



The Deaf Lutheran

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

Vol. 43

St. Louis, Mo., December, 1951

No. 12

† Traugott M. Wangerin †

Born October 21, 1873, in Bethlehem, Ill., the second son of a pastor and grandson of one of the founders of the Missouri Synod, Traugott Wangerin received his elementary education in the Lutheran schools of St. Louis, Mo., was



Rev. Traugott M. Wangerin

graduated from Concordia College, Milwaukee, in 1893, and from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1896. He accepted a call as assistant pastor to Cross Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, together with a call as the first commissioned missionary to the Deaf.

After eleven months the demand for serving

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Letter From a Reader

DEAR EDITORS:

I like to read the DEAF LUTHERAN and the Bible Studies. I believe that Jesus died on the Cross for us on Good Friday and rose out of the grave on Easter for our salvation. That should urge us to live not for ourselves. I hope you and many other Deaf read the Bible Studies and believe that, too.

I know Rev. Lawrence Stacy. He came to our school and preached to many of the white and Negro Deaf.

Sometimes I am in doubt what the pastor wanted to tell me. Then I pray, "Lord make it plain to me what is the truth." That is the only safe thing for me to do.

While I was sick and could not go to school, I wrote letters to the Deaf boys and girls and told them to see you.

MISS OLA B. MACKLIN

(ED. NOTE. — Miss Macklin is a 15-year-old colored Deaf girl at the Tennessee school who, because of much sickness, has not been able to attend school regularly.)

Great Lakes Region to Have All-Deaf Conference in 1952

Fort Wayne, Ind., October 16—17. — Seven Lutheran pastors to the Deaf met at St. Paul's School to lay plans for the first all-Deaf Lutheran conference of the Great Lakes area. Present at the meeting were Pastors Borchardt, Frederking, Mackensen, Rische, Scheibert, Schroeder, and Simon.

Two sessions were held, one in the afternoon of October 16, and the other in the morning of the 17th. Each opened with Scripture reading and prayer. On the evening of the 17th was the regular monthly church service for the

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Christmas, the Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:6-7 a: It happened, while Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, the time was finished for her baby to be born. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger.

One Christmas night a little girl was praying the Lord's Prayer. She had heard so much about Christmas, Christmas, Christmas all day. The word Christmas was going around in her mind. So when she got to the Fifth Petition of the Lord's Prayer, she did not say, "Forgive us our trespasses." She happened to say, "Forgive us our Christmases."

Do I need to ask God to forgive my Christmases? Do I need to ask God to forgive the way I celebrate Christmas today? Is it just a day for me to look at gifts, eat a big dinner, visit with friends? If that is all I do on Christmas, I'd better ask God to forgive me.

No, Christmas is Christ—mas. That means Christ worship. Why is December 25 a holiday? Because it is Jesus' birthday! We are off work on Christmas; why? to have more time to think about what it means that Jesus was born; to have more time to thank God for sending His Son into the world.

What happened that first Christmas seemed very simple. A woman in a little town in Palestine had a Baby. It was a Boy. He was not even born in a house or a hospital; He had no crib or basket for a bed. His mother made a little bed for Him in a manger. All very simple.

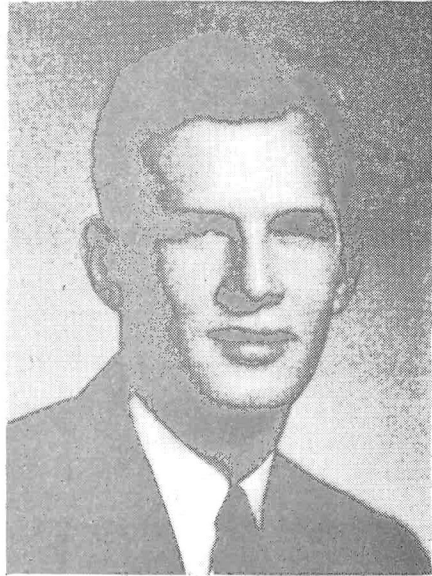
But now, almost 2,000 years after, we still remember that Baby's birthday every year. All over the world people know about Him. The world's calendar is numbered from the year of His birth. Why? Because that Baby was, and is, God Himself; because on Christmas "God was manifested in the flesh"; because God came from heaven to earth to save us, so we could go from earth to heaven. Let us be glad and thankful to God because it happened!

CURTIS SCHLEICHER

(Guest Editorial from *Life and Light*)

FOR THE BRAGGARD: "Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth." Prov. 27:2.

PEOPLE who know better should do better.



Rev. Eugene W. Rische
(See November issue)



Pilgrim Deaf Church, Los Angeles, Calif.

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.

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Bible Readings for December, 1951

For the Christmas season think of these precious words: "God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life," John 3:16. These words of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will give you true Christmas joy and peace.

For the new year think of these words of Jesus: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world," Matthew 28:20. These words will take away all fears and worries and fill your heart with joy and hope. And you can say: "I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me," Psalm 23:4.

May these Bible Readings give you joy and peace and hope through Christ Jesus!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 — Read Luke 7:29-30

Accept God's Way of Salvation

Many people and also publicans, called sinners by the Jews, had gathered around Jesus. He had told them of John the Baptist and his greatness and his work. They then said that God did a right and good thing in sending John to prepare the way for the coming King and Savior. So we have learned that God sent His Son, for whom John prepared the way, and laid upon Him the sin of the whole world. Then we know also that the Son of God laid down His life on the Cross for all and did the Father's wish. And we must say, God is good and right in doing this. And we who have been baptized into Christ have accepted His salvation by faith.

Our lesson tells us that the Pharisees and the lawyers did not want the plan of God toward them and were not baptized. The Pharisees were proud people and thought they were better than other people. They thought they would be saved by doing good. So they needed not John's Baptism nor the Lord Jesus, for whom John prepared the way. The teachers of the Law thought the same. They taught people that they could save themselves from sin and the devil by doing the commandments of men.

So today we see many proud people that think they are better than others, and need not our Savior Jesus Christ. They are not baptized and come not to church. Then there are men who teach this in church: "Do good; try

your best, and you will go to heaven." So many people care not for Baptism and for Bible teaching. They shall be lost! Without Jesus there is no salvation. Therefore listen not to these people!

PRAYER: Dear Savior Jesus Christ, teach me to know my sin, so that I trust not in my doings, but only in Thee, the one and only Savior. Amen.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 — Read Luke 7:31-35

Jesus Is the True Wisdom for Sinners

Some people never are pleased. Preach about sin, and they do not like it. Preach about Jesus and His Cross, and they do not want that either. So it was during the days of Jesus. John the Baptist came not eating bread and not drinking wine, and they said: "He has a devil." Jesus came eating and drinking with publicans and sinners. They called Him "a gluttonous man," a man who eats and drinks too much, and "a winebibber," a man who drinks much wine and loves it, and "a friend of publicans and sinners." John could not please them, and Jesus likewise could not.

Jesus said: "What are these people like?" He said that they are like children in the streets playing. They call one another, and say: "Let us play wedding." Others answer: "We do not want to play that." And if they say: "Let us play funeral," the others again answer: "We do not want that." And the first children must say: "We have piped (played the flute) unto you, and you have not danced; we have mourned (cried and acted sad) unto you, and you have not wept." So today if we tell people: "Turn to God with sorrow for your sin," many will not do it. If we tell them: "Come, rejoice in Jesus and His salvation," many also do not want that.

But always some will turn from sin to God and accept Jesus as their Savior. Jesus therefore says: "Wisdom is justified of all her children." This wisdom is Jesus and His Word. He is the true Wisdom. The wicked world thinks it all foolishness, but the children of wisdom, they that believe this Word, "justify" it, they rejoice in it and say: "That is good and right." Do you belong to these people? God grant it.

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, Thy word makes wise

unto salvation. Come, help us to accept Thy wisdom, this Word of forgiveness, and be saved forever. Amen.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 — Read Luke 7:36-39

Christ Is Come for Sinners

A few days more, and the happy Christmas Day will be with us again. That always is a day of joy, for it brings good news to us, the good news about the Savior for sinners. Therefore it is good news chiefly for sinners. We learn that He receives sinners and blesses them with forgiveness and peace.

One of the Pharisees invited Jesus to eat with him. Pharisees thought they were right with God by doing good and keeping the commandments of men. They were proud people. Jesus went and sat down to eat. A woman whom all people knew as a bad woman heard that Jesus was in that man's house. And she brought a very precious box of ointment. She stood at His feet. She cried and washed His feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. She kissed His feet and poured ointment upon them. And why did she do this? She knew that Jesus was come for sinners, for her, too. She wanted to show her love for Him and His salvation. So let us remember that Jesus was born for sinners, for you and me. Let us show our love by working and doing all we can for Him.

But because Jesus loves sinners, many people do not want Him. The Pharisee said in his heart that Jesus surely was not a prophet of God, because He let that bad woman touch Him. But he was wrong. Jesus is a great Prophet. He knew that this woman was a sinner, and He was glad to have her come to Him with her sorrow for her sin and to trust in Him. For sinners He was born on Christmas Day and came into the world. Sinner, thank God for this Savior!

PRAYER: Thanks, heavenly Father, for sending Thine only Son into the world for sinners like me. Help me rejoice in this Savior now and forever. Amen.

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25

Read Luke 7:40-43

Love This Savior of Sinners

Are you rejoicing today in the Child of Bethlehem? Are you thanking God today for

this Savior born for you? Do you love Him much or only a little?

Our lesson tells us that Jesus was in the house of a Pharisee for a dinner. This man did not believe in Jesus, because He let a bad woman touch Him. So today many believe not in this Jesus because He invites sinners. To this man and to these people Jesus speaks about a certain creditor who had two debtors. The one owed him five hundred coins, and the other, fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, the man forgave both of them. Now Jesus asks this question: "Which of them will love him most?" And the man answered: "I suppose that he to whom he forgave most." And Jesus said: "Thou hast rightly judged." So the woman in our lesson had many sins, and Jesus forgave her. Therefore she loved Jesus much. The Pharisee thought he had only a little sin to be forgiven, therefore he loved Jesus only a little.

Today, on this happy Christmas Day, God comes in Christ Jesus and forgives us all our sins. And we ought to love Him much, for we have many sins. We daily sin much in thought, word (speaking), and deed (doing). And the Christmas angel says to every one of us: "Unto you is born a Savior." Thanks be to God, we have a Savior from sin. Oh, love Him much, because He forgives all your sin. It should be a Merry Christmas for you!

PRAYER: Thanks, dear Father in heaven, for this Thy Christmas gift of Thine only-begotten Son and for the Christmas blessings of forgiveness of sin, peace, and everlasting life. Amen.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30 — Read Luke 7:44-50

Your Many Sins of the Old Year are Forgiven

The old year is almost gone. When we look back upon the old year, what do we see? Oh, we see so many sins! Of us Jesus must say, as He said of that woman in our lesson: "Her sins, which are many." And we must answer: "Yes, dear Jesus, we have very many sins. We cannot count them all." We must close the old year with great sorrow and say: "I said, I will confess my transgressions (sins) unto the Lord."

But rejoice! We can close the old year and begin the new year with joy. Jesus says of us as He said of that woman: "Her sins, which are many, are forgiven." Our sins are forgiven,

our many, many sins of the old year. Jesus says to us at the close of 1951 and at the beginning of 1952: "Thy sins are forgiven." Indeed, it will be a happy new year for us. And when some people, perhaps, say: "Who is This that forgives sins also?" then Jesus says to us, as He said to that woman: "Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace." We can begin the new year in peace with God.

And now let us learn to love Jesus much during the new year. She loved Him much, washed His feet with her tears, wiped them with her hair, kissed His feet, and poured oil upon them. And all this she did because her many sins had been forgiven. So we ought to love Him much because our many sins of the old year are forgiven. Let us do all we can for Him, work for Him and serve Him, and give ourselves and all we have to Him. Then it will be a blessed new year.

PRAYER: Thanks, heavenly Father, for forgiving my many sins of the old year and giving me peace for the new. Help me to love Thee much during the new year. Amen.

NEW YEAR, JANUARY 1, 1952

Read Luke 8:1-3

Give Yourself to Jesus During the New Year

The new year has begun. And still Jesus goes through every city and village preaching and showing the glad news of the Kingdom of God. In all the world He still preaches the good news of salvation. He does so through His ministers. He does this also among us. We still have the sweet Gospel, the good story of forgiveness and salvation by faith in His blood. Jesus did not take it from us, although we so often despised it. Often we did not go to church and often did not read our Bible, the Book of God.

Now the Twelve were with Him. They heard Him speak wonderful words. And we are with Him, and we hear the same words. Let us stay with Him during the new year. Certain women were also with Him, women that had sicknesses and also evil spirits (devils). Out of Mary Magdalene went seven devils. Then there were other women: Joanna, Susanna, and many others.

These women loved Jesus and served Him of their things. They helped Jesus and His disciples to get bread and clothing and other things

they needed for their daily life. So let us love Him and also help in getting food and clothing for His ministers, who speak to us of His Cross and so thank them for bringing the Word of Jesus to us. Let us help in bringing these glad tidings to many more.

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, Thou hast given Thyself for me. I give myself to Thee now and forever, now during the new year, and forever in heaven. Amen. J. L. S.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 — Read Luke 8:4-40

Trust in Your Savior

In a story, Jesus teaches us how to hear the Word of God with profit, not forgetting it soon nor letting cares and worries or pleasures choke our faith, but keeping it in mind to do according to it, letting our faith produce a holy life.

We are also told in this chapter that those that hear God's Word and keep it are closer to Jesus than relatives are to one another. And in another story His power over wind and waves is shown by stilling the storm on the lake with a word. He is God's Son, and so nature obeys Him.

One story shows how Jesus cured two poor men that were in the power of the devil, who abused and tortured them. The evil spirits knew that Jesus was God's Son. Yes, the devil knows Jesus and fears Him. We hear of the battle of Jesus with the devil. Jesus, by His suffering and death, paid the price of our sins. The devil has no more hold upon us, but we are free. We see how the promise of God given to Adam in Paradise is being fulfilled by the way Jesus overcame the power of the devil.

Since the devil is defeated, let us not give our life or time or money to him, but let us rather support the Victor, Jesus, and live with Him and for Him, made free from the chains of sin.

Jesus, let us get the fruit of Thy victory. Amen.

N. P. U.

(Guest "Bible Reading" from *Life and Light*)

WHAT MAKES ANGELS HAPPY? "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." Luke 15:10.

THE BEST COUNTRY: "Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord." Ps. 33:12.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

Sixth Chief Part — The Lord's Supper

What Is the Good of This Supper?

One perhaps will say: "Eating a little bread and drinking a little wine, how will that help me?" Remember, it is not only a little bread and a little wine, but in and with the bread and wine we eat and drink the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus. But the question will arise even then: "How will that help a person?" Let Jesus Himself give the answer.

In Christ Jesus We Have Forgiveness

Our Catechism asks: "What is the benefit (good) of such eating and drinking?" Answer: "This is shown us by these words: 'Given and shed for you for the remission (forgiveness) of sins.'" His body and blood He gave and shed on the Cross on Good Friday. He did it not for Himself (He had no sin), but "for you for the remission of sins." Therefore Paul writes in Ephesians 1:7: "In Christ we have redemption (salvation) through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."

The Lord's Supper Seals Forgiveness to Us

Jesus invites His Christians to the Lord's Table and gives them bread, saying: "This is My body, which is given for you." He gives them wine, and He says: "This is My blood, which is shed for you." The Christian then asks: "Dear Lord, why did you on the Cross give your body and shed your blood that we now eat and drink?" Jesus answers: "For you for the remission (forgiveness) of sins." Jesus offers, gives, and seals forgiveness of all sins to everyone that comes trusting His Word, to the Holy Supper. What a comfort! We daily sin much; the devil blames us; the world and our wicked heart tempt us. And now Jesus comes to us in the Holy Sacrament and gives us His body to eat and His blood to drink and says: "For you for the remission of sins." Surely, that ought to strengthen our faith and keep us in the true faith unto the end!

Come Often and Receive This Blessing

Let us not despise this Holy Supper! Let us not carelessly go to the Lord's Supper! At the Lord's Table we get the greatest blessing upon earth, the forgiveness of all sins! Come often, and rejoice in this blessing!

J. L. S.

† TRAUGOTT M. WANGERIN †

(Continued from page 89)

only the Deaf became evident. Throughout the State of Wisconsin the Deaf desired pastoral ministrations, which resulted in the founding of 11 regular preaching stations, in addition to serving the Deaf-Blind of the State as well as the Deaf of St. Paul, Minn., St. Louis, Mo., Saginaw and Bay City, Mich.

Under Pastor Wangerin's leadership Emmanuel Congregation for the Deaf in Milwaukee was organized in 1898, and in April, 1901, the first chapel for the Deaf was dedicated at 1717 W. Meinecke Ave. From this small beginning he saw, during his lifetime, the number of workers among the Deaf increase to nearly 35 ministers serving stations from coast to coast, from border to border, and the number of chapels to 18.

In 1914 he was sent to the West Coast in the interest of Deaf Missions. From Spokane, Wash., down to San Diego, Calif., he founded preaching stations. Today there are five resident missionaries in this area, serving many stations, of which four have their own chapels.

Pastor Wangerin served as editor of "THE DEAF LUTHERAN" for 15 years. As chairman of Ephphatha Conference he was also instrumental in the founding and publication of the *Lutheran Herald* for the Blind and the Deaf-Blind published in Braille and Moon type.

In the year 1926 he resigned from the ministry for reasons of health and pursued a secular occupation until his retirement in 1942.

In 1897 he was united in marriage with Minnie Boecker of St. Louis. She preceded him in death in April of 1940. He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. Ruth Fritz, two sons, Arthur and Robert, one son-in-law, two daughters-in-law, four grandchildren, three sisters, one brother, one brother-in-law, and four sisters-in-law.

He passed away at the home of his daughter and son-in-law early Sunday morning September 9, 1951, after an illness of about one year. Funeral services were conducted September 12 in Sherman Park Lutheran Church. His pastor, B. A. Maurer, chose as his text 2 Timothy 4:7-8, in speaking words of comfort to the bereaved. Pastor Martin Mueller interpreted for the Deaf and also spoke in behalf of Ephphatha Conference.

Traugott M. Wangerin reached the age of 77 years, 10 months, and 19 days. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

M. E. A. M.

GREAT LAKES CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 89)

Fort Wayne Deaf. Pastor Frederking preached; Pastor Scheibert assisted in giving the Lord's Supper to the pastors and members.

The chief item of business at the sessions was the planning of the all-Deaf conference. It was decided to accept the invitation of the Cleveland congregation to have the sessions at their beautiful new chapel. The date probably will be a week end in April.

Plans are to have the Deaf themselves take over much of the leadership. Three laymen will be asked to prepare essays on the subjects "The Christian in His Church Life"; "The Christian in His Home Life"; and "The Christian in His Life Outside Church and Home." Filmstrips relative to each theme will also be shown and discussed. Dr. Salvner will be asked to preach at the Sunday morning service.

Also on the program at the Fort Wayne meeting there were a discussion of the problem of church attendance and a period of sign-language study. The pastors encouraged one another to urge their Deaf groups to take part in the \$10,000,000 "Conquest for Christ" offering and in the offering for chapel furnishings of the Mill Neck Manor School.

The following fields constitute the Great Lakes Circuit: Chicago; Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio; Delavan, Wis.; Detroit; and Indianapolis.

Field Gleanings

Baraboo, Wis. — Robert Vincent O'Keefe was baptized September 15. Mr. and Mrs. Otto Schulze are sponsors for the baby. God gives Christ's forgiveness through His Holy Baptism.

R. M.

Delavan, Wis. — Harry Dawe was killed in an auto accident on September 23. He was studying the Lutheran teachings with Pastor Mackensen and came to our church on September 16. In that service the pastor asked the members to remember Harry in their prayers. May the Lord help us all to understand how quickly we can die.

R. M.

Indianapolis, Ind. — Pastor and Mrs. Kosche are very happy with their new little daughter, Ruth Emilie, who arrived September 24. When the nurse brought her in to Mrs. Kosche the first time, the baby was making the sign "little bit." Maybe she wanted to say, "I'm just a little one, I weigh only 5 lbs. 9 oz." She was baptized according to Jesus' command on October 14. May our Savior keep her in the true faith, which was given her in Baptism.

M. K.

Jackson, Miss. — By the grace of God we were permitted to begin a Bible class for the Deaf of Jackson on Thursday, October 4. This class will be held every Thursday evening in Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 609 Broad Street.

L. L.

Madison, Wis. — The Deaf Lutheran Women's Missionary League had a Mothers and Daughters' Banquet on September 23 with about 40 ladies and a host of excellent waiters and cooks (the men of the congregation). Truly, we had a lovely time, and special thanks to Mrs. Leon Elmer for her work as program chairman and to Mrs. Eva Schrank, who is president of the Madison L. W. M. L. and signed the Book of Ruth from the Bible.

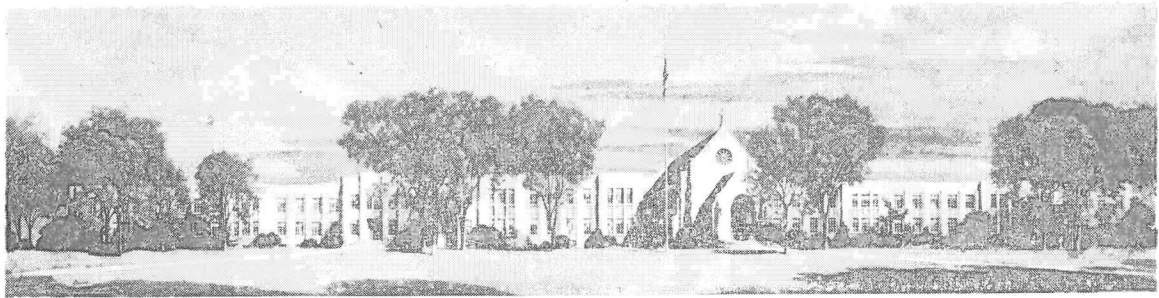
R. M.

Muncie, Ind. — On September 2 Pastor Kosche called on Mr. and Mrs. William Carrier after the church service. The discussion led to Baptism and its power to forgive sins to all who believe it. "Pastor, I am not baptized. May I have Baptism now? It will be three months until we have church again in Muncie," said Mr. Carrier.

We were reminded of the story of Philip and the Eunuch in Acts 8. Since Mr. Carrier confessed faith in the Bible teaching about Jesus and about Baptism, we answered, "Yes, surely." Several other Deaf who were waiting in the pastor's auto were asked to come in to witness the Baptism. At the same time Mr. and Mrs. Roglitz, members of our church in St. Louis, drove up. A very impressive little service was held.

After the service, one of the Deaf, Mrs. Gertrude Davidson, came to the pastor and said, "I, too, am not yet baptized and would like to receive Baptism." The pastor promised to come to her home and to instruct her more and then baptize her also.

Mr. and Mrs. Carrier are now enrolled in the



Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, John A. Klein, Director
6861 Nevada Avenue, Detroit 34, Michigan

Catechism correspondence course, preparing for communicant membership.

Thanks be to God, who works through His Word and Sacraments and draws souls to Himself!
M. K.

Neenah, Wis. — Dorothy Muriel Boettcher was confirmed into Lutheran membership on September 8. After the service a fine lunch was served in the school cafeteria. We welcome Mrs. Boettcher and ask God to make her faith strong.
R. M.

Portland, Oreg. — Mrs. Clara Kreidt and Mr. John Skoglund were united in marriage at Hope Lutheran Church on August 12. Their home is to be in Spokane, Wash. May the Lord bless and keep them.
G. R.

Portland, Oreg. — Mrs. Elizabeth Day passed away at her home on September 14. She was 76 years old. May the Lord give comfort to her loved ones and let them await a reunion in heaven.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Hood are the proud parents of a little girl, whom they named Donna Jean. Congratulations!
G. R.

Spokane, Wash. — On Sunday, September 2, Mr. and Mrs. John Skoglund and Mrs. Moore were in an automobile accident. They are improving, and we give thanks to God for permitting them to stay in His vineyard and continue to work for Him.
G. R.

Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

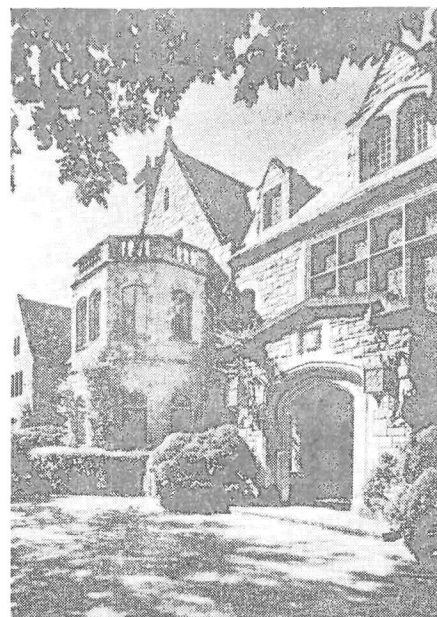
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Rev. Herbert W. Rohe, 983 Braddock Rd., Pittsburgh 21, Pa.
Rev. J. L. Salvner, D. D., 3320 Chowen Ave., N.; Robbinsdale 22, Minn.
Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago 51, Ill.
Rev. Donald E. Simon, 153 East Lane Ave., Columbus 1, Ohio.
Rev. Delbert Thies, 1000 Brownlee Rd., Memphis, Tenn.
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. C. 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.



Lutheran School for the Deaf, Melvin W. Luebke, Headmaster
Box 12, Mill Neck, New York