

The Deaf Lutheran

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Board of Missions to the Deaf. — The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

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No. 4

"He Took My Place"

I wonder, when the soldiers came
To set Barabbas free,
And told him that he need not go
To dreadful Calvary,

If he felt even half the joy
That filled my soul the day
When I first heard the pardon sweet:
"Thy sins are washed away?"

I wonder if he followed, too,
And stood and watched them there
As the Almighty Son of God
The guilt of all men bare?

I wonder if the shame he felt
Was half as great as mine
When realizing my sins, too,
Tortured that Form divine?

I, Lord, in spirit, too, have stood
Before those crosses three,
And scarce my soul could comprehend
That this was done for me!

Lord, help me spread the message sweet
Till many souls can say,
While standing with Barabbas there:
"He took my place today."

GERTRUDE WARTCHOW

Prayer for Easter

Lord Jesus, risen gloriously from the dead, we worship Thee as our living Savior, who hast redeemed us to be Thine own eternally; and we adore Thee as Conqueror of Satan, sin, and death. Accept our Easter prayer, which we bring to Thee with all believers of all ages and races and nations.

Joy fills our hearts as we come into Thy presence; for Thy resurrection proclaims to us and to all believers forgiveness of all our sins, deliverance from death and hell, and the assurance of eternal life. We pray Thee to keep us in this faith to Thy glory. Amen.

Easter Greetings

We extend to all the Deaf sincere wishes for a very happy Easter. May our risen Savior enter into their hearts and bring into their lives the light and blessing of His holy presence! May His resurrection cause us to rise from the death of sin to a holier life, which is more devoted to Him and the things of heaven and eternity.

Let us accept without question the glorious miracle which happened on that Easter morn, when Christ was raised from the dead! Let us confess with the Apostle: "Ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him." 1 Thess. 4:13-14. We are assured that we have a living Savior, who is Victor over all our enemies and gives unto us and all true believers everlasting life.

O. C. S.

New Wisconsin Field

By God's grace and blessing another sign of progress can be reported from the Milwaukee Field. This time the spotlight is on Madison, the capital of Wisconsin and the home of the Big Nine Wisconsin Badgers. In the space of five months the Lutheran Deaf of Madison have prayerfully organized themselves into a congregation, adopted a constitution after thorough discussion, and elected officers for the year 1950. The chairman and elder of Silent Lutheran Church is Mr. Robert Horgen, who is also president of the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf. Other officers are: Thomas Hansen, vice-chairman and trustee; Robert Pagel, secretary and elder; Raymond Rasmus, treasurer and elder; Arthur Hanson, financial secretary and trustee; Eric Sampson, trustee.

Since for a number of years already plans have been considered for dividing the field, discussions and negotiations are now under way between the Board of Missions and the Madison congregation preparatory to calling a pastor who is to serve the Madison congregation, the School for Deaf in Delavan, and as many other stations as circumstances and conditions demand. Emmanuel Congregation of Deaf in Milwaukee has for years given much money towards this development and is happy that its own opportunities for growth and develop-

ment will be more favorable as a result of a division of the field; and no matter how the field is divided, the Milwaukee congregation will trust in the power of God's Word and the life-giving Gospel of Christ for faith and strength to shoulder all responsibilities of a Christian congregation.

The officers of Emmanuel Congregation, Milwaukee, for the year 1950 are: Martin Drews, chairman and elder; Werner Hoewisch, vice-chairman and trustee; Wm. Meilicke, secretary; Erwin Lucht, treasurer and elder; Yachtman Sue, financial secretary; Raymond Krause, elder and trustee; Edwin Dubratz, trustee.

M. E. A. M.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE OFFICE (POWER) OF THE KEYS

Two keys Jesus has: the one to open heaven to broken hearts and the other to close heaven to proud hearts. Now to whom did Jesus give these keys?

Jesus Gave Them to Peter

After Peter had made this good confession: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," Jesus said to him: "I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind [not forgive] on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose [forgive] on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Matt. 16:19. Did Jesus give these keys only to Peter, only to one man? What does the Bible say?

Jesus Gave Them Also to the Other Disciples

Our Catechism says: "Thus writes the holy Evangelist John, chapter 20th: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost. Whosoever sins ye remit [forgive], they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain [not forgive], they are retained." Not only Peter, but all the other disciples went out with these two keys, announcing forgiveness to penitent [sorry] sinners and thus opening the doors of heaven unto them, and pronouncing God's wrath and punishment upon all that were impenitent [not sorry] and so closing heaven unto them. But now the twelve disciples are all dead. Who has the keys now?

Jesus Gave Them to His Church

Matthew 18:17-20 our Lord Jesus says to every Christian congregation: "Verily, I say unto you, Whatever ye shall bind [not forgive] on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose [forgive] on earth shall be loosed in heaven." As did the disciples, so every Christian church can open the doors of heaven to them that come with sorrow for their sin and trust in the blood of Jesus by saying to them: "Thy sins are forgiven thee." And as did the disciples, so the church can say to everyone who loves the way of sin and will not turn to the Cross of Jesus, "You shall die in your sin," and so close heaven to them. Therefore Jesus also tells the church that they should put out everyone that will not turn from sin to Jesus and that they should let him be unto them as an heathen man [unbeliever] and a publican [sinner].

Christians, Therefore, Are a Wonderful People

Peter says to them: "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar [God's own] people," 1 Peter 2:9. Do you belong to this blessed people? Then you are a priest and king, and you have these keys. With other Christians go out into all the world, and with the one key bring peace and comfort to the broken hearts and with the other God's curse and punishment upon proud hearts.

J. L. S.

Salvation

Man's eternal happiness or misery depends on the answer to the question if he is prepared to meet God. God says we have all gone astray, which means that we are lost. Denying this fact does not help you; seek your salvation now while it may be found. God says, "And the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all." Is. 53:6. Jesus died in your place. God offers you forgiveness, peace, and everlasting life through the works of His Son. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Mark 16:16. Rejoice that Jesus is your own, personal Savior. He promised with an oath, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth My Word and believeth on Him that sent Me hath eternal life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24. Faith in this solid

granite of God's own Word and promise alone prepares you to meet God. If you trust in any human schemes or systems, or in your own or another man's works, you are on sinking sand with no hope of salvation. Matt. 7:24-27. O. C. S.

† William Edward Fahien †

On January 11, 1950, the Lord in His wisdom took home a charter member of our St. Louis congregation, Mr. William Edward Fahien. He had suffered with cancer of the eye twenty-five years ago; last June the disease attacked him again, and he went down rapidly. He stayed at home from October till January and was unable to sit up during the last few weeks. He spoke not one word of complaint, and he was cheerful to the end.

Confirmed in 1921 by Pastor Schubkegel, Mr. Fahien became an officer of Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf when it was organized in St. Louis in 1930. He served for twenty years as a leader in his congregation. His confirmation verse was 2 Corinthians 5:15, "He (Jesus) died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves (selfishly), but unto Him which died for them and rose again." The text for the funeral sermonet was Matthew 7, verses 24-27. Two brothers and one sister survive him. Thanks be to God for all the loving service He gave to our congregation and to all the Deaf of St. Louis through the active faith-life of this sainted brother. May we follow his example.

F. G. G.

Mother Praises L. I. D., Detroit

Dear Mrs. Murray:

I want to thank you for writing and letting me know about Virginia. And I want to let you know, too, that we were really surprised when she came home for Christmas to see what you did for Virginia.

My girl friend, my twins, and I cried for happiness, when she started to write the words "MOTHER"—"BROTHER"—"BABY" and the twins' names. She printed out the words "fall"—"jump"—"arm"—"eye" and drew pictures of her bed, hearing aid, and of you, her teacher. She also showed how you teach her by holding your hand on her face to say the words of her name "Virginia." I know now what you meant when you wrote that she did not use her lips the way you wanted her to. All I can say is, "It's wonderful now to have the feeling that she is no longer being pushed around and to know that she has learned so much in so little time."

She behaves very nicely, does not cry or worry like she did. That old look and the worried lines are gone off her little face. She's such a happy girl now.

You hear and read so much about different schools and how the children are treated, that it makes you sick thinking about it. And I was really worried sick until I saw her. Nobody can tell me anything like that about your school now. Truthfully, I am very pleased and greatly satisfied with Virginia, the school, and everything. Little Donald is 5, and when he saw her and she showed him that she could write, too, he said, "Mother, she can write her name and talk." He had tears in his eyes. He was so glad that Virginia had learned to write. He said, "Good, for my little sister."

Harold said, "Mother, I am so happy our little sister has really learned more than I expected her."

I am glad that Virginia was able to come home for Christmas. It really did the children and me a lot of good.

The twins said, "Now we don't have to worry about little Virginia any more." Harold was so worried about his little sister that he became sick. We had him home in bed for two months. We had X-rays, blood tests and other tests made. But the doctors couldn't find what was wrong. They said that he must be worried about something. But when Virginia came home and he saw how she was, he sized her up and down and then took a deep breath and said, "Now at last we don't have to worry about little Virginia."

Other times it was always little Virginia this, little Virginia that. He was so sick that he could not walk and couldn't hold his food down. Now he goes to school and is happy. He reads every letter that you write, and I am saving every letter you write me.

That little Christmas vacation did us all so much good and we thank you a lot for everything.

Yours truly,

Deaf Child's Advocate

Virginia's Mother

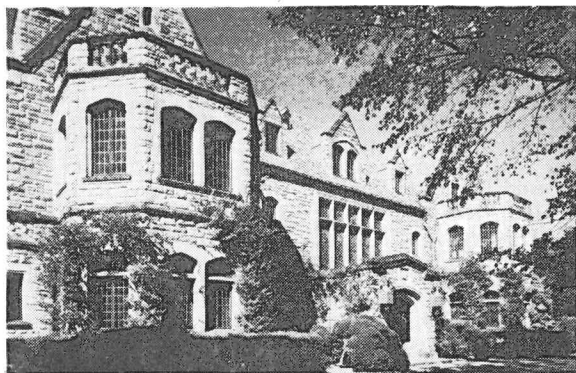
The Light of the World

Light of the world, before Thee
Our spirits prostrate fall;
We worship, we adore Thee,
Thou Light, the Life of all.
With Thee is no forgetting
Of all Thine hand hath made;
Thy rising has no setting,
Thy sunshine hath no shade.

FIELD GLEANINGS

Akron, Ohio — On December 18, in connection with our Christmas service, our members, with the help of some friends, gave a Christmas tableaux. About 80 persons attended this service, and after worship our friends stayed for fellowship and luncheon. — Our Akron Lutheran Ladies' Guild took a leading part in this successful Christmas service. Officers of our Ladies' Guild for 1950 are Mesdames R. Lankenau, president; Edmond Abbott, vice-president; Norma McDaniel, secretary-treasurer. — The annual business meeting of our men was held on February 1 in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Lankenau. The following officers were elected for 1950: Harry Dodson, president; Edmond Abbott, vice-president; Kenneth E. Kress, secretary-treasurer; Robert Lankenau and D. O. Hoffman, elders. During this meeting the constitution for our Akron Lutheran congregation was adopted.

T. F.



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

Bogalusa, La.—We spent a few days in February with the Rev. Hans Bollow, former missionary to the Deaf in the New Orleans area. He felt in duty bound to accept a call from the Bogalusa hearing congregation, because they for such a long time had been as a flock without a shepherd. However, he still does some work among the Deaf, especially in Baton Rouge, La., and Jackson, Miss., and will continue until a man is found for this area. Two schools in Baton Rouge were visited, and we spoke to about 40 colored children. Then we also visited the school at Jackson, Miss., and received a hearty welcome from the superintendent there. Services were held with the Deaf in Mobile, Ala., and Jackson, Miss. What a joy and privilege that we can bring Jesus and His love to so many Deaf here and there!

We hope and pray that the Chief Shepherd of our souls will grant us men, both for Memphis and New Orleans. Indeed, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest." Matt. 9:37-38. Friend, join us in prayer.

J. L. S.

Columbus, Ohio—The South Ohio Field, without a Lutheran pastor since Rev. J. Beyer's departure, finally has a student vicar, Mr. Luther Russert. He will serve South Ohio until an ordained minister is successfully called. Mr. Russert will conduct our Columbus Sunday school, assisted by the following teachers: Mr. John Riddlebaugh, Mrs. C. W. Strong, Miss Nora Carson, and Mr. Eugene Johnson.

T. F.

Dayton, Ohio—Mr. Warren Albert, age 68 years, passed away suddenly, January 15. Funeral services took place on January 18 in Dayton with an attendance of about 75 deaf people and other friends. Burial took place in the family plot in Lewisburg, Ohio. He exerted an influence for good among the Deaf. He served the Home for the Aged 10 years as a member on the Board and also several years as president of the N. F. S. D. of Dayton, Ohio. He was married 32 years to the former Effie Coppack, who, with his sister, Mrs. Grace Schone-man, survives him. He is also mourned and missed by a host of friends. May God through His Word comfort Mrs. Albert in her bereavement.

T. F.

Memphis, Tenn.—After the Dixie Conference we stayed in Memphis for a week with Mr. Luther Russert, our new vicar for the Columbus area. Together we reviewed the sign language according to Long's Manual. He made wonderful progress within a week, and in the next Sunday's service signed the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Benediction, and the Doxology. He now is assisting Pastor Frederking in the Ohio fields. Our Lord Jesus be with him and bless his work.

Then we spent ten days with Vicar Reinking, going from city to city preaching the sweet Gospel of Jesus Christ. We held services in Little Rock, Texarkana, Shreveport, Fort Smith, Atlanta, Chattanooga, and Nashville. We also visited the schools in Little Rock, one for the white and the other for the colored children. At the latter school we addressed 25 Deaf and 15 Blind; then we spoke to the assembly of the school for white children. At the Cave Spring school we spoke to the assembly Saturday evening and preached the sermon on Sunday morning to the same group. In the afternoon we addressed the assembly at the school for colored children. We want to thank the school authorities for the help and hospitality which they extended to us. A hearty "Thank you" and "God bless you" is due also to the pastors and congregations who showed such great kindness unto us. And may our dear Lord continue to bless the work of Vicar Reinking and fill him with still more love and zeal in preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ to the Deaf.

J. L. S.

Our Ministers are Ready to Serve You

For information write to:

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