

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

"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. Lutak (8:30)

Rev. Carl H. Toebe (11:00)

The Acolytes: Doug Lutak John Jakubcin

The Organist: Mrs. Judy Duda

Chantale Choir: Directed by Miss Ruth Wiedemann

Joyful Noise: St. Luke Christian School Handbell Ringers

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

EXPLANATION OF THE BANNER: Matthew 4:4 - an often  
 quoted passage of Pastor Kachark'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 Kachark:

"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 Ladelia Kucharik, nee Smejka, 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 1950, he was called as Associate Pastor to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Garfield, New Jersey. He assumed the full Pastorate of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in 1955, the congregation in which he was baptized and reared.

In 1963 Pastor Kucharik received and accepted a call to St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oyleto (Slavia) Florida and has served faithfully until January 31, 1982.

Pastor Kucharik served the District and Lutheran Church in editorial capacity, youth work, various Committees 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 (1968-1967).

Pastor Kucharik served the several committees in which he resided as Chaplain for Fire and Police Departments, WPCA 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 Smyka 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 Roberts and daughter Brooke) Evergreen, Colo.
- John Mark (wife Nancy and son Arvan) Oregan, New York.