

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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Star of Splendor

Shine on, O star of splendor,
As you did in that long ago,
Guiding the wise of the magi
To a manger bed so low.

There the clouds of glory parted
As the angels sang on high;
There the cattle stood in silence
At a moment's lullaby.

Down through the countless ages
You have sent your glorious light,
Symbol of God's great promise
Fulfilled in that holy night.

Shine on, O star of splendor,
As you did that wondrous night!
Just light my path through darkness
And guide my steps aright.

Appreciating Christmas

Year after year we have been taking Christmas pretty much for granted, enjoying the merriment and good cheer which the season brings and distributing our gifts to family and friends with a pleasurable feeling of generosity.

But did you ever think what the world would be without Christmas and the things for which it stands? Suppose the Wise Men had listened to Herod and the Roman soldiers had gone to Bethlehem and taken the infant Christ away. The mind can hardly surmise the stupendous consequences involved.

For in the lowly manger lay not only the fulfilment of prophecy, not merely the king of the Jews, but the entire hope of the human race. There, under the twinkling stars, in the hush of a night at Bethlehem, while civilization

itself hung in the balance, came the Christ-child, who separated the old *regime* from the new, the Savior toward whom all prophecy had pointed and to whom the world owes all progress.

This year, when your family gathers about the Christmas tree and gifts are distributed, let it be with a deeper appreciation and a greater joy than ever before — being thankful for God's wonderful gift of a Savior to a sin-cursed world.

Sel.

† Rev. William Gielow †

On October 19, 1941, there entered into rest a faithful servant of the Lord, Rev. William Gielow. The Lord had called him into a special field of labor, teaching deaf children the way to eternal life and also preaching to adult deaf the glorious Gospel of salvation. For 31 years he fed the lambs of Christ. Like a loving father, he watched over hundreds of deaf children under his supervision, giving them the best of physical and spiritual care. Many of his former pupils will read the news of the death of their former teacher and pastor with sadness of heart. But it is a sorrow tempered by the assurance that he is now with the saints above, there to dwell with the Lord forever. The members of Ephphatha Conference will miss him. We always valued highly his words of advice based upon long experience and great ability. But we are comforted by the realization that the Lord does all things well and right.

Rev. Wm. Gielow was born in Chicago on January 27, 1876. He received his early training in a parochial school of that city. After

graduating from elementary school, he attended Concordia College, Fort Wayne, for six years. He completed his theological training in Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., graduating in 1898. In the same year he was ordained and installed in Drake, Mo., where he served for three years. After that he preached for the deaf in Chicago for one year. In the following year he accepted the call to the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf in Detroit, Mich. Here he labored faithfully and successfully for 31 years. During this time he continued to preach for the deaf. He also served as vacancy pastor for Our Savior Congregation in Detroit for several years. Through his preaching and



admonition the congregation was strengthened in faith and good works. After resigning from the Institute, he served as missionary to the deaf in Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky. — On Oct. 27, 1898, he married Minnie Lange of Fort Wayne. To this union six children were born, five of whom are still living. After a brief but painful illness the Lord called him out of this world to his eternal home. Funeral services were conducted in the Gloria Dei Chapel at the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf on Wednesday, October 22. The undersigned preached the sermon on 1 Cor. 15: 55-57.

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth." Is. 52: 7. N. E. B.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE THIRD ARTICLE

"I believe in the Holy Ghost"

Man cannot by his own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ or come to Him. Man can come to faith only by the Holy Ghost. Every Christian, therefore, confesses with our Catechism: "The Holy Ghost has called me."

The Holy Ghost and the Gospel of Jesus Christ

What is the Gospel? Listen to the Christmas angel. He says: "I bring you good tidings [news] of great joy. For unto you is born . . . a Savior," Luke 2:10,11. The Gospel is the good word of forgiveness and salvation by faith in Christ Jesus. By this Gospel the Holy Ghost comes to the sinner, and in no other way. Only by the Gospel the Holy Ghost works in the heart of man and brings him to Christ. Therefore Jesus commands His Church: "Preach the Gospel to every creature," Mark 16:15, for He wants all to be saved.

By the Gospel the Holy Ghost Invites the Sinner

The Gospel is the trumpet by which the Holy Ghost calls the sinner to God. It is the call, or the invitation, of the Holy Ghost to Christ and His salvation: "Come, for all things are ready." Read Luke 14:16-24 and Matt. 22:1-10. During Christmastide we so often hear and read these precious words of Jesus "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life," John 3:16. By these words the Holy Ghost calls you and me and says, "Come, believe in the Son of God, and live forever." Again, when we hear or read the words of the Christmas angel: "Unto you is born a Savior," the Holy Ghost calls and invites, saying: "This Savior is for you. Believe in Him and be saved." Every believer therefore must say: "The Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel."

By the Gospel the Holy Ghost Works Faith in the Sinner's Heart

The sweet Gospel is not only an invitation, but it is also the power of God unto salvation, Rom. 1:16. Man is dead in sin. He cannot come to Jesus although he is called again and

again, just as a dead man cannot arise although you call his name very often. If the Holy Ghost should only invite us, and leave the rest to us, not one would accept the Gospel invitation. But, thanks to God, the Gospel also is the power of God. By it the Holy Spirit draws man to the cross and works faith in him, and he cries out: "The Savior is born for me." And there is no other way of coming to Christ. Christian reader, remember the Holy Ghost has called you and brought you to faith in Christ Jesus. Praise Him for it!

During these coming weeks the Christmas tidings of great joy will be preached again. May the Holy Spirit by it bring many to the Christ-child and in true faith make them sing with the multitude of angels: "Glory to God in the highest!"

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for December

"Where I am, there shall also My servant be,"

John 12:26

Bible-Lesson: Acts 1:9-14

"And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a Sabbath-day's journey. And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James, the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas, the brother of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with His brethren."

Jesus had given His final instructions to the disciples. They were to be His witnesses "in Jerusalem and in all Judea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth." The disciples had listened intently to His words, and while their eyes were still fixed on Him, "He was taken up." He was lifted up before their eyes, ascending higher and higher toward heaven. The disciples watched their Lord and Savior ascend until a cloud received Him out of their sight.

During the forty days after His resurrection Jesus had appeared to the disciples many times and, after talking with them, had dis-

appeared again from view. Before this, when Jesus would leave, they knew that He would appear again. But this time His leaving had a different meaning. Now they would see Him no more. With the ascension into heaven His visible presence on earth had come to an end. Now He was seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven, to rule over all things, especially over His Church.

"And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel" (clothing). They were angels sent by God. They had a special message for the disciples. "This same Jesus," they said, "which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." Jesus will return again in the same way in which the disciples saw Him ascend into heaven. He will come with the same body, visibly, "to judge the quick [living] and the dead." Joyfully all Christians wait for their Lord's return, for then they, too, will see Jesus with their own eyes. By faith in His many promises they know that He is always with them, but they long for the day when they can see Him face to face.

Gladly and willingly they also serve their Lord while they live here on earth, working in His kingdom, witnessing for Him at every opportunity, continuing with one accord in prayer and supplication as the disciples did. When the angel had spoken to them, they returned to Jerusalem and "continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with His brethren."

So let us, my friends, continue to serve our Lord faithfully every day of our life. For then, "when He shall appear, we shall see Him as He is," and enter with Him into the kingdom of heaven, which He has prepared for us. "Where I am, there shall also My servant be."

E. EN.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Omaha, Nebr.—On the occasion of the annual mission-festival in Omaha, October 19, the congregation surprised its pastor by arranging a short celebration of his twentieth anniversary. As a token of the members' appreciation and gratitude for the services rendered to them during the past years an amount of cash, \$48.75, was given to the pastor, with which to

purchase a new pulpit robe. Donations toward this gift came from all the groups in Nebraska and Iowa where services are held. Also the pupils of both the Omaha and Council Bluffs schools contributed.

Through these columns we wish to thank all our kind friends for their part in this useful and appreciated gift. May the Lord remain with us all in the future, granting us His blessings as He has in the past! We want to say that the new robe has been purchased and was used for the first time on November 2.

About 60 deaf friends turned out for our mission festival, at which Pastor A. T. Jonas of Sioux Falls, S. Dak., preached. E. M.

St. Louis Field.—Since May the St. Louis missionary has been again serving the far South. This carries us to Memphis, Tenn.; Blytheville, Little Rock, Fort Smith, Ark.; Monroe, Baton Rouge, and New Orleans, La.; Jackson, Miss.; and Mobile, Ala. This trip is taken about every five or six weeks and consumes ten days for the round trip and is about twenty-five hundred miles long. While it is a long journey, it means that a large number of deaf people get an opportunity to hear about Jesus. Our Board is attempting to place a missionary into the far South, and we hope and pray that a worker will soon give these good people better service than we have been able to render at this distance.

The missionary regularly enters the State School of Arkansas at Little Rock, where Superintendent John Caple and Principal N. Zimble have been very co-operative, affording us the opportunity to address the children and extending us the hospitality of the school. At Jackson, Miss., we stay at the Mississippi School for the Deaf, where Mr. John R. Bane, the superintendent, has been making our visits enjoyable and helpful. The third institution in this southern field is the Louisiana School for the Deaf at Baton Rouge. Mr. Spencer Phillips, the lovable superintendent, has made arrangements to have all the older children desiring to attend our service for the adults come to this service. Since our Lutheran pastors to the deaf have not been able to work in the South until very recently, these deaf people have not had much of an opportunity to become acquainted with the Lutheran work for the deaf. By having the children of the States become personally acquainted with the worker, our work will have gained this advantage that in future years the missionaries will be received gladly by many who now have no opportunity of hearing Lutheran sermons in their home communities except at school. While speaking of these schools—and what we say of those in these three Southern States holds good of all States—we wish to commend the teachers for their encouraging help and direct service.

Every month we address all the children of the Illinois School at Jacksonville, Ill., twice, conducting a service in the chapel the third Sunday of the month and addressing the entire body of 550 children every first Tuesday in assembly. Mr. Dan. Cloud, the superintendent, has been affording us many opportunities to meet the children, and the teachers and supervisors of that school have been most helpful. At Jacksonville

about forty children are in our classes. The distance of 100 miles from home makes the work difficult since one cannot come often enough.

Mr. Truman L. Ingle, the superintendent of the Missouri School for the Deaf at Fulton, Mo., also deserves to be mentioned as being very helpful to us in our work. He has extended to us the school's hospitality, as has Mr. Cloud in Jacksonville, Ill., so that our visits at these institutions are very pleasant. Fulton is more than 100 miles away from St. Louis and this fact hampers effective work as one simply has to come frequently if one wishes to get the best results with children's classes.

In St. Louis we conduct two classes with children of the day-school of St. Louis, the Gallaudet School and of Central Institute for the Deaf, a high ranking private school. The work with these classes is all done by the oral method. One of the classes meets in the rooms of Christ Lutheran Church, about four blocks from Gallaudet School, where we may not teach on the premises of the school according to the St. Louis public-school-system rules; one class is held at Central Institute for the Deaf.

At St. Louis we conduct an oral service for the deaf on two Sunday mornings each month at nine o'clock, which service is followed at ten by the sign language service. The oral work is important, as we can reach some whom we could never reach through signs.

As items of interest we might add that Nov. 2 Carole Ann, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edw. C. Hummelsheim, was baptized and on Nov. 9 Carla Mae, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schilling. Nov. 9 Rev. E. Mappes of Omaha preached at our mission festival both in the morning and afternoon services. Oct. 26 we conducted our Decatur service at St. Johannes Church, Rev. E. C. Wegehaupt, on the occasion of his mission festival. At St. Louis Concordia Seminary about twenty-five students are studying the sign language in weekly meetings, and at the Springfield Seminary about seven meet the missionary every two weeks. This year in our studying of signs we are using Rev. Geo. W. Gaertner's *Compend of Signs*, which he prepared as a handbook for Lutheran workers.

N. P. U.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—In October we met the deaf for a service and Bible class at the Indiana Home in Brookston. There are a number of new residents in the home. We hope to serve them regularly in the future.

During every year we handle more than 2,000 letters for the blind. Readers of our periodicals often send us messages expressing appreciation for our work.

O. C. S.

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Rev. O. C. Schroeder, B. D., Editor, 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill. Send all news items intended for publication in this monthly to Rev. E. Mappes, Associate Editor, 5070 Lake St., Omaha, Nebr.