



The ADVOCATE

for Students with Special Learning Needs

Annual Report May 1987

Lutheran School for the Deaf — Detroit, Michigan 48234-2983



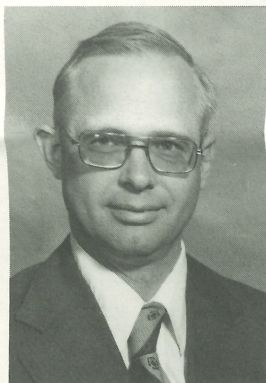
Statement of Ministry

The basis and focal point for the ministry of the Lutheran School for the Deaf is faith in the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The very reason for our existence is to show the love of Jesus Christ, God's Son and our only Savior, to those individuals we serve.

We desire that every student and their family learn to keep Jesus as the center of all their thoughts and actions. The students enrolled here learn in ways that are different than other students. They are exceptional and special. Those two titles are often used to describe mentally retarded individuals and, therefore, we use them with care. While they are uncommon in their learning style, they are very common in that God loves them and desires that they worship Him.

Our common ministry is to provide formal and informal learning experiences for the deaf, learning disabled, gifted, and educably mentally retarded child who will, according to their abilities, grow in faith and in practice of Christian virtues. Our concern is that the whole person walk with God in each of their daily activities.

During the past school year our executive director, Reverend Rodney Rynearson, accepted a Call to Synod to serve as secretary for Deaf and Blind Ministries of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.



Rev. Rodney Rynearson
Executive Director
1974-1986

Reverend Rynearson served the Lutheran School for the Deaf as executive director for 12½ years, and while in that position he introduced various innovative programs in the area of special education. Thanks to his efforts, programs have been developed for the following:

- Students with specific learning disabilities
- Educably mentally retarded students
- Gifted and creative students
- Children in the traditional deaf program

When Pastor Rynearson arrived at the school, our enrollment was less than 50 students. We currently have an enrollment of over 250 students.

The increase in enrollment and expansion of our school's geographic boundaries is directly related to Reverend Rynearson's vision along with the staff and the board of directors.

The Association of the Lutheran School for the Deaf is deeply appreciative of the services rendered by Reverend Rynearson and wish him God's richest blessings in his new ministry.



Mr. Roger DeMeyere
Executive Director
July 1, 1987

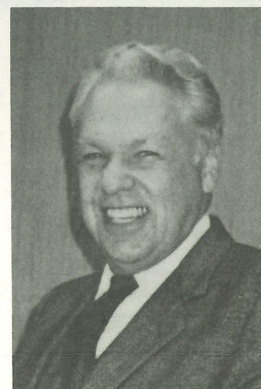
Roger DeMeyere graduated from Concordia River Forest in 1970. From 1970 to 1972 he taught third and fourth grade at Redford Lutheran School in Detroit, and also served as athletic director.

In 1972 he left the teaching ministry to pursue graduate studies in social work receiving his Masters Degree from Wayne State University in 1974. From 1972 to 1985 he held various positions in public education and community mental health. In 1985 he was named Director of Special Education of the Lake Orion Community Schools and was responsible for all special education programs and services. He has certification approval as director and supervisor of special education. He is a member of the Michigan Schools Social Worker Association and the Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education. He attended Lutheran High East and served as president of the student council. He has been active in his church, St. Peter's Macomb, having served as president of the PTL, chairman of

parish fellowship, and a lay delegate to the Michigan District Convention.

Roger and his wife, Linda, and children Kimberly (16) and David (12) live in New Baltimore.

Serving the school since January 1 has been a privilege and challenge. Little did I realize when I was elected to the board in 1955 that I would some day be asked to serve as interim executive director.



Mr. Roland M. Wilkening
Interim Executive Director
January-July, 1987

With great support from all of the staff, for which I am deeply appreciative, we managed to carry on during the interim period. The 1986-87 school year was one of controlled growth — a period of fine tuning that

included an emphasis on quality not quantity. The school's programs and activities are described within the various articles included in this report.

The Search Committee spent a great amount of time reviewing and interviewing candidates for the executive director's position. We thank God for Roger DeMeyere. His enthusiasm and knowledge of special education is an indication of being the right man at the right time for the school.

As Roger becomes the eighth director in the school's 114 year history, we ask God's blessings and pray that He would guide Roger, the staff, and the board so that we may continue to fill our statement of ministry to the glory of God.

Rolland M. Wilkening

Report of the Board

The board of directors of the Lutheran School for the Deaf consists of 12 elected members consisting of laymen, pastors, and teachers.

Each board member serves on at least one of the four operating committees. The operating committees are:

Education and Policy: Reverend Jon Reusch, Chairman; Mr. Terry Davis, Reverend John C. Streit.

Finance & Investment Committee: Mr. Elmer W. Engel, Chairman; Mr. Allan O. Helland, Mr. Walter Kaufmann, Mr. Don Rutter, Mr. Robert Marowske*, Mr. Arvid Jouppi*.

Resource & Development Committee: Reverend Wilton Fluegge, Chairman; Mr. Jim Hoerberling, Attorney; Reverend Albert Prouty, Mr. Rolland Wilkening.

Personnel Committee: Mr. Paul Quitmeyer, Chairman; Reverend Wilton Fluegge, Mr. Allan Helland, Mr. Terry Davis.

The officers of the board are: Paul Quitmeyer, President; Rev. Wilton Fluegge, Vice-President; Allan O. Helland, Secretary; Elmer Engel, Treasurer.

Honorary members include: Herman Auch, Rev. Richard Bernthal, Carl Middeldorf, Rev. E. Rossow.

(* Non board members - Committee appointee

Education Report for 1986-87

It becomes very obvious to us, here at the school, working with His children, that our work is pleasing to the Lord, for His blessings and encouragement flow beyond our imaginations. God continues to open doors which we never even thought of and as each door opens and a new program begins and money is spent, our Gracious Giver replaces what we spend.

Again this year, we opened new satellite special services rooms in Detroit and Chicago. We have started another room for the talented and gifted in one of our satellite stations. The enthusiasm of the children and teachers as they are challenged more to their potential is beautiful to see. Another one of Detroit's Lutheran high schools now has one of our special services teachers. This special service now makes it possible for more students to make satisfactory progress in secondary education.

With the change and restrictions of services being offered by the public schools to private school students, we are experiencing more requests for teaching services, diagnostic services, and suggestions for providing means of special help to schools in rural and urban settings. We thank God for showing us the way and providing an excellent staff for leading children in a closer walk with Jesus.

INCOME*

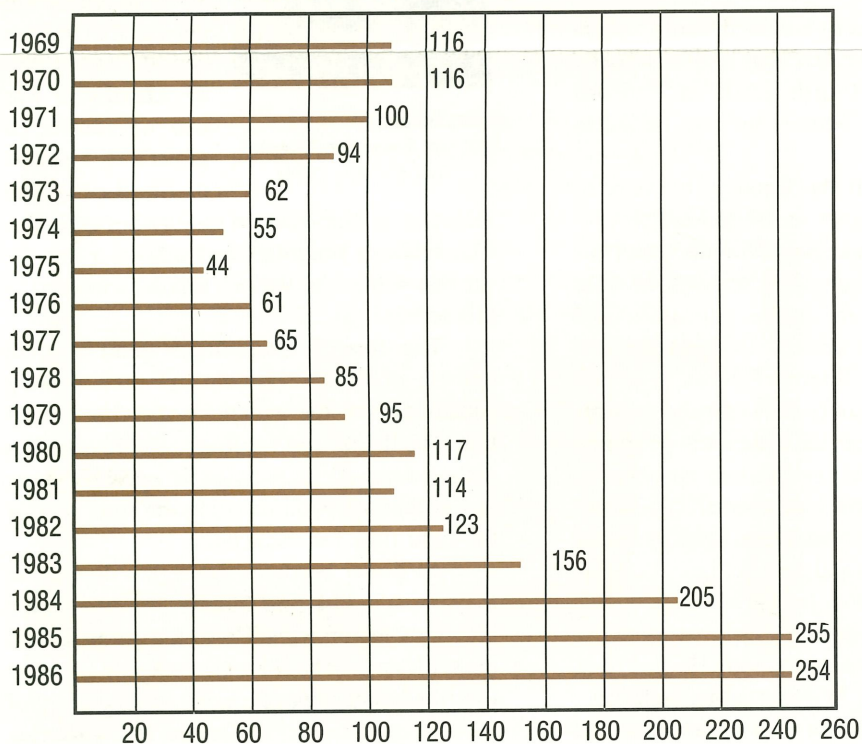
General	\$ 434,500
Specific donations	24,250
Memorials	73,000
Children's fees	212,500
Board & Room - Employees	7,500
Festival	8,250
Interest & Dividends	2,500
Miscellaneous	14,000
Donations in value	15,000
Deferred gifts	450,000
Dividends from Endowment Fund	13,000
Interest from Endowment Fund	290,000
	<u>\$1,544,500</u>

* Projection to June 30, 1987

EXPENSES*

Salaries	\$1,003,905
Office, Postage & Phone	18,850
Publicity	76,967
Fund Raising	34,500
Repairs & Maintenance	26,611
Non-budgeted Capital expenses	46,322
Auto repair	7,670
Food	19,636
Supplies	6,242
Rubbish removal	1,600
Insurance	32,618
Utilities	62,759
Miscellaneous	3,188
Education	16,872
Specific donation	30,197
	<u>\$1,387,937</u>
Transfer to Endowment Fund	156,563
	<u>\$1,544,500</u>

STUDENT ENROLLMENT



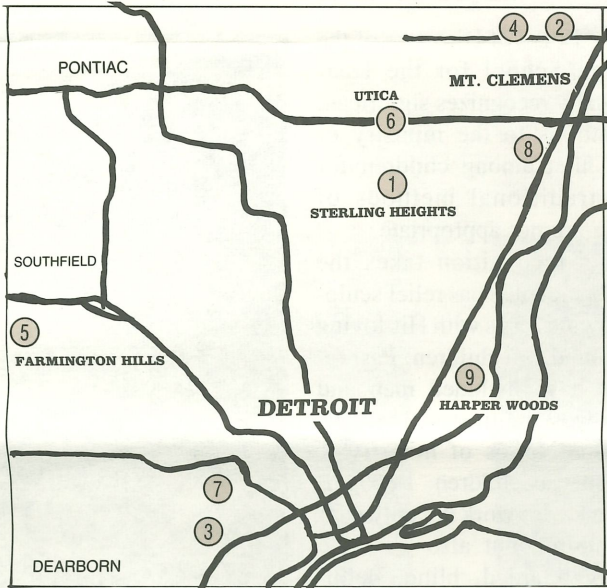
Student Enrollment

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>
High Schools	42	43
Hearing Impaired	13	9
Detroit Main Campus	86	77
Detroit Satellites	57	63
Chicagoland	57	62
Total	<u>255</u>	<u>254</u>

AREAS SERVED

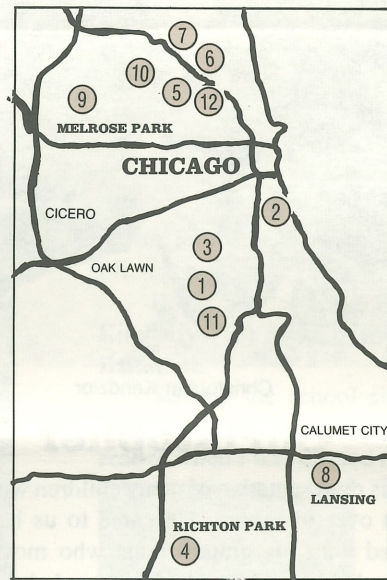
Detroit

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ① St. Paul Lutheran School
42681 Hayes Road
Sterling Heights, Michigan 48078 | ⑤ St. Paul Lutheran School
20805 Middlebelt
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48024 |
| ② Lutheran High School North
16825 24 Mile Road
Mt. Clemens, Michigan 48044 | ⑥ Trinity Lutheran School
45091 Deshon
Utica, Michigan 48087 |
| ③ Lutheran High School West
8181 Greenfield
Detroit, Michigan 48228 | ⑦ Holy Cross Lutheran School
14213 Whitcomb
Detroit, Michigan 48227 |
| ④ St. Peter Lutheran School
17051 24 Mile Road
Mt. Clemens, Michigan 48044 | ⑧ Trinity Lutheran School
38900 Harper
Mt. Clemens, Michigan 48043 |
| | ⑨ Lutheran High School East
20100 Kelly Road
Harper Woods, Michigan 48225 |



Chicago

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ① Ashburn Lutheran School
3343 W. 83rd Street
Chicago, Illinois 60652 | ⑦ St. John Lutheran School
4939 W. Montrose
Chicago, Illinois 60641 |
| ② Christ the King Lutheran School
3701 S. Lake Park
Chicago, Illinois 60653 | ⑧ St. John Lutheran School
18241 Wentworth
Lansing, Illinois 60438 |
| ③ Hope Lutheran School
6416 Washtenaw
Chicago, Illinois 60629 | ⑨ St. Paul Lutheran School
1000 Superior
Melrose Park, Illinois 60160 |
| ④ Immanuel Lutheran School
4800 Sauk Trail
Richton Park, Illinois 60471-1081 | ⑩ Trinity Lutheran School
2601 N. Meade
Chicago, Illinois 60639 |
| ⑤ Jehovah Lutheran School
3740 W. Belden
Chicago, Illinois 60647 | ⑪ Zion Lutheran School
10858 S. King Dr.
Chicago, Illinois 60628 |
| ⑥ Pilgrim Lutheran School
4300 N. Winchester
Chicago, Illinois 60613 | ⑫ Zion Lutheran School (North)
2230 N. Lawndale
Chicago, Illinois 60647 |



Volunteers

Ministries such as that at Lutheran School for the Deaf are for the most part voluntary organizations. Here we have no assessments for congregations to be members of the association. No board members receive remuneration for their services. Most all employees receive wages less than could be earned in the public sector. But most important of all are the services of the many loving volunteers who regularly donate their time to do various jobs. The tasks include sorting of major mailings, tutoring

children, assisting with bookkeeping, yard care, scout programs, and many others. Listing any job leaves the impression that others are less important. Nothing is further from the truth. No job done by a volunteer is any less or more important than any other. We give God the glory for the love that is showered upon this school through our hundreds of volunteers. Without them our ministry would not be able to serve the many children that it does each day.



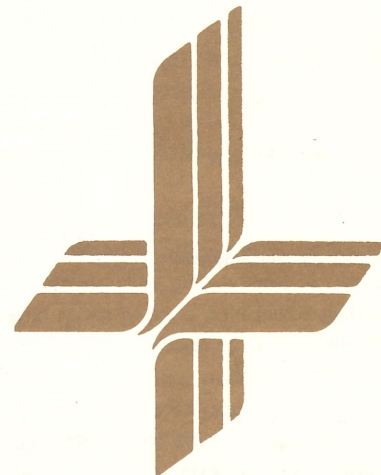
Rev. John Streit, Board Member & Counselor for the Lutheran Ladies Auxiliary for the Deaf confers with Mrs. Paul Gady, LLAD member and longtime volunteer at the school.



Mr. Fred Masch and Mr. Al Brokop exchange thoughts at annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner

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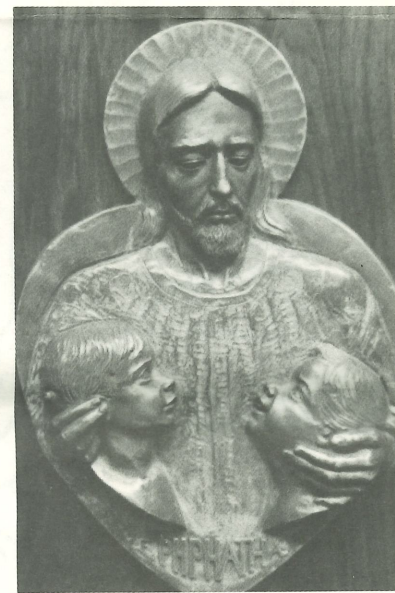
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AT
DETROIT, MICH.

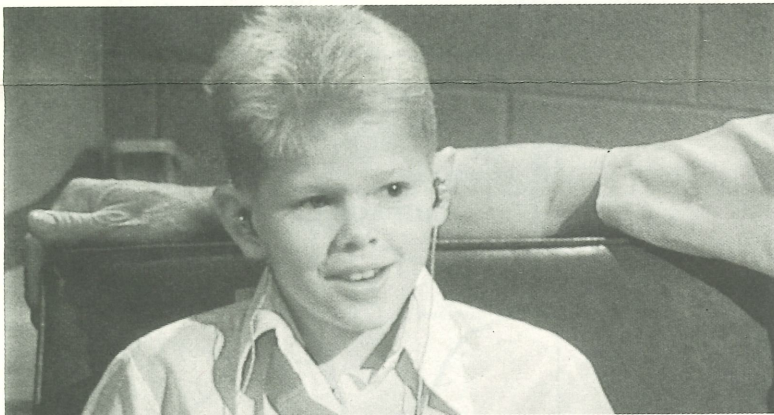
Ephphatha Award

The Board of Directors of the Lutheran School for the Deaf periodically recognizes significant contributions to the ministry of Jesus Christ among children for whom traditional methods of teaching are not appropriate.

This recognition takes the form of a mounted bas relief sculpture showing Jesus with His loving arms around two children. Past recipients have included men and women working in structured and unstructured forms of ministry to God's special children. Recognition is made for work not only with deaf children but also with the mentally retarded, blind, delinquent, gifted, or those for whom a traditional outreach is not appropriate.



Recognition Plaque given to recipients of "Ephphatha Award"



Christopher Kendzior

Christopher

Christopher is representative of many children who have attended our school in Detroit over the years. He came to us because of a hearing problem. He lived with his grandparents who moved to Detroit from Arizona so they could be near him while he attended classes. You can learn more about Christopher by viewing our film "Ephphatha." His story, as well as those of other children, are brought to life on the screen. Call the school or drop us a line to reserve a copy of the movie for your group's use. Speakers can accompany the film to answer questions and provide additional information.

The Stewardship Of Our Resources

As the ministry here at The Lutheran School for the Deaf continues to grow under God's guidance, we look to our very special friends — our supporters and donors. In the months and years ahead, as our ministry continues to expand, we will be contacting you for renewed support

Emphasis on deferred giving through your will, and other methods that may increase your income through tax benefits under the 1986 tax revisions will be studied by our staff and shared with you.

As we prepare for the new school year we anticipate adding additional staff to serve the increased numbers of children enrolled. Soon the enrollment will surpass the 300 figure. The challenge which God has put before us is great but He has given us the ability to meet the challenge and through you, the means to achieve His goals.

We look forward with great anticipation to the challenges of the future.

Ephphatha Institute

Ephphatha Institute has included a new position this year. Susan Bailey, one of our teachers of learning disabled children, has become our curriculum consultant. She has been involved in cataloging school resources and directing staff here and in Chicago in the selection of textbooks and other related materials. It is a goal of the Institute to provide consultant services to congregations, schools, and teachers throughout the Missouri Synod. Primarily, these services would include recommendations regarding materials and methods for serving children with special learning needs.

Another purpose of the Institute is to provide professional evaluations of students. These guide parents and teachers in terms of answering questions about appropriately dealing with academic and other school related problems. With the continuing expansion of resource rooms in the Detroit Metropolitan area, we have upgraded our services to include computer utilization and continue to move toward both a full-time secretary and an additional psychologist in the fall, in the interest of more rapidly responding to needs.

