# The ADVOCATE

## "To Enable Children With Special Learning Needs to Receive a Christian Education"

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Volume 58, Issue 4

# Ministries Respond To Need — Challenged To Do More!

Does Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries (LSDSEM) need your financial support? To this I answer an emphatic yes.

Although many organizations need your support, I'm writing this article to tell you about our particular needs. This is not a doom and gloom message, but rather a report about a dynamic ministry that believes in the words of Jesus when He says in Matthew 19 verse 14, "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

I have included a graph which charts a nine year history of our income and expenses. Our expenses have doubled in the past five years. Irresponsible planning? No. LSDSEM is a ministry which meets needs, a ministry that strives to enable, not hinder. Let's talk about what's happened in the past five years.

Our special education day school in Detroit has remained strong and viable serving deaf, learning disabled, mildly retarded, and gifted children. Realizing that many more children could receive a Christian education if we helped Lutheran schools open their doors to those with special learning needs, LSDSEM established 26 special education resource rooms in Lutheran schools throughout metropolitan Detroit and Chicago since 1983. That's 26 schools that are now able to let special children "come to Him."

Not only has LSDSEM tried to meet the needs of children by expanding programs and services over the past 5 years, but we have also tried to make a major effort to meet the needs of our personnel by improving salaries. We want committed people, and we want to provide livable wages that demonstrate our appreciation for their commitment.

We truly have been blessed. We do not receive government support, and our income has exceeded our expenses in eight of the last nine years using actual statistics. Last year we had a \$400,000 deficit, and this year we project an additional \$300,000 deficit. This is why we need to tell the story. I believe a need will be met if the need is made known.

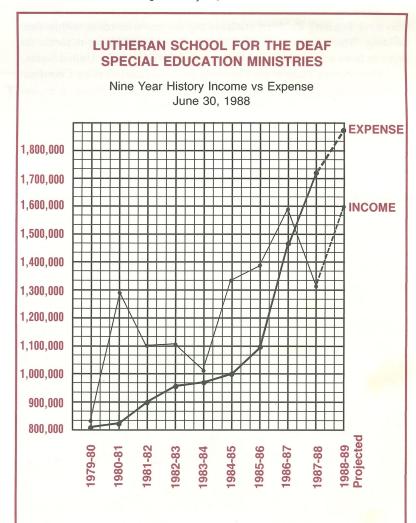
Not only do we need to maintain the current programs and services, but as the word about our ministry has spread, we have received more and more requests from Lutheran schools who want to open their doors to special children. The Lutheran School Association in New York has requested our programs. Add to this the fact that we have 22 specific inquiries from Michigan and an additional four specific requests from Illinois, and you can begin to appreciate the enormous task which we have before us if we want to continue helping children with special learning needs receive a Christian education. There's no question in my mind that we are doing what Jesus has asked us to do. And there's also no question in my mind that we need your continued and increased financial support to help those children for whom "the kingdom of heaven belongs." Please, send your gift today.

God bless you.

Roger DeMeyere Executive Director



Roger DeMeyere, Chief Executive

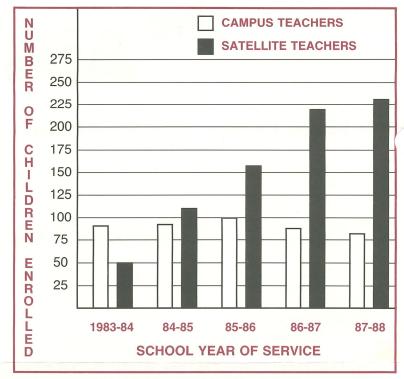


#### **Enrollment Growth**

Conclusions can be most easily drawn from trends that are observable. This can be applied to school services provided as well as from industry. If we look at the enrollment of our school as it is distributed between the campus program and the off campus satellite schools, we see that during the past five years there is a trend toward serving more students with more teachers off-campus than on campus. As more teachers are assigned off-campus, more Lutheran schools are being served with satellite resource rooms.

In the 1983-84 school year 91 students were enrolled with 15 teachers in the campus school and 50 were enrolled in off-campus programs with 6 teachers in 6 classrooms. Each year the campus program has been reduced and the satellite program increased. In June 1988, on campus there were 78 students with 12 teachers and in off-campus programs 229 students enrolled with 22 teachers in 29 classrooms.

During these years the composition of classes has changed. The greatest majority of students served now have specific learning disabilities. The classes for the hearing impaired have now diminished. Interest in programs for the talented and gifted is showing an increase, and requests for services to the educably mentally impaired have diminished. We continue to study the requests for services from the various disability areas and trust that our direction of effort will be as the Lord would have us to do to meet His will.



Student Enrollment — A Five Year Comparison

# **Ephphatha Institute Grows**

Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries has created two new positions this fall that will help expand our ministry: Instructional Consultant and Curriculum Consultant/Inservice Coordinator.

Mrs. Kathy Krause is the Instructional Consultant. She brings with her a background of resource room experience with special education students. While her position is still emerging, three areas are presently the main thrust of her attention. The first area consists of educational evaluation of newly referred students in conjunction with a psychologist. The second area is that of collaborative consultation with classroom teachers who have learning disabled students but no resource room within their building. The third area is that of coordinating incoming requests for services from schools both in Michigan and throughout the United States.

Mrs. Shirley Danz is the Curriculum Consultant/Inservice Coordinator. There has previously been a Curriculum Consultant who has supervised the curriculum development of both the Detroit and Chicago classrooms. There has been an expansion of the services to also include coordinating the inservicing of regular education teachers of the satellite schools both elementary and secondary in the area of special education as well as the special education teachers of Detroit and Chicago. She will also



Kathy Krause and Shirley Danz discuss an upcoming event to be held in our Ephaphatha Institute.

coordinate the inservice programs offered by Ephphatha Institute to schools without resource rooms as well as to teacher conferences. The Curriculum Consultant also provides consultation to congregations throughout the United States regarding religion curriculum materials for students with special learning needs.

#### **New Staff**



Gregg Braun - Director of Development; Kathy DeMumbrum - teacher of learning disabled; Anne Campbell - librarian and teacher; Gilbert Thiess - teacher of gifted; Dennis Pieper - teacher of learning disabled.

Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries opened its 116th year on August 30th. At the Opening Service six new staff members were installed or inducted by Reverend Albert Prouty, pastor of Mt. Hope Lutheran Church in Allen Park and board member.

The school serves 318 learning disabled, deaf, and gifted children in Detroit and Chicago Lutheran schools.

The four members of the staff that were installed include Dennis Pieper, a teacher in a learning disabled classroom. Dennis and wife, Valerie and family are members of St. Thomas, East Detroit. Gilbert Thiess was installed as a teacher in the academically talented classroom. Gil and wife, Annette, and family are members of St. Paul, Sterling Heights. Shirley Danz was installed as the curriculum consultant with the Ephphatha Institute of LSDSEM. Shirley and husband, Harry, are members of Christ the King, Grosse Pointe Woods. Gregg Braun was installed as Director of Development. Gregg and wife, Suzanne, are members of Trinity, Mt. Clemens.

Inducted were Kathy DeMumbrum and Anne Campbell. Kathy De-Mumbrum is a teacher in a learning disabled classroom. Kathy is a member of Crown of Life in Rochester Hills. Anne Campbell is librarian and teacher. Anne and husband, Charles, and family are members of the United Methodist in Birmingham.

In Chicago, Tammy Gelsosomo is a new resource teacher at Salem Blue Island and at Zion in Chicago. Tammy and husband, Steve reside in Chicago.

# 25 Years of Touching Special Lives With Christ

Herman Holste was born in Western Kansas, one of eleven children, and grew up in this rural community where he received his elementary schooling in the local Lutheran one room school. Following his graduation from high school, he enlisted in the United States Navy and served in the Pacific for two years. He then enrolled at Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebraska, and received his BS degree in 1951. Upon graduation he was assigned to Grace Lutheran School of Wellston, Missouri.

In 1955 he enrolled at Washington University of St. Louis, Missouri, where he received his MS degree in speech and hearing. During this two year period, the Holstes served as houseparents for deaf children at the Central Institute for the Deaf.

In 1957 he was called to teach at the Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit where he also served as coach and athletic director. During this period he began a special class for deaf children who had unusual learning difficulties.

In 1962 he became principal of the school and continued in that capacity until 1972. It was during this period that he enrolled at Wayne State University and received his Ph.D. degree in audiology-deaf education and administration.



In 1972 he accepted the position as supervisor in special education for the Huron and Sanilac County Intermediate School Districts.

In the mid 70's the law which established that all Districts must provide special education services to all children in need was passed. This created many small programs throughout the United States and the need for residential placement of children with profound hearing losses diminished and the population at Lutheran School for the Deaf dropped severely. As a result, there were many requests coming in for the services to other special education areas and the program began to change to include a variety of

disabilities and predominantly those with specific learning disabilities. In 1982, Dr. Holste was called to return to Detroit to see the program expand to touch more children's lives. He returned as Principal of the school and currently serves as Director of Detroit Lutheran Special Education Services.

He has been active in church matters and has served in officerships at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Bad Axe and at his present church, East Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Detroit. He has been on Synod's Special Services Committee and more recently has been program chairman for the South and East Michigan Lutheran Teachers' Conference and in 1987 to 1988 was chairman of the Michigan Lutheran Principals' Conference. He is a former member of the Lutheran Center Board of Directors and is currently a member of the Board of Stewardship Life of the Michigan District-LCMS. His professional memberships include American Speech and Hearing Association, the A.G. Bell Association for the Deaf, American Instructors of the Deaf, Council for Exceptional Children, and the Michigan Association of Learning Disabilities Educators.

He was married to Barbara Neinas of East Detroit in 1952 and they have been residents on the school campus for almost 20 years. They have three children, James of Tecumseh, Traci of Bad Axe, and Sarah of Concordia College, Ann Aroor, and they have 6 grandchildren.

Dr. Holste recounts the years which he served in capacities outside of the schools of the Lutheran church and values very highly the experiences and the way the Lord has used them to prepare for greater capacity in serving at the school in Detroit. The years in the Navy as an electrician prepared him for the electronic work dealing with the hearing aids and amplification systems, the years at the Central Institute for the Deaf as houseparent helped him to see more fully the complications of dormitory living which for many years was part of the responsibility here in Detroit; and the experiences gained in the public schools were a training period for the development of special education programs in the areas other than for the hearing impaired. During this 37 year educational experience, twelve of which were outside of the Lutheran schools, this has been an exciting period of time in which children of all handicaps have received much more special attention and are reaching a higher degree of their potential. The bottom line is that they can come to know their Savior much more clearly.

#### **Harvest Festival**

Smiling faces were very evident at the Harvest Festival at Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries on October 8. Fun was had by over 500 people.

Entertainment helped to make the Festival a success. The entertainment included a band from Lutheran High Westland, the Crusaders from Lutheran North in Mt. Clemens, and a Wind Ensemble from Lutheran East in Harper Woods. Other smiles were provided by a dog-act, two magicians, a pianist, a vocalist, and a duet.



Festival chairman Elmer Engel "trains up" a young worker in the school's pavillion.

A delicious knackwurst dinner with all the trimmings was served by the Ladies' Auxiliary.

A dunk tank, games, a fun house, and pony rides provided smiling faces for children.

Potatoes, apples, shoes, honey, pumpkins, caramel apples, crafts, and other items were sold to raise funds for the school.

Parents, teachers, and friends helped to make the festival a success. The festival was led by Mr. Elmer Engel, a member of West Bethlehem, Detroit, and a member of the Board of Directors of LSDSEM.



Mrs. Mildred Borchardt of the ladies auxiliary helps a customer in a booth at the 1988 festival.

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Published quarterly by the Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries 6861 E. Nevada,

- USPS 150-480

The ADVOCATE for Students with Special Learning Needs

With the knowledge of God's love and desire that God's love be revealed through our ministry, the Lutheran School For The Deaf Special Education Ministries serves to enable children with special learning needs to receive a Christian Education.

#### STATEMENT OF MINISTRY

S C H O O L FOR THE DEAF-SPECIAL EDUCATION MINISTRIES FOR THE DEAF-SPECIAL EDUCATION MINISTRIES

# **Annual Support**

Did you know that your gifts make possible a Christian education for 318 special children (the most in our 116 year history)? Your support helps us to touch more young lives with the love of Christ.



# **Pound Day**

Over the past many years, our supporters have contributed the fruits of God's blessings to our school. Among these have been the harvest of garden produce, rice, canned goods and cash donations for fresh fruits and vegetables.

We invite you to consider such a donation — and to call us at 313-368-1220 if you have questions on how you can help.

## Congratulations

Best wishes and thanks to 2 couples who have worked so very hard over many years to make our ministry successful.

Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Engel celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on September 8, 1988.

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Masch celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on September 16, 1988.

# Campbell's Labels for Education

As we prepare to start another year of clipping and bundling Campbell Soup labels, some reflections on last year's program are in order. We sent in a total of 503,350 labels and received many useful items, such as an Apple computer, educational software, language masters, cassette players, and a slide projector, to name only a few. We could not be so successful in this program without your help, for which everyone at Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries is grateful. Thanks!

#### **ADVOCATE READERS**

Return address postage will now cost us 30 cents apiece. Please help us. Inform us of any correction, deletion, or duplications. We need the following information.

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Joy to The World, The Lord Has Come!