

Church Honors Worker With Special Program

By PAT FIELDS
Journal Church Editor

Wilbert E. Krause, director of music and education at First Lutheran Church, has been taking part in special week night services as well as regular Sunday rites there for the past 10 years.

So he had no reason to suppose

last night's covered-dish supper and congregational meeting would be anything out of the ordinary. He led his family in and seated them, smiling at friends across the table. He rose as Pastor D. D. Dautenhahn ushered in a guest to sit at his left.

A guest? It was Rev. Edward C. Krause of St. Louis, Mo., come out of semi-retirement to attend a very special program in honor of one of his seven sons, all of whom are engaged in some sort of church work.

As father and son sat down together and family greetings tapered off, it became evident that this was "Krause Appreciation Night" at First Lutheran. The words flashed on a projection screen, and there followed 15 minutes of documentary slides depicting the educational director at his many tasks through the years—as organist, choir director, Bible Class instructor, school principal and teacher, on the athletic field and in the school and church.

Rev. Julius Kimpel of Oak Ridge, circuit counselor for the denomination, led off testimonials by 10 church officials as to the excellence of service rendered by Mr. Krause at First Church and in the community.

Bob Lund, president of the congregation, brought the testimonials to a close by proffering a "cash gift" of appreciation, and the congregation moved to the church sanctuary for a formal service of thanksgiving. The speaker: Rev. W. E. Krause of St. Louis. Music: two special numbers by the choir, rehearsed secretly when their director was not around to hear.

Sparking the celebration perhaps — besides the anniversary date—was the knowledge that only a few weeks ago Wilbert Krause declined a call to the Chicago area for a much easier and more lucrative job. He elected to stay with the responsibilities set for himself here.

Bringing Mr. Krause's father here for the celebration recalled a brief absence requested by the First Lutheran director in 1958, when he and his six brothers gathered in St. Louis to attend their father's honorarium. The elder Mr. Krause at that time observed his 50th anniversary in the Lutheran ministry.



FATHER HONORS SON — The congregation of First Lutheran Church, gathered last night to honor Wilbert E. Krause (left) on his 10th anniversary as music and education director for the church, received expert help from the honoree's father, Rev. Edward C. Krause (right) of St. Louis, Mo., who has seven sons engaged in various fields of church work.