

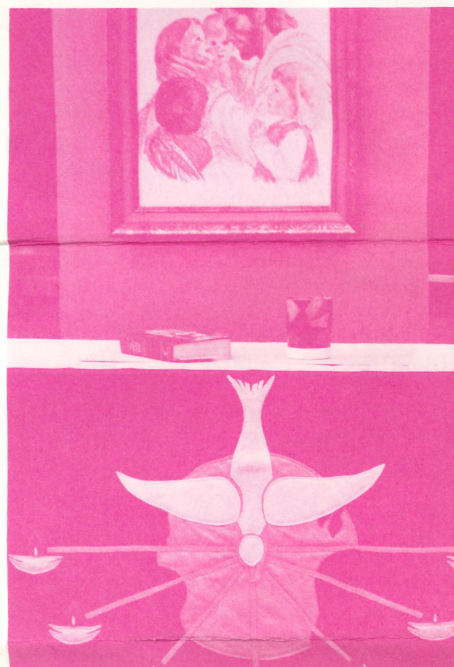
THE FLOOD  
7-28-76

# The Deaf Child's ADVOCATE

Volume 46 - Issue 3

Lutheran School for the Deaf - Detroit, Michigan

July, 1976



## CONTINUE — YES

*Christ is always the center of all life. Through His Holy Spirit (symbolized as a dove) He gives gifts. One of His greatest gifts to children is a Christian education.*

Many people have asked "will the Lutheran School for the Deaf continue?" The Board of Directors has spent over two years studying that specific question.

After a careful study of the trends in Deaf Education, together with discussions with Special Education school administrators from all over America, the Board has reaffirmed its decision that there is a valid ministry serving deaf children and that the Lutheran School for the Deaf will remain open.

We thank God that He has answered our prayers regarding deaf children in so many wonderful ways. In addition to His continued blessings through the dedicated services of the faculty and staff here at the school, He has also answered our prayer in other ways. The population of elementary deaf children has declined as the birth rate has declined. With Special Education laws in every State now, many cities are providing education for the deaf which is adequate. We rejoice that children, in many cases, are able to stay at home and receive an appropriate education.

However, there are many locations yet where it is impossible for hearing impaired children to receive an adequate education. Since deafness frequently causes great tension within the family, ministry can also be performed through enrolling the child in a residential school thereby permitting the family to re-evaluate and rebuild its unity and finally, above all, there is a great need for deaf children, as well as all children, to receive Christian education. To hear and to learn are important. But to hear and to learn of Jesus Christ, not only the center of our life but the power for our life, is even more important.

May God continue to so richly bless your ministry of serving hearing impaired children through the Lutheran School for the Deaf.

## DIVERSIFY — CERTAINLY

As responsible Christians, we always ask "how can I use God's gifts to better help God's people around me?"

An obvious answer is "diversify to meet needs."

In addition to our residential day school programs, we are placing more emphasis on the following services:

1. Parent counseling regarding the educational opportunities.
2. In-service training:
  - a. To congregations about ways to provide ministry for the hearing handicapped within their parish.
  - b. To parish school teachers as they attempt to work with special children in parochial schools.
  - c. To pastors as they counsel parents of handicapped children.

### A Second Division — Learning Disabled Children

The learning disabled are defined as:

1. Having a normal intelligence, i.e., not mentally retarded.
2. Being relatively stable emotionally, i.e., not severely disturbed.
3. Having normal physical abilities, i.e., not physically handicapped, deaf, blind, cerebral palsy.

These children's learning skills do not develop in the same way or at the same rate as other children.

As the above box shows, it is very difficult to define a learning disabled child. There is altogether too much labeling going on.

There are many children who are unable to learn in a traditional classroom setting and who need a special educational environment.

The Lutheran School would like to begin to minister to some of these children too, by providing the following service.

1. Parent counseling to help determine the actual needs of a child.
2. Referral services for psychological and medical testing.
3. Educational diagnostic testing whereby we attempt in an educational setting to determine the actual learning needs of each child.
4. Consulting services through which we help a child's home teacher work with a child in every case where this is possible.
5. If necessary, setting up special classes and/or schools for children needing such educational settings.

These children are, in fact, uniquely different than the deaf. Yet, in common, they have a need to have specialized testing, many individualized study materials and small classrooms.

We thank you for your loving support which will allow us to continue serving the deaf. We pray for your support as we look to the concept of serving some of God's other special children.

**Our beautiful Memorial Wreath Folders are available,  
free and postpaid**



## "GRADUATION"



**Our graduates with Principal Mrs. Fenton**

The annual festival on June 13, was a day of great joy and fellowship.

Hundreds of relatives and friends came to enjoy the good meals, the warm weather and, especially, the closing Festival and program.

All three divisions of our school put on delightful skills regarding the bicentennial. Pastor John Gagern, Festival speaker, thanked God for permitting the deaf children to "hear the wonderful works of God," Acts 2:11. We rejoice in the success God has granted the six young people who will be leaving us and pray God's continued blessings upon them.

Left:

Klaus Koeger  
Born September 24, 1960  
Enrolled September 1965  
Home town - Mt. Clemens, Michigan

Klaus will be placed into some program through the Warren Consolidated Schools.

Second from the right:

Barbara Kopp  
Born May 13, 1960  
Enrolled September 1964  
Home town - Taylor, Michigan

Barbara will be enrolled at St. Peters Lutheran School in East Detroit.

Fourth from the left:

Scott Alan Caskey  
Born September 29, 1961  
Enrolled September 1965  
Home town - Elkhart, Indiana

Scott will be enrolled this fall in the West Side Junior High in Elkart. This is a hearing school with some support services for hearing-impaired children.

Second from the left:

Roger Lee Ewald  
Born August 2, 1960  
Enrolled September 1964  
Home town - Unionville, Michigan



**The Intermediate Department's Salute to America**

Roger will be enrolled in the Unionville-Sebewaing High School which is a hearing school with some support services for hearing-impaired individuals.

Third from the left:

John Glenn Gilbert  
Born August 1, 1961  
Enrolled September 1970  
Home town - Country Club Hills, Ill.

John will return and be enrolled in the Country Club Hills school system which has a program for hearing-impaired children.

Third from the right:

Amy Elizabeth Griffith  
Born August 21, 1961  
Enrolled September 1965  
Home town - Centerline, Michigan

Amy will be enrolled in St. Peters Lutheran School in East Detroit. The Lutheran School for the Deaf provides some support service for the deaf enrolled there.



Mrs. Pauline Strasen Fenton was born in India. Her parents were missionaries there. She attended Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, and studied Special Education at Wayne State University.

She began teaching at the Lutheran School for the Deaf in 1946. After taking a number of years off to raise her own family, she returned to the school to continue teaching the pre-school children.

In 1972, she was asked to serve as the Principal and has done a magnificent job of leading the educational department of the school during these past four years.

Mrs. Fenton and her husband are both eligible for early retirement and plan to spend some time seeing America.

## RETIREES

Mrs. Gertrude Spann Woelkers began her work as a Financial Secretary in 1952. At that time, her son was enrolled as a student at the school.

Mrs. Woelkers has served faithfully as an assistant to the bookkeeper, keeping track of the donations given by all our friends together with the payments of the parents to the school. This past year she was heavily involved in our new financial receipts accounting system.

We thank God for the faithful service which Mrs. Woelkers has given to the school and pray that she and her new husband greatly enjoy her retirement.



Miss Elsie Forsberg was born in Ironwood, Michigan. She received her Bachelors Degree from Northern Michigan State College and studied Special Education at Wayne State University.

Miss Forsberg began teaching at the Lutheran School for the Deaf in 1936. She was here at the time of the old school building, saw it being torn down and the "new" school building being built.

On June 29th, Miss Forsberg was recognized for her forty years of dedicated services at the bicentennial worship service held during the Michigan District Convention.

The Lord richly blessed the school through her service and we pray that she will greatly enjoy her coming years of retirement in Portland, Oregon.

## MEET JONATHAN LOUIS BROWN



*Jonathan Brown*

### 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.

### RAMBLINGS

This is the year that the Districts of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have their bi-annual Conventions. In an attempt to say thanks to the Districts and to meet some of the people, we have visited some of them. Mr. Elmer Engel, our Business Manager and a member of the Board, visited the Indiana District. Pastor Joseph Fabry, counselor for our Ladies Auxiliary visited the English District. Pastor Edwin Rossow, Honorary Board Member, visited the Northern Illinois District. Mr. Marion VanManen, Head Housefather visited the Iowa East and Iowa West Districts and Pastor Rynearson, visited the Southern Illinois, Minnesota North, Kansas, Nebraska, Ontario, Ohio, South Wisconsin and Michigan Districts.

We are very thankful for the opportunity to meet many of our supporters. We are grateful to the various District Presidents for permitting us a few moments to share our ministry with the delegates. We pray God's continued blessings upon all of the people of these Districts as well as all the rest of our Church.

In connection with our visits to the District Conventions, we designed a new display for the school. It folds down into two packages about two feet long and a half foot wide. When set up, it is four feet by six feet. This year the display was sent to the North Dakota LWML Convention and to the Texas District Convention.

If anyone would like to borrow the display for use at a Mission Fair, we would be glad to send it to you.

**The Harvest Festival has been scheduled for October 23rd. We invite all of our friends to join with us that day in a celebration of thanksgiving for God's many blessings, particularly for the fellowship which we share together in this ministry of sharing Christ with deaf children. Plan now to come and bring a friend and spend some time visiting and being entertained.**

On June 8, we again had Recognition Day. Awards were given to the children in nine different categories. First, Growth in Relation to Self; second, Growth in Relation to Others; third, Growth in Relation to Work-Study Habits; fourth, Growth in Relation to Dormitory Living; Fifth, Language Improvement; six, Speech Improvement; seven, Athletics, eight; Study Hall and nine, Honor Roll.

We rejoice in the growing maturity that our Heavenly Father has given to the many children who received the various awards.

Jonathan was born September 27, 1965 in Columbus, Ohio. He has been enrolled at the Lutheran School for the Deaf since September 1971. When Jonathan's parents became aware that Jonathan was deaf since birth, they moved first of all to Ypsilanti to be near the University of Michigan and then they moved to their present address which is about a block and a half from the Lutheran School for the Deaf. The cause of Jonathan's deafness is unknown.

In many other ways, Jonathan is very much like every other child. Some days he is eager and excited about working and on other days, he is just not too interested in learning. Normally he has a smile from ear to ear.

Jonathan is quite good at speech reading. He usually can understand what you are saying to him. On the other hand, he must work hard to remember the speech rules and to attempt to tell you about the curiosity, the dreams, and the frustrations that he has. He likes reading and works hard at his language. On the other hand, he is not very interested in mathematics and finds it to be very difficult.

In the past several years, Jonathan's parents, Lawrence and Carlin Brown, have become very active in our Parents-Staff Organization. During this past year, when the Organization itself has not officially met, Mrs. Brown has been very active on the *Parents-Staff News Letter*. Both Mr. & Mrs. Brown have spent many hours at the school. They were heavily involved in the Carnival last fall in the Warren neighborhood. Their goal is to try to make the Parents-Staff Organization again a viable group.

We rejoice in their gifts and their dedicated help. We rejoice in the progress that Jonathan has shown here at the school. We rejoice that you make it all possible through your support.

### NEW PRINCIPAL



*William H. Harlow*

Mr. William H. Harlow II, New Plymouth, Indiana, has been chosen to be the new Principal of the Lutheran School for the Deaf. Until just recently, Mr. Harlow has been the Special Education Director for ten school districts in Northwestern Indiana. He was responsible for providing adequate educational programs for children with many different handicaps. While there, he was administratively responsible for over 30 teachers and speech therapists and for over 300 children.

Mr. Harlow and his wife are both life long members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Harlow began his work with the deaf at

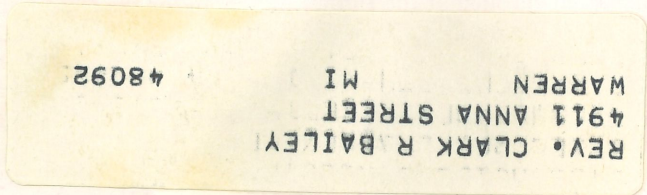
the Indianapolis School for the Deaf after graduating from Ball State University in Indiana. He has completed a Master of Arts Degree with a Major in Deaf Education. He taught at the Indianapolis School for three and one half years. For a little over a year, he was the Director of a special project to provide pre-school education for hearing impaired children in the State of Indiana and for another year he did graduate work at Ball State University in the area of Educational Administration.

The Harlows have three children, a son and two daughters, all of whom will attend parochial school at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in East Detroit this fall.

We look forward with joy to Mr. Harlow's coming and pray that God will richly bless our school through his ministry.

### DESIGNATED OFFERING FOLDER

**Our new folder can be used for anniversaries, birthdays, and other joyous occasions. We will gladly send you free as many as you request.**



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### ADVOCATE READERS

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Share this copy with a friend after you have finished enjoying it please.

### A NEW FILM

“The Word-in a Silent World” is the title of a new 16mm sound-color film, 28 minutes in length, being produced by the Lutheran School for the Deaf. We are happy with your reception of our film entitled “A New Life for Jennifer.” We will continue to make that film available.

The goal of the new film is to create a better understanding of deafness and the special learning problems of deaf children. Through communication, we share and hold in common, hopes, ideas, dreams, plans, feelings and goals. The new film shows children learning communication skills so they can participate in the commonly held family plans. We hope that through the film we will help more people have more realistic expectations for the educational accomplishments of hearing impaired children.

This film is being made by Mr. Bill Murray and his staff of Portafilms, Inc. who also made the “Jennifer” film for us. All of the people who you will see in the film are connected with the school for the deaf. The film will be ready for distribution by September 1st. We thank all of those who participated in the hard work of producing the film. We pray that you will find it useable in promoting better understanding of the ministry we carry on together of providing Christian Education for hearing impaired children.



### IN MEMORY

#### — THE REV. NORBERT E. BORCHARDT

On June 20, 1976, our loving heavenly Father called our beloved friend Pastor Borchardt to come Home. On June 23, he was granted Christian burial. We mourn his loss. We rejoice that he is alive in Christ forever.

Pastor Borchardt was born in Wayside, Wisconsin, on July 7, 1905 and received a new birth through Holy Baptism on July 15, 1905. He attended Concordia College, Milwaukee and Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis. He was ordained into the Holy Ministry in July 1930 and began his work as Missionary to the Deaf living in Cleveland, Ohio and serving the deaf in Pittsburgh, Erie, Columbus, Findley, Westerville and Toledo. In 1937 he was



Rev. Norbert Borchardt

called to be the Pastor of Our Savior Congregation for the Deaf. It was his privilege to be here during the construction of the School's Chapel

which has served as the home for Our Saviors Congregation for 32 years. While here, he served the deaf in Flint, Saginaw, Lansing, Coldwater, Monroe, Windsor and Mt. Clemens.

For 33 years, he was a member of the Board of Education of the Lutheran School for the Deaf. He retired from full time ministry in September 1970. In 1971 he received the John of Beverly Medal from the Lutheran Friends for the Deaf. Since September of 1970, until the time of his death, he served as a part time pastoral assistant at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Dearborn.

Pastor Borchardt is survived by his wife Mildred and his son Norbert A. Borchardt of Mt. Clemens and his daughter Elaine (Mrs. Robert Vanni) of Macomb, Illinois.

Each ADVOCATE, we try to write about the alumni. For thirty-three years, the alumni of the school were privileged to have Pastor Borchardt as their spiritual guide. Many of them, perhaps close to 300, were led to confess their faith in Jesus Christ through the Rite of Confirmation. It was his privilege not only to confirm them but in many cases to see them become married and to baptize their children.

His love, his patience, his humility and his dedicated Christian service have always been magnificent examples for all of us to follow. Through him, we saw Christ's love clearly and learned what it meant to be a disciple.

May we always remember him who spoke to us the Word of God. May we consider the outcome of his life and imitate his faith, for, in fact, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.