

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. 38

St. Louis, Mo., September, 1946

No. 9

Jeweled Splendor

"Let not your heart be troubled,
Neither let it be afraid."
These words the Master giveth
To all who seek His aid.

Today we need Him greatly,
In this time of stress and strain;
We know He will not fail us,
His love is never vain!

"Let not your heart be troubled,
Neither let it be afraid"
Stands out like jeweled splendor,
For which His life was paid!

ELIZABETH A. ROBERTS

Faith

Faith is active trust in God, as He revealed Himself to you in His Word. Trust in anything else is not faith, but mere superstition.

Faith means full and complete trust in God, thinking and doing all things in God. In God a Christian lives, moves, and has his being. This is the Christian strength.

Faith is strong and accomplishes much, not because it is a work of man, but because it lays hold on God and puts to use God's almighty power. It is not man, but God who performs the miracles of faith. Faith is reliance on God's Word. It grasps salvation.

Salvation is the most valuable thing in life. Though at a great cost to God, it has been provided as a free gift to man. St. Paul teaches: "Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law" (Romans 3:28). Faith is the work of the Holy Spirit through God's means of grace, the Word and the Sacraments. Let us read

God's Word daily and attend church services regularly, so that we may receive this greatest of all God's gifts. Encourage also your deaf friends to join your pastor's Bible and confirmation classes, which he organizes in the fall of each year. O. C. S.

Ask Yourself

Am I a Christian, a believer in Jesus Christ? Or am I satisfied to be called a church member only?

Do I make use of all my Christian privileges and opportunities?

What evidence do I give of my Christian faith?

Do I represent Christianity to the world?

Is my life such as to encourage others to become Christians?

What would my church be if all church members were just like me?

How often would the pastor preach to empty pews if all went to church as often or as little as I do?

When I listen to the sermon, do I apply the Word to myself or to others?

Could the church expenses be paid and the work of missions be continued if all gave in the same measure as I give?

What am I doing to bring souls to Christ?

Do I attend the congregational meetings? Or do I let others do what I ought to do?

Do I pray for the welfare of the Church?

LEARNING TO WALK: Walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God. Col. 1:10.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE FIFTH PETITION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

"Forgive Us Our Trespases"

Forgiveness of sin is our greatest need. In the Lord's Prayer our Lord Jesus teaches us to pray daily: "Forgive us." But that does not mean: "Overlook our sin."

The Holy God Must Punish Sin

Parents often overlook the sin of their children and do not punish them. But God cannot do this. He is a just and holy God and must punish sin. David says: "Thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness; neither shall evil dwell with Thee" (Ps. 5:4). And in the Close of the Ten Commandments God says: "I, the Lord, Thy God, am a jealous [watchful] God, visiting [punishing] the iniquity [sin]." God cannot do as so many parents do. He says: "The soul that sinneth it shall die" (Ezek. 18:20).

God Forgives Sin Through the Lord Jesus

God must punish sin. How, then, can we pray: "Forgive, do not look upon, our sin"? God punished His only Son, Jesus, for the sins of all. "The Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity [sin] of us all" (Is. 53:6). And Paul writes: "Christ died for all" (2 Cor. 5:15). He paid for all with His blood. Therefore Eph. 1:7 says: "In Christ we have redemption [salvation] through His blood, the forgiveness of sin," and 1 John 1:7: "The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanses us from all sin." Praise God for this blood!

Without Christ and His Blood No Forgiveness

So many think they can get forgiveness without Christ. As the proud Pharisee did (Luke 18:9-14), so they go before God and say: "God, I thank Thee that I am not as other people are. I go to church; I give money for church; I pray every day; I do much good; therefore I surely shall go to heaven." Indeed, we should do all that is good, but not to pay for our sins, but to thank Jesus for His love. God says if anyone trusts in his works for salvation, he surely will go to hell. Paul says: "As many as are of the works of the Law [trust in their good works] are under the curse" (Gal. 3:10). Do not think that you

can pay for your sins with a few good works. Oh, no; "a man is justified by faith, without the deeds of the Law" (Rom. 3:18). Therefore Jesus says: "No man cometh unto the Father but [excepting] by Me" (John 14:6). There is forgiveness only in Christ, true God and true man, who laid down His life for all.

Ask for Forgiveness in Christ Alone

If Jesus had not come, then we all should have to die in our sin, and we could ask our heavenly Father not even for a cup of water, much less for forgiveness. Ask God for forgiveness and for all other things in the name of Jesus Christ. And do not forget it! Jesus teaches us to pray: "Forgive us," not: "Forgive me." Pray also for others, for your family, for your friends, for all people in the United States, yes, for the whole world. Take hold of Christ, and for yourself and for others cry: "Father, forgive!"

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible Study for September

Acts 6:1-3

And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations. Then the Twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them and said, It is not reason that we should leave the Word of God and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

Several Bible chapters in the past explained (taught) to us the ideas and intentions which the other people, or the enemies, had concerning the disciples and members of the early Christian church. The enemies made bitter attacks, but we are happy that with the help of God the disciples won the victory. Some verses in the next chapter will give us information about happenings *within* the church. We shall learn whether the members got along peacefully and how they felt toward one another.

Let us first take notice of the statement that the church was growing. Its membership was increasing. "The number of the disciples was multiplied." The number of people

who were followers of Jesus had by now perhaps increased to several thousand. But for the church members the name "disciples" (or pupils of Christ) is still used. It is not until later at Antioch (chapter 11:26) that the followers of Jesus are called Christians.

Nevertheless, while we are happy over the increase of membership of the first church, we are told in our lesson that there was disagreement among the members. Let us also note that the first church argument was about money matters.—The people brought this matter to the Twelve.

The twelve disciples, however, explained that the managing of the charity fund took so much of their time that it interfered with their preaching work. For that reason seven men of honest reputation were appointed. Most of all we notice that they had a strong faith—they were filled with the Holy Ghost and with wisdom. They understood the importance of this work, and they were willing to do it for the Lord.

May this lesson help to make clear again to us the importance of the Lord's work. May the Bible study encourage Christians to offer their assistance and co-operation to the pastor in the details of congregational work. Let us place personal ideas and feelings second, and let us always ask, "How can we work so that the kingdom of Jesus will progress?" Let us think of the great love of Jesus and the sinful world's need of His Gospel.

The text gives some instruction concerning the qualifications which church workers and officers should have (v. 3). In a later lesson we shall study this more fully. But whether we are church officers or members, let us do our tasks "as the ability which God giveth that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ" (1 Pet. 4:11). A. E. F.

Ephphatha Conference

The conference of Lutheran pastors for the deaf to be held in Chicago, Ill., from October 4 to 8 this fall, will be a very special conference.

It is now 50 years since the mission work of our Church among the deaf in the United States was undertaken by our Synod. Therefore in Chicago our 22 Lutheran pastors to the deaf and the Board of Missions to the Deaf

and Blind will observe the Golden Anniversary of this our beloved mission. A special service will therefore be held on Sunday, October 6, to celebrate this important event.

We hope that many of our deaf friends, not only from Chicago, but from many other places, will keep this date in mind and try to attend this celebration. All information in regard to the place where this service is held will be gladly given you if you write to Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway, Chicago, 51, Illinois.

May our God, who has blessed the work of our Church among the deaf these many years, continue to be with us through His grace and blessing and grant that in the future many more deaf friends be brought to the Gospel of Christ and the way to eternal salvation. E. MAPPE

A Striking Contrast

Man calls sin an accident; God calls it an abomination.

Man calls sin a blunder; God calls it blindness.

Man calls sin a chance; God calls it a choice.

Man calls sin a defect; God calls it a disease.

Man calls sin an error; God calls it enmity.

Man calls sin fascination; God calls it fatality.

Man calls sin an infirmity; God calls it iniquity.

Man calls sin a luxury; God calls it leprosy.

Man calls sin a liberty; God calls it lawlessness.

Man calls sin a trifle; God calls it a tragedy.

Man calls sin a mistake; God calls it madness.

Man calls sin a weakness; God calls it willfulness.—*Publisher Unknown.*

Food for Thought

The boy whose father takes him to church, instead of sending him, usually makes a good church member.

It is not what we give to the Lord, but what we keep from Him that makes us poor.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Omaha, Nebr.—One of our little boys attending the Omaha School, Richard Rentschler, nine and one half years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rentschler of Steinauer, Nebr., accidentally drowned in a stock tank at their farm home on July 9. Richard has a younger deaf brother who attends the same school. His parents are members of our Lincoln, Nebr., group and attend services there. Funeral services were held at Fairbury, Nebr., on July 12.

May God, who gave and now has taken away to Himself their son, be with the parents and comfort them with His Word, "I will never leave Thee nor forsake Thee."

On Sunday, July 14, the Sioux City, Iowa, deaf congregation surprised the pastor with a special celebration honoring him on his 25th anniversary in the ministry. Pastor Henry Otten of Sioux City, a classmate of the



Lutheran blind girl, Kunming, China, a Braille "Messenger" reader

pastor, preached the anniversary sermon. The jubilarian was the recipient of a pulpit gown from the members of the congregation and other deaf friends. This gown will be used only at the Sioux City services.

Another surprise came when a gift of five dollars was received from members of the Mitchell, S. Dak., congregation whom we served for ten years. Our hearty thanks to both the Sioux City, Iowa, and Mitchell, S. Dak., groups for their kindness and thoughtfulness.

E. M.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—Mr. E. Cunningham, who was under instruction preparatory to confirmation, departed this life in June at the age of 82 years. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved who lived with him in Mokence, Ill.

When we visited Mokence last month the mission societies of our Lutheran churches in Mokence and neighboring cities invited us to speak to them about our work; they showed a keen interest in the deaf and the blind whom we are serving.

Among the many letters received in July from our blind friends, we quote the following:

"I cannot tell you in words how much the *Messenger* means to me. I thank God that the Lutheran Church

stands firmly on the 'Bible. I am happy that I am a Christian."—*Texas.*

"I received the *Lutheran Messenger*, which you publish so excellently. I want to thank you most sincerely for the *Messenger* and the precious Gospel truths contained in it. I hope and pray that you may be able to send me your periodical for many years to come. I hand my *Messenger* to several of my sightless friends, and we all receive the comfort and joy which it intends to give."—*Australia.*

O. C. S.

Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

Rev. N. E. Borchardt, 11719 Evanston Ave., Detroit 13, Mich.
 Rev. C. Bremer, 1221 22d Ave. N., Minneapolis 11, Minn.
 Rev. R. F. Cordes, 1162 Marshall Ave., St. Paul 4, Minn.
 Rev. A. E. Ferber, 3807 Gillham Rd., Kansas City 2, Mo.
 Rev. W. Ferber, 617 14th St., S., Fargo, N. Dak.
 Rev. Theo. Frederking, 12322 Phillips Ave., Cleveland 8, O.
 Rev. G. W. Gaertner, Ph. D., 3233 62d Ave., Oakland 3, Calif.
 Rev. F. G. Gyle, 4517 West Pine Blvd., St. Louis 8, Mo.
 Rev. A. T. Jonas, 1101 15th Ave., Seattle 22, Wash.
 Rev. E. Mappes, 5070 Lake St., Omaha 4, Nebr.
 Rev. Martin E. A. Mueller, 1717a W. Meinecke Ave., Milwaukee 6, Wis.
 Rev. Floyd Posschl, 91-35 96th St., Woodhaven 21, L. I., N. Y.
 Rev. H. Rohe, 1108 Haslage St., Pittsburgh 12, Pa.
 Rev. J. L. Salvner, D. D., 3320 Chowen Ave., N., Robbinsdale 12, Minn.
 Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago 51, Ill.
 Rev. Curtis Schleicher, 1221 W. 10th St., Sioux Falls, S. Dak.
 Rev. N. P. Uhlig, 333 E. Morton Ave., Jacksonville, Ill.
 Rev. W. Uhlig, M. A., 3730 W. 27th St., Los Angeles 16, Calif.
 Rev. W. Westermann, 259 N. Willett St., Memphis 12, Tenn.
 Rev. N. W. Zellmer, 5425 N. E. 40th Ave., Portland 11, Oreg.

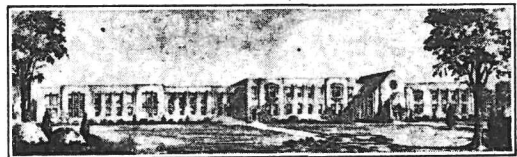
Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago 17, 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

Pastor H. A. Gamber, Chairman, 924 Margaret St., St. Paul 6, Minn.
 Pastor E. H. Bertram, Secretary, 849 Armstrong Ave., St. Paul 2, Minn.
 Mr. G. F. Kruse, Treasurer, 1861 Randolph St., Apt. 204, St. Paul 5, Minn.
 Pastor C. J. Hoffmann, Statistician, 1620 E. Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Mr. J. P. Miller, 1104 Vincent Ave., So., Minneapolis 5, Minn.
 Rev. John Schumacher, 1680 W. Minnehaha St., St. Paul 4, Minn.



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 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.