

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*

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No. 11



Lutheran Pastors to the Deaf and Blind

Left to right, front row: E. Mappes, Omaha, Nebr.; A. Lutz, Minneapolis, Minn.; O. C. Schroeder, Chicago, Ill.; A. E. Ferber, Kansas City, Mo.; R. F. Cordes, St. Paul, Minn.; J. Streit, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Second row: Theo. Frederking, Cleveland, Ohio; J. L. Salvner, Minneapolis, Minn.; W. Ferber, Fargo, N. Dak.; A. Jonas, Seattle, Wash.; C. Schleicher, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Third row: W. Westerman, Memphis, Tenn.; N. W. Zellmer, Portland, Oreg.; E. Scheibert, Chicago, Ill.; C. Bremer, Chicago, Ill.

Fourth row: M. Mueller, Milwaukee, Wis.; N. P. Uhlig, St. Louis, Mo.; F. Possehl, New York, N. Y.; N. E. Borchardt, Detroit, Mich.; W. Uhlig, Los Angeles, Calif.

Thanksgiving

We praise Thee, O God,
 Our Redeemer, Creator,
 In grateful devotion
 Our tribute we bring;
 We lay it before Thee,
 We kneel and adore Thee,
 We bless Thy holy name,
 Glad praises we sing.

We worship Thee, God
 Of our fathers, we bless Thee;
 Through life's storm and tempest
 Our Guide hast Thou been;
 When perils o'ertake us,
 Escape Thou wilt make us,
 And with Thy help, O Lord,
 Our battles we win.

With voices united
 Our praises we offer,
 To Thee, great Jehovah,
 Glad anthems we raise.
 Thy strong arm will guide us,
 Our God is beside us,
 To Thee, our great Redeemer,
 Forever be praise. Amen.

Thanksgiving Day

It is a commendable custom to set aside one day of the year for special thanksgiving to God for all His blessings to humanity. Every year He supplies the sunshine and the rain necessary to provide the world with food. Furthermore, strength and life to sow and reap a harvest comes from Him alone. Without His loving care and guidance there would be no food nor life. Moreover, He supplies man with food for the soul. In the first place, He has made a way of escape from sin's punishment for His ungrateful children by the incarnation of His Son, who came to redeem men. By Him all the world has been reconciled unto God. All sins, great and small, have been paid for by His blood. He died for the ungodly. This sweet Gospel is food for the soul. God has given mankind this spiritual food in His Word, by which He creates and sustains spiritual life in the souls of men.

If you think of these boundless blessings, how can you grumble day and night about mere trivialities and the daily minor vexations of life. Thank God daily for the gift of His Son and show your gratitude by repenting of and forsaking your sins. A contrite and believing heart is acceptable and pleasing unto God as a thankoffering for His many blessings.

O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE LORD'S PRAYER

"Our Father who art in heaven"

In the Lord's Prayer Jesus teaches us to pray to the Father in heaven, a kind and almighty Father, an all-wise and all-knowing Father. But there is one more word that we should not overlook, the word "our."

You Pray for All People, Saying "Our" Father

When you pray to your Father in heaven, think not only of yourself, but of all people. Yes, you should pray also for yourself. You daily need many things from your Father, but not only you, but every man and woman needs them. Therefore our Savior teaches us to pray not "*my* Father," but "*our* Father." You should go to God in prayer for all people, saying "*our* Father." Jesus wants you to pray for all members of your family, for your neighbors, for your fellow Christians, for your fellow citizens, yes, for all people in the whole wide world. Have you a sick neighbor? Pray for him. Have you a friend in trouble and sorrow? Forget not to think of him when you pray. Are you troubled about your government during these days? Pray for all them that are over us in our country, in our State, in our town or city. Do you see one on the way to everlasting damnation? Hurry, pray for him. Are you helping to send out missionaries with the sweet Gospel of salvation among all peoples? Remember them in your daily prayers. Do you today see so many peoples and nations in great trouble, their homes destroyed, their cities in ruins, and all other things gone? Oh, pray for the people in Asia, in Europe, in every country! Jesus wants you to do this, for He teaches you to say "*our* Father."

Others Pray for You, Saying "Our Father"

Not only you are praying thus. In all the world are God's dear children, who daily go before God and say with you and for you "*our* Father." Christians in Europe and Asia and Australia and Africa pray for us Christians in America, and we for them. You praying for me, and I praying for you. Think of the many Christians praying with you and for you, saying, "Our Father who art in heaven." This ought to fill us with all boldness and confidence in prayer.

Jesus Prays for Us to His Father and Our Father

When Jesus had died for our sins and risen again from the dead for our salvation, He said to Mary Magdalene: "Go to My brethren and say to them, I ascend unto My Father and your Father." Therefore Paul writes: "Christ died and is risen again and is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercessions [prayers] for us," Rom. 8:34. Jesus praying for you and for me to our Father! Let us rejoice in this and then diligently pray for one another!

J. L. S.

Meeting of Ephphatha Conference

Twenty Lutheran ministers to the deaf and the blind, together with three members of Synod's Board of Missions to the Deaf and the Blind, met September 29 to October 3 at Omaha, Nebr., for their annual conference.

The opening devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. E. Mappes, the local pastor. He then addressed a few words of welcome to the brethren and gave thanks to God for His protection of several members of the Conference, who were involved in a railroad accident on their way to the meeting.

One of the morning devotions was conducted as a memorial service to two of the brethren, Pastors A. Boll and Wm. Gielow, who had departed this life to be with Christ since the last meeting in Detroit in 1941. In another morning devotion the brethren honored Dr. J. Salvner and presented him with a gift. Pastor Salvner has been appointed Visitor for our Missions to the Deaf and in June of this year received the title of Doctor of Divinity from our faculty at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

Most of the essays delivered at the meeting treated matters pertaining to the signs used in preaching to the deaf. The Conference is greatly interested in uniformity and preservation of the sign language, which is the natural method of communication of the deaf. Epistle and Gospel lessons were signed for approval and criticism by Pastors Th. Frederking, W. Westermann, M. Mueller, and J. Salvner. Essays of exegesis, or Bible interpretation, were signed by Pastors W. Uhlig and R. Cordes. The latter also presented signs which our min-

isters use in teaching the text of Luther's Catechism. Hymns in signs were rendered by Pastors A. Ferber and N. Uhlig. Director J. Klein of our Lutheran School for the Deaf then read an essay on Methods of Teaching Bible History. This treatise was accepted with thanks. The Conference discussed the proposed plan for re-alignment of the work among the deaf. In an address to the Conference, Synod's Secretary of Missions, Dr. F. C. Streufert of St. Louis, Mo., stated his views on the matter. Rev. H. Gamber, chairman of Synod's Board of Missions to the Deaf and the Blind, spoke words of encouragement to the brethren. Dr. J. L. Salvner explained his new duties as visitor and asked for the co-operation of the members of the Conference. Pastor O. C. Schroeder addressed the Conference to explain Synod's work among the blind. Presenting the needs and problems of the blind, he urged expansion and emphasized definite plans for the development of this mission.

The election of officers resulted as follows: chairman, Rev. E. Mappes; vice-chairman, Rev. N. Borchardt; secretary, Rev. A. Jonas; program committee, Pastors A. E. Ferber, M. Mueller, and N. P. Uhlig; resolutions committee, Pastors W. Uhlig and R. Cordes; reporters, Pastors N. P. Uhlig, O. C. Schroeder, and F. Possehl.

The Sunday service on October 1 was well attended. The Rev. E. Scheibert delivered the sermon and Pastor N. Borchardt preached the confessional address. All the ministers and 69 deaf members partook of the Lord's Supper. In the evening of the conference Sunday a social gathering was held in the Church basement. Pastor E. Mappes and N. Uhlig showed moving pictures pertaining to our work. Pastor Mappes also presented all the ministers to the deaf. Several pastors addressed the gathering. Among those who were asked to speak were Dr. J. Salvner, Pastor N. Uhlig, and Pastor O. C. Schroeder, a former minister to the Omaha deaf. It was a special joy to him to greet his old friends in Omaha.

Hearty resolutions of thanks were voted to Rev. E. Mappes, the ladies' aid society, and the entire congregation in Omaha for their generous hospitality.

O. C. SCHROEDER

"Don't's" for Churchgoers

Don't visit; worship.

Don't stare blankly while others sing, read, and pray. Join in.

Don't wait for an introduction. Introduce yourself.

Don't dodge the preacher; show yourself friendly.

Don't dodge the collection plate. Contribute what you are able.

Don't stop in the end of the pew. Move over.

Don't hurry away. Speak and be spoken to.

Don't monopolize your hymnbook. Be neighborly.

Don't stay away from church because of company; bring them with you.

Don't criticize. Remember to think of your own faults.

Don't stay away from church because the church is not perfect. How lonesome you would be in a perfect church. — *Publisher unknown.*

CHRIST is the object of faith set forth in the Scriptures, God's unerring Word of Truth. If you are not trusting in Him, you have not saving faith and are not saved.

It does not matter what you lose if you keep Jesus; it does not matter what you win if you lose Jesus.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Cleveland, Ohio. — On Sunday afternoon, September 10, four adults were baptized and received into full membership in our Church at Findlay, Ohio, about 35 deaf attending this service. Our new members of the Findlay mission are Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Whitacre, Mr. Warren Whitacre, and Mrs. Ada Hawley. It was a glorious sight to see how these persons made the confession of faith and their promise to God to remain faithful, and how they were baptized and blessed in the name of our Triune God. May they stay true to Jesus unto death! T. F.

Mission for Blind and Deaf. — The Superintendent of the Illinois Home for the Deaf in Evanston reports that the residents eagerly look forward to our meetings and enjoy them greatly. May they continue in the true faith unto life everlasting!

A Braille Messenger reader wrote that he is leaving his war bonds to our Mission in his will. Another stated that she is leaving all her books in embossed type to our library for the blind. O. C. S.

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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Ministers to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago 17, Ill.
 Rev. C. Bremer, 11251 S. Homewood Ave., Chicago 43, 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.

BOARD OF MISSIONS TO DEAF AND BLIND

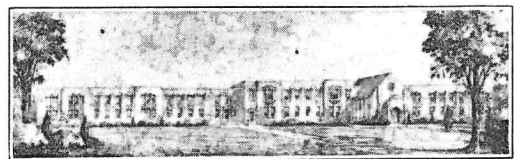
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