

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

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St. Louis, Mo.

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CHANGING TIMES

"Change and decay In all around I see; O Thou changest not, Abide with me." LH #552

How often have we heard the words, "how times have changed!" There is no way we can possibly avoid changes, for they are everywhere around us. Even the events of a few



the events of a few months ago, yes, even a few weeks ago are changing as we witness the rapidly changing scene in Europe and other countries.

From the time we are born until we pass away, we are confronted with changes. Even birth and death are in themselves changes. Some are welcome: some are not. Death

of a love one, loss of employment, natural disasters are just a few of those that we wish to avoid. Some of the changes are our own doing and others 'just happen.'

Man has always had an innate fear of the unknown, of that of which he cannot foresee. Most of us feel comfortable with the status quo, which gives us some stability in our lives, and over which we feel we have some measure of control.

For many, the specter of uncertainty, is a real cause for stress. They fear that things will never be the same again. We read about calamities and catastrophic changes in many places and say to ourselves, "what if that happened here?" "What would we do?" Our hearts cry out for something positive, something secure and something very strong and unchanging to uphold us. Something upon which we can depend. Is there anything upon which we can be absolutely sure of, that never changes, and upon which we can always depend? Fortunately, there is.

Our God is changeless. He says in the Book of Malachi 3:5, "I, the Lord, do not change." Our God is a bedrock upon which we can build our lives with complete confidence. The winds of change and the shifting sands will never prevail against him who puts his trust in God. Our God who is the same yesterday, the same today and forever more will always be there to support, guide and sustain us, for in Him is there no two things in this life are certain. If we place our trust in things of this world, we are going to be disappointed. And secondly, if we trust in ourselves, we will also be disappointed. That is because nothing in this world, or in it's people, is sure.

Let us lift up out hearts to the Lord, for in Him are all things secure. "I have over-

Please see CHANGING TIME: Page 2

CONCORDIA SEMINARY, ST. LOUIS, WINS RECOGNITION

A recent survey of 1,000 subscribers to CHRISTIANITY TODAY ranked Concordia Seminary, the 150-year-old seminary of the Lutheran



Church-Missouri Synod in St. louis, as first in doctrinal soundness and fourth in overal quality. The poll involved all seminaries and Christian graduate schools. The St. Louis school outscored such well known in-

stituions as Fuller, Princeton, Yale and even Harvard.

Seven attributes were rated in the survey, with respondents choosing **doctrinal soundness** as the most important factor. On this score, Concordia was ranked first.

MOTHER'S DAY

By Rev. Clark R. Bailey Our Savior Lutheran Church Detroit, Mich.

Mother's Day is not one of the Holy Days of the church--it is not "St. Mother's Day." Mother's Day is a nice idea, but it is unfortunate that it comes in the Festival half of the Church Year. We will write more about that in a minute.

Of course, the Bible does have much to say about mothers and parents. The fourth commandment says, "Honor your father and your MOTHER." There are several examples of mothers and their care for their child or children, especially in the Old Testament. Think about Sarah (Genesis 21:1-3) and Hannah (1 Samuel 1:2, 13-20) who became mothers late in life to children of promise.

Probably the most "famous" mother is the Virgin Mary, the wife of Joseph of Nazareth, the mother of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus the Christ. Some people call her the "mother of God," which really is not correct. She is the earthly mother of Jesus of Nazareth, the Man, whose Father is the Holy Spirit. As God, Jesus always IS, He has no beginning, so Mary is not the "The mother of God." But she is properly remembered as her cousin, Elizabeth said, "the mother of my Lord." (Luke 1:43).

The Virgin Mary is a good example for all mothers to follow. She humbly accepted the great responsibility God gave her--to be the earthly mother of the Messiah, the Christ, the promised Saviour. She was a loving mother to Jesus, even when she did not always understand her Son: Luke 2:41-50 (look especially at verses 40 and 50) and John 2:1-11 (4 and 5).

CONTINUED: FROM PAGE 1

CHANGING TIMES

come the world," saith the Lord and, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." Matthew 24:35.

> "Hold Thou Thy cross Before my closing eyes, Shine through the gloom, Point me to the skies. Heaven's morning breaks, And earth's vain shadows flee, In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!"

Notice in Luke 2:51 and 52 that Joseph and Mary were good parents and taught their Son, while Mary kept all these things in her heart. During these years Jesus grew up and became a fine young man.

As happens with some mothers, Mary felt sorrow and bewilderment as she stood at the cross. She possibly remembered those words of Simeon, "A sword shall pierce your own soul also." (Luke 2:35a)

Certainly she went with the other ladies on Easter morning to the tomb to finish preparing her Son's body for burial. Can you imagine her joy when she heard the announcement of the angel, "He is not here, He is risen. Come, see the place where He Lay."?

So, although Mother's Day is not a church holy day, it is good that we give honor to those women who accept the great gift from God--children--and the responsibility that goes with them "to bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4.

APOLOGY

The editor of THE DEAF LUTHERAN strives to give credit whenever credit is due, especially when recognizing people whose articles sometimes appear in this publication. He is somewhat embarrassed that last month's article, "Deaf Christians Now" with a by-line of Rev. Bud Palmer of Emmanuel Lutheran church, West Allis, Wis., was not written by him. Instead, the article was authored by Rev. Steven R. Schlund of Holy Cross Lutheran church, Delavan, Wis. Pastor Schlund also had one previous story in out paper: "Gambling--More Than a Game."

The publication that serves Emmanuel and Holy Cross also includes Silent Lutheran church of Madison, Wis., and by-lines can sometimes be confusing. We regret any inconvenience the error may have caused and sincerely apologize to both pastors Palmer and Schlund.

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE DEAF
of Elmhurst, N.Y. will host
1990 ER ILDA Conference
"Let There Be Light"
Long Island Marriot Hotel
Uniondale, N.Y.
June 15, 16, 17, 1990

WHO WAS THE FIRST DEAF PASTOR?

An editorial commentary in the January-February 1990 issue of THE DEAF LUTHERAN stated that the 'first deaf pastor" ordained was Rev. William A. Ludwig, currently serving Our Redeemer Lutheran church in Seattle, Wash. This information was only partially correct, according to a letter from Rev. Jerold Munz of Indianapolis, Ind. What the article should have said was that Rev. Ludwig was the first deaf pastor in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Who, then, was the **first** deaf man to become an ordained minister? The honor belongs to the late Rev. Henry W. Syle (1846-1902) who served in the Episcopal church. He became a deacon in Philadelphia in 1876 and later advanced to the priesthood in 1883. A bust of Syle is in the Hall of Fame Collection at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C.

The first Lutheran pastor who was himself



deaf was the late Edward Kaercher, who was ordained in 1929 in the Southeast Pennsylvania Synod of the Lutheran Church in America (LCA) which is now the ELCA. His first parish was St. Philips Lutheran church in Philadelphia, which is now being served by the Rev. Richard Vossler. St. Philips joined the Missouri Synod in 1972 when Rev. Jerold Munz became pastor there.

Ill health forced Rev. Kaercher to resign and he later became a houseparent and counselor at the Iowa School for the Deaf at Council Bluffs until his death a few years ago. Perhaps it is fitting that we remember Edward Kaercher, a servant of the Lord and of the deaf, on the 60th anniversary of his ordination, which would have been in 1989.

VACATION TIME, 1990--Will you be a worshiping vacationer--or--a vacationing worshiper? There is a difference!!

SUCCESS consists of getting up just one more time than you fall down.



NEWS FROM THE REGIONS ...

Lillian H. Long, that friendly lady from the sunshine state of Florida, has made up her mind to move back to Ohio and take up residence at the Columbus Colony in Westerville. Friends wishing to reach Lil can write to her at 1165 Colony Dr., Apt. 408, Westerville, Ohio 43081 shortly after Easter.

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IN appreciation for invaluable and devoted services rendered to members of the deaf community, **Daniel Glenney and Lillian Quattrone**, members of St. Philips Lutheran church in Philadelphia were awarded Certificates of Appreciation by the Deafness and Hearing Impairment Council on Nov. 15, 1989. Congratulations!

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Our friends in Omaha are taking action to officially change the name of their church to "Bethlehem Lutheran Church of the Deaf" and take out the word, "mute" from its original title, "Bethlehem Lutheran Deaf-Mute Congregation" with all documents, legal and otherwise, carrying the new name. In addition, the Nebraska District has decided that Bethlehem can support themselves, with the exception of the pastor's salary, beginning in January, 1991.

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We have belatedly learned that Harold Thuve, Gardena, Calif., former ILDA Board member, was hospitalized over the holidays due to a heart attack. As a result, the New Year's Eve party was canceled, as Harold was the chairperson. When there is something to be done, Harold is usually the front man and being the chairman is no surprise. We wish him a speedy and full recovery!

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Those going on extended trips this past winter were Rev. and Mrs. Donald Leber from Columbus, Ohio, who decided that two weeks in Germany and Switzerland and some skiing in the Swiss Alps was the thing to do. They also visited son Johnny and family in Germany . . . and sampled some of that great German beer! . . . The Dick Crossens from Columbus went to the Bahamas for some sun and fun . . . the Lester Ahls' from Cedar Falls, Iowa took a long held dream of visiting the Hawaiian Islands and joined about 55 friends from the Midwest, including the Dick Nelsons from Rockford, Ill. A week-long cruise was just great leaving winter far behind . . . Edna Evans from Los Angeles went to Mexico on the "Stardancer" and stopped at three different ports enroute, having a great time, meeting new friends.

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Serving as a resource person at a meeting of the Florida-Georgia District Mission Advisory Council early in January was Dr. Rodney Rynearson, Counselor for the Board for Mission Services on deaf ministry. He addressed the meeting on "Ministering to the Deaf in the 1990's" in St. Augustine with approximately \$4,000 being raised.

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Do you know what a "round robin" is? It has nothing to do with spring, although that would be the first thing to come to mind at this time of the year. It seems **Pastors Palmer, Schlund and Schwanke** in Wisconsin trade pulpits during Lent. What a splendid idea!

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A recent study estimates that there are **58.8 million** Lutherans worldwide and of that number, 2, 707, 134 belong to the Missouri Synod.

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Pilgrim Lutheran church, Los Angeles, will observe its 30th anniversary May 13 with a banquet. Cost will be \$30 per person. Chairing the event are Charlie and Lee Ann Kotal.

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Nancy L. Ahls, daughter of Lester and Betty Ahls of Cedar Falls, Iowa, will graduate from Concordia university, River Forest, Ill. On May 26 with a B.A. degree in elementary education. Nancy will work at some church or school as a director of Christian education, a vocation she has pursued since entering college. While growing up, she attended many ILDA conventions and conferences and sometimes led the hymns.

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Ms. Eva Herbold and Barbara Nelson of Des Moines, Iowa were both profiled in recent issues of the church's newsletter as were Greg and Lina Desrosiers of Council Bluffs, Iowa in the Omaha paper. Greg and Linda are teachers, Greg at the Iowa School for the Deaf and Linda at Nebraska school. He hails from Delisle, Saskatchewan, Canada and Linda from Sauk Center, Minn.

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Did you know that the commander of the space shuttle, Columbia, that flew from Cape Canaveral, Fla. on Jan. 8 is a LCMS member from Gloria Dei Lutheran church in Houston, Texas?

BURGLARS ACTIVE IN DES MOINES

Calvary Lutheran church, Des Moines, Iowa of which Rev. Darrel Kois is serving as pastor, was the scene of an early morning breakin on Wednesday, March 7. The thieves gained access to the building by breaking a window on the notheast side and letting themselves in.

Taken in the robbery were a computer, a decoder, video cassette recorder (VCR), stereo, video camera and possibly other miscellaneous items with a total value of approximately \$5,000. The pastor's study, which was also locked, was forced and contents scattered. Not taken was a heavy copying machine, which fortunately, because of its size

and weight, was too cumbersome for the thieves to take with them. It was at least the second time that the church has been the target of a break-in.

Upon the advice of the police department, additional security measures are being weighed, although there might be some debate about the wisdom of "locking the barn after the horse has been stolen."

Except for the \$100 deductible, most of the loss was covered by insurance and stolen items replaced.

The members of Calvary are considering the construction of a new addition to the church to take care of its growing needs.

THANK YOU, BUT NO MORE COMMON STAMPS WANTED

For about a hundred years, canceled stamps have been turned in for resale to collectors, earning revenue for the synod. However, due to increasing fraud and "laundering cancellation marks" and reselling them as new, the U.S. Postal Service has been losing an estimated \$50 million annually, forcing the service to request that churches refrain from the practice of clipping regular and commemorative stamps. The request has not proved to be very well taken by collectors, but are



CHRISTMAS BAPTISM--Rev. Roy Dahmann conducts the rite of Holy baptism for Brianne Ashley Catron, eight-month-old daughter of Dennis and Judy Catron, Fremont, Calif., on Sunday, Dec. 17. Baby Brianne is wearing her father's christening dress. Sponsors were the maternal grandparents. Brianne is also the granddaughter of Bob and Vickie Catron, Lewistown, Mont. Dad is working towards a masters degree in speical education. reluctantly agreeing to go along. Last year, the synod received $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons of canceled stamps' which it in turn, resold for about \$12,900, the income being used to support missionaries and mission programs. The action of curtailment is expected to reduce about 80% of that in 1990.

All is not lost, however. Still wanted are foreign stamps, collections, and real old issues of value to collectors and hobbyists.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY, ANYONE

Just when you thought Chritmas was all over for another year, along comes another one, this time in July! Well, not really, but close to it.

We're talking about Holden Village in the Cascades of north central Washington state where about 25 deafies and interpreters went last year after the close of the Portland convention. This year's event occurs July 21-28 for "Deaf Week" which has classes and workshops in crafts, drawing, nature, cultural and theological issues, to name a few and fishing, hiking and other recreation for those who wish.

This year, Rev. Mark Anderson of Aurora, Ill. will be leading one of the workshops and Dorothy Sparks of Minneapolis another one in mime. Beth Lockard of West Chester, Penn. will lead another.

Churches wishing to borrow slides of Holden Village may contact Beth Lockard at 412 W. Miner St., West Chester, Penn. 19332. More information, brochures may be requested from Holden Village, Chelan, Wash. 98816.

REV. MARK A. ANDERSON BEGINS WORK IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT

Calvary Lutheran church, Wood Dale, Ill., was the scene of the installation of Rev. Mark A. Anderson on Sunday, Jan. 21 as Pastor



Anderson began his duties as pastor-at-large to the northern Illinois District deaf and hearing impaired. He comes from Newark, N.J., where he served congregation the St. Matthew of since 1986.

Born in Bismarck, N.D., and coming from Sidney, Mont., Pastor Anderson attended the Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit,

REV. MARK A. ANDERSON

Mich., and studied architecture at Montana State university for four years. He later transferred to Gallaudet university, taking a B.S. degree in economics two years later. He worked for several years for the U.S. De-

BILL WOULD REQUIRE DECODER CHIP IN ALL NEW TELEVISIONS BY 1993

Is it possible that the thousands of television decoders now in use by deaf people throughout the United States will soon become a relic of the past? A bill introduced in Congress recently would require all new television sets made and sold in this country to have built in decoder circuitry by .Oct. 1, 1992.

Ten years ago, a new decoding appliance, wired to the tv and antenna, cost about \$280. Similar equipment now costs about \$160, a reduction of almost half. It has been estimated that a chip, installed in new sets, will cost only five dollars. Will wonders never cease?

The National Captioning Institute, located in Falls Church, Va., has awarded a contract for \$1 million to the ITT corporation for the design, development and production of a single decoder chip. It is expected that foreign manufacturers, notably Japan, will follow suit. partment of Education as a contract and grant specialist, before entering Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He served his vicarage in Rochester, N.Y.

Pastor Anderson and his wife, Pam, have been married 11 years and are the parents of two sons, age 8 and 16 months. The family plans to reside in Aurora, Ill.

ILDA BOARD MEETS IN ST. LOUIS MARCH 9-11

The ILDA Board of Directors had its first meeting since the convention in Portland at the International Center March 9-11 with all the regions represented by their presidents, with the exception of the Central region, whose president was unable to be present.

This was the first meeting ever to be held at Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod headquarters, due to the fact that the facilities at Concordia Seminary were unavailable.

EPHPHATHA CONFERENCE, VINTAGE 1915

Last year, THE DEAF LUTHERAN ran a picture of the Ephphatha Conference that was taken during the meeting in St. Paul, Minn. Aug. 26-30, 1949. The picture generated a great deal of interest, for it was 40 years old.

Rev. Walter Uhlig has sent in one taken of the conference at least 34 years earlier in the year 1915, when the full complement of pastors was present for their picture . . all eight of them! Also present were five members of the Mission Board. Incidentally, this picture was also taken in St. Paul, where the meeting met. We are indebted to Rev. Uhlig for sharing this photograph with our readers.

Pacific Regional Conference INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN DEAF ASSOCIATION Memorial Lutheran Church OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH 858 Washington Blvd. Fremont, Calif. 94539 June 22, 23, 24, 1990 For Information and Registrations: Mr. Clarence F. Schulz 2850 Middlefield Rd.#139 Palo Alto. Calif. 94306

1990 CENSUS FORM'S 'INSENSITIVITY' RAPPED BY THE BLIND AND DEAF

Ever since the first census of the population of the United States was taken in the year 1790, just 200 years ago, a count has been made every 10 years. The tabulations help determine such things as representation in Congress, state, county and local governments. Funding for important programs such as highways, assistance for the elderly, child care, schools, employment and various training programs are determined by the count of the nation's people.

Members of the blind community were upset this year that the forms were not printed in Braille for those with impaired sight and called the oversight 'insensitive' to their special needs. Instead of being able to fill out the forms without assistance, many would have to have assistance from sighted persons to complete the survey.

Deaf people objected to the fact that there was no local TDD hotline where they could call in for help to complete the questionaire. While there is a nationwide line based in Maryland for deaf people to call in to (800) 777-0978, none were available at local census offices. It was also felt that sign language interpreters should be included in advertisements promoting the census so that as few deaf people as possible



75 YEARS AGO--The Ephphatha Conference meeting in St. Paul, Minn. Top row (left to right) O. Schroeder, T. Wangerin, L. Jagels, A. Boll and N. Jensen; middle row: A. H. 'Kuntz*, J. Fuerbringer*, C. Schubkegel, H. Lange*, L. Huchthausen*, E. G. Nachtsheim*; front row: N. P. Uhlig and John Salvner. *Donates board member. are missed in the count.

Projections are that the next census in the year 2000 will see more of these concerns addressed with forms in Braille available and, hopefully, more telephone lines for TDD callers to use.

WHAT GOOD IS A BLOOD DONOR?

A blood donor is good for people who go through red lights and next, a windshield. For people undergoing operations. For barefoot kids who aren't careful. For people who are feudin' and fightin'.

For hemophiliacs so they can be as normal as possible. For daredevils. For people undergoing dialysis while waiting for a kidney transplant. For people who fool around with guns.

For little kids who manage to uncap something poisonous. For people who are burned pretty bad. For new babies who need a complete change of blood. For new mothers needing a transfusion. For people having open heart surgery.

For cancer patients. For people having a severe case of hepatitis. For kids who fall out of trees or whatever. For anybody any age with bleeding ulcers. For people in the wrong place at the wrong time. For the very tired with severe anemia. For people who run into things.

For people who are in a lot worse shape than most people you know. A BLOOD DONOR IS GOOD FOR LIFE!--AMERICAN RED CROSS



"It's a joy to see so many in my congregation this beautiful Sunday morning."

Page 8 THERE IS STILL MUCH WORK TO BE DONE

By Rev. Donald Leber Holy Cross Lutheran Church Columbus, Ohio

Turner, the millionaire-businessman Ted and owner of the CNN (Cable News Network) is becoming bolder in his statements against Christians. Recently he was quoted as saying that pro-life people were "bozos" and "look like idiots." More recently, he told the Dallas Morning News, "Christianity is a religion for losers." Christ died on the cross, but Mr. Turner said he shouldn't have both-ered. "I don't want anybody to die for me. I've had a few drinks and a few girl friends and if that is going to put me in hell, then so be it."

We Christians can become very angry and upset at a man like Mr. Turner when he says such things about us and especially about our Lord. However, the sad part is that Mr. Turner is saying what most people in this country are only thinking, but would like to say.

What is our response to a man like Mr. Turner? Anger . . . well, perhaps a letter to Mr. Turner expressing our disappointment over such comments would be a good thing to do. But more importantly, we need to realize that people have always been offended by our Lord and especially by His suffering and death on the cross. And as members of His church here on earth, we will always be the object of ridicule, disdain or worse! The Lord, of course, knew this would happen and so He told us, "Everybody will hate you be-cause of My Name. But the person who is faithful to the end will be saved." When we

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MISSION, THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-SYNOD, PUBLISHED BI-MONTHL'

BOARD FOR MISSOURI

OF THE INTERNATION

DFFICIAL PUBLICATION

1990

May-June,

ASSOCIATION

DEAF

LUTHERAN

read the things that Mr. Turner said, we realize there is still much work to be done in announcing the Gospel of the forgiveness of sins, boldly and plainly in all the lanquages of the world.

HAS YOUR CHILD EVER SEEN A CHRISTIAN?

One day a father was teaching his little boy what a Christian should be like. When the lesson was finished, the father got a shock he never forgot. "Father," asked the boy, "Have I ever seen one?"

