



# The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

May-June, 1989

St. Louis, Mo.

Volumes 81, No. 3

## CAN A GOOD GOD LET PEOPLE SUFFER?

Rev. Frank P. Wagenknecht  
8408 Potter Road  
Matthews, N.C. 28105

Dear Pastor:

*If God is good, why does He allow people to suffer with terrible sicknesses, loss of jobs, bad accidents, etc? If God is good and loves us, why doesn't He make life a little easier?*

—A Doubting Thomas

Dear Doubting Thomas:

If parents are good, why do they spank their children and make them cry? Good parents discipline their children to help make the children good.

**The Word of our God stands forever.**



God doesn't spank us, but He does allow things to happen in our lives that do not seem good to help us become good. God knows that we often need something to help us wake up and pay attention

to Him. God knows that we often need some-

thing to make us stop and think about who is really in control of life--God or us. God knows that we often need something to make us depend on Him more instead of thinking that we can depend on our money, friends and jobs, because God knows that jobs, money and friends will fail us and then we will need something that cannot fail us. God is the only One who cannot and will not fail us, because God cannot change.

If parents are good, why do they allow children to fall down and skin their knee or break their arm? That seems like a silly question--parents don't cause those bad things to happen to their children.

In a similar way, God doesn't cause bad things to happen to us. The devil is the one who plans evil for us, not God. But people don't blame the devil, they blame God and make the devil even happier that no one suspects him.

God knows what the devil is doing and planning for you. At times, God may stop the devil's evil work. But at other times, God may allow the devil to do it because He knows

CAN A GOOD GOD LET (continue on page 2)

## ALL ROADS LEAD TO PORTLAND IN 1989

By now, most of us with plans to attend the 10th biennial convention of the ILDA in Portland, Ore. this summer will have their plans pretty well made. For some of us, it will be difficult to decide whether to drive and enjoy the scenic beauty of the mountains, national parks and other wonders of the Pacific Northwest, or to fly the "Friendly Skies" of United Airlines and take advantage of travel bargain they have for ILDA convention goers.

Whatever travel method is eventually decided on, travelers to the 1989 ILDA convention are sure to find an exciting and worth-

while time for them planned for their stay in Portland.

The editor has had inquiries as to whether or not it will be permissible to make stop-overs enroute to Portland when flying by United. Visitors are encouraged to check this out with United's travel and convention desk, as it may be allowed from some locations, but perhaps not all. Perhaps complicating this will be the fact that United Airlines is the only carrier allowing the 5 to 40% discount.

ALL ROADS LEAD (continue on page 2)

## AN EDITORIAL: GETTING OUT THE NEWS . . . WHOSE JOB IS IT?

Some people must be wondering why the paper seldom has any news from some areas of the country, while there is plenty from others. We realize it is not the forte of many deaf individuals to write letters, let alone send



**SHAKING HANDS**--ILDA President Lester Ahls and Dixie President Steve Luke, Killeen, Texas, following gift to Mr. Ahls of a "Love From Texas" coffee mug at the board meeting in St. Louis in November. Photo courtesy of Don Mowl. Midwest President Harold Nord sits on right.

### CAN A GOOD GOD LET

(continue from page 1)

that even a bad thing can become a blessing, and help us learn a lesson.

Remember the Old Testament story of Joseph. His brothers were jealous of him and sold him as a slave. That was not a good thing for Joseph--and think of how much sorrow it caused for his father, Jacob. But, God allowed it to happen anyway. Why? Because God is mean? No! God allowed it happen because He knew He could use Joseph in Egypt as an assistant to the Pharaoh.

Many years later, when Joseph meets his brothers and forgives them, he says to them, "You intended to harm me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today." Because Joseph was sold as a slave to live in Egypt, God used him to become a great leader in saving food for the people to use during the time of famine.

Yes, a good God can take evil things in our life and make them turn out for our good. Everything God touches becomes only good.

Faithfully yours,  
PASTOR W.

in news, so the ILDA board decided some time ago that its area presidents, that is the regions, would appoint people to see that they were regularly represented as far as the news went. What happened?

We never hear anything from most areas of New England. The same is true for Florida, Montana and North and South Dakota. We would like to hear from our friends in Arizona, too.

Our brothers and sisters in Canada, I am sure, would like to see something said about the doings in their country.

The editor does not invent the news. He also does not care how good your grammar is as long as you send in news items. Our paper will only be as good as we, ourselves, make it. Did you know our paper is now 80 years old? That it has been in continuous publication since the year 1909 when our people asked for their own paper? That both the editor and the business manager are deaf and laymen in the church?

Let's hear it for **THE DEAF LUTHERAN!**

### ALL ROADS LEAD

(continue from page 1)

Chairperson Ron Madding and his local host committee have done a marvelous job planning for this meeting and we are assured that everything has been done to make our stay as enjoyable and profitable as possible.

Some visitors may wish to combine their vacations with the convention and perhaps they would like to consider a few days at Holden Village, a remote retreat near Chelan, Wash. The center is sponsoring a "Hearing Impaired Week" immediately following the ILDA convention with interpreters on hand for the deaf. A week of devotions, Bible study, hikes, fishing and just plain relaxing among other Christians in some of the most scenic beauty in North America is available. Inquiries should be directed to Holden Village, Chelan, Wash. 98816.

Make your plans NOW to attend the 1989 convention. Come to Portland, the Rose Capitol. Help us make the ILDA even greater! See you there!

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Too many people are willing to carry the stool when there is a piano to be moved!

# 1989 NOMINATIONS FOR ILDA OFFICES

## PRESIDENT-ELECT:

**Ronald L. Madding**, 46, 1940 N.E. 57th Ave., Portland, Ore. Chairperson 1989 ILDA convention. President, Northwest conference. BA,



RONALD L. MADDING

human resource management, 1989. Employed by U.S. Postal Service. Married, one daughter. Member of Hope Lutheran church, Portland. Has held many offices, both in his church and the Oregon Association of the Deaf.

**Archie D. Marshall**, 63, 3743 Palm St., St. Louis, Mo. Past ILDA secretary and presently chairs the Central conference. Former editor, **THE DEAF LUTHERAN**. BA degree. Chairperson, handbook task force committee. Member of Holy Cross Lutheran church, St. Louis. Has held

many offices in his congregation. John of Beverley award recipient. Retired commercial artist.

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## SECRETARY:

**Lester Ahls**, 62, 1004 Cherrywood Dr., Cedar Falls, Iowa. Currently president two terms; not eligible as incumbent. Past ILDA secretary, two terms. Past president of Midwest conference. Presently editor, **THE DEAF LUTHERAN**, since 1983. Married, two adopted daughters. Has held many church offices and in Iowa Association of the Deaf. Retired.

**Mary E. Tingler**, 538 Stafford Dr., Elyria, Ohio. No biographical information available.

**Ronald L. Madding**, Portland, Ore.

**Archie D. Marshall**, St. Louis, Mo.

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## TREASURER:

**Russel L. Healey**, 60, 2500 W. Belmont, Chicago, Ill. Incumbent, eligible for second term. Past treasurer. At the present time, unopposed. Maintenance supervisor for HUD retirement facility. Married. Member of our Savior Lutheran church, Franklin Park, Ill.

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## PASTORAL ADVISER:

**Rev. Shirrel Petzoldt**, Toledo, Ohio. Incumbent; eligible for second term.

**Rev. William Ludwig**, Seattle, Wash. Past adviser to ILDA board.

Note: In accordance with the constitution and by-laws of the association, Mr. Ronald E. Byington will succeed Lester Ahls as president at the conclusion of the convention in Portland. Secretary Beth Lockard will be completing four years as secretary and is not eligible for a third term.

Additional nominations may be accepted from the floor.

## **ONE FOR THE TEACHER!**

The boy listened closely as the teacher read the Bible. "May I ask a question?" Sure. Go ahead. Ask your question," the teacher replied. "Well, the Bible says that the **children** of Israel crossed the Red Sea, the **children** of Israel built the temple, the **children** did this and the **children** of Israel did that.

Didn't the growups ever do anything?"

## **--CORRECTION--**

We sincerely regret that the phone number given in the January-February issue for the United Airline convention desk was incorrect. For callers outside of Illinois, it should have been (800) 323-0170. For those calling from within Illinois, it should be (800) 722-5243.

The number given in the January-February issue was (800) 521-4041. TDD callers using this number could not reach a TDD.

It is not clear how the Airline made the mistake, which was discovered after all the notices had been mailed.

Callers should give the ILDA account number **9187N**. This plan is good only during July 2 to 13, 1989 and can be obtained **ONLY** through the convention desk.

# NEWS FROM THE REGIONS . . .

**Rev. George Kraus**, former pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran church, Elmhurst, N.Y., and the founding pastor of St. Mark in Newark, N.J., and currently a professor at Concordia seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind. is ill with cancer. Prayers for the pastor and his family are requested.

**Rev. George Natonick** was honored recently by his congregation on the occasion of his 10th anniversary as their pastor in a surprise party at the church's Fellowship hall.

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Baptized on Sunday, Feb. 12 in St. Louis was **Joseph William Reinke**, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Reinke. Sponsoring little Joe was Pastor and Mrs. Richard Moody and Pastor and Mrs. Mark Seeger. The ceremony was performed by his grandfather, Rev. Howard Jording. WELCOME to God's family!

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**Rev. L. Richard Vossler**, formerly serving St. Matthew in New York City, was installed as pastor of St. Philip's Lutheran church in Philadelphia on Palm Sunday, March 19.

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We were saddened to learn of the passing of **Mrs. Mildred (Millie) Petrowske**, a member of Our Savior Lutheran church of Detroit, after a long illness on Jan. 15.

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**Rev. Bud Palmer**, pastor of Emmanuel, Milwaukee, was inducted into the Indiana Wrestling Hall of Fame at the annual dinner of

the Indiana Wrestling Coaches Association at Indianapolis recently. During his last two seasons as a wrestler, he was unbeaten in 57 matches. Rev. Palmer has served Emmanuel the past five years.

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The South Wisconsin District of the LCMS has decided to cut back subsidy to all mission churches, including **Emmanuel, Milwaukee**, an amount equal to \$3,600 by Dec. 31, 1993.

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**Prince of Peace Lutheran church** in St. Paul, Minn., is happy to announce it has topped its goal of \$3,000 for a new elevator to be installed in the church. The project will be completed soon with a dedication service and dinner.

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Just a week after the registration opened for the **1989 Youth Gathering** in Denver, more than 10,500 had responded. The LCMS board for youth services staff expects 15,000 youths and adults to be on hand for the Aug. 5-9 event.

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**Dr. Edward Westcott**, Executive director of the LCMS board for mission services has announced his retirement effective Sept. 30, 1989.

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The Senate and House of Representatives in Washington have passed a bill that would set up a TDD relay system for the deaf in the United States. Presently, only three states have a statewide system comparable to it: Illinois, New York and California. Final action, funding and set up are the next steps.

## 1989 CONFERENCE DATES

### GREAT LAKES:

Sept. 15, 16 and 17, Laurelville Mennonite Church center, Mt. Pleasant, Pa. Conference theme, "WALK IN LOVE". Banner contest. Host congregation, Trinity, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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### MIDWEST:

July 28, 29 and 30, Saviour of the World Pastoral center, Bonner Springs, Kan. Host congregation, Northeast Kansas Lutheran Church for Deaf.

All other regions will meet in 1990. Information for the Central region is not available.



**GLRC WINTER RETREAT**--Part of the crowd of 71 gather for their picture at Camp Pioneer, Angola, N.Y. Jan. 13-16. Excellent weather, a trip to Niagara Falls, fun and games and devotions were reported. Photo courtesy of Larry Ginter. How many pastors can you find?

# UNIQUE SERVICE UNITES COUPLE AT LOS ANGELES JAN. 14

In an unusual service at Pilgrim Lutheran church, Los Angeles, Calif. on Jan. 14, solemnized in three languages, Miss Miae Chong became the bride of Mr. Chang Rae Cho in a 3 p.m. ceremony officiated by Rev. Robert D. Case before 280 guests.

Observing the Korean custom of having the entire wedding party, including the minister gloved in white, the vows were repeated in American Sign Language (ASL), Korean and in

spoken English by Mr. Charles Kotal. The groom choose Mr. Kil Kim as his best man and the maid of honor was Ms Armida Reyes.

The entire family comes from Seoul, Korea and moved to the United States eight years ago. Both the bride and groom were baptized and became members of Pilgrim a week before the wedding on Jan. 8.

A catered Korean style dinner was served which is described as "just grand."



**SOLEMNIZING THE VOWS**—The bride and groom stand before Pastor Case as they repeat their vows at Pilgrim Lutheran church.



**THE HAPPY COUPLE** pose for the photographer following their wedding in Los Angeles Jan. 14.

## WE ARE THE FAMILY OF GOD!

"As people who trust in Jesus Christ, we belong to the family of God. You have God's Word on that! St. Paul quotes God in II Corinthians 6:18 where we read, "I will be a Father to you and you will be my sons and daughters." How wonderful it is to be able to call God, our Father, and to know Him as a loving Father who rescued us from spiritual disaster by sending His Son to be our Redeemer!

Yes, we are the family of God and our heavenly Father cares about how things are going in our lives, and in the lives of our families. One of the greatest gifts that God gives to His children is families with Christian mothers and fathers, who will bring up families in the admonition of the Lord.

It is no secret that many families are in trouble these days with outside pressures from all sides. We have the worsening drug problem, immorality, apathy towards authority

and many other problems making it difficult to be a family. Yet, the God who made us said, "It is not good for man to be alone. I will made a helper suitable for him." And God made the first family. So we see, families are God's idea.

This year, Mothers' Day falls on May 14 and Fathers' Day on June 18. Remember to praise and give thanks to God for Christian parents who have helped us on the way to becoming members of God's family.

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow."



# PORTLAND

OREGON

ILDA PRE-CONVENTION TOURS

JULY 5, 1989

CHOICE OF THE FOLLOWING TOURS:

1 - MT. HOOD                      8½ hours                      \$24.00 Adult/\$12.00 Child

See Government Camp & Timberline Lodge on Oregon's highest peak. Spectacular views! Then drive through Mt. Hood Valley, famous for apple and pear orchards. Return through magnificent Columbia River Gorge, and view Multnomah Falls and Crown Point.

2 - NORTHERN OREGON COAST                      9 hours                      \$24.00 Adult/\$12.00 Child

Tour begins with a drive to Seaside, with plenty of time for shopping, looking, and lunch (not included in cost). Then it's on Highway 101 to Cannon Beach and Haystack Rock. It then continues on to Tillamook where you will visit the Tillamook Cheese Factory. From Tillamook we head inland for our return to Portland.

3 - MT. ST. HELENS                      6 hours                      \$10.00 Per Person

Journey to Castle Rock, Washington, to the Volcano Center with its many exhibits. Use the telescopes to view Mt. St. Helens crater.

Sign up for these tours now to reserve your space. Need to know how many are interested. Fill out coupon below and mail it today.

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Mail to:  
ALOHA TRAVEL  
ATTN: Sandra  
17965 S.W. TV HWY.  
ALOHA, OR 97006

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(ages of any children)  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tour(s) desired \_\_\_\_\_

Do not send any money at this time. I will contact you later for payment. Thanks, Sandra. Deadline: June 5, 1989

**ALOHA  
TRAVEL  
SERVICE**

## BEING IN THE 'MINORITY' ISN'T ALL BAD . . .

During the time Noah was building the ark, he was very much in the minority--but he won.

When Joseph sold into Egypt by his brothers, he was a decided minority, but he won.

When Gideon and his 300 followers, with

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A doctor said a few years ago if we would all follow the teachings of the Bible, more of us would stay well. This is certainly brought out vividly as cases of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) continue to mount.

According to public health officials, AIDS is not easily acquired, but once contracted, is not curable. The mortality rate is nearly always fatal within a span of several months:

Most cases of AIDS are the result of illicit sexual activity, intravenous use of recreational drugs using infected needles. It is not acquired through casual contact such as colds and flu are.

Moral: God gave us all the Ten Commandments a long time ago. We would do well to listen to Him.

**ATTENTION!!**

**ATTENTION!!**

**WELCOME  
TO  
PORTLAND**



Airline Travelers to the 10th Biennial ILDA Convention to Portland, Ore. on July 6-9, 1989. Please look for the above poster inside window of the **RED LION INN-LLOYD CENTER** Shuttle Bus to Hotel. **DO NOT BOARD OTHER RED LION INN SHUTTLE BUSES WITHOUT THIS POSTER!** Thank you.

**Ronald L. Madding, Chairman**  
1989 ILDA Convention Committee

their broken pitchers and lamps put the Midianites to flight, they were an insignificant minority, but they won.

When Elijah prayed down fire from heaven and put the prophets of Baal to shame, he was in a notable minority, but he won.

When David, ridiculed by his brothers, went out to meet Goliath, in size he was a decided minority, but he won.

When Martin Luther nailed his theses on the door of the cathedral, he was a lonesome minority, but he won.

When Jesus Christ was crucified by the Roman soldiers, He was a conspicuous minority, but He won!

## FOOTBALL CHRISTIANITY!

**QUARTERBACK SNEAK:** Quietly leaving church before communion.

**DRAFT CHOICE:** Choosing a seat near the door.

**SUDDEN DEATH:** What happens to the preacher if the sermon is too long.

**STAY IN THE POCKET:** Collecting the offering.

**TWO MINUTE WARNING:** When the closing hymn starts.

**BLITZ:** What happens when everyone hurries out of church.

**TRAP PLAY:** What one sometimes feels when asked to be on the nominating committee.

**THE BOMB:** What goes off when one hears the budget for next year.

**TIGHT END:** Someone who never puts anything in the offering plate.

**CHALK TALK:** Confirmation class.

**END AROUND:** Tactic used sometimes when approached by the nominating committee.

**RECRUITER:** Member of the evangelism committee.

**AUDIBLE:** Member of the church choir.

**TRAINING CAMP:** Sunday school.

**INTERFERENCE:** What happens when some babies start crying during the sermon.

**INSTANT REPLAY:** When the pastor repeats himself during the sermon.

**PLAYBACK:** The hymnal.

Now that you know the language, come play the game. Kickoff time is your regular worship hour on Sunday; the team is always looking for new members!

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

13454 2nd S.W.,  
Seattle, Wash. 98146  
March 15, 1989

Dear Editor:

I truly enjoyed the heart-warming story, "What was in Jeremy's Egg?" (March-April). It brought tears to my eyes. I, too, had the privilege and honor to teach God's Word to those who are called "slow learners": those whom the world often scorns, or try to tell those of us willing to teach them, that the mentally retarded or slow learners cannot understand the love and forgiveness of Jesus.

I believed heaven will be filled with people like Jeremy and my pupils who might know only the name of Jesus. I'm glad the woman in the story did not cast Jeremy aside. His egg was proof the seed of God's Word brought forth fruit.

Thanks for publishing such a beautiful Easter story. That was the best part of the whole paper.

In Christ,  
Meta Luetzow

Editor's note; I cried, too!

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**REMEMBER . . .** When we place our contribution in the collection plate, we are not giving to the Lord, but just removing our hands from what already belongs to Him!

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**A mistake is proof**  
that someone tried to do something.

# SYMBOLS OF PENTECOST

The color for the Day of Pentecost is red. It is the color of fire, for the spirit came in tongues of fire. The fire represents God, the 'consuming fire.' God the Holy Spirit comes to the disciples. The fire represents, moreover, warm hearts, fiery zeal, dedication and devotion.

Also, red is the color of blood and represents the blood of martyrs which is the seed of the church.

The color for Sundays after Pentecost, is green, a color of growth. It is during this season that Christians are to grow in the spirit. Incidentally, the word, "Pentecost" denotes fifty, which is fifty days after Easter.

## Child Care During ILDA Convention

For a very modest cost, families bringing small children to the 1989 ILDA convention can obtain care for them at the hotel while their parents attend the sessions.

Redeemer Lutheran church, 5431 N.E. 20th is offering skilled services from its youth group along with adult supervision who will see to it that the youngsters are kept busy and entertained while the parents must be elsewhere. Red Cross trained and CPR instructed, the group will offer games, crafts, stories and a lot of fun for only \$1 per hour with a one time fee of \$2 for supplies and \$3.50 for Saturday dinner.

If this sounds like something your family would be interested in, contact Chairperson Ron Madding or the church group.

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**RESOLVE TO PRAY IN 1989 . . .**

A man too busy to pray is busier than the Lord wants him to be!

# The DEAF LUTHERAN

May-June, 1989

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