



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

November-December, 1990

St. Louis, Mo.

Volume 82, No.6

STILL NO ROOM AT THE INN

The following true story of some years ago recalls vividly the first Christmas of long ago when Mary and Joseph, their first child imminent, found no room at the inn. It occurred in an un-

named town in the deep southern part of the United States, about a week before Christmas, on a cold, weary day. Because of the increasing number of homeless and destitute people in our country these days, it should be a matter of concern and deep thought for all of us.

A pastor received a phone call from a woman, asking if his church assisted non-members, explaining that that there was an old man who had collapsed in front

of an old, abandoned shack out in the country where he evidently was living alone. He was lying outside in the cold.

Taking a friend along, the pastor went to the place the caller had described, and sure enough, found the man and also discovered there was no food or heat in the shack. Lifting the unconscious old black man in their car, they transported him to the local hospital, suffering from malnutrition and exposure.

Having been told by the hospital that he could stay no longer than one night without payment, the minister started calling members

of his parish asking if anyone could give the old man shelter for a short time. But the answers were always the same, "No room, no place" for this stranger.

"They all had some excuse," the pastor told his friend. "They would be going away; there was company; or else they were too busy preparing for Christmas. It was just like the first Christmas all over again. There was no place for the Baby Jesus and His earthy parents then, and today there still was no room for one of His own brothers. Here was a sick and starving old man, and the world still says, "no room at our house."

Later that same day, another destitute man showed up at the pastor's house looking for work, although he wasn't a church member, either. There was no work available, but during the course of the visit, the pastor mentioned the old black man's need. Although he and his wife were the parents of eight children in a run down house, he volunteered to take the man in for a few weeks, even if their home had only two rooms. The oldest son gave up his bed, saying he did not mind sleeping on the floor with the other children. The wife, almost nine months pregnant,

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SASKATCHEWAN JOINS NORTHWEST REGION

One of the surprises at the just concluded Northwest Regional Conference, which met at Pax Natura Ranch at Clyde, Alta. was the admission of the Canadian Province of Saskatchewan to the conference as a member. The Province joins British Columbia and Alberta to its member states.

At least six persons came to the meeting, driving at least 500 miles, from Regina, where Rev. Frank Silver serves a number of deaf Lutherans in his parish.

We extend a hearty welcome to our brothers and sisters and urge their participation at our convention in Toledo, Ohio next summer.

HOLDEN VILLAGE OBSERVES 10TH YEAR OF HEARING IMPAIRED WEEK

The former Howe Sound Company Mine, remotely located and nearly inaccessible except by boat, high in the Cascades of north central Washington, was the scene of the 10th annual 'Hearing Impaired Week' for deaf Lutherans July 21-28.

Situated in the Wenatchee National Forest amid towering snow capped peaks, the retreat center draws a steady stream of visitors from all walks of life who come to enjoy the scenic beauty and participate in the camp's activities which include worship, devotions, workshops and recreation.

Open all year, among the 400+ visitors during deaf week were approximately 25 deaf individuals from coast to coast, of whom at

least five were former board members of the International Lutheran Deaf Association (ILDA).

The traditional "Christmas in July" festivities were celebrated on the 25th, complete with lights, decorations and a program joined by the deaf who rendered in sign language Christmas carols and a skit in mime by Dorothy Sparks of Minneapolis, Minn.

Ways to improve participation by the deaf were sought by the director and his staff from the former ILDA board members, who provided input and suggestions. Plans for the 1991 'Deaf Week' are incomplete as this goes to the press, but definitely will not coincide with the convention in Toledo.

EPHPHATHA CONFERENCE RECOGNIZES PASTORS FOR LENCEVITY AT ST. PAUL IN JULY

30 Years

Rev. Orlin Anderson, Calgary, Alta.

25 Years

Rev. Paul Dorr, Jacksonville, Ill.
Rev. Roger Leonhardt, Devils Lake, N.D.

20 Years

Rev. David Carstens, Portland, Ore.

15 Years

Rev. Roy Dahmann, San Lorenzo, Calif.

10 Years

Mr. Elwood Bush, Memphis, Tenn.

5 Years

Laura Herman (Deaconess) Rockford, Ill.
Rev. Richard Vossler, Philadelphia, Pa.

Certificates for those unable to be in attendance this year.

55 Years

Rev. Arnold T. Jonas, Auburn, Calif.

45 Years

Rev. Herbert Rohe, Nevada, Mo.

30 Years

Rev. Frank Wagenknecht, Charlotte, N.C.
Rev. Gerhard Gehrs, Riverside, Calif.

25 Years

Robert Oettel, Matsuyama, Japan.

5 Years

Rev. Brant Engel, Detroit, Mich.

CONTINUED: FROM PAGE 1

STILL NO ROOM

arranged things for the old man.

The pastor returned later with more blankets and extra food for the family, which like the sick old man, was also black. He noted that there was no room in the spacious, cozy homes if the faithful parish members, but here comes along a stranger, poor and destitute himself, and opens his heart and home to another in dire need.

Conversations with his church members showed that even if the sick man had been white, as were the majority of the congregation, the end result would have been the same.

The home that welcomed the old man was not much. It was like the stable in the Christmas story of old, but there was an abundant love in it.

And on that Christmas night, the woman gave birth to a new baby boy.

--Adapted from a story by
George Cornell, Associated
Press Religion Writer

GORTON TO HEAD NORTHWEST REGION

Larry Gorton, who succeeded Ronald Madding as president of the Northwest Region following the election of the former to the office of president-elect of the ILDA, was unanimously voted in as the president of the Northwest Region for a two-year term. He will also represent his region on the ILDA board of directors.

Meeting at Pax Natura Ranch for the Deaf Aug. 31-Sept. 2, which hosted three-day meeting in northern Alberta, informality was the general rule with, with workshops on witnessing for Christ in our daily lives conducted by Rev. Bill Ney, executive assistant for parish services of the Alberta-British Colum-



ATTENDING THE DEDICATION SERVICE--Part of the crowd watching the ceremony. Note the jackets many were wearing during the cool weather.



IT'S ALWAYS FAIR WEATHER WHEN GOOD FELLOWS GET TOGETHER--Left to right: Rev. Frank Silver, Regina, Sask.; Rev. Bill Ludwig, Seattle; Rev. William Ney, Edmonton, Alta.; John Fleming, Edmonton, Alta., congregation president; Rev. Hewitt, Spokane, Wash., and host pastor, R. A. Bauer.

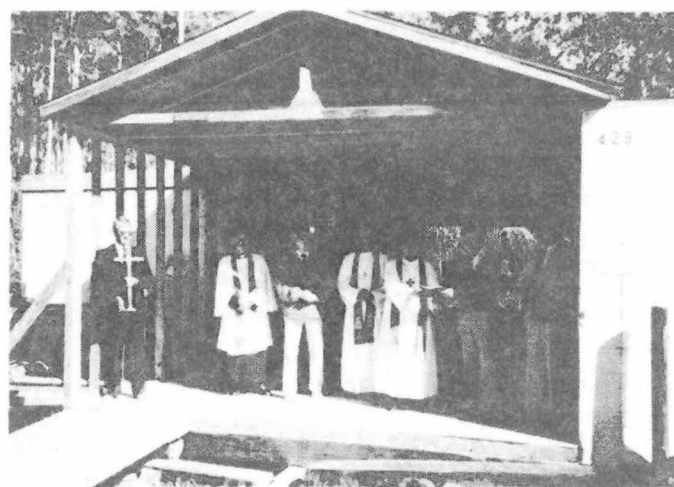
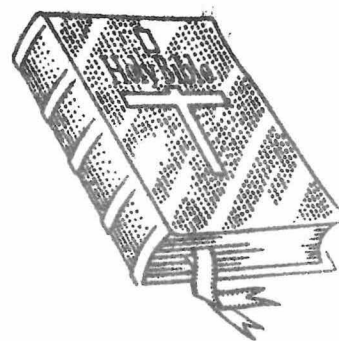
bia District of the Lutheran Church-Canada.

Dr. Jerome Schein of the University of Alberta at Edmonton gave a talk on demographics of the deaf population in North America, giving illustrations of both the United States and Canada, with a question and answer session afterwards.

A representative of the World Winter Games for the Deaf to be held at Banff National Park, Alberta was present to explain the event and answer questions, as well as urge everyone to come. Dates are Feb. 28 to March 8, 1991.

Horseback riding, a hay ride and a barn dance were enthusiastically enjoyed by all in attendance. Pastor Bauer appeared to be as much at home in the saddle as he is in the pulpit.

As voted by the membership, \$673.25 was earmarked for ILDA mission projects from the Sunday church offering.



NEW BUILDING DEDICATED--The newest addition to Pax Natura Ranch was dedicated following church services on Sunday. In front of the new trailer dorm and meeting complex are Pastors Silver, Ludwig, Ney, Bauer and Hewitt. At far left and right are the contractors, Mel Primrose and William McLean.

ROUNDING UP THE NEWS FI

Alice Hagemeyer, Silver Springs, Md. was the recipient of one of three awards given by the Gallaudet University Alumni Association's annual Charter Day Dinner on April 7. She was presented the GUAA Alice Cogswell Award for her involvement in many organizations.

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Rev. Orlin Anderson of Calgary, Alta. brought his new wife to the Northwest Regional meeting at Pax Natura Ranch to the delight of many well wishers.

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Leo Goll, 74, of Blissfield, Mich., died March 2, 1990 at Lakeland, Fla. He was a retired grain farmer, and a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran church at Toledo, Ohio.

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It is not every day that one of the members of one of our deaf churches becomes a

superintendent of a school for the deaf, yet, that is exactly what happened on Aug. 1, when Mr. Harold M. Mowl Jr., an educator at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf at Pittsburgh was named superintendent of the 113-year Rochester School for Deaf at Rochester, N.Y. Mowl, 43, has been ad-



HAROLD MOWL

ministrative principal at WPSD, where he started his career in 1968. Harold was chosen from a field of 19 applicants.

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Yolanda Marsh, of Ephphatha Ev. Lutheran church, Chicago, has won a vocational/technical school scholarship from Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL). She is one of 100 individuals to be honored as a recipient of one of these renewable scholarships, which range in amount from \$250 to \$500 annually.

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Pastor L. Richard Vossler, of St. Philip's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Philadelphia, was the subject of an article in the **Philadelphia Inquirer** on Sunday, July 1 when the paper published a story on the work being done at St. Philip's in its Sunday editions. Also pictured were Dan and Kathy Glenney.

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Pastor Clark Bailey of Detroit observes that post Labor Day is a time to "get back

to work" as vacations end. He wryly notes maybe a better way to say it is "back to worship." Did you worship while on vacation this summer?

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We need your prayers that the Lord of the church will soon send pastors to fill the vacancies at the following churches: St. Matthew and St. Mark, New York City; St. Matthew, Newark, N.J.; Holy 3-In-1, Houston, Texas; Jesus Lutheran church, Austin, Texas; Pilgrim Lutheran church, Kansas City, Mo.; Jackson, Miss.

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Vicar David Boyd ended his one-year at Holy cross Lutheran church at Columbus, Ohio and returned to St. Louis for his last year before ordination. Members of Holy Cross honored the couple with a farewell "shower" inside an umbrella that rained dollar bills when opened!

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Six ILDA members joined an escorted tour to Europe in mid-August led by Rev. Vernon Dolde of Reeseville, Wis., and 23 non-deaf. The tour visited five countries including Holland, Germany, Austria, Italy and Switzerland. The renowned Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany was one of the highlights of the two-week trip and probably has no equal in the world for its presentation of Christ's passion. Members going were Richard and Lois Nelson, Rockford, Ill., Mrs. William (Annette) Binn, Monona, Wis., Lester and Betty Ahls, Cedar Falls, Iowa and Mrs Betty Suhr, a member of Holy Cross Lutheran church, Delavan, Wis.

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Rev. Roy Dahmann has declined the call to Holy Three-In-One Lutheran church in Texas.

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New officers serving the Pacific Region of the ILDA (PRILDA) are: Clarence F. Schulz, president, of Palo Alto, Calif.; Marion Kuntze, vice president, Antioch, Calif.; Lee Ann Kotal, secretary, Westminster, Calif. (Los Angeles); Norman Davis, treasurer of Lodi, Calif.; pastoral counselor, Rev. Roy Dahmann, Fremont, Calif.

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An interesting bit of news from California is the sale of the church property at Fremont by the congregation of Memorial Lutheran church. It is no longer a subsidized congregation, but has become entirely self supporting, a challenge described best as

OM AMONG THE REGIONS . . .

"exciting, scary and challenging." The revenue generated by the sale of the property is regarded as "substantial" but will need to be managed carefully in the years to come in the best interests of the church.

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Some marriages fully are made in heaven as witness the 65th anniversary of **Earl and Betty Leffel** of Good Shepherd Lutheran church, Toledo, Ohio. Congratulations and blessings and many more years from our Lord.

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After 16 years in the same location, **OUR REDEEMER** OF Seattle, had its last services in the annex building of Denny Park Lutheran church on Sunday, Sept. 2 and will be moving to another part of the same church, but will be losing its storage space, forcing the liquidation of many items it can no longer keep. The annex is being converted to a shelter for some of the city's homeless, which will allow for 30 beds for youngsters 17 and under who have been living on the streets of the city. Our Redeemer's new quarters can seat about 90 persons.

NADEEN M. NORD

Nadeen Nord, 73, of Manhattan, Kan., a long time member of the International Lutheran Deaf Association and devout member of the Midwest ILDA Conference and her home town congregation entered into rest on Sunday, July 15, 1990 following gall bladder surgery at Trinity Lutheran hospital in Kansas City.

Mrs. Nord and her husband, Harold H., of nearly 50 years, attended most of the functions of the ILDA and its Midwest Region for as long as her health permitted and were present at the 1989 convention at Portland, Ore. and the regional meeting at Bonner Springs, Kan. The 1990 meeting at Minneapolis, Minn. was the first time in memory the couple failed to attend, due to failing health of Mrs. Nord.

Memorial services were conducted by Rev. Duane Holst of Beatrice, Neb. on Saturday morning, July 21 at St. Luke's Lutheran church, Manhattan. Mrs. Ruth Nester, a long time friend of the family, sang the Twenty Third Psalm.

Committal services were private. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the International Lutheran Deaf Association.

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Edmonton, Alta. is again offering a scholarship of \$200 (Canadian funds) for some person, deaf or hearing, preparing for service in the ministry to the deaf.

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The new addition to **Calvary Lutheran church**, Des Moines, Iowa is tentatively slated for construction to begin on April 1, 1991.

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Mr. Harvey J. Corson, superintendent of the Mississippi School for the Deaf has become Gallaudet university's third Provost, effective Aug. 1. His replacement is expected to be Gary W. Olsen, former executive director of the NAD.

TWO MEMBERS OF ALPHA LUTHERA CHURCH, ROCHESTER, ATTAIN EAGLE SCOUT RANK

Chuck Schutz and Don Clupper, members of Alpha Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Rochester, N.Y., have recently earned scouting's highest achievement, the Eagle Scout Award.

The Eagle Scout badge is one that very few scouts earn, and many troops never have a scout reach Eagle rank. Troop 29 from Rochester School for the Deaf has had nine young men earn the award over the past 60 years. To have two young men earn it in the same year is remarkable. Both Don and Chuck have worked many years to reach their goal. Don's father, the late Eugene Clupper, had also earned his Eagle award while he was a scout.

Don and Chuck are both active in Alpha Lutheran Church of the Deaf. They have both been lay readers and ushers, and Chuck is currently the head trustee of the congregation.

In addition to their activities in church and scouting, they are both excellent students. In their senior year at RSD, Don was the class secretary and the salutatorian at graduation. He also won the following awards: Outstanding Deaf Student award; Shumway Civic Achievement Award; NYS Association of Educators of the Deaf Achievement award and the Presidential Academic Fitness Award. Chuck was the vice president of the senior class and won the following awards: RSD Alumni Award; Shumway Civic Achievement Award and the Extraordinary Effort Award.

Chuck and Don are both currently attending the National Technical Institute for the Deaf and continuing their involvement at Alpha.

CITI: TRAINING INTERPRETERS FOR INTEGRATED CHURCH MINISTRIES

With more and more churches realizing that there are deaf people in their midst with no place to worship and too far from congregations with a full time pastor serving their needs, Concordia Interpreter Training Institute has, for the past five years, sponsored a fast-paced, intensive and practical training program to fill an urgent need.

CITI, founded at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind. in 1985 by the late Dr. George Kraus and institute leader, Rev. Bob Muller trains students of all ages and experience, from pastors, teachers, relatives with deaf children in the family, but most people coming for training are simply concerned lay people who know someone in their home communities who is not being brought

the Word of God, and salvation in Jesus.

The Mill Neck Foundation begin CITI with a \$50,000 grant and makes similar annual grants to support the work. Congregations sending students to the institute pay \$400.00 for the approximately month long course, with the Mill Neck Foundation grant funding the remainder. Since the program was started, 143 graduates from 25 states and two foreign countries have been through the course, which teaches both basic and advanced sign language.

Lowell Fein, the institute's executive director, says that Dr. Kraus was an inspiration to all who worked with him and it was difficult to keep up with his energy and ideas. He also says they will continue to enlarge and redefine his goals.

Persons desiring more information or to register may write to the Church Interpreter Training Institute, 6600 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, Ind. 46825 or call 219-481-2100.



CITI STUDENTS practice interpreting a sermon in the Concordia Theological Seminary chapel.



SHIRLEY KLATT (left) church interpreter for First Lutheran church, Bozeman, Mont., visits with her deaf friends, Donna Houghtaling (second from left) and Evelyn and Victor Lyon.



NEWEST EAGLE SCOUTS—Don Clupper (left) and Chuck Schutz (second from right) are shown with Assistant Troop Leader Bob Conner (white hair) and Scoutmaster Dave Cox, right.



The 11th Biennial Convention of the
INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN DEAF ASSOCIATION

hosted by

Good Shepherd of the Deaf Lutheran Church

August 1-4, 1991

	Reg. Price			
Registration (Required)....	12.00	x	_____ person(s)	= _____
Program Book.....	3.50	x	_____ person(s)	= _____
Thurs. (Skits & Reception).	12.50	x	_____ person(s)	= _____
Fri. (Brunch at 10:45 a.m.)	15.00	x	_____ person(s)	= _____
Sat. Banquet/Entertainment)	32.00	x	_____ person(s)	= _____
Sunday (full breakfast)....	10.00	x	_____ person(s)	= _____
Total for tickets.....	85.00			_____

Special Combo Rates:

Before May 1st.....	60.00	x	_____ person(s)	= _____
Before July 1st.....	70.00	x	_____ person(s)	= _____
After July 1 & at door.....	75.00	x	_____ person(s)	= _____

Non-member of ILDA, add.... 8.00 x _____ person(s) = _____

Tours: Choose one, please:

Sauder Farm & Buffet.....	30.00	x	_____ person(s)	= _____
Art Museum & Buffet.....	18.00	x	_____ person(s)	= _____

GRAND TOTALS.....\$ _____

NOTE: Pay \$5.00 to ILDA Treasurer for membership to save \$3.00.

SLEEPING ROOM: at Holiday Inn "French Quarter"....Reg. \$75/room/nite.
 ILDA Board Members & Officers (Tues.-Sat.)..... \$55 " "
 ILDA Convention (Thurs.-Fri.-Sat.)..... \$60 " "

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State _____, Zip _____

Enclosed a check, money order or cashier check for \$ _____

NO personal checks will be accepted after July 1. Payable to:
 1991 ILDA Convention and mail to Lois Snyder, 10439 Mandell Rd.,
 Perrysburg, Ohio 43551. Phone 419-874-4527. Thank You!



SEVERAL PARTICIPANTS in Ephphatha Conference attended the Saturday sessions at the 10th North American Sunday School convention held in Minneapolis, Minn. July 13-15. Pictured left to right are: Rev. LaVern Mass, Laurel, Md.; Rev. Bob Case, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mrs. Peggy Bush, Memphis, Tenn.; Mrs. Joan Mass, Laurel, Md.; Rev. Mark Anderson, Aurora, Ill., and Rev. Eddie Bergstresser, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Go Tell It on the Mountains

While the shepherds kept their watching
 O'er silent flocks by night,
 Behold throughout the heavens
 There shone a holy light.
 Go tell it on the mountains
 O'er the hills and everywhere;
 Go tell it on the mountains
 That Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled
 When lo! Above the earth
 Rang out the angel chorus
 That hailed our Saviour's birth.
 Go tell it on the mountains,
 Over the hills and everywhere;
 Go tell it on the mountains
 That Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger
 The humble Christ was born,
 And brought us God's salvation
 That blessed Christmas morn.
 Go tell it on the mountains,
 Over the hills and everywhere;
 Go tell it on the mountains
 That Jesus Christ is born!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR FAITHFUL PRAYERS, INTEREST AND SUPPORT. MAY THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS BE REAL TO YOU!

THE DEAF LUTHERAN STAFF
 Lester Ahls, Editor
 Elmer D. Francisco, Bus. Mgr.

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