

# The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

*Published by the Board of Missions for the Deaf  
The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod*

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. 41

St. Louis, Mo., October, 1949

No. 10

## Dr. Martin Luther

"Unless I shall be convinced by testimonies of the Scripture or by clear reason, I neither can nor will make any retraction, since it is neither safe nor honorable to act against conscience. Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise; so help me, God, Amen."

These famous words of the great Reformer were spoken at the Diet of Worms before the combined civil and church powers of his age, where he was summoned to answer for his doctrines.



Luther had tried to remove his guilt by acts of piety and prayer to the saints. His religious training had instilled in Luther a constant fear of the wrath of God. His life of penance as a monk gave him no inward peace. Not until he found the true meaning of the Gospel in the Bible did his soul find rest. God's promise "The just shall live by faith" (Rom. 1:17) then permeated his soul, thoughts, and actions.

This is the glory of our blessed religion today. By grace alone, through faith alone, we are saved. The hope of our salvation rests not in our feelings, nor conduct, nor character, but in the Word and promise of God to forgive all who look to Christ, the divine Redeemer.

This assurance of God alone can give sinners a certainty of their salvation; for it relies on God's own Word and power to save.

O. C. S.

## Lutheran Pastors of Deaf Meet

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 26—30, 1949. — The yearly meeting of pastors to the deaf of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was held here, attended by a group of twenty-five full-time workers. Pastor Schroeder was excused because of illness and Pastor Schleicher because of the building program in Sioux Falls. Director Klein could not be with us because of the opening of the school year. Pastor Stewart Dale of Faribault, Minn. (of the Evangelical Lutheran Church), was a visitor. Attending the conference for the first time were Pastors Geo. Ring of Portland, Oreg., and Geo. Kraus of New York City, and Student W. F. Reinking, working in Memphis, Tenn. The Board of Missions to the Deaf sat in the meetings, as did Pastors Gamber and Schumacher of the old Board of Missions to Deaf and Blind. Several other ministers attended as guests.

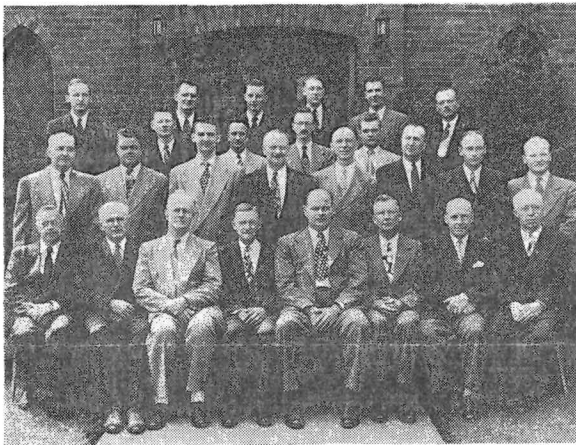
## Services of Worship

Each morning and afternoon session was begun with song, prayer, and Scripture. Each session closed with prayer. On Saturday, Aug. 27, Pastor Uhlig held the conference Communion service. On Sunday afternoon, Aug. 28, Pastor R. G. Heyne, Waconia, Minn., preached to the hearing and the deaf of the Twin Cities. Dr. Salvner, with Pastors Cordes and Bremer, signed for the deaf. St. Paul's Deaf Church Choir signed the hymns.

## Papers on Methods of Work

Pastor Borchardt showed how he teaches his pupils the Third Commandment (about the Lord's Day). Pastor Frederking read

Paul's Letter to the Romans, chapter 3, showing how he would sign each verse. Pastor Kosche gave the best sign language reading of the meeting; he read his paper on teaching what the Bible and Luther's Catechism say about Baptism. Pastor Hauptman gave a Sunday school lesson, showing the use of flannel-graphs. Dr. Gaertner reported that very few motion pictures, filmstrips, and slides can be found which we can use with the deaf; they are made to sell for hearing people. The Church has not made films with titles for the deaf to read; it is too expensive to make them, it has been said.



**Ephphatha Conference of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, Aug. 26—30, St. Paul, Minn**

*Front row:* Revs. Geo. Gaertner, Ph. D.; Ernest Mappes; W. Westermann; John L. Salvner, D. D., Executive Secretary; William Buege, Board Chairman; N. P. Uhlig; A. E. Ferber; W. Ferber

*Second row:* Revs. Robt. Cordes; Theo. DeLaney; W. F. Reinking; John A. Beyer; Ernest Scheibert; Theo. Frederking; Clarence Bremer; Herbert Rohe

*Short row:* Revs. Geo. C. Ring; N. E. Borchardt; Francis C. Gyle; Geo. Kraus

*Top row:* Revs. Martin Kosche; C. Roland Gerhold; A. L. Hauptman; Martin Mueller; Floyd Possehl; A. T. Jonas  
Rev. O. C. Schroeder, Chicago, could not attend the conference

### Reports on New Projects

Pastor Possehl spoke about the new location for the Lutheran school for the deaf on Long Island, a piece of property worth \$3,000,000, which our Church is buying at a very low cost. Your pastor will tell you more about it soon. Pastor Possehl is on leave from his New York church to help get the school started in the next year. Pray for our school!

Pastor Gyle told of a fine Dixie Deaf Lutheran Conference held this January. Other men were urged to hold regional meetings with

laymen, as the Dixie preachers found that they make for good fellowship and better understanding between pastors and people, and help the deaf to understand the Church and the Church to understand the deaf.

### Church Work Among the Deaf

Dr. Salvner reported on our work with the deaf in the United States and its growth. He also called attention to the many other churches that are starting or enlarging their work with the deaf. Pastor Uhlig offered for our inspection a copy of the Rev. Alexander Manson's M. A. thesis, written at Gallaudet College. The paper has 23 pages which tell about the Missouri Synod's work. Pastor Manson is a good friend of our Pastor Westermann in Washington, D. C.

Actions and resolutions will be published in a later article, after the minutes have been printed.

### The Social Whirlimagig

Among the better halves visiting the Twin Cities were Mesdames Beyer, Bremer, Cordes, A. Ferber, Gerhold, Kraus, Mueller, Possehl, Rohe, and Westermann.

The Cordes home was the scene of a social evening of games, talks (some of the boys had a conference debate; we didn't hear what the ladies were saying about us), and refreshments.

Sunday afternoon, after services, "World of Silence," a film picturing our Detroit Lutheran Institute for the Deaf was shown. A banquet followed. Pastor A. Ferber was toastmaster. Greetings were brought to the conference by the Twin Cities deaf congregations. Pastor Possehl was congratulated on being the newest father, and Pastor W. Ferber was recognized as the newest grandfather. Dr. Salvner's continued youthfulness after 48 years of work in our conference was also pointed out with thanks to God for His blessings. Pastors Beyer, Cordes, Possehl, and Westermann spoke briefly. (Briefly, because the sergeant at arms was ready to act in case of long-windedness.) Pastors DeLaney and Kosche and Vicar Reinking were presented as the remaining bachelors of the conference.

On Monday evening the ladies were again entertained at the Cordes home, while the

men were treated to an evening by Dr. Salvner and Mr. and Mrs. Schweigert in Minneapolis. Pastor Gerhold showed color slides of his work in New England. (He also drives dog sleds in Maine and works on oil fields in Massachusetts, to save expenses and keep alive, it was disclosed. These two pictures got laughs.) After a film on Florida the thin men (the man from Austin had gone home) were given a big midnight "snack."

Life in the dormitory was full of pranks and practical jokesters. The host pastor and his congregation did a fine piece of work. Thanks! FGG.

### IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

*Southern Ohio*—The American people are the greatest "joiners" in the world. With our freedom of thought, speech, and religion it is possible for almost anyone to gain a following. Sometimes people band themselves together for pleasure and for play; some organizations are formed for very worth-while reasons; but some also join for evil and wicked purposes.

The highest and noblest of all memberships is formed when boys and girls, men and women unite with the Church of Jesus Christ. That is entirely different from joining a political party or a club which one may give up without any serious consequences.

When people publicly confess their faith in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and at the altar of the Lord pledge faithful allegiance to Him and His kingdom for all the days of their lives, they take a sacred step that may not be retraced or given up without positive and permanent harm to their soul.

Such a step was taken in Trinity Lutheran Church, Columbus, on May 22 by four pupils of the Ohio State School for the Deaf: Roger Kaehler, Chester Schumacher, Richard Crocoll, and Matti Tikkanen; also by three adults, Mrs. Minnie Merrick, Mr. and Mrs. David Fortner; and three hearing children of the Fortners: Carol, Charles, and Robert.



#### Pastor Uhlig in Office 40 Years

Pastor N. P. Uhlig of Jacksonville, Ill., ordained on Aug. 8, 1909, has completed 40 years in the service of the Lord. He served hearing congregations in Michigan, Iowa, and Wisconsin and was pastor of deaf congregations in Chicago from 1912 to 1918, in St. Louis from 1938 to 1945, and since then at Jacksonville, Ill.

God grant health and strength to this worker that he may continue serving the Lord among the deaf for many more years.

The pupils and adults were received into the Church by the rite of confirmation and the children by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Mrs. Fortner is the first hearing person Pastor Beyer has confirmed and the only hearing person at present holding membership in the Columbus church for the deaf.

The confirmation sermon, based on 2 Cor. 5:15, brought out the meaning of living for Christ in this modern day and age. To live for Christ is sometimes more difficult and painful than to die for Him. To refuse to join in the sinful pleasures and activities of

#### Pastor O. C. Schroeder of Chicago, Ill.,

who has completed 40 years of service in the holy ministry. He served two hearing congregations in Indiana, near Chicago, from 1909—1911. In May, 1911, he began his work among the deaf in Detroit, Mich. During the past 22 years he has served also the blind together with the deaf. May the blessings of our Lord rest upon him and his labors in the future as in the past.



one's associates sometimes means the loss of otherwise cherished friends, being ignored and avoided, sometimes even being held up to ridicule and mockery.

Such experiences the sincere Christian suffers cheerfully, knowing that they will not last for any length of time.

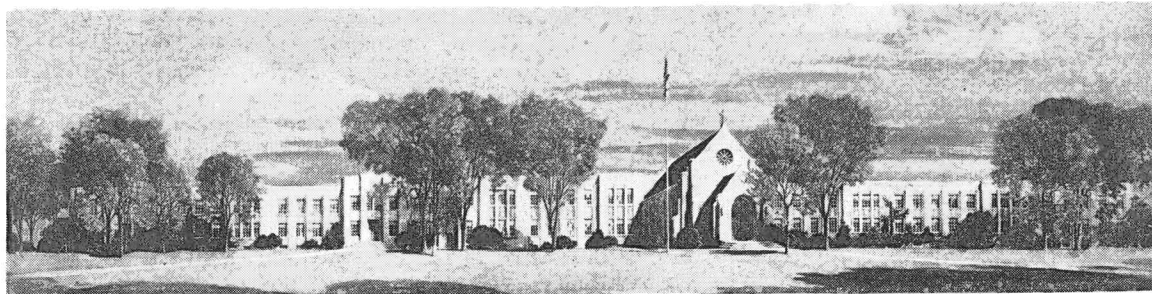
There is, however, also a positive and a joyous side to Christianity. It simply is not true that the only real blessings of the Christian faith are experienced on the



Confirmation Class, Columbus, Ohio

other side of the grave. St. Paul says: "Godliness is profitable unto all things, having the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come."

Christianity's fullest joys will be experienced in the other world, but already in this world we children of



Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, Michigan. J. A. Klein, Director  
6861 Nevada Avenue, Detroit 34, Mich.

God have forgiveness of sin, peace with God, the assurance of God's blessing upon our work, our families, and ourselves; we have protection from evil, strength and support in trials and temptations, and we have the pleasure of knowing that we are doing His will. All of these are benefits of the Christian life for us to enjoy now, right now.

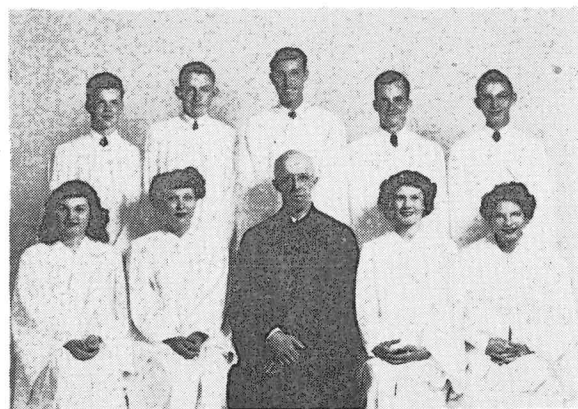
Sometimes, perhaps too often, we emphasize the blessings and bliss of heaven and overlook the advantages of our Christian faith in this present life. We do not have to die to win. God says: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life," and that means *here and now*.

J. A. B.

*Minneapolis Mission*—July 16, Mr. Orville E. Jefferson and Miss Margaret Dokken were joined in holy wedlock in Grace Chapel. May the Lord Jesus abide in and with them, and they in Him, in order that it be a happy and blessed home. God grant it.

Kerwin Ennis, born Jan. 30, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Tilleskjor, was baptized into Christ for the remission of his sin in our Sunday morning service on July 17. May God keep him in his baptismal grace.

J. L. S.



Confirmation Class at Devils Lake, N. Dak., Confirmed by Pastor W. Ferber on May 15th

Front row, left to right: Donna Mae Njaa, Cooperstown, N. Dak., Georgena Worner, Edmore, N. Dak., Rev. W. Ferber, Karen Whetter, Deering, N. Dak., Donna Lois Kumbier, Dawson, N. Dak.

Back row, left to right: Kent Elstad, Devils Lake, N. Dak., Robert Brigham, Alexander, N. Dak., Duane Rohde, Devils Lake, N. Dak., Dale Snyder, Fargo, N. Dak., Dennis Bohrer, Bismarck, N. Dak.

### Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

Rev. J. A. Beyer, 1101-15th Ave., Seattle 22, Wash.  
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. Theo. De Laney, 2105 Wilson St., Austin, Tex.  
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, Ohio.  
Rev. G. W. Gaertner, Ph. D., 3233 62d Ave., Oakland 3, Calif.  
Rev. C. Roland Gerhold, 34 Walnut St., Watertown, Mass.  
Rev. Francis G. Gyle, 8011 Nola, St. Louis 14, Mo.  
Rev. A. L. Hauptman, 610 9th St. S., Great Falls, Mont.  
Rev. A. T. Jonas, 1746 W. 46th St., Los Angeles 37, Calif.  
Rev. Martin Kosche, 126 W. 32d St., Indianapolis 8, Ind.  
Rev. George Kraus, 91-35 96th St., Woodhaven 21, L. I., N. Y.  
Rev. E. Mappes, 5070 Lake St., Omaha 4, Nebr.  
Rev. Martin E. A. Mueller, 1717a W. Meinecke Ave., Milwaukee 6, Wis.  
Rev. Floyd Possehl, 9135 96th St., Woodhaven 21, L. I., N. Y.  
Rev. Geo. C. Ring, 5723 Washington, S. E., Portland, Oreg.  
Rev. Herbert W. Rohe, 513 Roslyn Place, Pittsburgh 6, 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, 134 Prospect St., Jacksonville, Ill.  
Rev. W. Westermann, 10 Milmarson Pl., N. W., Washington 11, D. C.

### 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 THE DEAF

Pastor Wm. Buege, chairman, 3236 34th Ave., S., Minneapolis 6, Minn.  
Pastor C. C. Niemann, secretary, 1301 Maywood St., St. Paul 3, Minn.  
Mr. G. F. Kruse, treasurer, 1861 Randolph St., Apt. 204, St. Paul 5, Minn.  
Pastor O. H. Lottes, 4842 Portland Ave., Minneapolis 7, Minn.  
Mr. J. P. Miller, 1104 Vincent Ave., S., Minneapolis 5, Minn.  
Pastor J. L. Salvner, D. D., executive secretary, 3320 Chowen Ave., N., Robbinsdale 12, Minn.

### 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.