

## FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

As you are aware, at the end of last year, congregations of the AELC and the ULMA had both unanimously voted to enter into full fellowship with each other. The ULMA were going to acknowledge this among Lutheran circles in the United States by making a written public declaration. This job was left to Pastor William Mack who has now sent a copy of this declaration, printed below. Please remember both churches in your prayers.

### **The United Lutheran Missions Association declares full fellowship with the Australian Evangelical Lutheran Church**

The United Lutheran Missions Association recently declared full altar, pulpit and prayer fellowship with the Australian Evangelical Lutheran Church (A.E.L.C.).

In a world that is falling apart spiritually and with “Lutherans” breaking off into Romanistic, legalistic and emotionalistic mindsets, what a blessing it is to have spiritual brethren who are united in the Truth of God’s Word! Ironically, the U.L.M.A. (United Lutheran Missions Association) looked nationwide in the United States for “like-minded” brethren but, being “old Missouri” in doctrine and practice, we could not find any church groups that were true to the Holy Scriptures. Some were far to the “left”; literally denying every teaching of our dear Small Catechism. Others are “wending their way” down the path of Rome as they twist the precious doctrines of Church and Ministry into a “Lutheran Papistic” collage. Others hold that any form of dancing is “sin” or that ordination is a “sacrament”. Still others, on “paper”, hold to the “old teachings” of the Bible while practicing women’s suffrage, theistic evolution, open communion, women elders, etc.. How sad.

Praise God we, in the U.L.M.A., have found “like minded brethren” in the A.E.L.C.! What a blessing to know that the Living Water has nourished the Seed of Truth in souls “Down Under”! When the Truth left Germany in the 19<sup>th</sup> century as faithful, Confessional Lutherans were driven out, some went to the West; up the Mississippi River; founding the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Others from Germany went southeast to Australia. A remnant stayed true to the teachings of Luther, Walther, etc.. Such are found, today, in the U.L.M.A. and the A.E.L.C.. What a blessing they are to a spiritually darkened world. The Light of Christ shines brightly from them.

May He Who blessed them from Above with faith continue to nourish and protect this union to His glory, to the edification of the saints and to the conversion of many more souls. “Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!” indeed.

Sola Deo Gloria

Pastor William C. Mack (U.L.M.A.)