

The Deaf Child's ADVOCATE

Volume 39

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Number 1

THOUGHTS

CHRISTMAS AND YOU

There is a very personal note in the Christmas message which is frequently missed by many. The birth of Jesus is not simply an interesting fact of history wholly unrelated to your present life . . . but rather it has a direct bearing upon it.

When the angel announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds, the personal importance of His coming was emphasized. He said, "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10, 11.)

Have you ever thought that it was for YOU the Saviour was born? Do you realize that when God sent His Son into the world, He sent Him to become YOUR Saviour? Listen to the word of the herald angel, "I bring YOU good tidings of great joy . . . for unto YOU is born . . . a Saviour". Yes . . . it was for YOU that Jesus came.

When at this Christmas season the wonderful birth of Christ is brought again to your mind through Christmas carols, paintings and pictures and through the sacred story itself, will you not consider it was for YOU that He came?

He did not come to be the inspiration of sacred art, nor to be the theme of glad song, much less to be merely a good man and a great teacher . . . Jesus came to be the SAVIOUR, and as such He was born for YOU.

Bound inseparably together are the Saviour's birth and His death. He came to save, and to save He must die . . . die in the sinner's stead, bearing the full penalty of divine wrath for sin. This too, was Personal — it was for YOU.

And such a very personal message of God's love and grace demands a personal response. The Saviour who was born was God's GIFT to YOU. And He wants you to receive that gift. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life". (John 3:16)

To receive the gift of God by faith you must believe that Christ actually was born to be YOUR Saviour. You should trust Him because He died for your sins. You should trust Him because He lives, having risen from the dead.

—Selected

So this is now the mark by which we all shall certainly know whether the birth of the Lord Jesus is effective in us: If we take upon ourselves the need of our neighbor.

Luther

THINK ON THESE

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3, 16.

. . . "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us." Luke 2, 15.

A Blessed Christmas To All!

Dear Reader:

For the approaching joyful Holiday Season we in deep gratitude pray that God may bless and protect you and your loved ones, and that the joy which comes from the true Spirit of Christmas may be yours through all the days of the coming year.

With Holiday Greetings,

The Children and Staff of the School.



Singing the praises to Christ the King on the festive celebration in remembrance of His birth, is enjoyed by our younger choir as they begin rehearsal for the annual pageant.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our Annual Children's Christmas Pageant will be presented on Friday, December 20, at 1:30 P.M. in the Schools Gloria Dei Elizabeth Knudsen Chapel. It will consist of 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 this impressive service and to remain for the Christmas Tea which our Detroit Ladies Auxiliary for the Deaf will serve immediately after the program.

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

Parents kindly note: — All children are expected to return to school by 8 A.M. on Monday, January 6th, when classes resume.





Househould Staff for the year 1968-69 include left to right back row: Mrs. Rebecca Bowman, Miss Gloria Corley, Mrs. Ilene Turner, Mrs. Willie Sorrell, Mrs. Ethel Colbert, Mrs. Pauline Mitchell, Miss Wanda Jablonski, Mrs. Thelma Roberts.

Front row: Mrs. Virginia Cody, Mrs. Isabel Heatley, Miss Marie Bliefnick, Miss Marie Twenhafel, Mrs. Velma Yoder, Mrs. Eva Gunn, Mrs. Frances Smith.



Coach, Mark Reeve, is eagerly looking forward to another volleyball season with his team. First row: Mary Jo Olson, North Dakota; Jan Russell, Michigan; Corinne Taylor, Ontario, Canada; Nancy Pletcher, Ohio; Cindy Ames, Michigan, Cplette Bondy, Ontario, Canada; Alana Daws, North Dakota; Debbie Richert, Ontario, Canada; Kay Ashens, Illinois; Valerie Peltier, Minnesota; Kathy Martin, Michigan; Anastacia Westall, Oregon.

DEAF CHILDREN COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT

The School desperately needs a generous response to its annual appeal for funds so that the program of preparing deaf children for this life and for heaven might not be curtailed. These hearing handicapped youngsters who hail from many areas of the United States and Canada and whose parents alone cannot begin to bear the full financial burden reach out to you for help.

The hard fact is that the daily receipts of the school are not meeting the daily expenses. However, we are confident that knowing this, friends and supporters of the school will respond in greater measure knowing that "The Lord hath need" of their prayerful and generous financial support in order to carry on this very necessary and blessed missionary endeavor.

If you have sent your annual gift, be assured that God will richly reward you. If you have not already done so, we hope and pray that you will open your hearts and hands out of love for the Savior and return the self addressed return envelope with your offering of love enclosed.

As reader of "The Deaf Child's Advocate" and a friend of the school you can be of immeasurable assistance by telling others about the school and its program of bringing deaf children to the knowledge of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

FRIENDS OF GREATER DETROIT
To help us restock our pantry shelves, please
REMEMBER POUND DAY!



Coach, Bob Schweitzer, and his touch football team; First row: Gerald Hales, Indiana; Chris Glore, Michigan; David Atchison, Illinois; Durwin Rudy, Michigan; Dale Decker, Michigan; Terry Richert, Michigan; Second row: Bob Hartley, Michigan; Dave Kelly, New Jersey; Carl Evans, Michigan; David Redman, Canada; John Bell, Canada; David Mills, Illinois.

MOVIE AVAILABLE

We sincerely hope that every congregation and/or its related organization will plan to include a showing of "A New Life for Jennifer" in their 1969 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 27 minute all color sound movie titled: **A New Life for Jennifer** for showing on the following date:

Preferred Date _____ Second Choice _____

Third Choice _____

Name of Congregation or organization requesting film:

City _____ State _____

Send Film to _____

Address _____

City and State _____ Zip _____



Among the many visitors to the school this year has been Mr. Kunio Shimizu, Jr. High English Supervisor, of Japan who spent 12 weeks in the United States, observing the teaching of English. At the close of his visit, we enjoyed a fine discussion. Shown here, explaining some of our language teaching aids is teacher, Mrs. Hilpert. Mr. Shimizu was a house guest of Mr. Reeve during his stay in Detroit.

Dear Mr. Bellhorn: Would it be possible for you to give me some information concerning the School for the Deaf. My grandfather, George Speckhard, was its first director or superintendent. I do not know what his title was at that time. Mrs. Dorothy Peters, who lives in Mentor-On-The-Lake, a suburb of Cleveland, and who is a great granddaughter of George Speckhard, has asked me to assist her in getting all the information possible concerning the history of this institution. She will be graduating from Lake Erie College in about a year and has chosen as her thesis the founding and history of this Lutheran Institution for the Deaf. Mrs. Peter's paternal grandfather was the Rev. Herman Speckhard of Saginaw, Michigan. My mother, Mrs. Emma Partenfelder, was the eldest daughter of George Speckhard. I am the only living child of my mother, and, I believe, the only one who knows anything about the school as my mother frequently told me of the early years of the institution. I am giving Mrs. Peter all the information I have as told to me. Inasmuch as you have this information and much more information which I do not have, I thought perhaps you could assist Mrs. Peters by giving her the history of the school from the beginning to date, which you must have in your archives. Some years ago, I believe it was in 1931, when the institution built the new school, they wrote my mother asking her to tell them what she knows about the beginning of the school, to which she responded and which is a part of the record. About ten or twelve years ago I visited the school. I believe a Mr. Klein was its director at that time. Needless to say, I am very proud of this fine institution. If it is at all possible to give me the history of the school, it would be very much appreciated. — Sincerely yours, Louise Partenfelder — Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Bellhorn: I lost the card that came with the film "A New Life For Jennifer" so I thought I should express our gratitude for providing us with the film by a letter. Our envelope packets contain an envelope for your school and I encouraged the members to remember you with a gift in that way. We'll hope for some good results. I believe the film was an eye-opener to the work that is being done in bringing new life to the deaf. All enjoyed the film and I'm sure they also have a new insight into the work of love you are doing. Thanks again for your film. I also appreciated the personal manner in which you supplied it and your letters regarding the same. I personally will continue to support your work. Sincerely yours, Floyd E. Gogolin, pastor - Grace Lutheran Church, Haven, Wisconsin.

Dear Sirs: Am sending a donation of \$— to the School for the Deaf in gratitude for my son Raymond's school years there, and also in memory of his father who passed away March 18, 1961. We appreciated all that was done for Raymond while there. At that time we didn't know how to manage to get him to and from school besides keeping him in school. For money was very scarce and very slow coming our way. But times have changed and now we wish to remember them that were good to Raymond and helped us also by sending a donation to the School. With God's Blessing for the years to come. Hetwich Hage and Family — Yorkville, Ill.

Gentlemen: Bethany Guild, the Ladies Aid of Bethany Lutheran Church, Wellington, Ohio saw your film, "A New Life for Jennifer". Every woman there was enthralled and marvelled at the progress and aid that can be given deaf children. They appreciated the natural actions of the children during the course of study. Thank God you have such a capable and loving staff. Would it be possible to send us some Memorial folders that we could place in our tract rack. We are a small mission congregation but maybe one of our parishioners would use one occasionally for your benefit. Respectfully, Mrs. J. M. Heatwole, Sec.-Treas. Bethany Guild — Wellington, Ohio 44090.

Dear Friends: Thank you for your prompt reply to the Walther Leaguers request for display and distribution materials for use in our Mission Festival-Land Fair. Due to your cooperation those who attended the fair had an opportunity to become more familiar with the mission work being done in North America. Those of us involved in the organizing of the booth have become more aware of the many opportunities available for doing mission work close to home. We pray that through the materials distributed, the visitors will also become more mission conscious and be stimulated to give greater personal and financial support to the efforts being made. Materials which were sent to us on loan will be returned to you under separate cover. In Christ, Miss Esther Hurchen, Walther League Counsellor - Little Falls, Minn. 56345.



Christmas Open House for the children at the Bellhorns: A group of older students gathered round the family organ "singing" Christmas songs accompanied by Mrs. Bellhorn.

OUR "HEALTH" TEAM

The school is deeply indebted to the professional people who volunteer their services gratuitously in order that our large family of deaf children might have the best possible health care. Since September our dentists Drs. Carlisle Rueger and Warren Bruland have examined and in some cases x-rayed the teeth of our children and now are busy every Thursday attending to their dental needs.

The Annual Eye examination Clinic was held at the school in October in which the following optometrists and assistants participated: Drs. J. V. and O. R. Dueweke, Dr. H. R. Bunge, Dr. George Graham, Dr. G. R. Henderson, Dr. Donald Lakin, Dr. Richard R. Muse, Dr. Lesis Neinas, Dr. J. A. Park, Dr. R. D. Sobieski, Dr. Ed Wallace, Dr. C. A. BonGiovanni, Dr. Robert Nesom, Mrs. Carol Greenwald, Miss Christina Carter, Mrs. Suzan Dolph.

Dr. Owen Dueweke spends some time each Tuesday morning on our campus checking eye glasses and any reports on sight difficulties. The eyes of the deaf child are all important to him in his quest for an education.

The school's chiropodist, Dr. Lester Kreis, and its dermatologist, Dr. Alice Palmer, have been called upon from time to time for their special services.

Last, but not least, our physician and surgeon, Dr. Charles Sharrer, is always willing and ready day or night to respond to our calls in case of illness or accident.

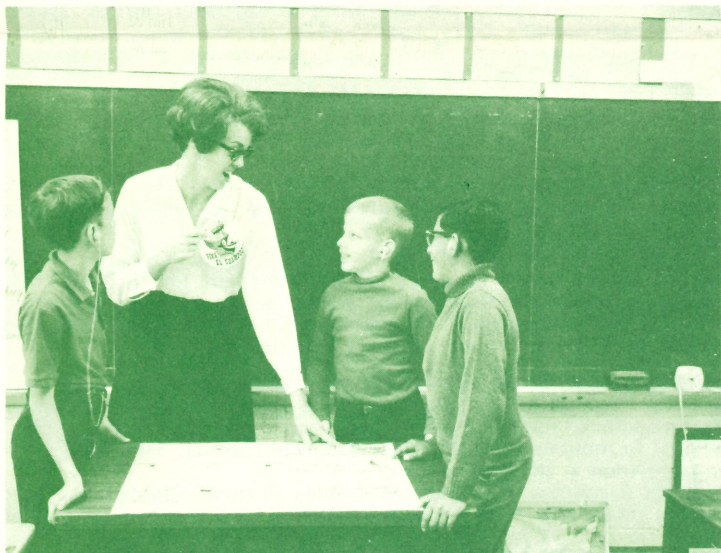
The school is signally blessed in that it has these fine professional friends of the Metropolitan Detroit area who serve on our "Health" team without remuneration.

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.



Christmas Gifts: Bethel Lutheran Sunday School, Middleburg, Ohio, The Rev. Robert Landeck, Pastor remembered our large family of children with individual gifts. Joyful suspense as the loaded station wagon arrives from Ohio.



Loyalty was strong and interest ran high through the baseball season and especially for the World Series. The games provided good teaching material. The smiles of Tiger fans, Tim Keske, Kim Hurdlebrink and Iain Clemerson, are somewhat stronger than their teacher, Mrs. Caton, a Cardinal fan.

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DETROIT, MICH.
 AT
 POSTAGE PAID
 SECOND CLASS



Student, Chris Glore, shaking hands, was among the participants to light the Torch for the Allen Park Community of the United Foundation Torch Drive.

GLEANINGS FROM THE REPORTS RENDERED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE LUTHERAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

CHANGE OF DATE — Due to the change of date of the annual meeting from June to October, the general report covers a period of approximately 15 months.

ENROLLMENT FOR 1968-69 SCHOOL YEAR — The 96th school year opened with 106 pupils enrolled, 54 boys and 52 girls. This enrollment is 10 less than last year and represents two fewer classes. From last year's classes two classes were graduated and two discontinued by placing the students out into other schools. The new enrollment consists of 20 pupils, 13 beginning (2 classes) and seven children placed into existing classes. Geographic Distribution: Canada 15, Florida 2, Illinois 4, Indiana 7, Iowa 2, Louisiana 1, Michigan 54, Minnesota 7, New Jersey 1, North Dakota 2, Ohio 8, Oregon 1, Virginia 2.

CONFIRMATION - BAPTISM — On Palm Sunday 12 children were received into communicant membership of our church by the rite of Confirmation. A confirmation dinner was held at the school, following the church service, at which the parents eagerly expressed their thanks to the school for having provided the fine Christian education over the years. It was on this memorable day that the children made public oral confession of their belief in their Savior.

Six children were baptized in the Sunday morning worship service on May 19, 1968.

STAFF — The School's entire staff consists of 49 people. In addition to these, many faithful volunteers gave much valuable service. The teaching staff was readily completed for the new school year, 17 teachers. Only 2 two new teachers and one former teacher were contracted. Both new teachers completed their student teaching at our school during the second semester of the previous school year.

TEACHER TRAINING — During the 1967-68 school term, the school entered into closer working relationship of a teacher training program with Eastern Michigan University at Ypsilanti. In the second semester three students participated in the student teaching program at our school. Currently there are two students receiving teaching experience with us. They are under the direct supervision of our staff. It is expected that the cooperative program will continue.

FAMILY HEALTH AND CARE — Due to the Lord's rich blessings and the excellent care of our housemothers, the school's large family of deaf children enjoyed good health. Generally we expect an epidemic or two of measles or one of the other so-called childhood diseases during the school year but, except for several cases of mumps, very few of such cases were experienced this term.

Professional people who volunteer their services in order that our family might have the best possible health care are the following:

- Medical — Drs. C. Sharrer and W. A. Huegli
- Dentists — Drs. C. Rueger and W. Bruland
- Optometrists — Dr. J. V. and O. R. Dueweke
- Dermatologists — Dr. A. Palmer and A. Ulbrich
- Chiropracist — Dr. L. Kreis
- Otologist — Dr. L. Seyfried

The school is signally blessed in that it has these professional friends who serve on our "health team" without ever asking for remuneration.

ASLEEP IN JESUS — Twelve-year-old Rosali Cheifetz, daughter of Jewish parents, who was enrolled in our school at the age of four, fell asleep in Jesus on June 6th following a brain operation.

Mrs. J. A. Klein fell asleep in Jesus on August 5th. Funeral services were held in Texas and Christ Church, Detroit. Burial took place in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

DOCTORATE — Our Principal, Herman M. Holste, received his Ph.D. degree from Wayne State University, Detroit, last Spring.

RETIREMENT — Housemother Vera Handschin and teacher Agnes Hance retired last June and now are receiving benefits from the School's Special Retirement Fund.

HOUSEHOLD HELP — It is becoming increasingly difficult to find competent domestic help, especially in the Housemother category. Any referrals by pastors and lay delegates will be deeply appreciated.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE — The school's property is being kept in fine condition. We can expect maintenance time and cost to increase as the buildings grow older.

Last year we reported that 20 diseased elm trees were removed from the property. To this number we now must add nine more.

INSPECTION — The State Department of Health made its annual inspection of all school facilities and found them in good order. The Detroit City Department of Health inspects several times a year. These Departments always commend the school on its neat and well-kept buildings and appointments.

Since we are on the Government School Lunch Program, the Department of Agriculture also inspects our Government Lunch account, Government food supplies on hand and the menus. The inspector was well satisfied with the administration of this program.

PUPIL COST — The annual cost to educate, house and feed a deaf child in our school now stands at approximately \$3600.00 which is on a par with other schools of a similar nature. Since the school can expect to receive on the average only about 1/8 of its annual total financial needs from parents in the form of tuition fees, much publicity for financial support is required.

PUBLICITY — The school's publicity work so necessary for the ingathering of the required operating funds again consisted of **one appeal** letter per year to the readers of our School Paper which includes the pastors; four issues of the quarterly periodical "The Deaf Child's Advocate"; the motion picture "A New Life for Jennifer"; Memorial folders; Informational pamphlets; Speakers and demonstrations with children for various types of programs; and visiting day for groups. Publicity activities are continually going on during the year. A total of 93 activities such as talks and demonstrations and the entertaining of visiting groups were a part of the school's 1967-68 program in bringing the deaf child and his needs to the attention of ever greater numbers of people.

THE DEAF CHILD'S ADVOCATE — Our School's quarterly paper endeavors to tell the story of educating deaf children for this life and for heaven and to keep the needs of the school before its many readers. The paper which has a circulation of approximately 90,000 copies is considered the important "life line" in our publicity department.

THE FILM — The movie "A New Life for Jennifer" which has been in circulation since September 1964 has enjoyed an exceptionally fine reception in our congregations, related organizations, parent groups, service clubs and educational institutions throughout the U.S. and Canada. Twenty-eight copies are in circulation at the present time.

Through a contract with Modern Talking Pictures, Chicago, the school's film in the future will be available for showing on TV programs throughout the U.S.

LADIES' AUXILIARIES — The financial assistance and volunteer services rendered the school by its wonderful and everwilling Ladies' Auxiliaries during the past year were tremendous and varied. Each Chapter President will render an activities report at this meeting.

We should never under-evaluate the tremendous power for good which these two organizations represent in the overall operational picture of making this school a real "Home away from home" for the children in our care.