



The DEAF LUTHERAN



Official Publication of the International Lutheran Deaf Association & the Board for Missions of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

September 1977

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Volume 69, No. 9



1977 EPHPHATHA CONFERENCE Camp Lutherhaven, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho



A group discussing the lesson of the day.

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Board for Missions is committed to provide pre-service and in-service training for workers in the Ministry to the Deaf. In-service training is provided at Ephphatha Conference.

The 1976 Conference which met in Seward, Nebraska had a program which stressed new forms of worship. This year's program centered on Evangelism in a "Gospel Communication Clinic" conducted by Rev. Paul Schmidt of Spokane, Washington and Rev. David Belasic of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Next year's program will feature a Church Growth Seminar conducted by the Fuller Evangelistic Association of Pasadena, California. Considering the fact that membership in our deaf congregations has slipped from 5,148 in 1970 to 4,768 in 1976, a loss of 380, it is time we take a look at ways and means to be more effective in our Gospel outreach to the deaf.

There are four programs providing pre-service training. These are:

- 1) Seminary Credit Courses in Ministry to the Deaf.

(please turn to page 4)



30th Anniversary Celebrated by Christ L.C.-Deaf of Central Illinois

-by Rev. Orlin S. Anderson
Jacksonville, Illinois
Rev. Larry L. Larsen
Peoria, Illinois

On Sunday, March 20, 1977, Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf of Peoria and Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf of Bloomington-Normal, Illinois celebrated their 30th Anniversaries. The theme for their joint celebration was "Hands at Worship for Thirty Years of God's Grace."

As early as 1900 a pastor came from St. Louis to serve the deaf at Jacksonville, Ill. From 1938 to 1945 the Rev. N. Paul Uhlig served in that capacity. In August, 1945, Rev. Uhlig was instrumental in establishing the Central Illinois Field of Deaf Ministry by dividing the larger St. Louis Field. That action resulted in the building of Christ Chapel for the Deaf in Jacksonville, now known as Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf. From his headquarters in Jacksonville, Pastor Uhlig also served various stations throughout Central Illinois. Deaf mission work began in Peoria on October 13, 1946 and in Bloomington-Normal on January 5, 1947.

On July 15, 1956 the Rev. Delbert Thies was installed as Pastor to the Deaf for the Central Illinois District. He presently is ministering in Nebraska.

On June 3, 1962 Rev. Orlin Anderson became the new pastor, continuing to serve the various stations out of Jacksonville. In 1974 Rev. Robert Rowland II was installed as a part-time assistant to Rev. Anderson. He served the Peoria Area. He is presently with Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind.

On August 16, 1976 the Rev. Larry Larsen was installed as full-time assistant to Pastor Anderson. He presently conducts weekly worship services on Sunday at Bloomington-Normal and Peoria, Illinois. Rev. Larsen also serves the deaf in the areas of Decatur, Springfield, and Quincy.

Pastor Larsen is a 1969 graduate of Wayne State College in Nebraska. After teaching in parochial and public schools for three years, he entered Concordia Seminary in Springfield, serving a year internship at Rogate Lutheran Church in Clearwater, Florida. This past summer he was a participant in the National Workshop of Total Communication held at Montana State University, before beginning his work in Central Illinois.



Rev. N. Paul Uhlig who served the deaf in Central Illinois from 1938, traveling from St. Louis. Pastor Uhlig began the deaf program in Bloomington-Normal in 1947 and in Peoria in 1946.



A picture of the cake served after the anniversary dinner -- showing the theme of "HANDS AT WORSHIP FOR THIRTY YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE." The theme was also shown in the invitations, napkins, anniversary banner, and Pastor Anderson's sermon.

Holy Cross Bids Farewell to a Good Friend



Rev. E. Theo. DeLaney standing by the baptismal font at Holy Cross, St. Louis

St. Louis, Mo.- Holy Cross Lutheran Church held a spring banquet June 12, 1977, but it really turned out to be a surprise farewell banquet to honor Rev. E. Theo. DeLaney.

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September 1977, Volume 69, No. 9

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Pastor DeLaney, as many of our readers remember served the deaf in the Texas-Oklahoma Field (1947-1953) and the San Francisco, California Field (1953-1967). Since then he served as executive secretary for The Synod's Commission on Worship and was a member of Holy Cross Deaf Congregation in St. Louis. On July 31st, Rev. DeLaney was installed at a dual hearing parish in California -- St. Paul, Red Bluff and Mt. Olive, Corning.

While in St. Louis, Pastor DeLaney was active in helping in
(please turn to page 4)

From Our Pastors

Fall

- by Rev. Clark R. Bailey
Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf
Detroit, Michigan

Many People look forward to Fall as a beautiful time of the year with its many changing colors in the shrubs and trees. Others don't like the idea that Fall is here because it means Winter and its snows and cold weather will soon be at hand.

This is the time of the year that also has many meanings for us and our Lutheran Church. The end of October, the 31st, is our "birthday", and is called Reformation Day. It was on this day in the year 1517 that Dr. Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses (proposals for debate) to the town bulletin board, the door of the Castle Church in Wittenburg, where he was a professor and priest.

His protests against false teaching and activities of the Church of that time finally led to the formation of the Protestant Church and our Lutheran Church (although Luther did not want any church to be named for himself.)

Luther wanted every person to be able to read and learn from God's Word. He was led by the Holy Spirit through the word found in Paul's letter to the Ephesians (2:8-10) to believe and preach that God offers salvation to all because of His grace (His undeserved love). This is the heart of our church, life, faith (belief + trust) in the promises of God's Word - that our heavenly Father forgives our sins through faith in His Son, our Savior Jesus.

And this is what we continue to preach, teach and believe to this day. The Word of God and the power of His Holy Spirit are the life and hope of our Church.

During the month of October and especially on the last Sunday, we celebrate this rich heritage, as rich and colorful as any Fall colors.

There have been dark times in the history of the Lutheran Church, too, but God has always

brought the light and sunshine again. It is through that we have grown to one of the larger Christian Churches in the world today.

But we must not let pride in our past cloud our future. There is still much work for us to do. There are still too many people who do not know - or do not believe - that Jesus is the Savior and is their friend.

This means that each member of our congregations everywhere must look to God and His Holy Word for daily strength we need for ourselves and our family, but also pray for the help and wisdom and zeal to share our faith with others.

This is the best way we can celebrate our great heritage - to share it with other people. we see every day, at work, in the home, and at play. This is the hardest thing to do, and we can do it only with God's help. We also share this blessing by supporting our congregations and mission work with our money gifts of love and thanks.

We pray that you will celebrate God's rich blessings to you by attending worship, and receiving Holy Communion, as often as possible.

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Plug It In!

-by Rev. Martin A. Hewitt
Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf
St. Louis, Missouri

Did you ever hear this story about the old shepherd who lived out on the wide-open desert of northern Arizona?

This old codger lived in a mud hut called a hogan and got along in a lonely kind of life.

One day he decided to go to town for supplies. He threw a blanket over his donkey and headed for town. The trip took several days.

When he got to the city, he was attracted to a television set and watched a western movie. It was a new experience--the trading posts never had any TV sets before.

He was so excited about watching TV that he decided to get one for himself. WOW! He was thrilled with the thought! Cowboys and Indian movies right in his hogan!

So he traded almost all his savings for a TV set.

Now to get the TV set home! And how he struggled with donkey and TV set you will never know.

Sometime later he arrived home only to find himself more lonely than before--and very unhappy! He couldn't get any TV programs.

Why not? Can you guess?

The TV set was all right, but the electric power line stopped 100 miles from his hogan.

No one told him that he had to "plug it into" the power. ...Perhaps you laughed, too, when you read about the old man and his TV, but isn't human nature just like that?

People look for some measure of happiness, comfort, security, and they admire people who already seem to have what they need and want.

Have you ever thought why some Christians are happily busy helping others? Or why they are cheerful when they have problems? Or why they are quietly full with trust and hope when they are in deep trouble?

Really, we could say they are "plugged into" their power-- Jesus Christ.

The opposite is equally true. Some people just live without the Lord's power, and when problems and troubles come, they don't seem to have enough faith and hope to pull them through. And they don't have enough to share with anyone else who may need their help.

Jesus once said: "I am the vine, and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me." (John 15:5)

To say it another way: we need to eat to stay healthy. So, Christians need to feed on God's Word and the Lord's Supper often --"plug in." Christians need to stay close to their power source by prayer and devotion. So, you - whoever you are, "plug into" your power!

+ + +
SEPTEMBER

WOODROW WILSON SAID:

I am sorry for the man or woman who does not read the Bible every day; I wonder why they deprive themselves of the strength and of the pleasure. It is one of the most singular books in the world, for every time you open it, some old text that you have read a score of times suddenly beams with a new meaning. There is no other book that I know of, of which this is true; there is no other book that yields its meaning so personally, that seems to fit itself so intimately to the very spirit that is seeking its guidance.

- God's Revivalist

1977 EPHPHATHA CONFERENCE

(continued from page 1)

These have been taught for fifteen years at the Springfield, Illinois, (now Ft. Wayne, Indiana) Seminary in Illinois by Rev. Orlin Anderson, and now in Fort Wayne by Rev. Robert C. Rowland.

Until recently there have been non-credit courses at the St. Louis Seminary taught by our local pastors of Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf, most recently by Rev. Martin Hewitt. However, when the former faculty and student body left the campus in 1974, this program was halted. In 1975-76 it was resumed two evenings a week, taught by Rev. Herbert W. Rohe but discontinued again in the 1976-77 academic year. Meantime, the present seminary faculty has adopted a two-year four quarter hour credit course offering 12 credits. The Board for Missions has petitioned the seminary Board of Control to employ an instructor or instructors to initiate the courses in the 1977-78 academic year. The Board for Missions also has recently resolved to provide scholarship assistance for needy students taking these courses, 8 per year, 4 at each seminary.

During the 1976-77 academic year there have been four deaf students in training for Ministry at our seminaries, 3 in St. Louis (Omahr Mørk, now graduated, Robert Case, and Stephen Luke), and one in Ft. Wayne (LaVerne Mass).

2) Another training program open to deaf students who qualify is the Lutheran Lay Training Program, LLTP, at Concordia College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Three deaf students have graduated into the Lay Ministry from this program. Marion Van Manen, Robert Case, and Stephen Luke. Nine hearing students have also come into our Ministry through this program. One of these, Glenn Miller, has recently begun work in Delavan, Wisconsin. One has applied for the 1977 term.

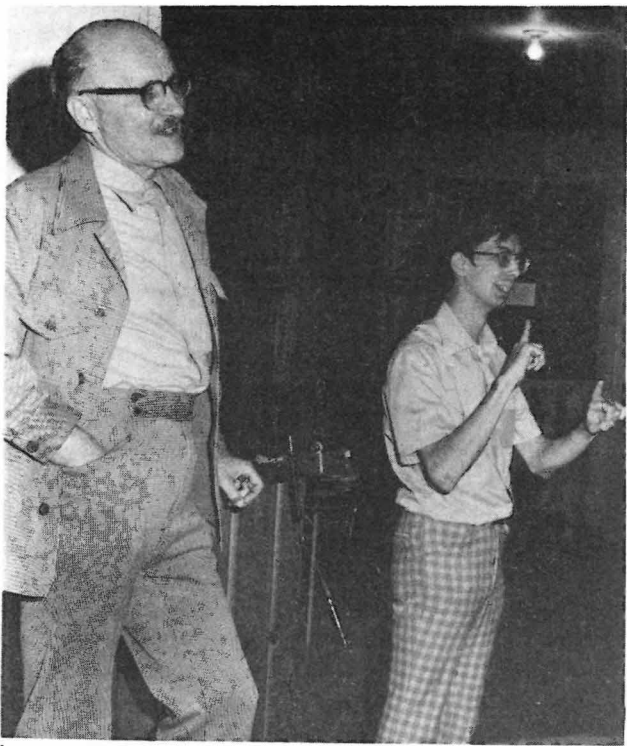
3) There is a 6 week course during the Summer for Clergy Training at Gallaudet College which is a program required by the Board for Missions of all vicars and Seminary graduates who enter our Ministry. Five persons were enrolled this past summer: Richard and Lois Moody; Mark and Carol Seegar, and Mrs. Nancy Grandel.

4) The Board for Missions also considers the vicarage year as part of its training program and pays costs of the vicar at select sites for such training. Nine vicars (4 in '75, 3 in '76 and 2 in '77) have been in this program. These are: Fred Anson, Ron Friedrich, Larry Larsen, Omahr Mørk, David Bush, Michael Kubisek, James Pan, Richard Moody, and Mark

Seeger. James Pan is a Ft. Wayne student from Taiwan.

Three vicars not sponsored by the Board for Missions are also in training this year; Glen Borhart in Clearwater, Fla. Gordon Hein, of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon in Edmonton, Alberta; and Dayton Williams in Philadelphia.

As you know, the ILDA Pastoral Advisors from each of the 7 Regions meet every Spring and Fall in the Regional Advisors Council (RAC). Recently it was decided that the RAC meet in those cities where we have colleges and seminaries to conduct convocations with the students and gain their interest in training for Ministry to the Deaf. The first such meeting was held in April 1977 at Concordia College, St. Paul, Minnesota. Thus we expect to recruit and train many more pastors for deaf congregations in the future.



Rev. Rohe giving out statistics at the conference while Rev. Friedrich signs.



Rev. Rohe giving Mrs. Doris Myhre an award for her 15 years of service.

HOLY CROSS BIDS FAREWELL. . .

(continued from page 2)

many areas of the ministry. He worked with seminary students and taught a Bible Class. "I am pastor's back-up helper," he often said.

The surprise banquet, planned by a committee of six members, was a catered affair. Rev. Martin Hewitt, the congregation's pastor, was chosen to speak. He recalled the many events of Pastor DeLaney's ministry, pointed out his various talents, and gave him the congregation's encouragement for his future ministry. "Rev. DeLaney has been with us for ten years, and now it seems like we are sending part of ourselves -- one of us -- to minister to the people in California," Pastor Hewitt said.

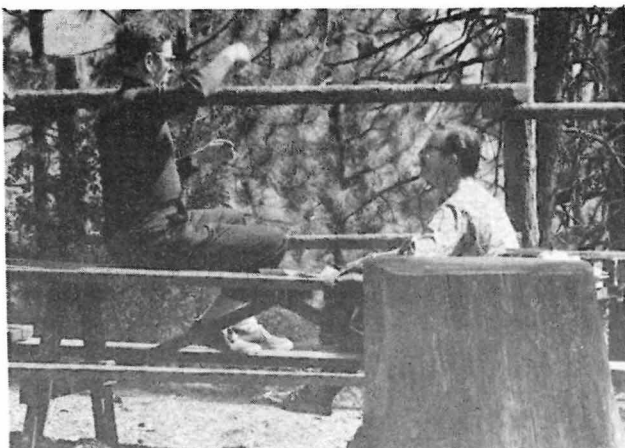
One of the committee, Mrs. Jacqueline Kemper presented a gift, an engraved desk pen set, and both Rev. DeLaney and his mother, Mrs. Ida Luthy, received flowers and best wishes from the more than 100 members who were present. "We will miss you, Pastor DeLaney, but God go with you and bless your new ministry."



All 5 year veterans getting their awards: Revs. Winkler, Olson, & Munz.



Top: Wives meeting in the Chapel. Bottom: Friends meeting



Rev. Wm. Ludwig and Marion VanManen.

MORE PICTURES OF THE 4th BIENNIAL ILDA CONVENTION



New ILDA officers being sworn in by retiring Pastoral Advisor Rev. R. Rynearson. L. to R. President Joseph Kindred, Pres. Elect Charles Kotal, Secy. Marion VanManen, Treas. Elmer Francisco, Pastoral Advisor, Rev. Paul Dorr, Eastern Region Pres. Elroy Treibel, Dixie Reg. Pres. Billy Fitzgerald, Central Region Pres. Betty Healey, and Mid-West Region Pres. Lester Ahls.

.....
Rev. H. Rohe receiving Plaque of Appreciation from retiring ILDA Pres. Elmer Francisco



.....
New President Joe Kindred receiving his gavel from retiring Pres. Elmer Francisco
.....



Beautiful Donna Gadling, most inspiring sign/singer

Rev. Bauer showing the Pax Natura Symbol



Rev. Bauer telling the convention about Pax Natura Ranch in Canada.



Lordy Revels & Beverly Willet of Memphis, T. who translated the entire convention proceedings for Linda McNair, a blind-deaf girl from Seattle, W.

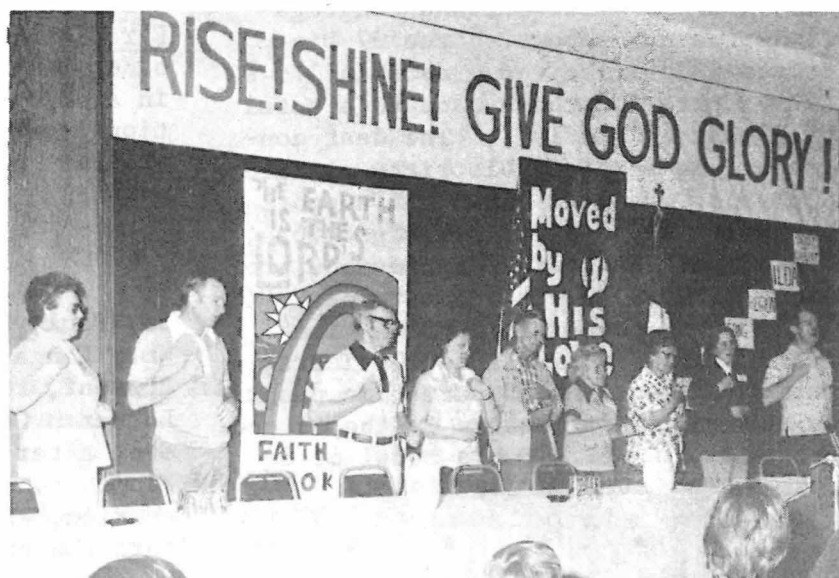


Rev. Rohe giving his talk.



Deaf Canadians sign/singing their National anthem.

A group of ladies from Chicago enjoying the picnic day.





OUR HEARTS GO OUT IN SYMPATHY

To the family of Rev. E. Scheibert of Melrose Park, Illinois, who went to be with his Lord on August 19, 1977 after a brief illness. You will recall that at this year's Ephphatha Conference a plaque was given to Ernie in observance of his 55th Anniversary of Ordination. On July 27 we received a letter thanking us for the plaque. At the conclusion of the letter he wrote: "Today I'm entering the hospital for surgery for the second time this year . . . We put ourselves in the Lord's hands for healing if that be His will - Fraternally in our Beautiful Savior." Rev. Scheibert began his ministry in 1922 and served congregations in Detroit, Toledo, Ft. Wayne and Rochester, New York from 1923 until 1937 when he was called to Our Savior Lutheran Church of Chicago where he served until his retirement.

Des Moines, Iowa. . . Mike and Sue Ring have a new baby boy born Oct. 1st. This is their third son and they have named him Stephen Paul. Rev. & Mrs. George C. Ring and Becky plan to go to Ohio to attend their grandson, Stephen's, baptism on Oct. 30th. Becky is one of his sponsors. From there they will go to Alexandria, Virginia to visit daughter, Rhoda, who is expecting, and perhaps arriving there in time to see her baby and perhaps seeing it baptized too.

* * * * *

Portland, Oregon. . . On October 25th, The Northwest District Board of Directors approved Hope Lutheran Church of the Deaf's purchase of a church building at 4936 N.E. Skidmore.

* * * * *

Detroit, Michigan. . . Saturday, Oct. 15th was a day of fun. The Lutheran School for the Deaf had their Annual Harvest Festival from 10:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. with many varied activities throughout the day. Yes, they had apples again.

* * * * *

ST. LOUIS, MO. . . A Word about the Districts from Rev. Herbert W. Rohe.

In the last biennium, we have noted marked progress and growth in twenty areas across the U.S. and Canada. All of which are now under the direction and administration of our Districts. There are now 55 organized deaf congregations, all of which are members of their local Districts of the Synod. Of the 50 Districts of the Synod, only 18 remain which receive grants for deaf churches from the Synod's Board for Missions. There are 4,768 members in the 55 congregations.

Though we do not have complete figures for all Districts and congregations, we can report on the 27 Districts which received grants in '76 & '77. Costs for these came to a total of \$1,394,412 in 1977. The deaf congregations in these Districts pledged \$383,353.00 toward their own support in 1977. The Districts pledged \$634,079.00 and the Board for Missions provided \$376,980.00 to 18 Districts.

To date, there are 52 full-time pastors, 12 lay ministers, 7 vicars, 4 parish workers, and 5 part-time pastors on our roster of workers in the 55 congregations and fields; a total of 80 workers. Give God the Glory!

* * * * *



St. Louis, Mo. . . Mr. & Mrs. Edwin C. Hummelsheim celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary August 10th. Family and friends gathered for the celebration at Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf, St. Louis, Mo. A brief worship service was held first with a reading from Psalm 100 and a sermonette by Pastor Martin Hewitt, followed by a renewal of vows and the blessing of the couple and their family. A reception was given in their honor by their daughters, Mrs. Betty Ellinger and Mrs. Carole Thornton and their families.

Edwin and Dollie Hummelsheim were the 8th couple married at Holy Cross and the first couple of the congregation to celebrate 50 years of married life. Praise the Lord for blessing them.

* * * * *

St. Louis, Mo. . . On August 21, 1977, a surprise 25th Wedding Anniversary celebration was given for former members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf, St. Louis, Hubert and Hulda Elrod by their daughter and her husband, Rev. & Mrs. Harold Fleishauer in Arnold, Mo. A delightful celebration attended by many friends from the deaf congregation in St. Louis was held that day. Congratulations again!

* * * * *

St. Paul, Minn. . . In October Rev. Wm. H. Lange, Pastor of Prince of Peace LC/Deaf, received a call to Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Los Angeles. However after discussing the call with his church board and prayerful consideration, Pastor Lange decided to return the call.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

If students went to school like some people go to church (when they feel like it), they would fail. If an employee went to work like some people go to the task of missions (indifferently), they would be fired. If a person ate meals like some partake of the Lord's Supper (irregularly), they would starve. If one paid bills like some support the church (occasionally), they would have no credit. If one neglected his family like some do the Lord, they would be charged with desertion. If one spoke to others as seldom as some pray to God, they would be branded as antisocial.

--Copied

* * * * *

Letter from a reader in Falls Church, Virginia. . .

Dear Editor:

As a history lover, I took note that exactly 460 years ago (October 31, 1517) Martin Luther had the guts to post the 95 Thesis on the door of the church at Wittenberg, Germany. This day was actually the turning point in church history.

Today, the Lutheran Church still exists and practices what Martin Luther believed--that salvation is a free gift of God. Instead of taking Martin Luther for granted, let us pause for a moment and think what an important part of God's plan he played in church history.

It is wonderful that Halloween falls on October 31st because it helps to remind us of this important event.

Praise the Lord for the privilege of having a genuine relationship with Him.

Sincerely,
Louise Crume

* * * * *

Seattle, Washington. . . Praise God for His grace to the Northwest Deaf! Recently they observed the 60th Anniv. of Rev. Gaertner's ministry, 55th Anniv. of Our Redeemer's, and 35th Anniv. of Calvary's organization as a congregation respectively.

* * * * *

Fort Wayne, Indiana. . . George and Karen Perry were blessed with the birth of a baby boy born October 15, 1977. They named him George K. Perry III. At birth he weighed in at 10lbs. & 14oz. and was 21 1/2" in length. The Perrys have one other child, a daughter, Glori. Behold, Children are a gift of the Lord; the fruit of the womb is a reward. Psalm 127:3 Praise the Lord!

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Michael Kubisek, Eternal Mercy Lutheran Church, Memphis, TN	'76-'77	
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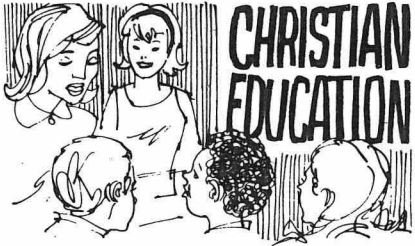
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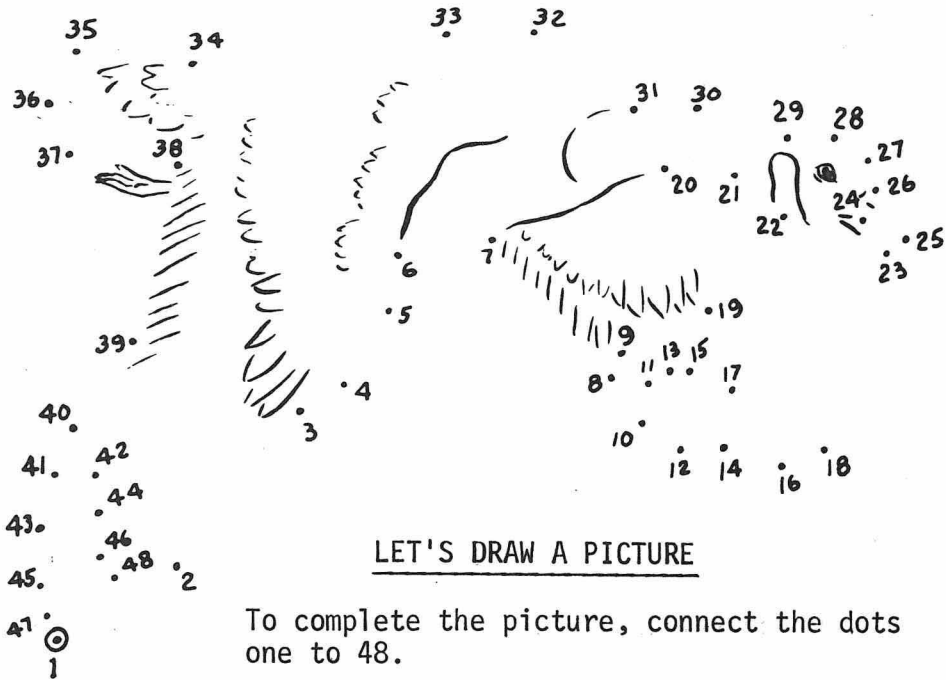
A Note from the Editor-

I really regret that the last three issues of this year are reaching you so late. It really could not be avoided since I had to clean, adjust, and set up the new equipment in a suitable place in my home. Then I had to learn to use it properly. Nevertheless, I am pretty sure that by

the end of this year every issue will reach you on time - God willing. The above roster is an example of how much better our copy can be made readable and easily changed. I am aware that a lot of changes will have to be made and if you see any mistakes, please notify me as soon as possible so changes can be put into effect. Keep a stiff upper lip folks!



The old believe everything;
the middle-aged suspect
everything; the young know
everything.



LET'S DRAW A PICTURE

To complete the picture, connect the dots
one to 48.

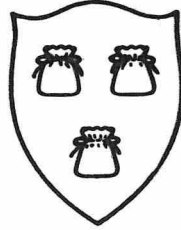
After an all-out effort to recite the 39 books of the Old Testament, a lay teacher reports, one of her 7th grade girls slowly ground to a halt at Obadiah. "Golly," she said, "I wish God would have put His books in alphabetical order."

* * * * *

Sunday School Bus



Joel, Nancy, and Brenda stood at the bus stop. It was the 1st time Joel was going to Sunday School. Soon a big yellow bus came down the street. Nancy said, "Get ready! Here it comes." Brenda held Joel's hand. The bus stopped. The door opened. Joel said, "Good morning, Mr. Holt." "Good morning, Joel," said Mr. Holt. "Good morning, Nancy." "Good morning, Brenda." Mr. Holt said, "But what is your name, little girl?" "Joel," said Brenda. "This is our new neighbor, Joel. She wants to go to Sunday School with us." "That's fine," said Mr. Holt. "I'm glad to meet you, Joel." "Get on my bus," said Mr. Holt. "I know 1. Get to the bus stop on time." Joel added, "2. Don't wait in the bus." "I think I know a 3. My mother told me to stay in my seat and don't run around." "That's right," said Mr. Holt. "Another important 4 is 'Don't throw things.'" "We should remember to keep quiet and always obey Mr. Holt," said Joel. "Yes, Joel, I'm glad you remembered that 5. It's one way Mr. Holt and Brenda can help me care for them while I'm driving the bus. If you remember these safety rules, it will help me get the bus to Sunday School on time."



He Wasn't Popular

Matthew's symbol shows that Jesus loves even publicans.

"He's a hood!"
"She dresses like a slob!"
"That old man is a bum!"

People have always had names for persons they didn't like. In Jesus' day, one of the most insulting of all names was "publican." Publicans were tax-collectors, and they were hated because they often cheated the taxpayers. Surely God's Son Jesus Christ wouldn't associate with such people!

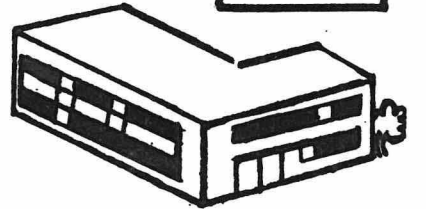
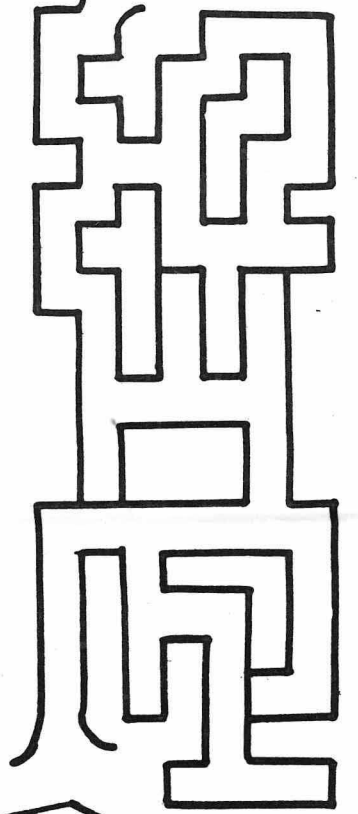
But He did! Not only was Jesus friendly to a publican named Matthew, but He asked him to become one of His disciples! Matthew followed Jesus and became a strong believer in his Savior. Later he wrote the Bible book called by his name, so that Christians in all times could know and love Jesus too.

Why did Jesus want a publican as a friend? He could have had disciples who had a better reputation than Matthew and were more popular with the people.

But Jesus knew something we often forget. What makes a man valuable in God's sight is God's love for him. Stylish clothes and a "good" reputation we can see, but faith we cannot judge.

Even "hoods" and "slobs" and "bums"-and publicans-are loved by God. Shouldn't we love them too?

Can you help John and Jane on their way to school and back?



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