

Members of the Martin Luther Church surprised their pastor, the Rev. Fred Mgebroff, with a celebration of the 20th. anniversary of his ordination into the Gospel Ministry on Thursday, February 26th, at 8:00 p. m.

An hour before the celebration Mr. Wm. L. Pratho, chairman of the church council, invited the pastor to come to the church at 8:00 o'clock for a celebration. At 8:00 p. m. the church bell rang and Mr. Pratho and Mr. L. D. Winter, secretary of the church council, escorted Pastor and Mrs. Mgebroff and daughter JoAnn, into church where the congregation was assembled in large number for the anniversary service.

The Rev. F. T. Sager of Rockdale, a close friend and schoolmate of Pastor Mgebroff, conducted an impressive service with Mrs. Emmett Hannes presiding at the organ. The choir sang "The Lord Is My Shepherd" under direction of Mrs. August L. Wolff. The anniversary sermon was preached by the Rev. Sager in which he eloquently spoke of the minister of the Gospel in relationship to the Gospel Ministry. At the close of the service Pastor Mgebroff expressed his sincere appreciation to the congregation, gave a brief summary of the 20 years of his ministry, and paid due tribute first and above all to the Triune God, secondly to his wife and thirdly to the members of the parishes which he served for what they have meant to him in his ministry during the past 20 years.

Following the service, a reception was held in the Educational Building with the Rev. H. T. Flachmeier of La Grange, also friend and classmate of Pastor Mgebroff, presiding. Congratulatory greetings were brought for the the various organizations in the church by their representatives: Mr. Emmett Hannes for the congregation, Mrs. Willie Menn for the Women's Missionary Society, Mr. Paul Spitzenberger for the Sunday School, Mrs. August L. Wolff for the choirs, and by Pastor Wm. Mueller, Sr. former pastor of Martin Luther Church and close friend of Pastor Mgebroff's deceased father. Special music included two vocal duets, "Love's Old Sweet Song" and "A Perfect Day," by LaVonne Siegmund and Carol Jean Hannes with Mrs. Emmett Hannes Accompanist. In a large surprise package, Mr. Pratho presented Pastor Mgebroff a substantial check from the members of the Martin Luther Church.

At the refreshment table, Mrs. A. E. Fischer presented the pastor with a special anniversary cake from the Women's Missionary Society. This cake was very unique in that it was Bible-shaped holding a white bookmark on which was printed the wording of the pastor's ordination text, and decorated with the numerals "1933 -- 1953". A delicious refreshments of sandwiches, cookies and punch were served by the congregation under the direction of the Women's Missionary Society.

At the close of the evening, members and friends of the church individually spoke words of congratulations, appreciation and best wishes to the pastor.

Floral decorations in the church and at the banquet table were presented by the Women's Missionary Society, and beautiful corsages and buttonaie were presented to Rev. and Mrs. Mgebroff and JoAnn by Mrs. Ira Dippel of the Dippel's Floral Shop in remembrance of having been in the same Confirmation Class with Pastor Mgebroff at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Brenham.

Pastor Mgebroff was officially ordained into the office of the Holy ministry of the American Lutheran Church in his home church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Brenham, on Sunday, February 26 1933, with the Rev. Arthur Hart-

mann serving as ordinator, the Rev. Karl Mueller preaching the sermon, and the Rev. C. P. Hasskari as representative of the synod. Pastor Mgebroff served the following parishes: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Clifton; St. James Lutheran Church at Mosheim; Preaching Mission, Fairview, for five years; Zions Lutheran Church near Brenham, for ten years; the Texas A & M Lutheran Student Foundation and the American Lutheran Church, at College Station, under a three-year contract with the Division of Student Service of the National Lutheran Council; and Martin Luther Church, Giddings; St. John's Lutheran Church, Dime Box, for the past two years.

The 'Star' joins the many friends of Pastor Mgebroff in extending to him congratulations and best wishes for God's blessing in the future.