



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

June, 1982

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Volume 74, No.3

What happened to THE DEAF LUTHERAN?

"What happened to The Deaf Lutheran? The last issue was February ... this one is for June! What happened to March, April, and May?"

The simple fact is that the economy caught up with The Deaf Lutheran. Rising publication costs, increased postage rates, and the difficulty experienced by some churches in paying for the blanket-plan subscriptions forced the decision to suspend publication until the ILDA could decide on a future course of action at its planned May meeting.

The Executive Committee reached these conclusions:

- 1) Publication is to be resumed with the June issue, using the new format that had previously been planned for the March issue. A change in printer and in addressing systems made the new format necessary.
- 2) The Deaf Lutheran will be published bi-monthly (six issues a year) on a trial basis until the ILDA convention in July 1983.
- 3) All subscriptions will be on an individual basis (\$3.50 a year) following the expiration of current blanket-plan subscriptions. You will be receiving renewal notices at that time.

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GOOD NEWS!

The International Lutheran Deaf Association has received contributions totalling \$5,002.50 from its members and friends for its 1981-1982 mission projects. This is over 50% of the \$10,000 goal set at the ILDA convention last July in Los Angeles.

A check for \$4,200 has been given to the Board for Mission Services of the Lutheran

Convocation On Deaf Ministry

-by Rev. Donald W. Zuhn



Previous articles in The Deaf Lutheran about the Convocation on Deaf Ministry in Madison, Wisconsin, last November failed to take note of the important role played by the Mill Neck Foundation (Lutheran Friends of the Deaf) in this project.

The suggestion that a convocation of this type be planned first came from the Mill Neck Foundation Board of Directors. Rev. Howard Schoenfeldt, a member of the board, voiced the board's concern that deaf ministry in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod take on a new vitality in reaching out to deaf people in all the world. The Mill Neck Foundation supported the Convocation on Deaf Ministry with a grant of \$10,000.

Pastor Schoenfeldt and Rev. Edward Rauff, former executive secretary of the Mill Neck Foundation, were members of the Convocation Steering Committee.

Our sincere gratitude to the Mill Neck Foundation for their continued active support to the church in ministry among deaf people.

Church - Missouri Synod. This is the first half of a \$8,400 commitment to assist in reaching out to deaf people in Hong Kong and in India.

The Lutheran Church - Hong Kong Synod has an active ministry for deaf people. First, there is the Mongkok Lutheran School for the Deaf with about 200 deaf children enrolled. Then there are two churches of deaf people (one in Kowloon with 207 members and another on Hong Kong Island with 92 members).

With our help (\$7,200) the LC-HKS can provide a full-time pastor for these churches.

The India Evangelical Lutheran Church has
(please turn to page 8)

St. Mark Installs First Full-Time Pastor

-by Mrs. Gladys Krohn
St. Mark Lutheran Church of the Deaf
Towson, Maryland



Mrs. Lydia Waters,
president of the
congregation of
St. Mark L.C./Deaf
and Rev. Kenneth
Schnepf.

On Sunday, Oct. 18th at 4p.m., Rev. Kenneth E. Schnepf, Jr. was installed at a special service as the first full-time pastor of St. Mark Lutheran Church of the Deaf since this church was established 52 years ago in Towson, Maryland.

Although it had rained that afternoon, the spirits of more than 120 people in attendance were not dampened. Joy and thankfulness was in the hearts of the many hearing and deaf friends who came from New York City, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.

Various people participated in the worship service. Mr. Daryl Gehlbach, vicar of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Washington, D.C. holding high the processional cross, headed the procession. Following him was Mrs. Lydia Waters, congregational president; Mrs. Gladys Krohn, elder; and Mr. John McKenny, treasurer. They all carried colorful banners into the sanctuary of the church. Visiting clergy from the immediate Baltimore area made up the end of the procession.

The sermon was delivered by the Rev. George Natonick, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Washington, D.C. The title of his sermon was, "Advertisers for Christ." He challenged everyone in attendance to remember our responsibility to bring the good news of the Lord, Jesus Christ to all people, especially to the deaf.



Left to right: Rev. Joseph Varsanyi, Delaware Valley L.C. of the Deaf, Philadelphia, PA; Rev. Michael Hayes, St. Matthew L.C. of the Deaf, Elmhurst, and St. Mark L.C. of the Deaf, Manhattan, N.Y.; Rev. Kenneth Schnepf, St. Mark L.C. of the Deaf, Baltimore, MD; Rev. Lester Stano, First Lutheran of Towson, MD; Rev. Geo. Natonick, Christ L.C. of the Deaf, Washington, D.C. and Lutheran Chaplain at Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C.; Rev. Guenther Schwab, Holy Cross L.C., Baltimore, Maryland.

One more pastor is obviously needed to finish spelling the name S C H N E P F.

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The members of St. Mark and Pastor Schnepf pledged the offering of this installation service to the Southeastern District to support the construction of their new office building in Alexandria, Virginia. This shows how very special is the relationship between the congregation of St. Mark and the District as they began together the first full-time ministry to the deaf in Maryland.

Officiating the service was The Rev. Michael Hayes, pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Elmhurst, New York, and St. Mark Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Manhattan.

(please turn to page 3)

AMERICA'S "SECOND NATIONAL ANTHEM"

When Irving Berlin had written a musical stage show to entertain soldiers during WW I, he deleted one song from the script and tucked it away in a trunk. It stayed there for 22 years. Then, in 1939, he passed it along to Kate Smith, feeling that she might want to sing it on a special broadcast. She sang the song, "God Bless America," and it became an instant hit. It has been called America's "second national anthem."

St. Mark Installs First Full-Time Pastor _____ (continued from page 2)

tan, New York. Assisting Pastor Hayes was The Rev. Joseph Varsanyi, pastor of Delaware Valley Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Philadelphia, PA. Pastor Varsanyi gave additional meaning to this special service by the use of incense. The installation was performed by The Rev. Lester Stano, pastor of First Lutheran Church of Towson.

Although the installation service lasted two hours, it was exciting throughout. Greatly appreciated was the special music and sign songs performed by "The Love And Inspiration" choir that came from Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C. One of their songs, "Pass It On" had a very special meaning as Holy Communion was given in continuous communion fashion.

Following the service, a reception was held at Apostle's Hall. Food provided by the Saint Mark's congregation added much to the fellowship time. Besides enjoying themselves with old friends, it was also a good experience for many hearing and deaf people to meet and make new friendships.

Printed on the installation invitations and program books was the theme for Pastor Schnepf's ministry. It said, "God Has Called Me To Serve You So That Together We May Serve Him." Our prayers and our hopes are that it will be a mutual goal for all of us!

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Pastor Schnepf enjoying a meal at the reception given in his honor after the installation.

(Photo below):

Members and former members, visistors and friends from near and far came to the reception to witness this historical event.



(Center Photo): Mr. & Mrs. William Martini, former members of St. Mark, now residing in Washington, D.C.

(Photo below): Mrs. Mildred McKenny and Mrs. Lydia Waters, members of St. Mark, ready the reception meal



(Photo above): Mr. Victor Krohn, Charter member of St. Mark, and Pastor Schnepf chatting.



How Are Your Hands?

-by Pastor Wm.H.Lange
Prince of Peace L.C./Deaf
St.Paul, Minnesota

It would be easy to fill the page with things we can do with our hands. Hands, used at the direction of our wonderful brains, stamp us as human rather than animal.

How are your hands? A blind person can tell you a great deal about yourself just by taking your hands in his (or hers). Some clues as to what you do and your general health are all in your hands. Go to a doctor for a physical and one of the things he does is look at your hands.

Are your hands constructive or destructive? Are they giving hands or taking hands? Are they full or empty?

We need to think about the Lord Jesus' desire that all receive the Gospel, and His call to us to be His servants in doing His will. Now, in truth the condition of our hands is important in doing the task.

How can we have hands that will be able to do the things Jesus asks of us? Our hands need to be joined to a mind and will that knows God loves, forgives, and cares, because He has given His Son Jesus Christ. God's powerful good News about Jesus can make our minds willing and eager to serve Him. Then hands are strong to serve and be filled with gifts of love for God's work.

Without doubt, if our minds are ruled by the love of Jesus Christ, our hands will be very strong in His service. Let us remember our promises we made last year at the ILDA convention to give our support to the five mission projects. Let us also lend a helping hand to wherever it is needed to support our Lutheran institutions, our Board of Directors of the ILDA, and to The Deaf Lutheran.

* * *

A Picture Of Atonement

Two ten year old boys went swimming at the YMCA during their summer vacation. Each time they went their mother's gave their son 50¢ extra so the boys could have a treat for themselves after swimming. So as soon as their swim was finished they hurried to the near-by ice cream store. There they saw a picture showing different ice cream sundaes and sodas behind the counter. The item that caught each of their eyes was a chocolate ice-cream soda! But neither boy had ever tried one before. And more, they never realized how much they cost! They just each ordered a chocolate soda.

The boys really enjoyed their sodas. It tasted sooooo good! Then the waitress came with the ticket. When the boys looked at it, they nearly fainted! The cost was \$2.00 and all they had was 50¢ each.

Now they began to worry. What will they do? Would they have to wash dishes to pay off the ticket? Would they be reported to the police?

Just when they didn't know what to do, a man reached between the boys and picked up the ticket and said, "that's alright boys, I'll take care of it."

This man who knew the boys problem and whom the boys had never seen before paid their debt. He save-rescued them from that embarrassing situation.

This is what Jesus Christ did for us on the cross. We had a debt to pay - the debt of sin and death! But Christ did for us what we could not do ourselves. He blotted out our sins. He nailed them to the cross. We have been rescued and forgiven. What blessed people we are! How will we thank Him with our life?

-adapted

A SAFEGUARD FOR MARRIAGE

When I was about to be married, my grandfather called me out in the yard one day and said, "Sis, your grandmother and I were married 40 years and we had very few arguments."

"When we first married, we made an agreement that when I came in from the field (or from work) in a bad humor and aching for a fight, I'd roll one pant leg up a little higher than the other. When she saw it, she knew it was time to thread (or step) lightly. And when she'd had a bad day with the kids, she'd take a safety pin and pin up one corner of her apron. Then I'd try to help out a little with supper and the dishes. It wasn't long before all was serene and she would take the pin out of her apron."

Imagination is needed in every marriage to avoid bad moments. What's your technique ? ? ? ? ? - - Selected - -

There is one thing to remember about all the many, many rules for success in life -- **they won't work unless you do!**

"Then don't be too rough on yourself," answered the boy. "I am not worth it."



Jesus L.C./Deaf in Austin, TX. will celebrate its Annual Recognition Banquet on May 2nd. All members and friends are invited to attend which will be held at 6 pm in the church. This event is the members way of saying "Thank You" to all of the people who have helped the church and their special ministry during the past year

* * *

Also on May 2nd Special Service is being planned in San Antonio, Texas. The deaf and hearing will join together in worship and to note the beginning of Deaf Awareness Week. A special service is now planned for San Antonio at St. John's Lutheran Church on Nueva. Pastor Reinap will be the guest speaker. A sign choir from Austin will add to the service. Signing and interpreting will be done by Pastor Reinap and Judy Hood. After the service noon lunch will be served.

* * *

In St. Louis (MO) County, Christian Hospital Northeast-No. 1 recently began a program to expand services to the deaf community.

Through the program, employees on all three shifts at the hospital's two divisions attended sessions on how to execute the basic sign language movements and communicate better with deaf persons. The hospital also initiated a policy to provide the services of an interpreter

free of charge to deaf patients in certain circumstances.

Interpreters will be provided for deaf patients in these situations: when they are treated in the emergency room, when they are asked to complete hospital admission forms; when they are asked to sign documents relating to surgical consents; and when they seek, receive, or are asked to provide medical information.

An interpreter can be provided in other situations, but the patient will be charged for the service.

Before the deaf interpreters arrive, employees will communicate with hearing impaired patients through two way note writing, basic sign language movements or with assistance from an employee in the hospital's audiology, ENG and speech pathology department.

Christian Hospital is one of the first hospitals in the area to educate its employees about the special communication needs of the deaf community on such a complete basis.

* * *

ALCOHOL AFFECTS ONE FAMILY IN FOUR!

Drinking alcoholic beverages is causing trouble in one of every four U.S. families.

Half the 50,000 traffic deaths are caused by alcohol.

71% of ministers surveyed among many churches said they had not spoken about alcohol and related problems in a public setting.

Reports show if an alcoholic sought help 42% would turn to Alcoholics Anonymous, 9% would turn to God, and 8% said they would seek help from the church and its staff.

* * *

LEAN CHRISTIANS

They own Bibles, but feed on newspapers.

They sing about peace, but do not surrender to it.

They pray that the kingdom of heaven may come, but block the way with worldly living.

They listen to sermons on unselfishness, but pamper themselves with food and dress.

They wear a cross but shrink from bearing one.

-from Sermon Builder

* * *

A FATHER'S INFLUENCE

Children's church attendance and religious values are significantly influenced by their father's attitudes. This is the conclusion drawn by two University of California sociologists. The prevailing view has been that a mother's influence is greater in religious life, and the father's in the areas of politics and work ethic.

* * *

THE ONLY TIME TO LOOK DOWN ON YOUR NEIGHBOR IS WHEN YOU ARE BENDING OVER TO HELP HIM UP.

* * *

DOES THIS PLEASE GOD?

Here is a five-fold test that will help you with any problems or plans you may have as a Christian:

- (1) Is it according to the Word of God?
- (2) Does it violate any principles of Scripture?
- (3) Can I do it to the glory of God? (1 Cor. 10:31)
- (4) Can I ask God's blessing on it?
- (5) Would I like to be found doing this thing, or in this place if the Lord Jesus were to come?

(Matt. 24:42-46)



Children's Page

DAYS TO GIVE THANKS



You know that Mother's Day is a special day in May on which many people honor their mother. They are thankful that God showed them His love by giving them their mother. In June there is a day for honoring fathers. On this day too, boys and girls can show their thanks to God.

But did you know that today is Children's Day?(June 8).On that day fathers and mothers can thank God for His gift of children. June 8th is a day for boys and girls to thank God for His love. That day is a day for boys and girls to thank Him for His Son Jesus,who said "Let the children come to Me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

Having special days to remember one another can help us remember we are all part of God's family. These days can be days of thanks.They can help us remember that God loves us and cares for each one of us.

* * * *

Flag Day

June 14 is known as Flag Day in the United States. Other countries around the world have other days for people to honor their countries by setting up their flag.

Some churches display their country's flag along with the church flag. Seeing these two flags, followers of Jesus can remember Jesus' words: "Pay to the government what belongs to it, and to God what belongs to Him." Followers of Jesus know He rules the world, and He rules His church too.

Some Things to Talk About

In what ways can you serve your country? In what ways can you serve Jesus and His church? Why can you be happy knowing Jesus is Ruler of both this world and of heaven?

love MISSIONS help BROTHER forgive
GIVE The Words You Use SISTER
Lord GOSPEL EVANGELISM KINDNESS praise

Sometimes older people have the idea that young people speak a foreign language. They can't understand what young people are talking about. They can't keep up with the words young people use. And older people say it's getting worse.

Many children going to school for the first time no longer use words like **dragon** and **giants**. These children have been brought up on TV and not on the familiar fairy tales that grown-ups know so well.

Instead, younger children go to school ready to read about spaceships and rockets, about countdowns and blast-offs. Instead of telling their teacher that they are ready, the right phrase is "All systems go."

The average child's vocabulary when he begins school still remains about 1,500 to 2,000 words. But, as the way that people live today have changed, so the words they use also have changed. Many parents grew up in small towns or on farms. Then they moved to the city. Today their families are growing up in cities like New York or Los Angeles. Why would these boys and girls need to use such words as **cow** or **chicken**? These same children have little to use such words as **wheat** or **cotton**.

The words you use are important too. You, as one of God's people, express your faith and the things that concern you, by the words you use. By knowing the words you use in your prayer life and in your worship, you can better understand your need for God and your relationship to Him.

My Prayer to God

Write a prayer on the lines below. Then think about the words you used. What do these words tell you about your relationship with and to God?

GOOD NEWS

(continued from page 1)

begun a new pastoral ministry to deaf people. Mr. D. Christudoss is working with the IELC School for the Deaf in Ambur while learning communication skills. It is hoped that he will soon be called and ordained as a pastor for deaf people.

The first half of the \$500 project for the Pax Natura Society has also been paid. Pax Natura is becoming very familiar with members of the ILDA, with its work of rehabilitating deaf men who had been in institutions. Living at the rehabilitation house in Edmondton and working at the ranch nearby has been very good therapy. Christian love and care makes a big difference.

Scholarships totalling \$500 have been given to students in synodical colleges and seminaries who are preparing for full time church work in deaf ministry.

Members and friends of the ILDA are indeed helping Jesus's word - "OPEN!" - touch the hearts of many people in many places, just as that word has already touched our own hearts.

THE INFLUENCE OF AFFLUENCE

When battered by soaring prices, we are tempted to think that we could cope better and be happier if we were wealthy.

Not really, according to a study of graduates from a major American university. The

careers of 140 of the graduates of the 1974 class in business administration were closely followed for five years. The researchers categorized the graduates into three groups: top-paid graduates whose salaries were \$75,000 the medium salary range with \$38,000 annually the low salary group with \$25,000 annually. At the end of the five-year period, he found that unhappiness in the high income group had increased dramatically. The low income group was happier with its family and life-style. The medium salary group also was ahead of the high income group in its satisfaction with life.

"A dry crust eaten in peace is better than steak every day along with argument and strife." (Proverbs 17:1, The Bible).

We Want YOU in the ILDA today!

Rejoice with us in Christ's love...Join Today

ILDA Membership Application

Type

Fill in your name and address on the spaces below. Use as many names and addresses as desired. Clip and mail to: Mr. Elmer D. Francisco, 6861 E. Nevada, Detroit, Michigan 48234.

Make checks or money orders payable to: ILDA Treasurer Elmer D. Francisco.

DO NOT SEND CASH!!

Membership fee is \$2 per year per person.

(Check One)

1. Active

2. Associate

3. Sustaining

NAME

Address

City State Zip

NAME

Address

City State Zip

NAME

Address

City State Zip

(Please type or print clearly)

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