

The Deaf Lutheran



Blessed, yes happy, is the home where God is the Lord.

February 1972

Memories Are Made of the Little Things

I lost a friend the other day. He died. His death was not altogether unexpected, but, as it always does, death comes with a shock. Now there is nothing new about this, for it happens all the time, and in many instances death is welcomed; it is a blessed end to a cruel circumstance of life.

But this was not the case with my friend; and because he was my friend, his death startles. It intrudes upon your thoughts. It becomes personalized. I find myself thinking not so much about the accomplishments of a friend although they were numerous, but rather I remember the way in which he would react to a good story and the way he could zero in on a problem with all the attention and determination he was capable of mustering. I recall what would irritate him and how he would react. A mental picture of his special walk flashes into the mind. It's the little things you remember about friends.

Perhaps friendship is built on little kindnesses, on tolerance for little weaknesses, and on mutual encouragement in little strengths. At any rate, it is the little things that are remembered at the death of a friend.

This is not strange at all, according to a Christian funeral director with whom I talked. In fact, these are the things that survivors need to recall and talk about if the process of grief is to progress favorably.

The death of a friend, however, causes a Christian to reflect more personally about the whole pur-

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Rev. Herbert W. Rohe, Secretary for Deaf Missions, 210 N. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo. 63102. Ph. (314) 231-6969.

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pose of life and the life that comes after death.

It seems to me that life without purpose is unthinkable. Even a purposeful life is rather useless, unless it is related to the life after death — unless, of course, a person believes there is no life after death.

But I do, and I know where I'm going, and I know why I'll get there. I'll get there because Jesus lived and died and lived again. He makes me what I am with God, my Redeemer — a forgiven sinner. But more. Frankly I am a saint, a person without sin. And so the purpose of life becomes service to my Lord in whatever place or situation I am, recognizing that service is probably most often related to little things that we do and say to others.

We live to die so as to live again, even as Jesus Christ lived and died and lived again. It seems to me that this is what Lent and Easter and life and death are all about!

JON SUEL

(Jon Suel writes a regular column for the Lutheran Layman, from which this article was clipped some time ago. ED.)

God Blesses the Deaf in Japan

On October 27 it was my privilege to meet Rev. Mitsuyoshi Kojima, Lutheran pastor working among the deaf in Tokyo, Japan, at the Tokyo Lutheran Center, where both of us were participating in observances of the 20th anniversary of the Japan Lutheran Hour. This was my first opportunity to meet him since last spring at the monthly worship service, conducted jointly for the Tokyo Lutheran deaf and the hearing congregation at the Tokyo Lutheran Center.

I was pleased to receive a report from Pastor Kojima regarding his work, which is supported by both the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Japan Lutheran Church. The report covered the years 1969—1970. Meetings are held in eight different locations in Tokyo, with an average of 12 meetings per month. Total monthly attendance at these meetings increased from an average of about 110 during 1969 to over 200 per month in 1970. There were five baptisms each year. The attendance at the special Christmas services in 1969 and 1970 increased from 37 to 70 persons. All of this is evidence of the Lord's guidance and benedictions upon this ministry in Tokyo.

The future of the work is also in the Lord's hands. May financial considerations not become a deterrent to the work as the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church carries out its resolve to become self-supporting by 1974.

Pastor Kojima also mentioned that they are giving serious attention to the question of the relative value and effectiveness of continuing to have joint services with



Rev. Mitsuyoshi Kojima (standing right), pastor to the deaf in Japan, ministers to this group of deaf that meets regularly in the home of one of the members

hearing congregations, compared to the possibilities of separate worship services for the deaf. Apparently the advantages or disadvantages of either arrangement are being weighed carefully. The important question in this, as well as other matters related to this ministry, is how the Word of God can be brought most effectively to the largest number of the deaf as well as the hearing in Tokyo and in all of Japan.

> PAUL H. STREGE Secretary for East Asia

Key 73

"Calling Our Continent to Christ" will be the official theme of Key 73, the first interdenominational program of spiritual outreach in North America.

The theme, as well as a program calendar for the yearlong effort in 1973, was adopted in principle by a unanimous vote of the Key 73 Central Committee during a two-day meeting in St. Louis which closed Oct. 26.

Most of North America's major denominations are pledged to cooperate in the effort. All have one representative each on the Key 73 Central Committee, which now numbers more than 100.

Key 73 is a historical venture because it marks the first time representatives of a number of leading North American communions have agreed to work together in a major evangelistic effort.

Highlights of the plan range

from television specials to local church Bible study and prayer meetings. The emphases are at Christmas and Easter.

Key 73 has been in the planning stages since 1967.

The Signs You See in Church

The Sign for "God"

In the city of Paris there is a statue of the Abbe de l'Epee standing with a deaf child. He holds up his right hand with the letter "D." The French word for "God" is "Dieu."

Later in this country, when the signs were introduced, the letter G was used. This was the sign for many years.

Another sign was admissible: the full hand, raised up somewhat above and in front of the head with a respectful movement towards the heavens. See Long's *Manual of Signs*, p. 160.

In using the "G" hand, however, many pastors found a problem. How can one sign "Thou"

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or "You" when speaking to God? For example, in Psalm 140:6 we read, "I said unto the Lord, Thou art my God." The sign for "Thou" and the sign for "God" would be so much the same that the sense would be lost. In order to have a sign for "Thou" it is best to use the full hand for the sign for God and the "G" hand for Thou or He.

It is because the need for this change appeared so often in sermons and instruction classes that the full hand has become the common sign for God.

In Psalm 18:2 we read: "The Lord is my Rock and my Fortress, my God, my Strength, in Him I will trust." In that verse the need for such a sign is very plain. It also gives us a variation. In Psalm 16:1 we read, "Preserve me, O God, in Thee do I trust." The sign is very helpful in psalms and in the signing of hymns.

G. W. GAERTNER

(This is the eighth article of Dr. G. W. Gaertner's series on church signs reprinted by request from the 1959 DEAF LUTHERAN. ED.)



FIELD

GLEANINGS

Honors Pastor Westermann for 50th Anniversary

Fort Wayne, Ind. The members of St. John's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Fort Wayne, arranged a surprise dinner Sunday, Nov. 14, for their pastor, Dr. Walter A. Westermann, in honor of the 50th anniversary of his ordination. The advanced sign class at Concordia Senior College took an active part in the observance during the worship hour. Fred Anson, the speaker, based his remarks on Joshua 1:6. Robert Graff was the lector, Garry Bender the liturgist, and Mark Andrew signed the doxology.



Fred Rines (right), president of St. John's Congregation, presents a certificate of service to his pastor, Dr. Westermann, commemorating his 50th anniversary. With them are Mrs. Selma Westermann (center); Richard Holle, treasurer; and Mrs. Betty Holle, secretary



St. John's Congregation, Fort Wayne, Ind., enjoys a potluck dinner in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Dr. W. Westermann's ordination



Members of the sign class at Concordia Senior College. L. to r.: Fred Anson, Garry Bender, David Gerlach, Robert Graff, Mark Andrew, and Dr. Westermann

A bountiful dinner of Kentucky fried chicken and all the trimmings was enjoyed by the congregation. The members also presented the pastor with a gift of money and a certificate of service as a token of their love.

St. John's is one of the oldest congregations in our mission, established some 74 years ago. For the first time in many years they are enjoying a morning worship service every Sunday.

Ephphatha Happenings

Chicago, Ill. A new front window of glass block and an intaglio ceramic cross were installed at Ephphatha Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Chicago, Oct. 24.

The next Sunday, Oct. 31, the congregation honored Mrs. Hattie Odom, who was celebrating her 80th birthday. They presented her with a corsage, gathered for a surprise party following the church service, and gave her many gifts.

The congregation also has an active young adult group that meets on Friday evenings. Besides having a few parties, the group has toured the Museum of Science and Industry and performed a drama of the creation and fall into sin.

Ephphatha Celebrates!

Chicago, Ill. The Ladies' Guild of Ephphatha Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Chicago, hosted a Thanksgiving banquet Sunday, Nov. 21. Their purpose was to introduce their new lay minister, Robert Oettel, to the deaf of Chicago's South Side.



While members and friends of Ephphatha Congregation look on, five pose for a picture: Rev. Charles Jones, William Golden, Robert Oettel, Rev. Ernest Scheibert, and Robert Case



Pastor Daniel Hodgson interprets the remarks of Louis Frillman, principal of the Lexington School for the Deaf, New York, at St. Matthew's 60th anniversary banquet. Other guests at the head table are (l. to r.) Warren King, Rev. H. Rohe, Melvin Luebke, Mrs. Luebke, Mrs. Kraus, Rev. G. Kraus and Fr. Dyer (story next page)

Fortunately, the ladies had prepared enough food, for 125 people attended the banquet. Many of them had very little contact with Ephphatha Church before.

Besides Robert and Carol Oettel and their daughters Victoria and Kristina, special guests at the banquet included Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Scheibert, retired pastor to the deaf in the Chicago area; Rev. Charles Jones, pastor to the deaf in Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Case of Milwaukee, where Robert is studying at LLTI; and about 20 members of Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf, North Chicago.

After the banquet the Ephphatha Choir, directed by Mrs. Cecilia Saddler, presented a selection, "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit," with solos by Mrs. Katie Brown and Mrs. Saddler. Then William Golden, lay worship leader at Ephphatha, read a brief history of Ephphatha Congregation, emphasizing how he himself was brought to know His Savior Jesus through the work of Ephphatha Church and its former pastor, Rev. Leroy Mason.

Pastor Scheibert then told of his memories of the early days of Ephphatha, and Mr. Case added his comments on the present congregation. Chairlady of the banquet and mistress of ceremonies for the program was Mrs. Esther Dorsey, president of the Ephphatha Ladies' Guild.

New York Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Elmhurst, N.Y. St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Elmhurst, looks back 60 years to the first Lutheran service for the deaf of New York, conducted by Rev. Arthur Boll, Sept. 24, 1911. On that date Pastor Boll preached on the text Luke 15:1-10, "The Value of a Soul," to 13 deaf and 4 hearing people.

For most people an anniversary is an important event because it is a time to remember the wonderful blessings God has given us. Eight pastors have served us: Rev. A. Boll, Rev. F. Possehl, Rev. G. Kraus, Rev. W. Hausmann, Rev. D. Simon, Rev. L. Jasper, Rev. O. Anderson, and now Rev. D. Hodgson. We have also had



Warren King, master of ceremonies at the second banquet, prepares to offer a toast



Rev. C. Roland Gerhold, guest speaker at the second banquet

nine vicars and many wonderful teachers and volunteer workers.

On Sept. 24, 1971, we celebrated our 60th anniversary with a banquet for members only. First we had a worship service conducted by Pastor Kraus, Pastor Hodgson, Vicar A. Page, Warren King, and Pastor R. Ressmeyer, president of the Atlantic District, who gave a fine sermon. Our choir was accompanied by a rented organ.

The number 60 seemed to be a lucky number, because 60 members attended the banquet. Pastor Kraus, our third pastor (1949 to 1955) and now pastor at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, was guest speaker. The banquet was delicious, and we really had a great time.

Since we also wanted to invite

our friends to celebrate with us, we decided to have another banquet on Sept. 26 at Dante Caterer nearby. A good crowd of 145 people attended. Warren King did a fine job as the master of ceremonies. Pastor C. R. Gerhold, our interesting guest speaker, used as his theme "I Remember When ..."

The procedure of the program was about the same as the Friday banquet. Pastor Hodgson on both occasions gave out a certificate to each member present. Two of our members have belonged to St.



Matthew's congregation for 59 years.

The banquets were a great success and our committee — Warren King, Linda King, and Dorothy Cohler — did a remarkable job.

We can now look back and say, "I remember when . . ." and in the year 2031 we can look down from heaven and say, "I remember when I attended the 60th anniversary banquet celebration of St. Matthew's Congregation back in 1971."

> DOROTHY COHLER in the New York *Newsletter*

- 9 _____ Psalm 119:113-120
- 10 _____ 1 Corinthians 2:7-16
- 11 Ephesians 1:3-11
- 12 Hebrews 1:1-14

The Promises of God

- 13 Sunday Deuteronomy 5:1-10
- 14 _____ Deuteronomy 5:24-33
- 15 Ezekiel 34: 20-31
- 16 _____ John 12: 44-50
- 17 _____ Acts 26:6-19
- 18 Romans 4:17-21
- 19 Colossians 1:12-23

The Covenant Relationship with God

- 20 Sunday Genesis 9:8-17
- 21 _____ Deuteronomy 33: 26-29
- 22 _____ Ezekiel 37:21-28
- 23 _____ Zechariah 9:9-17
- 24 Romans 8: 24-39
- 25 _____ Hebrews 8:6-13
- 26 _____ Hebrews 10:12-22

Hope in Christ and His Resurrection

- 27 Sunday 1 Corinthians 15:12-21
- 28 _____ 2 Corinthians 4:1-7
- 29 _____ 2 Corinthians 4:8-18
- 27



Some of the 145 guests at the second 60th anniversary banquet of St. Matthew's Congregation in New York City

-Directory-Regular Sunday Services

The listings in this directory are limited to those congregations that conduct services every Sunday.

In addition to these, your Lutheran missionaries serve 184 preaching stations throughout the United States and Canada.

If you are interested in these unlisted once-or-twice-a-month services in your state, the pastor serving your area is listed on page 31 of this magazine. He will be happy to answer any questions.

For your information as you read this directory, "SS" means Sunday school, "BC" means Bible class, and times listed are a.m. except where noted otherwise.

ARIZONA

Phoenix, Our Savior N. 15th Ave. and W. Maryland Worship — 9:30 Rev. Theodore Frederking, pastor

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles, Pilgrim 1233 S. Vermont Ave. SS — 10:00. Worship — 11:00 Rev. Leroy Mason, pastor

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington, Christ

5101 — 16th St. N. W. Worship — 10:00 Gallaudet College (school yr.) — 11:30 Rev. Robert Muller, pastor

FLORIDA

Miami, Deaf Zion

15000 N. W. 27th Ave. Worship — 11:00 Vacant Mrs. J. Miller, parish worker Paul Consoer, lay assistant

ILLINOIS

Chicago, North, Our Savior

7151 West Cornelia Ave. Worship — 10:30 Rev. C. Jones, pastor Robert Oettel, lay minister

Chicago, South, Ephphatha

7956 S. M. L. King Dr. Worship — 11:00Rev. C. Jones, vacancy pastor Robert Oettel, lay minister Jacksonville, Christ

104 Finley St. SS — 9:00. Worship — 10:00 Rev. Orlin Anderson, pastor

MISSOURI

Kansas City, Pilgrim

38th St. & Gillham Road SS & BC — 9:45. Worship — 10:45 Tuesday BC — 7:30 p. m. Rev. A. E. Ferber, pastor

St. Louis, Holy Cross

101 N. Beaumont BC — 9:00. Worship — 10:00 BC, SS — 11:15 Rev. Martin Hewitt, pastor

MONTANA

Great Falls, Christ

3726 5th Ave. N. SS — 9:30. Worship — 10:45 Vacant Don Fairman, lay minister

NEBRASKA

Omaha, Bethlehem

51st and Lake Sts. Worship — 10:30 Rev. W. H. Lange, pastor Gilbert Berninghaus, lay minister

NEW JERSEY

Newark, St. Matthew's

510 Parker St. at Ballantine Pky. SS — 10:00. Worship — 10:00 Rev. C. R. Gerhold, pastor

NEW YORK

Elmhurst, St. Matthew

41—01 75th St. SS — 9:30. BC — 10:00 Worship — 11:00 Rev. Daniel Hodgson, pastor Vicar Allan Page

New York, St. Mark, at Mt. Zion

145th at Convent Worship — 3:00 p.m. BC — 4:00 p.m. Rev. Daniel Hodgson, pastor

Rochester, Alpha

580 Winton Rd. N. BC — 9:30. Worship — 10:45 NTID, worship — 9:30 Rev. R. Rynearson, pastor Vicar Larry Guenzel

NORTH DAKOTA

Devil's Lake SS --- 9:00. BC --- 9:45 Worship --- 8:10 Rev. R. Leonhardt, pastor

Oakland, Memorial Chapel 1011 Grove St. Worship — 10:00. BC — 11:15 Rev. Clark Bailey, pastor

Riverside, at Hope 2882 Arlington Ave. CSDR Worship — 8:30 Rev. G. Gehrs, pastor

- San Francisco,
- Shepherd of the Hills Diamond Heights & Addison Worship — 11:00. BC — 9:30 Rev. Marlin Sampson, pastor
- Sunnyvale, St. Luke 1025 The Dalles Worship — 11:00 Marion Van Manen, lay minister

COLORADO

Denver, Bethel 700 S. Franklin St. Worship — 11:00 Rev. Donald Zuhn, pastor

CONNECTICUT

West Hartford, Lutheran 31 W. Beacon St. Worship — 9:30 Wed. BC — 7:15 p. m. Rev. Earl J. Thaler, pastor

INDIANA

Indianapolis, Peace 4201 N. College Ave. Worship — 10:30 Vacant

IOWA

Des Moines, Calvary 7th and Forest Avenue Worship — 10:30. BC — 9:30 Rev. James Bengelsdorf, pastor

MICHIGAN

Detroit, Our Savior 6861 E. Nevada Ave. SS — 10:00. Worship — 10:00 Rev. Russel Johnson, pastor

Flint, St. Paul's 1201 W. 12th St. Worship — 10:30. SS — 10:00 Rev. W. O. Neisch, pastor Saginaw, Holy Cross Court St. & Fayette Worship — 1:45 p. m. Rev. W. O. Neisch, pastor

MINNESOTA

St. Paul, Prince of Peace 205 N. Otis Street Worship — 10:30 Rev. Richard Reinap, pastor

OHIO

Cleveland, Christ E. 25th and Payne, downtown SS — 9:30. Worship — 10:45 Wednesday BC — 7:00 p. m. Rev. Myron Prok, pastor

Columbus, Holy Cross 360 Morse Road SS and BC — 9:30. Worship — 10:45 Wednesday BC — 7:30 p.m. Vacant Robert Henrikson, lay minister

Toledo, Good Shep., at St. Paul's 428 N. Erie St. SS and Worship — 11:00 Rev. A. L. Hauptman, pastor

OREGON

Portland, Hope 1700 NE 132nd St. Worship — 10:30 Rev. George Natonick, pastor

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh, Trinity 409 Swissvale Ave. SS, BC — 10:00. Worship — 11:00 Rev. George Ring, pastor

SOUTH DAKOTA

Sioux Falls, Trinity 101 S. Mable Ave. Worship — 10:00 Rev. Walter Uhlig, pastor

TENNESSEE

Memphis, Eternal Mercy 2323 Monroe Avenue BC — 9:45. Worship — 11:00 Rev. Donald Leber, pastor

TEXAS

Austin, Jesus 1307 Newton Ave. Worship — 9:45 Rev. Don Haug, pastor

VERMONT

Brattleboro, at Trinity Western Ave. Worship — 10:30 Mrs. Lynn Stone, interpreter

WASHINGTON

Seattle, Our Redeemer 1101 15th Ave. BC — 10:15. Worship — 11:00 Rev. William A. Ludwig, pastor

Spokane, Faith 3722 North West Blvd. BC — 9:45. Worship — 11:00 Rev. George Winkler, pastor

WISCONSIN

Delavan, Holy Cross Walnut St. and Walworth Ave. School Year SS — 9:15 Adult BC — 9:35 Worship — 10:30 Rev. M. Kosche, pastor Wilhelm Wegner, lay minister

Madison, Silent 1929 Huxley St. Worship — 9:30 Rev. Robert Corl, pastor Vicar Kenneth Schnepp

Milwaukee, Emmanuel 4328 W. North Ave. BC — 9:00. SS — 9:45 Worship — 9:45 Rev. Martin E. A. Mueller, pastor

CANADA — ALBERTA

Edmonton, Cross of Christ 115 St. and 60th Ave. SS and BC — 9:30. Worship — 10:30 Rev. Robert A. Bauer, pastor

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver, Trinity 2960 School Ave. (2900 Kingsway) SS and BC — 11:00 Worship — 11:00 Thursday BC — 8:00 p. m. Rev. Wayne Bottlinger, pastor Mr. Alex Brodie, lay minister

MANITOBA

Winnipeg, Jesus, at Immanuel College and McKenzie Worship — 11:00 Rev. F. P. Gehrs, pastor

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(Check for complete address and regular telephone numbers on the preceding page.)

International Lutheran Deaf Association

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