

# Farstrup-Mortensen Annual Memorial Lecture Series

Solvang, CA Feb. 28, March 1 and 2, 1997

Our twelfth annual lecture series in Solvang is scheduled for February 28, March 1 and 2, 1997 and we hope many of you are planning to attend. We promise you a rich weekend of not only lectures but group singing, devotions, choir, folk-dancing, meals and FELLOWSHIP at our Bethania Parish Hall and Fireside Room.

Our speakers reflect the rich diversity that will fill this weekend. From Denmark, OLE RIIS brings our first talk Friday at 3:00, titled "Family Values: A World Perspective", and Saturday forenoon will relate "Grundtvig's Influence in Denmark Today". Riis is on the theological faculty of Aarhus University's Institute for Religious Studies. Among his publications, "Danskenes Verdier" about values among Danes of today reached the TOP-10 list. His work as a planning consultant "included regulating the squatter township of Christiania for the Danish Ministers of Defense and of Housing. The report led to legalizing Christiania."

Friday evening, Nancy Jacobsen will take us "Exploring the Deep Sea; The Monterey Submarine Canyon". Nancy is research technician at Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute and head of MBARI's video lab where video taken from the institute's submersibles are logged. Great-granddaughter of Evald Kristensen, she has strong personal ties to our community, with her maternal grandmother living in Solvang.

Saturday morning, retired presiding bishop of E.L.C.A., Herbert Chilstrom will bring us "A New Look at the Bible". With a full professional career and honors and awards too numerous to mention, certainly one of the pleasures of Chilstrom's retirement is the time he now can devote to conferences such as ours. He will also be preaching the Sunday morning sermons.

Rick Marzullo will tell and demonstrate the "History of Paper Cutting" Saturday afternoon. His shows and lectures include Solvang's Elverhoj Museum, Elderhostel Programs, and his seasonal banners adorn Bethania's sanctuary. Emphasizing Danish traditional patterns, his design and artwork will be familiar to us all in Danish Immigrant Museum's Christmas card this year.

Morning devotions will be led by Pastor Rich Ajer, our associate pastor at Bethania.

We begin our days with song and end with a dance—Suzanne Hollrah will lead our group sing, ably accompanied by Loretta McConnell on the piano, while Olaf Lund puts the conference choir through its paces, and Clayton Nielsen calls the steps for evenings of folk-and circle-dances.

Activities begin with registration at 1:00 P.M. on Friday and conclude with Sunday morning worship services. The registration fee of \$50.00 includes all lectures and fellowship meals Friday and Saturday. Send

inquiries to Bethania Lutheran Church, 603 Atterdag Road, Solvang 93463 or phone (805) 688-4637.

Many of you may be interested to know that American Eagle, Delta Sky West, and United Express fly into both Santa Barbara and Santa Maria. American West also flies into Santa Barbara.

The AMTRAK bus connects to Solvang from the Santa Barbara train station.

**Elisabeth Jacobsen  
Publicity**

## Letter to the Editor

I am writing to pay tribute to our dear friend Aage Knudsen who left this visible life last month. As you know, Aage elected to take responsibility to give support to my effort to win a seat in Congress. This was a very magnanimous act on his part, and it gave me and us a great boost of courage to go out and do what we have to do to achieve the objective. Understandably, Aage's support meant so much, but even more was his affirmation that our reason for doing all of this right now was in full keeping with the Grundtvigian teachings in which he had been born, raised, and lived his entire life. As readers of Church and Life now recognize, I was a late-comer to N.F.S. Grundtvig. But I received my training under the men and women of Solvang — Enok Mortensen, Einar Farstrup, Carlo Petersen, Aage Knudsen, Ragnild Farstrup, Thyra Larsen, and others -together with such strong and commendable inspirers, including Ellen Sorensen, Thyra Nussle, Bodil Sorensen, Elsie Hansen, Ardis Petersen, and that wonderful assemblage of people at Tyler in past Augusts.

My wife and I visited the Lutheran Home in Solvang for a Sunday morning breakfast just days before Aage's death. Suzanne Hollrah asked me to give the opening devotions, and I spoke on the verse: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." I referred to our recent auto collision, and told how powerfully this has taught us that we have but one day at a time, and it behooves us to give thanks for the blessings of each one. Aage was beaming as I was talking, and I directed my closing words to him. He was a wonderful friend. After all of the work he has put in on my behalf, I suspect it bothers him that he won't be present to celebrate election victory. But I will invoke his presence on that day, giving thanks for all of the days he gave us.

After what we have experienced these past months, I am confident that the primary difference between this life and the next one has to do with contrasts between visibility and invisibility. I know that Aage continues to cheer us on, from upper bleachers. I'm running hard these days because we have a responsibility to do so. But I also give thanks, each day — for a day the Lord has made. And I rejoice because we were blessed to know Aage Knudsen, and to watch his smile and his eyes sparkle when we were bearers of good news.

**Walter H. Capps**