

# 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. 12

### Christ Is Born

Christ is born! The angels sing it  
On the fields of Bethlehem.  
He who from eternal ages  
Holds the royal diadem,  
Yet He comes, both poor and lowly,  
As a branch of David's stem.

Christ is born! The bells proclaim it  
In the cities and the fields,  
Sending out their throbbing message  
Of a love that keeps and shields,  
Of a grace which, without ceasing,  
Its unequalled power yields.

Christ is born! A glorious message  
Sent to sinners, poor, forlorn;  
By His birth the hostile armies  
Of their power are robbed and shorn,  
For He took our sins upon Him:  
For all sinners Christ is born.

Christ is born! My heart, believe it  
With a trust that knows no fear,  
Sure that His abundant mercy  
Evermore to thee is near,  
Till, when world and time are ended,  
He in glory will appear.

PAUL E. KRETZMANN

### Christmas

In this joyous season we again marvel as we ponder the infinite love of God, which prompted Him to send His only-begotten Son into this world of sin, sadness, sorrow, and death to become our Savior.

While millions of our fellow men everywhere think only of earthly joys and successes, we know that Christ came to bring us spiritual, eternal blessings: to make peace between God and man, and to procure for us lost sinners the good will of God. Jesus established peace for us by abolishing sin, the cause of the enmity between God and man. He made us children and heirs of God. Through Him we have that peace which passes all understanding, transcends infinitely in value all earthly

glory and splendor. It dispels disheartening thoughts and fears and lightens all the burdens of life. We should joyously and gratefully remember the wonderful grace and love of God and be moved by it to give ourselves to the service of our glorious Lord.

The angel of God proclaimed these tidings of joy: "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." This glorious announcement, made more than 1900 years ago by the angel of the Lord, is still the happiest news flash ever sent to the world. Let us try to spread it. Millions are perishing for lack of this knowledge. Let us be up and doing! Let us thank God with heart and hands and voices and bring this joyful news to lost sinners everywhere.

O. C. S.

### God-Pleasing Publicity

Christians do not advertise their religion as they should. Jesus declares: "Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven (Matt. 10: 32).

Our religion supplies the world's greatest need—it gives strength to bear all sorrows and to solve the problems of life; it makes life worth living and leads to a happy eternity.

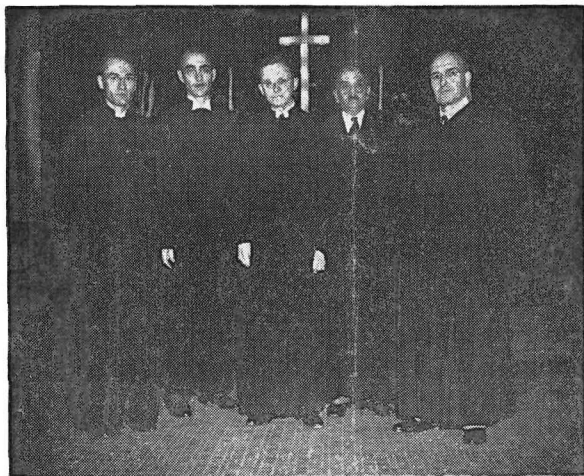
Let us ask ourselves in all seriousness if we care enough about the salvation of lost souls to speak to our deaf friends and associates about Jesus. Do we lack energy to reach the thousands of unchurched deaf in our country and throughout the world? Are we guilty of neglect and laziness in this most important cause under heaven? Ask yourself how many converts you have made or even tried to make

in your lifetime. Some men stand on street corners, ring doorbells, and peddle their products of questionable value with a zeal that must arouse our admiration. God tells us that the Gospel must be published (Mark 13:16). This is the duty, not only of the minister, but of all followers of Christ. It was through the work of God-fearing men and women that you became a Christian. Pass these blessings on to others. O. C. S.

### Dr. J. L. Salvner Celebrates 45th Anniversary

On Aug. 25, 1901, Pastor J. L. Salvner was ordained and installed in Trinity Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, as missionary to the deaf. That was 45 years ago. During these years Pastor Salvner worked zealously to bring the sweet Gospel of Jesus to the deaf in Minnesota and also in other States. God sent many blessings upon Pastor Salvner during these years, giving him wisdom and strength to do His work. Through him God has blessed many deaf people with the knowledge of salvation through Jesus. Wonderful blessings, indeed!

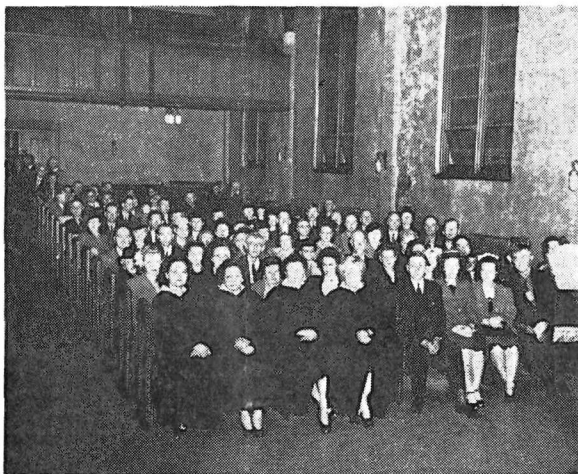
In order to thank and praise God for His blessings, Grace Lutheran Church for the Deaf arranged a special service of praise to God.



Pastors (left to right): C. Bremer, O. Schupmann, J. L. Salvner, D. D., M. Graebner, D. D., R. F. Cordes

This service was held in Immanuel Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Rev. O. Schupmann, pastor, in the afternoon of Oct. 20. Dr. Martin Graebner, of Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn., a classmate of Dr. Salvner, preached the anniversary sermon. His text was Ps.

90:17. The sermon was interpreted for the deaf by Pastor Cordes of St. Paul. Immanuel Lutheran Choir helped to beautify the service by singing the hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty." This hymn was signed by a choir



A group of deaf attending Dr. Salvner's 45th Anniversary service at Immanuel Luth. Church in Minneapolis

Dr. Salvner is seated in front row. Choir members who signed the hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" are (left to right): Mrs. Tibbetts, Mrs. Coffman, Mrs. Carlson, and Mrs. Bauer

from Grace Church. A large crowd of deaf and hearing attended this service.

During the short program in the evening congratulations and good wishes for future blessings from God were expressed to Dr. Salvner. Letters and telegrams of congratulation, too many to read during the program, were given to Dr. Salvner. May the Lord grant to Dr. Salvner strength to continue working in the Lord's kingdom for many years! C. B.

### The Silent Messenger

*The Silent Messenger*, also known as *Die Stille Boodskapper*, is a paper published by the South African National Council for the Deaf. This paper contains interesting items about the deaf, their schools, and their social life. Part of the paper is printed in English, part in the language of the country — Afrikaans, we presume. It is more difficult to get out a paper under such conditions than when one language only is used. We congratulate our deaf friends in Africa on their achievement and progress. We might add that the paper is now in its seventeenth year.

*Minnesota Companion*

## IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

*Minneapolis, Minn.*—On Oct. 20 Grace Church celebrated its annual Mission Festival in two services. Pastor Bremer preached in the morning service and Pastor Cordes in the afternoon. Both of these services were well attended.

On Sept. 21 Tilford Marvin Shaw and Elizabeth Ann Bowman were united in holy marriage in the parsonage of Grace Church, Minneapolis. May the Lord grant to them a happy married life!

The church and the parsonage of Grace Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Minneapolis, have been greatly improved with new steps and sidewalks and a new coat of paint. The work was done late this summer. We are thankful to God for blessing us richly, so that we could have this work done. C. B.

*Detroit, Mich.*—On June 8 Fred Weidemann died suddenly. He was a faithful member of our congregation in Mount Clemens for many years. "The Lord gave, the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

And on July 10 the Lord, in His infinite wisdom, called Mrs. Hattie Huhn to her eternal home, after many months of severe suffering. Mrs. Huhn was confirmed as an adult eight years ago. She took a keen interest in the work of her Church and was ever helpful in the activities of our congregation. We miss her, but humbly submit to the will of our Lord and Savior, who does all things right and well. Rev. John Streit officiated at the funeral in the absence of her pastor. N. E. B.

*Oakland and San Francisco.*—The two congregations united to hold an anniversary service commemorating the fiftieth year of our Synod's Mission Among the Deaf. The day also marked the thirtieth year of Pastor Gaertner's service on the Pacific Coast. Miss M. Engel and Mrs. N. Davis signed "Now Thank We All Our God"; and Miss I. Lynch, "In the Cross of Christ I glory." The officers of the church presented the pastor with one hundred dollars. The ladies' aid society completed the altar vestments for all the church seasons, and the skillful handwork of these faithful workers has surely beautified the Memorial Chapel.

The young people's society meets twice a month. Once it gathers for Bible study, and the other meeting is devoted to wholesome entertainment.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Reneau have taken very seriously the matter of supplying Sunday school material for the pupils we serve in our school for the deaf. Recently

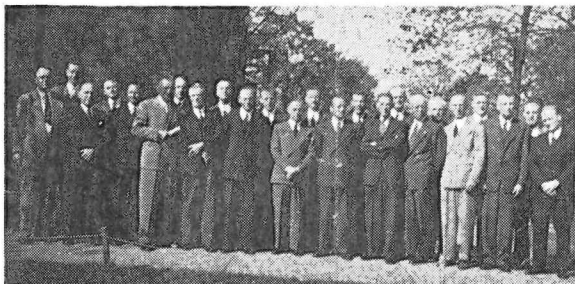
the pupils brought in a tin can in which they had put savings amounting to \$14 to purchase Cathedral Colored Films, which surely enliven the class work. Tommy Ingebretsen came in the next Sunday and offered his glass jar with three hundred and fifty pennies for the same purpose. We have made many of our own slides in black and white, showing church work and Bible terms.

The marriage of Miss M. Engel to H. MacAllister was beautiful and remarkable in many respects. Her father, the Rev. M. Engel, had at one time served the deaf, and Margy, as we all call her, was the first Lutheran girl pupil in the State School and helped us greatly. The groom's parents motored from Kansas for the occasion. The Rev. M. Engel gave an address on "Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it." He applied the text to the use of the Word in the home. Elaine Engel sang the "Lord's Prayer," and the pastor interpreted the service. Memorial chapel was packed to the last seat in the balcony.

At San Francisco Mrs. W. Boettcher was received into membership by Baptism and Mrs. Thomas Gordon by Confirmation. Mr. and Mrs. G. Matson have also helped us greatly in completing our religious film library for use in our school for the deaf. G. W. G.

*St. Louis Mission.*—In the fall of 1945 the St. Louis field was divided, and Pastor N. P. Uhlig, who had been pastor of Holy Cross Church of the Deaf since 1938, took over the newly created Jacksonville field. Since then, the St. Louis congregation and stations connected with it have been without a regular pastor. They are fortunate, however, that Francis Gyle, student of Concordia Seminary, was able to serve them and also to take over the sign classes at the seminary. Last January he was graduated, and thereupon the congregation and our Board of Missions requested him to continue ministering unto the deaf in this field until a successor to Pastor Uhlig had been secured. June 25 Candidate Gyle was commissioned as missionary at large while still serving as vicar in this field. Faithfully he served during the past year among the St. Louis deaf and at the seminary. In August he was called as regular pastor, and on September 22 he was installed by the writer, who also had preached in the morning service. The installation took place in the afternoon. Rev. A. J. Lutz, who had been pastor of Grace Church, Minneapolis, for a little more than two years and now is going to India, interpreted part of the service and also rendered a hymn in signs. Pastor F. L. Neebe of Columbus, Mo., preached the sermon on Acts 20:28. Prof. R. Caemmerer, Pastors Holls, Lutz, Meyer, Neebe, Schulze, and Wilson assisted. After the service the Holy Cross Ladies' Aid served refreshments, and then in an informal meeting the congregation presented Pastor Gyle with a purse of money. Pastors Lutz, Neebe, Schulze, and the writer spoke words of encouragement to the congregation and its new pastor and wished them God's richest blessings. Monday and Tuesday we went with Pastor Gyle to the seminary, and the work with the sign classes was begun, about twenty-five attending.

May the Lord of the Church be with Pastor Gyle and bless his work in the congregation and at the various



Conference Group in Chicago, October, 1946

Photo by Mrs. G. Borgstrand, New York

stations that many deaf may learn to know the only Savior and abide with Him unto the end; and also at the seminary that many young men may see the great need of this blessed work, acquire a good knowledge of the sign language, and then go out with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ to the salvation of many deaf and to the glory of our Savior's name! J. L. S.

*Mission for Blind and Deaf.*—Thomas Lincoln, a deaf-blind friend in Chicago, recently met with an accident. It seems he lost his sense of direction while attempting to enter a store. He suffered a fractured hip and other injuries when he was hit by a streetcar. When we called on him at the hospital, he was cheerful and trusting in the Savior.

In the past few days we have received letters from deaf-blind and blind friends in Palestine, China, New Zealand, England, Scotland, and other countries. In these letters they plead for back copies of our magazine. The deaf-blind league in England also requests to be placed back on our mailing list. These blind tell us that they have missed the magazine very much.

O. C. S.

*Omaha Mission.*—In the afternoon of Sept. 22 members of the Omaha Bethlehem Congregation honored their pastor, Rev. E. Mappes, with a special celebration of his 25th anniversary as pastor among them. The Rev. H. H. Schauland, former missionary to the deaf, preached the sermon at the 2:30 P. M. service. In view of the fact that Pastor Schauland served in the Deaf Mission only a short time, he is to be commended for performing a difficult task well. He spoke and signed the entire service. His text was 1 Cor. 15:10: "By the grace of God I am what I am; and His grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain."

After the service a program was given and an anniversary supper served in the basement of the church. Several members of the congregation and three Omaha pastors gave addresses at the occasion. Over 50 deaf were present and a few hearing friends besides 14 Omaha pastors and their wives. Near the close of the program, members of the congregation handed the pastor a cash gift, which we appreciate very much. May God continue His blessings upon both congregation and pastor and grant that we may continue to serve and worship Him together in the years to come.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rodda, charter members of the Omaha congregation, married 45 years on Oct. 2, celebrated this anniversary on Oct. 5. Many friends and relatives were present to make the occasion a happy one for them. A cash gift was also presented to them. Since the pastor was unable to be present at that time—he was attending a conference at Chicago—a short celebration was held on the evening of Oct 1, when the ladies' aid met at the Rodda home. The pastor spoke briefly on Ps. 107:1, and all joined in a song of praise. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Rodda many more happy years together, and may the Lord keep them in His care.

At the service in Des Moines on Sept. 29 Donna Selma, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Monnie Rose, was brought to Jesus in Holy Baptism, Mr. Albert Buettner and Miss Lola Rose being the sponsors.

On Oct. 20 at Omaha, Shirley Marie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Miller, was baptized. Mr. and

Mrs. Vernon Uman were the sponsors. God keep both these His children in His grace unto life everlasting.

After the Omaha service on Nov. 3 Mr. Donald Haines and Miss Augusta Maas, both of Sioux City, Iowa, were married at the parsonage. Mr. and Mrs. John Hansen, sister and brother-in-law of the bride, were witnesses. We wish these newlyweds much happiness and God's richest blessings. E. M.

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 Rev. R. F. Cordes, 1162 Marshall Ave., St. Paul 4, Minn.  
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 Rev. G. W. Gaertner, Ph. D., 3233 62d Ave., Oakland 3, Calif.  
 Rev. F. G. Gyle, 4517 West Pine Blvd., St. Louis 8, Mo.  
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 Rev. Martin Kosche, 33 S. Spencer Ave., Indianapolis 1, Ind.  
 Rev. E. Mappes, 5070 Lake St., Omaha 4, Nebr.  
 Rev. Martin E. A. Mueller, 1717a W. Meinecke Ave., Milwaukee 6, Wis.  
 Rev. Floyd Possehl, 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.  
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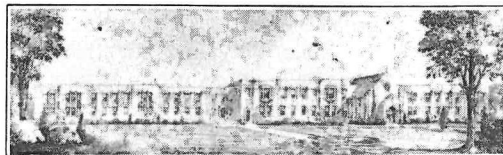
### Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

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.

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