

**MY CHURCH: AN
ILLUSTRATED LUTHERAN
MANUAL, VOL. VI**

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My Church: An Illustrated Lutheran Manual, Vol. VI by Ira O. Nothstein

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IRA O. NOTHSTEIN

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ILLUSTRATED LUTHERAN
MANUAL, VOL. VI**



FAITH.

"Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."—Hebrews 11: 6.

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MY CHURCH

AN ILLUSTRATED LUTHERAN MANUAL

PERTAINING PRINCIPALLY TO THE HISTORY,
WORK AND SPIRIT OF THE
AUGUSTANA SYNOD

VOLUME VI

EDITED BY

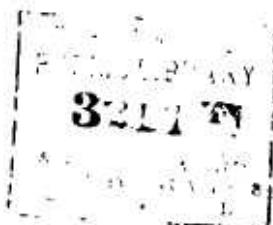
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A Blessed Retreat

1. How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!
2. My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.
3. Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.
4. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee.
10. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. PSALM 84.

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The House of Prayer

*"Jesus! where'er Thy people meet,
There they behold Thy mercy seat;
Where'er they seek Thee, Thou art found,
And every place is hallow'd ground.*

*Dear Shepherd of Thy chosen few!
Thy former mercies here renew;
Here to our waiting hearts proclaim
The sweetness of Thy saving name.*

*Here may we prove the power of prayer,
To strengthen faith, and sweeten care;
To teach our faint desires to rise,
And bring all Heaven before our eyes."*

COWPER.



FOREWORD

By *Dr. NILS FORSANDER*

This interesting, instructive and churchly year-book, "My Church," is issued in the service of our Lutheran congregations. An illustrated Lutheran manual such as this deserves to be heartily recommended to all the members of the Synod, because it contains many good sketches from the history of the Swedish Church in the old Fatherland and also from the history of the Lutheran Church in this country. The reading of the lives of faithful Christians encourages and guides true church members; and if we learn to know our history as a Synod, we will be the more zealous for the true welfare and progress of God's kingdom among us.

The fact that this is the sixtieth anniversary year of the organization of our Synod reminds us again of the pioneers in the work of our church in America.

The pioneer pastor of the Augustana Synod, Rev. L. P. Esbjörn, came to America from Gefle, Sweden, together with a company of immigrants, and settled in Illinois in 1849. He organized Swedish Lutheran congregations in Andover, Moline and Geneseo in 1850, and in Galesburg in 1851. Older than these congregations is the one in New Sweden, Iowa, which was organized in 1848. The patriarch of the Augustana Synod, Dr. T. N. Hasselquist, came to Galesburg in 1852, and organized the Lutheran Immanuel church in Chicago in 1855 and, in the same year also the congregations in Knoxville and Geneva. Later there came from Sweden, pastors Erland Carlsson, 1853; Jonas Swensson and O. C. T. André, 1856. The immigration increased, many congregations were organized and pastors were ordained here to take charge of them: M. F. Håkanson, 1853; E. Norelius, P. A. Cederstam and A. Andreen, 1856; P. Carlson, P. Beckman and J. P. C. Boreen in 1859.

Pastor L. P. Esbjörn and his congregation united in 1851 with the Lutheran Synod of Northern Illinois, organized in Cedarville, Ill., in that year. This synod, before his arrival, had adopted as an article in its constitution, the following declaration: "The Synod regards God's Word as the only, perfect rule of faith and life and the Augsburg Confession as containing a summary of the fundamental doctrines of the Christian religion, mainly correct." Against this article Pastor Esbjörn registered a protest, as did also Dr. Hasselquist, who united with the synod on his arrival, at its meeting in Chicago in 1852. At the synodical meeting in Galesburg, 1853, this article was so changed that the word "mainly" was stricken, and