

# 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 18, 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., September, 1943

No. 9

### Importance of Religious Training

At this time of the year most summer vacations are over, and many church activities are again renewed. In the early fall, pastors, as a rule, organize new Bible and confirmation classes to prepare the young and the old for blessed and useful church membership. It is the responsibility of Christian parents to speak to their pastor about the enrollment of their children for such instruction in religion.

God has commanded Christian parents to see to it that their children receive proper instruction. Children need to learn the facts about good citizenship, and, above all, they need to know the way to heaven from the Word of God. The benefits of all earthly education fade away with the passing of the years, while the blessings of Christian knowledge and faith abide forever.

The good influence of early Christian training is important. It will be felt in the Church, in the home, in the community, in the nation, and especially in the heart and mind of the child itself. The Bible says: "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it," Prov. 22:6. From the Word of God children learn their need of a Savior. Through faith in Jesus they will lead decent and upright lives, becoming faithful churchgoers and enthusiastic church workers. Thus they will become the salt of the earth. Moreover, faithful children make happy parents. In such homes of harmony great men and women grow; they are the kind of material of which great nations are made. The Bible teaches, "Righteousness exalteth a nation," Prov. 14:34. God-fearing children grow up to lead righteous lives and to be promoters of righteousness. Even one faithful man or

woman can exert great influence for good in a community.

Let us, then, rear our children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," Eph. 6:4. Let us enroll them in Bible and confirmation classes to the glory of God and the salvation of their own souls.

O. C. S.

### Studies in Luther's Catechism

#### THE THIRD ARTICLE

*"I believe in the Holy Ghost"*

Everlasting life means to be with the Lord Jesus forever and ever, ever with Him who loved us and gave Himself for us. Let us think upon this a little longer.

#### Ever with Christ; that Means, Free from All Trouble and Sorrow

The life here on earth is a life of sorrow and crying because of sin. Our daily papers tell us what sin has brought into this world. We read of wars and famines and suffering in all the world. But there with Christ "sorrow and sighing shall flee away." And John in Rev. 21:4 writes: "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain."

#### Ever with Christ; that Means, Fullness of Joy and Pleasures Forevermore

In Ps. 16:11 we read: "In Thy presence is fullness of joy, and at Thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore." And it cannot be otherwise. The longer we shall be with Christ, the greater and more the joy and pleasures. The world runs after the sinful joys and pleasures of this life and thinks it has the real

joy and pleasure, and then laughs at the Christian who will not run with it, and thinks him a fool. But the Christian knows "that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed [seen] in us," Rom. 8:18. The joys and pleasures of this world are short and fleeting and mixed with sorrow and trouble, but there the believer shall have fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore.

### Believe and Stay in Christ, and Be with Him Forever

Jesus wants to give everlasting life to everyone as a gift. Blessed are they that accept it. Only believers have this everlasting life. John writes: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life," but "he that believeth not the Son shall not see life," John 3:36. If you would be with Christ forever in fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore, then believe in Him, trust in His blood shed on the cross for you and continue in this faith. Our Lord Jesus says: "He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved," Matt. 24:13. Perhaps you anxiously ask: "Oh, shall I endure to the end?" If you look at yourself and at your powerful enemies, then you surely must despair. But do not look at yourself and your weakness, but at the mighty Savior on the cross, in whom God has chosen you from eternity and therefore has called you, begun faith in you, and will keep you unto the end. Of His sheep Jesus says: "They shall never perish; neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand," John 10:28.

Therefore, Christian friend, full of faith and hope say with our Catechism: "The Holy Ghost will give unto me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true."

J. L. S.

## THE BREAD OF LIFE

### Bible Study for September

Bible Lesson: Acts 3:4-7

"And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have I give thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up; and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength."

The lame man at the gate of the Temple acted very naturally. He begged for food and clothing for his *body*. He was thinking only of the things which he needed for this life. That man may have been poor in food and money, but he was much poorer in spirit because he did not have Jesus in his heart. John and Peter knew what the man lacked. Therefore they "fastened" their eyes on him; that is, they looked at him very straight and earnestly. They gave him the instruction "Look on us." The Apostles wanted him to take notice how they were talking to him by the power of the Holy Spirit and *what* they would say and do to him in a moment *in the name of Jesus*. In that way he would then be able to be a witness for Jesus in the future. It was health that this man was to receive, indeed, but Jesus, the great Physician, was healing him. If the lame man would take this Jesus into his heart by faith, he would become a truly rich man.

Perhaps this hungry, poor man wondered what Peter would say next. With clear, strong words Peter says: "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." Let us notice that the Apostle confesses that he had the *special* ability of healing, with the other Apostles, as it is said in 1 Cor. 12:9. And furthermore, the Apostle "took him by the right hand and lifted him up." Without a doubt, Peter followed this *method* because he had seen *Jesus* do likewise in the past. (See Matt. 8:3, 15.) And what a happy man this beggar now was! . . . "His feet and ankle bones received strength." It seemed to him that now he could begin a new life because he had health. But more than that, the Apostles, by the Word of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit, were teaching this man how he could become a *saved* person by faith in Jesus, and that made him a doubly *rich* man. His poverty and appetite were no longer the most important thing for him. He knew Jesus, the Savior! He now had the treasure which moths or rust cannot spoil. Matt. 6:20. A. E. F.

While I leave Thy house, dear Lord,  
Let me take with me Thy Word;  
Let me trust Thee, fear, and love;  
Guide me to my home above.

## IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

*Minneapolis Mission.*—Mrs. Jens P. Hansen departed this life August 5 in Osceola, Wis., after a long illness. She was baptized by the pastor in 1905 and became a communicant member of Grace Church. Two weeks before her death she asked for her pastor and also wished to partake of the Holy Supper. We hurried to her bedside and gladly ministered unto her. The following week she again asked the pastor to come and to speak words of comfort to her. And the day before her death we again went to bring her the Word of Life. She died at the age of 61 and is survived by one son, one daughter, one brother, and two grandchildren. Funeral services were held in Grace Church, the pastor basing his sermon on the words of Christ "Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth," Luke 8:52. May this be the comfort to her relatives and friends. Be ye ready always!

Margaret Ann, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Sand was baptized in our service August 8 and thus became a child of God. "Baptism doth also now save us." 1 Peter 3:21. J. L. S.

*Portland Mission.*—Fourteen months have passed since the labors in the Lord's kingdom in Oregon and Eastern Washington were continued by the new pastor.

The Lord must receive our praise and thanksgiving for His gracious blessings during the past many years upon this field, which includes such places as Portland, Salem, Hillsboro, Medford, and Grants Pass in Oregon; and Vancouver and Spokane in Washington. Hope Lutheran Church in Portland, and Faith Lutheran Church in Spokane are our two larger centers, which include approximately 100 communicant members.

The two State schools of this field are giving their unlimited co-operation in our behalf, and although the present emergency has decreased their enrollment, fifteen children met regularly to prepare themselves for membership in our Church. Attendance at divine services in each school averaged about 80 children.

It is not unusual today to find new faces on the streets of West Coast cities, where labor shortages are now tremendous. Therefore we are also making many new friends, who are coming here especially from North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Montana, and neighboring States.

In April, 1943, Harold Skalicky, formerly from Iowa, and Gloria Northway were united in marriage in Portland. We pray that the Lord's blessing will remain with them during a long and happy marriage.

On June 27, Karen Kathleen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Anderson, formerly of North Dakota, and on July 11, Joyce Arlene, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Sandberg, were baptized in the name of the Triune God in Faith Lutheran Church. The grace and peace of the Lord be with them always.

On Easter Day the members of Hope Lutheran Church in Portland enhanced their church with a beautiful new rug. It is a spirit such at this which proves the love of God in their hearts.

Further, it should be mentioned also, that our Lutheran deaf in Spokane are not only faithful Christians but also ardent missionaries. Among themselves they

decided upon three from their group who are to aid the pastor in showing other deaf the need of knowing God's Word. This group caused attendance in our church to increase very noticeably during the past winter months. May all of us take note of the great things every Christian can do for his Savior.

"O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise." Ps. 51:15.

N. W. ZELLMER

*Pacific Northwest Missions.*—Passed to their eternal reward: Mr. Clarence McConnell, after suffering a stroke from which he did not recover, died on January 14. Mr. McConnell was deaf and blind. His Christian patience was an example to all. He had reached the age of 74 years, 11 months.

Mrs. Annie Elkins passed away after an operation. She was, in age, one of our oldest members. She fell asleep April 3, at peace with her Maker.

United in holy wedlock: January 30, Mr. Richard Vigesaa of North Dakota and Miss Elizabeth Glaser of Seattle; March 21, Mr. Harlan Watkins of Kentucky and Miss Evelyn Jacobs of North Dakota; April 10, Mr. Elmer Francisco of Montana and Miss Mildred Catron of South Dakota; April 17, Mr. Geo. Lancaster and Miss Elsie Spencer, both of Kansas City, Mo.; June 1, Mr. Russell Horton and Miss June Barlow both of North Dakota; June 19, Archibald Hayden and Elizabeth Rae, both of Vancouver, B. C., Canada; June 27, Alvin Mathews of North Dakota and Miss Hattie Arntzen of Everett, Wash.; June 27, Mr. Leonard Holma and Miss Betty Suiter of Renton and Tacoma, respectively; July 10, Mr. Harold Stickel of Yakima and Miss Marjorie Evans of Tacoma.

A great number of deaf are moving into this defense center, especially from North Dakota. Among those from North Dakota who have affiliated themselves with our Church are: Mr. and Mrs. Glen Clark, Mr. Lindermoen, Robert Phinney, Mrs. Ekstrom and Adeline, Russel Horton, Justin Nelson, Lloyd Hanson, Richard Vigesaa, Selmer Engene, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Erickson, Martin Zimmermann, Alvin Mathews, Randall Stavee, Evelyn Jacobs Watkins. We welcome all newcomers and hope they will stay with us and their Church.

An impressive Easter service was conducted this year with a record attendance of 115 deaf, and a record attendance of 67 deaf at the Lord's Supper. Extra chairs had to be brought in to seat the crowd which had come to hear of their Savior's resurrection.

Our church and social hall have been repaired and refinished with a new coat of paint. A new roof has been put on the new extension over the kitchen. All this at a cost of nearly \$200, which was easily defrayed by our church treasury and the loyal financial support of the members.

On July 11 another special service was held for confirmation and the presentation of the new church flags. Miss Alyce Gober, Miss Edna Jacques, Mrs. Mildred Francisco, and Mrs. Elsie Lancaster vowed allegiance to their God and Savior before a group of 78 deaf and received their first Communion with fifty fellow members. The American flag and the Christian flag were also presented at this time by our active group of young people.

Great interest is being shown in the work of the Church throughout our Pacific Northwest Missions. Services in Tacoma, Everett, Yakima, and also in Vancouver, B. C., Canada, all have been well attended. We encourage the deaf to continue showing their loyalty to their God and to continue their prayers for God's mercy in this time of national crisis. Thereby the morale of the deaf will be an example to all people. "Be strong in the Lord!"

A. T. J.

*St. Paul Mission.*—This year the festival of Pentecost was a special day of rejoicing for Calvary Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn., for on that day four new members were received into our congregation. Having first made a public confession of their faith before a large gathering of fellow Christians, they then joined in



Left to right: Bernita Ward; Dorothy Davis; R. F. Cordes, Pastor; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stone

Holy Communion with twenty members, partaking of the body and blood of our Lord for strengthening and keeping them in that faith. We pray that in the midst of the many temptations proceeding from their own heart, from Satan, and from the wicked world round about they may firmly and faithfully hold to that one and only Savior from sin, that is, our Lord Jesus Christ. — The members of that class were Dorothy Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stone, and Bernita Ward.

In July the pastor made another lengthy trip to Western Canada. Eight public and private services were held, being attended by sixty-eight deaf. Thirteen of these received the Lord's Supper. Five days were spent studying the sign language with Rev. E. B. Fox of Calgary, Alberta. His congregation of hearing people has granted him permission to spend about a week of every month serving the deaf of two provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The writer will continue to serve Winnipeg and other deaf in Manitoba.

R. F. C.

### To Our Subscribers

It has been our custom to retain the names of our subscribers on our lists for two numbers after the subscription has expired, so that the subscriptions could be continued without interruption in case a renewal came in late. We were very happy to follow this plan at extra expense, but we are now unable to continue this policy because of present conditions.

June, 1943

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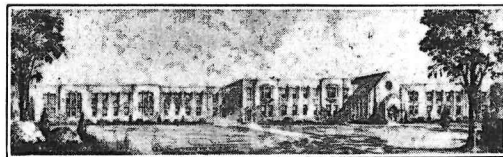
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These ministers preach in more than 200 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at many State schools for the deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The deaf need God's Word.

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### 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 18, 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.

PRINTED IN U. S. A.