FROM CENTURY TO CENTURY
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH PRO-
CLAIMS HER UNCHANGING
FAITH THAT JESUS CHRIST
DIED FOR ALL.

Facts and Figures
Concerning the
Lutheran Church

from the Lutheran Exhibit

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH
AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
AUGUSTANA SYNOD
LUTHERAN FREE CHURCH
UNITED DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ICELANDIC SYNOD

Arranged by their common agency
THE NATIONAL LUTHERAN COUNCIL
39 East 35th Street, New York, N. Y.

at the
HALL OF RELIGION
A Century of Progress
Chicago
1934
Early Beginnings

Lutherans have been identified with the history of America from its earliest Settlement. The first Lutheran pastor to set foot upon American soil was Rasmus Jensen, who accompanied the Danish expedition under Jens Munk to Hudson Bay in 1619, where the first Lutheran services on this continent were held.

As early as 1623 a permanent settlement of Lutherans came from Holland to Manhattan Island and later settled in what is now "The Bronx" which was named after one of their leaders, Jonas Bronck.

In 1638 a Swedish colony was settled on the banks of the Delaware River, founding in the same year the first Lutheran congregation in America. Pastor Reorus Torkillus, the first Lutheran pastor in the United States, came to the colony in 1640. Under the leadership of Pastor Campanius, who arrived in 1643, the first Lutheran Church was dedicated in 1646 in Fort Christina, now Wilmington, Delaware. Campanius learned the language of the Delaware Indians, became the first Protestant missionary to the Redman and translated Luther's Small Catechism into their language.

In 1708 to 1710 several thousand Palatines under the leadership of Rev. Joshua Kocherthal and John Conrad Weiser, Sr., settled along the banks of the Hudson River. Led by Pastors Bolzius and Gronau twelve hundred Salzburgers landed at Savannah, Georgia, March 10, 1734. Two years later, in 1736, the first orphanage in America was established by these Lutherans in Georgia.

Organization

The pioneer Lutherans coming to America organized the congregations of their respective elements into Synods, the first being the Ministryum of Pennsylvania organized by Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg in 1748. As the country developed and Lutheran immigration from various European countries increased the number of organizations multiplied. Today there is a marked tendency toward unification of these bodies. All but three per cent of the Lutherans in the United States are now in three almost equal groups. Their world strength today is: United Lutheran Church in America organized in 1918, Baptized Membership: 1,669,708, Churches: 5,580, Pastors: 3,581

American Lutheran Conference composed of the American Lutheran Church, the Augustana Synod, the Norwegian Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Free Church and the United Danish Synod, organized in 1930. Baptized membership: 1,502,744, Churches: 7,289, Pastors: 4,257

Synodical Conference composed of the Missouri Synod, the Joint Wisconsin Synod, the Slovak Synod and the Norwegian Synod, organized in 1872. Baptized Membership: 1,488,592, Churches: 5,991, Pastors: 4,511

(Includes Colored Missions)

Not included are: Eielson Synod, Lutheran Brethren, Danish Church, the Finnish Suo- mi, National and Apostolic Churches. Total baptized membership in U. S. 154,057, churches 663, pastors 281.

Statistics

Total in the world: Membership: 82,186,000
Congregations: 79,000
Churches: 50,000
Languages used: 150
Foreign mission and Bible societies: 220

Total for United States: Baptized members: 4,381,094
Confirmed members: 2,599,220
Congregations: 15,469
Pastors: 11,298
Institutions: 660
Church School Pupils: 1,791,291
Property: $525,000,000

Doctrine

Lutherans accept the canonical books of the Old and the New Testament as the inspired Word of God and as the only infallible authority in all matters of faith and practice. They believe and teach that man is saved by grace through faith, not of himself but as the gift of God. Eph. 2:8. The Lutheran faith does not center in the doctrine of the sovereignty of God, or in the Church, but in the Gospel of Christ for fallen men. Biblical in doctrine, reverent in worship, free in ethics, committed to higher justice and loyalty to the Church, the Lutheran Church continues to proclaim her unchanging faith that Jesus Christ died for all.

The Exhibit

The Mural

The interpretation of the story of the Lutheran Church is built around the great mural 32 feet long and 8 feet wide in which the portrait of Christ is the focal point. He is inviting with outstretched hands people of every nation to come to Him. The crown of thorns symbolizes His suffering for mankind and the palm branch, the victory. The Lutheran Church holds fast to the old Gospel of salvation through the faith in Christ alone.

At the right is the portrayal of the great ministry of mercy and love of the Church as it expresses itself in the care of orphans, homeless children, the sick, the poor, the infirm, the aged, the blind and the helpless, under the direction and care of consecrated nurses and deaconesses. At the extreme right is depicted the great work of Christian education and training. The ministry of the Word and Sacraments is set forth by the clergyman in the background.

At the left the great enterprise of missions at home and abroad is beautifully illustrated in the characters which represent the field of missionary endeavor. Beginning at the extreme left will be found in successive order representatives of New Guinea, India, Japan, China, Africa and America. In the last mentioned group are found city and country folk, Negroes, Indians and Mexicans. The missions are represented in the rear at the extreme left.

The Bible

In 1534 Dr. Martin Luther completed the translation of the Bible into the German. In 1534 there are approximately one thousand translations of parts or the whole of the Bible into as many different languages and dialects.

The Catechism

An interesting exhibit of Dr. Martin Luther's Catechism, translated into 123 languages and dialects, is also included.
The Augsburg Publishing House Exhibit

This exhibit emphasizes three means of bringing the Christian Message to all people:
- Christian Literature
- Choral Music
- Ecclesiastical Art

In 1933 Augsburg Publishing House distributed more than 9,000,000 pieces of religious literature, music and art.

Christian Literature

For those wishing to be constantly informed on new religious books, may we suggest a membership in the Current Literature Reading Club.

The following is a selection of books suggested for the home library:
- The Bible
- The Catechism
- Why I Am a Christian: O. Halleisy
- Problems of Young Christians: Martin Hegland

The Way of Salvation in the Lutheran Church: Gerberding
- Prayer: O. Halleisy
- Conscience: O. Halleisy
- The Story of Our Hymns: E. E. Ryden
- Walking With God: Martin Hegland

We invite you to join the Pocket Testament League which now has more than 11,000 members.

This ten study series is an important set of books for every Sunday school teacher and parent:
- Ten Studies on the Child—learning to know the child.

Ten Studies in Religious Pedagogy—how to teach religion in the twentieth century.
- Ten Studies on the Sunday School—building up an efficient organization.
- Ten Studies in the Catechism—the greatest little book in the world.
- Ten Studies in Biblical History—portraying the growth of the Kingdom of Christ.
- Ten Studies in Church Doctrines—the main doctrines of the most Scriptural Church on earth.
- Ten Studies on the Lutheran Church—its confessions, organization, worship, hymnology, educational, missionary and charitable agencies.
- Ten Studies in Church History—from the founding of the Church till the present day.

Choral Music

Dr. F. Melius Christiansen, who is the well-known director of the world-famous St. Olaf Lutheran Choir, is also the composer of the St. Olaf Choir Series of Choral Music. As the musical advisor to the Augsburg Publishing House, he has prepared a most useful Manual which includes a comprehensive selection and grading according to difficulty of the available recommended choral numbers. This is now available to choir directors and pastors.

Ecclesiastical Art

The art department of the Augsburg Publishing House is used for the purpose of illustrating our religious periodicals and developing suitable suggestions for the use of the ecclesiastical arts in the churches, such as: Stained glass windows, altar paintings, and religious pictures for the school rooms.