

The Deaf Child's ADVOCATE

Volume 38

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Number 6

THOUGHTS

WHEN THE ANGELS WERE GONE AWAY

"It came to pass as the angels were gone away" — that is always the testing hour, the hour of crisis. It is easy enough to enjoy Christmas, to listen to the children's program, to attend the special services, to rejoice with our loved ones in that blessed season, but the testing time comes when the angels have gone away — when the sermons are over — when the choirs have ceased to sing — when Christmas is past and we find ourselves in a common place world once more.

"As the angels were gone away" what happened then? Were the shepherds any better for the sermon and the song and the heavenly splendor? They heard the message — what would they do with it? They listened to the song — what would it mean in their lives? Would the light which they had seen lead them to greater light or only increase the darkness around them?

"Let us go" said the shepherds. That was the saving word. You and I know that when they did that, they found Jesus and that was better than seeing the angels and hearing the heavenly chorus. It was better than anything in heaven or in earth.

They came with haste and they found — as millions have found since that time — that the old, old story is true. That is why we can say, "I love to tell the story — Of unseen things above, — Of Jesus and His glory, — Of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story, — Because I know 'tis true, — It satisfies my longing as nothing else can do.

And not only did these shepherds find the Christ but in finding Him they also found, as every man finds, the power of a new life. It was again the old, old story of how having found Jesus they had found the Christmas spirit — they had learned to share.

Now, if the story of Christmas has become true to your own experience in that you have seen the Christ then the other part will also be true. You will go forth from this season with the true Christmas spirit, determined to share the wonderful blessings of Christ's coming. You will be trying to do all the year around what Jesus is always doing — GIVING —

It is our opportunity to share Him with others through our activities in our program of missions and charities. — As we do this our gift to the world will be in our own small way the gift that Christ made — the gift that God made — even Jesus Himself.

God grant that after the services are over — after the lights are out — after the trees are removed — when the Christmas season is past — AFTER THE ANGELS HAVE GONE AWAY — we may do that very thing.

—Charity Thermostat

A Blessed Christmas To All!

Dear Reader:

Your continued interest in the temporal and spiritual welfare of God's "Children of Silence" and your loyal financial support truly is a wonderful Christmas Gift which is deeply appreciated. May God richly bless you and may the joy which comes from the true Spirit of Christmas be yours throughout the New Year.

With Sincere Christmas Greetings,

The children and Staff

LUTHERAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

A Christmas Pageant will be presented on Wednesday, December 20 beginning at 1:30 P.M. in the School's Gloria Dei Elizabeth Knudsen Chapel. It will feature the Christmas story which our deaf youngsters each year so beautifully and reverently recite and portray in colorful scenes.

All parents and friends of the School are cordially invited to attend this impressive service and to remain for the Christmas Tea which our Detroit Ladies' Auxiliary for the Deaf will serve immediately following the program.

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

PARENTS, kindly take note: All children are expected to return to school on Tuesday, January 2. Classes resume on Wednesday at 8 A.M.

Among the samples of art submitted by our deaf pupils for this Christmas issue is this beautiful chalk work by Mary Lou Evett. One of her works from last Spring is currently with a traveling "40 best" of Lutheran Schools in the U.S.



PARENT - STAFF GROUP ACTIVITIES

Last Spring a group of parents of our students and the School Staff members met to organize for the purpose of gaining a better understanding of the School's total Program and volunteering assistance whenever possible.

An informal "Welcome Back to School" coffee hour was hosted by the new organization on September 5 and 6 to give the parents of our returning pupils an opportunity to become better acquainted with one another. Other activities this Fall included the September 24 meeting at which Miss Mannen, our Supervising Teacher, spoke on Conversational language and the October 8th Field Day held on the School Campus. Mothers of the School children assisted the Lutheran Ladies' Auxiliary for the Deaf on October 17 with their Fall Chicken Dinner. On October 26, a group assisted the school in preparing and serving a luncheon to a visiting group of ladies from St. Michaels Lutheran Church of Richville, Michigan and the neighboring area. On Sunday afternoon, November 26, Mr. Bellhorn spoke to the members on Health regulations and the Extra Curricular Activities program of the School.

Future issues of "The Advocate" will bring additional reports on the group's many and varied activities.



Our girls were entered in league competition. Members of the Volley Ball Team with their coach, Mr. Reeve, are left to right; back row: Cindy Ames, Kay Ashens, Connie Mathews, Mary Lou Evett. 2nd row: Alana Daws, Nancy Pletcher, Rosalie Cheifetz, Denise Thompson, Mary Jo Olsen, Debbie Richert. Front: Corinne Taylor, Jan Russell, Colette Bondy.

OPTOMETRISTS EXAMINE OUR EYES

The school was privileged to have the eyes of its students examined by a large group of Optometrists and their assistants who so generously and gratuitously render this free service every Fall

Individuals who did the screening and testing this year were: Dr. H. R. Bunge, St. Clair Shores, Mich.; Mrs. Charlotte Bunte, Lincoln Park, Mich.; Drs. J. V. and O. R. Dueweke, Detroit; Dr. G. R. Henderson, Detroit; Dr. Donald Lakin, East Detroit; Dr. Richard R. Muse, Belleville, Mich.; Dr. J. A. Park, Detroit; Dr. Ed. Wallace, Grosse Pointe, Mich.; Dr. C. A. BonGiovanni, Southfield, Mich.; Dr. Robert Nesom, Grosse Pointe, Mich.; Dr. R. T. Hugo, Atlanta, Mich.

Dr. Jerome Dueweke who has provided the school with this type of health service for nearly 40 years, was in charge of the testing program. In addition to this program, Dr. Owen Dueweke, son of Jerome, calls at the school weekly to check, straighten and repair the glasses of those who need the service. Really, it's an ongoing program.

WHAT IS A MEMORIAL WREATH?

It is an offering given in loving memory of a departed friend or relative. Such offerings may be designated for a certain item of permanent equipment, for the education of a deaf child or, if undesignated, it will flow into the general operating treasury.

The Lutheran School For The Deaf supplies, gratis, a beautiful folder which provides a space for the name of the departed loved one as well as spaces for the donor or donors. Filled out they are to be presented to the bereaved family. The offering should be sent to us in the pre-stamped envelope. Write to 6861 Nevada Ave., Detroit, Mich., 48234 for a supply.



The touch football squad has had a successful year. Shown with the student assistant coach, Ken Hack and teacher coach, Mr. Schweitzer are: left to right, back row, Chris Glore, Terry Richert, David Mills, Dale Decker, Durwin Rudy. Front: Danny Schuber, John Geyer, Jeff Dahle, Jack Noble, David Atchison, Danny Bandli and Danny Kessler.

We Are Counting On You

Dear Reader:

As a reader of our school paper you have read, from time to time, that prayerful and financial assistance in bringing Christ to His "Children of Silence" is continually needed. Recently you received our combination blue and gold letter and return envelope called our "Once a Year" appeal asking for support of the Detroit Lutheran School for the Deaf. Since this effort is the school's only "lifeline" upon which it depends for seven-eighths of its operating needs, we hope and pray that if you have not already done so you will open your hearts and hands out of love for the Savior and return the self-addressed envelope with your offering of love enclosed.

If you already have sent your annual gift, be assured that God will richly bless you for it and we Thank You.



FORM OF BEQUEST

I give, devise and bequeath to the Lutheran School for the Deaf, 6861 Nevada Ave., Detroit, Michigan 48234, a duly organized and incorporated, non-profit corporation, the sum of \$..... and/or the following described real estate and/or stocks and bonds. The receipt of the Treasurer or Executive Director of said corporation shall be sufficient discharge to my executor for same.



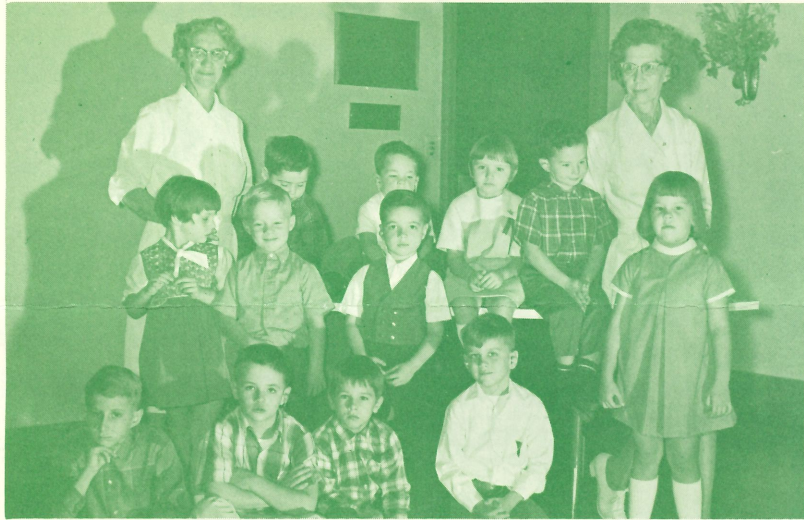
Household Staff for the year 1967-1968 include, l. to r., back row: Mrs. M. Romppaine, Miss W. Jablonski, Mrs. T. Roberts, Mrs. F. Carter, Mrs. S. Rucker, Miss A. Suzor, Mrs. S. Orr, Miss E. Gunn, Mrs. P. Mitchell, Mrs. Willie B.

Sorrell. Front: Miss S. Clack, Miss V. Handschin, Mrs. I. Heatley, Miss M. Bliefnick, Miss M. Twenhafel, Miss E. Sawicki, Mrs. V. Yoder, Mrs. E. Nikkel, Mrs. J. Simeljovic, Mrs. E. Colbert and Mrs. A. Smirnes.

THANK YOU!

All known donors receive the school's acknowledgments by mail. But, now and then, an anonymous giver remembers the needs of our children with an offering. To these we can only say through this column "Thank you sincerely and may God bless you richly."

We also pray that our Heavenly Father may prosper all those of our readers who, as yet, have not found it possible to send a contribution so that they, too, may experience the joy of serving our Lord by assisting some of the least of His brethren.



New pupils this year are shown with the respective housemothers in charge, Deaconesses, Marie Twenhafel and Marie Bliefnick. Pupils l. to r. back row: Steven Jellison, Tommy Guinn, Sheila Higgins, Tod Pitt, Standing: Linda Vinup, Kevin Walsh, Michael Reardon, Janet Charnesky, front: Richard Malicewski, Chuck Russell, Michael Wagner and Jay Reynolds.

MOVIE AVAILABLE

We sincerely hope that every congregation and/or its related organizations will plan to include a showing of "A New Life for Jennifer" in their 1968 schedule of meetings and social events.

Please complete the following form, clip and return it to the Lutheran School for the Deaf, 6861 E. Nevada Ave., Detroit, Michigan 48234. There is no rental charge.

CLIP — RETURN

Please schedule your new 27 minute, all color sound movie titled: "A New Life for Jennifer" for a showing on the following date:

Preferred Date _____

Second Choice _____ Third Choice _____

(Alternate dates should be spaced approximately one month apart.)
Name of Congregation or Organization: _____

City _____ State _____

Send Film to: _____

Address _____

City and State _____ Zip Code _____

Signed _____

DECEMBER, 1967



(Editor's Note: Ye Editor felt that in this season of Christmas it would be appropriate and of special interest to our Readers to learn that others are planning programs and assisting in bringing the saving Gospel of Christ to deaf children.)

Dear Mr. Bellhorn: I have some rather exciting news which should interest you! In Milwaukee up to last year we had one congregation which supported a special Sunday school class for orally deaf children. Their attendance was dropping, the teachers — untrained parents of deaf children — were extremely discouraged, and the prospects for expansion seemed nil. Our Federation's Commission on Special Education became quite concerned over this crisis, and initiated a "crash" program to alleviate the situation. After several meetings with the two current teachers plus a few other interested individuals, we embarked upon the following plan for renewed enthusiasms, recruitment, expanded services, and especially, for lay teacher training: We engaged the services of Mrs. Ann Bleuer, an enthusiastic, highly capable public school teacher of the orally deaf in Milwaukee. Mrs. Bleuer had initiated the first Protestant Sunday school class in the city some ten year ago at Lake Park Lutheran (ALC) Church.

Beginning April 24 we offered a special training course for anyone interested in teaching a Sunday school class for the deaf or serving the deaf in any other capacity. We conducted ten laboratory-centered sessions lasting about three hours in duration. We involved deaf children of various ages and mental abilities. Extensive preparation was involved by the instructor to not only enable the Sunday school teachers to prepare high-calibre, meaningful Bible lessons, but to follow the professional pedagogical principles utilized by the teachers of the orally deaf in Milwaukee. Thus the teachers will be able to actually supplement the academic work the pupils perform in their schools, particularly in language development, reading, science, and social studies. As a result, three congregations were able to initiate special classes; the former teachers were encouraged, enlightened, and fortified; and an extensive program of public relations followed the training sessions. We approached the Milwaukee Lutheran Sunday School Superintendents' Conference for a donation of \$150. The local Episcopal Diocese was so interested in this pilot program that they contributed an additional \$150! Mrs. Bleuer is so thrilled with these developments that she used the money only to pay expenses. The balance of the donations has been placed in a special fund for future sessions and institutes. Mrs. Bleuer not only prepared and presented excellent lessons, but she assigned lavish homework assignments, all designed to build the Sunday school teacher's repertoire of idea, materials, teaching aids, etc. She furthermore is periodically visiting all existing Sunday school classes, evaluating the instruction and materials, and offering further suggestions for improvement. I know that you now share my enthusiasm for this project! I furthermore would invite you or any member of your staff to visit us and lend your counsel, encouragement, and assistance. I am enclosing a listing of all Lutheran Sunday school classes within the Greater Milwaukee area now conducting such special classes. All personnel involved in the program on the listing were involved in our training sessions. Here is wishing you the Lord's richest blessings upon your endeavors, as He has so lovingly blessed ours! Because of Him, Robert Bierbaum, Principal, Milwaukee Special Lutheran School.



GREATER DETROIT FRIENDS

remember

"POUND DAY" Donations.

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 6861 East Nevada Ave., Detroit, Michigan 48234.

A Blessed Christmas To All!



1912

SECOND CLASS
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 DETROIT, MICH.

What Christmas Means To Me



Samples of art productions were gathered from the various age levels of the children at our school. Each child was instructed to portray what he thought of now as Christmas approaches. Quite normally, we received examples of both the secular and religious aspects of Christmas. The ages for the artists range from 6 to 15.

