

The Deaf Lutheran.

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY.

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No. 11.

Thanksgiving.

Since the days of President Lincoln the custom has been observed in our land that the President of the United States issues a thanksgiving proclamation and advises all the inhabitants to meet in their houses of worship on the last Thursday in November and to return thanks to God for the blessings which He bestowed on the nation during the past year. Since then also the Governors of the different states throughout the country issue a thanksgiving proclamation for the same day which the President appoints, and the last Thursday in November thus came to be the national Thanksgiving Day observed in every state of our great Union. This is, indeed, a praiseworthy custom, and we Christians conform to this wish of our executives not because our government could dictate to us when and where we ought to go to church, but because we Christians with a cheerful heart praise God for what He has done and is continually doing for us. "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord."

And would it not be overwhelmingly grand to know that at least on this one day all the citizens of our great country would offer up true and sincere thanks to God from whom all blessings flow? What a mighty army of Christian soldiers that would be! Alas! how little gratitude is rendered to the Giver of every good and perfect gift! True, on this day the shops and stores will close their doors, the hum of busy machinery in many factories will cease, men will don their holiday attire, and outwardly at least seem to be observing Thanksgiving Day. But how many homes, how many hearts, as regards praise and thanks to God, are as silent as the grave! How few are there who humble themselves before their Maker, and say, "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His

holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits!" (Ps. 103.) Do not many spend this day in gluttony, in drunkenness, and in various kinds of vice, instead of complying with the wish of our officials and returning thanks to God? But here we see the difference between Christians and unbelievers. Unbelievers are ungrateful, though they continually receive God's benefits, while Christians receive everything with thanksgiving, because they know and appreciate God's kindness toward them.

Now as we mean to be Christians, let us avail ourselves of the opportunity presented to us on Thanksgiving Day and jointly give praise unto our Father in heaven, the Giver of all good things. He deserves such praise. For He has again richly and abundantly blessed us and our dear country within the past year. In due season He gave us rain and sunshine. He has blessed the harvests of the field and has given prosperity to the country at large. And has He not blessed you and your household? Have you not had your daily bread, been spared from sickness and distress, enjoyed peace and happiness? Has He not provided you with all that you need for the support of your body, defended you against all danger, and guarded and protected you from all evil, and all this purely out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy? From Him you have received it. To Him "also give thanks; call upon His name: make known His deeds among the people." But these are the lesser general blessings for which we owe thanks to God.

Greater are His general spiritual blessings which we have enjoyed since the last Thanksgiving Day! Great is the blessing of our creation and preservation, but still greater is the blessing of our redemption. Is not this the greater gift of God that He has not dealt with us damnable sinners as we deserve, that He

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has not cast us away because of our sins, but has given us His own Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins? Forget not, my friend, these greater benefits of Him, "who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies." (Ps. 103.) If thus you give glory and honor, thanks and praise unto the Lord, then will Thanksgiving Day, indeed, be a day of thanks, well pleasing unto God. God grant it.

Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mother's arms
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours to-day. N. J.

Daily Thanksgiving.

Every day should be a thanksgiving day. Every morning brings its own blessing, and every hour proclaims some fresh mercy. "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." This is the proclamation of our King.

And let us include in our praise also due thanks for the God-given sign-language, which has brought the deaf together and enabled them to found missions and congregations of their own. It is the one thing so essential in effectively preaching the Gospel to any number of deaf, so that we ought ever praise God on our knees for giving us this gift.

There are murmuring Jonahs even among Christians who might be cured and made thankful by counting their blessings.

Thankoffering in Days of Sorrow.

That a thankoffering may be given to the Lord, not only in days of joy, but also in days of sorrow, may be seen from the following story related by an aged pastor.

Not long after the war an old farmer came to the pastor, and handing him a gold coin, said, "I should like to bring a thankoffering for the Lord. Two years ago to-day my son fell in battle."

"And for that you bring a thankoffering?"

"Yes," replied the father, with moist eyes but with a joyful face, "for I know that my son died a blessed death."

"How do you know that?"

"In his last letter, written the evening before the battle, he once more firmly confessed his faith in Jesus, his Savior, and in the forgiveness of sins through His blood, and believing in this Savior he died. Therefore I know that this my son is not lost and that I shall see him again. Should I not be thankful for this?"

Surely, the conviction that one whom we dearly loved died a blessed death and is safe for all eternity, should make us thankful.

That there is a God, all must acknowledge. I see Him in all these wondrous works, Himself how wondrous!

DANIEL WEBSTER.

Contentment consists in thanking God for what we have, and not in having what we wish for.

Among Our Deaf.**QUARTERLY RECEIPTS.**

OUR MISSIONARIES report the following receipts during the quarter ending September 30th:—

By Rev. N. Jensen: Omaha \$11.45; Kansas City \$2.76. By Rev. A. Reinke: Chicago, Sunday collections \$19.76; monthly contributions \$29.76; Ladies' Aid Society \$7.00; Income at picnic \$82.25. By Rev. J. Salvner: Minneapolis \$24.88; St. Paul \$6.15; La Crosse \$.85; Winona \$1.26; Stillwater \$6.56. By Rev. C. Schubkegel: St. Louis \$6.38; Hannibal \$1.25. By Rev. T. Wangerin:

Milwaukee, Sunday collections \$10.60; monthly contributions \$13.15; picnic receipts \$147.16; Racine \$4.06; Sheboygan \$1.15; Oshkosh \$5.55. Total \$376.98.

The report of our Toledo missionary not having been received when this issue went to press, the above report is incomplete.

Chicago Mission.

REV. A. REINKE, PASTOR.

To be consistent, we report also the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Smith, who was born Sept. 22nd and made a member of Christ's kingdom of grace by Baptism on Oct. 13th. Mr. Smith is one of our trustees, and by having his child baptized early, has set others a good example.

Oct. 3rd was the 5th anniversary of our church's dedication. Though only 50 deaf were present at our services on that afternoon, the collection taken amounted to over \$25.00. A considerable number of our parishioners were unable to attend, but a fair percentage of them have since expressed their intention of contributing their share, in the near future, to the festival-collection. "God loveth a cheerful giver."

Thursday evening, Oct. 7th, the voting members held their regular bi-monthly meeting. Several candidates for membership were either announced for or admitted to membership. \$150.00 were voted for the reduction of our church-debt and \$100.00 for the treasury of the Mission for the Deaf at large. Both items are to be paid before Jan. 1st, 1910.

Miss Anna Goltermann, a former scholar of our school at North Detroit, a resident of York Center, Ill., and a domestic in our pastor's household, had a sad accident Oct. 6th. Returning from an errand, she was struck by an automobile and severely injured and rendered unconscious. After some medical care, however, she was enabled the next day to be escorted home by her father. We extend our heartfelt sympathy and wish her a speedy recovery and return.

A class of catechumens is being organized and will receive its first instruction Oct. 20th. The names of its members will probably be published next month.

Milwaukee Mission.

REV. T. WANGERIN, PASTOR.

In its regular meeting on Oct. 7th, Emmanuel Congregation nominated candidates for all offices which expire with the end of this year. Election meeting will be held on the first Thursday evening in December.

In a letter we have just received from Mr. F. Gierloff, formerly a member of our congregation, he writes that after leaving Omaha he has now settled in Beloit, Wis., where he has found steady employment. We hope, however, that, having come back so close to his former home, he will not be long in finding his way back to our congregation.

There will be evening services at Emmanuel Chapel on Thanksgiving Day, November 25th, at 7:30 o'clock. All the deaf are urgently requested to attend.

Minneapolis Mission.

REV. J. L. SALVNER, PASTOR.

On the 12th of Oct. Rev. Salvner went to River Falls, Wis., to unite in holy matrimony Mr. Sarom Olson, a member of our Grace Congregation, and Miss Jeanette Scroggie of River Falls at the home of the bride's parents. They will make their home in Minneapolis. May Jesus, our Savior, abide with them with His love and blessings and guide them through this life to eternal life in heaven.

Two deaf, Mr. A. Boellinger of St. Paul and Miss Eva Gorton of Minneapolis, have applied for instructions in the chief doctrines of the Christian religion, preparatory to confirmation. The object of these instructions, however, is not primarily "to be confirmed", for confirmation alone will not entitle a person to eternal happiness in heaven. The chief aim of this course of instructions is to learn of sin and God's wrath and of the precious blood of God's Son, shed for the sin of the world, and thus enable a person to examine himself before approaching the Lord's Table. These instructions should teach us how to live a life pleasing to God and die a blessed death. We hope that more deaf will take such a course of instructions. And may the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ bless these two deaf which are at present being instructed

and through His Word make them wise unto salvation.

Kansas City, Mo., Mission.

REV. N. JENSEN, PASTOR.

On Sunday, Oct. 3rd, Mr. and Mrs. H. Stahr were confirmed and received as communicant members of our church. After a short examination in the Six Parts of the Christian religion, in which they proved their ability to "examine themselves," according to St. Paul's words I Cor. 11, 28, 29., the pastor delivered an address on John 8, 31, 32. In answer to the question: Which church shall I join? it was pointed out that, according to our Master's wish, we should join only such a church which in all things continues in Christ's word. For only there shall we learn all the truth, and the truth will make us free. The services closed with the celebration of Holy Communion, which was received by six communicants including the two newly confirmed. We pray that God's abundant blessings rest upon this little band of Lutherans and that also others may be led into their fold.

Miss Flora Neff of Corder, Mo., was a visitor at our church on Sunday, Oct. 3rd. She enjoys coming to services at least several times a year.

St. Louis Mission.

REV. C. SCHUBKEGEL, PASTOR.

Mrs. S. Pancake of East St. Louis, Ill., left for Springfield, Mo., last month where she intends to make her future home with her mother, who is living there. Mrs. Pancake has many friends here and as she was also a frequent attendant at our services for the deaf, her departure from East St. Louis is very much regretted.

Mr. and Mrs. Edw. Whitaker, who had removed to Milan, Mo., last spring, returned to this city recently.

O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in Him. Ps. 34, 8.

SERVICES FOR THE DEAF.

CHICAGO, ILL.

Congregation of Our Savior, Crystal St., near North Hoyne Ave., Northwest Side. Services every Sunday, at 3:30 P. M., by Rev. Arth. Reinke, 2127 Crystal St., Chicago, Ill.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Lutheran Zions Church, 21st and Benton Sts. Services every second and fourth Sunday of the month, by Rev. C. Schubkegel, 2930a Madison St., St. Louis, Mo.

TOLEDO, O.

Trinity Lutheran Mission for the Deaf. Services in church, corner Vance and Ewing Sts., the first Sunday of the month, at 2:30 P. M., by Rev. A. Boll, c. o. Carlton, Toledo, O.

FINDLAY, O.

Services in the homes of the deaf by special appointment, by Rev. A. Boll.

LIMA, O.

Services the second Sunday of the month in the church, corner Kibby and Jackson Sts., at 2:30 P. M., by Rev. A. Boll.

CLEVELAND, O.

Services by special appointment, by Rev. A. Boll.

FORT WAYNE, IND.

St. John's Lutheran Congregation for the Deaf. Services the second Sunday of the month in St. Paul's Chapel, corner Barr and Madison Sts., at 7 P. M., by Rev. A. Boll.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Services the fourth Sunday of the month, at 8 P. M., in the church, corner Ohio and North East Sts., by Rev. A. Boll.

PERU, IND.

Services by special appointment, by Rev. A. Boll.

LOUISVILLE, KY.

Congregation of Our Savior for the Deaf. Services the fourth Sunday of the month, at 2:30 P. M., in the church, E. Broadway and Underhill Sts., by Rev. A. Boll.

DETROIT, MICH.

Services for the deaf the third Sunday of the month, at 3 P. M., in the church, corner Gratiot and Rivard Sts., by Rev. A. Boll.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Y. M. C. A. Building. Services every Sunday, at 11 A. M., by Rev. J. Salvner, 2115 9th Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Trinity Lutheran Church, corner Wabasha and Tilton Sts. Services every Sunday, excepting the last Sunday of the month, at 3:30 P. M., by Rev. J. Salvner.

STILLWATER, MINN.

Salem Lutheran Church, corner 4th and Oak Sts. Services the last Sunday of the month, at 3:30 P. M., by Rev. J. Salvner.

WINONA, MINN.

Services on the Tuesday preceding the third Wednesday of every month in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, at 8:15 P. M., by Rev. J. Salvner.

LA CROSSE, WIS.

Services every third Wednesday of the month in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, at 8 P. M., by Rev. J. Salvner.

ELKHART, IND.

Trinity Congregation's Schoolhouse. Services by special appointment, by Rev. Th. Claus, 119 Clinton St., Hammond, Ind.

SOUTH BEND, IND.

St. Paul's Congregation's Schoolhouse. Services by special appointment, by Rev. Th. Claus.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

Services at Lutheran Church, 16th and Cherry Sts., every first and third Sunday of the month, at 3 P. M., by Rev. N. F. Jensen, 1400 Tracy Ave.

OMAHA, NEBR.

Services at Lutheran Church, corner 28th and Parker Sts., every last Sunday of the month, at 3 P. M., by Rev. N. F. Jensen.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Emmanuel Chapel for the Deaf, 1711 Meinecke Ave. Divine services every Sunday, at 10 A. M., by Rev. T. Wangerin, 1711 Meinecke Ave.

RACINE, WIS.

Services every last Sunday of the month, at 2:30 P. M., corner Kewaunee and North Erie Sts., by Rev. T. Wangerin.

SHEBOYGAN, WIS.

Services every four weeks at the homes of the deaf, at 7:30 P. M., by Rev. T. Wangerin.

OSHKOSH, WIS.

Services every four weeks, 226 Bowen St., at 7:30 P. M., by Rev. T. Wangerin.

NEENAH, WIS.

Services by special appointment, by Rev. T. Wangerin

LUTHERAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, NORTH DETROIT, MICH.

The object of this school is to give its pupils a thorough Christian and common education. The regular course of instruction occupies from 7 to 8 years. Children are admitted from the age of 8 years on. Full information and application blanks may be obtained from, Rev. Wm. Gielow, Supt., North Detroit, Mich.