



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

September-October, 1983

St. Louis, Missouri

Volume 75, No. 4

Cedar Rapids to Host 1987 Meet As 7th Biennial ILDA Convention Concludes

Condensed from a report by Henry D. Walls
General Chairman, 1983 Convention

PITTSBURGH, Pa.--Acclaimed as one of the best organized and planned conventions ever despite the loss of Rev. Donald Winkler, who accepted a call to the west coast, the 7th biennial convention ended a four-day run July 24th at the Pittsburgh Hilton with such efficiency on the part of the sponsoring Great Lakes Region and Trinity Congregation that even waste baskets were provided visitors on the bus tour to collect their lunch boxes.

Up to 200 guests sat down to a buffet style dinner Thursday evening followed by the opening ceremony with General Chairman Henry Walls introducing visiting dignitaries which included Mayor Richard Caliguiri; Rev. Arnold Kromphardt, President of the Eastern District, L.C.M.S.; Rev. Paul Kreyling, Director of Missions for the region. Keynote speaker for the evening was Rev. Dan Pokorny, Chairman of the John of Beverly Chair for Deaf Studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, who enlivened his audience with a talk entitled, "IN, WITH and UNDER."

Theme for this year's convention, "Celebrating: Power, Presence and Promise, Together" was the basis for several devotions and topics throughout the convention. The biblical rainbow was prominent in nearly all banners, registration badges and printed materials, giving added emphasis to the convention theme.

Five business sessions were held throughout the convention and the fact that we are now living in an age of revolutionary new technical changes was never more clearly stressed with the introduction of a novel idea to set up a new computer network for the churches called, "DEAFNET." A petition to obtain grants to make this a reality was signed by

40 to 50 churches and if successful, will usher in a new era of reduced paper work, record keeping and information gathering with secret codes giving each member access to stored data.

Three workshop were a new addition to this year's convention, with one on "Lay Leadership Training" led by Rev. Dan Pokorny; one

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Rev. Steven R. Schlund Installed By Holy Cross, Delavan, Wis.

July 31, 1983 was a day of rejoicing for the members of Holy Cross Lutheran church for the Deaf when they were blessed with the arrival and installation of a new pastor to succeed Rev. Martin Kosche, who was called home to be with the Lord on Dec. 27, 1981.

Officiating at the 4:00 p.m. service was the Rev. Harvey Krueger, President of the Southern Wisconsin District of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. Rev. Ron Friedrich preached the service and serving as liturgist was Rev. Wallace Waite, pastor of Silent Lutheran church, Madison, Wis.

Other assisting with the ceremony were Miss Judy Grimm, organist; Layleader Glenn Miller; signing hymns, Mrs. Doris Myhre and Acolyte, David Copeland.

A native of Van Wert, Ohio, Rev. Schlund received his elementary and high school education at Holy Cross Lutheran school and Concordia Lutheran high school, Fort Wayne, Ind. in 1975. He graduated cum laude from Concordia college, Ann Arbor, Mich. in 1979 and took his vicarage under Rev. Roy Dahmann at Memorial Lutheran church, San Lorenzo, Calif. Returning to Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, he completed his theological training, receiving a Master of Divinity degree on May 27, 1983.

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on "Witnessing and Evangelism" by Rev. Shirrel Petzoldt and "Choir" by Rev. Richard Moody.

On the lighter side, entertainment included a bus tour of the city with stops at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf; Trinity Lutheran Church and ending on Mt. Washington, providing a magnificent view of the city and the Golden Triangle, the heart of the city and convention headquarters. A baseball game between the Pirates and the San Francisco Giants was a thriller, albeit the Pirates lost to the visitors. A few who attended the game had a chance to meet Mr. Lonnett, Pirates' third base coach at the stadium and shake hands. His daughter, Maria, is a teacher at the Western Penn. School and she was able to secure five baseballs which were given away. The scoreboard was lighted up during the game, welcoming the International Lutheran Deaf Association.

A dinner cruise aboard a paddlewheeler was enjoyed by a near capacity crowd who walked from the hotel to the nearby river. For those who stayed at the hotel, a magician provided slight-of-hand tricks and a chalk artist wowed their audiences.

Charles Kotal, Cerritos, Calif., was given a second term as president and Lester Ahls, Cedar Falls, Iowa retained his post as President-Elect; Lillian Long, Scottsdale, Pa. won a second term as secretary. The only office for which there was any contest was for that of treasurer to succeed Elmer Francisco, who was not eligible for another term. Five candidates joined the "foray" which took several ballots before Jackie Kemper of St. Louis was declared the winner. Rev. Ronald Friedrich was named Pastoral Adviser, succeeding Rev. William Ludwig.

Outgoing treasurer Elmer D. Francisco, Detroit, Mich., congratulated the members, stating that the budget adopted at Los Angeles in 1981 had nearly been met, with all mission projects completed. Falling only \$9,000 short of its \$48,000 goal, Mr. Francisco felt we had been successful beyond his expectations. In presenting a new budget proposal for the 1983-85 biennium of \$38,550, he urged continued support for the ILDA's mission of bringing Christ to the deaf everywhere.

Three cities bid for the 1987 convention to be held after Milwaukee in 1985: Portland, Ore., Denver, Colo. and Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Rev. Dave Mueller, Cedar Rapids, came armed with plenty of "ammunition" for his church's plans to host that conclave and these included a slide presentation and fine oratory on why Iowa would be the ideal place to meet.

Apparently, the majority of the convention goers agreed with his assessment for 1987 and Cedar Rapids encountered no real opposition in getting the nod. Perhaps having a convention in a setting with a predominantly rural flavor sounded appealing after a decade of meetings in large metropolitan cities.

The coveted Right Hand Award was presented to Donald Mowl, Washington, Pa., assistant chairperson of the convention committee. Mr. Mowl, a long time member of Trinity of Pittsburgh, and prominent in church affairs of his congregation, was stunned when his name was called.

The main speaker at the convention banquet on Saturday evening, Dr. Herbert Arkebauer of Springfield, Mo., is no stranger to the deaf and their needs and problems. A member of the Board of Directors of Aid Association for Lutheran (AAL); Mill Neck Manor in Mill Neck, N.Y., and Southwest Missouri State University at Springfield where he is involved in Language Pathology, Dr. Arkebauer spoke on "Sharing Christ."

Numerous awards were presented at the convention banquet, including plaques and gifts. Rev. Martin Kosche, who passed away Dec. 27, 1981 after 35 years in the ministry, was remembered with an appropriately engraved plaque, which was presented to his wife. The convention program was also dedicated in his honor.

The retirement of Archie D. Marshall as Editor of the ILDA's official organ, "The Deaf Lutheran," was announced, and Mr. Marshall received a standing ovation for his nine years of service.

A drive to bolster the association's general fund was announced and a jar was passed among the audience netting \$261.00.

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Midwest Regions Convened at Concordia College, St. Paul, June 10-12

The 28th meeting of the Midwest Regional Conference of the ILDA convened at Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn. on June 10-12. Hosting the three-day event was Prince of Peace Lutheran church, Rev. William Lange, Pastor.

Increased emphasis on workshops as a tool in teaching witnessing and evangelism was given during this conference, led by Pastors Dave Mueller of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Ray Leimkuehler of Denver.

A number of revisions in the Constitution and By-Laws were moved and approved. Among these changes were deletion of the rules pertaining to the office of president-elect, of which there is none and allowing for the choosing of meeting sites two years ahead of time to help facilitate better planning.

Mr. Dale Paden, Omaha, was nominated for the ILDA's Right Hand Award, in recognition of his many years of faithful service.

Among the items submitted during the business sessions was one proposal to find ways and means to send deaf youths to camp during the summer. It was moved and passed that a committee be formed to study the merits of such a plan and to submit their findings to the next meeting in 1984 for action.

The assembly approved expense amounts for two persons to attend the seventh biennial ILDA convention at Pittsburgh in July.

Additional business consisted of voting for Des Moines as host city for the 1984 meet and Omaha in 1985. The Sunday offering was given to the ILDA general fund.

Main speaker at the banquet Saturday evening was Rev. Donald Zuhn, St. Louis, who noted that 112 visitors were in attendance, a sizable increase from a year earlier. He encouraged increased supporting all areas of the church, and especially in our financial support of it, noting that attendance and memberships had declined from previous levels. His remarks took the form of a challenge to every one.

Toastmaster for the evening was Richard Feland. A magic show was presented by Robert Stokes, Grand Rapids, Minn. Speaking on reflections from the past was Midwest President

Harry Searles, Colorado Springs.

In banner competition, "Judge" Don Zuhn gave first place to the entry from Omaha. Second and third went to N.E. Kansas and Pilgrim of Kansas City, Mo. in that order.

The final day, Sunday was given to worship in the college chapel with Rev. George C. Ring, Des Moines, Iowa preaching the sermon. Serving as layreader was Mr. Roy Klein.

Additional Vacancies Occur Recently in Deaf Mission Field

Two new vacancies have been occurred in deaf mission work with the departure of Rev. Paul H. Dorr of Emmanuel, Milwaukee, Wis., who has accepted a call to a hearing church in Beloit, Wis. Also becoming vacant recently was Rockford, Ill. following the acceptance of a call extended to Rev. Ron Friedrich to a call extended to Our Redeemer Lutheran church, Dallas, Texas. The pastorate at Dallas had been vacant approximately four years.

Rev. Donald Zuhn reports the present list of vacancies in deaf missions:

Milwaukee, Emmanuel
Pittsburgh, Trinity
Cleveland, Christ
Portland, Hope
Rockford, Ill., Rockford
Chicago, Our Saviour
Minnesota North
North Wisconsin
West Hartford

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Performing on the stage floor late into the evening were a group from St. Matthew's in New York known as the "Gospel Trio" who put on a show in song and dance with the rhyme set to sign language ... captivating the large audience with their unusually fine performance.

The last day was devoted to worship services which included Bible classes and church led by Rev. Donald Leber with Richard Crossen as layreader. Guest preacher was Rev. Dan Pokorny of St. Louis.

The 1985 convention will be headquartered at the Marc Plaza Hotel in Milwaukee, Wis., July 3-7.

EDITORIAL

It's people like you who make the news. . .
Not the Editor. . .

Did something happen in your area that you'd like to share with your friends in other parts of the country? Did you recently celebrate a very important church anniversary? Did you get a new pastor? Did someone in your church receive an award or very high honor? Did your region have a meeting where your group made some important decisions?

These are just a few of the many things that could happen that make the news. The Editor depends on people out in the regions to send in newsworthy items for publication. He does not invent it.

Serving the many hundreds of readers of THE DEAF LUTHERAN will receive high priority from your new editor in the months ahead. Bringing Christ and his promise of blessings and life eternal to all who believe in Him and follow His teachings will be the most important objective of this paper.

If your items is accompanied with pictures, the editor will return them when requested to do so. Black and white, either glossy or matte finish are best, but if you have only color and they are not too dark, they may be usable.

So let's hear it for THE DEAF LUTHERAN . . . it's our paper and will never be any better than we make it!

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Just when I think I am going to make ends meet, someone moves the ends.

WE'RE SORRY . . .

The new editor is sorry that your September-October issue is a bit late. This is due to the inability to obtain pictures to back up the just ended Pittsburgh convention report. It is hoped that future issue will come when due. All material for this publication should be sent to:

Lester Ahls, Editor
THE DEAF LUTHERAN
1004 Cherrywood Drive,
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

The Deaf Lutheran Receives New Editor To Succeed Archie Marshall

After nine years of editing the International Lutheran Deaf Association's official organ, THE DEAF LUTHERAN, Archie Marshall stepped down, citing health reasons for his resignation. He served as editor since 1974 when he took over following the untimely death of Uriel C. Jones of Knoxville, Tenn.

The announcement, which was made during the just ended 7th biennial convention, drew a standing ovation from the assembled convention for Mr. Marshall.

Named to succeed him was Lester Ahls, Cedar Falls, Iowa, presently holding the office of president-elect of the ILDA.

Mr. Ahls will serve as interim editor until January 1, 1984 and if no others are named by that date, the appointment may be made permanent.

AN OPEN LETTER

CEDAR RAPIDS AREA CONVENTION
AND VISITORS BUREAU
P.O. Drawer 4860
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52407

August 26, 1983

Lester Ahls, President-elect
International Lutheran Deaf Association
1004 Cherrywood Drive
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

Dear Mr. Ahls:

Cedar Rapids is delighted to have been selected as the site of the 1987 Biennial Convention of the International Lutheran Deaf Association.

We commit our services to help make your conference a success and will look forward to working together in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Carol DeWeerd
Director of Sales

Learn from the mistakes of other people . . . you cannot live long enough to make them all yourself.

New Faces on the Board of Directors For Next Two Years

The ILDA Board of Directors will have several new members serving for the first time when it convenes for its first post-convention meeting Oct. 27-29 at St. Louis.

From the Eastern Region, Mr. Gerald W. Ahrens, Bethesda, Md. will succeed August O. Beyer of Belleville, N.J. At the other end of the country from the Pacific region, there will be Mr. Yachtman A. Sue of San Leandro, Calif., who takes the seat of Dina e Foster, Granada Hills, Calif. Mr. Harry C. Searles, Colorado Springs will serve from the Midwest area. Coming back to the board will be at least one former member of long experience, Mr. Harold Rife, Portland, Ore. for the Northwest region. He succeeds Victor B. Lyon, Bozeman, Mont.

The Executive Committee will have a new treasurer, Ms Jackie S. Kemper, St. Louis, Mo. Elmer Francisco, who had given 10 years to various posts on the ILDA board.

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For the benefit of our readers, we are including below the budget of the INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN DEAF ASSOCIATION for the 1983-1985 biennium as approved at the 7th biennial convention at Pittsburgh, Penn. July 21-24, 1983.

MISSION PROJECTS:

Lay Leader Training	\$ 6,000.00
Pax Natura Ranch	500.00
Brazil	500.00
India School for Deaf	1,000.00
Scholarships	2,000.00
Lutheran School for Deaf	500.00
Total	\$10,500.00

ILDA:

Expenses and Travel	\$20,000.00
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DEAF LUTHERAN:

Printing	\$ 3,000.00
Postage	1,200.00
Columbus Colony	600.00
Editor	1,050.00
Business Manager	1,200.00
Travel	1,000.00
Total	\$ 8,050.00
GRAND TOTAL	
BUDGET	\$38,550.00

FCC Rules To Keep Line 21 for Hearing Impaired TV Viewers

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Many deaf owners of expensive TV decoders were relieved to learn that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has ruled that line 21 of the broadcast signal will continue to be reserved for owners of television decoders, the device that picks up the subtitles on programs captioned for the hearing impaired community.

Considerably more work needs to be done before teletext services become available in this country, and even then, it is still unclear to what extent the service will provide. The FCC ruling on March 31 assures decoder owners that their units will not become obsolete very soon and certainly not before 1988, when the Commission may review the situation.

Even so, efforts will be made to assure decoder owners that whatever teletext system is eventually decided on, it will be compatible with line 21.

Approximately 40 hours per week of closed captioned programs are currently offered each week over ABC and NBC and PBS stations. A nationwide demonstration against Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) was initiated in all 50 states on September 28 to protest the fact that they still fail to provide captions.

Although CBS claims to be broadcasting on a system it called "Extravision," line 21 decoders, which are by the most common units in use, will not pick up these captions.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The July-August issue of the DEAF LUTHERAN contained an advertisement announcing the second tour of the Caribbean Islands to be held in the spring of 1984, conducted by the Rev. and Mrs. Paul H. Dorr of Milwaukee, Wis.

Pastor Dorr has since accepted a call to St. John's Lutheran church, Beloit, Wis., and will move to his new pastorate (hearing) in September.

According, the planned tour has been CANCELED.

LOVE LETTER . . .

Adapted from Laurel Group Press
Scottsdale, Penn.

How are you? I just had to send you this letter to tell you how much I love you and care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were walking with your friends. I waited all day, hoping you would walk and talk with me also. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day, and a cool breeze to rest you. Then I waited, but you never came. O yes, it hurt me, but I still love you because I am your friend.

I saw you fall asleep last night, and I longed to touch your brow, so I spilled moonlight on your pillow and your face . . . again I waited, wanting to rush down so we could talk. I have so many gifts for you.

You awakened late this morning and rushed off for the day. My tears were in the rain. Today you looked so sad, so alone. It makes my heart ache, because I understand. My friends let me down and hurt me many times, but I love you. I try to tell you in the quiet green grass. I whisper it in the leaves and trees, and breath it in the color of the flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams, and give the birds love songs to sing. I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air. My love for you is deeper than the oceans and bigger than the biggest want or need you could ever have.

We will spend eternally together in heaven. I know how hard it is on earth. I really know, because I was there, and I want to help you. My father wants to help you, too. He's that way, you know. Just call me, ask me, talk to me. It is your decision. . . . I have chosen you, and because of this I will wait. . . . Because I love you.

Your Friend,
JESUS

LINCOLN SAID IT...

"You can fool some of the people all the time and all of the people some of the time but never all the people all the time."

If at first you do not succeed, you are about average.

WERE YOU THERE?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to . . .

tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to . . .

tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb. . .

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to . . .
tremble, tremble, tremble

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Were you there on that resurrection morn.
Were you there on that resurrection morn?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to . . .

tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there on that resurrection morn?

Have you ever wished you were there? To have, seen, walked and talked with the Saviour? To have seen the events leading up to His death and His miraculous resurrection? How would you have felt? A little bit scared, maybe? Or surprised? Overly filled with happiness . . . or like Thomas of old, doubtful and asking to see proof?

Friend, you are not alone. Jesus' disciples, even after being with him for nearly three years, and listening to his wondrous promises and of stories of things yet to be, could not believe what they were seeing on that first Easter when He appeared.

When Jesus broke the bread at Emmaus . . . and He "opened their minds to understand the scriptures" . . . when he suddenly was standing in their midst, alive and well . . . do you wish you could have been there?

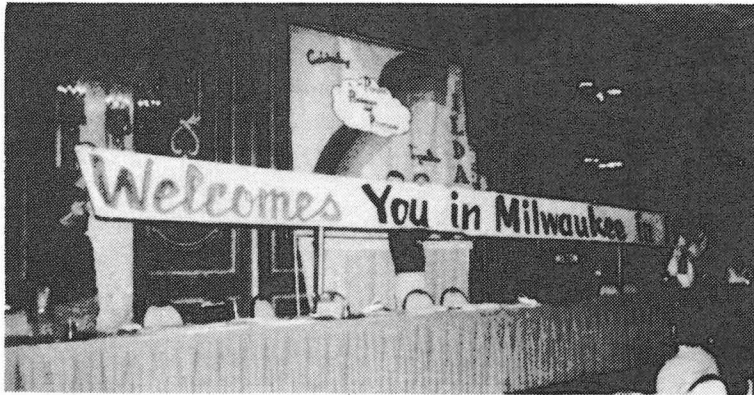
JESUS IS HERE TODAY! He comes to us much in the same way as He did back then, to comfort us with His promises of help and hope for the future through the Lord's Supper, Bible Class and divine worship.

Yes, we were there.



**ILDA
PAGE**

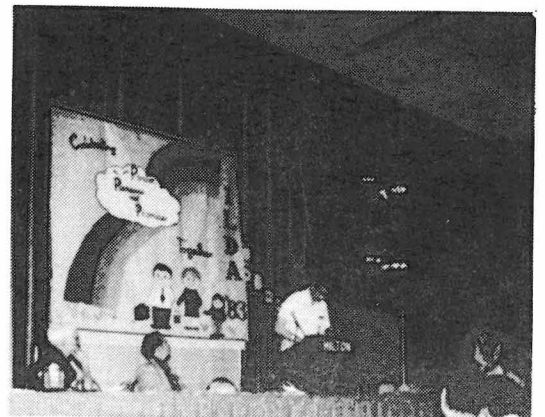
ILDA President Charles Kotal checking on the results of officers' election. Behind him is 1983 ILDA convention theme banner.



Here's some delegates bidding next convention to take place in Milwaukee in 1985. Consequently, Milwaukee won bid.

Here, Lester Ahls conducting part of officers' election.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The best pictures we can find this time and we are hopefully to find better pictures for next issue.)



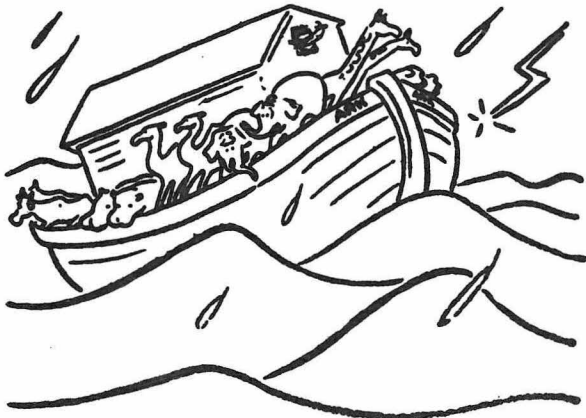
HELP! HELP! HELP!

To all who attended 1983 ILDA Convention
Pittsburgh Hilton
Pittsburgh, Pa.

**DO YOU HAVE GOOD, CLEAR PICTURES
OF THE CONVENTION?**

The local committee chairman would appreciate having extra prints or negatives, which will be returned to sender upon request. Mail to:

Henry D. Walls
c/o Trinity Lutheran Church
409 Swissvale Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15221



"Just the same I'd feel a lot safer if I knew those termites were locked up in a tin box."

We want YOU in the ILDA today!

*Rejoice with us in Christ's love!
Fill out and send in this membership
application today! ! !*

ILDA Membership Application

Put your name and addresses on the line below. Cut out and mail to Jackie Kemper, ILDA Treasurer, 1343 Graham St., St. Louis, Mo. 63139. Membership fee: \$5.00 per year. Make money order or check payable to Jackie Kemper. DO NOT SEND CASH! Thank you.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP DESIRED

Active Associate Sustaining



No fair praying.

The DEAF LUTHERAN

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