

1-24-1982

Retirement celebration for Rev. John Kucharik. Jan 24, 1982

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

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REJOICE

in the
LORD
always

AND

AGAIN

I SAY
REJOICE



PHILIPPIANS 4:4

CLOSURE HYMN:

TLH 99

"Praise To The Lord, The Almighty" arr. P. Manz
The congregation will sing verses 1-3-4-5. Please
remain standing for the singing of the Choir's portion
of the hymn-Verses 2 and 4

THE RECEPTION: "Now Thank We All Our God"

Preacher: The Rev. Albert Narcis, D. D.

Liturgist: Rev. Daniel M. Lusak (8:30)

Rev. Carl H. Tocke (11:00)

The Acolytes: Doug Lusak John Jakubcin

The Organist: Mrs. Judy Duda

Cantata Choir: Directed by Miss Ruth Whedemann

Joyful Noise St. Luke Christian School Handbell Ringers

ALTAR FLOWERS: Given to the glory of God and in honor of
Pastor Kacharik's retirement by the Church Office Staff
and School Office Staff.

EXPLANATION OF THE BANNER: Psalms 4:4 - an often
quoted passage of Pastor Kacharik's was chosen to symbol-
ize his ministry.

Pastor rejoiced in the Lord whenever he served God's
people. This banner reflects this very special blessing.
In his ministry (stone and staff), Pastor baptized (dove),
married (inter-twined rings on cross), taught (lamp), buried
(crown and cross), and preached the Gospel (open Bible).
The church rejoices and thanks God for all the blessings
received in these 40 years of ministry.

These symbols are a reminder to us all of the love of God
in Jesus Christ our Lord. In Him, through Him, and from
Him is our faith and salvation.

Pastor Kacharik:

"Rejoice in the Lord always." For he says to you:
"Well Done"

The Rev. John J. Kucharik was born on January 29, 1917 in Garfield, New Jersey. He is the son of Ladefia Kucharik, nee Szeplia, and the late Pastor Joseph Kucharik. He attended public school in Garfield and graduated from St. Paul Lutheran School in 1930; earning at Concordia College in Bronxville, New York, at that time a High School and a Junior College, graduating in 1936.

Pastor Kucharik continuing his education, became a student at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri in 1938 and graduated in 1941 after having served as Vicar for two years at St. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church in Lakewood, Ohio.

Pastor Kucharik was ordained into the Holy Ministry on July 27, 1941 and installed as Pastor of John Huss Lutheran Church Arnold, Pennsylvania on the same day.

During Pastor Kucharik's ministry at John Huss, he attended graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh.

After serving as Pastor of John Huss Lutheran Church from 1941 until 1955, he was called as Associate Pastor to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Garfield, New Jersey. He assumed the full Pastorate at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in 1955, the congregation in which he was baptized and reared.

In 1963 Pastor Kucharik resolved and accepted a call to St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oyleto (Slavia) Florida and has served faithfully until January 31, 1987.

Pastor Kucharik served the District and Lutheran Church in editorial capacity, youth work, various Commissions and Boards, and for many years on Mission Board (1951-1962) and Board of Directors (1957-1962) and as District Vice President (1972 to present). Also served on Lutheran Home Board of Trustees (1968-1987).

Pastor Kucharik served the several communities in which he resided as Captain for Fire and Police Departments, YMCA Director and Chaplain at a Lutheran Hospital. He was also a member of two Civic Clubs--The Lions and Rotary.

Pastor Kucharik married the former Eleanor Szeplia of Lakewood, Ohio on November 20, 1941 at St. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church. They have three children:

Thomas (wife Ellen and daughters Christen and Allison)

New Canaan, Conn.

Judith (husband David Rydman and daughter Brooke) Evergreen, Colo.

John Mark (wife Helen and son Arnan) Queens, New York.