

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

*Published by the Board of Missions for the Deaf of the Lutheran Synod
of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

Published monthly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Subscription price, 25 cts. per annum anywhere in the world, payable strictly in advance. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at St. Louis, Mo., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 14, 1935

Vol. 35

St. Louis, Mo., January, 1943

No. 1



A New Year's Prayer

For the new year soon to be,
Grant Thy grace, dear Lord, that we
May from sin and wrong keep free
Day by day.

In its pathways, all untried,
Be our constant Friend and Guide;
Keep Thou near, whate'er betide,
All the way.

There are testings to endure,
Tempting paths our feet to lure;
Keep us in Thy love secure
Lest we stray.

Then, no matter what befall,
With Thee near to heed our call,
Thou wilt be our All in all,
And for aye.

FRED SCOTT SHEPARD

The New Year

The new year is before us. We stand, as Abraham stood upon the bank of the Euphrates, looking toward the unknown country, praying, "Be Thou our Guide in this uncharted land." If He be our Guide and Counselor, all is well. Let us, therefore, lay aside every doubt and set forth bravely.

May we crowd this new year full of service and of love. There are a hundred hearts worse bruised than ours. Let us seek them out for the comfort we have learned from God. There are a hundred lives whose clouds are darker than our cloud. Let us help this year to throw the sunlight over them. There are enfeebled ones who want an arm to lean upon. Let us say, "Here's ours." We know there are causes

which need strong support—why not our strength and our support? There are needy ones awaiting assistance; let us give them our help. Upon the path of service let us set our feet and travel on throughout the year. Thus we shall show the fruits of our Christian faith in gratitude for Christ's gift of salvation. God give us grace to make of this new year, ere it grows old, a great year, full of service and of love, a long year's stride toward life that knows no end but is unending. O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE THIRD ARTICLE

"I believe in the Holy Ghost"

In Luther's Catechism we say: "I believe that the Holy Ghost forgives all sins to me and all believers." A precious teaching! But is that sure?

Not Sure Are They Who Build Their Hope of Forgiveness upon Their Works

There are some people who teach that man never can be sure of forgiveness. And they are not sure because they build their hope of forgiveness upon their works. They think they must work out their own salvation. And therefore they never can be sure, but always must fear and doubt. They never are sure whether they have done enough. Others trust in Christ and His blood, but think also they must do something in order to get forgiveness. Also these people never are sure. Always they must ask: "Have I done my part? Have I done enough?" Oh, do not build your hope of forgiveness either wholly or in part upon your works!

Sure Are They Who Build Their Hope of Forgiveness upon God's Word and Promise

God's Word tells us: "Man is justified [saved] by faith without the deeds [doings] of the Law," Rom. 3:28. And again: "By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God," Eph. 2:8. And Jesus says: "Verily, verily [surely], I say unto you, He that believeth in Me hath everlasting life," John 6:47. This is God's word and promise. And that is sure. If God's words and promises are not sure, what, then, can be sure in this world? Thanks to God, "He is not a man that He should lie," Num. 23:19. "It is impossible for God to lie," Heb. 6:18. Your forgiveness is sure if it rests upon God's word and promise. By this word the Holy Ghost makes you sure, and you can say with Luther: "This is most certainly true."

Do This, and It Will Be a Blessed New Year

Forgiveness of sin by grace, through faith in Christ Jesus without the deeds of the Law! A precious teaching of the Bible and our Lutheran Church! May we, by God's grace, keep this blessed teaching during the new year and go out with it into all the world for the sure salvation of many! J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for January

Bible-Lesson: Acts 2:33-36

Therefore, being by the right hand of God exalted and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth this which ye now see and hear. For David is not ascended into the heavens; but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit Thou on My right hand until I make Thy foes Thy footstool. Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God hath made that same Jesus whom ye have crucified both Lord and Christ.

In preaching the Gospel as Jesus commanded it, ministers have the hope that people will believe and that, believing, they might be saved. 1 Cor. 1:21. That is the intention and object in our Bible lesson. The minister (Peter) has *presented* and explained the truth of God's Word. It has been shown that all promises of the Old Testament (about the Messiah) were fulfilled in Jesus. The work of redemption is explained (v. 23). Peter reasoned with the audience in understandable

terms, as God wished it. Is. 1:18. And now we are studying some closing verses of the sermon, which give additional encouragement to believe.

Verse 33: "Jesus hath shed forth this." Peter means the gifts of the Holy Spirit which you (the audience) see in the actions of the apostles. V. 34: "Sit Thou on My right hand." By this is meant, as we confess in the Creed, that Jesus would *rule* the earth and heaven in equal power, glory, and honor with the Father. . . . "Until I make Thy foes Thy footstool." Here we learn that the enemy, Satan, will be defeated and put to shame on Judgment Day.

Now comes one of the strong closing appeals of the sermon, v. 36: "Therefore let all the house of Israel *know* assuredly (and believe firmly) that God hath made that same Jesus whom ye crucified both Lord and Christ." Through Christ's ascension and sitting at the right hand of God's power, He has been proved and declared the Messiah and Savior of the world.

Dear reader, take this Bread of Life chapter earnestly. When you go to church, see whether you can recognize the same sermon plan of the pastor. You will hear in every sermon the statement that all people are sinners and that only Jesus can save us.

A. E. F.

Why Not Sooner?

A heathen lady in Bengal, India, talked to the missionary who was selling Bibles.

"Where have you Christians been so long that I did not hear this wonderful story any sooner? Look at me, I am now a very old woman. All my life I have prayed to idols, given money to idol worship, have gone all over to the different idol temples, and my body is dried up from going without food—and now you tell me all this is no good because Jesus died to take all our sins away. Where have you Christians been so long, and what have you been doing so long, that I did not hear about this any sooner, and many others like me?"

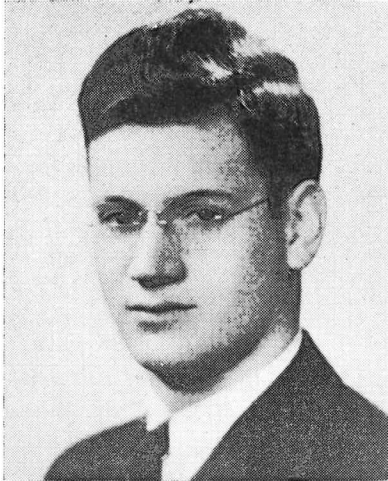
Well, what have we been doing?

Are *you* doing something for those who do not know Jesus, the Savior from sin, just as soon as you can?

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Omaha, Nebr.—New officers elected to serve the Omaha congregation for the coming year are as follows: President Earl Petersen; Secretary Keith Stinger; Treasurer Glenn Cooper; Auditors Oscar Treuke and Nick Petersen; Elders Theodore Andersen and Earl Petersen; Trustees Hans Neujahr, Glenn Cooper, and Emil Schultz.

Immediately after the service at Sioux City, Iowa, on November 22, the wedding of Mr. Arthur Keller and Miss Lois Scott took place at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.



Rev. John C. Streit

Pastor to the deaf of Oklahoma and Texas, installed at Oklahoma City on November 1

A crowd of twenty-five deaf who had attended the service remained for the wedding ceremony, and a large number of hearing people, relatives and friends of the couple, also attended. Mr. and Mrs. Ed. J. Humphreys served as witnesses. May our Lord and Savior Jesus grant His presence and blessings to them, and may both serve this Savior in their future life together.

E. M.

New York City.—Sunday, December 6, marked the thirtieth anniversary of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, New York City. The occasion was commemorated with a divine service in Immanuel Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Theo. Keyl of Newark, N. J. Rev. Keyl has been extremely interested in the deaf mission for many years. Several years ago he was instrumental in founding the mission for the deaf in Newark. Rev. Keyl based his address on Song of Sol. 5:16. In his sermon he brought out the fact that the Lord has graciously blessed his church for the past thirty years, and assured the congregation that the Lord would continue His blessings in the years to come. The Rev. Martin Steege, pastor of Immanuel Church in Brooklyn, N. Y., assisted in the service. The entire service was signed for the deaf by Rev. Floyd Possehl.

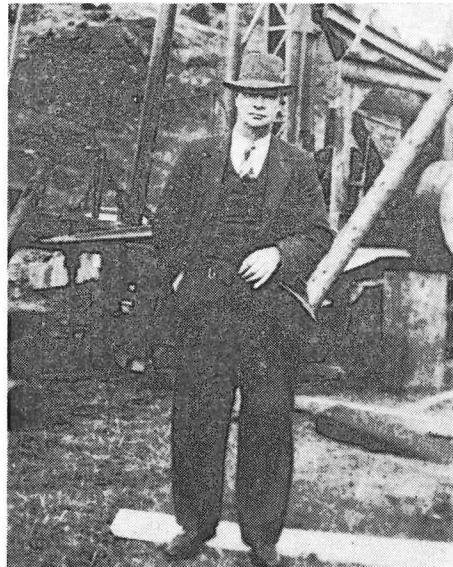
The choir of St. Matthew's Church for the Deaf added to the beauty of the service. They rendered the beautiful selection "For Many Years, O God of Grace." The members of the choir are: Mrs. H. Borgstrand,

Mrs. C. Ulmer, Miss C. Christgau, Mrs. J. Heil, and Mrs. V. Lind. The choir is greatly appreciated by the congregation, because they generously give of their time for weekly rehearsals.

An evening of Christian fellowship followed the service. The ladies' aid served a tasty dinner to all present. After the dinner several of the oldest members were introduced to the assembly. Mr. Erich Berg, who has faithfully served the congregation as treasurer for thirty years, was presented with a purse of thirty dollars. Movies were shown depicting the life of the congregation from its beginnings. The efficiency of all the committees made the day a very enjoyable one for the 150 deaf who attended.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church was organized thirty years ago by the Rev. Arthur Boll. Rev. Boll remained a faithful shepherd to his flock until the Lord summoned him to his heavenly home about one year ago. The faithfulness and thoroughness of the work of Rev. Boll was evidenced by the fact that nine of the first confirmation class of thirteen confirmed in 1913 were present to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary. After the death of Rev. Boll the congregation called Rev. Floyd Possehl, who was installed in March, 1942.

Having been privileged to enjoy the grace of God for thirty years, the congregation vowed to double their efforts for the kingdom of God. It is our prayer that God will continue to bless us and lead many more sin-sick souls to the knowledge of their Savior. F. P.



Mr. J. Hult

a Lutheran deaf man living in the Copper Country of Northern Michigan. The deaf in this district are chiefly of Finnish and Swedish descent. They sincerely appreciate our efforts to serve them

St. Louis.—A shocking tragedy occurred during the first week of November, which cost the life of two of our members. Mr. Walter Hemminghaus and his wife Vera, nee Drum, met an untimely death. They were last seen November 2 by the neighbors as they returned to their suburban home in the evening and put their car into their basement garage. The following

Sunday night the neighbors, having become very uneasy, discovered him dead in bed, apparently a victim of carbon monoxide. His wife was still living and died of pneumonia on November 11. The coroner pronounced it accidental death from carbon monoxide. Mr. Hemminghaus evidently had not immediately turned off the motor and left the car running and later closed the garage door. They had made preparations for the next day's breakfast and work and gone to bed, setting the motor rattler under their bedspring for alarm, which had seemingly roused her sufficiently to try to rise, only to fall to the floor and lie there six days. He was buried November 10 and his wife November 14. Lord, teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Mr. Theo. De Laney and Mr. Rob. Otto, students of Concordia Seminary, have been helping the missionary by conducting services here in St. Louis, enabling him to get away to some of the other stations on Sundays. At the Seminary in Springfield about fifteen students are devoting themselves studiously to the task of learning the sign language and are doing very well.

N. P. U.

Cleveland, O. — On September 20 Mr. George Jorgensen and Miss Alma Schroeder, both of Buffalo, entered into holy matrimony, the Rev. M. Walker performing the ceremony in Calvary Church.

On November 7 Mr. Chas. Upton of Port Clinton, Ohio, and Miss Doris Kozak of Cleveland were married by the undersigned in the study of the parsonage, Mary Grover being maid of honor and Leo Kozak the best man.

On November 7 Miss Evelyn Bohnenstadt of Lockport, N. Y., was married to Mr. Ralph Hilts of Niagara Falls, the Rev. Chr. Schmidt performing the ceremony in his church.

May God so bless these three marriages that all may abide in the faith of Jesus for their eternal happiness.

Mrs. Violet Hrubec of Cleveland, who because of a spinal injury had been paralyzed over one year, finally was taken by the Lord while she was under an operation.

On October 8, the pastor underwent a major operation and, by the mercy of God, has quickly recovered. He resumed duties November 29 and wishes to thank the many friends who remembered him.

THEO. FREDERKING

Mission for Blind and Deaf. — The readers of our magazines to the blind continue to enjoy and appreciate our literature in raised type. The many letters received in our office prove that the printed Word of God is effective in their hearts. The following is an example of the manner in which they receive our services. This California reader writes: "Mrs. V. wishes to thank you for the magazine, which is both a comfort and an inspiration to her in her blindness and loss of hearing." Another wrote: "This has been a red-letter day for my friend because of the coming of the magazine. It has been such a comfort to her through these years, and she sends sincere thanks." A letter from the Virginia State Library says: "We sincerely appreciate your interest and help in furnishing us your useful magazine."

O. C. S.

WHEN a man begins to stay away from church, hell gets ready for a celebration.

THE tomb we fill with a loved one's body loses its cruel horror when we gaze into His empty tomb.

Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

Rev. N. E. Borchardt, 11719 Evanston Ave., Detroit, Mich.
 Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Rev. A. E. Ferber, 3807 Gillham Road, Kansas City, Mo.
 Rev. E. Mappes, 5070 Lake St., Omaha, Nebr.
 Rev. J. Salvner, 1221 N. 22d Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.
 Rev. W. Ferber, 617 14th St., S., Fargo, N. Dak.
 Rev. W. Westermann, 204 Washington Ave., Memphis, Tenn.
 Rev. G. W. Gaertner, 3233 62d Ave., Oakland, Calif.
 Rev. Martin E. A. Mueller, 1717a W. Meinecke Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
 Rev. R. F. Cordes, 1162 Marshall Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
 Rev. Theo. Frederking, 12322 Phillips Ave., Cleveland, O.
 Rev. A. T. Jonas, 1101 15th Ave., Seattle, Wash.
 Rev. John C. Streit, 1517 N. Western Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla.
 Rev. N. P. Uhlig, 4517 W. Pine Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.
 Rev. W. D. Uhlig, 1475 W. 47th St., Los Angeles, Calif.
 Rev. Floyd Possehl, 87-49 95th St., Woodhaven, N. Y.
 Rev. N. W. Zellmer, 3111 S. E. Alder Court, Portland, Oreg.

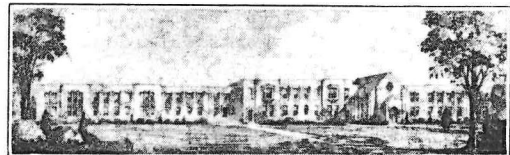
Ministers to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.
 Rev. C. Bremer, 6056 S. Harper Ave., 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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Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, Mich.
 Mr. John A. Klein, Director
 6861 Nevada Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

The Deaf Lutheran

Official Organ of Lutheran Church Missions for the Deaf
 Published Monthly

Twenty-five Cents per Annum in Advance

Send all subscriptions, changes of address, and cancellations to Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

The DEAF LUTHERAN goes to press on the 12th of the month preceding month of issue.

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.