

# 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. 2

### Trust for Every Day

We cannot see beyond the door,  
We know not what He hath in store  
For us;  
We can but bow our hearts and pray  
For strength to serve Him day by day,  
And work and trust.

Pain, dread, and doubt do us pursue:  
We wonder what He hath in view  
For us;  
And then by faith we pierce the haze  
And on His face one moment gaze —  
And love and trust.

We blaze our trail through desert sand,  
We know there is a better land  
For us;  
Its fields and flowers we cannot see,  
But Jesus promised it, and we  
Just pray and trust.

Some day we'll reach the mountain height  
And see the land that's ours by right  
Through grace;  
Then we'll praise God for desert sands,  
For blinded trails, and barren lands,  
Before His face.

By LEAH PEHRSON

### God's Care

Some years ago, when two men were lost in the Arctic ice because their exploring airplane was forced down, a rescue expedition was organized. Fellow citizens would not permit two human beings to die in such a place, if they could help it. When the two men were finally rescued, the world gave thanks for the daring, courage, and skill of the rescuers.

In the sight of God every human being is of priceless worth. He will seek, search, and reach out to rescue everyone of His lost children. He gave His only-begotten Son into

suffering and death to bring life and salvation to all men. Let us therefore pray with the Apostle: "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." John 6:68.

O. C. S.

### Five Million Dollar Peace Thankoffering

#### Widespread Effects of War

The office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations reports that more than 500,000,000 people (more than one out of every four people on the face of the globe) have had their homeland invaded and have suffered from the widespread slaughter and devastation of the present war. That means, of course, that vast areas of the world will be in need of help as soon as the war is over.

The human needs that will cry for alleviation after the declaration of peace will be the greatest in history. The greatest human need, as always, will be the need of spiritual assurance which comes only through the Gospel of our Savior. To help meet this need our Church has planned a Five Million Dollar Peace Thankoffering, which is to be gathered on the Sunday after V-Day in Europe. May God give us sympathetic hearts, prayer-filled lips, and open pocketbooks so that our Church will be ready to do its part in the postwar world.

#### "Come Over and Help Us!"

This essentially is the gist of an unofficial invitation issued by Bishop Chen Wenyan, friend of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, to the Protestant churches in the United States. He urges them to send missionaries to postwar China, "not as guests, but as comrades in the gigantic spiritual and material reconstruction that the nation will face." The bishop told a

New York meeting: "China certainly needs more military equipment, . . . but she also needs a new dynamic, the power of God."

That "power of God," we know, is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our Church is planning to bring the Gospel to postwar China on a larger scale than ever before. Part of the funds for this endeavor will come from the Five Million Dollar Peace Thankoffering which our congregations are gathering on the Sunday after V-E-Day in Europe.

## THE BREAD OF LIFE

### Bible Study for February

Acts 4:30-33

"By stretching forth Thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of Thy holy Child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the Word of God with boldness. And the multitudes of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul; neither said any of them that aught of the thing which he possessed was his own; but they had all things in common. And with great power gave the Apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ; and great grace was upon them all."

Verse thirty of our lesson (the first sentence above) is the closing statement of the prayer of the Apostles for the Lord to give them courage and support in their ministry. It is true that in Mark 16:18 the Lord had *promised* them the power to work miracles. They were praying now that this great gift might be given to them and that this power might be continued in their ministry.

This Bible chapter is one of the many that shows again how quickly and wonderfully God answers prayer. Yes, how He keeps His promise "While they are yet speaking, I will hear." Isaiah 65:24. Their last words were scarcely spoken when "they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." They were filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, with humble, trusting faith. After receiving the power of the Holy Spirit all fear had left them. By His power they were not only encouraged, but also made *able* to speak God's Word to any people. *They spake with boldness!*

Our lesson of this month also includes the thought that *Love* is the proof of faith. . . .

"The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and one soul." Whenever we think of faith, we must think that something else is connected with it. . . . Faith must be connected with works of love, or it is not faith at all. James says: "Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." Chap. 2:17. James explains that if any person boasts of being a believer, but does not have the works of faith, that faith profits nothing and, above all, is not a *saving* faith. James *proves*, however, that if a person *has* saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, such a person will live a life of thanks to Jesus, and will show forth the love of Jesus toward all other Christians. This lesson shows the faith of the Apostles and the other Christians *in action*. They *spoke* the Word about their *living* Savior everywhere and to any people. \_\_\_\_\_ A. E. F.

### A Trip with Missionary Ferber of Kansas City

With Pastor Ferber we held services in Kansas City, Mo., Atchison, Leavenworth, Wichita, and Olathe, Kans., Dec. 2-7.

On Sunday, Dec. 3, we motored to Olathe in rain and sleet. Here the State School for the Deaf is located, attended by about 200 boys and girls. At 9:15 a service was held in the school auditorium, and the writer preached to 63 boys and girls on Psalm 23. All were very attentive. After the service, Pastor Ferber had a brief period of instruction with nine children. We intended to conduct classes on Saturday morning, but it had to be canceled, because the train from Minneapolis was several hours late. The school authorities are well pleased with our work there, and our missionary will be able to do more work in the School this year. What a great blessing that we are permitted to bring Jesus into the hearts and lives of so many.

The same morning we held a service with four deaf in the home of one of them. Then back again to Kansas City, to meet with the oral S. S. at 1:30 P. M. Children from the Kansas City oral school come every Sunday to learn of Jesus and His love. Only two had come because of the all-day rain.

At three o'clock we met for a service with the Kansas City Pilgrim Congregation. We were sorry to meet only sixteen deaf. Yes, it

was raining; but that did not stop an invalid lady in her wheel chair, and it did not keep a couple, not members, from coming 18 miles. We wish we could have met with all of the 43 members also in the special meeting after the service. We find a steady growth in Kansas City. In 1938 the congregation numbered 23 members, today, 43. Average attendance in services is 21. Oh, let us all love the house of God and also often partake of the Holy Supper for the strengthening of our faith! Also the contributions have steadily increased. In 1938 the Kansas City deaf contributed \$217.30, and in 1944 their contributions very likely reached \$1,000. Some members gave over \$30 the first six months of 1944, and one who joined in April gave \$44 up to July 31, his monthly pledge being \$8 a month. We never can give too much for Him who loved us and gave Himself for us. The service and meeting were held in the beautiful Pilgrim Chapel for the Deaf. In it you find memorials given by many hearing friends. The same evening (it was still raining) we met with two colored deaf and had a short service and meeting with them, and Pastor Ferber showed pictures. They each contributed \$1.00 for the Lord's work. It was a busy day for us, but it is great joy to do things for our dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Monday we took the train to Atchison, where we have six communicants. It was another day of rain. Three deaf attended. Another member was sick, and we went to see her, and Pastor Ferber gave her Holy Communion. There the deaf also have a Bible class, which meets at regular intervals for Bible study. In the evening of the same day we had a service in Leavenworth. Here we have three communicants who live out in the country and could not come in. Four deaf, not members, attended this service. Members of the ladies' aid of Pastor Rast's church visit children of the deaf and help them to improve their speech and also bring them to Sunday school. Praiseworthy, indeed! Also our hearing friends can help in our work among the deaf. And on Tuesday we conducted a service in Wichita, where we have nine members. Seventeen deaf had come, and we surely were glad to see our friends Prof. and Mrs. Wolfram with us. Prof. Wolfram preaches here

occasionally for Pastor Ferber. Attendance is very good here. Nine services had been held in 1944, and the average attendance was 16, and the collection in the nine services amounted to \$67.37. After the service we had an hour's meeting, which we and all the deaf enjoyed.

On Wednesday we again went home to Minneapolis. God's gracious protection was with us on this our trip, as always. To Him be all thanks and praise!

Other stations in this field we could not visit, as, Marysville, with seven members; Great Bend, with six members; Herington, also with six communicants; Springfield, Mo., with four members; and Arkansas City, with two members. In Great Bend the local pastor, the Rev. A. J. Bruns, now and then preaches to the deaf in the sign language. In all these places Bible classes meet regularly, with a textbook supplied by Pastor Ferber.

The Kansas City missionary preaches also in Denver and Colorado Springs. In the latter city we find the State School for the Deaf, with an enrollment of 176 children. He held four services in both cities during the past year, having an average attendance of 18 in Denver and of 12 in Colorado Springs. About 60 to 70 children come to these services also. In Denver we have seven members. In 1945 Pastor Ferber intends to conduct services in these cities every two months.

God has blessed our work in this field. And there is still more work to be done. May our Lord Jesus richly bless the labors of our missionary there and fill both pastor and deaf with love and zeal for our Savior's soul-saving work!

J. L. S.

To see earth, open your eyes. To see heaven, shut them.

"YE are the light of the world." Light-houses blow no horns; they only shine.

SOME people want you to listen to them, though they have no time to listen to God.

WHEN you listen to the sermon, try to see what it means to the fellow inside your shirt.

CHRISTIANS should not only say "Yes" to the minister's sermon. They should also say "No" to the devil's tempting.

## IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

*Omaha, Nebr.*—In our last voters' meeting on Dec. 13 many important things were discussed for the welfare of our own church and congregation in Omaha as well as that of God's kingdom at large. One of these important matters was that we join wholeheartedly in our Synod's Five Million Dollar Peace Thankoffering.

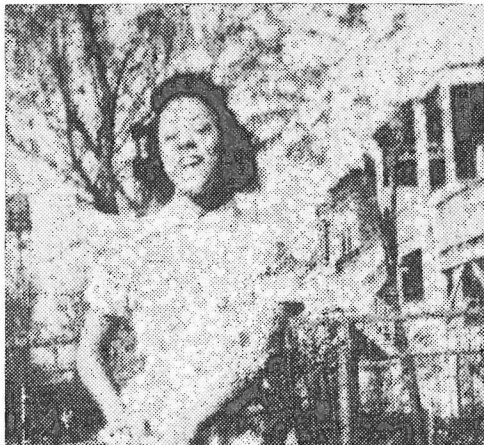
Officers elected for the coming year are: Earl Petersen, president; Keith Stinger, secretary; John Schenemann, treasurer; George Ernst and Elvin Miller, elders; Emiel Schultz, Elvin Miller and Ray Burgess, trustees; and Oscar Treuke and Nick Petersen, auditors.

At Sioux City, Iowa, a congregation was organized on Dec. 10. At this first meeting of the voters the following were elected as officers for 1945: Jacob Oordt, president; Edward Humphreys, secretary-treasurer; Arthur Keller, elder; and Floyd Good and Jess Whitmer, auditors. In the January meeting other details for the work of the congregation were discussed. May God continue to bless this congregation in the future in all its church work.

On Dec. 17, Judith Mary Siders, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Siders, was brought to the Savior, Jesus, in Holy Baptism in the service at Des Moines, Iowa. Miss Mary Siders and Mr. Ross Wycoff were sponsors. God keep this child in His grace. E. M.

*Mission for Blind and Deaf.*—Our Chicago Mission renders personal service to more than 30 deaf-blind and blind shut-ins in this area. Many of the 2,000 blind in Chicago also phone us for assistance when they are ill or in distress.

The picture shows Geraldine Lawhorn, a new deaf-blind reader of our Braille *Messenger*. A newspaper



says of her: "After seeing Geraldine Lawhorn run through character sketches and then sit down to a piano and play the great composers with equal skill, many of her audience have gone home to wonder whether miracles don't happen after all."

Enclosing \$10, a *Messenger* reader wrote, "I enjoy reading the *Messenger* very much; it is one of the best publications of its kind. I sincerely hope that the work will be continued for many years to come."

Enclosing a donation, a Chicago reader wrote, "My heartiest thanks for making it possible that we blind are having such a perfectly beautiful religious magazine. It is so inspiring, so comforting. Our dear *Messenger* cannot be equaled by any of the religious Braille magazines." O. C. S.

## Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

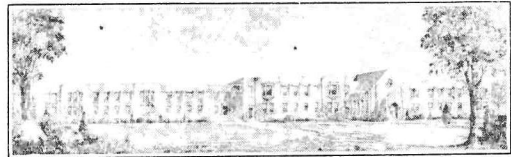
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 Rev. Curtis Schleicher, 423 N. Cliff Ave., Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

## 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.

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