



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

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St. Louis, Mo.

Volume 80, No. 3

Was It Fair? . . .

LIFE AFTER EASTER

As one reads through the Passion story of Christ, and walks in the steps of the disciples, it isn't very difficult to understand



and sense the different feelings some of them must of had: Confusion, fear, exhaustion, guilt, bitterness, anger and grief. There were no doubt other feelings, but these are just a few that come to mind. All of us have shared feelings like this at one time or another. Such feel-

ings tend to upset us and make us realize how unfair life is at times. Caiphas said it well that one man (Jesus) would die for the nation. "That's unfair," the disciples must have said among themselves. Even Pilate implied the same thing when he asked, "Why, what crime has this Man done?" and also, "It is unfair to crucify an innocent man."

Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, Adopts New Name

A historic step occurred during the board meeting at the Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, on Jan. 21, 1988 when it was decided to adopt a new name for the school which would be more changing ministry over the past 10 years.

Henceforth, it will be known as the Lutheran School for the Deaf Special Education Ministries, although its corporate name will remain as it has been. The new name will appear on all letterheads, brochures and publications.

The number of children receiving instructional services at the close of 1987 was 272, as compared with 244 in 1986. It is emphasized that although the name has changed, the school's function as an instrument of the Lord is healthy and continuing.

That's true. And Jesus knew it was true. And Jesus could have done something about it very quickly by calling for help and legions of angels would have come to His aid. But, He choose to handle the situation differently. He said, "Not My will, but Yours be done, Father." And the Father's will was done.

God's Son was nailed to a cross and hung up between two criminals for the very sins of those who put Him there. He could have cried, "This is not fair!" But He, instead, surprises us by saying, "Father, forgive them."

Each time we read His words of asking for forgiveness for His enemies, we are astounded to the point of incredibility. Jesus was not concerned about what was fair, but rather, He was concerned about people. He was not concerned about getting what He had coming to Him, or in taking revenge on those who had injured Him. No, not at all! Even as He hung in agony on the cross, His thoughts centered on forgiving people. A forgiveness directed not only to those who nailed Him to the tree; not only to the disciples who fled in fear and denied Him, but also to you and

LIFE AFTER EASTER

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Rev. Paul H. Dorr Installed at Jacksonville, Ill. Feb. 28

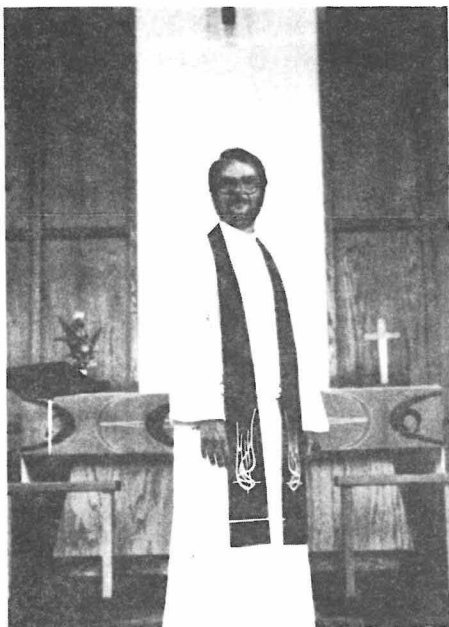
Rev. Paul H. Dorr, a former two term adviser to the board of directors of the International Lutheran Deaf Association was installed as pastor to Christ Lutheran church, Jacksonville, Ill. on Sunday, Feb. 28. Rev. Dorr has also been called as resource missionary to other congregations in central Illinois where there is potential for deaf ministry. Preacher and liturgist for the occasion was Rev. William H. Lange, Topeka, Ill. Performing the rite of installation was

REV. PAUL H. DORR

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TELEVANGELISM COMES TO EASTERN IOWA

Modern technology has made many changes in the way God's Word is brought to the deaf over many miles and this is certainly true in eastern Iowa, just as it is beginning to take hold in other areas of the country where pastors formerly traveled hundreds of miles each month to preach.



A rare photo The Rev. Michael MacDonald never stands still for very long—his parish includes 109 people in six cities throughout eastern Iowa.

REV. PAUL H. DORR

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Rev. Edward G. Gruenwald of Chapin, Ill. Participating in the ceremony was Dr. Rodney Rynearson, of St. Louis, Mo.

Rev. Dorr succeeds Rev. Orlin Anderson who had served the area for many years, and had accepted a call to the Christian Deaf Centre in Calgary, Alta, Canada.

Pastor Dorr graduated from Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Ill. in 1965. He served hearing parishes in Nebraska before answering a call to organize and expand Christian programs for the deaf in a three state area along the gulf coast. Following a 10-year term as pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Milwaukee, Wis., he became senior pastor of St. John's church and school in Beloit, Wis. He served another hearing parish in Milwaukee before his call to Jacksonville.

Rev. Dorr and the former Carolyn Baker were married in 1960 and are the parents of three children, the youngest of whom attends the University of Wisconsin.--By William H. Lange

In order to compensate for areas he cannot always reach when he would like to over his wide ranging parish, Rev. Michael "Mike" MacDonald, 37, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa mails a videotape of his previous Sunday sermon to his various stations, which in turn, is sent on to another, eventually covering all of his circuit with God's Word.

Local groups meet in their local Lutheran facility to watch the service by means of a videotape player, which is furnished by the local church, if necessary.

A native of Wilmington, Del., "Rev. Mike" graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in May 1981 with a B.A. degree in social work. He then enrolled in Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. then spent his vicarage year at Columbus, Ohio. He was ordained into the holy ministry at Alpha Lutheran church in Rochester, N.Y.

Pastor Mike and his wife, the former Laurie Clayman, are the parents of three children. They reside at 505 34th St., N.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402.

LIFE AFTER EASTER

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me! Because of sin, we are also directly responsible for what happened to Him.

On that first Easter, the third day after these things had happened, the disciples saw their risen Lord. In the days that followed, He taught them. The negative feelings that seemed so evident during the days preceding Easter morning became less and less prominent and were replaced by a sense of joy, peace, courage and love and a desire to tell others of Christ. To treat others as He had treated them. This can happen to us, too.

We live after Easter! May the message of Easter be much, much more than something we expressed in our churches on April 3. May the message of Christ's love and forgiveness bring us joy, peace and a certain knowledge that because He lives, we, too, shall live who believe and trust in Him.

COFFEE, ANYONE?

Coffee and fellowship after church is a standard practice in many churches and one youngster was asked if he knew why they did this.

"Yeah," he replied, "I think it is to get the people wide awake before they drive home."

TOWARDS GROWTH IN GIVING

As Christians, we give because we know what God has done for us. We also know what God has done for us. We also know that everything we have, even our very bodies and our souls, are God's. There is no such thing as the word, "mine" when we examine ourselves in the light of God's Word. In fact, when we bring our gifts to God's house, we are merely returning to Him what was His to begin with.

Dear reader, let's take a look together and see what He has to say in I Corinthians 6:19-20, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not of your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

When putting this context in simple English, it means we belong to God, because He bought us. How did He buy us? With money? Heaven forbid! He bought us with nothing less than the Holy, precious blood of His Son, Jesus, shed for us on the cross of calvary. He paid a very, very high price, indeed.

Because this is true, God's people know that they are called to respond to such love and mercy and one way of doing this is

through what we call proportionate giving of our financial gifts.

When speaking about the topic of giving, St. Paul has a few words to share with us. He says to give REGULARLY . . . on the first day of the week. Then he says , EVERYONE should do this, "each one of you." (This surely means the kids, too!) We are to give proportionately, as He has prospered us. There is a valid, sensible reason for doing it this way, because many of us are not always certain just how much we will have at any given time, so giving a proportion makes sense instead of a fixed amount in dollars. This can be 5%. 10% or 15%, etc. Some people start out small and increase the percentage until it becomes a fixed habit in their spiritual life.

Proportionate giving also establishes His Lordship in our lives; systematic giving makes this easy and reminds us always of our commitment to Him, because of what He HAS done for us.

Let us pray together, "Dear Lord Jesus, help us grow in the grace of giving. Keep us mindful that You have given Yourself for us. Amen."

ETHIOPIA: CONTINUING PROBLEMS

Warnings that a repeat of the great famine of 1984-85 that struck the African country of Ethiopia are again appearing in our newspapers. While the potential for a disaster

worse than the one of four years ago in very much with us, still many lessons were learned from the last one which may help alleviate a disaster on the scale which the Lutheran world relief helped fight with aid furnished the starving in that nation.

Strategy this year will be to try and reach people in their homes before they are forced to leave to seek food elsewhere and thus avert the tragic scenes in the refugee camps that were so much in evidence then.

Lutheran world relief had been providing food relief and long term development in war torn Ethiopia for several years. In January, more than three million pounds of wheat, lentils, cooking oil and milk powder was shipped and distributed to civilians living in areas inaccessible to the Ethiopian government because of hostilities. Although this will help much, most people are in agreement that the real hope for the future lies in developing projects that stretch over a long period--even decades.

Persons wishing to help may send contributions to The Lutheran Church, World Relief, P.O. Box 18459-M, St. Louis, Mo. 63195.

ABOUT PARAMENTS

Are you asking, "What's a parament?" We have all noticed in our churches how they change the cloth up on the altar throughout the church year. Those are known as paraments, and they are hung on the lectern and pulpit. As with all other things in the sanctuary, they are there to enrich and beautify the worship service. They signal the seasons and the mood of the service.



They can be white, blue, purple, red, green or black. All of them have symbols attached which further explain their function and have been a part of Christian worship for centuries.

'SWINGING AROUND THE REGIONS . . .

Word has been received that the 1988 Pacific Regional Conference which was to have been hosted by Memorial Lutheran church in San Lorenzo, Calif. has canceled its plans and the meeting will be held in Los Angeles Sept. 23-25 instead.

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Christ Lutheran church will host an open house at its new home at 9545 Georgia Ave., Silver Springs, Md. on April 17. A special worship service is planned followed by a Bible study and fellowship hour. There will be a luncheon in the fellowship hall at Calvary Lutheran church and entertainment afterwards.

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Lay Minister Robert Oettel of Bethlehem Lutheran church, Omaha, Neb. has received an invitation to teach religion and English at Shinonoma junior and senior high school, Matsuyama, Japan. If Mr. and Mrs. Oettel accept this invitation, they will probably leave in August 1988 and stay for two years. A decision is expected soon.

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Bethlehem Lutheran church, Omaha, has presented a check in the amount of \$824 to ILDA mission projects in memory of Mr. Earl Petersen, a long time member of Bethlehem and of the ILDA.

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Bethlehem will also celebrate the 50th anniversary of its church building on Sunday, April 24. Guest speaker for the occasion will be Rev. Darrell Kois, pastor of Calvary, Des Moines, Iowa.

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Holy Cross Lutheran church, Columbus, Ohio was the recipient of a check for \$9,433 on Jan. 28. The money, for its church van fund, was raised by the AAL branches in the Lancaster, Ohio area. The members of Holy Cross are giving profound thanks for the very generous gift.

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Rev. LaVern M. Mass, former pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran church in Kansas City has resettled with his family in the metro Washington, D.C. area where he is presently the associate pastor of Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf. The family's address is 8751 Contee Road, Apt. 103, Laurel, Md 20708. Ph. (301) 953-7230.

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Members of Alpha Lutheran church in Rochester, N.Y. are getting ready with prepara-

tions for participation in the Greater Rochester Billy Graham Crusade which is coming Sept. 11-18, 1988.

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Dr. Rodney Rynearson continues his travels from congregation to congregation. He was in New York City Jan. 12-17. He also planned to visit Alpha, Rochester, N.Y., and be in Detroit on the dates of May 3-8. He was also to be honored during graduation ceremonies at Concordia college, Ann Arbor, Mich.

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Faith Lutheran church, Spokane, Wash, is to sponsor another "Open House" on April 24. Former Pastor Rev. August Hauptman, who served the congregation back in the 1950's and who retired from his ministry in Los Angeles on March 1, is planning to be present.

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Pastors Robert Bauer and Orlin Anderson and their wives were part of the crowd of 80,000 who were spectators on the ski hill at the recently ended Olympics at Calgary, Alta.

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The newest AAL branch is number 6924 at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The branch met at the Ox Yoke Inn in Amana, Iowa for a dinner to celebrate the formation of the association. Members of Word of God Lutheran church, which make up the group, are sponsoring an "All-U-Can-Eat" Breakfast at the church on March 26.

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The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) has been awarded a three-year contract and \$160,000 to screen and evaluate general entertainment movies by the United States Department of Education.

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President Ronald Reagan sent a letter of commendation to the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod in honor of National Lutheran Schools week, March 6-12, 1988. There are 12,000 Lutheran school teachers and almost \$200 million dollars was earmarked for them the past year along with the schools.

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For perhaps the first time ever, a deaf person from one of our churches was present at the Concordia Historical Institute's 19th biennial conference at St. Louis, Mo. on Nov. 3-7, 1987. The institute, which preserves historical papers in its archives for posterity, has many historical papers which relate to deaf ministry. Attending the meeting was ILDA

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BURNED UP WHILE GIVING LIGHT

By Meta Luetzow
13454 Second Ave. S.W.
Seattle, Wash. 98146

Nearly every home uses candles at some time or another. Stores sell candles of every color and design to enhance the decor of a home or add a romantic setting to a room.

Before the invention of electricity, candles were one of the main sources of light. You'll notice one thing about candles, though, in giving light to others, it is burned up. It sacrifices itself to give off its warmth and light.

IN the sermon on the mount, Jesus talks about believers being the light of the world. In a world of sin and darkness, believers were to let their light shine. "You are like light for the whole world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl, instead, he puts it on a lampstand where it gives light for everyone in the house." (Matt. 5:14-15, Good news Bible) He told His disciples.

Christ is, of course, the only true Light of the world. But believers partake of

Christ's nature, they are a light in and through Jesus. They receive their light as well as their power to give light to others from Him. Like Jesus, in following His example, the believer uses his life in serving others. Through you, the light of Jesus' light shines through in the fruits of your work for Jesus.

Through your actions and deeds to make the dark world of sin and darkness become lighter, you show forth Jesus' glory and honor.

Jesus willingly offered His life for the sins of the world. The candle glows in the darkness and slowly gives its light until it is burned up. As little as the candle can pride itself upon its light so can believers glory in their good works. All glory must be God's, for Jesus says, "In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in Heaven."

ERILDA to Meet in Charlotte, N.C.

The ILDA Eastern Regional Conference, one of the seven in the nation, will meet on Friday, June 17 through Sunday, June 19, 1988 at the Holiday Inn, Charlotte, N.C. The conference theme will be, "As for Me and My House, We Shall Serve the Lord." Hosting the event will be Chapel for the Deaf Lutheran in Charlotte.

Deaf Lutherans, and other members of the deaf community are invited to attend. Young people are especially welcome.

Combination tickets are \$25, which will include registration fees, bus transportation to Heritage, USA, banquet seating and entertainment. Financial aid is available. Inquiries should be directed to Ms. Betty Baer, 6707 Glenmoor Drive, Charlotte, N.C. 28214.

'SWINING AROUND THE REGIONS

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historian Donald S. Mowl and his wife, Mary, from Trinity Lutheran church, Pittsburgh, Pa. Don says they will attend the next one in St. Louis in Nov. 1989. There was an interpreter available for the first time, making accessibility to the deaf possible. Over 100 people from the United States and Canada were there.

NO TOMB TO VISIT

In one of the villages of northern India a missionary was preaching in a bazaar. As he closed, a Muslim gentleman came up and said, "You must admit we have one thing you have not, and it is better than anything you have."

The missionary smiled and said, "I should be pleased to hear what it is."

The Muslim said, "You know when we go to Mecca we at least find a coffin. But when you Christians go to Jerusalem, which is your mecca, you find nothing but empty grave."

But the missionary smiled and said, "That is just the difference. Mohammed is dead; Mohammed is in his coffin. And false systems of religion and philosophy are in their coffins, but Jesus Christ, whose kingdom is to include all nations and kindreds and tribes, is not here: He is risen. All power in heaven and on earth is given unto Him. That is our hope."

A living Christ! That is our hope. He is not dead, but alive forevermore.

Soli gloria Dei!

TED KOPPEL COMMENTS

Ted Koppel, the anchorman for ABC's nightly news, "Nightline" had this to say recently: "What Moses brought down from Mount Sinai were not "the Ten Suggestions."

STUDENT PROTEST CLOSES GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY FOR A WEEK

Gallaudet university, formerly Gallaudet college, Washington, D.C., was closed by a student protest over the appointment of yet another person with normal hearing to succeed Dr. Jerry C. Lee, who resigned Dec. 31, 1987 to accept a vice presidency of a furniture company in Virginia.

The week long disturbance began when it was announced by the university board of trustees that Dr. Elizabeth A. Zinser, vice chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro had been named to the post over two other persons who were deaf. Zins-er's qualifications as an educator were never in question, but the protesters were angered over the fact that the university had never had a deaf person at its helm in its 124-year history since the school had been chartered by an Act of Congress in 1864. This was compounded by the fact that Zinser was also unable to use sign language, although she has stated she would be willing to learn.

What began as a mild protest mushroomed into a full blown strike, with not only the students involved, but faculty and the National Association of the Deaf as well demanding Zinser's resignation and a qualified deaf individual named to the post. Entrances

to the campus were blocked by students' cars; and a march on both a hotel downtown where the university's trustees were meeting and the White House and the Capitol where they were met by a line of police.

The students listed four demands, all of which were met by the university prior to the end of the walkout: (1) the resignation of President Zinser and the appointment of a deaf president, (2) that board chairperson Jane Bassett Spilman of the university board of trustees be replaced, (3) that a majority of the board of trustees be deaf persons and (4) that an amnesty be granted to all who participated in the protest and that no reprisals be taken against anyone.

Named to succeed Dr. Zinser, who was in office only five days was Dr. I. King Jordan, a member of the university faculty and dean of the science department. News of the choice of Dr. Jordan spread like wildfire and the students were ecstatic over the choice.

Jane Spilman, who also resigned, was replaced by Philip Bravin, a member of the trustees, and who is deaf.

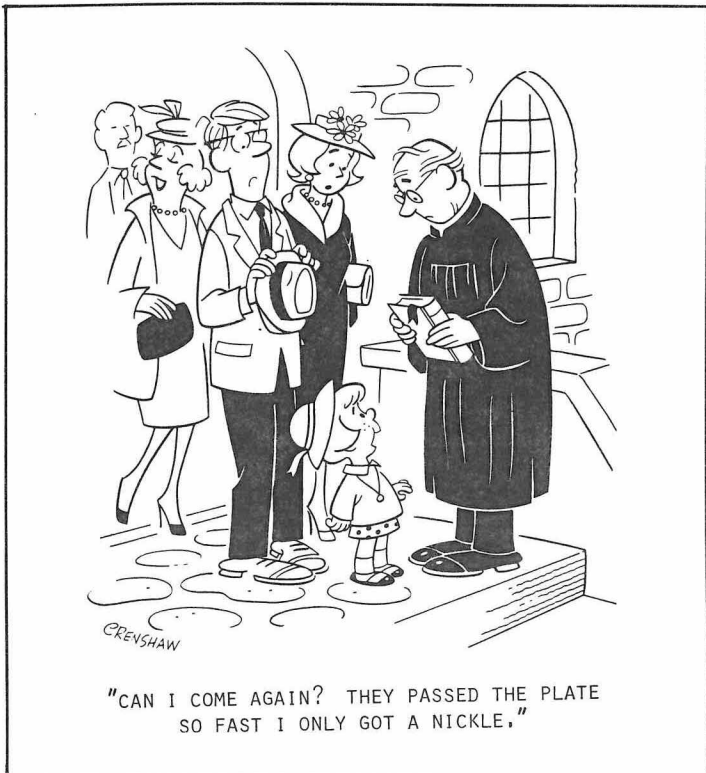
Members of the board of trustees later admitted they had underestimated the desire of the deaf community for one of their own at the head of the only university in the world for the deaf.

'ALIVE IN CHRIST'

The synod-wide appeal this year to raise \$60 million dollars realized a shortfall of about \$14 million, thus making a revision of the schedule for distribution of the funds necessary. The revision will give priority to certain retired pastors and teachers who are currently receiving the minimum and otherwise, sub-standard pensions.

The operating deficit of some \$14.7 million will also receive immediate attention, in keeping with a synodical convention stipulation that these debts be retired.

Major donors were allowed to specify the areas they wished to support during the drive and this resulted in student aid financial endowment in receiving about \$1.7 million more than would have been the case otherwise, it was noted.



ST. MARK HOSTS ECUMENICAL ADVENT WORSHIP/WORKSHOP

St. Mark Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Towson, Md. was host church for an ecumenical advent worship/workshop for three Wednesday evenings in Dec. 1987.

St. Mark participates with the deaf interfaith group which is comprised of religious leaders and their members of the United Methodist and Roman Catholic communities.

During the season of Advent, members of the interfaith group attended the ecumenical program held at St. Mark. The theme for this series was entitled, "Jesus Is Coming!"

Members were encouraged to register for the mid-week supper prior to the program.

Supper was served from 6-7 p.m. The worship/workshop was conducted from 7:30-9 p.m. Each religious community was responsible for providing a program for each Wednesday.

Pastor Ken Schnepf (Lutheran) led the first Wednesday program by explaining the significance of the Advent calendar and then encouraging the group to create an Advent banner which would be displayed in the chapel for Advent.

The second week's program was conducted by Pastor Peggy Johnson of the United Methodist community. She informed the group about Polish foods and customs which were associated during Advent and Christmas.

Sister Kathleen Driscoll from the Roman Catholic community developed a special educational tool called "Christmas Bible Trivia." Participants were asked to respond to Christmas trivia. Winners were designated play money. After the game, the participants with the most money were intitled to a gift (similar to the Wheel of Fortune game on television). The program concluded with a video-tape of the Christmas story (media Bible version which was captioned).

Everyone enjoyed this novel way of observing and celebrating the season of Advent. It also encouraged religious leaders and members to share their special talents for the program. An average of 23 attended for the three Wednesdays in Advent. The program was mentioned in the Catholic Review newspaper on the front page of the Dec 9 issue (see photo).

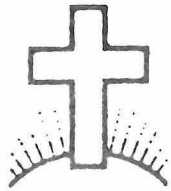


CR/Denise Walker

PRAYING HANDS, SPEAKING HANDS

The deaf interfaith group, led by Sister Kathleen Driscoll, D.C. (back, right), Pastor Ken Schnepf (back, left) and Pastor Peggy Johnson (not pictured) create a Christmas banner with members Salvatore Vaccarino and Mary Bogucki during an Advent worship/workshop program at St. Mark Lutheran Church of the Deaf Dec. 2. The group has about 15 Catholic, Lutheran and Methodist members.





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May-June, 1988

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