

The ADVOCATE

LUTHERAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF SPECIAL EDUCATION MINISTRIES

6861 E. NEVADA, DETROIT, MICHIGAN

(313) 368-1220

Fall, 1989

Partners in Ministry Edition

Volume 59, Issue 3

More Doors Open for Special Students

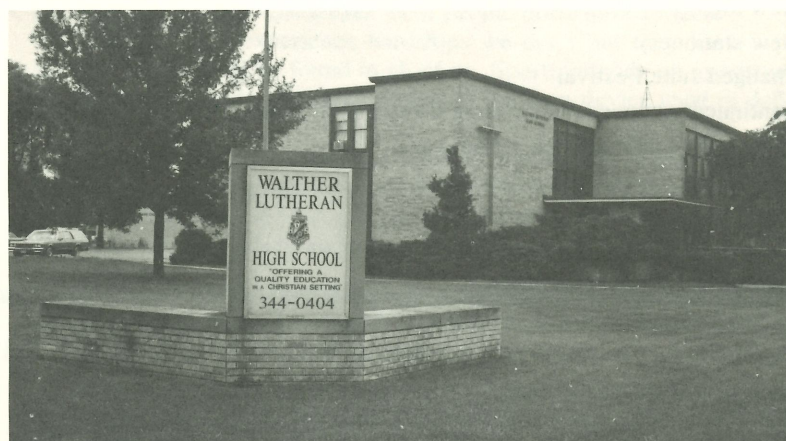
This year marks the 117th year that Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries has been spreading the love of Christ to special needs children. Last year, our ministry was able to help 364 children in Chicago and Detroit, and we plan to add to that number during the 1989-90 school year.

We are happy to report that services are being expanded to two new schools. Upon receiving word that special education services would be provided at Lutheran High School Northwest in Rochester Hills, Michigan, Mr. David Widenhofer, the Principal of Northwest, stated "Our program has just taken a huge step on the path to better service for all of our young people." With the expansion to Northwest, sixteen metro Detroit Lutheran schools have now opened their doors to children with special learning needs.



Lutheran High School Northwest, Rochester Hills, Michigan

We are also pleased to report that our eleven resource rooms in Chicago will, for the first time, include a high school. Thanks to an anonymous donor, a new program will begin at Walther Lutheran High School, Melrose Park, Illinois. Mr. Donald Gillingham, Executive Director, and Mr.



Walther Lutheran High School, Melrose Park, Illinois

Herman Zemke, Principal, are thankful to have this type of educational support available. According to Mr. Gillingham,

"Our Lord wants us to teach all of His young people. Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries has given Walther a chance to minister to students who are not equipped to handle a rigorous college prep curriculum. There is no doubt that many more young people with learning disabilities can be helped if this program continues to grow. I believe that the program draws students with academic needs to the foot of the cross, and support for this program translates into a future life founded on the fact that God is the source of all wisdom and knowledge. Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries is providing a great resource for our school and a great blessing for those who will now have a chance to learn about Christ despite learning disabilities."

We share Mr. Gillingham's and Mr. Widenhofer's sentiments, and we give thanks to God for all the people who have helped our ministry reach out and touch the lives of special needs children with the love of Christ. Where will the Lord lead us next?

Ephphatha Award—1989

Reverend Walter L. Busby, of St. Augustine, Florida, is the 1989 recipient of the Ephphatha Award given by the Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries, Detroit, Michigan. The award was given on July 10th at the 57th Convention of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



Reverend Busby addressing the LCMS Convention at Wichita, Kansas

in Wichita, Kansas. Reverend Busby is in his nineteenth year as resident chaplain and missionary-at-large to the deaf in northern Florida for the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Florida-Georgia District.

Reverend Busby attended Concordia Seminary in Springfield, Illinois, and enrolled in a sign language course that changed his life. He saw with the use of sign language that there were many fascinating people that live in the deaf world, and their thirst for the Good News and their love for their Savior was an inspiration to this young seminarian.

After graduation from the seminary in 1962, he accepted the call to Alpha Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Rochester, New York. When he first started at Rochester, only finger spelling and speech were permitted.

After four years he moved to Miami to Deaf Zion Lutheran Church. Here he was able to share the Gospel with deaf people in south Florida. The congregation continued to grow. Then the church in Miami and the number of classes at the Florida State School for the Deaf and Blind in St. Augustine, Florida began to grow. The Florida-Georgia District called Reverend Busby to serve as chaplain at the school, and to be missionary to the deaf in northern Florida.

Reverend Busby has a unique avocation as a licensed foster parent, and had the joys, trials, and blessings of parenting many times over. Reverend Busby also has two grown children.

Reverend Thomas Zehnder, President of the Florida-Georgia District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, in nominating Reverend Busby for the Ephphatha Award, stated, "Above all he has won the love and affection of the children and students as he has exemplified to them the message of the Gospel and the love of God in Jesus Christ."

We are thankful that Reverend Busby is able to share the comfort of the Gospel and the assurance of the Word with the students at the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, and with the people in northern Florida.

1988-89 Highlights

Maintained 15 Metro Detroit satellites (new satellite—St. Luke's)
 Maintained 12 Metro Chicago satellites
 Maintained campus school (9 classrooms)
 Created new positions: Director of Development, Instructional Consultant, secretaries for development department and Chicago
 1988-89 Service Goals developed and approved
 Harvest Festival
 Staff presentations at Michigan Association of Nonpublic Schools conference
 New logo
 New stationery
 Changed June Festival
 Continued compensation system using public school tri-county averages
 Philosophy and statement of ministry
 LSDSEM common goals developed
 Children's Christmas program (campus)
 Financial audit completed
 Tuition and fee system policy
 Initiated compliance with Asbestos Emergency Response Act
 Dr. Holste's 25th anniversary celebration
 Implemented service award for personnel
 Continued negotiations with Lutheran Schools Association in New York
 New personnel manual
 Curriculum Committee meetings
 Lutheran Ladies Auxiliary meetings
 Began plans for expansion to Walther High School—Chicago
 Improved annual personnel evaluation system
 Developed procedures for establishing satellites
 Statement of Ministry displayed on the campus entrance wall
 New banner with new logo
 Beginnings of curriculum guide
 Increased conference center usage
 Memorandum of Understanding for Detroit Lutheran High School Association
 Volunteer dinner



Executive Director, DeMeyere, Addresses Delegates at Synodical Convention

Improved publicity i.e. newspaper coverage
 Special Olympics
 Annual meeting
 National Lutheran School Accreditation Process
 Campus musical *Music Machine*
 Ephphatha award—Reverend Busby
 Graduation and award service (campus)
 Campus sports program and cheerleading
 250 children evaluated
 Numerous consultations for students
 1989-90 budget preparation and approval
 Board meetings
 Faculty retreat & inservices

To God Alone Be The Glory



Kendra Weber

You Can Help, Too

by Roger DeMeyere

I had a wonderful experience this past year with my home congregation, St. Peter, Mt. Clemens, Michigan. They do a lot for our ministry, but nothing was more heartwarming than this one.

I received a telephone call from a distressed lady, a member of my congregation's LWML. She had been appointed to collect and send Campbell soup labels to us so we could order much needed school equipment. The problem was that whenever she would go to the collection box in the church, it was always empty. She couldn't figure out what was happening. The LWML had always done so well in collecting Campbell soup labels.

Had I put two and two together, I could have eased her distress. For what she found out was that an 8th grade student, named Kendra Weber, was voluntarily taking the labels out of the collection box, cutting and bundling them, and giving them to my son to deliver to me at home. I never paid much attention to the neatly cut and bundled labels, for I frequently find Campbell labels at my doorstep.

The greatest thing about this whole situation is that nobody asked or told Kendra to do this, and I'm not talking about a few labels, I'm talking about a few thousand labels. She did all this without fanfare, not asking for thanks. She did it because she wanted to help. What a great model! To Kendra Weber I say thank you and God bless you. To those who would like to follow in Kendra's footsteps, I say "You can help, too."

This team understands the game, by John Brandt

Although there were no dunks, no around-the-back, look-away passes or any potential high school all-Americans, it was still a great game.

It was a grade school basketball tournament and the team was Lutheran School for the Deaf from Detroit.

The players are not deaf. Some are learning disabled or learning impaired. Their greatest challenge is not found on the basketball court; it's in their own lives.

Lutheran School for the Deaf is a competitive team. They play hard and are fundamentally sound for grade school basketball. The league consists of east side elementary schools. I found quality in their view of the sport.

As a coach, I see what competition does to players. It can cause tension and frustration. This is often vented on the court in a poor way. Players talk back to officials, complain about calls and taunt their opponents after a rough foul or a basket. This has no place in the game. And none of it is found on Lutheran School for the Deaf's team.

Competition offers them the opportunity to play their best against other teams. They work as hard as possible while still enjoying the game. Their goal is to play hard and have fun. Although it seems simple enough, a lot

of teams are unable to produce a similar understanding.

Team unity is stressed in every sport. You can have an abundance of talent. But if the team concept isn't present, the wins aren't either. The players for the Thunderbirds understand they are part of an entire team. They support each other and help out those lacking skill or ability.

To many, the competitiveness found in sports creates a cloudy perspective. Winning becomes the only goal and measurement for success. Scoring more points or grabbing more rebounds becomes the only focus.

The Thunderbirds want to win like anybody else, and they do. But they realize the sport is only a game. After four quarters, it's time to prepare for other challenges—challenges most people don't have to face.

These kids may experience hardships we don't but they have a perspective that should be found in all of us. Sports provide an opportunity for competition and enjoyment. It should not be a device used to deflate or inflate egos.

It's a game—one that involves strategy, ability, dedication and perseverance. It also requires a proper understanding. This team has that understanding.

Reprinted with permission from the Bay Voice, New Baltimore, Michigan

Digging for Dinosaurs in Your Own Backyard

Did you ever scavenge for dinosaur bones? Well, our resource room has at Trinity Lutheran School, Mt. Clemens, Michigan. First, we made dinosaur books by gathering information, drawing pictures, writing a paragraph or two, then putting it together. Also, we put together a glossary, table of contents, introduction, and made dinosaur covers.

Next, we scavenged for dinosaur bones in a swampy sand that looked like it was in the dinosaur times, but it was really a sandbox in our classroom. One of us stumbled across what we thought was an Iguanodon. After we found the bones, we put them together. We imitated being draftsmen and paleontologists by drawing pictures of the dinosaur with the skin on it and everything. Finally, we wrote about what they were and what they are like. Maybe some day you will stumble across dinosaur bones. Then you can have as much fun as we had.

This article was written by a group of learning disabled students after the completion of a reading and writing unit on dinosaurs. This unit gave each child a tremendous wealth of positive learning experiences, and allowed them to use various skills including their imagination.

The teacher of this group is Miss Loren Popke.



LSDSEM resource room students at Trinity Lutheran School, Mt. Clemens, Michigan

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.

Items of Need

The Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries is in need of the following items:

Detroit Campus	Basketball scoreboard	\$2,500
	Kiln (new or used)	\$ 800
	Slip table	\$ 150
	Glazes and Materials	\$ 300
	Potter's wheel	\$ 700
Chicago	Electric typewriter	\$1,000
	Wall clock	\$ 75

These items will help us serve our special needs children. If you are interested in providing any of the above items, please call (313) 368-1220.

Wills—A Way to Carry Out Your Plans

A Will is a way to make sure that your plans for your family, your friends, and your church are carried out. Problems concerning who will be the guardian for minor children, can be answered by a Will. The problem only exists when a Will is not written.

Through your Will, you can support the work of the Lord at Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries and your church, and still provide your family with an adequate income.

For information, please fill out the coupon below and return it to:

Gregg Braun
Development Office
Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries
6861 East Nevada
Detroit, Michigan 48234

I/we would like information on Estate Planning.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

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

FOUNDED 1873
FOR THE DEAF • SPECIAL EDUCATION MINISTRIES

LUTHERAN S C H O O L

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31873 Breezeaway
New Baltimore MI 48047-3051

Send all communications regarding the Editing, and ALL ADDRESS CHANGES to the above address.

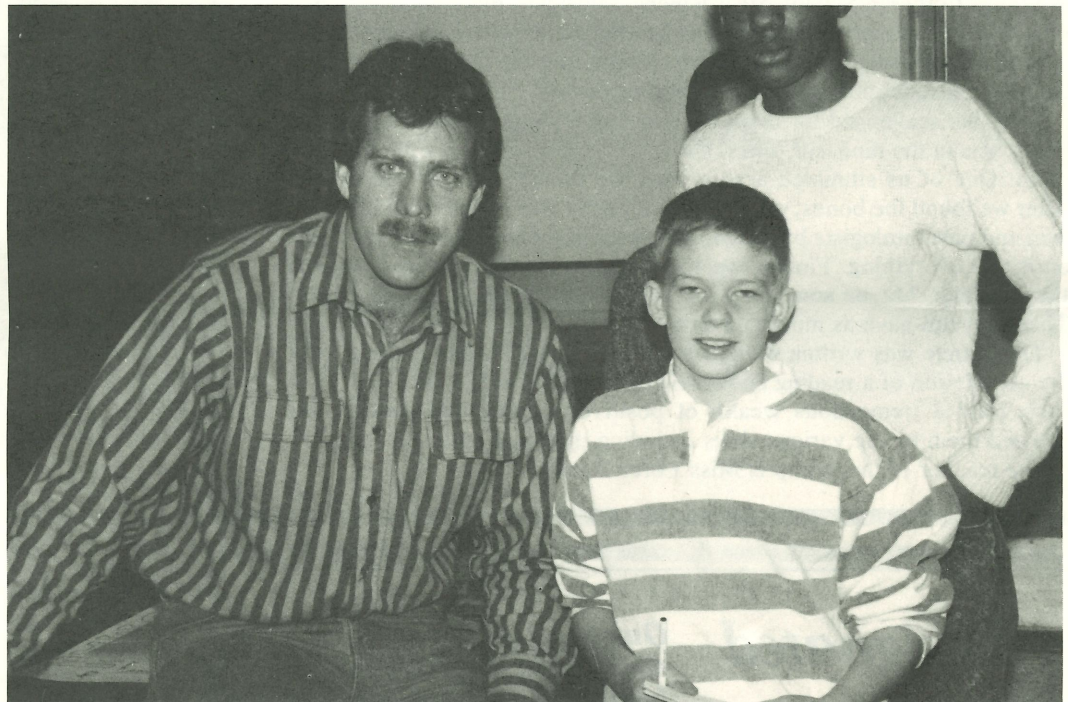
Published quarterly by
—USPS 150-480
The ADVOCATE for Students with Special Learning Needs
Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries
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Detroit, Michigan 48234
Editors—William H. Harlow, Asst Director, Gregg Braun, Director
Development
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Telephone (313) 368-1220

SECOND CLASS
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DETROIT, MICH

Special Visitor

Recently, our campus in Detroit had a special visitor. Dave Bergman of the Detroit Tigers came and shared some special moments with the children. He shared his goals as an athlete and as a Christian. He gave us insight into professional athletics that we rarely read.

He answered questions about the Tigers and his teammates—but he also gave a wonderful witness to his faith in God and the sharing of God's grace in his life. Thanks Dave!



Detroit Tiger, Dave Bergman—picture by Mark Mayer

Harvest Festival—October 14

The Harvest Festival at the Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries will be held on Saturday, October 14, 1989 from 11 AM until 6 PM. This year's festival will feature something for everyone. Games will be available for the children. Various entertainers will be sharing their talents from 11:30 AM until 5:30 PM. Lots of delicious food will be served by the Auxiliary. Apples will be sold by the case, ½ case, or by the pound. Honey and potatoes will also be available for purchase.

So plan to bring the family to the Harvest Festival. All proceeds from this event will go to help the ministry.

For more information, call (313) 368-1220.

Your Help Makes the Difference

Our school opened its 117th School Year on August 29th. This year, the cost of a student at our school is \$26.00 a day, \$130.00 a week, or \$520.00 a month.

Your gifts help us serve our special needs children. Please help us fulfill Christ's command in Matthew 19:14.