

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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Angels of the Easter Morning

Angels of the Easter morning,
Gather round the Savior's tomb!
Roll away the stone of sorrow
And dispel the night of gloom!
Wear your robes of shining splendor,
Break the silence of the grave,
And recall to His disciples
All the promises He gave!
Tell them that the Lord is risen,
He who bowed His sacred head;
Sing, ye messengers of beauty,
"Christ is risen from the dead!"

W. M. CZAMANSKE in *Lutheran Witness*

Easter

On Easter Day we celebrate the greatest event in the history of the world. Compared with it every other event pales into insignificance. By His glorious resurrection Jesus



gave striking proof that He had finished the great work which He had come to perform, the redemption of man. Man through sin had lost his holiness and perfection in which he was created. He was entirely helpless and had no other prospect than hopeless suffering

and eternal death, but Jesus took upon Himself man's transgression and perfectly kept the Law of God and suffered the punishment we all deserved. "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him and given Him a name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things in earth and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father," Phil. 2:9-11.

The Easter message has not lost its power today, nor is the need for this message any less than it was in the days of Christ. In times of depression doubts may assail all Christians; death still continues its destructive work and lays many hopes in the grave, but the Christian may rejoice: "O Death, where is thy sting? O Grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the Law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ," 1 Cor. 15:55.

Christ hath abolished death and hath brought life and immortality to light, so that death is swallowed up in victory, 2 Tim. 1:10. Therefore to the Christian dying is merely God's way of taking us to Himself. Therefore we are glad, and nothing can dim or rob us of this Easter gladness.

O. C. S.

An Excellent Missionary Spirit

Letter to Editor of "Lutheran Herald for the Blind"

DEAR FRIEND OF THE BLIND:

Each Sunday evening, at eight o'clock, I go to the radio, hoping to get something of the services which are broadcast from Hollywood, Calif.; but I am becoming so deaf that I can get very little of what is sent out over the air. So you may know how much I enjoy having the *Lutheran Herald* to read.

I copy articles from my embossed-type magazines and send them to ministers, Sunday-school and day-school teachers and business people, and they are very well received. One business man to whom I have sent these articles has had them printed on the front pages of *The Hollywood Shopping News*, a weekly, which goes into every home in Holly-

wood and surrounding country free and is closely read.

Recently a teacher of Los Angeles to whom I had sent articles came across the city, bringing a box of various delicious fruit and a box of fine note-paper to me, saying: "We want some more letters."

May the hope and cheer which the *Herald* has brought to its readers be reflected along the paths of all who have been responsible for its existence, and make this year one of the brightest and best they have ever known!

O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE THIRD ARTICLE

"I believe in the Holy Ghost"

In the explanation of the Third Article we confess: "I believe that the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith." And what the Holy Ghost has done in me, He wants to do in all.

Salvation Is for All

In 1 Tim. 2:4 we read: "God will have all men to be saved and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." Therefore He sent the Savior for all. On Good Friday we sing: "O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of *the world*, have mercy on us." And the Holy Ghost invites all by the Gospel, saying: "Come, for all things are ready."

Many Will Not be Saved

Salvation is for all; but not all will be saved. And why not? This we may learn from the words of our Lord to the people of Jerusalem: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, . . . how often would I have gathered thy children together even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not," Matt. 23:37. Many do not want to be saved God's way. If you hand a beggar the deed for a beautiful home and he takes the deed and throws it into the mud, your kind intention will be in vain. In like manner, when God offers the sinner the deed for the heavenly home as a free gift, many will not have it and will be lost though they are redeemed.

Always Some Will be Saved

God says: "My Word shall not return to Me void [empty]; but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it," Is. 55:11. And God's word is true. By the Gospel the Holy Ghost always will bring some men to Christ, and they will accept this salvation and rejoice in it.

The True Believers Are the Church

These believers, or saints, are the Church of which we confess in the Third Article: "I believe in the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints." The word *church* perhaps at first brings to our mind a church building. But it cannot be a building of wood and stone. A building cannot be called "the communion of saints." People are meant, not a building. Then, again, it is not a certain church group, as the Lutheran Church, the Methodist Church, etc. It is a communion of saints, of holy people, and not all members of the Lutheran Church, nor of any other church, are saints, or true believers.

Members of This Church Believe in the Crucified and Risen Savior

Not any kind of belief makes a man a member of this Church; no, only faith in the crucified and risen Lord. Members of this Church confess with Paul: "The Son of God loved me and gave Himself for me," Gal. 2:20, and with Job: "I know that my Redeemer liveth," Job 19:25. Do you belong to this Church of Jesus Christ? May God grant it by His Holy Spirit!

J. L. S.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Minneapolis Mission.—March 5 Clifford Horgen and Rose Leiter, both communicant members of our oral group, were united in holy marriage in Grace Chapel. May the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life also for them and arose again, fill their hearts and home with true happiness!

J. L. S.

Chicago, Ill.—On Wednesday, January 21, the members and friends of the Church of Our Savior in Chicago were saddened to learn of the rather sudden death of one of the trustees of our congregation, Mr. Eberhard C. Weinrich. Mr. Weinrich was confirmed in the year 1897, after attending the Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit for a number of years. After his confirmation he also attended the Illinois School in Jacksonville for several years. Mr. Weinrich was a

faithful member of our church for these many years, and almost every Sunday saw his pew occupied in spite of the distance he had to travel to his church. He was engaged in the mechanical dentistry profession for many years. On his way to his place of employment on Saturday, January 17, he suffered a stroke and did not regain consciousness. On the following Wednesday evening he fell asleep peacefully. May the survivors find comfort in the blessed assurance of the Word of God upon which the pastor based his remarks at the funeral service: "This is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son and believeth on Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day," John 6:40.

Recently we welcomed Miss Laura Mau into communicant membership with us in the oral group, for whom services are conducted every Sunday morning. Three young men in this group, Frederick Hansen, Roy Nelson, and Rudolph Ziemer, are taking instructions at the present time.

On a recent motor trip, coming home from visiting friends in Wisconsin, Mrs. A. Rensmann was rather seriously injured; her left wrist was broken, and she sustained a deep cut over her right eye. She is now convalescing at her home. We are also happy to be able to report the birth of a healthy girl to Mrs. Leonard James of our congregation in Chicago. May the infant soon be brought to its Savior in Holy Baptism.

E. J. S

Milwaukee, Wis.—The year 1941 was a year of divine blessing for Emmanuel Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Milwaukee. The 40th anniversary of dedication no doubt brought home to all members the truth of the psalmist's words "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good." As a result the past year found our congregation "abounding in the work of the Lord." Over \$1,600 was raised within the congregation. (This amount does not include over \$600 contributed by the deaf outside of Milwaukee.) The 60 services in Milwaukee were attended by 3,000 deaf, and 329 communicants approached the Lord's Table. The largest class in the congregation's history was confirmed on Palm Sunday. The following were given Christian burial: Mrs. Alvina Bradley, Mr. Jacob Sutter, and Mrs. Ethel Maertz.

Plans for oral services were also laid, so that with the beginning of the new year the first oral service could be held. These services for the lip-reading deaf are conducted on the second and the fourth Sunday of the month at 11 A. M. (Sign services are held in Milwaukee every Sunday at 9:30 A. M.)

A men's club was organized during the past year. This organization together with the ladies' aid purchased a United States and a Christian flag, which are now properly displayed in the church, a reminder to "render unto Caesar [our Government] the things which are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's."

The goodness of the Lord was especially manifest in the fact that He has sent another laborer into the harvest. Pastor Clarence Bremer, who has been called

to Chicago, among other duties henceforth is to take charge of the work at the Wisconsin School for Deaf in Delavan. Thus a long-felt and much prayed-for need has been supplied in this field. As a result all stations in the Milwaukee field will henceforth be served more regularly instead of only a few times a year, as has been the case with several stations. At present the Milwaukee congregation numbers 100 communicants and the entire field nearly 250. (This figure does not include about 40 communicants at Delavan now served by Pastor Bremer.)

Realizing that there is always room for improvement in the congregation, the elders meet weekly with the pastor in order to admonish and encourage those members who seem to have grown cold in their love for Christ and His Church. Thus the elders faithfully attend to their God-given duties of assisting the pastor in "strengthening the brethren."

Members of Emmanuel Congregation were shocked and saddened by the news that Wm. J. Geilfuss had died suddenly and unexpectedly as the result of a heart attack at the door of his home upon returning from work on Friday evening, March 6. Mr. Geilfuss, who attained the age of 64 years, had been under the doctor's care, but his condition enabled him to carry on his work as cost accountant in the office of a large firm, a position which he held for 21 years. On the Sunday before his death he had taken charge of services as lay reader because of the pastor's illness. Mr. Geilfuss was an ardent church worker, who set a fine example for devoutness and Christian conduct. He performed his duties as an officer in the church with great faithfulness and efficiency. His educational attainments were remarkable, a tribute to his determination to overcome the handicap of deafness. Above all, Mr. Geilfuss was a humble Christian who could say with St. Paul: "Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ," Rom. 5:1. Although his end came with unexpected suddenness, we have every reason to believe that he was ready and is now in heaven with His Savior, in whom he trusted for forgiveness. May the Lord comfort his sorrowing wife, Frances, and may every one of us heed the Savior's warning words "Be ye, therefore, ready also; for the Son of Man cometh at an hour when ye think not," Luke 12:40.

M. E. A. MUELLER

Omaha, Nebr.—On March 15 a class of 9 adults was confirmed at Omaha after having met regularly for Catechism instruction. The following are those who made public confession of their faith: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Barber, Mr. Preston Best, Mrs. Donald Dey, Mrs. Carl Jourdan, Mrs. Arthur Laursen, Mrs. Loris Merrill, Mr. Harold Nord, and Mr. Harry Stilen. May God keep them ever faithful to His Word and Church.

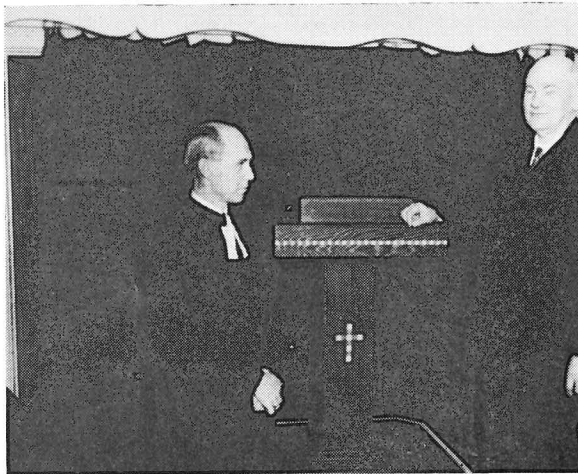
A service for the deaf was conducted at Des Moines, Iowa, on March 8, with an attendance of 21 deaf friends. We intend to conduct regular services again at this station and hope more of the large number of deaf in this city will avail themselves of the opportunity to learn the one thing needful unto salvation.

A class of 15 pupils from the Council Bluffs, Iowa, school and 5 from the Omaha school are preparing for confirmation, to be held in the Omaha church on May 3. E. M.

Southern California Field.—Sunday, February 25, is a day which will be remembered for quite a time by the members of Pilgrim Church, Los Angeles, and their friends. It was Dedication Sunday, though there was no chapel to be dedicated.

During its existence the Los Angeles mission has had to hold its services in classrooms, upstairs auditoriums, badly lighted Sunday-school rooms. So in the fall of 1941 once again a move was made, this time into a room in the Sunday School Annex of Grace Church on W. Vernon Avenue.

When the news was heard in Grace Church that Pilgrim Church for the Deaf was returning, the Women's Missionary Endeavor of that church set to work



Mr. Charles Craig, deaf-blind cabinetmaker, Pastor Ferber, and the pulpit Mr. Craig presented to Pilgrim Church of Los Angeles

with a will, giving the room a more cheerful and church-like appearance with curtains and drapes for the windows and a few appropriate pictures for the walls. Soon after this the ladies' aid society of Trinity Church, where in 1916 the first Lutheran signed service was held on the Pacific coast, gave the pastor some money to buy a crucifix. Mr. Russel Emery, the latest member of Pilgrim Church, paid for the installation of a splendid fluorescent light, and Mr. Claude Wakefield, the only treasurer our flock has had in all the years of its existence, made a platform on which the pastor and signers of hymns might stand during the service. Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Ludwick spent long hours of work making and installing a beautiful dark-red background curtain, and once again the women of Grace Church opened their hearts and donated a table to be used as an altar.

However the most precious and marvelous gift came from Mr. Charles Craig, our deaf-blind friend from Garden Grove, Calif. With skill that would do honor to a seeing cabinetmaker he made a pulpit, or lectern, with beautiful inlaid work, and presented it to Pilgrim Church.

And in the regular morning service on February 25, before deaf and hearing friends, all these gifts were received with proper thanks to the givers and were then dedicated to the service of God. We can only say, "Surely, the Lord hath been good unto us!" G. H. F.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—At our service in the Indiana Home for the Deaf in February we had the pleasure of meeting the entire board of directors of that institution. Eleven board members and a number of visitors were present.

The ninth district of the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs presented our Lutheran Library for the Blind with a Braille Bible, 20 volumes, at its regular meeting in February through the efforts of Mrs. Seidel. Many thanks to the kind donors! O. C. S.

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Rev. N. E. Borchardt, 11719 Evanston Ave., Detroit, Mich.
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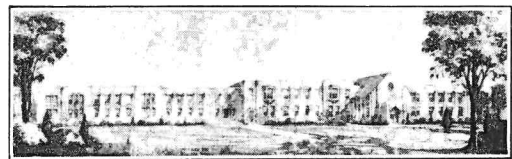
Ministers to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.
 Rev. C. Bremer, 8336 S. Green 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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