

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod*

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Lenten Thoughts

Lent teaches us the awful fact of the terrifying debt of our sins which could be paid only by the Savior's holy, precious blood, shed on the cross, and by the bitter death of God's own Son. Our sins, too, dragged Him down from heaven and nailed Him to the shameful tree. This picture ought to be before our eyes when we are tempted to follow sin and Satan; it should urge us to place our entire faith and hope for salvation in Christ's atonement.

God forsook His Son so that He need never forsake us who cling to Him in faith; His great love ought to fill our hearts with God-pleasing repentance for our sins and with praise for His unspeakable mercy toward us, which saved us while we were His enemies; it should fill our hearts with real gratitude and urge us to give our heart and life to Him in loving service of our redeemed, lost fellow men. O. C. S.

† The Rev. Arnold H. Kuntz †

Arnold Hilarius Kuntz was born August 7, 1859, in Birkenfeld, Germany. In 1867 the family moved to Warrensburg, Mo. Arnold was graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1884.

Called by Synod, the Rev. Mr. Kuntz, on October 2, 1927, became the first Missionary to the Blind in the history of the Lutheran Church. He took up residence first in Minneapolis and then in Alhambra, Calif., so as to be near the Los Angeles braille publishing firm which was to print and distribute his many books and publications for the blind.

By the grace of God, Pastor Kuntz was also privileged to serve the church at large in var-

ious official capacities during his active ministry of fifty-five years. He was official Visitor of the State of South Dakota. In Minnesota he served as field man for the Canadian provinces, as circuit Visitor, and as First Vice-President of the District. He was also chairman of Synod's Board for Deaf Missions.

Funeral services were conducted at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn., on Monday afternoon, November 7. Pastor H. A. Gamber delivered the sermon, and pastors and a teacher of the District served as pallbearers. Burial took place in the family plot at Elmhurst Cemetery. LAMBERT BROSE

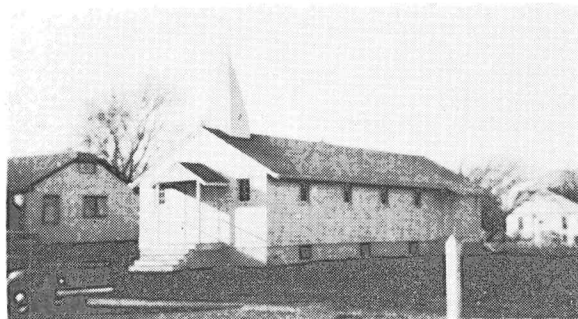
South Dakota Chapel Dedicated

Sioux Falls, S. Dak. — One hundred deaf people, including fifty children from the State School for Deaf, and a hundred hearing friends attended the dedication service for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League's newly constructed chapel for the Deaf, here, December 18, 1949, at 3 P. M. Dr. J. L. Salvner of Minneapolis, Executive Secretary, Board of Missions to the Deaf, delivered the dedicatory sermon on Psalm 84:4. He showed from that text that we should love to come to such a church building for worship because it is God's house, because we receive many blessings there, and because we can praise God there.

The entire service was rendered both in signs and orally, with the Deaf and hearing joining together. Mrs. Ed. Hoellwarth, organist at Zion Church in Sioux Falls, served as organist, and Mr. Marvin Sonnichsen, also of Zion, handled the loud-speaker equipment for the overflow of hearing people in the basement.

At the close of the service, Mrs. J. H. Jungemann of Egan, secretary of the South Dakota L. W. M. L., formally presented the chapel to Trinity Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Sioux Falls. Mr. Guy Sylliaasen, chairman of Trinity Congregation, responded with words of the congregation's thanks.

Under the able leadership of Mrs. A. J.



Krohn the ladies of Trinity Congregation served refreshments in the chapel basement.

Trinity Deaf Lutheran Congregation has met for worship at other Lutheran churches in the city during the twenty-five years that services have been conducted here.

Construction of the chapel has been entirely financed by the South Dakota Zone of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE OFFICE (POWER) OF THE KEYS

Part Five

Our Catechism speaks of the office of the keys and calls it the peculiar church power. It is a church power, not a world power. And it is a *peculiar* church power, because *it belongs* only to the church.

The Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven

We know what a key is. A key is used to open and to close a door. You turn the key in the evening and lock the door, and in the morning you again turn the key to unlock it. So these keys of which our Bible speaks, and also our Catechism, are to close and to open the doors of heaven, for Jesus calls them "the keys of the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 16:19. With the one key the kingdom of heaven is opened, and with the other it is closed.

How is the Kingdom of Heaven Opened?

Our Catechism answers: "Forgive the sins." Indeed, when sins are forgiven, then heaven is opened for the sinner. Sin closed Paradise to Adam and Eve, and still it is sin that closes heaven unto men. David says: "Thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness, neither shall evil dwell with Thee." Therefore heaven shall be opened to man only if he gets forgiveness of all his sins. When this key is used, that is, when sin is forgiven, then the door of heaven swings open. Heaven was opened for David when Nathan said to him: "The Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die." 2 Sam. 12:13. Heaven was opened to the man sick of the palsy when Jesus said unto him: "Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee." Matt. 9:2. Have you forgiveness of sin, and is heaven, therefore, opened unto you?

How is the Kingdom of Heaven Closed?

Again, our Catechism answers: "Retain (not forgive) sins." If a man's sins are not forgiven, heaven is closed unto him. Heaven was closed to Judas, for he had not forgiveness and died in his sin. And the greatest sin of all is not to believe in Jesus. Therefore He closed heaven to the scribes and Pharisees, saying: "If ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sin." John 8:24. If anyone has not forgiveness by faith in this Jesus, he has no forgiveness, and heaven is closed unto him. Oh, turn from sin to Jesus. He is the door to heaven.

Thanks Be to God for These Keys

Sin closes heaven; Jesus opens heaven. Therefore trust in this Jesus, who died for us while we were yet sinners, Rom. 5:8, and then hate sin and love to do good. J. L. S.

Detroit, Michigan, December 31, 1949

To All Lutheran Deaf

DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST:

Permit me herewith to convey the sincere and heartfelt thanks and appreciation of our Board of Management and the entire Institute staff to all the Lutheran Deaf, wherever they may be, for their very generous offering of \$464.57 for the dedication of a Memorial Room in our new building to the memory of Mr. Edward J. Pahl, through whose intercessions to the then Director of the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, Mr. D. H. Uhlig, the blessed mission work among the adult Deaf was begun more than a half century ago by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

The Lord has visibly and bountifully blessed the work which was begun in such a small way and under such adverse conditions. It is therefore most appropriate and God-pleasing for the Lutheran Deaf to manifest their gratitude to God by supporting their Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, where Deaf children are being brought to the knowledge of their Savior, even as our sainted brother Pahl was led to the Good Shepherd in this very same school.

May our dear Lord continue to bless all the Deaf, and may He grant that through our school and the work of our many consecrated missionaries many more Deaf may find the way to eternal bliss through faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Very cordially yours,

J. A. KLEIN, *Director*

FIELD GLEANINGS

Cleveland, Ohio—Our annual business meeting in Cleveland was held on December 4th, and the following officers were elected: Edward Reinbolt, president; Joshua Fagnilli, vice-president; Paul L. Smith, treasurer; Rev. T. Frederking, secretary; and as district leaders or elders: Stuart Mahan, Alfred Clauss, Earl Froelich, Richard Rose, Paul Potoskey. — During the session of the voting members the Ladies' Guild held its meeting and elected the following: Mrs. Sadie Hemstreet, president; Mrs. Lucille Brzeski, vice-president; Mrs. Pluma Hozian, secretary; Mrs. Margaret Escover and Catharine Ewalt, treasurers. — After the meetings a light dinner was served, and movies were shown.

Two of our members were claimed by death, and in each case they were delivered after a long period of suffering. Mr. Arthur I. Whitacre, age 81, of Cygnet, Ohio, and a member of our Findlay Mission, died November 29 and was buried on December 2, the undersigned officiating. He leaves to mourn: his wife, 8 children, 19 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren. He was the last charter member of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf in his area.

Mr. William L. Neff, age 61, of Bucyrus and a member of our Mansfield Mission, died on December 5, and on December 7 burial services were conducted by the undersigned. His death is mourned by his wife, three children, eight grandchildren, one brother, and one sister. May God through His Gospel comfort the widows and mourners!

T. F.

Indianapolis Field—November 17 we started out with Pastor Kosche to visit all his stations, ten of them. Services were held in every city, the representative of the Board preaching and then addressing each group in behalf of the Board after the service. He brought their greetings and in their name wished them God's richest blessings for a blessed life now and forever. He also showed why our Church sends out ministers to the Deaf not to entertain them or teach them how to gain riches and glory and honor in this world, but only to preach Christ and to bring them the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ for their eternal salvation. This Gospel is found in the holy Bible, and therefore he urged them all to love this Word of God, of which David says:

"More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb." Psalm 19:10. And this Word, sweeter than honey, is brought in our services. Therefore when a service is announced, we ought to say with David: "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Ps. 122:1. And this forgiveness and salvation Jesus offers, gives, and seals to us in Baptism and the Holy Supper; therefore we should think highly of both. Then we also touched on giving for the Lord's work, stressing the word of God: "God loveth a cheerful giver." 2 Cor. 9:7. Cheerfully we ought to give because it is for Him who loved us and gave Himself for us. Then we urged everyone to bring others to services and so to Jesus, the only Savior, and to seek the eternal salvation of everyone, for Jesus died for all and wants all to be saved. And finally we asked all to continue in prayer for the pastor, for rich blessings upon the preaching of the Word, for all Deaf. Again and again Brother Kosche picked up a Deaf person here and another there and brought him to services. He also is instructing twenty-four adults, and with joy we saw how anxious they were to learn more of the precious Word of God. May our good Lord continue to be with him and richly bless his labors unto the salvation of many Deaf.

After the service in Indianapolis on Sunday morning, November 27, we left to visit the two stations served by Pastor Krug besides his hearing charge. He conducts monthly services for the Deaf in Logansport and Kokomo. We thank him most heartily and wish him many blessings from above upon his work in these two cities. At Logansport we were glad to see one of the Deaf bringing seven other Deaf with him for the service. And then he also served an elegant lunch, prepared all by himself, after the service. Yes, let us all eagerly bring others to the house of God. Thus with Brother Kosche we visited twelve cities, making more than 1,100 miles by car under God's gracious protection.

J. L. S.

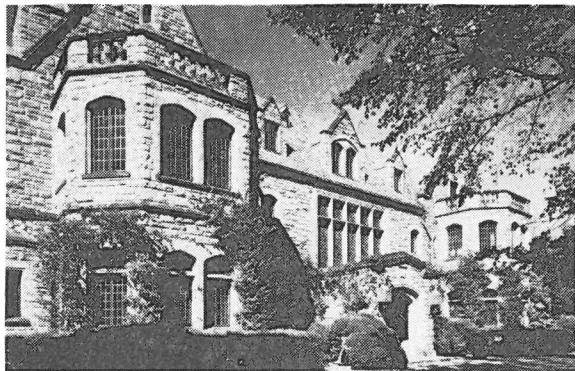
Memphis, Tenn.—Upstairs they were singing.

The venerable timbers of Trinity Lutheran Church faithfully transmitted the sound. Vibrations filtered



down through walls and pillars, then stirred along the basement floor.

Two or three men in the basement suddenly looked upward, nodded, to one another, and smiled. Then they turned again, to join a dozen others in watching a young man at an improvised pulpit.



Lutheran School for the Deaf at Mill Neck, Long Island
(Pastor Posschl, Secretary)



First Grade Children doing written
language

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

It was the biweekly service for the Deaf.

Giving the sermon was the Rev. W. F. Reinking, a student at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Since July, the Rev. Mr. Reinking has been carrying on Trinity's 30-year program of worship services in sign language.

Twice the minister flourished an invitation to a hymn. The congregation "sang" without a sound, merely following the movement of his hands with their own. Similarly the group recited the Lord's Prayer in unison at the end of the service.

The Rev. Mr. Reinking used his fine dark eyes and his heavy eyebrows like an actor, emphasizing the meaning of the sign. To indicate the word "boast" he threw out his chest and frowned.

The Rev. Mr. Reinking, keen-eared himself, is planning to make a life's career of his work with the Deaf. "I went to a sign-language course at Concordia two years ago and was fascinated," he said. "About the only wordless communication I knew before that was Morse code."

The minister has two years to go at Concordia. He is on what is called a "vicarage," a year of ministry between academic terms.

He alternates Sunday services with a Deaf congregation in Atlanta. In addition, he travels widely in Arkansas and Tennessee for scheduled weekday services. He finds time, too, to teach at schools for whites and Negroes in Little Rock and Cave Spring, Ga., near Atlanta.—From *Commercial-Appeal*

South Ohio—Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Columbus on December 11 held its annual business meeting in which the following officers were elected: John Riddlebaugh, president; Dave Fortner, vice-president; Harry Case, secretary; Steve Benedict, treasurer; John Schwartz and Paul Walker, elders.—Thus far the Columbus congregation together with the Mission Board has twice called pastors to the South Ohio Field, but each one felt compelled to decline.

In Dayton, Ohio, on December 11, Dale Russel Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hall, born on August 26, 1949, was baptized in St. John's Lutheran Church. Mr. Russell, E. Huber, and Miss Lois Gaylor served as sponsors.
T. F.

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 Posschl, 12 Russell Ave., Nutley 10, N. J.
Vicar W. F. Reinking, 1727 Vesey St., Memphis Tenn.
Rev. Geo. C. Ring, 5723 Washington, S. E., Portland, Oreg.
Rev. Herbert W. Rohe, 983 Braddock Rd., Pittsburgh 21, Pa.
Rev. J. L. Salvner, D. D., 3320 Chowen Ave., N., Robbinsdale 22, Minn.
Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago 51, Ill.
Rev. Curtis Schleicher, 235 S. Euclid, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.
Rev. N. P. Uhlig, 393 West Michigan St., Jacksonville, Ill.
Rev. W. Westermann, 1728 Varnum St., 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. Nieman, 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 22, Minn.

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