

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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Prayer

Christians pray diligently to God, their Father, because God has commanded them to pray. 1 Thess. 5:17 we read: "Pray without ceasing." Christians also feel the need of communion with God. Prayer is the first sign of spiritual life. Without prayer spiritual life cannot exist. Christians like to pray, just as loving children enjoy conversation with their parents. Moses, Daniel, David, all the saints, prayed daily and earnestly, Jesus tells us how to pray acceptably to God. He says: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father *in my name*, He will give it you," John 16:23. Many people do not receive answers to their prayers because their prayers are not acceptable to God. They do not pray to God in the name of Jesus but in their own name, that is, they imagine God must hear their prayers and answer them because of their own virtues and good deeds. Jesus said we should pray in His name, that is, we should trust in God's love for us because of the merits of our Savior. Such prayers God will surely hear and answer. At times it seems to Christians as though God had locked the doors of heaven, as though He were dead or asleep; but such is not the case. He hears the prayers of His Christians and will answer them in a way that will redound to the Christian's welfare and His own glory. He is able and willing to help as a fond mother desires to help her child.

O. C. S.

Are You Willing —

To close your book of complaints and to open the book of praise?

To stop looking for friendship and to start being friendly?

To be content with what you have and to stop whining for what you have not?

To cease looking for some one to help you and to devote yourself to helping others?

To consecrate your life to the service of an imperfect Church and to remember that Christ chose twelve imperfect men to be His disciples?

To accept Jesus Christ as your Savior and let your life be an outlet for His joy, love, and peace? — *Anon.*

Dedication at Detroit

On Pentecost Sunday, May 12, at three o'clock in the afternoon, there was assembled a vast throng of people before the beautiful newly erected Institute for the Deaf at Detroit, Mich. Over ten thousand persons, including about 100 deaf children and 200 adult deaf from Detroit and cities as far as St. Louis, had gathered for the impressive dedication of the modern and so necessary buildings.

Many former pupils of the school had not been on the place for years and had now come to find, instead of the old familiar red-brick landmark, a new and better-equipped building, extending about two thirds across the entire Nevada Avenue frontage, really a series of units joined together, not at all monotonously grouped, with the West Dormitory for the girls at the left near the west line of the property. Adjoining to the east lie dining-room and kitchen at its rear, then the Administration Building, classrooms, the Gloria Dei Clara Elizabeth Knudsen Memorial Chapel, to the east of which lies the Boys' Dormitory, which is the unit erected four years ago. The beautiful chapel extends toward the street but is connected with the other buildings, which are

approximately in line. The old teacher dwellings on Nevada Avenue have been removed, and only the old house on the slight hill behind the building remains as an old landmark, soon to disappear.

The chapel seats about 250 people and is used by the pupils of the institute and by Our Savior Church for the Deaf of Detroit, Rev. N. E. Borchardt, pastor. The room below the chapel has been assigned the Detroit deaf congregation for social and recreational purposes and was fitted out by this group. The chapel was given by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. F. Knudsen of Detroit. Mr. Knudsen is president of General Motors Co., and his generous gift will serve the cause splendidly, as will the thousands of dollars contributed by the many thousands of Christians through the length and breadth of our land. It was wonderful that Pastor E. T. Bernthal, chairman of the building committee, could make the announcement that the project, costing some \$230,000, was entirely paid for and that \$1,400 remained as a nucleus for some necessary teachers' residences.

The president of the board of the Institute, the Rev. E. C. Fackler, officiated at the dedicatory service. Dr. Walter A. Maier of St. Louis delivered the chief address, speaking on Gal. 6:2: "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the Law of Christ." The President of Synod, the Rev. Dr. J. W. Behnken, spoke encouraging words. The Rev. Harry E. Olsen and the Rev. P. Gold of Detroit served as liturgists, and the Rev. F. A. Hertwig, First Vice-President of the Michigan District, made the announcements. Music was furnished by the Detroit Conservatory Orchestra, and the General Motors Chorus rendered several selections.

After the service a civic program was given, in charge of the Rev. E. T. Bernthal, in which addresses were made by the governor of Michigan, the Hon. Luren D. Dickinson, Mayor Jeffries of Detroit, and others. Congratulatory messages were read, and with the singing of "God Bless Our Native Land" by the congregation and "God Bless America" by the General Motors Chorus the program was concluded. The entire service was interpreted to the deaf by the undersigned. Numerous pictures were taken, which, with the movies that will keep vivid the memories of this great occasion and undoubtedly will be shown in many parts of

the country by the representatives of the institute, will impress upon all that now our Institute for the Deaf at Detroit is excellently equipped for increasing its glorious service and can bring Jesus into the hearts of many more deaf children.

Since 1873 this Institute for the Deaf has been a great source of blessing to hundreds of deaf and to the cause of Deaf Missions of our Lutheran Church. The care of the Lutheran deaf confirmed at Detroit provided the stimulus that brought the Mission for the Deaf into being, the Rev. A. Reinke being persuaded to begin the preaching to the deaf in Chicago by the writer's father, Director H. Uhlig, at the direction of the institute's Board of Directors. And all missionaries to the deaf appreciate Detroit graduates in their flocks, for they have formed the favorable nucleus of many of our stations.

N. P. UHLIG

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for July

"Christ Jesus . . . before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good profession," 1 Tim. 6:13

Bible-Lesson: Mark 15:1-5

"And straightway in the morning the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole Council and bound Jesus and carried Him away and delivered Him to Pilate. And Pilate asked Him, Art Thou the King of the Jews? And He, answering, said unto him, Thou sayest it. And the chief priests accused Him of many things; but He answered nothing. And Pilate asked Him again, saying, Answerest Thou nothing? Behold how many things they witness against Thee. But Jesus yet answered nothing, so that Pilate marveled."

The chief priests and the elders of the Jews had condemned Jesus as being guilty of death because He claimed to be the Son of God. They knew, however, that they could not carry out the sentence of death which they had passed upon Jesus without the consent of the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. The Jews were subject to the Romans and could not put any one to death unless the Roman governor also found him guilty of death. They also knew that Pontius Pilate would not put Jesus to death because He claimed to be the Son of God. They must find some other charge to bring against Jesus. Therefore they quickly held a consultation with the members of the

Council to determine what charges they should make against Jesus before Pilate. When they had bound Him, they brought Him before Pilate and made this accusation: "We found this fellow perverting the nation and forbidding to give tribute [taxes] to Caesar [the Roman emperor], saying that He Himself is Christ, a king," Luke 23:2.

When Pilate asked Jesus, "Art Thou the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Thou sayest it." He was indeed the King of the Jews, the Savior promised by God. His kingdom, however, was not of this world, and therefore Pilate said to the accusers, "I find no fault in this man."

Then the accusers were the more fierce, as St. Luke tells us, saying, "He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place," Luke 23:5. But Jesus answered nothing. He knew that Pilate could not fail to note that all their accusations were untrue. Even when Pilate asked Him, "Answerest Thou nothing? Behold how many things they witness against Thee," Jesus answered not a word, so that Pilate marveled at His silence.

But by His silence Jesus gave but further proof that He is the promised Savior and Redeemer. By His silence He once more fulfilled the Scriptures, which say, "He was oppressed, and He was afflicted; yet He opened not His mouth; He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not His mouth," Is. 53:7.

Surely Jesus is the promised Savior. All the words written in the Old Testament concerning Him are fulfilled in Him. Therefore trust in Him alone for your salvation. E. EN.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Omaha, Nebr.—On May 19, shortly before the work at the Omaha and Council Bluffs schools was brought to a close for this term, 19 pupils, who had been preparing for the day of their confirmation, were received into membership of the Lutheran Church. The confirmation service took place in Bethlehem Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Omaha. The picture below shows the members of the class, of which ten pupils are from the Council Bluffs school and nine from the Omaha school. Seven of this class also received Holy Baptism. May the Triune God, whom they confessed on that day, be their constant guide through life and



Confirmation Class at Omaha, Nebr.

Front row, left to right: Louise Sargood, Gertrude Smith, Hazel Miller, Thelma Mayes, Viola Spry, Rev. E. Mappes
Second row: Lorraine Racine, Enid Reis, Irene Witte, Arlene Tuttle, Marian Boldt
Third row: Harold Schulz, Clarence Meade, Robert Hiltabidel, Melvin Horton
Top row: Wilber Ruge, Donald Ross, Robert Nelson, Walter Stevens, Richard Swalley

finally lead them into life eternal by faith in their Savior!

On May 21 and 23 Communion services for the newly confirmed and others were held at the Council Bluffs and Omaha schools, respectively. This brought to a close a very enjoyable and successful year of work at these institutions under God's grace and blessing. During the year 36 in the Omaha school and 85 in Council Bluffs received regular weekly instruction in the Bible truths.

Mr. Donald Stewart was added to our communicant membership through Baptism on the evening of May 19 in our services at Lincoln, Nebr. At Sioux City, on May 26, Miss Lois Scott was received into church-membership by confirmation. May the Lord and Master help these new members of His Church to remain faithful unto death!

Benjamin Harrison, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Redington, was baptized in Sioux City on March 31. God keep him in His grace.

Our services in Sioux City have shown a steady improvement in attendance, and on May 26 a record of 35 was established. Many of these deaf friends drive a great distance, coming from various points in Iowa and Nebraska.

Two weddings took place in the Omaha church recently, one being the marriage of Mr. Donald Dey and Miss Charlotte Barber, on May 25, and the other that of Mr. Glenn Cooper and Miss Gladys Hollenbach, on June 8. The latter couple are employees of the

Nebraska School for the Deaf. Both Mr. Dey and Mr. Cooper are voting members of our congregation. We wish both couples God's blessing and much happiness in their wedded life.
E. M.

Kansas Mission.—At Great Bend, Kans., and vicinity Rev. J. Resner gives the missionary fine assistance throughout the year. Annually we have services and a Christian fellowship meeting on Ascension Day. The last meeting was a happy occasion again; some friends came a distance of ninety-five miles.

While making our usual calls at the Jackson County (Kansas City) Home recently, our attention was called to a patient whom we had not met there before. The floor supervisor said: "He has not had a single visitor in three years." The person we met was Mr. Otis Irwin, an old acquaintance from earlier days. Will others from Kansas City visit him? (Matt. 25:39, 40.)

Mr. Edward H. Hopkins of St. Joseph passed away on May 26 and was given a Christian burial on May 29. Friends will remember his sorrowing wife as the former Miss Minnie Gerling of St. Louis. Also in this case the cooperation of the local pastor, Rev. A. Jesse, was of great assistance to us.

Under the Lord's blessing our stations, especially Kansas City, are progressing. In services, instruction classes, and in Kansas City also with the details and plans for the chapel, very interesting developments are taking place.
A. E. F.

Duluth-Superior Field.—For a long time Florence Fredrickson had been waiting for the day of her confirmation. Being sickly, progress could not always be made as rapidly as we had wished. But at last the day of confirmation had come. So on Sunday, May 5, she was confirmed in our service in Superior, Wis., promising to remain a friend of Jesus till her end. After the confirmation she received Holy Communion with the other communicant members present in the service.

Another confirmation class, which could come before God's altar and promised faithfulness to the end was the class at Devils Lake, which was confirmed on Sunday, May 12. There were eight members in the class. Besides these eight members a younger boy and a younger girl were brought to Jesus in Holy Baptism. May they all remain with Jesus for the entire time of their lives.

The work in the Devils Lake school has come to an end for another school-year. The enrolment during May was 89. For a number of years the enrolment has been around the 90 mark, sometimes going slightly above, then again slightly below it. This year we could have every child for three hours of instruction every month. Trying to give all these instructions to each class is an impossibility, but the fact that we have six Sunday-school teachers, chosen from the upper grades, is quite a help to us. These teachers have done their work well and have earned our thanks for their work.

This year there will be quite a loss in the Devils Lake school through graduation, since 11 of the graduates were members of the Lutheran classes. But we hope to see them in other parts of the State of North Dakota attending the services for the adults later on.

In Grand Forks we can see an improvement in the

decision of the deaf to use the envelope system for their regular contributions. In doing this, they are following the examples set by the Duluth-Superior and Fargo deaf, who have used the envelope system with success for a number of years.

Something that fills our hearts with sorrow is the sad news that Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Kenyon have lost their ten-day-old baby through death. The baby was buried by Pastor Jording of McClusky on April 27. May God give the parents His consolation in their sore bereavement!
W. F.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Herbert W. Wreath and Ruth Kilchesky, the latter a communicant member of our oral group, were joined in holy wedlock at the pastor's home May 18. May their home be a home always blessed with the presence of Jesus! Ps. 73:24, 25.
J. S.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—At our recent services for the deaf we met four new deaf-blind residents in this area. They are now learning to read by the Moon and Braille systems.

Owing to the war conditions in Europe and Asia we are receiving many notices of change of addresses from the readers of our magazines for the blind. Let us all pray for peace, so that the missionary enterprises of our Church may not be hindered in their progress of winning new souls for Christ.

Several readers have written to us in regard to our magazines. One of them writes: "Even though I have had to move, I should still like to receive my magazine. It is a great pleasure and a spiritual uplift to me. I am truly thankful for this blessing." Another wrote: "It seems I cannot refrain from writing a few lines to you to tell you how I appreciated the last number of the *Messenger*. All the numbers are very good, but this last one was especially comforting to me, as I have been ill. When I go to see my sick friends, I take my *Messenger* with me and read to them from it."

O. C. S.

Three Things for which to Be Thankful

You ought to thank God daily for at least three things: first, that He has made you a rational human being and not a wild beast; secondly, that He has made you a Christian and did not leave you in heathen blindness; thirdly, that He has given you many blessings in this life and will give you many more in heaven.

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