

# The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,  
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 50

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Number 7

## "EPHPTHATHA"

Along the shores of Decapolis,  
Near Galilee's beautiful sea,  
There walked a man by the sound-  
ing waves,  
But never a sound heard he.

Among the people of Decapolis  
Near Galilee's beautiful sea  
There walked a man 'mid the busy  
thongs,  
But never a word spoke he.

Never a word he spoke to them,  
And never a thing he heard,  
For his ears were closed to every  
sound,  
And his tongue could speak no word.

Down to the shores of Decapolis,  
Near Galilee's beautiful sea,  
There came a stranger from Naza-  
reth,  
A man of miracles, He.

The people flocked from far and  
wide  
The Master, Christ, to greet,  
And among the crowds came the  
silent one  
And knelt at the Master's feet.

And from his lips there fell no  
sound,  
But his eyes looked forth a prayer,  
And over the face of the Nazarene  
came  
A look of pity, rare.

The Man of Sorrows lifted His eyes  
Towards the heavens clear;  
"Ephphatha" — "Be opened!" He  
said,  
And the deaf man was made to hear.

MRS. EDITH CHANDLER  
Knoxville, Tenn.

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 (Serving the Deaf and the Blind)

These ministers preach in more than 275 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at over 50 city and 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.

## THE DEAF LUTHERAN

Official Paper of Lutheran Churches of the Deaf

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Dr. J. L. Salvner (dark suit) with Oklahoma City Group; Pastor Sampson (second from right)

## Dr. John L. Salvner Retires

Doctor John L. Salvner, who will be 82 years old next October and who has served Synod and the Deaf for over 56 years as pastor of the Deaf, founder of scores of preaching stations, Executive Secretary of the Board of Missions to Deaf, has handed in his resignation to the Board. It was accepted with regrets. The Board felt that the request was justified, namely, to excuse him from the further bearing of the heavy load of responsibility that the office brings with it.

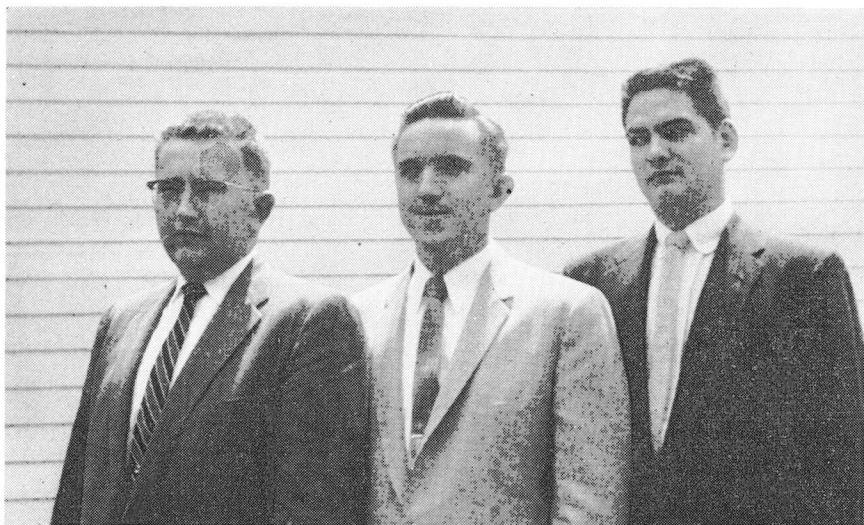
He will continue to serve until his successor has been appointed; and he agreed to the petition of the Board to serve with his counsel and to guide his successor so that he may be well acquainted with the duties of the office and the fields. Besides, he will undoubtedly continue to help here and there.

Dr. Salvner, with his great consecration and deep humility, has left a deep imprint upon the work of our church for the Deaf. And he has made thousands of friends who see his resignation with mixed feelings;

happy, on the one hand, to see him getting deserved rest, but, on the other hand, sorry to see his guiding hand being withdrawn gradually from the leadership. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!"

## New Workers

God has blessed our Deaf Mission with six new workers. Of these, two enter the ranks as called men, and four come as vicars who will work for one year and will then return to the seminaries for the final year of study before becoming graduated ministers of the Gospel. The two that enter the ranks of permanent workers have spent one year of vicarage in our work, and both did outstanding service. The four entering new as vicars also are not untried but have been active as successful helpers of Pastors Wm. Reinking of Saint Louis and Thies of Jacksonville, serving in the Sunday schools and in other work, visiting sick in the hospitals, and assisting in the public church services. Therefore we are very glad to say that all have excellent records, and we pray that God would bless them and their work with the Deaf.



**Candidate H. Graef Between Vicars G. A. Gehrs (left) and F. P. Wagenknecht**

From the St. Louis seminary come Candidate Herman Graef and Vicars Gerhard A. Gehrs and Franklin P. Wagenknecht; from Springfield come Candidate Earl J. Thaler and Vicars Orlin Anderson and LeRoy Mason. We are able to bring pictures of all except Mr. Anderson, but we shall try to show our readers how he looks; but can now say that he is a fine-looking young man.

#### **Candidate Herman Graef**

He is a native of New York state. His home is in Eden, not far from Buffalo. His parents are the Rev. and Mrs. Frederick Graef. Candidate Graef was born at Pascagoula, Miss., where his father formerly was pastor. He studied at Valparaiso University and at Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Ind., before entering the St. Louis seminary. His year of vicarage he spent at Memphis, serving the North Dixie field with evident success. He has a very pleasing personality that has always enabled him to get right into the hearts of the people he served.

His training in the sign language he got from Rev. Reinking at Saint Louis. He was married to a home girl of Eden, N. Y. Irene, his wife, took up the study of the sign language enthusiastically while at Memphis, and this interest on her part in the Deaf and their language is certainly an asset.

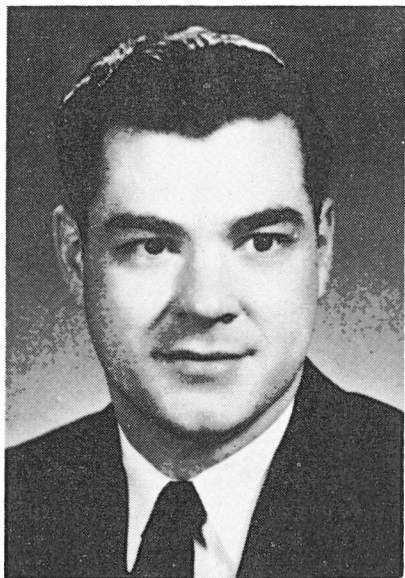
With their son, Kenneth, eight months old, they will occupy the parsonage of Bethlehem Deaf Church at Omaha, for he has been called to become pastor of that congregation and the large field which Pastor Mappes through the many years of faithful service has built up so well.

The Rev. E. Mappes last year suffered a heart attack, which laid him completely low for over six months and from this he by the grace of God is slowly recovering. Holding on until this year's classes were graduated, Pastor Mappes felt that he should give over the heavy burden to younger shoulders and stepped down. He will assist as much as he can in the work in that large field.



### **Candidate Earl J. Thaler**

This face and name is undoubtedly familiar to the readers of the DEAF LUTHERAN, for ever since he came to Concordia Seminary at Springfield some years ago, Mr. Thaler has



**Candidate Earl J. Thaler**

been shown by picture and featured in articles. With great enthusiasm and energy he took up the study of the sign language and participated in the work by serving in the Sunday school at Christ, Jacksonville, as teacher and two years as superintendent. He has the gift to interest others, and having very good organizational ability, he soon was found instructing fellow students in the sign language at the seminary.

His year of vicarage he spent at Oklahoma City and Indianapolis, doing very good work in both areas. He loves the Deaf and is especially fond of teaching deaf children.

He, like Candidate Graef, comes from the vicinity of Buffalo, his home being at Youngstown, N. Y.

He studied at Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Ind., and at our Springfield theological school. He decided to make the work among the Deaf his lifework, which is clearly evident from the fact that also he chose as a life Partner Miss Diane Foster of Indianapolis, a charming member of Peace Lutheran Deaf Church there; and when these lines come to our readers, they will be married, the wedding having been set for June 22 at Emmaus Lutheran (hearing) Church, where her parents are members, and the Editor will have performed the ceremony.

Candidate Thaler, who was of great service to the Editor while helping with the work at Jacksonville, Ill., and who followed Pastor Uhlig at Indianapolis when the latter was transferred to Jackson, Miss., and later to Boston as missionary at large, now follows him to the New England field, where Vicar and Mrs. Louis Jasper have done such fine work this last year. We are sure that the New England area is to be congratulated to have this energetic and untiring worker serving it and that God will bless his work there.

### **Vicar Orlin Anderson**

When our Board and the Executive Secretary were anxiously considering that apparently there would be no sixth man available to fill the six positions that desperately needed workers and only five at first were in sight, it was joyous news indeed that Mr. Orlin Anderson stated he would like to spend his year of vicarage in the work among the Deaf. He had been interested at Springfield in the work and was one of the students who every Sunday journeyed the 35 miles to Jacksonville in the early morning hours to

teach the children of the Lutheran classes of the Illinois School for the Deaf.

Mr. Anderson's home is at Appleton, Minn., from which state so many workers of our church among the Deaf come. Of very pleasing appearance and endowed with fine ability and humility, he will be a wonderful helper for Rev. Donald Simon in New York, where he will spend his vicarage. He looks forward with great expectations to his stay in the great metropolis, where he will have much to do but will have the pleasure of being with the fine people of St. Matthew's and the groups of that area and of New Jersey. He took up his work June 15.

#### **Vicar Gerhard A. Gehrs, Jr.**

It will be a remarkable change for this gentleman to come from the vast plains of North Dakota and the Illinois pancake prairie to the majestic coasts of the billowing Atlantic in sunny Florida, and work for one year as vicar in Miami. He will have much to do but will enjoy his work, being an interested and interesting person.

Mr. Gehrs was born on June 19, 1935, at Crystal Lake, Ill., where his father, Rev. Gerhard A. Gehrs, Sr., was pastor until 1949. Since that time the home of the family is in Crystal, N. Dak., where Rev. Gehrs now is pastor in a rural church not far from the Canadian border. Vicar Gehrs studied at Concordia College, Milwaukee, before going to St. Louis. During his three years at the seminary he studied signs under Pastor Reinking and served by making visits to deaf patients at St. Louis State Hospital and assisting in the services at Holy Cross Deaf Church. During the summer vacations he oc-

asionally helped Rev. W. O. Ferber of Fargo. His interest in the Deaf was kindled when he met a deaf couple at Crystal Lake, Ill., whose children were members of his father's congregation; then he began to realize that it would be a good thing for every pastor to know something of the sign language so as to be able to serve Deaf wherever the pastor may be stationed, and this led him into the sign language class of Rev. Reinking at St. Louis, his interest growing until he now can really use his ability for the Lord.

#### **Vicar Franklin P. Wagenknecht**

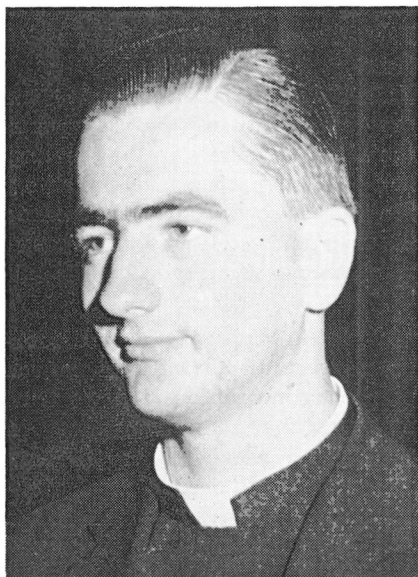
Tall and handsome Vicar Franklin P. Wagenknecht will in this coming year help Rev. Geo. Kraus in the Twin Cities. His home is in Kansas City, Mo., but his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Wagenknecht, formerly lived at Paola, Kans., where he was born in 1934. He received his early training at Kansas City, graduated from high school there, entered St. Paul's College at Concordia, Mo., and then, in 1955, the Saint Louis seminary.

Always interested in the sign language and the Deaf, Mr. Wagenknecht took the opportunity to study the sign language under Pastor Reinking for three years. During his second year as assistant he helped the pastor in the services at Holy Cross Deaf Church, and last year he served the deaf patients at the Saint Louis State Hospital. He will have much to do in the Minneapolis-St. Paul field this next year, but he is able and ambitious to serve and will put his knowledge to good use.

#### **Vicar LeRoy Mason**

Here is the sixth of our new workers. Really it is wrong to call him and the other five new workers, for

they all have been active in the work; but now they are being listed in the ranks and given the deserved



LeRoy Mason

standing of recognized and appreciated laborers in the vineyard of the Lord, Deaf section.

A native of San Pablo, Calif., and for several years a student at Concordia Seminary, Springfield, and a buddy of Mr. Earl J. Thaler, he was a regular when it came to serve the Deaf at Jacksonville. He was never at a loss what to do or how to do it, whether the problem was a mechanical or physical one, or whatever it may be. He and Mr. Thaler and the faithful group of Springfield students did untold good and saved Synod hundreds of dollars in what they did for the Jacksonville, Ill., property besides the good they did as teachers.

He sought out the Deaf in his vacations in California, getting together with Dr. Gaertner and serving there wherever he could. And now he will go to Chicago and serve

the South Side colored group and the stations in northern Indiana and southwestern Michigan. Able and congenial, a man of few words but lots of action, he steps into the field where Vicar Rynearsen has in the last year done so nobly.

Surely, the Mission should be congratulated and the Lord be praised for giving us such a fine group of consecrated young workers. And to the people in the areas where these men will work we would say, that they should receive them with joy and work with them, and surely the Lord's face will be upon ministers and congregations.

**Ephphatha Conference** will meet from Saturday morning, August 23, to Wednesday noon, August 27, at Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn. The Regional Representatives will meet Friday evening, August 22. These dates are final.

**Northwest Lutheran Laymen's Conference** will meet July 18—20 at Camp Lutherland, near Tacoma, Wash.

**Montana Lutheran Lay Conference** will meet August 9 and 10 in Rockhaven Chapel camp in Gallatin Canyon about 20 miles north of Yellowstone Park, near Bozeman, Mont.

**The North Central Regional Deaf Conference** will meet at Milwaukee, Wis., August 9 and 10. In connection with this meeting the 60th anniversary of Emmanuel Deaf Congregation will be commemorated.

**Midwest Deaf Laymen's Conference** meets in Denver September 13—15.

# Great Lakes Regional Conference

The 1958 meeting of the Great Lakes Regional Conference was held at St. Paul's Lutheran Hall in Fort Wayne, Ind., May 24 and 25. The attendance was 80, composed of laymen and women and Pastors Scheibert, Drachenberg, Frederking, Borchardt, Merrell, Dr. Salvner, and Vicar Rynearsen.

Pastor Scheibert and Vicar Rynearsen conducted devotions at the opening of the two sessions on Saturday, and Rev. Merrell was the preacher in the Sunday morning service. Speaking on Simeon's words, Luke 2: 29-32, he showed how Simeon is a good example for us to be diligent in the use of God's Word.

The essays were about the Bible. Rev. Drachenberg told the story how we got the Bible; Mr. A. Scheimann of Fort Wayne showed a deaf layman's approach to the Bible; Pastor N. Borchardt emphasized that the Bible is divinely inspired and what that means, and Mr. J. Anderson of Chicago pleaded for Bible classes everywhere. Rev. Th. Frederking explained the meaning and importance of the preaching-teaching-reaching missions that have been so successful in our circles in recent years. All essays were well received and discussed.

Speaking on "Onward, Christian Soldiers," Dr. Salvner encouraged all to be brave fighters for the truth of God's Word. He was the main speaker at the banquet which was held Saturday evening in St. Paul's hall and which was served by the ladies of St. Paul's Lutheran (hearing) Church and was well attended. Mr. John Riddlebaugh of Columbus

gave a fine magic show as entertainment.

Plans for the meeting next year are to meet at Lutherhaven, near Fort Wayne in the early part of June.

Rev. Herbert Drachenberg, the program chairman, who reported to the DEAF LUTHERAN on the meeting, had a sad experience for which we are all very sorry; thieves broke into his car and stole his brief case, camera, and other articles.

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**St. Louis, Mo.** — There are a number of welcome additions to the roll of names on our list, and we trust and pray that these names stay on the roll up above in heaven. **Mrs. Grace Laughlin** of De Soto on February 23 confessed her faith in the Lord publicly and was confirmed; **George Jones III**, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Jones, Jr., was baptized March 2; **Mr. and Mrs. William Jordan** of Centralia, Mo., were confirmed at Mexico, Mo., March 17; their son **Ronald Jordan** was baptized in the same service; on April 6 three children were admitted into the Kingdom by Baptism by Pastor Reinking: **Patricia Ann Rossell**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Rossell, and **Linda and Kathy Honea**, children of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Honea. May the Lord bless and keep all these people! — The tearing down of Kerr Hall and of the old administration building of the Missouri School for the Deaf meant that the term closed at the end of April instead of at the end of May this year. Many old pupils of Fulton will connect many memories with these buildings. — **Rev. and Mrs. Waldemar O. Neisch** were on March 15 blessed with a baby girl, **Susan Elaine**. Congratulations!



# Our Synod

## Higher Education in Our Synod

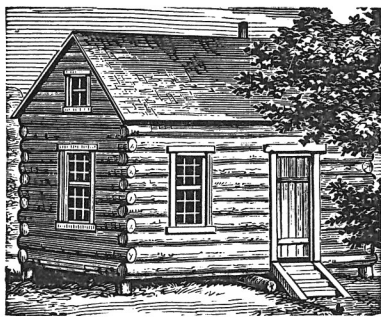
"At Fort Wayne the new Senior College of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was formally dedicated May 30. The Reverend Doctor John W. Behnken, President of Synod, was the preacher. The school has been functioning since the beginning of the present school year last September."

This item had been set for the June issue of the *DEAF LUTHERAN*, but had found no space. It may serve as the introduction to our topic this month.

Our Synod has always been very much interested in education, establishing from the first a program of schools for the young. The schools have frequently been the object of bitter attack; but it is now generally recognized that the educational program of our church provided that firm foundation upon which the structure of healthy growth could rise and stand firmly; and in recent years many congregations of other denominations are establishing schools in which the children are daily instructed in religion and in the secular subjects taught in elementary schools.

But our church has also been definitely committed from the beginning to a program of good schools of higher education beyond the elementary level. When the Saxon immigrants arrived from Germany in the early months of 1839 and settled in Perry County, Missouri,

they built a log cabin and in it established a college at Altenburg. A replica of this stands today on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. The original building still



stands at Altenburg, protected by a canopy; it is annually visited by many tourists, for it is indeed a historic object; for out of that little seed grew an amazing harvest: a grand total of 14,527 workers of Christ's kingdom received a thorough training in the seminaries and colleges which sprang up in our Synod in the 119 years that have elapsed since the log cabin housed the first students. Twenty-three institutions of higher learning, maintained for the express purpose of training pastors and teachers, are found in operation in our synod today, representing a value of over forty-two million dollars and staffed by 419 professors and instructors.

Our Synod as a church maintains only institutions for the express purpose of training preachers and

teachers; for, strictly speaking, the one and only business of a church is to preach the Gospel. Therefore you will find that our Synod officially does not maintain schools of general learning on the elementary, high school, and college levels, just as it does not officially maintain hospitals and orphanages and old people's homes. But it encourages and incites the members of the congregations to be fruitful in many good works. To use an illustration: As a central boiler is fired and produces steam which flows through the various pipes to different places and various purposes, and as a motor in a central power plant produces power which is directed to various machines, so the purpose of a church is to create through the preaching of the Gospel faith in the hearts of people; a faith that is active in good works. These works may be various according to the opportunities for service that develop for the individual Christians.

Thus a congregation of Christians maintains its school and Sunday school and perhaps various organizations which devote themselves to different works of service and mercy. Thus Christians of an area build and maintain a high school, or an orphanage, or a home for old people, or a school for the Deaf, doing as individual Christians many kinds of service in a community, in the nation, and in the world at large. But the power and spirit to do them must come from the love of Christ, which comes from hearing and believing the Word regularly in the churches, as it is preached and taught by the spiritual leaders provided by Synod; and Synod, we say again, is *you* and hundreds of thousands of Christians.

So in the field of higher education in general we have many Lutheran high schools, and more are being established. And we have a fine and highly ranking university at Valparaiso, Ind. In schools of higher learning much damage can be done to believing young Christians by teachers who may not only belittle Christian faith but may positively destroy it by planting doubts into the minds of the students. We need Lutheran colleges.

Our Synod, through the congregations and districts, tries to help students at high schools and colleges and universities to remain true by placing student pastors into the areas, who work very hard to keep the Lutheran students faithful to God and to the church. In order to guide and lead the student pastors effectively in this highly specialized field of work, the Commission on College and University Work has been created.

The Board for Higher Education concerns itself with our synodical seminaries and colleges. It is interested in maintaining the educational institutions of Synod at a high degree of efficiency; and the curriculum, or course of study, of an institution and efficient teaching are its primary concern; in general it supervises the execution of all rules and regulations and resolutions of Synod relating to the educational system or its institutions.

In our next articles we shall tell more about the various institutions of higher learning of Synod.

Among the graduates of Gallaudet College at Washington, D. C., who received their diploma June 9 was Miss Nancy Coston, a member of Peace Lutheran Deaf Church of Indianapolis. Congratulations!





**New York** — Just as though Rev. Simon did not have enough to look after on Sunday, April 27, somebody knocked at the door early that morning; so Pastor Simon had to rush Mrs. Simon to the hospital and then back to conduct his morning service. During the service the hospital notified him that **Frederick Arthur Simon** had arrived and was ready to meet his father too. Congratulations, but what a time to choose for such a visit! But there is much joy at the parsonage, and sisters Martha and Linda especially are very proud and happy to have a brother. — St. Matthew's "lost" a good member when **Miss Dorothy Cadwell**, a member of the choir also, moved to Miami; a farewell party with well-wishes and gifts was given her April 27. But Pastor Gyle down there is very happy and can use this faithful Christian lady very well. — The 45th anniversary of the founding of St. Matthew's was remembered in a service on May 25. Pastor Arthur Bell was the founder.

**Omaha, Nebr.** — Bethlehem Deaf Church and the entire field is happy about the announcement that **Candidate Herman Graef** has been assigned to Omaha. He will become the pastor in charge. Rev. Mappes will continue as pastor; however, being relieved of the heavy administrative duties of this large field, he still will have plenty to do, helping in the work. Mrs. Mappes, too, who has really been working hard in various ways, helping in the instruction of the classes and doing many

other things during the long illness of her husband, is very much relieved and happy. May God bless the coming of the Graefs! — At Sioux City, on March 9, **Mr. Ray Trewin**, age 73, and **Mr. Clyde Nation**, age 70, were received into membership, Mr. Trewin being baptized also. In their honor and in honor of two other recent new members, **Mr. and Mrs. Ardo Beavers**, confirmed last November, a luncheon was served by the ladies of the Sioux City congregation. May God bless the new and old members of Sioux City! — In Omaha, on March 13, the four little **children of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Stafford** were given the blessings of Holy Baptism by Rev. Mappes. The names of the children are **Carolyn Marie, Sandra Kay, Carrol Leroy, Jr.,** and baby **David Dale**; and on March 16 **Roger Dean**, son of Mr. and Mrs. **Emile Schultz**, was baptized; and in Council Bluffs on Easter Sunday **Maria LaVon Strunk**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Strunk, was laid into Jesus' arms in Holy Baptism. God keep them all!

**Chicago, Ill.** — A Saturday school of religious instruction has been started by Vicar Rynearson for deaf children from the Parker and Perry schools. The class meets at Saint Mark's Lutheran Church from 9 to 11 A. M. Saturdays. — On April 19 the fiftieth wedding anniversary of **Mr. and Mrs. Albert Handrock** of Crystal Lake was remembered in a service and reception at Our Savior's Deaf Church. It was also the



Mr. and Mrs. Albert Handrock

80th birthday of Mrs. Handrock, whose eyesight has not been too good. Mr. Handrock is a graduate of the Detroit Lutheran School for the Deaf. Mrs. Handrock was confirmed by the sainted Pastor Arthur Reinke, and both have been faithful members of Our Savior's Deaf Church. — The angel of death made the rounds among the Deaf again: **Mr. Claude Randowe** died of third-degree burns at Fort Wayne April 14 and was given Christian burial by Pastor Scheibert in Adrian, Mich., April 16. At Coopersville, Mich., **Mr. Hintz** died March 22; and **Mrs. Carrie Wilson** and **Mrs. LeRoy Sprague** passed away April 4 at Muskegon and were given Christian burial April 7. "Verily, man at best is vanity!" May God keep us always ready for the call.

**Omaha, Nebr.** — May 4 will long be remembered as a remarkable day for the confirmation service of the class of 1958 of 23 pupils from the

Iowa School for the Deaf and of 13 children from the Nebraska School for the Deaf. Several of the group were baptized by Pastor Mappes before the day of confirmation at their respective schools. About 300 people attended the service, including many parents and relatives of members of the class, coming from far away. Since Bethlehem Deaf Church could not hold such a large audience, we could use Bethany Lutheran Church, two blocks from Bethlehem. Among those present were **Superintendent J. W. Jackson** of the Nebraska School and **Superintendent Lloyd E. Berg** of the Iowa School, who himself drove the large school bus bringing the Iowa members and many older pupils to the service. It was a day of beautiful sunshine and spiritual splendor; may the children ever remember the day and their vows to be faithful.

The names of the class members of the Omaha school are: **Sharon Brazzle**, Omaha; **Gloria Carlburg**, Omaha; **Sharon Greenfield**, Bancroft; **Louise Hageman**, Omaha; **Ellen Haubensak**, Fremont; **Opal Keim**, Walton; **Diana Lawson**, Fremont; **Lily Schelert**, Hebron; **JoAnn Shively**, Omaha; **Robert Hutchens**, Omaha; **William Klentz**, Omaha; **Kenneth Meyer**, Omaha; **Robert Traugh**, Omaha, all of Nebraska.

The Council Bluffs School pupils' names are: **Kathryn Billings**, Des Moines; **Wanda Garrison**, Council Bluffs; **Neita Hilsabeck**, Beaman; **Betty Hircock**, Earlham; **Judith Nicholson**, Oskaloosa; **Joan Robertson**, Des Moines; **Roxanna Walker**, West Des Moines; **Darlene Weeter**, Prole; **Vernon Banks**, Storm Lake; **Ted Beery**, Council Bluffs; **Francis Bourne**, Beaconsfield; **Perry Bul-lard**, Panera; **George Ciha**, Cedar

Rapids; **Carl Leinard**, Greenfield; **Roy Milligan**, Keokuk; **Merle Nolte**, Des Moines; **Lorne Schultz**, Sigourney; **Leo Sebert**, Clarien; **Larry Tierney**, Sioux City; **Frederick Van Trees**, Des Moines; **Ronald Vasey**, Maxwell; **James Weber**, Dike; **William Zimmerman**, Monticello, all of Iowa.

At the Sioux City service on April 13 the two youngest children of **Mr. and Mrs. Donald Haines** were baptized, **Deborah Susan**, born March 2, 1956, and **Carolyn Sylvia**, born September 11, 1957. **Mr. Gordon Bayne** was confirmed in this service. At the service in Lincoln on April 27 **Randy Lee Wiegand**, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Wiegand, was laid into the arms of Jesus in Holy Baptism. May God keep at these new members in His grace and faith. — The mother of **Mr. Wilfred Mau** of Geneva, Nebr., passed away April 17. Our sympathies! Of the fourteen graduates of the Nebraska School for the Deaf this year ten are Lutherans, and ten of the fifteen Iowa graduates are also of our faith.

E. M.

**New York.** — Sunday school teachers put in many hours in the course of a year, and frequently people overlook these services; for the teachers are there before the other people get to the services and have perhaps worked an hour with the children. But in order to teach well they will have put considerable time in preparation for the lesson, another matter often not considered. It is well, then, to do what Rev. Simon did not forget to do in a recent bulletin of his church, namely, to call attention to the faithful services and to thank the teachers. He mentions **Mrs. H. Bergstrand** for the help given weekly by going to the

White Plains school, weekly making the tedious trip from Manhattan, and **Mrs. Pipp**, who spent much time and money driving children to classes, and **Mrs. Brook**, teacher of the elder children's class. Truly, these services are invaluable; and the seed of God's Word, implanted faithfully, brings forth fruit which only eternity will make manifest. Rev. Simon correctly says that when he sees the fine young people of the church, he can clearly see the fruit of the work of the teachers who have labored faithfully for many years. — **Mr. Orlin Anderson** was welcomed with a luncheon June 15 after the afternoon service. The new vicar thus could meet and be met by many of the people of the church.

**St. Louis, Mo.** — We offer our sympathy to **Walter A. Maack**, whose aged father, Wm. Maack of Collinsville, Ill., died suddenly of a stroke. This happened on Sunday, April 27, as Mr. and Mrs. Maack just left the church after the morning service. He slumped just as he was opening the door of the automobile. What a fine death, to step out of the house of God on earth into the temple above! — On May 11 **Mr. and Mrs. Russell Gastreich** were received into Holy Cross Deaf Church by confession of faith, and their daughter **Janet** by transfer from a hearing Lutheran church in the city. — On May 25 the service at Holy Cross Deaf Church was entirely conducted by six students of Concordia Seminary, some leading in the liturgy, hymns, and lessons, namely, Messrs. Graef, Pokorny, Duey, Murray, Gehrs, while Mr. Franklin Wagenknecht preached the sermon. These are of the sign language class of Pastor Reinking. Such a service is an annual event.



## Slaves of Jesus Christ

On the Fourth of July we celebrate the independence of our nation. We rejoice that we are now free from foreign rule and force. And when we think about freedom, we may also rejoice about the freeing of the slaves by Abraham Lincoln's proclamation. As we think of our citizenship and civil liberties, we do not consider ourselves slaves. Nor do we wish to be slaves.

And yet all men **are** slaves — either slaves of sin and Satan or slaves of righteousness and God. St. Paul shows this clearly in Romans 6:17-22: "God be thanked — though ye were the servants [**bondslaves**] of sin, ye became the servants [**bondslaves**] of righteousness. — But now being made free from sin and become the servants [**bondslaves**] of God, ye have your fruit unto holiness." A bondslave is a purchased slave, bought with a price. He is not his own, he belongs completely to his master.

And this is exactly the relationship of every believer to the Lord Jesus Christ: "Know ye not — that ye are bought with a price? Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20). "Thou hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood." (Revelation 5:9)

So, as a **Christian**, I am not free. My talents are not mine, to do with

them as I please. My time is not mine, to use it as I choose. All is His: my spirit is His, my body is His, my mind is His, my family, my house, my ranch, my car, my bank account, my deepfreeze, all my things are His, all I am, all I have is His, and His alone. I am the **bondslave of God!**

And the price God paid for me was high, very high — far too high. I was not worth the innocent life Jesus laid down for me on the cross, the precious blood He shed. But God was not trying to make a profit on this deal. He paid this high, high price because of His great love for me and all men. Why did He love sinful, wicked men so much? This is the mystery of divine love.

So I am His beloved slave. Dare I refuse to serve Him now? No, I am forced by His great love to do His command and wish. Like Paul, we must say: "The love of Christ constraineth us." "Constrain" means pulling at my heart.

When Paul became a Christian, he asked Jesus: "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Have **you** asked Jesus that yet? Are you listening to His answer by studying His Word? Are you regularly refilling your heart with spiritual power by attending to preaching of the Gospel and the Lord's Supper?

AUGUST L. HAUPTMAN



## *Know Your Bible*

### Nahum

The prophet Nahum the Elkoshite lived between 735 and 600 before Christ, some historians placing his dates soon after Isaiah while others figure him to have come later, about the time of Jeremiah. We know nothing about him except that he calls himself the Elkoshite; Elkosh was a small village in Galilee near Capernaum; the church father Jerome, who traveled in Palestine in the early part of the fifth century after Christ, found a village named Helkesai, and came to the conclusion that this was Elkosh, and this has since been assumed to be the place; the name Capernaum means "village of Nahum."

At that time the Assyrian empire was at its height, and it was cruel towards those whom it conquered. Nahum addresses himself against Nineveh, the capital city; evidently that city had fallen away again after Jonah had preached there so effectively, and Nahum, under the name Nineveh, means the entire empire. He foretold its downfall and praises the living God, whose power and majesty would destroy it, and he tells Judah that the Lord will reign, and Judah should ever honor Him. Nineveh was destroyed in 606 B.C. by the Medes and Chaldeans, or Babylonians.

The book has only three chapters, but it brings a forceful message. Nahum must have been a fiery, in-

spiring preacher; "The Lord is slow to anger and great in power and will not at all acquit the wicked; the Lord hath His way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of His feet" (chapter 1:3). He prophesied chap. 2:6 that "the gates of the rivers shall be opened and the palace shall be dissolved"; and when the city of Nineveh fell in 606 B.C., the capture was aided by the flood which suddenly came in the River Tigris. Every line in his three chapters paints a vivid picture; when we read these verses, we must read them slowly and picture to ourselves the scenes which he so clearly and briefly sets before us.

Utter destruction would come to Nineveh because of the sins of the people and the rulers. It is the story that holds true of all nations of all times, and it is a sermon to all generations. When Alexander the Great three hundred years later captured the entire then known world, the place where Nineveh had stood could not with certainty be pointed out to him. Nineveh was not better than "populous No" (chap. 3:8), the Egyptian city Thebes which was considered the strongest city of that age but was destroyed in 663 B.C. So Nahum, little known and little read, preaches a powerful sermon; "O earth, earth, earth, hear the Word of the Lord!" Jeremiah 22:29.



## Devotions

### "Light for Your Way"

#### Bible Readings for July 1958

July 1 — John 1:1-18

July 2 — Luke 1:57-80

July 3 — Luke 2:1-21

July 4 — Matthew 2:1-23

July 5 — Luke 2:41-52

**July 6** — Luke 3:1-22

July 7 — Luke 4:1-15

July 8 — John 1:29-51

July 9 — John 2:1-12

July 10 — John 3:1-21

July 11 — John 4:1-42

July 12 — Luke 4:16-30

**July 13** — Matthew 4:12-25

July 14 — Mark 2:13-17

July 15 — Luke 6:12-31

July 16 — Matthew 6:1-23

July 17 — Matthew 6:25-34

July 18 — Matthew 7:15-29

July 19 — Matthew 10:1-23

**July 20** — Matthew 8:1-27

July 21 — Luke 7:11-23

July 22 — Matthew 13:1-23

July 23 — Matthew 13:24-52

July 24 — Luke 5:17-26

July 25 — Luke 8:40-56

July 26 — Mark 6:30-44

**July 27** — Matthew 12:1-24

July 28 — Matthew 16:1-23

July 29 — John 6:41-71

July 30 — John 7:1-31

July 31 — John 7:37-52

"Thy Word is truth." John 17:17

## BIBLE QUIZ

Did the soldiers that destroyed the wicked city have a traffic jam on Broadway in Nineveh as the army tanks speeded with flashing lights, as some modern Bible teachers think? Nahum 2:4.

How did Caleb reward Othniel for capturing the strong city of Kirjathsepher? Joshua 15:17.

Does God really expect us to obey every little city ordinance, such as to cut weeds, get a dog license, not to throw litter on the street, etc.? 1 Peter 2:13.

Who is the oldest and strictest schoolmaster in the world? Galatians 3:24.

How can a person become a pillar in the house of God? Revelation 3:12.

When Ezekiel in a vision saw twenty-five priests worshiping in the temple with their faces toward the east, what were they worshipping? Ezekiel 8:16.

What did David prophesy that the drunkards would do about Jesus? Psalm 69:12.

What load does God lay upon us every day, and we bless Him for it? Psalm 68:19.

Which two prophets encouraged the builders of the second temple very much after the people had returned from Babylon? Ezra 6:14.