson, Miss Edna.....	18.20
Carlson, Mr. & Mrs. C. F....	25.00	Hageman, Miss Mildred....	5.10
Carlson, Mr. & Mrs. Einar..	25.00	Hall, Miss Josephine.....	.17
Carlson, Miss Esther.....	13.02	Hallenberg, Miss Linnea....	7.25
Carlson, Mr. & Mrs. Eric G..	25.00	Hansen, Mrs. Carl.....	9.10
Carlson, Mr. Emery L.....	7.33	Hansen, Miss Helen J.....	.90
Carlson, Mr. Stanley.....	7.33	Helberg, Mrs. Nellie.....	1.00
Crook, Mr. & Mrs. Carl G....	11.46	Helberg, Miss Stella M.....	.50
Crook, Mr. Wm. A. J.....	5.00	Henry, Mrs. Esther.....	12.85
Crook, Miss Hilda E.....	2.25	Hessel, Mr. & Mrs. E. T....	25.00
Carlson, Miss Clara.....	8.00	Hult, Miss Esther.....	15.00
Carlson, Mr. Raymond.....	.40	Hult, Mr. & Mrs. John.....	3.00
Dahl, Mr. Howard.....	11.75	Grell, Mrs. Olga.....	22.00
Dahlin, Mr. & Mrs. Lars A...	8.25	Grell, Mr. Arvid.....	14.00
Dahlin, Mr. Richard C.....	1.80	Grell, Miss Elanore.....	10.00
Dahlin, Miss Violet.....	3.55	Isacson, Mrs. Hedda.....	7.85
Dahlin, Miss Carita.....	.75	Janson, Mr. & Mrs. Carl....	5.90
Dahlman, Miss Florence....	7.80	Janson, Mr. Wm. C.....	3.25
Dahlman, Miss Sigrid.....	3.70	Janson, Alice Miss.....	1.68
Dahlstrom, Mrs. Chas.....	14.75	Johanson, Mr. & Mrs. Ema-	
Dahlstrom, Mr. Wm.....	9.70	nuel	32.15
Danielson, Mr. & Mrs. John..	41.75	Johanson, Mr. Einar.....	2.00
Ehrenstrom, Mr. Fred.....	20.00	Johnson, Mr. Folke R.....	1.40
Ehrenstrom, Mr. & Mrs. Ar-		Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Andrew.	25.40
thur	75.00	Johnson, Miss Hazel.....	3.75
Edmunds, Mrs. Wallace.....	5.35	Johnson, Miss Bernice.....	2.90
Ekblom, Mr. John T.....	22.00	Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. John...	5.00
Ekblom, Mrs. Josephine....	14.00	Johnson, Mr. Gilbert A.....	.45
Eliason, Miss Esther.....	9.43	Johnson, Mrs. Adolf.....	10.00
Ellison, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest R.	14.50	Johnson, Miss Edith.....	15.00
Ellison, Miss Alice.....	2.61	Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. John..	19.00
Ellison, Mr. Albert.....	1.15	Johnson, Mr. Martin.....	25.00
Engstrom, Mrs. Frank.....	7.50	Johnson, Miss Esther A. P..	3.70
Engstrom, Miss Evelyn....	7.50	Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Carl H.	23.00
Ericson, Mr. & Mrs. August.	10.00	Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Axel...	25.00
Erickson, Mr. Carl V.....	2.85	Johnson, Mr. Mauritz.....	2.40
Erickson, Miss Alida.....	11.60	Johnson, Miss Runa H.....	2.05
Andreen, Mr. Eric.....	4.00	Johnson, Mr. Frederick	2.55

Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Hugo..	27.50	Johnson, Miss (Ellen Larson)	9.80
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Chas. E.	26.00	Karlberg, Mrs. Signe.....	9.50
Johnson, Miss Tekla.....	15.60	Karlberg, Miss Ruth.....	9.00
Johnson, Mrs. Henrietta....	16.60	Kjellberg, Mr. & Mrs. Jones.	13.10
Johnson, Miss Florence.....	40.00	Kjellberg, Mr. Lawrence....	10.00
Johnson, Mr. Edwin.....	20.00	Kjellberg, Miss Martha....	7.00
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. John....	22.37	Knutson, Mr. & Mrs. C. A....	26.05
Johnson, Miss Thyra.....	15.20	Knutson, Mr. & Mrs. Nels...	6.50
Johnson, Mr. Herbert.....	9.60	Knutson, Grace.....	3.30
Johnson, Mrs. Anna.....	8.00	Krause, Mrs. Olga.....	12.85
Johnson, Miss Esther.....	16.05	Krantz, Mrs. Anna.....	15.00
Johnson, Mr. Carl.....	4.25	Lagerstrom, Mr. Bror.....	13.00
Johnson, Miss Ruth E.....	1.00	Larson, Mr. & Mrs. Henry....	27.00
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Roy....	18.00	Larson, Miss Lillian.....	4.55
Johnson, Mr. Marvin G.....	.10	Larson, Miss Mabel.....	5.95
Johnson, Ruth Miss.....	.30	Larson, Miss Ruth M.....	5.65
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Hilde..	26.00	Larson, Mr. & Mrs. Herbert.	22.00
Jonsson, Mr. Bror.....	4.80	Larson, Mrs. L. F.....	32.50
Josephson, Mr. & Mrs. Algot	32.90	Larson, Mr. Gustaf.....	7.50
Josephson, Mr. Arthur E....	6.00	Larson, Mr. Lawrence.....	40.00
Josephson, Mr. Carl A.....	4.00	Larson, Mrs. Mathilda.....	1.25
Johanson, Albertina.....	30.00	Larson, Mrs. Esther.....	15.85
Johnson, Mrs. Christine.....	11.25	Larson, Miss Anna.....	10.75
Johnson, Miss Hazel.....	4.60	Larson, Miss Helen.....	2.80
Johnson, Miss Mable.....	1.00	Larson, Mr. Carl.....	.90
Johnson, Miss Helen.....	2.30	Larson, Mr. & Mrs. Gust....	23.50
Johnson, Mrs. Hulda.....	6.65	Larson, Mr. & Mrs. Oscar....	25.00
Johnson, Miss Edith.....	13.20	Laxstrom, Mrs. Ebba.....	2.00
Johnson, Miss Hulda C.....	15.00	Ledman, Mrs. Ada.....	5.50
Johnson, Mrs. Albert.....	5.00	Ledman, Miss Myrtle.....	5.00
Johnson, Miss Martha K....	3.10	Liden, Mr. & Mrs. Ludvig... 25.00	
Johnson, Miss Margaret C....	4.85	Liden, Mr. Geo. R.....	4.90
Johnson, Mr. Halvard.....	9.50	Lind, Mrs. Anna.....	6.25
Johnson, Miss Stella.....	10.25	Linder, Mrs. C. A.....	21.00
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Carl F..	25.00	Lindgren, Mrs. Ed.....	14.50
Johnson, Miss Mildred.....	10.55	Lundell, Mr. & Mrs. Carl....	27.00
Johnson, Miss Svea.....	23.80	Lundell, Mr. Carl.....	20.00
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Claus... 80.00		Lundell, Mr. Walter.....	20.00
Johnson, Miss Ellen.....	25.00	Lindvall, Miss Alma.....	4.75
Johnson, Miss Tillie.....	25.00	Lindvall, Miss Mildred.....	.50
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Edwin A.	32.00	Lindquist, Mrs. John.....	6.50
Johnson, Mr. Stanley.....	5.40	Lindmark, Mr. & Mrs. Anton	25.10
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Gust... 23.60		McDonald, Mrs. Jas. J.....	11.50
Johnson, Mr. Norman.....	4.10	Marker, Mr. & Mrs. P. J....	26.00
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Chas. V.	39.00	Marker, Mr. & Mrs. A. W....	21.30
Johnson, Miss Evelyn E....	4.00	Malmquist, Mr. & Mrs. R. H.	30.00
Johnson, Miss Florence.....	9.15	Melander, Mr. & Mrs. Carl..	25.00
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. John T.	25.00	Melander, Miss Beda.....	3.10
Johnson, Edith.....	.75	Melander, Miss Ethel.....	6.90
Johnson, Mr. Carl M.....	5.50	Moellering, Henry L.....	13.00
Johnson, Miss Esther.....	12.76	Monson, Miss Nellie.....	9.45

Melander, Gustaf.....	4.00	Paulson, Miss Ethel.....	11.50
Moraw, Miss Jennette.....	.90	Paulson, Mr. LeRoy.....	11.50
Nelin, Mr. & Mrs. L.....	27.00	Paulson, Mr. Raymond.....	11.00
Nelin, Miss Edith.....	10.70	Paulson, Mr. & Mrs. Fred... 7.00	
Nelin, Mr. Roy E.....	6.60	Paulson, Mr. Earl.....	3.00
Nelson, Mr. & Mrs. Carl....	47.20	Paulson, Miss Roselyn.....	4.50
Nelson, Mr. & Mrs. John....	34.10	Pearson, Mr. & Mrs. Ludvig.	20.00
Nelson, Mr. Louis.....	25.00	Pearson, Miss Anna.....	15.00
Nelson, Mr. Cliff A.....	.90	Pearson, Mrs. N.....	32.40
Nelson, Mr. & Mrs. Theo....	26.00	Pearson, Mr. & Mrs. Arvid L.	1.25
Nelson, Mr. & Mrs. N. A....	20.00	Peterson, Mr. & Mrs. Albin E.	24.30
Nelson, Mr. Clyde A.....	4.00	Quarnstrom, Miss Eleanor... 1.00	
Nelson, Mr. & Mrs. John....	26.50	Richter, Mr. & Mrs. Abrahams	23.50
Nelson, Mr. & Mrs. Ludvig..	26.00	Richter, Miss Dagmar E. C..	4.00
Nelson, Mr. Lawrence.....	21.15	Richter, Miss Ebba F. P....	4.70
Nelson, Mr. Stanley.....	20.75	Rodine, Mrs. C. O.....	13.63
Nelson, Miss Lillian.....	8.10	Rodine, Miss Esther.....	15.30
Nelson, Mrs. Nellie.....	10.00	Rodine, Mr. Stanley.....	.10
Nelson, Miss Marvel.....	3.00	Roberts, Miss Irene.....	.50
Nelson, Mr. Leslie.....	10.00	Roberts, Mr. Carl A.....	.20
Nelson, Miss Evelyn.....	2.00	Roland, Donald Ross.....	.45
Nelson, Mr. & Mrs. Carl....	5.00	Sand, Mr. & Mrs. Carl.....	25.00
Nelson, Mr. & Mrs. Jas. F..	25.00	Sand, Mr. Arthur.....	10.00
Nelson, Mr. Jas. M. C.....	4.50	Sandberg, Mr. & Mrs. A. L... 25.00	
Nelson, Mrs. Olof.....	15.15	Sandin, Mr. Robert.....	25.00
Newman, Mr. & Mrs. Ray... 22.00		Sandin, Miss Mildred.....	.50
Newman, Mr. Stanley.....	5.10	Sandin, Mr. Gunnar.....	.75
Newman, Miss LaVerne....	5.10	Schantz, Miss Bernice.....	1.50
Newstrom, Mr. & Mrs. A. J..	25.00	Seaberg, Mr. & Mrs. Adolf... 53.00	
Newstrom, Miss Melba.....	6.75	Seaberg, Mr. & Mrs. Fred... 17.00	
Newstrom, Miss Vera F....	5.15	Seaberg, Miss Ruth.....	7.00
Noreen, Mrs. E. G.	15.00	Seaberg, Miss Helen F.....	10.75
Nelson, Mr. Maynard.....	1.00	Seaberg, Mr. & Mrs. Frank.. 30.00	
Nelson, Helge.....	8.15	Seaberg, Mr. & Mrs. Carl F.. 21.40	
Nyhlen, Mr. Clarence.....	.10	Seaberg, Carl T.....	3.75
Olson, Mr. & Mrs. P. M....	26.00	Seaberg, Mrs. Johanna.....	15.00
Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Axel.....	52.00	Sjogren, Carl Erland.....	4.00
Olson, Mr. Melvin.....	25.00	Sjogren, Ivan Birger.....	1.00
Olson, Miss Mildred.....	17.00	Skoog, Anders.....	7.25
Olson, Miss Eona.....	5.30	Skoog, Miss Ethel.....	.10
Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Nels....	25.00	Skoglund, Elmer C.....	.05
Olson, Mr. Robt. H.....	4.80	Smith, Mrs. R. E.....	9.35
Olson, Doris.....	1.50	Stockel, Miss Alice.....	14.75
Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Frank....	4.80	Stockel, Miss Greta.....	8.60
Olson, Mr. Maurice.....	5.00	Swanson, Mr. & Mrs. Otto... 25.50	
Olson, Mr. G. A.....	15.50	Swanson, Mr. Ernest R.....	5.05
Peterson, Mr. Ralph.....	3.00	Swanson, Miss Ida.....	30.60
Palm, Mr. & Mrs. G. R.....	23.50	Swanson, Mrs. Helen.....	10.85
Parson, Mr. Elmer.....	2.00	Sandberg, Mrs. Emelia.....	3.50
Paulson, Mr. & Mrs. Sven... 21.00		Samuelson, Eleanore.....	1.35
Paulson, Miss Ruth.....	1.80	Sherman, Miss Florence.....	5.05

Sundell, Curt .....	.25	Miscellaneous Receipts ...	629.93
Tronerud, Mr. & Mrs. Chas...	39.00	Societies:	
Van Arsdale, Mr. C. O.....	15.00	Sunday School.\$	565.00
Westberg, Mr. & Mrs. John..	76.50	Senior L. L....	60.00
Westberg, Miss Eulalia.....	16.50	Brotherhood ...	50.00
Westberg, Mr. Orville.....	16.00	Dorcas	1,225.00
Westberg, Mr. Granger.....	6.75	Bethel Circle...	85.00
Westberg, Mr. Wm.....	25.00	Junior L. L....	75.00
Westberg, Miss Wilma.....	7.00	Mission Society.	95.00
Westberg, Mrs. Maria.....	17.85		2,155.00
Westberg, Miss Alice.....	11.20	Initial Offering Envelopes	25.30
Wahlen, Mr. & Mrs. Carl....	27.50	Cont. to Bethel Companion	57.15
Wahlen, Mr. & Mrs. Claus...	25.00	Advertising	295.00
Westberg, Miss Esther M....	10.80		
Westberg, Mr. & Mrs. F. T....	28.00	Total Receipts	\$12,729.49
Westberg, Miss Verna.....	7.65		
Wahlen, Adolph	6.00	DISBURSEMENTS.	
Walgren, Mr. & Mrs. J. A....	25.00	To Church Treasurer...	\$12,729.93
Widen, Mrs. Maria.....	7.80		
Widell, Mrs. Ida.....	5.75	J. A. WALGREN,	
Wilke, Mr. & Mrs. Alfred...	22.50	Financial Sec'y.	
Willander, Dr. & Mrs. A. A..	12.00		
Wegman, Mr. & Mrs. Alfred.	26.00		
Woster, Mrs. Chas.....	1.05		
Youngman, Mr. & Mrs. Adolf	7.25		

\$5,397.75

Miscellaneous Receipts.

Hymnals	\$ 14.25
Telephone Tolls	9.13
Rentals	16.20
Table Covers	3.75
From \$8,000.00 Drive.....	236.57
Mrs. C. A. Nelson for Beth- phage Mission	100.00
Mrs. J. A. Anderson for W. H. & F. Mission.....	64.40
Mrs. Berg	1.00
C. M. Tronerud, Donation..	44.00
Mrs. Gust Johnson for W. H. & F. Mission	140.60
Cash to adjust balance....	.03

\$629.93

*Summary Financial Secretary's
Report for 1927.*

RECEIPTS.

Dues Collected	\$2,279.53
Envelopes	5,397.75
Collections	1,889.83

som blivit oss av Gud gjord till visdom, rättfärdighet, helgelse och förlösning. Han hade ställt evighetens allvar inför dem och visat dem vikten av att vara födda på nytt för att få se Guds rike. Om och om igen hade han betonat den sanningen: "Den, som har Sonen, har livet, men den, som icke har Sonen, har icke livet, utan Guds vrede förbliver över honom."

Många tankar rörde sig i hans själ i dag. Hur många av de unga hade väl menat allvar med löftet att utvälja Kristus, vandra värdigt hans evangelium i kärlek till Gud och nästan samt under vaksamhet och bön bruka Guds ord och söka Frälsaren i hans heliga nattvard? Fanns det manne någon i skaran, för vilken det var mer än munnens bekännelse? Hade hans undervisning under det sista året burit någon frukt? Han suckade i sin ande: "Herre, låt mig själv för Jesu skull ej saknas bland din frälsta skara där hemma en dag! Och låt mig om möjligt även få möta någon eller några av dessa mina kära unga, som i dag för första gången trätt fram till ditt bord!"

Ella, nämndeman Helmers yngsta dotter, stannade efter kamraterna på kyrkogården. Hon hade nog plats att åka i vagnen med far och mor och syskon. Men hon hade bett att få gå genvägen genom skogen. Ensam.

Solstrålarna lekte så muntert mellan träden, men Ella tycktes ej märka det, där hon, sakta vandrade den mossmjuka stigen fram. Hon var en allvarlig, tänkande flicka, och pastorns undervisning hade gjort ett djupt intryck på henne. Hon var i djup nöd. Syndanöd. Och hon hade ingen att tala med. Far och mor och syskon levde främmande för Gud. Och de kamrater, hon kände något närmare, tycktes anse klädedräkten och det yttre uppförandet på konfirmationsdagen vara det allra viktigaste. Visserligen hade pastorn mer än en gång sagt sina konfirmander, att om det

var någon av dem, som önskade samtala med honom om det viktiga steg, de stodo i beredskap att taga, så voro de mycket välkomna till hans hem. Hon hade velat gå till prästgården och berätta, hur djupt olycklig hon var, men hon ansåg det var orätt att komma och besvara sin käre pastor med sina bekymmer.

Då de andra svarat ja på frågorna i går, hade hon förhållit sig tyst. Och det var med bävande hjärta, hon i dag trätt fram till Herrens bord. Det mesta av natten hade hon legat vaken och bett, att Herren Jesus skulle uppenbara sig för hennes nödställda hjärta just vid nattvardsbordet och tillförsäkra henne syndernas förlåtelse och sin frid. Men intet sådant hade hänt. Hon var lika orolig. "Har jag bedrivit din helige Ande, o Gud, så att den vikit ifrån mig," klagade hon. "Ack, då är jag förlorad. O, mina synder, mina synder! Herre, hjälp! Herre, fräls!"

Och Herrens löfte: "Förrän de ropa vill jag svara, och medan de ännu tala vill jag bönhöra," gingo i bokstavig uppfyllelse. Ett litet vitt blad prasslade till, då Ellas fot vidrörde det. Utan att reflektera däröver böjde Ella sig ned efter det och började läsa: "Det är fullkomnat," stod där. "Hör, du elända och bekymrade själ, som förgäves arbetat för att göra dig själv rättfärdig inför Gud: Det är allt fullkomnat av Jesus, din Frälsare och Förlösare. Bordet är dukat, bröllopsdräkten är vävd. "Den, som törstar, han komme, och den, som vill, tage livets vatten för intet." Dina synder äro verkligt försonade i Jesu död. Dina skulder äro betalda, och den eviga rättfärdigheten är framhavd av honom, som tog näpsten, på det du skulle hava frid och genom vars sår du är helad. Och vad du nu har att göra är endast att i tron taga mot Guds friskänkta gåva. "Kommen, låtom oss gå tillrätta med varandra, säger Herren, om edra synder än vore

blodröda, skola de dock varda snövita, och om de vore såsom rosenfärg, skola de vara som vit ull."

Det var som hade solen i ett nu lyst rakt in i Ellas hjärta. Herrens Ande gav henne nåd att tro att det är fullkommat. Hon knäppte samman sina händer och utbrast högt: "O, Gud, jag tackar dig! Jag har förlösning genom Jesu blod, syndernas förlåtelse efter hans nåds rikedom. Lovat vare ditt namn, min dyre Fräl-sare!"

Ella var så glad, att hon ej kunde tiga, när hon kom hem, utan berättade högt för far och mor och syskon, vilken nåd Gud bevisat henne. De sågo stort på henne och undrade, om hon ej var fullt klok. Men det bekom ej Ella något. Hon sjöng lycklig och glad:

"Pris och ära vare Herren
i all evighet,
att han kallat mig från mörkret
till sin salighet!
Tvagen i det dyra blodet,
som från korset rann,
ingen fläck hans helga öga
hos mig skåda kan."

Hennes vittnesbörd fick emellertid bliva till välsignelse för Ellas äldsta bror. Det blev ett allvarligt väckelserop till honom från Gud. Och när han strax därpå blev nedlagd på dödsbädden, var det Ella, som fick sitta vid hans bädd och ur bibeln föreläsa de välsignade sanningar som buro frid och läkedom till hans sargade själ.

Nu dröjde det ej länge, förrän Ella besökte pastor Linde och berättade för honom de stora ting, Gud gjort med henne. Och han fröjdades och prisade Gud, även han.

Hur det vita bladet hamnat på skogsstigen fick Ella aldrig klart för sig. Att Gud havt sin hand med däri var hon dock övertygad om.

Ella blev omsider lärarinna i sin hemförsamling, och under många år utsådde hon träget under bön till Gud

sanningens oförgängliga säde i de ungas hjärtan.

PRINSENS VITNESBÖRD.

Inför en församling i Karlstad, Sverige, slutade prins Bernadotte sitt anförande med följande ord: "För mig personligen måste jag bekänna, att det största jag kan tänka mig är att vara ett Jesu Kristi vittne. Man skulle tro, att en person i min ställning alltid måste vara lycklig. Men det är inte så. Om en människa ägde det bästa på jorden, vore hon likväl icke nöjd. Hjärtat längtar efter något bättre. Först sedan Herren Jesus dragit in i mitt hjärta, känner jag ingen otillfredsställd längtan mer. Att i ord och vandel vara ett hans kärleks vittne är min önskan och mitt mål. Och det vill jag säga till alla, som vilja höra mig: 'Det är en fröjd att tjäna honom'."

LAG MOT ATT SVÄRJA.

Mot oseden att använda svordomar har man i Italien vidtagit särskilda stränga åtgärder. Det är nu vid laga ansvar förbjudet att svärja, och även kyrkan bekämpar av all makt denna fula vana. På fabriker och större arbetsplatser är det alldeles förbjudet att använda svordomar, och den arbetare, som bryter häremot, riskerar att genast få sitt avsked.

Det kunde behöva vidtagas kraftåtgärder även i vårt land mot denna osed. Varje skandinavisk man och kvinna borde beflita sig om att föra ett höviskt språk på tungan och aldrig missbruka Herrens namn eller åberopa den onde. Detta borde anses höra till god uppfostran.

De eviga stjärnorna lysa fram så snart som det är mörkt nog.

* * *

Om du känner dig förbisedd i församlingen, bed till Gud och gå till arbete.

De gudar som vi tillbedja skriva sina namn på våra ansikten.

* * *

Gud besvarar alltid bön, men ibland i sin oändliga visdom säger han: Nej.

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