

# The Deaf Lutheran

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

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### The Reformation

October 31

St. Paul teaches that we are justified freely by God's grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (Rom. 3:24). "Grace" means everything for nothing (free) to one who deserves only judgment. Because Jesus paid for our sins with His precious blood, we are justified (made righteous) freely without the deeds of the Law. Dr. Martin Luther rediscovered this glorious truth after years of fear and trembling at the wrath of God against sin and striving to save himself by works of righteousness. St. Paul tells us Jesus "gave Himself for our sins" (Gal. 1:4). The Son of God "loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal. 2:20). He paid the price; I am free. No work, not even one single perfect deed of mine is required for my salvation.

Help to spread this glorious Gospel to all the world by attending church services and giving of your talents and money to the building of Christ's kingdom. Thus you will show appreciation of this great truth of the Bible proclaimed through the Reformation, led by God's chosen instrument, Dr. Martin Luther. O. C. S.

### Kansas City Field Laymen's Conference

A conference for members and friends of the Kansas City field is scheduled to be held in Pilgrim Lutheran Church for the Deaf, 3807 Gillham Road, Kansas City, Mo., October 7 and 8. The first session will begin at ten o'clock Saturday morning, October 7. In the evening of that date a banquet will be held in the social rooms of Pilgrim Church. Sunday morning, October 8, at 10:45 A. M., the usual worship will take place, and Holy Communion will be celebrated. We are looking for an unusually large attendance at the worship in these serious times. (Our good Deaf Lutheran friends who may be visiting from other fields possibly will want to bring their guest cards for Holy Communion.)

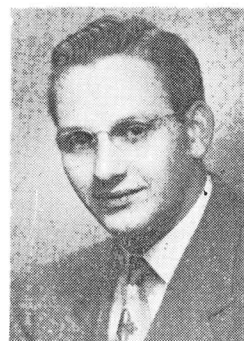
Pilgrim Congregation extends a cordial invitation to all members and friends of neighboring cities and States, and their pastors, to attend our humble meeting, if possible. The theme for our conference is "A Living Faith" (Rom. 12:1). According to present plans, Mr. E. R. Hedges, president of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, will read an essay on "Interesting Facts About Dr. Martin Luther's Life." Mrs. C. Wear, Dorcas president, will give a book review on Dr. C. H. Little's *Lutheran Confessional Theology*. Mr. Wm. H. Lueders will speak on the topic "I Want to Give to Jesus from My Income."

In addition it is possible that a friend from the Great Bend group will give a talk on the "History of the Apostles' Creed."

Pilgrim Church will do everything possible to make the visit of fellow Lutherans and friends profitable and enjoyable. In view of the economic situation it was thought best to have each one take care of his own expenses. Meals will be served at the chapel for a nominal charge. The banquet tickets are sold at \$1.25 each. The committee asks the co-operation of friends kindly to make reservations by Wednesday, October 4. Delegates possibly also will want to co-operate with the committee by paying the registration fee. For information or reservations write to Mr. E. R. Hedges, 2620 W. 47th St. Terrace, Kansas City, Kans.; Mrs. C. Wear, 4209 Baltimore, Kansas City, Mo., or the undersigned. We are looking forward to seeing many friends from this area in Kansas City. A. E. F.

### Rev. Simon Installed

Pastor Donald Edwin Simon, born November 24, 1926, at Saginaw, Mich., is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick P. Simon. He attended the Christian day school of Holy Cross Lutheran Church and was confirmed in this church in the spring of 1940. From 1940 to 1944 he attended Michigan Lutheran Seminary of the Wisconsin Synod. Upon graduation from the high school department he entered Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Ind. He graduated from this college on Aug. 17, 1945. In September, 1945, he enrolled in Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., and graduated in June, 1950. At St. Louis he studied sign language in the classes of Students F. Gyle and E. Luessenhop. Later he taught sign language to several classes, which included Students Kraus, Mesenbring, and Wutke. From July, 1947, to June, 1948, he was vicar to the Deaf in the Montana-Spokane field, an experience which prepared him well to become a full-time pastor to the Deaf. He was married on June 4, 1950, to Miss Ruth Ann Paulsmeyer; and in the same month was ordained in Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Saginaw, Mich. On July 9, 1950,



Rev. Donald E. Simon

he was installed as pastor in Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Columbus, Ohio. The Rev. Theo. Frerking read the service. Pastors O. F. Stolzenburg, W. F. Docter, P. F. Pennekamp, W. H. Werling, J. W. Constable, and G. Thies assisted. May the Lord of the vineyard, who called Pastor Simon to become a pastor to the Deaf, abundantly bless all his labor to the glory of God and the blessings of many Deaf. (Address: 400 Thurman Ave., Columbus 6, Ohio.)  
T. F.

### New Iowa Pastor Installed

During the summer months a change took place in the Nebraska-Iowa field. A graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., Victor Mesenbring, was called to take over the central and eastern section of Iowa, with headquarters in Des Moines.

He was ordained and installed in a special service in Des Moines, Iowa, on the evening of July 28. The service was held in the recently purchased Calvary Lutheran Church for the Deaf. The sermon and ordina-



Rev. Victor Mesenbring

tion ceremony were given in speech and signs by the undersigned. Also the hymns were interpreted for the Deaf. The service was closed with the Doxology and Benediction spoken and signed by Pastor Mesenbring. Several pastors from Des Moines and vicinity assisted in the service. About 60 Deaf and 25 hearing friends attended the service. A reception for the new pastor and his wife was held in the church basement after the service. A cash gift was handed them in the name of Calvary Congregation by its chairman, Mr. Marvin Neuschwanger. He also gave a short welcoming address. Mr. William Rogers, one of the trustees, spoke a few words of farewell to their former pastor.

We feel certain that now, since the field has been divided, more intensive work can be done for the Deaf

by both pastors in their respective territories. May the Lord of the Church grant courage, strength, and success to this new pastor in the blessed work he has undertaken. (Address: 1414 W. University Ave., Des Moines 14, Iowa.)

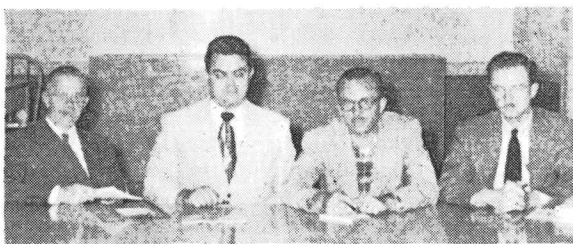
In the future the Omaha pastor hopes to find more time to serve various new stations in Nebraska and to give more time also to the important work of teaching God's saving truths to the large number of pupils in his care at the Iowa and Nebraska Schools for the Deaf in Council Bluffs and Omaha.  
E. M.

### Golden State Products, Producer, Meet

Oakland, Calif., August 8, 1950. — This picture may seem odd to many of you readers of the DEAF LUTHERAN. Here you see (from left to right) Pastors Gaertner, Oakland; DeLaney, Austin, Tex.; Jonas, Los Angeles; and Gyle, St. Louis. Yes, indeed! These four actually met in Oakland at a conference session. The Deaf were not overlooked when these four men gathered. It is difficult, indeed, to have visiting pastors in these far-separated fields. However, these pastors exchanged pulpits, and this was very much appreciated by the Deaf. So for once the Midwest met the West.

But just why these four met may be of interest to the reader. Pastor Jonas, Oakland born, studied his first signs at Oakland. Pastor DeLaney, a native of Santa Maria, while a student at California Concordia College, Oakland, studied his signs in the study room of Pastor Gaertner. We hope you have not forgotten the very interesting instance which brought San Franciscan Pastor Gyle into our Lutheran Church. You will recall that he was employed as Counselor at the California School for the Deaf in Berkeley, where his wife was teaching. Could anything be finer than to have these four meet again, where three of them originally started Deaf work?

The four discussed the following problems to be met



in improving church work among the Deaf: Transportation and plans for a car fund; putting the missionaries' "Exchange" bulletin on a cash basis; signing; church management and voters' meetings; candidates for the ministry among the Deaf; Regional Assistants to the Board; the new *Life and Light* booklets for the Deaf (circulation 1,500); visual aids; etc.  
G. W. G.

There are two places to which people go — heaven and hell. You will go to one of these two places. Which? — *Mission Informer*.

## Studies in Luther's Catechism

### The Fifth Chief Part

#### CONFESSION

When a man confesses his sin and believes in Jesus Christ, God forgives and covers him with Jesus' blood and righteousness. And this forgiveness our pastor announces unto us.

#### It Is Truly God's Forgiveness

In the church service we first confess our sins to our heavenly Father, and the pastor says: "In the stead of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Master, and with His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." And this he does also before we go to the Lord's Table, where Jesus seals His forgiveness to us with His body and blood. What a comfort to receive forgiveness from the pastor! And it is truly God's forgiveness. Our Catechism says it is "from God Himself." We have learned that God has given the key of forgiveness to His Church on earth. Members of this Church join together and call a pastor, and in their name he uses this key. Therefore Luther says that we should "in no wise doubt, but firmly believe that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven." Of such a confession and forgiveness we read in 2 Samuel 12 and 13. David confessed to the Prophet Nathan: "I have sinned against the Lord." And Nathan said: "The Lord also has put away thy sin; thou shalt not die." Sweet comfort therefore to have God's ministers, in Christ's stead, say to us: "Thy sins be forgiven thee."

#### Before God We Confess All Our Sins

Our Catechism says: "Before God we should plead-guilty-of (confess) all sins, even those which we do not know, as we do in the Lord's Prayer." In this Prayer we daily pray: "Forgive us our trespasses." With these words we confess all our sins, sins that we know and sins that we do not know. Are there any sins that we do not know? Yes, many of them. Many an evil thought comes up in our heart, and we know it not. Many an evil word we say in lying or gossiping, and we think not of it. Therefore David prays: "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse Thou me from secret faults." Ps. 19:12. All these we confess before God.

#### To the Pastor We Confess Sins That We Know

Which sins should we confess before the pastor? Must we tell him every sin that we have done? And are only those sins forgiven which we confess to our pastor? How terrible that would be! Then we never would be sure of forgiveness. No, before the pastor we "confess only those sins that we know and feel in our hearts." Perhaps you have done some wrong, and you cannot find peace and rest. Then go to your pastor; pour out your heart to him; and he will give you comfort from heaven, announcing forgiveness to you; and you can go in peace.

#### Thank God for This Forgiveness

Suppose a man has a large debt. A friend pays it for him and then sends another friend to him with the good news. Surely that will make his heart rejoice.

So we have many sins, a large debt before God. Jesus pays for our sins with His blood and then sends a minister to us with this good news. Indeed, that should make us rejoice with thanksgiving. J. L. S.

## The Second Letter of John

(Kraus-Franzmann)

[From] the elder —

To the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in truth. And not I only, also all who know the truth. (Because of the truth which remains in us, and will be with us forever):

Let grace, mercy, and peace stay with us from God the Father — and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father in love and truth. (Verses 1-3.)

I was filled with joy because I found your children walking in truth — as we received commandment from the Father. And now I pray you, lady. I do not write a new commandment to you; but only what we had since the beginning — that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk in agreement with His commands. This is the command — as you heard from the beginning — that you walk in this way. (Verses 4-6.)

Because many deceivers have come out into the world. These do not confess [believe] that Jesus Christ has come in flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist. Take care about yourselves so that you do not lose the things we worked for, but so that you receive the full reward. (Verses 7-8.)

Everyone who goes ahead [his own way] — and does not remain in the teaching of Christ — has not God. Whoever remains in the teaching, this one has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not accept him into your house. And do not greet him. Because whoever greets him shares his works of sin. (Verses 9-11.)

I have many things to write you. But I do not wish to write with ink and paper. But I hope to come to you and speak to your face, so that our joy can be full. The children of your chosen sister greet you. (Verses 12-13.)

## FIELD GLEANINGS

*Cleveland, Ohio.* — Two beautiful church weddings took place in Christ Lutheran Church. The first one was on June 17, when Gertrude Jean Parsons was married to Francis Sayre. The maid of honor was Miss Elinor Ilse; the best man was Mr. John Yunko; bridesmaids were Misses Catharine Ewald and Margaret Snyder; and ushers were Earl Froehlich and William Mihalik.

On July 8 Mr. Michael Moore and Miss Dorothy Zeller entered into holy wedlock. The bride was given away by her uncle, Mr. W. C. Haug; the maid of honor and best man were Miss Kay Haug and Mr. Robert Zeller, brother of the bride; bridesmaids were Misses Alice Husten and Wanda Collins; and ushers were Frank Zeller and Richard Phillips. — May God richly

bless the marital life of both these couples and cause every one to abide in Christ's grace!

In Findlay, Ohio, on July 23, Miss Margie Mae Yaney was baptized and became a full member of our Church. In Cleveland, on July 30, Frank Cassese, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cassese, was baptized in the name of Triune God, the sponsors being Mr. Roy Meinzer and Miss Catharine Ewald. T. F.



**New Members of Our Cleveland Church**

Left to right: Rose Tummino, Emily Bobrovsky, Rev. Frederick, Jeannette Dunham, Jean Sayre.

*Delavan, Wis.*—About 125 people attended the semiformal wedding of Gladys Baverfeldt to Mr. Frederick Schnabel on Saturday, August 12, 1950, in Redeemer Lutheran Church. The Rev. Robert W. Mackensen officiated. A fine reception was held in the church basement after the ceremony. The couple plans to live in Minnesota. May the Lord be with them and bless them.

The Rev. Julius Kelber, Lutheran Pastor for the Deaf, in Bavaria, Germany, visited our service for the Deaf in Madison, Wis., on Sunday, August 13. After the service he spoke for a few minutes. He is visiting our schools, churches, and hospitals in the U. S. He serves about 60 Deaf in two cities in Germany. He signed the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer. Rev. Mackensen translated them into the American signs at the same time. Truly the German signs are much different from the American. Another interesting point: The German Deaf do not spell, they have only signs. Also the Deaf in Germany are not allowed to drive. They work in shoe factories and make clothing. Then Rev. Kelber gave greetings to all the Deaf here in America from all the Deaf in Germany. He said that the Deaf in Germany would like to write letters to the Deaf here. If any of our Deaf desire to write to the Deaf in Germany, then first write to Rev. Julius Kelber, Treuchtlingen, Bavaria, Germany, and he will contact the Deaf person. He took moving pictures of the Madison group, while we signed the Lord's prayer, and then hurried away to make other calls. He has been in the United States three months. Some of the Lutherans in Baraboo and girls from the State School here in Delavan have already expressed a desire to correspond

with the Deaf in Germany, and Rev. Mackensen has written to the Rev. Julius Kelber, telling him about that and requesting his aid. R. W. M.

*Neenah, Wis.*—Mrs. Louisa Florey, member of our Lutheran Deaf group here, passed through death to life eternal on August 15, 1950. Services were held in Appleton, Wis. Pastor Mackensen preached on Rom. 14:8: "Whether we live, therefore, or die we are the Lord's." Burial was in Neenah. About five Deaf and fifteen hearing people attended. R. W. M.

*Omaha, Nebr.*—Baptized in the Omaha service on July 16 were the two children of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gemar, Patrick John, born March 27, 1946, and Pamela Joyce, born May 17, 1950.

Baptized on September 3 in Omaha was Earline Anita, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Petersen. May our blessed Savior, who loves the little children, keep these His little lambs in His grace and care.

The marriage of Mr. Gail Hanson and Miss Mae Herbold, both of Marion, Iowa, was solemnized in St. Paul's Lutheran Church in that city on the afternoon of July 23. God bless their home.

After a lingering illness the Lord in His mercy relieved Mrs. Mary Moellering, 73 years of age, of all earthly suffering and took her home to the heavenly mansions above. She passed away peacefully at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Stella Luebke, in Omaha on July 7. A short funeral service was held on July 8 in Omaha, and the remains were taken to Indianapolis, Ind., for burial. The funeral service there was conducted by the Rev. Louis Wambsganss and interpreted for the Deaf by the Rev. M. Kosche. Besides by Mrs. Luebke, she is survived by a deaf brother, Mr. Fred Draeger of Indianapolis. E. M.

JESUS wept. Read the story, John 11:11-46.

THERE are two great rulers in the world—God and Satan. You are serving under one of these great rulers. Which?—*Informer*.

If we follow Christ, others will not go wrong when they follow us. What kind of an example are you?—*The Silent Visitor*.

#### Our Ministers are Ready to Serve You

For information write to:

Pastor J. L. Salvner, D. D., Executive Secretary  
3320 Chowen Ave., N., Robbinsdale 22, Minn.

#### The Deaf Lutheran

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