



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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TRIVIA

By Rev. Clark R. Bailey
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Detroit, Mich.

The dictionary says that "trivia" is something of "little value or importance." Recently, many people have been playing the game called "Trivial Pursuit." In this game, you must know lots of unimportant facts to win.

Some people might think that "church" and "God" are of little value or importance. They do not come to church to worship God or hear His word. They do not read their Bibles and they do not support the church with their offerings. To them, Jesus and His love mean little or nothing. God

and what He says in His Holy Book are of little value.

But consider the events of the world around us today. Volcanic gasses kill many people and animals in Africa--Why? Two planes collide over southern California with great loss of life, both in the planes and on the

Rev. Orlin Anderson Accepts Call to Deaf Lutheran Centre , Calgary, Alta.

The vacancy at the Lutheran Deaf Centre in Calgary, Alta. which has existed since Mr. Harold Ziprick resigned Feb. 15, 1987 was filled Oct. 4 1987 when Rev. Orlin Anderson was installed as pastor.

Rev. Anderson, who had served Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf at Jacksonville, Ill. for many years. is a 1960 Seminary graduate. His former pastorate is close to the Illinois State School for the Deaf.

We rejoice with our brothers and sisters of the Calgary area on the gift of a new pastor.

ground--Why? Earthquakes, floods and drought continue around the world, leaving many people without homes and hungry and dying--Why?

Why do terrorists hijack airplanes and set off bombs, killing, injuring and scaring thousands of people? WHY does a postal worker kill several of his fellow workers, causing much sorrow and anger? And chemical fires causes thousands to flee their homes--WHY?

People do not consider these as trivial events--without importance, especially if they are personally involved. But where do you find the answer to that WHY? Why do these things happen?

The answers are in God's Word, the Holy

TRIVIA

(continue on page 2)

Handbook Task Force Committee Meets in St. Louis Nov. 6-7

The long awaited handbook of guidelines for the International Lutheran Deaf Association may become a reality at last following a two-day meeting of the committee formed at the Cedar Rapids convention this past summer.

Meeting at Concordia Seminary Nov. 6-7 were Chairperson Archie Marshall, ILDA executive committee members Ron Byington, Milwaukee; Beth Firnhaber, Philadelphia, and Lester Ahls, Cedar Falls, Iowa, and Rev. Ronald Friedrich of Dallas, Texas.

While no one is claiming the work to be 100 per cent perfect, two full days and one evening were devoted to the task of trying to come up with guidelines that will govern future convention preparations; scholarship awards; mission projects; interim meetings between conventions, to name just a few of the many items, which will be subject to review and possible revision by future conventions.

The committee is hopeful the new booklets will be available by the time the next convention meets in Portland, Ore. in the summer of 1989.



REV. LAVERN M. MASS ACCEPTS CALL TO CHRIST LUTHERN CHURCH, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The newest vacancy in our mission field occurred Oct. 5. when Rev. L. Mass, pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran church, Kansas City, Mo., accepted the call extended to him from Christ Lutheran church, Washington, D.C., to be its pastor of mission and evangelism. His duties will be confined to the church mission out-

reach program for one year, with efforts to extend the call for the second and third year also a strong possibility.

Pastor Mass will begin his duties after Nov. 7, with plans for the family to sell their home in Overland Park, Kan., however, Pastor Mass will consider temporary housing for himself, pending the sale and move of his family to the District of Columbia metro area.

--TRIVIA--

(continue from page 1)

Bible, that people think are not so important. As we begin a new church year, our Bible lessons speak about these events and why they are happening. Jesus gives us the answer, as He came to the end of His life.

God says that because of sin, this world will be destroyed and time will come to an end. St. Peter writes about this in his second letter, chapter 3, verse 10, "But the Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, the heavens will pass away with a great noise, the elements will melt with great heat; both the earth and all the works in it will be burned up."

But when will this happen? In Matthew 24:35-36 (Mark 13:31-32) Jesus says that no one, not even Himself, knows when that Day will be. But He tells us that there will be many signs warning us about that coming of the End of the World.

Read St. Matthew chapter 24, St. Mark chapter 13 and St. Luke 21:5-36. Then compare these words with all the troubles and problems we see happening today.

Yes, all the drug dealings, the murder and violence and crime are a result of sin--and they remind the Christian that the Saviour will be coming soon.

That is the wonderful promise of God to this sinful world. He has sent His Son to be the Saviour of this sinful mess. Look at Matthew 24:31, "His angels will gather His elect from all over the world." And St. Luke quotes Jesus (21:28), "Look up and lift your heads (don't be discouraged) because your redemption draws near."

Jesus was born (Christmas), suffered and died (Lent) and rose again (Easter) so that we sinners can have forgiveness of sins by faith in Him--and we can have HOPE in this discouraging world of sin and death.

We can have LIFE with Him forever. Keep the faith!!

* * *

Christ Lutheran church has also decided, after worshipping in the same location for over 40 years, to move to 9545 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, Md. from its present church at 5101 16th St. N.W. Citing the need for a better location, additional seating and parking, the special meeting of the church council on Sept. 14 passed the proposal to relocate.

The move is contingent on the availability of additional funding to pay the rent at Calvary Lutheran church.

REV. FLOYD F. POSSEHL DIES

Word has been received of the passing of Rev. Floyd Possehl, 72, during the month of September, the exact date and location which is not known, pending receipt of his obituary.

Born in Baker, Minn. July 31, 1915, he attended grade schools in Felton and Fergus Falls, Minn., and was a 1939 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. Upon graduation, he was assigned to work among the deaf in Oklahoma and Texas. In 1942, he was called to serve the deaf in the east, with headquarters in New York City.

Pastor Possehl was united in marriage to Irene Mattson of St. Paul, Minn., and their union was blessed with two children, Louise and Iver.

During his pastorate in New York City, St. Matthew Lutheran Church for the Deaf was built; Lutheran Friends of the Deaf was organized and Mill Neck Manor Lutheran School for the Deaf was begun.

He served the deaf during later years in Minnesota and Missouri, retiring in 1969.

CHARLOTTE DEAF REMODEL CHAPEL

The accompanying pictures will show what a little money and a lot of elbow grease can accomplish when hard work and determination are applied.

We understand the amount expended was approximately \$16,000 with **none** borrowed.

The members are indebted to Ascension Lutheran church for permitting them to remodel the chapel for their use.



WE TORE DOWN



TIRED BUT HAPPY WORKERS



WE BUILD UP



'SWINGING AROUND

The Great Lakes Regional Conference will have their winter retreat at Camp Pioneer, Angola, N.Y., on the dates of Jan. 22-24, 1988. This place, on the edge of frozen Lake Erie, is the site of previous gatherings which have been very well attended. They are promising professional cooking, with no more raw or burnt food' Sounds good, doesn't it?

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Emmanuel, Milwaukee, which recently acquired a new place to worship, now has a new church van. a 1988 Ford Aerostar, which replaces a much older vehicle. Although they had planned to wait a while longer, a very attractive price apparently influenced the church council to go ahead.

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Cross of Christ Lutherans are enjoying a new organ, a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Ford Monahan. The Edmonton, Alta. church is moving its older model to the Boys Ranch at Clyde, Alta. The new organ was given in memory of grandmother, Mrs. Flora Monahan.

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WHAT?? A Beethoven in Peace Lutheran church, Indianapolis? Well, that's what is happening. Mrs. Cathi Stout, who became deaf as a child after learning how to play the piano, has accepted the position of church organist. Do we have any more talented musicians in our churches who are deaf? The editor would like to know.

St. Matthew, New York City, Observes 40th Anniversary of Ground Breaking and Cornerstone Laying Oct. 17

The cornerstone dated A.D. 1947 reminded the members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of the Deaf that it was time to celebrate their 40th anniversary of the church building, which still stands and where its members continue to worship God.

Over 60 persons attended the celebration Oct. 17, which featured a catered dinner and for entertainment, "The Ground Breaking Show."

Rev. Floyd Possehl, their second pastor, was instrumental in getting the church built in 1947 and spoke during the church's 75th anniversary a year ago. He died in September.

The church, which is served by Rev. Richard Vossler, is grateful for the many blessings bestowed on it over the years and asks His continued blessing in the years to come.

Trinity Lutheran church, Pittsburgh, Pa. will observe the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the church on the dates of March 26-27, 1988. Planned for the week-end are a banquet, with guest speakers, skits, awards door prizes and souvenirs. Make your plans to attend.

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Gallaudet university President Dr. Jerry C. Lee will be leaving the college on Dec. 31, 1987, to accept a position as vice president of administration for Bassett Furniture Industries of Bassett, Va. It was an offer he felt he could not refuse. He has been president since Oct. 19, 1984, having succeeded Dr. Lloyd Johns, who had been in office only about six months. A search for a new seventh president has been started whom many hope will be the university's first deaf president.

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Pastor Roy Dahmann received a pleasant surprise from his flock on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of his ordination on Aug. 10, 1975. He was remembered by both Valley and Memorial congregations with a signed card and money gift and an engraved cross desk set.

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The surprise for Pastor Dahmann caught him off guard as it came on the heels of another celebration for members Ray and Carola Rasmus, the occasion being their 45th wedding anniversary, which the good pastor already knew about. The happy couple had already gone to the Orient, a gift from their children for the anniversary. (The editor extends his best wishes to Ray and Carola, old

1988 CONFERENCE DATES

MIDWEST: Lake Okoboji, Iowa, June 3, 4 and 5, 1988, Lutheran camp.

GREAT LAKES: Detroit, Mich., June 10, 11 and 12, 1988 during the 115th anniversary of the Lutheran School for the Deaf.

DIXIE: At Jackson, Miss., June 17, 18 and 19. Exact site not available.

NORTHWEST: Issaquah, Wash., Aug. 12, 13 and 14, 1988, Lutheran Bible Institute of Seattle.

EASTERN: At Charlotte, N.C., June 19, 20 and 21, 1988 at the Holiday Inn.

Dates for **PACIFIC** and **CENTRAL** Regions have not been received.

ND REGIONS . . .

friends from school days in Wisconsin!!)

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We appreciate the gift of \$80 from the Altar Guild of Our Saviour Lutheran church in Abilene, Texas, which was given to ILDA mission projects last summer through President Stephen Luke of the Dixie Deaf Conference.

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It appears that St. Phillips congregation in Philadelphia had a very successful 60th anniversary celebration Oct. 16 to 18. Rev. Mark Anderson was the speaker at the banquet which was held in Bensalem, Pa.

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We have all heard about "AIDS" and many other diseases, but have you heard about the newest one, "Taurusitis?" No? Well, it is peculiar to Ford lovers, especially those who have just visited their local dealer and have been handed the keys to a new Taurus. Three of our friends in Christ Lutheran church, Washington, D.C. have come down with the malady, Gerald and Rita Ahrens, Barbara Rassofsky and Pat Schlub.

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Concordia college, River Forest, Ill., has received a grant of \$14,300 from the Mill Neck Foundation of Mill Neck, N.Y. to promote the college's graduate program in special education. Of additional interest to the foundation is the college courses in the area of manual communication or sign language.

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Cross of Christ Lutheran church, Edmonton, Alta. observed the 25th anniversary of its dedication at a special service and banquet on Oct. 11, 1987. The dedication occurred on Oct. 7, 1962. Also attending the dedication was Miss Dorothy Sparks, who led the ASL scripture workshop. Dorothy was invited to come up from Minneapolis, where she resides now.

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Have you ever heard of a "chain of organs?" Well, perhaps not. Yet this is just about what happened in Indianapolis when Peace Lutheran church obtained its first organ not long ago. Calvary Lutheran church, Indianapolis purchased a new organ and sold their smaller one to Concordia Lutheran church, Greenwood, Ind. Then that church had an even smaller one which they donated to a hearing mission congregation, which was Our Saviour Lutheran church, Shepherdsville, Ky. In turn, they donated their "home-type" organ to Peace

Lutheran church, which our deaf friends are now using. Would you call this a "chain of events" or a "chain of organs?"

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Nine former students of the Iowa School for the Deaf, Council Bluffs, Iowa have agreed to settle their \$16.4 million lawsuit against the school for \$2 million. The suit, which alleged physical and sexual abuse of the students, will be paid out of the state's general fund.

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On Sunday, July 19, Rev. Bill Ludwig was stopped for a traffic signal, when a young drunk rear ended him, totaling his 1986 Toyota. The pastor has his shins scraped, with Phlebitis settling in both ankles a week or so later. He is now driving a new 1987 Toyota.

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The California-Nevada-Hawaii District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod had its beginnings more than a hundred years ago during the week of Sept. 21-27, 1887, when delegates attending a convention of the synod in San Francisco voted to organize the district. Deaf Lutherans in the Sacramento-Stockton area joined in "Centennial Sunday" Sept. 20 to remember the occasion with praise and thanksgiving along with 188 other congregations which make up the district.

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Rev. Martin Hewitt has declined a call to Jesus Lutheran church, Austun, Texas. He has been pastor of Faith, Spokane, since coming there from St. Louis a number of years ago. He and his wife celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this past August.

Are You Moving? HELP!

Don't Make Us Track You Down!



Every time we receive a change of address from the post office it costs us money!

So please, send us your change of address as soon as you know where you are moving.

FITZGERALD RESIGNS , STEPHEN LUKE TO HEAD DIXIE DEAF CONFERENCE

The Dixie Region of the International Lutheran Deaf Association, which comprises most of the southern tier of states, including Florida and Texas, has a new president in the person of Stephen H. Luke of Killeen, Texas. Mr. Luke succeeds Billy Fitzgerald, Memphis, who tendered his resignation to the president of the ILDA shortly after the close of the Cedar Rapids convention.

About 40 persons attended a retreat at Camp Lone Star near LaGrange, Texas Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Leading the workshop on Spiritual

Gifts was Rev. Bill Ludwig, Seattle, which according to all reports, was very well received. Playing the role of a clown at the Halloween party was Rev. Ron Friedrich. Leading the Bible class on Sunday and preaching the service, Rev. Ludwig closed out a very successful meeting.

A Leadership Training Seminar (LTP) may be the next item being planned for the Dixie Region, similar to three others already held in Washington, D.C., Madison, Wis. and Seattle, Wash., sometime in the future if President Luke can make the arrangements.

The Dixie Region will have its next conference meeting at Jackson, Miss., June 17, 18 and 19, 1988. Another retreat is tentatively planned for October, 1988.

10 YEARS AGO

At the last meeting of the ILDA board of directors, a suggestion was made that a group of 1,000 individuals be formed who would be willing to contribute \$10 annually. Rev. K. Omahr Mork became the first person to do so.

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Rev. Ronald E. Friedrich was ordained into the holy ministry on Sunday, July 25 at Ephphatha Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Chicago. He was installed the same day as missionary-at-large for the Northern Illinois District.

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On Sunday, June 27, Lay Minister Bob Case and his wife said farewell to the members of Eternal Mercy Lutheran church, Memphis, as he prepared to return to the Seminary to finish his studies prior to full time church work as an ordained minister.

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Rev. Don D. Haug, who had served Jesus Lutheran church, Austin, Texas, accepted a call to a hearing congregation in White Hall, Texas. He had been at the church in Austin for 14 years.

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On Sunday, July 11, Mrs. Elizabeth Maxwell was recognized for her many years of service to Eternal Mercy Lutheran church in Memphis, Tenn.

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A 28-year-old woman, Kitty O'Neill became the fastest human on land recently when she drove a 48,000 horse power motivator, a three wheeled rocket a dazzling speed of 512.71 m.p.h. in a remote desert area in southeastern Oregon.

BRAILLE TV DECODER BEING TESTED

A few months ago, we described in the pages of this paper a new device to aid the blind in telling the denominations of paper currency. We predicted more advances in technology to aid the visually handicapped.

Now comes along a new device to assist the deaf-blind with decoding TV broadcasts for those who can neither see nor hear. Deaf people now get captions on line 21 of the broadcast signal through decoders. The equipment consists of a television with an ear phone jack, a TV decoder and a computer with the necessary software. It will output Braille or Morse Code.

"Telebraille" is now being field tested through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to Daniel Hinton, a sensor communication engineer at Scientific Applications International corporation in Annapolis, Md.

Will wonders never cease?

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Linda Anderson at Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults, 111 Middle Neck Road, Sandspoint, N.Y. 11050.

TRUTHS FOR TODAY . . . Where you have been is not nearly as important as **where you are going!**

SHOULD WE FORCE OUR CHILDREN TO GO TO SUNDAY SCHOOL?

Shall I make my child go to Sunday school and church? YES!! And with no further discussion about the matter. Are you startled? How do you answer your child when he comes to the breakfast table on Monday morning and announces to you that he is not going to school any more? You know!! How do you answer when your child comes in very much smudged, and says, "I'm not going to take a bath!" They take a bath, don't they?

Why all this timidity then, in the realm of your child's spiritual guidance and growth? Are you going to wait and let them decide what church they will go to when they are old enough? You don't wait until your child is old enough to decide whether they want to go to school or not . . . to start

their education. You don't wait until they are old enough to decide whether they wish to be dirty or clean. Do you? Do you wait until they are old enough to decide whether or not they want to take their medicine when they are sick? Do you?

What shall you say when your child announces that he or she doesn't like to go to Sunday school or church? That is an easy answer. Just be consistent. Just say to them, "In our house we all go to church and Sunday school . . . and that includes you!" Your firmness and example will furnish a bridge over which youthful rebellion may travel into rich and satisfying experiences in personal Christian living. --Selected

FAITH, SPOKANE, CELEBRATES 60 YEARS

Faith Lutheran church, Spokane, Wash. observed the 60th anniversary of its establishment as a congregation on Sept. 11, 1927 and also the fact that it was 30 years ago the church decided to rent its present chapel from Pilgrim Lutheran church.

Former pastor, Rev. Rodney R. Ryneanson (1959-1967) and his wife, Rhoda, were honored guests at the recent occasion. Dr. Ryneanson,

who is also a former executive director of the Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, is presently counselor for the Deaf/Blind Ministries of the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod in St. Louis.

The church is continuing the anniversary year with an open house next spring.

--Contributed by
Larry Gorton



60TH ANNIVERSARY HONOREES--Dr. and Mrs. Rodney Ryneanson being introduced at the banquet by Faith President Luther Sandberg. Note the smiles.



ALL APPLES ARE NOT GENUINE--What appears to be an apple being held by Dr. Rodney Ryneanson is actually a paper weight made of ash from Mt. St. Helens.

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CONFERENCE OCCURS

The 35th annual meeting of the Great Lakes Regional Conference was held at Lutheran Memorial camp, Fulton, Ohio during the week-end of Aug. 21, 1987, with the theme being, "Go Fishing." The host church for the meeting was Good Shepherd Lutheran church, Toledo, Ohio of which Rev. Shirrel Petzoldt is pastor. Attendance was 110, of which 23 were children.

Following business discussions on Friday and Saturday, the group moved outdoors to enjoy a bonfire amid hot dogs, marshmallows and orange drink, which was enjoyed by everyone.

John W. Riddlebaugh, Westerville, Ohio was given the honor of cutting the 35th anniversary cake, it being he was one of the charter members of the GLRC, having attended the first meeting at Cleveland, Ohio in 1952. John has also held the offices of president, secretary and treasurer over the years, and

occasionally served as magician.

The next conference of the GLRC will occur during the 115th anniversary of the founding of the Lutheran School for the Deaf (Detroit) during the dates of June 10, 11 and 12, 1988.

--Pittsburgh Delegate
Anna Joy Walls

STAMPS FOR MISSIONS

By Dr. Leonard V. Harms
The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod
St. Louis, Mo.

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."
1 Corinthians 10:31.

Dear Friends in Christ:

Canceled stamps seem pretty insignificant compared to the value of almost anything else. However, as we gather these stamps into bags to be weighed and sold, insignificant things become a lot more important.

The income from canceled stamps has provided funds for water wells in the Mende area of Liberia, housing for missionaries in Liberia, a computer for the business office in Liberia, and road improvement in the Kono area of Sierra Leone. These are important projects for which there are no other funds.

This programs, Stamps for Missions, existing in the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod since 1939, has provided over \$330,000 to various mission projects of the synod in many parts of the world. In recent years, approximately \$10,000 has been received annually from the sale of stamps. You are invited to participate in this mission program in many ways. Ask your pastor how you can help.



John W. Riddlebaugh

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