



THE DEAF CHILD'S

# ADVOCATE

Volume 43

Lutheran School for the Deaf - Detroit, Michigan

Issue 3

## Centennial Celebration Huge Success

More than 4000 people shared in the festivities of a good old fashion outdoor picnic at the Lutheran School for the Deaf's 100th Anniversary Festival held on Sunday, June 10. The weather was beautiful and the entire 20 acre campus buzzed with activity.

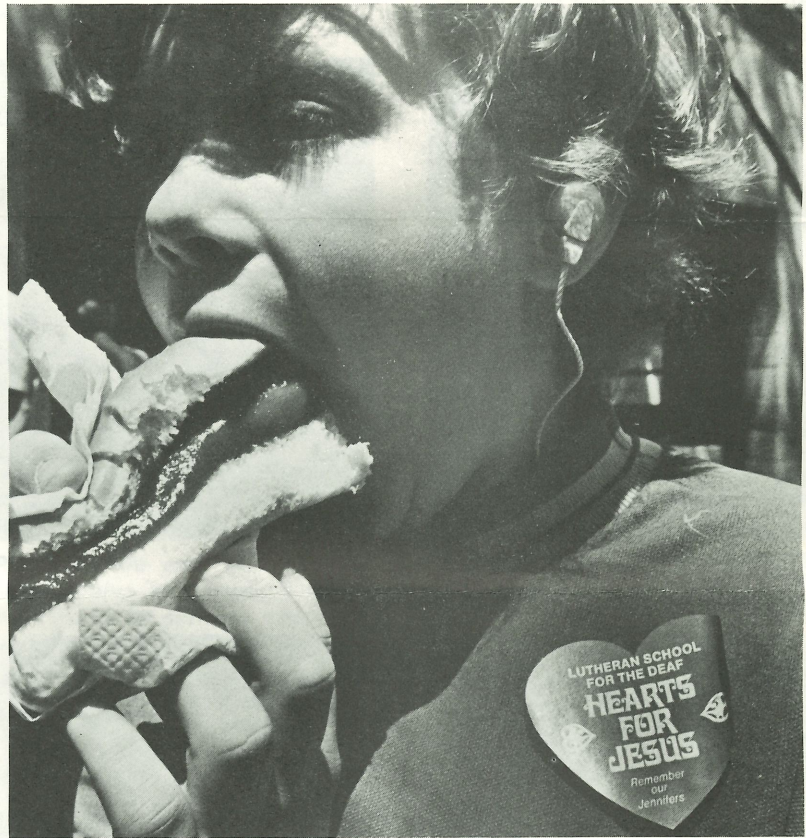
The opening hymn of the festival service, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" set the tone of this historical observance. It was a day of praise and thanksgiving to God for His manifold blessings so bountifully bestowed upon the school during these many years.

The Rev. Richard Bernthal preached the festival sermon, The Rev. E. J. Rossow served as liturgist, the Rev. R. Johnson interpreted for the Deaf and Mrs. Alma Bellhorn served as organist. Adding to the beauty of the service were members of the Lutheran High East and West choirs directed by David Eifert, trumpeters Ron and Sandy Gebhardt and descant singers Janice Bellhorn, Donna Bellhorn Snell and Arlene Ziebell.

The deaf children's program was based on the history of the School. Scenes presented depicted various interesting events such as the organization of the Ladies Auxiliaries of the Deaf, The Nielsen trucks arriving at the school in the Fall loaded with vegetables and farm produce from Michigan congregations as far north as Rogers City and the production of three films, the last one "A New Life for Jennifer".

With alumni attending from as far away as Washington and California, the school's 20 acre grove was the scene of many happy reunions as old school mates gathered in groups reminiscing on days gone by.

The Lutheran Ladies Auxiliary for the Deaf served over 800 roast beef dinners in the gymnasium. Countless bottles of pop and hot dogs were served at the picnic pavilion. Games and races with prizes and an old fashion costume parade, plus Little League Baseball, Barber Shop quartets and a German Band added to the afternoon's festivities. The accompanying photographs might best illustrate in various respects the success of the Centennial Celebration.



What is a picnic without hot dogs?

## Thousands attend the School's Centennial Celebration



# SCENES FROM THE 100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, JUNE 10



Pastor E. J. Rossow, President of the School Association, surveys the activities of the day on the School's 20 acre campus.



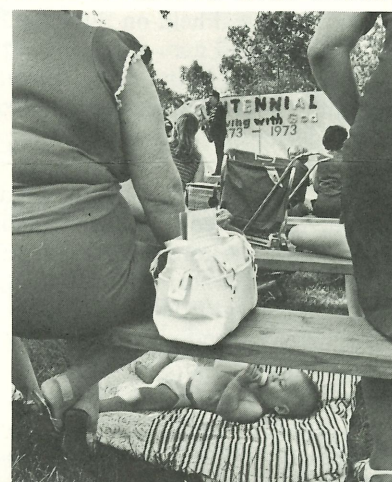
The Trumpets of Ron and Sandy Gebhardt during the program could be heard for blocks around.



Old fashion costumes were judged on the stage. The winner was Mrs. Margaret Krueger of Chicago.



Banners enough for all.



Even the little ones took time out from the festivities for rest and refreshment.



Elfrieda Frueh has served as tag girl for many years at the school's annual festivals. This year hers was an especially busy day.



A replica of the present school building was made by the students.



Ushers greeted one and all with a festival program and an envelope.



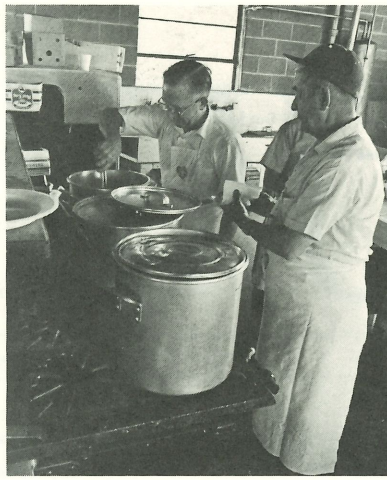
A group of older students singing "Jesus Loves Me".

The Motor City Chorus, current regional SPEBS-QSA champions, added greatly to the entertainment aspects of the afternoon program.





Choral music was provided by members of Lutheran High East and West Choirs directed by David Eifert.



Hot dogs and pop were in great demand thruout the day.



Former students enjoy talking over "school days".



Mrs. Alma Bellhorn served as organist for the 100th Anniversary Program. Daughter Janice is holding the pages for her mother.



Festivities are over and student Denny Guinn of Ontario is ready to go home for summer vacation.



Fred Daye and his German band entertained for several hours.



Games and races for the oldsters and youngsters were supervised by Carl Middeldorf, principal of St. Peters School, East Detroit.



Left to right — Main Speaker, Rev. R. Bernthal, liturgist Rev. E. J. Rossov, and interpreter Rev. R. Johnson conduct the Centennial Service.



Children depicting scenes from the past as the vast audience looks on.

A highlight of the day was the children's presentation of scenes from the school's history.



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## Lutheran School for the Deaf Centennial Celebration Banquet

In commemoration of 100 years of blessings

**Friday, November 2, 1973**

German American Cultural Center

5251 E. Outer Drive

### Centennial Program

Toastmaster: Rev. F. Victor Halboth

Pastor - Grace Lutheran Church - Detroit

### Speakers

Walter Bellhorn  
 School Director

Rev. Edwin J. Rossow  
 School Association  
 President

Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Program 8:00 p.m.

Lutheran Chorales

Sing-a-long 9:00 p.m.

Donation  
 \$7.50 per person  
 dress optional  
 free parking

for tickets or information contact:

**Mrs. R. Deierlein - TU 1-1106 or the School**

SECOND CLASS  
 POSTAGE PAID  
 AT  
 DETROIT, MICH.

## HISTORICAL DATES AND EVENTS

FROM 1874 TO 1941

*(Continued from previous issue)*

**1874 - (August)** A 20 acre plot, at Norris Station near the Bay City Railroad, having fruit trees and a good barn and residence on it and good soil indicating a fine water supply (well-water) was finally purchased in August of 1874 for the sum of \$1,000. Building operations were begun at once so that the new building might be completed before the winter of 1874.

At that time the school had only \$335.73 in the bank. The 3 story brick building with full basement and large attic measured 43' x 84'.

**1875 - (January)** Mr. H. Uhlig was called as assistant instructor and accepted.

**1875 - (February)** The building was ready for occupancy. The orphans were sent to Addison, Illinois. Rev. Speckardt, his family, Mr. Uhlig and 23 deaf children moved into the new school building at 6861 E. Nevada, Detroit.

**1875 - (May 17)** The new building which cost approximately \$15,000 was dedicated. Rev. Speckhardt preached the sermon and Mr. Uhlig gave a teaching demonstration with a class of deaf children.

**1878 -** Lutheran Ladies Auxiliary for the Deaf was organized and serves the school admirably to this day.

**1879 - (November)** Rev. Speckhardt entered into his eternal reward and the directorship fell to Mr. Uhlig who served in that capacity until 1900.

**1892 -** Mr. Ed Pahl, a graduate of the School, pleaded for missionaries to the deaf. Rev. Reinke began preaching to the deaf in Chicago.

**1895 -** Synod assumed the responsibility of mission work among the deaf. The German language was dropped in favor of the English language. Signs were added to the oral method of instruction at this time but were dropped several years later in favor of the pure oral method.

**1900-1902** The Rev. H. A. Bentrup served as Superintendent for 2 years.

**1902-1933** The Rev. William Gielow then served as Director for 31 years. He resigned to become a full time missionary to the Deaf.

**1908-1962** Dr. John A. Klein who was called as a teacher later became principal and then the Executive Director.

**1928 -** Campaign for Funds for new building. Rev. Hertwig headed the campaign. \$100,000.00 was collected.

**1930 -** Mr. Bellhorn called as teacher.

**1930 -** Deaf Child's Advocate made its appearance.

**1933 -** Rev. Gielow resigned. Dr. Klein became Director.

**1933 -** Enrollment 23 pupils - 3 teachers.

**1935 - (January)** Ephphatha (Macomb Co.) Chapter Lutheran Ladies Auxiliary for the Deaf organized: First President - Mrs. Sebold

**1935 -** Film "Ephphatha" completed. 1st Auditory Training Unit purchased.

**1936 -** First addition of new complex dedicated in February. President of the Association Rev. Fackler preached.

**1937 - (April)** Rev. John Kempf - Field Secretary called

**1938 - (June)** The Rev. E. T. Bernthal, Epiphany, appointed Campaign Manager and directed a most successful synod-wide drive to raise funds for a complete new complex of buildings. \$250,000.00.

**1938 - (September)** Cornerstone laying - Dr. Theo. Graebner preached.

**1940 - (May)** New Building dedicated - Dr. W. A. Meier preached - Dr. John Behnken dedicated.

**1941 - (June)** Rev. Wacker become President of the Association.

*(To be continued)*

## BEQUESTS

Following is a short form for a bequest in behalf of the Lutheran School for the Deaf:-

"I give, devise and bequeath to the Lutheran School For The Deaf, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Michigan, and located in the City of Detroit, the sum of . . . . . dollars and the receipt of the Treasurer of said corporation shall be a sufficient discharge of my executor for same."