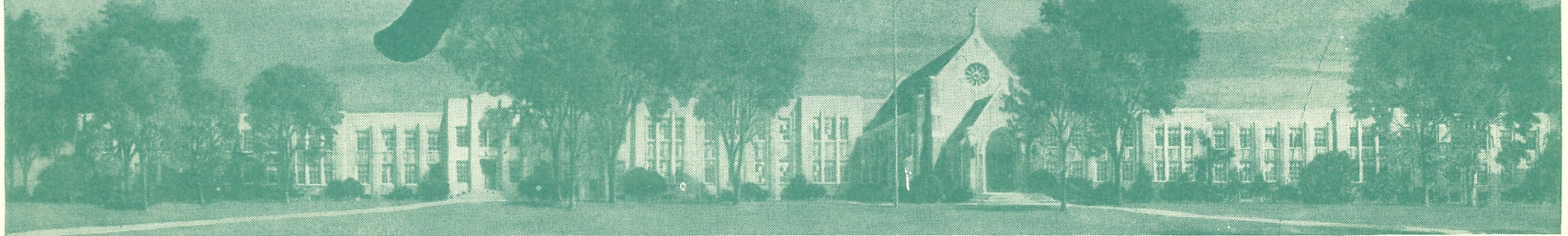


the deaf child's

ADVOCATE



Vol. 29

DECEMBER, 1958

No. 1



CHRISTMAS, 1958

*We wish all our
Advocate Readers
a Joyful Christmas
and a
Blessed New Year*

Christmas Program

Our annual children's Christmas program to which all friends of our school are cordially invited will be held on Thursday, December 18th, at 1:30 p.m. — The Ladies Auxiliary will give a tea for all visitors immediately after the program.

Parents who are present for the program may take their children home after the service. All other pupils will be sent home by plane, train or bus as directed by their parents.

All children must be returned to school on Monday, January 5, 1959.



*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
peace, good will toward men.*

Luke 2, 14

THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS

Ranking high among the most costly manuscripts in the world is the Sinai Codex, a Bible manuscript written in the fourth century. British children saved their pennies and finally purchased this manuscript from the Soviet government for \$500,000.00. But if you have a New Testament — and believe it — particularly the 263 words of St. Luke's Christmas story, — you will have a treasure which in the sight of God far exceeds \$500,000.00

Among the most valuable paintings in all the art galleries of the world is Raffael's Christ Child and His mother. Five million dollars, we are told, could not buy this picture. But if you receive and believe God's Christmas gift and have Christ in your heart, you have a blessing that makes five million dollars look like chicken feed. - - -

One of the most costly pieces of property in the world is the site of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. No amount of money could purchase this spot which is supposed to mark the place where our Savior was born. Streams of blood have flowed from thousands of wounds on the part of those who sought to conquer or to hold this strip of land. Yet if you have Christ's Christmas gift, and kneel in spirit at the manger, — even though you may lack many other things, — you are still richer than if you held title to that church in Bethlehem, — for when Christ is born in your hearts you have a living, victorious assurance that can come to you in no other way.

That is why we join the apostle to declare: "Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift."

But our gratitude must induce us to do more than to take and enjoy "God's Unspeakable Gift." And if at Christmas we have not in vain heard the bells ring out — the organ peal — the choir sing — the children hum — if we have not in vain viewed the decorations and heard our pastors proclaim: "Christ, the Savior is born" then we will in love and gratitude cast off the old man, his disagreeableness, his unkindness, his love of sin, his hate — and put on the new man and walk in joy, service, loving obedience, patience, hope, and all for the sake of "God's Unspeakable Gift" to the world, Jesus Christ, the Babe of Bethlehem.

And in order that our thanks might be more than mere words we ask you to come now — and as you attune your voice to the angelic chorus: "Glory to God in the Highest," — repeat with us this resolute promise that you will translate your gratitude into action during the coming year, by giving to your Savior of your time, your talents, your energies and your gifts that this "Unspeakable Gift of Christmas" may, more than ever, be brought to hovels and mansions, to darkened sick rooms and radiant living rooms, to dingy basements and towering apartments, to old folks, orphanages, to asylums and prisons, to the blind and the deaf — so that thousands of sin-sick souls throughout the world may by this time next year, join in this chorus of Christ-centered praise: "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift." — The Thermostat



Deaconess Marie Bliefnick

Twenty-Five Years

Deaconess Marie Bliefnick completed twenty-five years of service as a deaconess, twenty of which were spent in our school. During all these many years this consecrated servant in the Church devoted all her time and energies in caring for handicapped children and in making a home-away-from home for these less fortunate little ones. The first five years she was at the Bethesda Home in Watertown, Wisconsin, and the last twenty years she devoted her life to the care of deaf children in our Lutheran School for the Deaf.

Deeply appreciating Deaconess Bliefnick's outstanding love and devotion to the children in her care and recognizing her fine abilities as the head matron of our girls' department, our Detroit Ladies Auxiliary at the occasion of its annual birthday party surprised her with a gift certificate. The Macomb Ephphatha Chapter of the Ladies Auxiliary arranged a surprise with a similar gift. The School's Board of Management sent her a check together with a letter expressing its appreciation for her many years of faithful service. The staff members presented her with a bouquet of silver dollars. - - We pray that Deaconess Bliefnick may continue with us for many more years as a foster mother to the many little deaf children whose real mothers place them into her loving care in order that they may here be educated and trained to overcome their handicap and so become independent and self-reliant Christian citizens.

Incidentally Yours . . .

The many activities that have caused our autumn days to orbit about as rapidly as a sputnik were the following: the Superintendents' Convention in Northampton, Massachusetts; the meeting of Synod's Special Services Committee in St. Louis, the meeting of the Council of Lutheran Agencies at Valparaiso University, the South and East Michigan teachers conference in East Detroit; entertaining thirteen women's groups and other organizations and many individuals from different cities in Ontario, Ohio and Michigan; — giving talks and live demonstrations before fourteen P.-T.A., Sunday Schools, Men's Clubs, Mission Festival Services and numerous other meetings.

The gorgeous autumn colors which we were privileged to see on our trips in October to Richville, Michigan, and Northampton, Massachusetts, were beyond description and the artist's brush. - - -

While in Northampton we took time to visit the Austine School for the Deaf at Brattleboro, Vermont, where two of our former pupils, Raymond Much and Nelson Finks are employed as housefathers. - - - At Northampton we also visited with one of our former students, Philip Reddel of St. Joseph, Michigan, who is now at the Clarke School for the Deaf. - - -

The many enjoyable experiences which our pupils had during the past months were: 1. a homecoming chicken dinner, provided and prepared by our Ladies Auxiliary for our entire school family and its professional benefactors; 2. Tickets provided by the North Detroit Lion's Club to the Redwing hockey game; 3. Tickets to the Valparaiso-Wayne State football game, a gift of the Geo. W. Auch Construction Company; 4. Tickets to the Soup Bowl football game given by the John W. Smith Old Timers Club. This organization also gave each child \$1.00 to spend at the game; 5. Tickets to the Little League football game by Mr. Wm. Appelton; 6. Two roller skating parties by the Dads of Veterans of Foreign Wars and Mr. George F. Brett respectively; 7. A minstrel show by the Grosse Pointe Optimists Club; 8. A corn roast by the North Detroit Kiwanis Club; 9. Tickets to the Ice Follies; 10. Trips to Belle Isle Park; 11. A Halloween Party.

Our boys and girls are very happy that we have again found willing workers who will teach the girls the rudiments of cooking, baking and needle work and the boys the art of handling tools at woodcraft. Mr. Paul Peach and Mr. F. Hoefft will be the boys' teachers and Mrs. Blankstrom and Mrs. Shad will teach the girls needle work and the Edison Electric Company

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 1)



The Reverend F. A. Hertwig, D.D.



Mrs. F. A. Hertwig nee Pfothauer

A QUADRUPLE ANNIVERSARY

To celebrate the completion of fifty years of faithful work in the Lord's vinyard is in itself an important event in one's life. But to celebrate a 50th anniversary and three other events almost as important and significant in the same year, and on the same day is an occasson that truly is out of the ordinary. And the distinguished person who through the blessings of our heavenly Father was privileged to so celebrate is none other than our beloved Dr. H. F. Hertwig, long time Vice-President of The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod. It was on Sunday, November 16, that Gethsemane congregation, in Detroit, assembled in its house of worship to honor Dr. Hertwig and his spouse by celebrating the esteemed Doctor's 75th birthday, his 50th anniversary as pastor, his 40th anniversary as shepherd of Gethsemane congregation and Dr. and Mrs. Hertwig's 40th wedding anniversary.

The festival preacher was the Rev. Paul Kluender, D.D., of Melrose Park, Illinois, a classmate of Dr. Hertwig.

After the four o'clock church service a supper was served by the women of the congregation to members and friends at beautifully decorated tables in the parish house. Pastor Erwin Kurth presided as toastmaster over the program which followed. The speakers for this occasion were Dr. E. T. Bernthal, who as member of the Board of Directors, represented Synod; Pastor Louis Koehler represented the Michigan District; Pastor C. MacKenzie represented the vicars; Dr. Andrew Daniel spoke as a friend and neighbor, and Dr. John Klein represented the Lutheran School for the Deaf.

An interesting overview in pictures and clippings of the life of Dr. and Mrs. Hertwig, projected on a screen with running comments by Mrs. Erwin Kurth, sister of Mrs. F. Hertwig, concluded this unique and enjoyable event.

Pastor F. A. Hertwig was born on Nov. 24, 1883, in Effington, Ottertail County, Minnesota, a son of Pastor August Hertwig and his wife Elizabeth nee Maschger. His father was a pioneer missionary of the Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod among the settlers of our great northwest.

After his graduation from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., in 1908, Dr. Hertwig was assigned and accepted a call to Bethlehem Church, Detroit, where he was installed on August 16, 1908, by the sainted Pastor William Hagen. He served as assistant pastor to the sainted Pastor Ferd. Tresselt at Bethlehem Church, Detroit, from 1908-1918. In the year 1918 he accepted a call to the pastorate of Gethsemane Church, Detroit, as senior pastor. In the course of the past forty years he has worked together with 13 vicars and 15 parish-school teachers. And after forty years he is still serving Gethsemane together with Pastor H. H. Quitmeyer and three teachers.

Aside from serving in his own congregation, Dr. Hertwig served the Church at large, where in the course of years, he was instrumental and assisted at founding scores of missions in and about Detroit and in Michigan. Founding missions and promoting church publicity and good public relations were among Dr. Hertwig's greatest interests.

Dr. Hertwig served the Michigan District in the following capacities: As visitor of the Detroit South Side Circuit; as secretary of the Michigan District Mission Board; as chairman of the District Church Extension Board; as First Vice-President of the District; as chairman of the executive committee of the Michigan School Defense campaign; and he was essayist at two Michigan District conventions.

Dr. Hertwig also served the Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod: as a member of Synod's Pension Fund, as a member of Synod's Board of Directors 1944-1946; as Vice-President of the Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod, 1946-1956; as first Vice-President of the Synodical Conference; as a member of Synod's Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice; as chairman of Synod's Colloquy Committee; and as chairman of the Fiscal Conference of Synod.

When the building of the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf was condemned because it was considered to be a firetrap by the city safety engineers, it was Dr. Hertwig who, as Building Fund Campaign manager worked untiringly until the \$100,000.00 necessary for the erection of the first unit of our new building had been received. In recognition of that service rendered our School by the Doctor, the Board of Management honored him by affixing a bronze plaque on the wall of that unit which reads as follows: —

HERTWIG HALL ERECTED 1936

This Building is Dedicated to the Glory of God for the Christian Training and Education of Deaf Children. It is Named in Honor of and as a Tribute to

THE REV. F. A. HERTWIG, D.D.

Whose Vision, Inspiration and Untiring Efforts Made Possible the Funds for its Erection.

The management of the Detroit Lutheran School for the Deaf, the first and oldest charity in the Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod, rendering synodwide services to handicapped children and its entire staff join Gethsemane congregation in congratulating Dr. and Mrs. Hertwig on their long and faithful service which they rendered their local flock and the Church at large and the community and wishing them our heavenly Father's bounteous blessings for further years of happiness in the service of our Lord and Savior.

LETTER BOX

Dear Dr. Klein: Detroit, Mich.
 Just a line to tell you and the school personnel that our grandson Richard Nicholai was graduated from Gallaudet College last June and that he is now employed by the Arkansas School for the Deaf in Little Rock. He is dean of boys and teacher of arithmetic to a slow-learning class of seventh grade boys. He is also head football coach and teacher of athletics. He is a fine young man and we feel that we owe much to the Lutheran School for the Deaf and all its teachers and house-mothers for Dick's success.
 Wishing you and your school God's richest blessings,

Mrs. Wm. Wurm

Dear Dr. Klein: Newport, Mich.
 Having attended your School's 85th Anniversary celebration and visited your classes we think your staff is doing really marvelous work. - - We are looking forward to our son going to your school next year. - - -
 Thanks so much for the Advocate. We read every word of it and enjoy it so very much.

Wilfred and Louise Shock

Dear Dr. Klein: Westmont, Ill.
 The presentation of your film "The World of Silence" was part of a program of our Church's Sunday Evening Club, family-get-together, pot-luck supper and entertainment. Besides having shown your film at this occasion it was also shown to our Day School.

The film is very interesting, enlightening and informative and vividly depicts the great work our Church is doing in behalf of the deaf. - - -

It may interest you to know that Mrs. E. F. Kavasch, our pastor's wife, is the grand-daughter of the sainted Rev. Reinke, the first Lutheran missionary to the deaf. - - -

We are enclosing our check for the support of your worthy cause.

Very truly yours,
 Arvin A. Brochmann,
 S.S. Superintendent

Incidentally Yours . . .

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 1)

will supply the cooking teacher.

Thanks go to the Martin Club of Wisconsin which sent us \$100.00 towards the purchase of a necessary hearing testing device and to the Warrendale Kiwanis Club for a contribution of \$50.00 towards the acquisition of new mailing machine equipment.

Our annual big mailing job was made possible through the help of many willing volunteer workers, both men and women. The number of helpers were so many that space will not permit giving all their names here. However, our heavenly Father knows them all and has their deed of love recorded in His Book of Life.

The following optometrists and

OUR NEEDS

Having been asked what our School's most important and immediate needs are, our answer to that question is; next to the cash required for operations and tuition-scholarships for our youngsters, we are in need of three very important items. These are: 1. Addressing and mailing equipment costing \$3,000.00; 2. A 16 MM sound projector valued at around \$300.00; 3. A good used or new station wagon in which to transport our youngsters. Our 1948 Chevrolet station wagon is falling apart.

We shall be most grateful to persons or organizations who will provide any one of these items or who will contribute funds for their purchase.

A CORRECTION

Lest there be a misunderstanding, we here wish to call attention to an error which inadvertently appeared in the Mill Neck Manor Bulletin, published by the Lutheran School in New York. This item stated that the Management of the Detroit Lutheran School for the Deaf had presented to its Director an All-expense trip to Europe at the occasion of his 50th anniversary celebration. — We wish it to be known that this trip was NOT the gift of the School, but that it was given to the Jubilarian by his son and daughter-in-law, Lt. Col. and Mrs. John J. Klein, now stationed in Orleans, France.

assistants again gave of their valuable time to examine all our pupils' eyes: — Drs. J. V. and O. R. Dueweke, 13904 Gratiot; Donald Lakin, 21820 Kelly Rd. East Detroit; Richard Muse, 151 Main St. Bellville; R. T. Hugo, 14619 E. 7 Mile Rd.; G. R. Henderson, 18524 Moross; B. B. Wisney, 14242 Gratiot; H. A. Bunge, 16800 Harper; C. W. Johannes, 19343 Van Dyke; R. D. Sobieske, 14619 E. 7 Mile Rd.; J. A. Park, 12434 Kelly Rd.; and Mrs. Allene Dueweke, 18116 Pelkey. - - -

All pupils received additional Saulk vaccine inoculations administered by Dr. Charles Sharrer and his nurse.

News Concerning Former Pupils

Richard Nicholai, a Gallaudet College graduate is employed by the Arkansas School for the Deaf as coach and teacher.

Richard Tuccinardi, also a Gallaudet College graduate, is similarly employed by the Washington State School for the Deaf.

Marlene Nabors recently was married in our chapel to a hearing mate by the Rev. N. E. Borchardt.

Roberta Clawson is the first deaf girl ever employed by the Detroit Edison Company.

Gay Hagler of Alabama also was married recently to a hearing mate. Her husband is in the military service. That brings the number to three of our former girls who married hearing mates this year. This is evidence that the ability to speak and read lips does mean a lot to deaf people since it assists them greatly to adjust in a hearing and speaking world.

Judith Johnson, a graduate of the Houston, Texas, Lutheran High School was married to a deaf mate in that city last summer.

Charlotte Johnson is employed by the Michigan Bell Telephone Company.

Raymond Much and Nelson Finks found employment as housefathers in the Austine State School for the Deaf in Vermont. Raymond writes that Vermont has more cows than people.

Barbara Brauer was graduated from Oberlin College in Ohio. She now speaks both English and German.

Monica Gable of Ft. Wayne, is attending a college for hearing students.

Nancy Coston of Indianapolis, after being graduated from Gallaudet College was married to Gerald Taylor, who is also a Gallaudet College graduate. They are now living in Ogden, Utah, where they are employed by the Utah School for the Deaf.

As we receive further information concerning our former pupils we intend to pass it along to our readers in these columns.



WITH ONLY FIFTEEN boys within the age limit, pickings for our football team were slim this year. But the drive and spirit our team manifested against great odds during the season should have entitled it to the championship trophy.

FORM OF BEQUEST

I give, devise and bequeath to The Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, a corporation duly organized in the State of Michigan, and located at 6861 Nevada Ave., Detroit 34, the sum of \$ dollars

The receipt of the Treasurer or Executive Director of said corporation shall be sufficient discharge of my executor for same.

"Thank God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Two large semi-truck loads of farm produce, fresh fruits and canned fruits and vegetables delivered to our unloading platform by the C. and H. Nielsen Cartage Company were the bountiful gifts from our Christians in the Thumb District of Michigan. A large and valuable item was the 4,738 quarts of canned fruits and vegetables and the ten gallons of fine honey.

A van-load of 110 bags of potatoes, the gift of the Rogers City area Lutheran congregations was delivered to our doors by the same cartage company. And last but not least was the gift of sixty bushels of fine apples from Mr. Klink, a member of the Conklin, Michigan, congregation of which the Rev. Richard A. Riess is the pastor. To these gifts we must add the loads of produce from the Macomb, and Plymouth congregations and those from individuals who remembered our large family with offerings of food. Among the latter was also the gift of 2 five gallon cans of fine Wisconsin honey sent us by Mr. Adolph Moesch of Bonduel.

All of these offerings of food together with the many hundreds of quarts of fruit which our own Ladies Auxiliary canned are now stored on our shelves and in the Cold Storage room to be used to feed our large family during the rest of the long school year.

To God our great Provider and to the many donors of these wonderful gifts we here once again say a great big "THANK YOU."

THE DEAF CHILD'S ADVOCATE

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SCHOOL BOARD — Rev. Geo. Krach, Rev. N. E. Borchardt, Rev. C. Nietzsche.

All communications regarding the editing must be sent to the managing editor.

ALL ADDRESS CHANGES must be sent to the Lutheran School for the Deaf, 6861 East Nevada Ave., Detroit 34, Mich.

OUR ANNUAL APPEAL



Dear Friend In Christ:

It is hardly necessary to write and tell you the purpose and intent of this letter, because, as a regular reader of *The Deaf Child's Advocate*, you are fully acquainted with The Lutheran School For The Deaf and its work of rehabilitating deaf children, both spiritually and educationally.

This letter, therefore, is only meant to be our ANNUAL reminder to you that The Lord Hath Need of You and your gift of love so that this work of leading deaf children out of their great spiritual silence and darkness to the blessed salvation wrought by Christ our Savior may continue to prosper and flourish.

We are confident that, out of love for the Master, you will lend this cause your personal support and that you will also speak a word to your organizations for these less fortunate little ones. — They, and we, your servants in this glorious Kingdom work, DO Look to You and Depend upon You for your assistance.

With Christian love and greetings,

The Board of Management of
THE LUTHERAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

J. A. Klein, Executive Director

OUR ANNUAL APPEAL

We hope and pray that our annual appeal, which recently reached all readers of the *Advocate*, will receive sympathetic and serious consideration for truly "The Lord hath need" of your financial support for this very necessary and blessed missionary endeavor.

Your donation will be acknowledged with a receipt which may be used for income tax deduction.

THE LUTHERAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
6861 Nevada Avenue • Detroit 34, Mich.



A HOST of volunteer workers directed by Mrs. Emily Engel and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Witt spent many days in assembling, sorting, and bundling our Annual Appeal letters which recently reached you. Our sincere thanks go to this large crew of willing workers for a job well done.