



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

July-August, 1986

St. Louis, Mo.

Volume 78, No. 4

Independence Day, 1986 . . .

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

The LORD created the heavens by His command, the sun, moon and stars by His spoken word. He gathered all the seas into one place; He shut up the ocean depths in store-rooms.

Worship the LORD, all the earth!
Honor Him, all people of the world!

ILDA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONVENES IN MINNEAPOLIS MAY 30-JUNE 1

Meeting for the first time since the 1985 ILDA convention at Milwaukee, the executive committee of the ILDA was to convene in Minneapolis at Prince of Peace Lutheran church May 30-June 1.

Up for discussion on the agenda were to be the Milwaukee convention report, additional seminars or workshops similar to those held in Madison, Wis. and Washington, D.C. last year; nominations for the standing committee on deaf ministry and mission projects.

One other item certain to arise will be the over one-year vacancy in the position of executive secretary to deaf ministry in St. Louis.

In an attempt to conserve finances and to meet only when imperative, the full board of the ILDA will not convene until Oct. 30-Nov. 1 in St. Louis.

SELECTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR DEAF MINISTRY POSTPONED

Due to financial restraints imposed by the LCMS synodical board, the expected appointment of a new executive secretary for deaf ministry in April of this year has been postponed and is not likely the position will be filled before September at the earliest.

A number of qualified people have been nominated for the office and additional nominations are expected before a final decision is made on the job, which has been vacant more than a year.

When He spoke, the world was created;
At His command everything appeared.

The LORD frustrates the purposes of the nations;
He keeps them from carrying out their plans.
But His plan endures forever;
His purposes last eternally.
Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD;
Happy are the people He has chosen for
His own!

The LORD looks down from heaven
And sees all mankind.
From where He rules, looks down
On all who live on earth.
He forms all their thoughts
And knows everything they do.

A king does not win because of his powerful
army;

ONE NATION UNDER GOD (continue on page 2)

GERHOLD RETIRES

The Rev. Dr. C. Roland Gerhold, pastor of St. Matthew, Newark, N.J. will retire from the ministry in June, having served the Lord and His flock for 48 years.

He and his wife, Viola, will be moving to their vacation home in the Pocono mountains.

We join the couples' many friends in thanking God for this dedicated servant of His word and we wish them many happy years of well earned retirement.

JOHN OF BEVERLEY AWARD

The Mill Neck Foundation has just announced their selection of Donald and Ruth Peterson to be the recipients of the JOHN OF BEVERLEY AWARD to be presented to the couple during the Synodical convention at Indianapolis.

The honorees are active members of Christ Lutheran church, Washington, D.C. and where Don is on the faculty of Gallaudet college.

Hearty congratulations.

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

(continue from page 1)



AN OPEN LETTER

The following letter, a copy of which was forwarded to the editor by the writer, is self explanatory and needs no further comment:

WESTERN WASHINGTON LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE DEAF

May 13, 1986

Mr. William J. Barge
Director of Personnel
1333 S. Kirkwood Road
St. Louis, Mo. 63122-7295

Dear Mr. Barge:

The members of the Western Washington deaf field's board of directors were deeply disappointed that the Synod's mission board did not elect anyone to fill the vacancy of the office of secretary for deaf and blind ministries.

During the meeting, held in Seattle on Saturday, May 3, the board felt that the present list of persons who accepted the nomination to the afore-mentioned office, e.g., the Reverends Donald Leber, William Ludwig, Jerold Munz, George Natonick, Rodney Rynearson and Mr. Keith Tolzin is more than adequate. Thus they have no other name to nominate.

The WWLCD's board is also anxious that the office of the secretary for deaf and blind ministries should be filled as soon as possible, no later than the September date, promised by the Synod's mission board.

Sincerely in Christ,
/s/ WILLIAM A. LUDWIG, pastor for board directors, Western Washington Lutheran Church/Deaf

A soldier does not triumph because of his strength

War horses are useless for victory;
Their great strength cannot save.

The LORD watches over those who obey Him,
Those who trust in His constant love.

He saves them from death;
He keeps them alive in times of famine.

We put our hope in the LORD;
He is our protector and our help.

We are glad because of Him;
We trust in His Holy Name.

May your constant love
Be with us, LORD,
As we put our hope in YOU.

PS 33:6-22

The 1987 Convention
INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN
DEAF ASSOCIATION

JUNE 25-28

Stouffers Five Seasons Hotel
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

THE POWER OF LOVE

Rev. LaVern M. Mass
3807 Gillham Road
Kansas City, Mo. 64111

For you to know what was paid to set you free . . . it was not something which loses its value, you were set free by the costly sacrifice of Christ. Through Jesus you be-



lieve on God . . . so your faith and hope are fixed on God . . . Now that your obedience to the truth, to love one another earnestly with all your hearts, because: through the living and eternal Word of God you have been born again . . . immortal . . . this is the

Good News brought to you.

Through the power of Christ, there is hope

New Confirmands at Services in Milwaukee

Five people were confirmed during Palm Sunday services at Milwaukee by Rev. William C. "Bud" Palmer.



Smiling for the camera are, bottom (left to right): Vera Latimore, Lois Pope, Robert Owens. Top (left to right) are: Donald Byington, Diane Stanke and Rev. Palmer.

Congratulations, and may the Lord bless each one as you continue to serve Him.

even for people who have been in the lowest depths of sin.

I, your pastor, know of no truth in the whole Bible that ought to come home to us with such power and tenderness than this: the Love of God! Nothing can convince us of the Love of God like the cross of Christ. Come with me to Calvary and look upon the Son of God as He hangs there . . . seeing our Lord sacrificing His life for us.

If anyone is lost, it will not be because God does not love that 'lost somebody.' It will be because that 'lost somebody' has resisted the love of God.

God Loved us long before we ever thought of God. Some people think and tell us that God "does not love us until we first come to love God. This "idea-way" thinking is not in Holy scripture. In I John 4:10 it is written: "This is what love is: not that we loved God, but that God loved us." And God proof-showed His love for us, "That God sent His Son to be the means by which our sins are forgiven."

Michael MacDonald Ordination Set for June 22 at Rochester

Michael "Mike" MacDonald will be ordained into the Holy Ministry on Sunday, June 22 at 2 p.m. at St Mark's Lutheran church, 2090 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, N.Y.

Mike, a member of Alpha Lutheran church (Rev. Mark Seeger, pastor) since 1980 left for Fort Wayne seminary in 1981 to study for the ministry. He will be receiving a call during the first week of May (unknown at this writing, Ed.) and will be returning to Rochester for his ordination after graduation, then on to his new church.

Congratulations, and may the Lord go with you Mike as you serve His people.

PRESIDENT REAGAN COMMENTS ON THE BIBLE. . . .

In a news conference on Feb. 21, 1985, the President said he had found "that the Bible contains an answer to just about everything and every problem that confronts us, and I wonder sometimes why we won't recognize that one Book could solve our problems for us."

Bad habits are like a comfortable bed
. . . easy to get into, but hard to get
out of!!

GLEANINGS FROM THE REGIONS FROM COAST TO COAST

Dale D. Paden, long time ILDA member and former member of the board of directors is now residing at 6901 N. 72nd St., Omaha, Neb. 68122. Dale lost his companion of more than half a century, Viola, over a year ago and lived for a while with his daughter before moving to his present address, which is the Immanuel-Fontenelle Home.

We extend sincere sympathy to Rev. Ervin Oermann, Jacksonville, Fla., who was formerly in deaf ministry. His wife, Betty, was slain by an intruder in their home late in February. May the promise of eternal life given by our Saviour bring comfort to the Oermann family.

Pilgrim Lutheran church, Los Angeles, celebrated their 26th anniversary with worship and dinner Sunday, May 18. It was followed with a film of memories.

The Wheat Ridge Foundation approved 18 new projects at its May meeting in Chicago, the most ever. Wheat Ridge "seed-money" grants will help Lutheran churches and agencies establish health service ministries to people in need-- from the troubled Middle East, to the Midwest Farm Belt, to urban areas on both U.S. coasts. The 18 new projects will receive \$292,500 in first year funding and a total of \$605,200 over the next three years. In addition, Wheat Ridge will provide close to

POSTAGE COSTS SKYROCKET

An increasing concern of many of our churches who are operating with tight budgets has been the escalating costs of bulk mail permits and third class mail rates which have risen dramatically the past few months from 5.2¢ in January, 1985 to the present 8.7¢ and some even say the end is not in sight with the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction law on the books which may make additional increases inevitable.

Pastor Donald Leber of Holy Cross, Columbus, Ohio describes the increases as "breaking, smashing, crashing, overcoming and generally playing havoc with their budget." Pastor Bill Ludwig of Seattle worries that the increases along with cuts in subsidies granted non-profit publications may force their church bulletin to cease publication.

We pray that solutions are found to these problems and that none of our churches are forced to discontinue their newsletters. The power of the printed page is indisputable.

\$400,000 in second and third year funding for some 40 other projects.

A fight is under way to prevent the Ohio School for the Deaf from being closed. The reason most often cited is the drop in enrollment from a high of 318 in 1974-75 to the present 165 in 1986. The decline in enrollment at OSD is being attributed to the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975 (PL94-142). The root of the problem appears to be a disagreement of precisely what is meant by "the least restrictive environment" as it pertains to deaf children that is guaranteed by the law. Many people mistakenly believe our state residential schools are the "most restrictive environment" which in practice could not be farther from the truth. The battle is being led by the Ohio School for the Deaf Alumni Association of which Richard Huebner is president. Most knowledgeable people close to education for the deaf are in agreement that mainstreaming deaf children into regular public school classrooms is definitely not in their best interests.

Agreeing that there is a "pervasive problem" the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod will become increasingly involved in the smutty problem of pornography--an estimated \$6 billion a year industry in this country. New laws, it is agreed by most, will not entirely curtail the dealer who is motivated by profit.

BING CROSBY COMMENTS ON TODAY'S MOVIES . . .

The late Bing Crosby, beloved by millions, had this to say about the direction today's movies were headed. . . .

"It became very apparent to me that very slowly and very subtly, writers and producers are working nudity, permissiveness, irresponsibility, profanity, scenes of semi-explicit sex, provocative dialogue, smutty innuendoes and situations into their shows. Moral responsibility is almost indiscernable.

I voiced my sentiments to a TV executive, and he said, "we are only depicting life as it is." I fear they are depicting life as it is going to be if they are not diverted."

**Those who would deny liberty to others
do not deserve it for themselves.**

A LOVE STORY

Everybody loves a love story and summer seems to be the perfect time for weddings, so . . . Ed.

"There was a young man who was left a tremendous fortune in the passing of his mother and father. And, of course, he immediately had many fiends, and many mothers sought favors for their daughters.

This wise young man realized that there was great danger of marrying somebody who loved his money more than they did him. Therefore, he devised a simple plan to leave his wealth behind and properly stored in the bank. He took a trip to the south and put on some simple work clothes, made application in a cotton mill, and obtained a job at a very meager salary.

At the table next to his worked a very lovely country girl who sympathized with him in his ignorance to do the job he was assigned, and she sought to help him. Their friendship began to deepen, and it was not long until they looked forward to going to work in the morning so they could see one another, and the days were made shorter and the burdens lighter because of each other's presence.

The time came when the young man asked her if he might not have a date with her, and she suggested as was the custom in the old-fashioned days that he come to her house and sit with her in what they called the front room. This he did many times and dreaded the 10 o'clock hour which was his time to leave. One night, in that simple living room, he asked her to be his wife after he assured her that he loved her, and she suggested that he ask her parents.

They, of course, thinking that he was a very poor boy, said to him, "She's never been used to a lot, but at least we loved her, and we've had a happy home and we have taught her to live right, and we ask that you treat her in a like manner. No matter how hard the times may get, she'll stand by you if you'll be kind and patient and Christ-like."

The young man, although it was hard to do, agreed to the suggestion of the bride-to-be that they save their money and pool it and take a honeymoon. They began to put aside their pennies and nickels, quarters and dollars into the honeymoon fund and anxiously looked to the day when they could leave. Wedding time rolled around and they as back in the old days, got on a train and headed north at the suggestions of the bridegroom and oh,

those happy moments for that country girl as she saw the sights!

And when they rolled into Union Station, they stepped off the train, and a man took their bags and this sweet girl raised a question. But the bridegroom said, 'It's alright, he's just going to take care of them for us.' They walked hurriedly through the station and out to the sidewalk, up to a beautiful automobile. The bags were placed in the car, the door was opened, and the young lady said, 'Honey, we can't afford this.' 'Oh,' he said, 'we're on our honeymoon. I wanted you to ride in a nice car.'

They got into the back seat, and the driver drove them through a beautiful city and out through the most beautiful section of the city and in a little while up through a winding drive with honeysuckles and roses and flowers blooming at their best. The astonished bride protested again when they started to get out of the car and said, 'We can't afford to stay at a place like this.'

But the husband, full of joy, led her to the door and reached in his pocket and pulled out a key that just exactly fit the lock. He unlocked the door, pushed back the screen, and reached down and buckled her knees and raised her up in his strong arms and with mutual excitement, he carried her across the threshold. With her lovely face lying on his shoulder, he whispered in her ear, 'I'm not the poor boy you thought I was. All this and much more is yours. I just wanted to find somebody who loved me instead of my money, and I've found her!'

And my dear friend, it will not be long until Jesus, our coming Bridegroom, will take His purchase bride up in His lovely arms and carry her across the threshold of glory into those lovely mansions prepared for her saying, 'I'm not the poor man of Galilee that the world thinks I am, but the very Lord of glory. Welcome home.' "



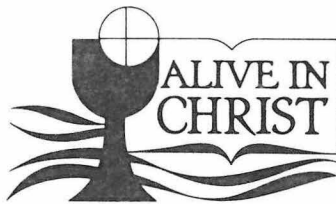
IN MY OPINION . . .

HUMPTY-DUMPTY CHURCH

By Ronald E. Nelson
Director of Seminary Relations
Concordia Theological Seminary
Fort Wayne, Indiana

My young daughter was gathering eggs and after gathering a fair number, dropped the basket, breaking most of them. Obviously, once broken, the eggs were utterly lost.

"Alive in Christ"



1. We are alive in Christ!
He came when we were dead;
He broke the chains of Satan's power
And made us His instead;
He set us free to serve,
We'll serve Him then in love
Until that day when He returns
2. We are alive in Christ!
And when we hear the cry
Of those abroad and those at home
Whose souls are doomed to die,
We'll rally to the call,
With willing hearts we'll give
Our gifts, our time, our pray'rs,
ourselves,
So dying souls might live.
3. WE are alive in Christ,
Our Teacher, Who has said,
"Go feed MY lambs and feed My sheep
With richer food than bread";
We'll build and staff our schools
And train a chosen band
To take the living Bread of Life
Through ev'ry hungry land.
4. WE are alive in Christ!
Our numbers grow each hour,
And arm in arm we'll march with Him
Protected by His power;
We'll work while it is day,
We'll turn the world around,
Our battle cry, "Alive in Christ,"
Will everywhere resound!

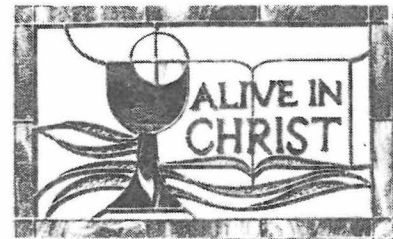
Humpty Dumpty also fell and all the king's men couldn't put him together again. Are we becoming a Humpty Dumpty church?

Most members of our church, and, woefully, most clergy do not understand that we have reached a critical point in our history. We are planning hundreds of new congregations in this country and looking forward to increasing our foreign missions. We have set some remarkable expansion goals. But currently, we have only 70 senior presemenary students in all of our synodical colleges combined. If the two U.S. seminaries split that number, each would have a class of only 35 students for fall 1986. Typical class sizes in the past have averaged 100 students or better.

We must launch a major recruitment drive to find men who have the potential to become preachers of the Gospel. Pastors do not fall from heaven like manna in the wilderness. God touches individuals to become pastors.

A family that has no offspring will come to an abrupt genealogical end. So it is with the church, congregation by congregation. Like the sleeping parishoner in Acts--like Humpty Dumpty--we will fall off the wall. We will not be able to fulfill the Great Commission.

"How can they hear if there are no preachers sent?" (Romans 10:14) The future health of our church depend on identifying potential professional church workers now. We must directly support with our finances college and seminary students so that tuition and costs are not barriers.



ALIVE IN CHRIST . . . with 2,484 congregations reporting as of May 19, the drive to raise a minimum of \$60 million dollars had reached a total of \$38,075,583 or 63.5 per cent of the goal. This represented 40.2 per cent congregational participation. This would mean that more than half of the congregations in the Missouri Synod had yet to report.

THE HOLY TRINITY

This year, Trinity Sunday was celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost, which was May 25. Perhaps you wonder who the Holy Trinity is. If you answered God, you would be correct. Still, the answer may be confusing to many people. If you are one of the confused people, you are not alone. It is one of the mysteries of our God. But the fact that God is mysterious does not in any way lessen the truth of His being.

On Trinity Sunday, we focus on the God who revealed Himself in three divine and separate persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Father is not the Son or the Holy Spirit: He is distinct from them. The Son is not merely another name for the Father or the Spirit; Jesus Christ, both true God and true man is distinct from them. The Holy Spirit is not just another way of describing the Father or the Son. The Father is God, the Son is God and the Holy Spirit is God. There are three divine persons who together are and always have been one God. Before Jesus was born, He was still God with the Father and the Spirit.

In our Old Testament lessons, Moses reminds his listeners of how this Triune God has revealed Himself by becoming involved in His peoples' lives. The epistle lesson assures us that we live in the grace, love and fel-

lowship with all three Persons of the Trinity. Finally, just as all three Persons were intimately involved in securing our salvation, the Gospel records the mission on which each believer is sent, under the authority of the Holy Trinity. This has always been the faith of the Christian church.

"Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, Holy, Holy
God in three Persons
Blessed Trinity."

UNIVERSITY STATUS FOR GALLAUDET

Sen. Lowell Weicker (R-Conn.) has introduced a bill that would change the name of Gallaudet college to Gallaudet university and provide for "ongoing oversight" of both Gallaudet university and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester, N.Y.

Sen Weicker referred to four "important facts" that he said "indicated the need for change." (1) that the federal expenditure of \$92 million annually for postsecondary deaf education "serves less than half of the college-age deaf students in the country; (2) that \$90 million of that \$92 million expenditure goes to Gallaudet and NTID; (3) that the cost per student at Gallaudet (\$23,000 per year) and NTID (\$20,000 per year) are "significantly higher than those of similar institutions;" and (4) that, contrary to mainstreaming, "the state-of-the-art for educating handicapped students, Gallaudet runs segregated elementary and secondary programs which are intended as models for the rest of the country."

In anticipation of receiving university status, the college has established a committee to plan a week-long celebration, probably during homecoming, Oct. 19-25, 1986.

REACH OUT AND TOUCH SOMEONE

AT&T has announced the operation of a new National TDD Center. This center is specially designed to help meet the needs of hearing and speech impaired persons. Billing questions, concerns and interests can now be addressed via toll free numbers: (800) 833-3232 TDD and (800) 233-1222 voice.

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 address on the lines 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, ILDA treasurer. DO NOT SEND CASH. Thank you.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP DESIRED

Active Associate Sustaining

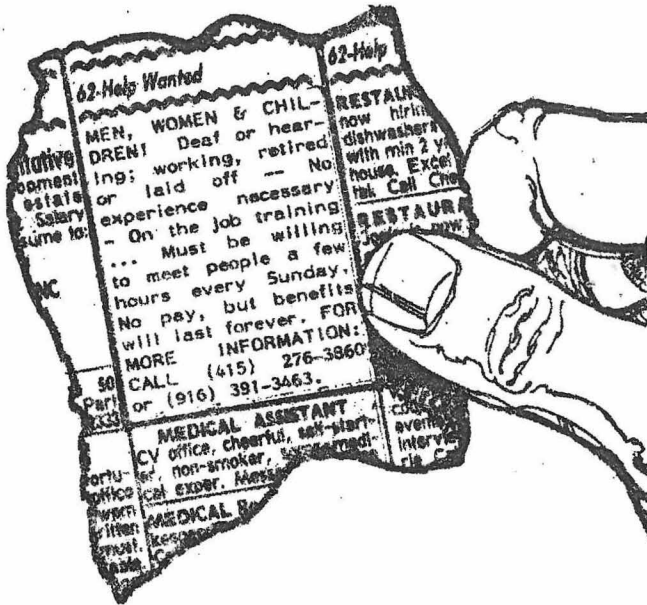
A SUMMER JOB

Do you have time to answer this advertisement? You may have a busy summer planned. No matter, make time for this ad! You may be retired and not looking for work. Even so, this job is for you. This is an ad for everyone to answer -- it is a job you must do, no matter what!

lem. There are a lot of people who are NOT doing the job God wants them to.

Another Bible verse about going to church says, "Let us NOT stay away from worship services as some are regularly doing; but, let us encourage one another." (Hebrews 10:25) Your pastors do encourage you, no matter what, come to church every Sunday this summer and learn how to live forever through faith in Jesus Christ. Martin Luther encourages you, too. Dr. Luther writes, "Do NOT neglect God's Word and the preaching of it, but gladly hear (that is, receive) and learn it."

YOU have an important job ahead of you this summer. Don't miss "work": find out for yourself that coming to church is the best "job" you will ever have. And the benefits from that job are "out of this world."



If you do answer this ad, you will be coming to church. Going to church is something that God says we must do. The third commandment says, "Remember the Holy Worship Day and keep that day holy."

But, many people do not go to church. In California about 85 per cent of all deaf people do not go to church. Only a small number of deaf people do go to church. In summer, the number of people who do go to church gets even smaller. This is really a serious prob-



"... and chief of the Manasseh tribe was Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur, brother of Ammishaddai. . . ."

The DEAF LUTHERAN

July-August, 1986

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