

REACTIONS TO 50 YEARS
OF TEACHING IN A CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL
BY
MISS VIOLA SCHLUETER

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Sr. Church History
April 3, 1982
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Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old,
he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, e-
vangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting
of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying
of the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear
of the Lord.

Psalm 34:11

These three passages, a few out of many, show us just how important the instruction of children is in the eyes of our Lord. Children are one of the great blessings which the Lord has seen fit to give to his people and it is one of our great joys to bring them up "in the way they should go." The instructing of children has always had a lasting heritage within the Lutheran Church. Martin Luther pointed out the importance of instructing even little children as he produced his Small Catechism. It is not far-fetched then to opt for a study of some facet of the education of children in a paper concentrating itself with the study of Lutheranism in America.

At most times a study of history will concern itself with who did what and when. This is the way it should be. In most instances the student of history must master long periods of his assigned course in the most complete manner possible in a relatively limited amount of time.

One problem with this system is that very often the student forgets the human element behind the facts and dates. He forgets that the people whom he is learning about are or were people just like himself. They, too, had their dreams and emotions, their loves and hates, their joys and sorrows. Sometimes he forgets that these bigger than life characters could and did react in very human ways.

Since this paper was more or less an open topic assignment, I have decided to take a look at one of the "human sides" of history. The subject is the fifty-plus years of teaching service which the Lord enabled Miss Viola Schlueter to contribute to His Church. It will concern itself primarily with reactions to this long period of faithful service as expressed by the people she served, that is, members of the congregations in which she taught and the students in her classrooms.

The paper will proceed in this manner: first there will be a brief biographical section. This then will be followed by two "reaction" sections. The first such section will focus its attention on Miss Schlueter's first twenty-five years of teaching, all spent at St. Paul's in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. The second will deal with a milestone that few teachers are privileged to attain, her fiftieth anniversary in the teaching ministry.

One final note, this paper is not, can not, nor does it intend to be objective. Miss Schlueter is my aunt and has always held a special place in my heart. If it sounds as though the author wrote this from a biased point of view, well, he did! However, it should be pointed out that the quotations

used to comment on a part or on the whole of this Fifty-year service were not solicited. Research was limited to those letters, newspaper articles, programs, etc., that came forward at the time of the twenty-five and fifty year anniversaries. In other words, if I happen to think that the Lord gave His little lambs a special blessing in the work of Miss Schlueter, obviously others thought so too!

BIOGRAPHY

Viola Schlueter was born April 22, 1908 in Watertown, Wisconsin to Agnes and William Schlueter. Her sister, Mrs. Dorothy Kujawski, in a This Is Your Life program presented on the occasion of Miss Schlueter's fiftieth anniversary, recalls: "At birth you only weighed $3\frac{1}{2}$ pounds and your first bed was a shoe box. God blessed you with health and soon the time came when you had to go to school."¹ (It is a little funny to think of Miss Schlueter ever having "had" to go to school since it was to teaching in the Lord's school that she has given so much love!)

Miss Schlueter spent all of her formative years in the city of Watertown. She attended St. Mark's Lutheran Grade School and was confirmed at St. Mark's on April 9, 1922 by Rev. Klingman. Her high school years were spent at Northwestern Preparatory School, also in Watertown. She graduated in 1926. She attended a number of different colleges throughout her life, always striving to learn more and better ways of instructing the children of her congregations.

Her first call was to St. Paul's in Ft. Atkinson, Wisconsin in 1926. Notice that 1926 was the year of her high school graduation, not her college graduation! The time was not an

easy one for St. Paul's having just gone through one of the foundation problems of the Protestant Controversy in the preceding few years. Reasons for the calling of a high school graduate seems to have stemmed from a bit of dissatisfaction with the college graduates^{of New Ulm} coupled with a particular talent that Miss Schlueter had, music. By her own account, St. Paul's needed someone to handle a portion of the music departments in their congregation and school and the Lord, in his wisdom, sent Miss Schlueter.

At St. Paul's Miss Schlueter taught grades one through three. She also was the organist and taught Sunday School. She also played a major role in the organization of a kindergarten which was begun in a house across the street from the church, because the school lacked the necessary space.² Her teaching then included kindergarten through third grade until other teachers were called. This teaching was done in the "old school" of St. Paul's with Edgar Wehausen, Erwin Schumacher, Pastor Palmer Jahnke, and Pastor Henry Gieschen.

In September of 1952 she accepted the position of third grade teacher at St. John's in Watertown. She has remained at St. John's ever since, staying with the congregation even through the difficult years surrounding the severance of fellowship with LCMS (St. John's was originally a LCMS congregation.) During the times of crisis St. John's at first remained with LCMS, then joined the short-lived FAL, and is now a member of WELS. Through those trying times Miss Schlueter felt it necessary to remain where she was, teaching the true doctrines as the Lord had led her.

Miss Schlueter taught at St. John's for a total of twenty eight years, retiring in June of 1981. Yet the word "retirement" does not aptly describe the circumstances. Miss Schlueter continues to teach, helping with different remedial subjects.

Perhaps a fitting way to conclude this biographical section would be with a different biography written by one of the children of St. John's in Watertown in November of 1966:

Miss Viola Schlueter

"Ever since I can remember I wanted to be a teacher," she told me. "I guess it is because my mother and aunts were teachers," Miss Schlueter remarked.

Born and raised in Watertown, Miss Schlueter furthered her education at the Universities of Whitewater, Oshkosh and River Forest. Her first experience in teaching was in Fort Atkinson where she taught the first, second, and third grades. Fourteen years ago Miss Schlueter joined our teaching staff at St. John's. Her love for young children can be seen if you watch her teaching in the third grade. Music is a big part of Miss Schlueter's life. She has been an organist for about 30 years and beautifies our church service every Sunday. The children's primary choir is directed by her.

Her hobbies are stamp collecting, music instruction and playing the piano and organ. Miss Schlueter especially enjoys teaching religion, reading and social studies.

Miss Schlueter gives this message to all boys and girls that "Teaching is the most wonderful profession of all."

--by Lori Wickus³

... A CELEBRATION OF TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Now we come to the "reaction" portion of this paper, the section that tells us not so much the facts about Miss Schlueter, but rather tells us of the love and respect which people have had for a faithful servant of the Lord.

In the July 15, 1951 edition of the Northwestern Lutheran we read the following:

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

In a well attended evening service on the first Sunday in June, St. Paul's Congregation of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of Miss Viola Schlueter as a teacher in the primary grades of the congregation's Christian day school. The entire twenty-five years that Miss Schlueter has taught were spent in the congregation at Fort Atkinson. The envelope offering in the service was presented to Miss Schlueter as a token of appreciation by the congregation. A Lutheran teachers' choir, the mixed choir, and the pupils of the school rendered appropriate selections. After the service a social gathering was held on the school playground.

May the Lord also in the future richly bless the work of Miss Schlueter upon the hearts and souls of the little ones in our school.

HENRY GIESCHEN⁴

So reads the account of the passing of this milestone in the Synod publication. It is informative, brief (as it must be), and appreciative. Now let's take a look at some rather informal tributes to this anniversary.

On May 19, 1952 at St. Paul's a program was presented entitled "Through the Years with Miss Schlueter" which provides us with some fascinating insights into the previous twenty-six years of teaching. As you read these "historical

excerpts" you are given an insight not only into what it must have been like to teach during those years, but also into the obvious love that existed between teacher and congregation. The following then are excerpts from this program:

In order to start our story we must go back to June 1926. Miss Gertrude Zabel who taught the primary class had to be replaced. . .The board inquired at Northwestern College as to who might be available in that years graduating class and a Miss Viola Schlueter was highly recommended because of her music ability.

One Sat. morning in late August Mrs. Chas. Gruetzman heard a knock at her door. Upon answering it she found a young girl and her mother. They were none other than Mrs. Agnes Schlueter and her daughter Viola. They were looking for a room and Mrs. Schlueter hoped that her daughter might find a room with the Gruetzmans, and----- she did. Miss Schlueter had just recovered from Scarlet Fever or Chicken Pox and was rather pale looking, her hair long and thin and Mrs. Gruetzman felt sorry for her and just couldn't refuse.

In Sept. 1926 there were 7 first graders, 8 second graders and 6 third graders. Doris Knoerr Bienfang was a member of the 1st grade. She remembers so well the familiar "Gingerbread Man" story, and the emphasis on the "I am I am." It was difficult for some of them to say "Miss Schlueter" so they called her "Hey you."

I wonder how many times Miss Schlueter was called upon to provide entertainment for the Ladies Aid. The day when she and her little flock were on the program, everyone looked forward to it. It was a big day for both the children and their mothers who were usually included as guests that day, if they were not members.

The year 1942 brought the Nitardy's little girl Lois to the first grade where she was joined with five others. Ten were in second grade and ten in third. Lois loved Miss Schlueter so, and when she left third grade and passed into fourth she cried and cried.

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The first graders of 1944 are the present 8th graders and, since they as well as the present faculty are still in Miss Schlueter's midst, we shall bring our "Through the Years with Miss Schlueter" to a close with the year of 1943. OUR association with Miss Schlueter will go on through more years in our memories.

One of the most charming mementoes which Miss Schlueter took with her from St. Paul's was a scrap-book filled with hand-made cards made by her students. An interesting aspect to these cards is that the picture of the child is included next to his or her handiwork. It is truly fascinating to read through the book, to look at the pigtailed and crew cuts and to imagine the deviltry, the eagerness, the dreams that existed behind their bright expressions. The following are examples of what they thought of their teacher.

The scrap-book opens with two cards from Richard and Lois. Both have pretty scenes drawn in crayon whose colors the years have not faded. The boy, wearing a striped T-shirt has tousled hair and a devilish look on his face. The little girl is wearing a flowered vest and a smile. The message from each of them is the same: "Miss Schlueter, I love you."

The same message is repeated over and over again by Mary and Danny, Karen and Terry. The pictures include a train, more outdoor scenes, a house, and any number of flower-beds. One has to wonder what happened to all of them, yet their

feeling for Mrs. Schlueter can be summed up in the message of one Wayne R. Krueger who proudly scrawled: "Miss Schlueter is my teacher!"

A fitting way to conclude this section of reactions to Miss Schlueter's Fort Atkinson years comes from a somewhat unexpected source and time. The source is Pastor D.F. Bitter who preached at the service commemorating her fiftieth anniversary. After the occasion he sent Miss Schlueter a congratulatory letter which included this paragraph:

Really it was a privilege for me to speak at your anniversary. St. Paul's congregation is deeply indebted to you for the years during which you served the Lord in the school here, and the fact that Christian education is on a solid footing in our midst is in no small degree due to the diligent and effective work which you, together with the other members of the faculty, did during those 25 years. Throughout its long history of parochial education St. Paul's has been blessed with competent and consecrated teachers. For this we must thank the Lord.



JEFFERSON COUNTY UNION

HONORED FOR 25 YEARS SERVICE—Miss Viola Schlueter, primary teacher at St. Paul's Lutheran school for 25 years was presented with a bouquet by Fred Bless, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Bless, 707 Monroe st., on behalf of the students at the school Sunday evening at services held in her honor at St. Paul's church. The corsage Miss Schlueter is wearing was a gift from the faculty.

Miss Schlueter Couldn't Imagine Why This Was Happening to Her

Miss Viola Schlueter, primary teacher at St. Paul's Lutheran school, has just handed report cards to her 25th class. She expressed her enjoyment in her work when she remarked, "I guess I'm just like my students, I'm glad when school is out, but I'm just as glad to be back in the fall."

It was because of that enjoyment and interest she has taken in her classes for 25 years that she was honored Sunday by her many friends and students at a party at the church. Overwhelmed at the preparation that had taken place without her knowledge she modestly expressed her feeling that she didn't know why all this was happening to her.

Twenty-five years ago, Miss Schlueter realized a dream she had carried since childhood. Because her grandfather, a professor at Northwestern college, Watertown, her mother, two aunts and an uncle, an exchange teacher in Japan, had entered the profession before her, she had decided to realize the same ambition.

Miss Schlueter began her teaching career with the first three grades. Later she took on the fourth grade history and geography classes, "because there was no one else to do it."

Last year, she decided there should be a kindergarten, so she organized it in a house across the street from the church, because the school lacked the necessary space. Now she teaches the first and second grades, since a separate kindergarten teacher has been found.

Not every teacher is a successful teacher, but we found the answer to where success comes from by discovering the methods Miss Schlueter uses in her school room. "If you get a youngster to like you, you have half the battle

won." Her students instinctively know she is "on their side" and they, in turn, give her their full co-operation.

Discipline problems? Miss Schlueter says she doesn't have many. The religious instruction given at the school takes care of most of them and her experience with the guidance of children does the rest. "The longer I know them, the more I learn about them — their likes and dislikes, and their peculiarities."

Another of her "success" secrets is in getting parents and pre-school children to visit her classes. She likes to have her future students "try out the seats." She says it takes some of the fear away.

She also believes that "if they aren't started out right in the beginning, it will be hard all through the school." Surely, her students have had the right start to make the grade later. She has also made the "slower" students her personal problems. "They're the ones that need help. The others will get by all right."

Friends have asked her, "Don't you ever get tired of children?" And she smiles when she explains her deep interest in them. During her summers at her home in Watertown, there are always neighbor children around. Her pet hobby, her garden, is a common meeting ground for the children living near her.

Another of her pet "off-duty" interests is her piano teaching. She says it relaxes her. And even her summer reading helps her bone up on new techniques in teaching and handling children.

Truly, a successful teacher like Miss Viola Schlueter deserves recognition after 25 years of applying these methods of instruction and guidance to children in their first, more impressive years of learning.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

As had been mentioned earlier, following her years of service in Fort Atkinson, Miss Schlueter became a teacher at St. John's in Watertown, where the Lord led her to remain until her "retirement." Again, the word "retirement" is placed in quotation marks because Miss Schlueter, though officially retired has not ceased her teaching, even today continuing to bring her special gifts to the children of St. John's in a more limited capacity (timewise, not quality-wise!).

It was while she was still actively teaching at St. John's that the Lord enabled her to reach a milestone that is seldom attained in the teaching ministry--her fiftith anniversary in teaching. The Northwestern Lutheran recorded this landmark in this way:

MISS SCHLUETER OBSERVES 50TH YEAR AS
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL TEACHER

On Sunday, October 10, 1976, St. John's Lutheran Church, Watertown, Wisconsin, hosted a surprise 50th anniversary celebration in honor of Miss Viola Schlueter. Miss Schlueter taught at St. Paul's Lutheran, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, for 26 years, and is now in her 24th year at St. John's school.

Pastor D.F. Bitter of Ft. Atkinson was guest speaker at the anniversary service, at which Miss Schlueter was presented with a commemorative plaque. Following the service, a "This Is Your Life" program was presented in the school gymnasium. Giving glimpses of her past life were her sisters, Mrs. Dorothy Kujawski of Wauwatosa and Mrs. Ruth Merrill of Beloit. Former co-workers and friends at Ft. Atkinson were represented by Mrs. Bless, Mrs. Hanson, Mrs. Rindfleisch, and Miss Lillian Quandt. Representing St. John's were Miss Marie Taras, a former fellow teacher, Joan Schilling, a former pupil Mr. Peter Westermeyer, president of the congregation, and Mr. Carl Bartels, principal.

Miss Schlueter's response is summarized in the following words, part of the inscription on the plaque presented to her: "I thank Thee, Lord, for these years-- Golden have they come to be. Let the fold yield to Thy light, to Heaven's glory bring Thou me."

While the preceding was an accurate record of what had taken place, for the purposes of this paper we glean much more feeling from just a few of the hundreds of congratulatory letters and cards which Miss Schlueter received in commemoration of this happy day.

Consider these words from the pen of one Jim Wade, then a student at Dr. Martin Luther College:

I would also at this time like to thank you for all the help and encouragement you gave me when I was your student. You can't build a solid house unless you have a firm foundation, and (I) think you've given me that firm foundation on which to build.

Here is a letter from another one of her former students, This one grew up to be a pastor, Rev. Richard E. Mundt, of Emmaus Ev. Lutheran Church in Waupaca, Wisconsin. His words reflect the fact that a dedicated Christian teacher is indeed a special gift of God:

I just realized that it has been over 20 years since I was a young child in your 3rd grade class. I still remember your kindness and sincerity, but most of all your dedication to the Lord in your work.

God has granted you a rich and full ministry in your life. I am thankful to Him that He has used your service in our church.9

If there had been a contest as to the farthest distance a congratulatory letter had come, the following from Gary Hanson would certainly have been in the running. This letter came a long distance, (all the way from Redlands, CA) but the sentiment it expressed crossed miles and years as though they were no obstacle at all.

I attribute my success in my later schooling to the good foundation I had from you in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade. I certainly never realized then that those early years would lead to a PhD degree.

May God richly bless you as you have blessed others and may your future years be as wonderful as your past have been.¹⁰

Of course, not every child is going to grow up to be a pastor, teacher, or PhD. Indeed, the most important function and ability a teacher must have is to be able to help all of the children which the Lord has placed into her care. To the average third grader, future degrees and careers are not nearly as important as a friendly smile and greeting. In testimony to Miss Schlueter's gifts in this very important facet of her work we have this letter from Susan Gerbitz.

It seems like only yesterday, but it has been 25 years since we met. In 1952 you and I started 3rd grade at St. John's.

I was so scared my first day, but you took me by the hand and introduced me to my classmates and everything was O.K. It wasn't long before I had made a lot of new friends.

I will never forget my first day at St. John's, you have always been my favorite teacher.¹¹

It is nearly a universal axiom that parents always want better for their children than what they had for themselves. In light of this fact, the following words from Ruth Lutze are quite a complement to Miss Schlueter indeed.

I consider myself very fortunate to have had you as my first teacher, in those important formative years. I often look back to those days, and only wish our girls could experience the same privilege.¹²

Yet, not all of the congratulatory words came from former pupils. There were many loving messages from friends and colleagues as well. This letter from Herbert and Paula Richter expresses appreciation from another point of view, a view that extends behind the scenes of St. John's.

Many thoughts and memories must be going through your mind today. Among them possibly which I like to recall: those pre-Christmas evenings at your home which included not only program planning but a grand sampling of tasty snacks that made Watertown famous; our involvement with the Community Concerts committee with Prof. Oswald and Mrs. Hornburg, bringing special music to our town; lots of gemuetlichkeit and good fellowship among the St. John staff. And a few hassles with some of your energetic Kleine in the classroom where patience had to battle with love and forgiveness. Your former pupils will certainly help you remember.¹³

On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary Miss Schlueter^{received} official recognition and gratitude from her church, both on the synodical and congregational level. For the sake of completeness both of these letters are reproduced here in full on the next two pages.

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 7, 1976

Miss Viola Schlueter
304 North Sixth Street
Watertown, Wisconsin 53094

Dear Miss Schlueter,

I am very sorry that I will be unable to attend your 50th Anniversary in the teaching ministry on Sunday, October 10. I am preaching for the dedication of a school addition at St. John's in Waterloo that day.

But I surely want to join you and the members of St. John's Congregation in thanking God for the blessings He has shown you and through you to many others. I know that your own feelings at such a time are aptly stated by Jacob of old, "I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which thou hast showed unto thy servant".

On this important milestone, permit me to extend the good wishes of our Synod and District. May the Lord continue to hold His protecting hand over you and grant His constant blessing in the years ahead.

Cordially,

Carl H. Mischke
Carl H. Mischke

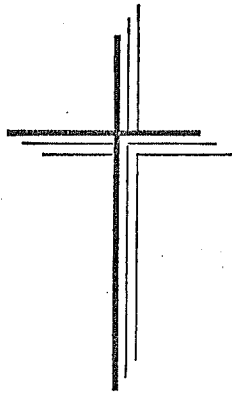
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St. John's Lutheran Church and School

— W.E.L.S. —

WATERTOWN, WISCONSIN 53094

June 1, 1980

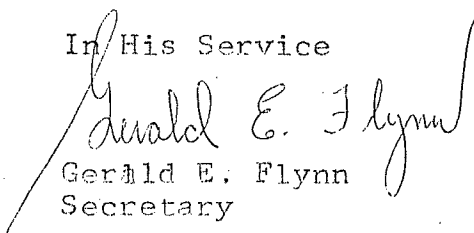
Dear Miss Schlueter,

Personally, and on behalf of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation I would like to extend it's sincere thanks and gratitude to you in the "Feeding of Our Lambs" these past twenty-eight years. Your service to our congregation was a long and distinctive one for which we shall forever be grateful. The interest and dedication to your students was always very apparent and as a result was very much appreciated and will always be remembered by this congregation. Your rapport with the faculty and supportiveness of the school administration was admirable and the way you endeared yourself to the youth will always be an inspiration to all of us.

May your faithfulness to God's Word and love for children be a model for all of us to follow. There is no question that you have made an indelible mark in our school for which we shall always be grateful. As you go into a well earned retirement mayour Good Lord Bless and Keep you and give you as well good health and happiness the rest of your life.

Sincerely,

In His Service


Gerald E. Flynn
Secretary

Perhaps it would be proper to end this reaction section with the two preceding letters, but I have not chosen to do so. While it is true that Miss Schlueter was always a dedicated teacher and loyal to her congregations and her Lord, her true joy in teaching came in telling little children about their Savior. For this reason it seems only right that the last comments on Miss Schlueter's years of teaching should come, not from pastors or teachers, not from friends or relatives, not even from the President of the Wisconsin. Instead, the final word should come from children, those children who were in Miss Schlueter's class in her 50th anniversary year, 1976-1977.

Little Pamela Tesch wrote: "To my wonderful teacher who is always there when I need help and has a special way of making school interesting and very educational may God bless you always Miss Schlueter." (sic)¹⁴

Michelle Oesher wrote the following short treatise:

MY YEAR WITH MISS SCHLUETER

I really like being in your class. You make learning so much fun. Someday I hope I can get a piano and take piano lessons from you. You make your room so nice to be in.¹⁵

I think that the following letter is especially high praise coming from a third grader:

Dear Miss Schlueter,
I like you alot. And I hope that everyone that had or has you thinks that your nice kind and thoufull. Because I like all the things that you think of for art. And when you yell or tell someone like any of us, I know that you are only trying to help. And I love you.

Love,
Carmen Raye
Volgeli (sic)¹⁶



MISS VIOLA SCHLUETER was presented with a plaque on behalf of St. John's Lutheran Church and the Board of Education for her many years of service in the teaching ministry. Miss Schlueter has been a third grade teacher at St. John's since 1957 and prior to that time at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Fort Atkinson. Miss Schlueter has been teaching for a total of 50 years. Presenting the plaque is Albert Oestreich. Shown at the back are (from left) Rev. Kenneth Weber of St. John's, Rev. D. F. Bitter of St. Paul's, Fort Atkinson, and Rev. Eugene Kauffeld of St. John's.

Honor Miss Schlueter For Teaching Ministry

Miss Viola Schlueter, third grade teacher on the staff of St. John's School, was honored for her 50 years in the teaching ministry at a special service Sunday afternoon at St. John's Lutheran Church.

The guest speaker at the service, attended by over 400 people, was the Rev. D. F. Bitter of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Fort Atkinson, where she had taught for 26 years before coming to Watertown in 1952. Music was provided by the upper grades school choir under the direction of E. Kionka.

AFTER THE CLOSE of the service Miss Schlueter was presented with a plaque on which was engraved a poem commemorating her half century of teaching. This plaque was presented to her by Albert Oestreich on behalf of St. John's Church and the Board of Education. Following the service a "This Is Your

Life" program was given in the school gymnasium. Among those from her past life who spoke were her sisters, Mrs. Dorothy Kujawski of Wauwatosa and Mrs. Ruth Merrill of Beloit. Also speaking were several friends and co-workers of hers while in Fort Atkinson, including Mrs. Bless and Mrs. Hanson of Fort Atkinson, Mrs. Lillian Quandt of Neenah and Mrs. Rindfleisch of Madison.

REPRESENTING ST. JOHN'S were Miss Marie Taras, a former fellow-teacher, Joan Schilling, a former student, Peter Westermeyer, congregation president, and Carl Bartels, school principal, who presented her with a gift from her fellow-teachers. She also received many cards, letters and gifts from those who were present and from many out-of-town relatives and friends who were unable to attend. Refreshments and fellowship followed in the school cafeteria.

been no long quotes from Miss Schlueter herself. This was by design. The purpose of this paper was to show reaction to a teacher, not reactions of a teacher. The final reaction is a personal one.

As I began this paper, there were a number of ways it could have gone. It could have been a study of Miss Schlueter's teaching methods. It could have been filled with amusing anecdotes of her fifty years plus in the classroom. I could have told the story of the soul-searching that went on during the split with Missouri. I could have related incidents in which Miss Schlueter was forced to become a faculty spokesman in times of trouble, although she never enjoyed the role. Finally, I could have told you from personal experience how the faithfulness of this woman, to her school children, her family, and, most importantly, to her Lord has been and inspiration to me.

But I chose not to do so. Instead I felt it would be best to let other people do the talking, to let other people tell you about a faithful servant of the Lord. If you were to ask any of them about Miss Schlueter, I'm sure they would all say the same thing: "She shows her love for her Savior, in her love for the children."

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND ENDNOTES

Due to the fact that no work or letter was quoted more than once this complete list of the cited notes will do double-duty.

¹This Is Your Life Viola Schlueter, prepared by Mrs. Dorothy Kujawski on the occasion of the 50th anniversary.

²Jefferson City Union article on the occasion of the 25th anniversary, no date.

³St. John's News Capsule, St. John's Lutheran School, Watertown, WI, November, 1966, p.2.

⁴Northwestern Lutheran, July 15, 1941, p. 220.

⁵Through the Years With Miss Schlueter, presented on the occasion of the 25th anniversary.

⁶Bitter, D.F. Letter, dated January 28, 1977.

⁷Northwestern Lutheran, February 20, 1977, p. 62.

⁸Wade, Jim, Letter, dated October 18, 1976.

⁹Mundt, Rev. Richard E. Letter, dated September 20, 1976.

¹⁰Hanson, Gary, Letter, no date, postmarked, October 8, 1976.

¹¹Gerbitz, Susan, Letter, no date, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary.

¹²Lutze, Ruth, Letter, no date, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary.

¹³Richter, Herbert and Paula, Letter, dated October 4, 1976, Kansas, Mo.

¹⁴Taken from a scrapbook presented to Miss Schlueter on the occasion of her 59th anniversary from her class.

¹⁵Ibid.

¹⁶Ibid.