



UNIQUE, BIBLE-SHAPED CAKE which was presented to Pastor Fred. Mgebhoff of Martin Luther Church when members of the congregation surprised Mr. Mgebhoff on the 20th anniversary of his ordination into the ministry.

—Polaroid 1-Minute Photo.

Pastor Mgebhoff Honored on 20th Anniversary of Ordination as Pastor



J. FRED. MGEBHOFF

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

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

The Rev. F. T. Sager of Rockdale, a close friend and schoolmate of Pastor Mgebhoff, conducted an impressive service with Mrs. Emmett Hannes presiding at the organ. The choir sang "The Lord Is My Shepherd" under direction of Mrs. Aug. L. Wolff. The anniversary sermon was preached by Mr. 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 Mgebhoff 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 a close friend and classmate of Pastor Mgebhoff, presiding. Congratulatory greetings were brought for the various organizations in the church by their representatives: Emmett Hannes for the congregation; Mrs. Willie Menn for the Women's Missionary Society; Paul Spitzenberger for the Sunday School; Mrs. August L. Wolff for the choirs, and by Pastor Wm. Mueller Sr., for-

mer pastor of Martin Luther Church and close friend of Pastor Mgebhoff'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 Mgebhoff 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." Delicious refreshments of sandwiches, cookies and punch were served by the congregation under 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 buttoneer were presented to Rev. and Mrs. Mgebhoff and Jo Ann by Mrs. Ira Dippel of the Dippel's Floral Shop in remembrance of having been in the same confirmation class with Pastor Mgebhoff at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Brenham.

Pastor Mgebhoff was officially ordained into the office of the Holy Ministry of the American Lutheran Church in Brenham, on Sunday, Feb. 26, 1933,

with the Rev. Arthur Hartmann serving as ordinator, the Rev. Karl Mueller preaching the sermon, and the Rev. C. P. Hasskarl as representative of the synod.

Pastor Mgebhoff served the following parishes: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Clifton; St. James Lutheran Church, Mosheim; Preaching Mission, Fairview, for five years; Zion's 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.