

# The Deaf Child's ADVOCATE

Volume 48

Issue 1 Lutheran School for the Deaf - Detroit, Michigan

February, 1978

## Farewell



Mrs. Lorraine Willets retired as the Director's secretary on October 31st, after more than 16 years service at the Lutheran School for the Deaf.

Prior to her husband's death, Mrs. Willets had been very active in the Lutheran's Ladies Auxiliary and had often done volunteer work at the school.

Shortly after her husband's sudden and unexpected death, Dr. Klein asked Mrs. Willets if she would like to work full time. She started out opening mail and accounting for the gifts of our many friends, together with maintaining the mailing list and thanking people.

For many years she served as the Principal's secretary, especially during the time of Dr. Holste. During that time she took over the scheduling and mailing of the "Jennifer film." Through her quiet and dedicated labors, many Churches and individuals learned to know more about our school through that film.

Most recently she has served faithfully as the secretary for the Director after Pastor Rynearson came. Her knowledge and faithfulness helped immensely during his first years.

She continues to maintain her apartment in Farmington, on the west side of the city. She never did appreciate driving in the snowy weather, so now she has gone South for a few months to visit with her son and her sister in Florida. We wish her God's richest blessings throughout her retirement and hope we see her often at the Ladies Auxiliary meetings.

## Christmas Program



On December 21st, the children of the Lutheran School for the Deaf again presented their annual Christmas pageant. After several years in the gymnasium, it was presented this year in the beautiful surroundings of the Knudsen Memorial Chapel.

Friends and relatives came to hear the children proclaim with joy their faith that Jesus Christ was God's most precious gift to us.



Roberta Newvine — Devotion leader

## Devotions

We truly love God. He is *worth* a lot to us and so we *worship* Him.

On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, the children in Miss Szajna's class have their own devotions in their classrooms. Each day a child is picked to be the leader. They then pick hymns that they like to sing, read selections from the Bible and join in prayers.

The two classes of youngest children have Chapel in their own beautiful little Chapel each morning, Monday through Thursday, and then join with all the rest of the children in the large Chapel on Friday.

The three classes of children in the lower primary division have their own Chapel also where they worship Monday through Thursday.

Chapel for the older children comes in a variety of ways. On Monday the four oldest classes meet together for a common Chapel. On Tuesday and Thursday, three of the classes are broken up into the three Confirmation classes. Three young men are in the current Confirmation class being taught by Pastor Bailey. Seven students are in the pre-Confirmation class taught by the Principal, Mr. Harlow, and four students are in the post-Confirmation class taught by Pastor Rynearson. The children in Mrs. Pool's class, together with the children in Miss Szajna's class, have separate room devotions all three days.

On Friday, all of the children and the staff gather together to unite their hearts and voices in thanks to our eternal, loving God who has so richly blessed us through His Son, Jesus Christ, and who regularly calls Himself to us through the work of His Holy Spirit in our lives.



Devotions in Miss Szajna's class

To the friends of the school who helped us  
restock our pantry shelves —  
**Thank you for Pound Day**



# We Enjoy Learning

Sixteen children with learning disabilities attend the Lutheran School for the Deaf full time. These are all children with average intelligence ability. They enjoy school. For some reason, unknown to most people, they do not learn math or reading in the same way as other children. They need more individualized learning methods. They

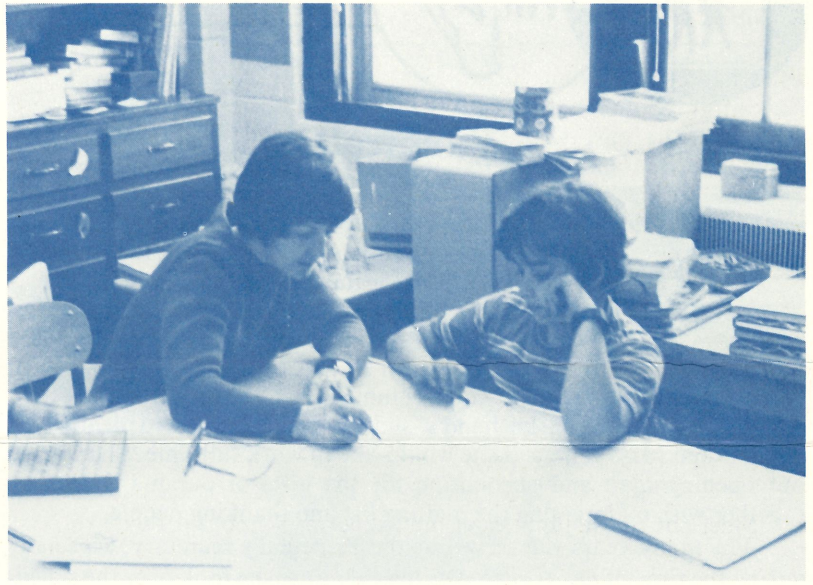
need to find ways that they can learn reading and/or math in different ways. They are very capable children. They desire to learn. They work hard at learning.

As they continue to learn here at the Lutheran School for the Deaf, more and more we are hearing the children say, "We enjoy learning now that we are finding ways that we can read or do math."

These children are very thankful that you make it possible for them to succeed in school.



We enjoy each other



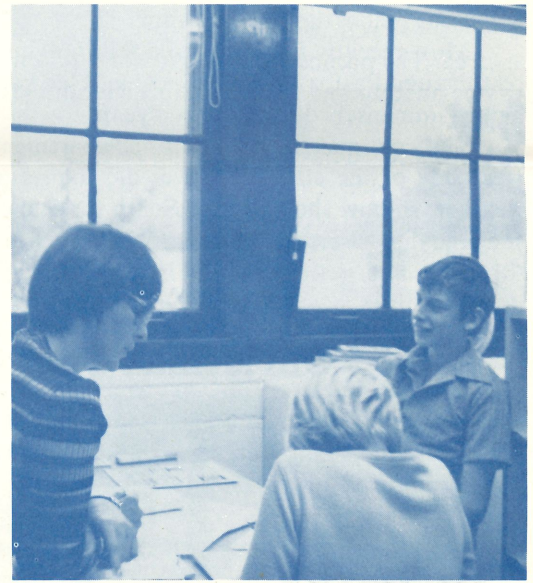
Our teacher helps us



Learning to read is fun



We enjoy learning through gym activities



We enjoy our teachers



We work in groups



Sometimes we work alone

## The Banner

As you enter the main entrance to the Lutheran School for the Deaf, you see, directly in front of you, the banner of the school in beautiful colors.

This banner was designed and made by the ladies who are members of the Ruth Circle of St. John's Lutheran Church in Rochester, Michigan. These ladies have sewed some beautiful altar frontals for the school for the past year. We deeply appreciate this banner and plan to use it when we visit your congregations to speak about the school.



Our Beautiful Memorial Wreath Folders are available, free and postpaid

## Dining Families

Meet one of the families at the Lutheran School for the Deaf. For the three meals each day, the children are divided into family groups. Each meal is served family style. The head house parents, once a month, create a new family in which children of varying ages are assigned to a table to eat together for a month. Older children are assigned as well as children from the middle classes and the little children. The purpose of this is to have the children learn responsibility for one another and learn to help each other as would happen in a normal family setting.

Because we have nine dining families and only five house parents, some of the older children are asked to monitor the tables and serve as the adult in charge. In this family Miss Sandy Hirsch, who was confirmed last year, is the monitor.



Children from left to right —  
Tony Batchelor, Colleen Bartel, Sandy Hirsch, Roberta Newvine, Richie Evans

## An Inexpensive Gift

Because tax laws are written in such a way that they encourage individuals to support their favorite charities, it is possible to give gifts that do not cost you their full value.

If you own land, real estate, stocks, bonds or any other items which have had a large capital gain since you acquired them, it might be possible for you to donate that to the Lutheran School for the Deaf and actually end up with a significant increase in income because of the tax savings.

If you are interested in learning more about legitimate tax savings through gifts to charities, contact Pastor Rynearson, Director of the school.

## New Staff



Mrs. Eddie Bond, new evening cook.



Miss Karen Gritzke, teacher of the second oldest class.



Mrs. Pat Mayer, Directors new secretary.



Mrs. Rhoda Rynearson, Library and Media specialist.

### 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.

## The Budget

Our attendance has climbed from 46 last year to 62 today. Thank God for the growing enrollment of deaf children as well as the children in the learning disabilities program. We have had an increase in the cost of salaries because we have two additional teachers, and because of the Government rules regarding minimum wage.

We thank God that through your generous love and support it is possible for us to continue to provide a quality Christian education for these special children of God.

INCOME	
Donations .....	\$359,000
Tuition .....	40,000
Board & Room—Employees .....	12,000
Festival .....	5,000
Interest & Dividends .....	7,500
Lunch Program & Miscellaneous .....	3,000
Donations in Value—Food .....	15,000
Endowment Income .....	150,000
<b>TOTAL INCOME .....</b>	<b>\$591,500</b>

EXPENSES	
Salaries .....	\$410,742
Office Supplies .....	12,480
Administration & Public Relations .....	50,792
Repairs & Maintenance .....	14,900
Food .....	27,000
Household Expenses .....	7,700
Insurance .....	9,500
Utilities .....	29,000
Protection Patrol .....	7,500
Education Expenses .....	17,000
<b>TOTAL CASH EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>\$586,614</b>
<b>NON-CASH DEPRECIATION .....</b>	<b>77,740</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>\$664,354</b>

### HELP WANTED

Needed: House parents and cooks assistants.

## ADVOCATE READERS

Return address postage will now cost us 25 cents a piece. Please help us. Inform us of any correction, deletion, or duplications. We need the following information.

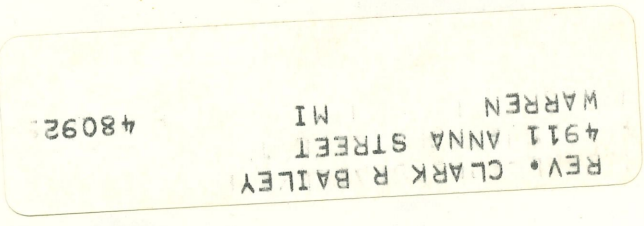
Former Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name First Name Middle Initial

New Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. and Street, Apt. Suite, P.O. or R.D. No. (In care of)

Post Office, State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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## Alumni



Karen Marton confirmed 1972



Jennifer Freed confirmed 1974

At Christmas time we rejoiced to hear from a number of our former students through the kindness of Mrs. Jane Daniels. We have the two pictures shown above.

*Karen Marton* will graduate from high school at Lakewood, Ohio, this June. *Jennifer Freed* continues to progress well in high school in Houston, Texas. *Klaus Koeger* managed to come back and see the Christmas program. He is progressing well in high school in Warren. *Scott Caskey* continues to attend school in Elkhart, Indiana and we rejoice in his progress. *Kim Hurdelbrink* graduated last June from high school in Sebawaing and is working part time this year with his father as well as on another job. He hopes to go to college next fall. *Peggy Nearing* graduated last June and is attending college in Flint and getting very good grades. *Lee Latimer* continues to do well in high school in Akron, Michigan. *Diane Sowle* graduated last June and is attending college at Central Michigan University and enjoying it intensely. *Barbara Stanz* of Glen Arbor, Michigan sends her greetings. Greetings were also received from *Judy Manik* of Oak Park, Michigan.

*John Gruetzner* now a Senior at Romeo High School, was named as first string defensive lineman on the All Metro Detroit East team. He was named most valuable player on the Oakland-A circuit and continues to be an honor student in a college prep program.

We rejoice that our alumni are progressing well in their education and that God is granting them great joy and blessings in their lives. Two of our former staff also send their greetings at Christmas time. A delightful letter was received from *Elsie Forsberg* out in Portland, Oregon. She is enjoying her retirement and keeping quite busy. We also received a call as well as a card from *Miss Marie Bliefnick* who is enjoying her retirement in Springfield, Illinois.

**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.

## Math Program



Joanne Black and her math class

This Fall the school purchased and inaugurated a whole new math program for the children. The children were first given diagnostic tests to determine what skills they knew in mathematics. Then on the basis of the diagnostic tests, the children were regrouped into classes so that they could be working with other students of like skills. Since mathematics is not based upon an oral language, deaf children often excel at arithmetic. It is important that we encourage them to continue to excel at that subject and at the same time provide them with the English language necessary to understand story problems and real life applications of mathematics.

We rejoice that through the mathematics program we can continue to challenge the children to achieve their fullest God-given potential.

## Airport Duty

Because we have children who come from so far away, many of them must fly home in order to enjoy holidays.

Each of the teachers is required, in addition to their other jobs, to take turns driving cars or vans to take these children out and put them on the airplane. In the picture are three boys from Columbus, one boy from Cleveland, a girl, center, from Chicago, a girl, second right, from Winnipeg, one of the two students from Indianapolis, and Dale Sweeting from the Bahamas.



Teachers, Miss Joanne Black, right and Mrs. Geri Pool, left, loading the children in the van to take them to the airport for their Christmas recess.