



The DEAF LUTHERAN



Official Publication of the International Lutheran Deaf Association & the Board for Missions of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

December, 1981

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Volume 73, No.12

A Joyful & Blessed Christmas To All Our Friends!



... from the

INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN DEAF ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors and The DEAF LUTHERAN Staff

Something For Christmas

-from a Christmas newsletter sent by
Mary and Donald Mowl
Washington, PA

We tried hard to think of something special that would wish each of you a very Merry Christmas.

Instead of this special gift, I give you a wish. I wish for you a very special Christmastree and instead of trimming this tree with sparkling ornaments and many glittering lights, let's trim our tree with love. The same love which Christ gave for us the first Christmas. This love with which we trim our tree is for everyone - not just for parents and close friends, but for **EVERYONE**.

Christ came into the world because He loved us all. We trim our Christmas tree so that people will admire the tree. If we trim our tree of life with love, we will find that many people will stop and admire Christ through us.

This tree is topped with a bright and shining star. This star will shine for you all year. It will dispell the darkness of the world. The star is Christ. If you keep His light always near you, you will never find yourself in the dark, cruel world of the unbeliever.

Under this tree we find many gifts. One of these gifts is the gift of hope. The gift of hope is held in the strong hands of God. He sent His Son to give us the hope of eternal life. We, now, no longer have to look at a future of darkness. This gift is there for all of us. All we have to

(please turn to page 2)

Something For Christmas

(continued from front page)

do is ask for it. Another gift we find under the tree is the gift of concern. God sent His Son on the first Christmas because He was concerned about us. God didn't just talk about His concern. He showed it. Let's quickly take the wrapping off this gift and start to use it immediately. There is one more important gift under this tree, along with many, many more. This one is filled with peace. This comes with special instructions. They read: "Share this gift with all the world. Make the angel's proclamation true, "Peace on earth good will toward men." Because we have peace with God, we can certainly share it with others.

The base of this tree is faith. This base is very strong. It will take all the bumps and rattle of everyday life. This base will stand forever. In order to keep all of the rest of the tree steady our base must be strong. It is reinforced with prayers, trust and commitment. If your trust in the little baby who came to us that first Christmas is very strong, you will have a solid base on which to keep your tree. Is the base of your tree strong enough to keep the rest of your tree of life strong?



A Hope For Those Without Hearing!

There is a hope.....
 for those without hearing!
 As they live their lives up.....
 separately from their hearing family and a noisy world around them.

It would be best.....
 for those being off the world but still chained to it for they were not saved, not yet.

But there is still a hope.....
 for those without hearing!
 The hope is Jesus Christ, Son of God.....
 who had already washed the sins away from the world with His own precious blood!

There is a hope.....
 for those without hearing to believe that He was born on this Christmas Day and receive the baby, Jesus, as Savior into their hearts through the use of sign languages.
 Then they would see the Light of His Star after.....
 Jesus was received into their hearts and He made them clean with His own precious blood!

There is a hope.....
 for those without hearing to know that they are very thankful, even without hearing, for they can use the sign language to communicate with God, their Father, through the Lord, Jesus Christ, born on this Christmas Day!

There is always hope.....
 For those without hearing!

-adapted from a poem written by Judi Lisacek

"GOD IS LOVE," writes St. John. As our heavenly Father is, so are we, His children are expected to be. Our response to Him and all His saving acts in our behalf is to be love. But something has to happen before there is such a response in human beings. Our love to our Father and to a brother or sister in Christ is not self-generating. We love God, because He first loved us. (1 John 4:19).

CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a joyful time,
 For Christ did lay in a manger lowly.
 God so loved us all so dearly
 That He sent us His Son most holy.

Christmas is a time of cheer,
 Church bells call us to worship in song
 We hear the story of our Savior dear
 And sing praises with joy all day long

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This Club is open to any person who wish to help with the operating expenses of the ILDA Board of Directors. Annual dues is \$10 per person. Details about this club will be sent on request. Please make your check or money order payable to:

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Thank You for Your Contribution!



Why are YOU a member?



-adapted by Pastor W.O. Neisch
St. Paul's Deaf Lutheran Church
Flint, Michigan

Has anyone ever asked you (or have you ever asked yourself) the question, "Why do you belong to [put the name of your church here]?" As we close another Church Year and begin a new one under God's undeserved love is a good time to ask, "Why ARE you a member of the church that you attend?"

No doubt you could answer that question in various ways. Perhaps your name is included on the roster (list) of members because of your family. Mother and father--in some cases, grand mother and grandfather--belong to the Lutheran Church. So your membership continues a family tradition.

Maybe you are a member of your church because there help is guaranteed when you need it. It gives you a comfortable feeling knowing that when you have a child to be baptized, a daughter or son to get married, a loved one to be laid to rest in burial, there is a church which provides you with such needed services with signs and speech. Other answers might include:

- "I like the people here."
- "The times of service are convenient."
- "It's one of few churches with a pastor who signs."
- "I was forced into it years back by my parents."
- "It's a Church at which I know God's Word is taught correctly and the Holy Sacraments administered properly."

Let's ask the question once more: "Why are YOU a member of the congregation in which you belong?"

Whatever other answer you may have given, please consider this response: "I have made (name of your Church) my Church because the people of that Congregation need me." Yes, I know that makes you look a bit self-centered. But it's a truth that needs to be considered.

Can you imagine what your

church would be like without YOU? Certainly it would still be a congregation--a group of God's people. But its effectiveness and mission would be impaired (weakened, hurt).

YOU are a vital (living, necessary) part of your Church. YOU give it your own special unique talents and abilities. YOU are another person through whom God speaks to the rest of the Congregation. We need each other as much as a tree needs branches and leaves. (Remember Jesus's story of the Vine and the branches, chapter 15 of the Gospel of St. John). All of us, each in our own ways, add something needed for congregational strength and growth.

If you think your Church as a place to go, a building to meet in, a club where you see other Deaf, a stabilizer to hold life together, or a source of strength & comfort in times of problems, it's almost like describing the fire department as a fire house, some sirens, red lights, hoses, bells, lower fire insurance rates and annual fund drives, you're right--but you're wrong!

The Church is a community of people sharing what they are, each one different--short, tall, fat, thin, patient, impatient, good, bad, talented, ordinary, fugal, intelligent, generous, compassionate, insensitive, indifferent, alert, and all shades in between -- like YOU and ME.

Asked to write his thoughts about his congregation, a Christian Pastor said: "This is where those of us who are joined together in this special branch of God's worldwide family meet together, not as so many individuals asking what each one can get for himself or herself, but as members of the Body of Christ. Here we stretch up our hands to God to be filled with His blessings and reach out again our hands to all around us to share our blessings with one another. As a congregation we look into one another's eyes and say, in our hearts if not in words, "How are you doing? Can I help?"

TRY TO REMEMBER THIS WHEN SOMEONE IS SO BOLD AS TO ASK YOU, "WHY ARE YOU A MEMBER OF YOUR CHURCH?"



"I got a lot of swell ideas for us to make money. . . . But none of them will work unless we do."



WHEAT RIDGE APPROVES "SEED MONEY" GRANTS TO 11 NEW "In As Much" MINISTRIES

-from Phyllis N. Kersten,
Wheat Ridge Contact Person

CHICAGO -- "Seed money" grants for 11 new ministries were approved by the Wheat Ridge Foundation Board of Directors in their November project funding meeting -- new ministries through which Lutheran Christians will again help bring new hope and life to people in need around the world.

The 11 new projects and four project extensions will receive a total of \$348,540 from Wheat Ridge in 1982 and \$825,642 over the next five years. In addition, the Chicago-based Foundation will provide ongoing support in 1982 to about 40 other health, social service and educational ministries.

The new ministries range from Arizona to the Amazon...from the deaf in St. Louis to the physically disabled in Cleveland... from the imprisoned in Memphis, TN to the impoverished in Chicago and Cincinnati. "And all of the new projects," Wheat Ridge President Robert J.L. Zimmer said, "seem to be ways in which Lutherans at the local level are trying to carry out Christ's words in Matthew 25: 'I tell you, in as much as you did this for one of the least of mine, you did it for me!'" "I was hungry... (for hope and dignity and the chance to make it)...and you fed me."

1. Lutheran Employment Awareness Program (LEAP), Cleveland, OH. Through a three-year \$89,270 grant, Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Association will attempt to improve accessibility to the employment system in Cleveland so that disabled persons will have opportunity to get jobs and participate more fully in the mainstream of American life. The project will alert employers to the potentials of disabled persons; alert disabled persons to services already available to help prepare them for jobs, and seek to match potential applicants with jobs; establish a job ombudsman component to mediate problems; and set up a self-supporting transportation service for disabled persons. (please turn to page 5)



Convocation On Deaf Ministry Meets In Madison - Sets Goals



-from Mr.Phil Snyder, Contact Person, Aid Association for Lutherans Appleton, Wisconsin

More than 200 Lutherans and others from throughout the country met on November 20, 1981 to began a three-day convocation on deaf ministry in Madison, WI. Convocation participants were expected to identify the ministry needs of the hearing impaired and to set goals and priorities for deaf ministry through the end of the decade.

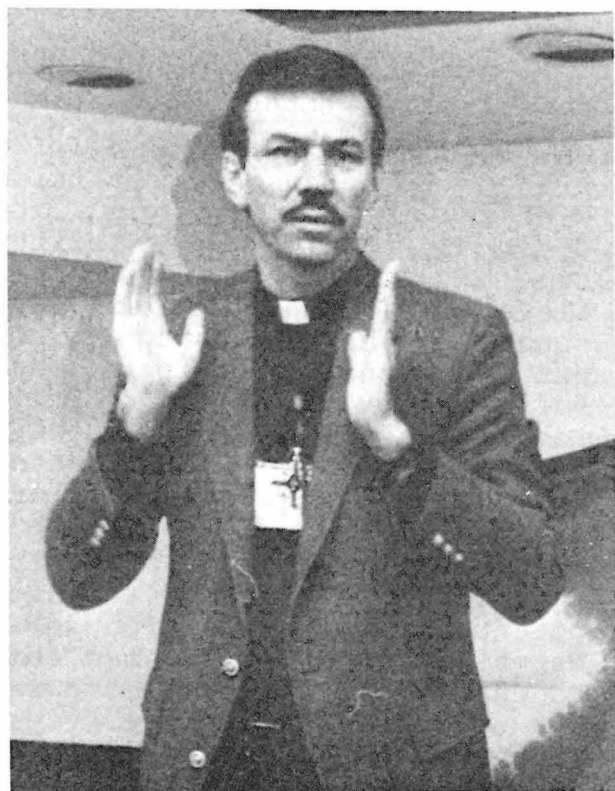
The convocation was sponsored by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) and supported by a \$75,000 grant from Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL), the fraternal benefit society based in Appleton, Wisconsin. Convocation participants represented several different Lutheran church bodies, other denominations and those who currently don't belong to a church.

"It's important to include representatives with different backgrounds and perspectives," said the Rev. Donald Zuhn, Secretary for Blind and Deaf Ministries, LCMS Board of Missions, "because we want to generate fresh ways of meeting the needs of the hearing impaired."

Rev. Zuhn said current church practices don't appeal to the majority of those who are deaf because it's estimated that only 20 percent of them belong to a church.

(please turn to page 7)

(below) Rev. Daniel Pokorny, Worship leader at the Convocation.



A general view of some of the participants of the Convocation on Deaf Ministry that met at the beautiful Yahara Center in Madison, Wisconsin for three days, Nov. 20-22, 1981.



The Convocation choir: (l.to r.) Gary Schulb of Beltsville, MD.; Judy Miller of Portland, OR; Fern Haber; Jackie Kemper of St. Louis, MO; Edwin Bergstresser of St. Louis MO; (not shown) Rev. Richard Moody of St. Louis choir director.



(photo on right) Rev. George Kraus with interpreter giving his lecture: "Biblical Incentive for Mission". Rev. Kraus is a member of the Board of Directors of Lutheran Friends of the Deaf, Mill Neck Manor, New York.

The Committee: (l.to r.) Rev. Howard Schoenfeldt, Mr. Henry Bjorlie, Dr. Donald Rosenberg, Miss Ruth Fangmeier, Rev. Martin Kosche, Rev. Daniel Pokorny, Mr. Joseph Kindred, Miss Janet Steinbach, Mrs. R.M. Corl and Rev. Robert M. Corl.

* * *



Rev. Donald Zuhn revealing his finding that only 20 % of the deaf population belong to a church of any kind.

We Want YOU in the ILDA today!
Rejoice with us in Christ's Love...Join Today

ILDA Membership Application Type _____

Fill in your name and address on the spaces below. Use as many names and addresses as desired. Clip and mail to: Mr. Elmer D. Francisco, 6861 E. Nevada, Detroit, Michigan 48234. Make checks or money orders payable to: ILDA Treasurer Elmer D. Francisco. **DO NOT SEND CASH!!** Membership fee is \$2 per year per person.

	(Check One)
1. Active	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Associate	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Sustaining	<input type="checkbox"/>

NAME _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NAME _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Please type or print clearly)



Wheat Ridge Approves Support For 11 New Ministries

(continued from page 3)

2. Retooling: Turning Social Service into Self-Help, Chicago, IL. A three-year \$75,000 grant will enable Bethel Lutheran Church and its non-profit housing corporation to further develop church-based cooperative economic enterprises in its poverty community. One of the goals is to provide meaningful employment for at least 100 community people -- through an expanded food co-operative, a sewing production co-op, a housing cooperative, and at least one additional co-op (perhaps a small appliance repair).

3. Developing Skills for Mutual Ministry Among Groups of Deaf Christians, St. Louis, MO.

A \$20,080 two-year grant will enable deaf Christians at Holy Cross Lutheran Church of the Deaf in St. Louis to develop skills for mutual ministry in the context of small support groups -- to help them play a more vigorous role in God's mission. Eighty percent of American deaf are not members of a Christian church. Materials developed through this pilot project and its results will be shared with other deaf Christians in the U.S. and beyond.

4. Communicating Pride and Hope to American Indian Youth, Arizona and New Mexico. A three-year \$35,000 grant through the National Indian Lutheran Board will make it possible for professional Indian artists to share their experiences and talents with Indian youth and adults -- helping to develop Indian pride and self-respect through seeing and associating with successful Indian artists, and providing a model for youth participation projects in Indian communities, to enlarge their understanding of their own culture and that of other peoples.

"I was thirsting...(for Christian support and pastoral care and the water of Life)...and you gave me to drink..."

1. Inner City Pastoral Care and Counseling Project, Cincinnati, OH. A three-year \$39,000 Wheat Ridge grant will make it possible for the Inner City CPE

(Clinical Pastoral Education) Center to provide much needed pastoral care and counseling to the low income residents of the Over-the-Rhine community of Cincinnati.

2. Northwestern Pennsylvania Counseling Network, Pittsburgh, PA. A three-year 30,500 grant will enable the Lutheran Social Service Society of Western Pennsylvania to establish a network of four congregationally-based counseling centers, to provide marriage, family and individual counseling from a Christian perspective in the Warren/McKean area of Pennsylvania.

"I was a stranger...(to this land)...and you received me..."

1. Belle Glade Refugee Service Center, Florida. A two year \$150,000 grant to the Florida Lutheran Council on Social Ministries will provide a whole range of health and social services (medical care, health and hygiene education, counseling, referral and advocacy services) to some 7,000 Haitian refugees and migrant farm laborers in the Belle Glade area, in order to improve their current living conditions and assist them in reaching their maximum individual potential.

"I was naked and you clothed me ...sick, and you took care of me (and helped me stay well)..."

1. Mission to the Total Person in Amazonia, Brazil. A five-year \$230,000 grant will help make it possible for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Brazil to serve the whole person in five locations in Amazonia where poverty and illness are endemic. The five mission programs will help meet basic food, housing, clothing, health and spiritual needs of the people, as well as teach them to help themselves.

2. Health and Healing thru Lutheran Schools, Michigan. A three-year \$14,920 Wheat Ridge grant will help refine a model for fitness and health promotion at St. John Lutheran School and Church in Rochester, MI, and introduce that model in other LC-MS Michigan District schools.

"I was in prison...(and in convalescent homes)...and you visited me..."

1. Inmate Family Service Program, Memphis, TN. A three-year \$50,000 grant will enable Trinity Lutheran Church, located adjacent to the new Shelby County Justice Center in Memphis, to initiate a guidance and counseling and spiritual care program for incarcerated inmates and their families.

2. Sheltered Care Visitation

Program, Chicago IL. A \$20,872 three-year grant will enable the Chicago Uptown Ministry to establish volunteer pastoral care teams to regularly visit the large numbers of elderly and disabled men and women (some 7,000 people) in 35 convalescent care facilities in Uptown -- "to touch these forgotten people and make them a part of a Christian community."

In other action at the November meeting, the Wheat Ridge Board approved grant extensions for four projects: the Lutheran Social Service Center, Lutheran Church-Hong Kong Synod (four years, \$53,000); Lutheran Congregations for Career Development, Chicago (one year, \$6,000); Northwest Evergreen-Lahser Community Organizing Project (NELCO), St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Detroit (one year, \$8,000); and MESBIC (Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Company) Start-Up Costs, Alabama Rural Council, Tuskegee, AL (one year, \$8,000).

With a 1982 program budget of \$729,000, Wheat Ridge will next year again help support over 50 projects around the world. Foundation project funding still comes largely from the Wheat Ridge Christmas Seals gift effort, conducted annually since 1910 in Lutheran parishes in the U.S. and Canada. The 1981 Seals theme is "Born In Us Today."

At the Board's Friday night session, Board member Sidney A. Rand told about his year's assignment in 1980 as Ambassador to Norway. In recognition of the International Year of Disabled Persons, the Foundation Board also heard a report on nine projects among the deaf and developmentally disabled funded by Wheat Ridge in recent years.

The Board adopted resolutions of appreciation for two Board members going off the Board -- Dr. William H. Foege, Assistant Surgeon General of the U.S. and Director of the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, GA; and Mr. John Puelle, of the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, New York, NY.

New members elected to the Board include the Rev. Luther Engelbrecht, former LC-MS missionary to India and currently pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Seattle, WA, and Dr. Keith Sehnert, M.D. of Minneapolis, MN, author of two health care books -- How to Be Your Own Doctor (Sometimes) and Stress/Unstress.

Mr. E. Stanley Enlund, Chairman of the Board of First Federal Savings and Loan of Chicago, was reelected chairman of the Wheat Ridge Board of Directors.





LUTHERANS SUPPORTING MINISTRIES OF HEALING SERVICE

"O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be Born in us today."

Jesus is born today -- in and through the work of Danielle Kearney with Haitian refugees in Tampa, FL. Danielle has helped over 30 Haitians resettle, get jobs, study English, set up savings accounts, become self-supporting. Their joy and faith in the Holy Child of Bethlehem shine through -- as they gather on Sunday afternoons for Bible readings and songs of praise in their native Creole tongue.

Jesus is born today -- in and through the efforts of volunteers serving the aging.

A childless elderly couple have become "adopted" grandparents through Lutheran Outreach Homebound Visitor Beth DeMeritt of Ft. Wayne. Under the direction of Wanda Wolfe, 36 volunteers -- themselves widowed -- have trained to provide one-to-one support to some 200 grieving widows and widowers in Venice, FL. And three teams of "senior staffers" -- like Raymond and Emma Fly -- have clocked 24,571 miles in Florida, to provide resource help to congregations developing ministries with and for their older members.

Jesus is born today -- in and through the volunteer services of Jerome Clauser in Mt. Prospect, IL. Jerome has coordinated the efforts of liaison people in suburb Chicago parishes, finding summer jobs for 50 inner-city young people through Lutheran Congregations for Career Development. Younger teenagers have received a first work experience in two churches this past summer operating a bakery: buying supplies, taking inventory, making and packaging the bakery goods, doing the bookkeeping, advertising and selling at suburban Lutheran parishes on Sunday mornings.

Jesus is born today -- in and through the Under Five clinics located in three barrios of San Pablo, in the Philippines. Over 1300 children and mothers are treated for illness given immunizations, visited in their homes, and provided with health education and nutrition information. Rev. Angel Oteyza

supervises the team of nurses and nurses-aides, serving under the direction of Edna Tan.

Jesus is born today -- in and through the staff of the Contact and Resources Center in strife-torn Beirut, Lebanon. The Center's "Front Door" drop-in location has provided a contact point with over 4,000 youths in its first nine months of operation -- offering products to buy, educational features and displays, and just a chance to talk. Missionary Dennis Hilgendorf coordinates the efforts of team members working with the "Front Door," with handicapped activities and drug awareness, with career and crisis counseling.

Jesus is born today -- in and through you. In you and through you -- as a witness to serve Christ in your daily life and occupation. In you and through you -- as you share your faith and hope and joy with friends and loved ones, through the Wheat Ridge Seals you place on your Christmas cards. In you and through you -- as you share your generous gift to enable Wheat Ridge to carry on ministries like those mentioned in this column, around the world.



FLINT, MI..Deaf worker installations were reported in the November news bulletin from Rev. Donald W. Zuhn, Synodical Secretary for Blind/Deaf Ministries. On September 13th, David Mueller at Word of God Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; on October 18th Kenneth Schnepf at St. Mark, Baltimore, MD; and ordained on November 22nd to begin a new ministry early in December to the Deaf in Atlanta, GA, Prentice Marsh at Hope, Aurora, IL. Praise God for all Deaf Ministry personnel!

* * *
**SAVE TAX \$\$ WITH
PAUL STRASSELS TAX REPORTS**

Do you need some tips on your 1982 income tax? In a new captioned series of 90-second announcements, tax expert Paul Strassels answers commonly asked questions on tax cuts, deductions, exemptions, audits, and much more. The series includes 75 brief features and three longer special reports. Here's one hint already: if you buy a TeleCaption decoder, you may be eligible to list it as a medical deduction!

* * *
If you're curious about how the human body functions, you won't want to miss "The Body Works," a health program being carried by many local stations. Several episodes will be closed captioned this year. Each program focuses on a specific part of the body, such as "The Eye" or "The Nervous System."

CALLS ACCEPTED

Rev. George Winkler (Denver) accepted a call to a chaplaincy position with the Texas Department of Corrections in Huntsville.

CALL EXTENDED

The Texas District Board for Mission Administration to Rev. George Perry (Ft. Wayne) for deaf ministry, Dallas.

* * *

NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER LINE

The National Resource Center, a Section 504 Deafness and Compliance resource and referral service is available to anyone who needs current information about eliminating discrimination against all handicapped persons, with emphasis on deafness.

The Resource Center will answer questions about Community-Wide Cost-Effective methods, facility accessibility, providing social-health services to deaf persons, making reasonable accommodations for deaf employees, providing information about devices and aids used in overcoming barriers, etc.

This toll-free line is operated by the NAD Section 504 Project under the National Association of the Deaf in Silver Spring, Maryland. In addition to resource and referral services, the NAD Section 504 Project has trained over 500 resource persons who are available throughout the nation on a local basis to help others comply with Section 504 in a simple and cost-effective way. Anyone may call this toll-free number by dialing 1-800-638-2620 (Maryland residents call (301)587-1788 collect). TDD and Voice calls may be made 9-5 (EST), Monday through Friday. The NAD welcomes your questions, comments, and any information you may have.

* * *



Christmastime is coming, and Sears is giving its customers a fantastic present! From now through December, credit customers buying caption decoders in Sears retail stores may choose to delay their first payment until February 1982. Payments can then be made over several months. TeleCaption adapters and TVs are among the small number of products approved for Sears Christmas Deferred Payment Plan.

CONVOCATION ON DEAF MINISTRIES SETS 10 GOALS

(continued from page 4)

Some congregations have been developed exclusively for deaf parishioners, while others include the hearing impaired by using interpreters to communicate pastor's comments and instructions through sign language.

The AAL grant will provide assistance to each of the 200 convocation participants, averaging \$375 each for travel and registration expenses. The meeting was held at the Yahara Center in Madison.

AAL is the nation's largest fraternal benefit society, in terms of assets and life insurance in force. In addition to fraternal programs organized and delivered on the local level through AAL's 5,600 branches, AAL provides fraternal annual support to Lutheran institutions and other not-for-profit organizations on behalf of AAL's 1.3 million members.

* * *

-from EYES THAT HEAR

Rev. Donald Zuhn, Secretary

The general reaction to our gathering in Madison, WI for the convocation on deaf ministry was that it was "A fantastic experience!", "Uplifting-inspiring!" People returned home with some goals to work toward (goals that they themselves set!) and with enthusiasm for working toward those goals.

A complete report will be printed (as much as space permits) in this publication as soon as the proceedings are sent to the editor.

It is now important that we do not drop the ball. Definite plans need to be developed so that we continue to move forward toward these goals. Your input is herewith solicited!

The goals given highest priority by the Convocation are:

1. #401 Establish an evangelism program for the deaf so they can learn to contact other people. (434/108)

2. #1101 Prepare and publish printed materials in areas of leadership, stewardship, discipleship, home Bible study, Christian growth, doctrine, preservation of historical faith. (244/71)

3. #1201 Develop a center for materials already produced which are or could be used with the deaf - across denomination lines - and establish a duplication and dissemination system. (213/71)

4. #804 Increase lay involvement in the life of the

church through individual discovery, use, and expansion of gift or gifts - time, talent, treasure. (185/65)

5. #1102 Leadership training program for deaf lay leaders in all areas of religious life. (157/63)

6. #802 Develop an indigenous worship service. (150/53)

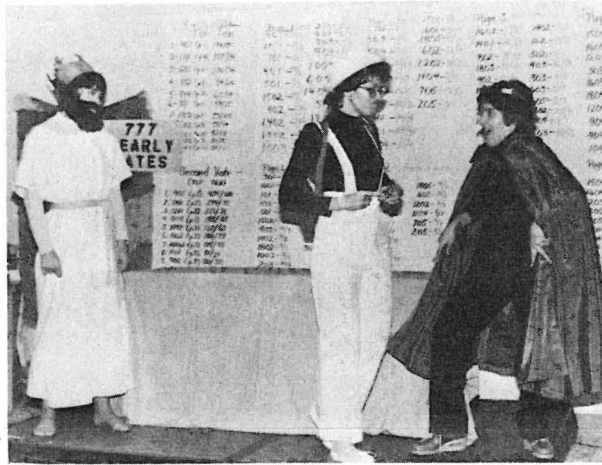
7. #1002 More deaf pastors. (114/43)

8. #1401 Search for the best way to keep families (deaf with hearing children, hearing with deaf children) worshipping together. (81/29)

9. #902 Every professional church worker among the deaf be evaluated for competency before being called into deaf ministry. (80/32)

10. #801 Find and develop the special gifts of the Spirit promised each congregation. (65/17)

* * *



(photo above): The very talented Miss Dorothy Sparks (white hat and glasses) acting out an idea of a "good" Christian deaf person who thought that by doing good deeds alone could gain entrance into the kingdom of God only to end up going to hell.

In picture on the right Miss Sparks shows the correct way one comes into the kingdom of God

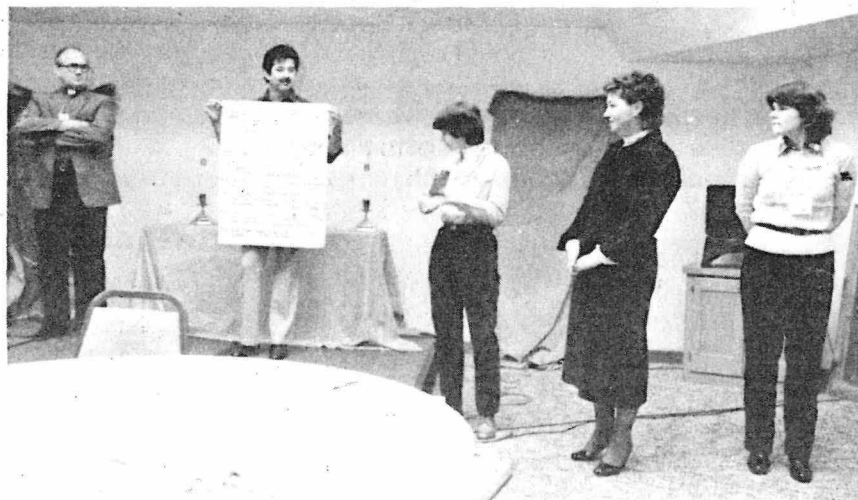


Photo on left: Participants showing how their group picked goals for consideration & action.

NOTE: The numbers on the charts in the background shows how the proposals/goals were attained and adopted. The first number is the number of the proposal itself, the next number shows how many first choice votes it received and the next number is second choice votes.



EPHPHATHA CONFERENCE - 1982

Dates: July 7-11 (Wednesday - Sunday)

Place: Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri

The National Association of the Deaf Convention will be in St. Louis July 4-8. Housing will be available through the Seminary for Ephphatha Conference participants wishing to come early to take in all or part of the NAD Convention.

By meeting over the weekend, Ephphatha Conference participants should be able to take advantage of Super-Saver fares - assuming current rules are in effect next summer.

Program: "Dynamics of the Small Church".

Major workshops on evangelism, producing Bible Study for video tape, hymns/liturgies in ASL.

Budget about \$125 for lodging and meals. The Board for Mission Services will pay for travel costs.





Children's Page

The Real Meaning Of Christmas

Across the lands and around the world, Christians are singing praises to God. God the Father sent His Son Jesus to save us from our sins.

Across the lands and around the world, Christians are showing the joy of Christmas in their hearts and are happy to know that God sent His Son to save everyone from their sins.

The real meaning of Christmas joy is that our King and Savior came to be born many years ago bringing salvation and joy to God's people.

Like many of you girls and boys, Ruth (in picture on the right) shows the joy in her heart. She sings about the wonderful silent night when Christ was born.



Other ways you can show your Christmas joy is by sharing. Christmas is a time for sharing. We can share our joy of knowing that Jesus came to save us. We can also share our love with brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, and friends. We share our love by being kind and helpful. By what we say and do we can show that Christmas lives in our hearts.

People send Christmas cards to say hello to their good friends. Sending cards at Christmastime is one way to tell people that you are happy that Jesus came to save us from our sins.

Such CHRISTmas cards tell others that CHRISTians remember CHRISTmas because Jesus CHRIST came on that first CHRISTmas night long ago.

Sharing Christmas With Others

Sometimes we can use our voices to tell the story of Jesus' coming. Sometimes we can sing songs about the Baby Jesus.

One man in Canada used another way. One summer he made some statues of Mary and Joseph. He also made a manger. When Christmastime came, they were set up near the church in his town.

When people came to church, they saw the manger with Mary and Joseph. People who passed by saw the wooden statues, and they remembered the Christmas story. They remembered that God's love is for all people.

God's children in California took part in a play to tell the Christmas story. They made a stable for the manger. They dressed like people in the Bible. One woman was Mary; a man was Joseph. Other people were shepherds and angels. they used live animals. (Top picture on the right shows the wooden statues that were made by the man in Canada). (Bottom picture shows people in California acting out the story of Christmas. They built a stable for the manger. Used the same kind of dress like people in the Bible did at the time of Jesus' birth, and had live animals in the play.)

IN WHAT WAYS CAN YOU TELL THE CHRISTMAS STORY AT HOME? AT SCHOOL? AT CHURCH?

A Bed For A New Baby



This mother and her baby live in the land where Jesus was born. The mother loves her baby. She wants to help the baby. She wants the baby to be happy. The mother has a very special bed for her baby. Did you ever see a bed like this one? It is a manger bed.

Long ago Jesus came to us at Christmastime. His mother, Mary, loved her Baby too. She wanted to help her Baby. She wanted Jesus to be happy. She laid the Baby Jesus in a manger too.

Food is placed in a manger. (To feed God's animals.) But on that first Christmas the manger was a special bed for the Baby Jesus.

GUIDE FOR CLASSROOM USE

AIM: To encourage boys and girls to talk about Jesus' lowly manger bed.

PURPOSE: (Understanding) Mary laid Jesus in a manger. (Attitude) I want to show my love for the Baby Jesus. (Conduct) I thank God for sending Jesus to show me how to love and serve others.

NOTE: The older children who are gifted may see the symbolism of Jesus being placed in a manger, which normally held the food for animals, and Jesus, the Bread of Life, giving us His body in the Sacrament.



A man living in Canada made these beautiful, life-like wooden statues.



This man and woman (and live donkey) took part in this Christmas play in Calif.