

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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Luther's Life and Labors

Told by the letters of his name

By DR. CHARLES L. FRY, Philadelphia

- M stands for Miner's son, lowly, obscure;
For Madam Cotta, friend of the poor.
- A means Advances made, school after school,
Yet none could satisfy his hungry soul.
- R means the Rome he regarded devout,
Reeking with rottenness, sickening his thought!
- T tells of Theses nailed to the church door.
Echo, ye hammer-strokes, forevermore!
- I means "Indulgences," sold for a price!
As if forgiving sins were merchandise.
- N titled Noblemen gathered at Worms.
Such pompous Diet-scene bodes no reforms.
- L means the Lion-heart nothing could daunt,
Roused by the stern demand, "Will you recant?"
- U means Unterrified, forward he strode,
"Here do I take my stand! So help me God!"
- T The Translator's task next is his sphere,
In Wartburg Castle walls prisoned a year.
- H stands for Hymns he wrote; catechisms; books,
For Hans and Gretchen, too, with rosy looks.
- E stands for Eisleben, birthplace and death!
Rounding the circle out! First and last breath!
- R means Reformer brave, leader like Paul!
Unto his God and ours be praise for all!

No Salvation by Good Works

That good works bring salvation is the teaching of heathenism. All the pagan wise men of the past ages accepted this falsehood. Mohammed, Buddha, Confucius, teach it; but it is not a Bible truth. Good works are the fruits of a true Christian faith and receive a gracious reward in heaven, but they cannot justify any man before God. Every man's

errors are far greater than his good deeds. Salvation by good works is the religion of a wicked mind which has left the only source of spiritual wisdom, God's own Word, the Bible. It is a misunderstanding of the fact that *after* salvation is *attained* "through faith of the operation of God," Col. 2:12, good works *follow* in faith's wake from thankfulness for salvation through the merits of the Savior. Because most people believe in salvation by good works it does not follow that such belief is truth. It only shows how successfully Satan is deceiving humanity. The Bible clearly states that our salvation is in Jesus only. Rom. 4:5 we read, "But to him that worketh not but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." St. Paul warns the Galatians (chap. 1:8), "But though we or an angel from heaven preach any other Gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." O. C. S.

The Bible

The Bible is by eminence *the* Book, in a sense in which no other book is a book at all. It was issued in heaven and bears the imprimatur of the Holy Spirit. It has God for its author, salvation for its object, truth without any mixture of error for its subject, angels for its commissioners, prophets for its heralds, and apostles for its ambassadors. Its resources are a perpetual miracle. It is the book of humanity, the classic of the scholar, the problem of the philosopher, the pandect of the civilian, the inspiration of the poet, the magazine of the orator, the arsenal of the soldier, the song of the captive, the wealth of the poor,

the counselor of kings, the boon of the peasant and the passport of the dying. It is the basis of civilization, the support of government, and the bond of society. Itself a library, it has created libraries. It has reduced to written forms the jargon of barbarous sounds. It speaks today hundreds of languages and dialects and is destined to speak in every tongue of this babbling earth the wonders of God's power, love, and grace. *R. K. Maiden, D. D.*

Notice

Due to the illness of Pastor J. L. Salvner during September the Catechism Study article was dropped this month. We hope that by the time this is read Pastor Salvner will have been restored to good health. Ed.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for October

"Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree," 1 Pet. 2:24

Bible-Lesson: Mark 15:20-28

"And when they had mocked Him, they took off the purple from Him and put His own clothes on Him and led Him out to crucify Him. And they compel one Simon, a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear His cross. And they bring Him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The Place of a Skull. And they gave Him to drink wine mingled with myrrh; but He received it not. And when they had crucified Him, they parted His garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take. And it was the third hour, and they crucified Him. And the superscription of His accusation was written over, The King of the Jews. And with Him they crucify two thieves, the one on His right hand and the other on His left. And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, And He was numbered with the transgressors."

The band of soldiers which had gathered around Jesus to mock and abuse Him now took off the purple robe which they had placed on Him and put His own clothes on Him and led Him away to crucify Him. The cross on which He was to die was laid upon His shoulders. It seems, however, that Jesus, weary from the long night of suffering and agony, collapsed under the burden of the cross and was no longer able to carry it. For when the

soldiers met a man coming out of the country, they compelled him to bear Jesus' cross. This man was Simon of Cyrene in Africa, the father of Alexander and Rufus, who no doubt were well-known Christians of later days. What an honor it was for Simon to carry the cross for Jesus!

The soldiers brought Jesus to a place called Golgotha, which means, The Place of a Skull. That was the place of execution, a hill near Jerusalem. And the soldiers gave Him wine to drink mingled with myrrh. This mixture was usually given to the condemned criminals to lessen the pain and suffering of the cross. But when Jesus tasted of it, He would not drink it. He wanted to endure the suffering of the cross to the utmost.

And it was on Golgotha that Jesus, the Son of God, was nailed to the cross. According to the Jewish reckoning of time it was the third hour when they crucified Him, nine o'clock in the morning. With Him they also crucified two thieves, one on His right hand, the other on His left. And so the scripture was fulfilled which saith, And He was numbered with the transgressors.

Jesus, the Son of God, nailed to the cross! As you behold Him on the cross, bear in mind, my friend, what brought Him there. St. Peter tells you in these words: "Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree" (cross). *Our* sins brought Him there; for *our* sins He endured suffering and death, that we might escape the curse and punishment which we deserved. Oh, trust in Him who shed His blood for you on the cross, for the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses you from all sins.

E. EN.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Cleveland, O. — In the first six months of 1930 thirteen persons became full members of our church; names, days, and places being as follows: February 10, William Clark (deaf-blind) and Leslie Oren (deaf-blind) of Westerville, O.; April 7, Ethel Stritzinger of Erie, Pa.; May 12, Ruth Shaffer and Mary Magda of Columbus, O.; May 14, John Matthias of Buffalo, N. Y.; June 2, Margaret McMillen, Florence Brandes, Florence Koch, Bernhard Marquis, Samuel Keirns, Robert Wells, and Edward Reinbolt of Cleveland. May these new members all continue to believe in Jesus, our Savior, and faithfully serve the Lord in the church at home and wherever they may be!



Deaf Confirmation Class, Columbus, O.

Sitting: Mary Magda and Ruth Shaffer, newly confirmed.
Standing (singers): Ardena Stevick, Alfred Clauss, Norma Bushey, Betty Schwartz

The following were baptized in our parish: On March 3, Lois Marie Brandes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russel Brandes of Cleveland; on June 9, Noah Lee Jackson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jackson of Cleveland; on May 12, Jean Loretta Schwartz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Schwartz of Columbus, O.; Pauline Elizabeth Case and George Philip Case, children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Case of Grove City, O. The last three children were baptized in our impressive confirmation-service of May 12 in Columbus when Ruth Shaffer and Mary Magda became full members. In this service beautiful singing-interpretation was done by Ardena Stevick, Alfred Clauss, Betty Jane Schwartz, and Norma Bushey.

As we shall in September again go into full swing of our good work for the deaf, may God richly bless the efforts of all our pastors, and may our deaf members and friends grow in faith to Jesus, in love to serve God, in thankfulness to the Gospel of Christ, and prove this by going to the preaching-services regularly and living holy for the Lord's glory. T. F.

Detroit, Mich. — Our congregation was saddened by the death of George Wallin. He was a member of our congregation since he came to Detroit in 1935. We knew him as a sincere Christian and a congenial friend. Mr. Wallin contracted an occupational disease early in spring and was confined to a hospital for several months. Apparently he was recovering from his illness, but suddenly his condition became critical. On Sunday morning before his death he received Holy Communion. At that time he made confession of his faith in the Savior and his trust in the Lord. Early on Wednesday morn-

ing, July 3, the Lord called him home to eternal life and joy in heaven.

George Richard Wallin was born in Duluth, Minn., May 8, 1893. He was baptized in early infancy. At the age of eight years he entered the State School at Faribault. He was confirmed in Faribault. He worked at the glazing trade in Duluth and later in Detroit. On August 30, 1935, he was married to Emily Anderson of Detroit. They lived together with her parents until the day of his death. Rev. Quitmeyer conducted the funeral services in Detroit. Mr. Wallin's body was laid to rest in Duluth. Rev. W. Ferber officiated there.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." Rev. 14:13. N. E. B.

Oklahoma City. — Sunday, August 11, was a day of great rejoicing for the deaf in Oklahoma City, because on that day nine of the deaf came before the altar of the Lord and promised to remain faithful forever. This is the first group confirmation that we have had in the State, so the deaf were especially proud to be the first deaf people to be confirmed in the State.

The confirmation service was a combined service for both the deaf and hearing people. The Rev. John F. Schulz preached the sermon for the hearing people. Very impressive was the beautiful solo sung by our deaf-blind friend Mrs. Velma Holmes. She stood before the people and in perfect time with the organ sang "Nearer,



Deaf Confirmation Class, Oklahoma City, Okla.

August 11, 1940

Back row (left to right): Mr. E. C. Brown, Mr. Russel Allman, Mr. George Counts, Mr. Robert Seal, Rev. Floyd Posschl, Mr. Woodrow Ellis
Front row: Mrs. E. C. Brown, Mrs. Louis Stephenson, Mrs. Robert Seal, Mrs. Marian Mayfield

My God, to Thee." In the same service six of the nine deaf were also baptized. Those confirmed were: George Counts; Woodrow Ellis; Russel Allman; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Seal; Mrs. Marian Mayfield; Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Brown; and Mrs. Louis Stephenson. They are all of Oklahoma City. Those baptized were: Mr. George Counts; Mr. Woodrow Ellis; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Seal; Mrs. Marian Mayfield; Mrs. Louis Stephenson.

After the Service a reception was given for the newly confirmed by the Dorcas Circle of Zion Church. This Circle has been organized for the purpose of helping the Deaf in any way in which they may be able. The Circle has been highly instrumental in the success that we are having in our mission. We are very grateful for the wonderful cooperation which we have received from Zion Church.

Again God has shown the abundance of His mercy, and on this day we pray God to keep these new disciples in perfect faith until they are joined with their Savior in their heavenly home. We ask God to continue to bless our mission and lead more hungry souls to the knowledge of their Savior. F. P.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—Services were held for two new groups of deaf this summer in Gladstone and Escanaba, Mich. These deaf have had no opportunity to attend sign-language services for over twenty-seven years. They enjoyed the meetings.

On the same trip we also visited with three blind men, including Mayor Sam Wickman of Escanaba. The mayor has recently acquired a "seeing-eye dog." He related his experiences with the dog and assured us that his animal friend is a faithful guide and companion. O. C. S.

Western Canadian Mission.—Several occurrences since almost a year ago are of interest to us as members of Christ's Church and make us rejoice.

On February 2, Mr. Percival Wood fell asleep in Jesus. He was brought into our church by Rev. W. Ferber and continued to be a faithful attendant at church services. Due to a stroke that affected his right side, he became weaker and was no more able to join in the hearing of God's Word. For about a year before departing this life he was confined to an old folks' home, where his present pastor visited him regularly, bringing him the comfort of Christ's Gospel. At the pastor's last visit he showed his trust in the precious promises of the forgiveness of sins won by our Savior. Therefore we have every reason to believe that Mr. Wood has joined the company of the blissfully happy saints in heaven.

March 15 became a memorable day for Mr. Fred Bauder, a young man living west of Edmonton, Alberta. A few years ago he had taken the correspondence course in the chief teachings of the Christian religion through the "Sunday-School by Mail" of Concordia College, Edmonton. Having finished that course, he studied and wrote all the answers to the questions based on the catechism used for instructing the deaf, and these were sent to the missionary for correction. On the day of his confirmation he showed a good understanding of the way to heaven in Christ. The good faith he confessed was strengthened by his first partaking of the Lord's Supper.

Two elderly men, Mr. James Buchanan and Mr. William McConnell, experienced a deeply happy day when on June 26 they were assured of the nearness of their Savior in the Holy Sacrament. Both men have been confined to their beds for a number of years. Both were instructed by the pastor in those truths of the Bible which show us the wrath of God on account of our sins and His loving-kindness in Jesus to such as repent and believe Him. May the Lord through His Word keep them according to that never-failing promise in Phil. 1:6: "He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." R. F. C.

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Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.

These ministers preach in more than 200 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at many State schools for the deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The deaf need God's Word.

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