

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

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Number 8



Rev. Mappes and Confirmation Class of Iowa and Nebraska Schools for Deaf, Omaha, May 4
With great effort Pastor Mappes, weakened by a severe heart attack in 1957, carried on and
completed the instruction of these classes

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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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Your Country

Boys of the neighborhood are exploding firecrackers and talk about the fireworks display that an organization of former soldiers will give in the evening of July 4, Independence Day in the United States of America. The people in the Land of the Maple Leaf celebrate Dominion Day on July 1, remembering that July 1, 1867, Canada became a self-governing British Dominion. On July 14 the French people fly the blue-white-red-striped flag and remember the storming of the fortress of the Bastille, used as a prison. It was destroyed July 14, 1789, in the French Revolution. This act resulted in the formation of the French Republic. So the month of July reminded us of the coming of political and national liberty to the citizens of the U. S. A. and other nations.

This earth has many nations, and almost all of its surface is held by some established government which rules the bodies of its citizens. Governments exist by God's will, as St. Paul writes Romans 13:1, 2. In the Revised Standard Version these verses read: "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority [government] except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

But these governments, or "authorities," rule a person's body only; they can arrest and imprison and even destroy the body by execution, for (verse 4) "he beareth [has] the sword not in vain; for he is the servant of God to execute His wrath upon the wrongdoer." So governments have the power of capital punishment: the electric chair, gas chambers, firing squad, gallows, or

Rev. Wm. Reinking Called

The Board of Missions to Deaf has extended the call to succeed the retiring Executive Secretary, the Rev. John L. Salvner, D. D., to the Rev. William F. Reinking, pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Deaf Church, St. Louis. The latter has not as yet made his decision.

the block for beheading. We may even call armies and weapons a sword whereby invading enemies are destroyed or policemen kill criminals in defending citizens.

The Commandment "Honor thy father and thy mother" tells us to respect, obey, honor, or highly value, our superiors in home, school, church, and state. So our national and state and community officials should be respected, and the laws should be obeyed, or our bodies are in danger of fines and punishments.

But man has not only a body, but also he has a soul which was kindled by God in Adam when He "blew into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7). And now man cannot be totally destroyed. Though the body may die and be killed, the soul will not die nor be destroyed. For Jesus says Matthew 10:28: "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear Him who can destroy both body and soul in hell." And on the Last Day the immortal soul will be united again with the

body in the resurrection of all flesh. Man will live again. (John 5:28, 29)

While man's body on this earth is under the government of the authority in whatever nation he lives, his soul is not under the authority of any government on earth. His soul is under God's authority. No government can tell you what to believe and what to think. God can. Man's soul originally was sinless. God made Adam and Eve in His image. They knew what God wanted; they did what God wanted; they were perfectly happy. Because their soul was right with God, they were children of God and belonged to God's kingdom.

But trouble came. Among God's angels came a rebellion, and Satan fell and soon deceived man, and man fell and became a child of the devil. And the sad thing is that after Adam had fallen, all children of Adam—that means everybody that ever was born—were born in sin. Jesus told Nicodemus (John 3:6): "That which is born of flesh [from sinful human parents] is flesh [is a sinful human being]." So Saint Paul says of himself and all Christians, "We were by nature the children of wrath, even as others" (Ephesians 2:3). Original sin, which is the inherited sinfulness of our heart, as well as the actual, or acted, sins—when man thinks wrong, speaks wrong, does wrong or fails to do the right thing when he should—all this makes him a citizen of the devil's kingdom; and it has nothing to do with what country he calls his native land according to his body.

Out of this spiritual kingdom of darkness there is no escape except through the way which God estab-

lished. Immediately after the Fall, God said to the devil: "I will put enmity between thee and the woman and between thy seed [children] and her Seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel" (Genesis 3:15). God promised that Jesus, the Seed [child] of the woman, would destroy the power of the devil. And Adam and Eve and all believers of the Old and the New Testament thus escaped from the kingdom of darkness and were transplanted into the kingdom of light. Faith in Christ and His work makes us share the benefits of Jesus' work. According to my body I am an American citizen, and July 4, 1776, was the Independence Day that assured me my political liberty, but according to my soul, as a believer in Christ, Good Friday is my spiritual Independence Day, for then Jesus paid for the sins of the whole world and destroyed the power of Satan.

So when you speak of your country, always remember that you really have two countries that claim you. One is the earthly country, the other is either the heavenly country or, sad to say, the kingdom of darkness. Many people are very shortsighted and forget this, but closing our eyes to the truth does not change facts.

So while we thank God for the blessings of our country on earth, we say with Paul (Colossians 1:12-15): "Giving thanks unto the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

A Serious Accident

Tuesday, June 17, Rev. Ervin Oermann's family had a serious accident. Timmy, the older son, aged six, was seriously burned in a picnic fire, and Pastor Oermann received bad burns in rescuing him. Of Timmy's skin area, 55 per cent is covered with second- and third-degree burns and will require skin grafts on body and right arms. In beating out the fire the father's hands and lower arms were badly burned, but the wounds are healing satisfactorily, and he will be able to sign again before long. Dr. Salvner came to his assistance in this emergency, preaching in Austin, Houston, and San Antonio during July.

The accident happened on the seventh wedding anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. Oermann. The family had accompanied him on his monthly preaching trip to Mississippi and Louisiana, and on June 16 he had conducted the last service of the circuit at New Orleans. The next day they stopped at a park in Ville Platte, La., for an afternoon swim and picnic lunch. Timmy, the older of their two sons, put a piece of charcoal on the fire. But this, having been saturated with gasoline, caught fire in his hand, and suddenly his whole body from the waist up was aflame. The father pulled Timmy from the fire, trying to smother the fire with his body and beating it out with his hands. A nearby picnicker took them to the Ville Platte hospital. After spending 12 days there, the family could continue their way home.

The Lord be thanked that no lasting serious aftereffects seem to be threatening. May He grant both complete and speedy recovery. But

this incident again shows that one cannot be too cautious about fire, and even picnic fires can cause very serious situations, especially when volatile materials are involved.

The Walther League, the youth organization of our church, reports that there are now 4,375 societies with an average membership of 20 people. These are young people, frequently with few dollars because they have their regular family and church obligations; but still their annual budget demands almost \$80,000, and they gathered \$70,000 for 1957—58; but their principles and activities rank high, and their publication, *The Walther League Messenger*, is a worthy piece of literature.

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.

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.

A Month of Travels

By DR. J. L. SALVNER

For March 2 we were scheduled for Omaha to preach in the morning at the Iowa School and Bethlehem Congregation of the Deaf. In the evening we held service with a deaf group in Council Bluffs. Monday we preached in Fremont, Nebr., Tuesday and Wednesday we instructed classes in both the Nebraska and in the Iowa School, Brother Mappes taking care of the confirmation classes in both schools.

April 20 we again were on the way, this time to Oklahoma. Here we were scheduled to address five zone rallies of the LWML on our blessed work among the Deaf, April 21—25, in the cities Guyom, Alva, Blackwell, El Reno, Tulsa. We spoke to about 500 ladies of the LWML, and we enjoyed telling them of God's blessings on our work. From Tulsa we went to Oklahoma City with Pastor Sampson. We preached there the following Sunday, April 27. Monday we were on our way to St. Louis, where the Board of Assignments was to meet April 29—30. Thanks to God, two candidates and four vicars were assigned to us for our Mission. For a short trip we then went to Springfield to discuss certain matters. Then, on our way to Des Moines, we stopped off in Kansas City and spent some time with Pastor Ferber, the regional representative of our Midwest region. Both of us were to attend a meeting of the church council of Calvary Congregation of the Deaf on Sunday evening, May 4. Monday we returned to our home.

However, May 17 we were on our way again. We traveled to Cleve-

land, where we were to preach for the mission festival of Christ Church for the Deaf. Had a very good attendance at the service. Monday we visited the schools where P. Frederking has 30 children enrolled in religious classes. Tuesday we departed for Detroit to confer with Dr. Klein concerning social welfare work among the Deaf. Friday we boarded the train for Fort Wayne, where the Great Lakes Regional Conference was to meet May 24 and 25. In this meeting the inspiration of the Bible was discussed according to a paper read by Brother Borchardt. Two deaf men spoke on "The Deaf Layman's Approach to the Bible," and P. Frederking spoke on PTR. A good number of Deaf from the various fields of this region were in attendance. I am sure everyone profited thereby. Then on to Boston to spend a week with Vicar Jasper. We visited several schools in that area. God is richly blessing our schoolwork. At the Hartford School we shall have between 30 and 40 in religious classes this fall. Classes meet every Wednesday morning from 8:45 A. M. to 12 noon. A wonderful arrangement! Thursday, May 29, we started out by car for Maine. Our first stop was Bangor, where Vicar Jasper had a brief meditation on TV in the morning and services for the Deaf in the evening. Saturday, May 31, services were held in Lewiston, Maine. Sunday, June 1, we went to Portland, where the new school for Deaf is situated on Baxter's Island in Portland Bay. Sunday afternoon classes met at the school, members of the Lutheran Church assisting our worker. We are grateful to these good people. On the way we made several calls, also at the Ban-

gor State Hospital. It is a blessing that we can bring the glorious Gospel also to patients in state hospitals. After the evening service we started out for Boston, arriving there at 9:45 P. M. The round trip totaled 639 miles by car. Monday, June 2, we visited the Deaf School at Randolph, where three classes were conducted. Here, as well as in the Horace Mann School in Boston, several Lutheran ladies assist our worker in instructing. Hearty thanks to them. God bless them for it. Wednesday, June 4, we again went to the Hartford, Conn., Deaf School. In the afternoon we were on our way to Pocono Crest, Pa., a wonderful summer resort, where the Eastern Seaboard Regional Conference was to meet. Stopped off in New York for a brief stay with Pastor and Mrs. Simon. The next day to Pocono Crest. Registration on Friday and sessions on Saturday morning. Papers were read by Deaf on "The Last Things." Sunday the Bible class was conducted by Pastor Hoemann of Pittsburgh, and Vicar Jasper preached the sermon in a service attended by a large group of Deaf from the various fields. In the afternoon we returned to Newark with the Gerholds, and the next day we boarded the plane for Toledo, where we stayed with P. Corl of Oak Harbor, Ohio, who is doing fine work among the Toledo Deaf. June 12 we returned to "Home, Sweet Home" after a month on the road. It was a joy to go from place to place and to see how the good work goes on.

Very likely this will be our last trip as Executive Secretary of our Board of Missions to the Deaf, for May 12 we tendered our resignation after 57 years of service among

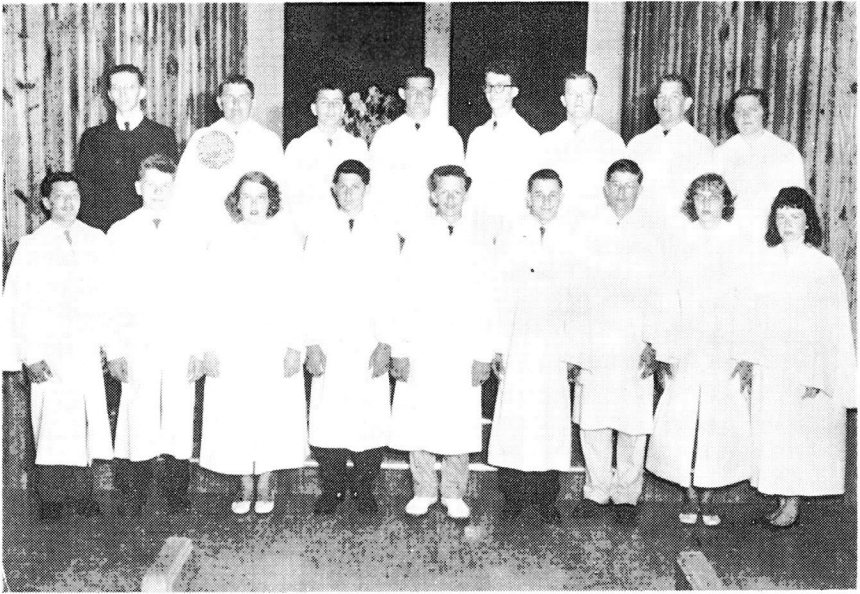
God's silent people. Thanks be to Him for all His goodness and mercy to me all these years!

Memorable Days in Central Illinois

In a special service Sunday, May 18, sixteen students from the Illinois School for the Deaf, pictured in this issue, were received into communicant membership of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Jacksonville. Front row, left to right: **Ronald Wexell, Irvie Summers, Gloria Rosenwinkel, Earl Moore, Warren Miller, Rodney Miles, Charles Chaplin, Darlena Allison,** and **Elaine Lantz.** Back row, left to right: **Pastor Delbert I. Thies, Dale Wentz, Richard Manka, Raymond Higdon, Richard Allison, Roger Adams, Robert Higdon, Judy Hansen.**

Parents and relatives from various cities of the state came to witness the confirmation ceremony and the Holy Communion service for the new members. Sunday school attendance awards were then distributed to sixty-two children with near-perfect attendance records. At noon a group of two hundred people enjoyed a picnic on the church lawn, being served by members of the Sunday school staff and congregation.

And so, another year of activities at Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf at Jacksonville comes to a close for the more than 120 pupils enrolled in the Sunday School. Christ Chapel is located across the street from the Illinois School for the Deaf and offers an excellent opportunity for pastor and congregation to serve the spiritual needs of these little lambs and sheep. Eleven pupils of the



Illinois School for Deaf Children Confirmed May 18 at Jacksonville by Pastor Thies

graduating class of seventeen attend Lutheran services. Pastor Thies was invited to be the baccalaureate speaker May 25.

The Sunday school staff for the year was the consecrated group from Springfield, most of whom are enrolled in our theological seminary and preparing for the holy ministry. Mr. Earl Thaler (called to the Boston field) served as superintendent, and the following taught classes: Orlin Anderson, Audrie Avery, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bennett, Walter Busby, Dorothy Engebrecht, Rodney Funk, James Herzog, Donald Hinz, LeRoy Mason, Arno Melz, Walter Rasch, Pastor Delbert Thies.

Pastor Thies, who has served the Central Illinois field since June 1956, when the Rev. N. P. Uhlig retired as pastor, travels to Springfield twice a week to teach the sign language at Concordia Seminary. The course is an elective and offers two hours

credit to all who take it. A class of nine did well this past semester.

Mission stations in the field are at Springfield, Bloomington, Peoria, Decatur-Mattoon, Quincy-Hannibal. Attendance and interest has been good. Pastor Thies reports three baptisms at **Springfield** on Easter Sunday: **Miss Sylvia Rodgers, James and Roger Meiseman**. Funeral services were conducted May 20 for **Michael Farris**, aged 8, who was killed when hit by a car while home for the weekend from I. S. D. At **Peoria** on May 11 a special Mother's Day service was planned, and a beautiful hydrangea plant was given to the oldest mother present, **Mrs. Myrtle Mayall** of Canton, Ill. The **Bloomington** group plans a July picnic at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Friday of Anchor, Ill. **Mrs. Loren Betts** of **Bowling Green, Mo.**, passed to her eternal home May 9 and was given Christian burial May 10.



Field gleanings

Sioux Falls, S. Dak. — On April 27 there was a very impressive confirmation service at Trinity Lutheran Deaf Church. Two girls, **Janice Eileen Graf** and **Kathy Kroll**, renewed their baptismal vow



Pastor Robert F. Cordes Between Kathy Kroll (left) and Janice Eileen Graf

and were confirmed. Their confession of faith clearly made a deep impression upon the congregation. Some in attendance had come a distance of over 200 miles. Pastor Cordes spoke on John 8:31, 32, impressing upon all the privilege and blessings of faithful use of God's Word. Kathy Kroll has a good percentage of hearing and good ability to teach others; Janice Graf is a top-notch scholar having the highest

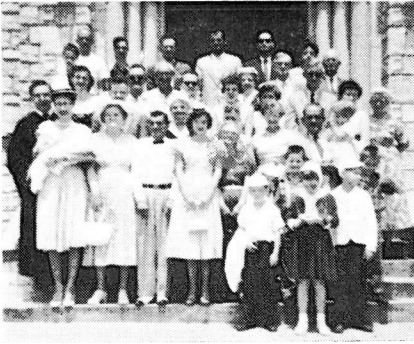
rating in the School for the Deaf. May they continue steadfast until they meet their Savior.

Oklahoma City — During the last week of April Dr. Salvner spoke at five rallies of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League in Oklahoma, speaking every day in the interest of the Missions to Deaf. Then he spent the weekend in Oklahoma City, preaching in the Sunday morning service. After the service a dinner in his honor was held at Rev. Sampson's home, given by the ladies of the deaf group. — On May 18 **Mr. Garland Brown** of Oklahoma City was added to the number of members by receiving Holy Baptism in the service held at Oklahoma City in our chapel. — On May 23 at Oklahoma City **Arthur Leon Smith** and **Addie Mae Jackson** were united in marriage by Pastor Sampson. May God bless this union.

Memphis, Tenn. — Two inspiring services were held on Pentecost Sunday, May 25, one at Peace and one at Grace Congregation with a total attendance of 59 people. In the



Pastor Bottlinger with Peace Lutheran Deaf of Memphis



Grace Lutheran Deaf of Memphis

service at Grace **Theresa Sophie Bottlinger**, born April 26, was received into the kingdom of grace by Holy Baptism, administered by her father, Pastor Bottlinger. May the Good Shepherd keep His lamb safely in His bosom. — Grace Church club purchased an adding machine for the use of the congregation.

Denver, Colo. — The Rocky Mountain Newsletter of Bethel Deaf Church brings the news that **Marianne Sue Dietz**, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Dietz, was laid into the arms of Jesus on May 11 in Holy Baptism, performed by Pastor Bailey. It informs us furthermore that on June 1 **Miss Glenda Drake** and **Mr. Jim Kluver** were married by Pastor Bailey and that June 29 is the date of the wedding of **Miss Sigrid Ellram** of Minneapolis and **Student William Ludwig** at Minneapolis. Congratulations and best wishes to all of these, and may God bless them all! — June 8 the recently acquired parsonage was dedicated, open house following the service. May the home be the scene of many happy years for the pastor and his family.

Indianapolis, Ind. — **Miss Diane May Foster**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lyndell H. Foster of Indianap-

olis, was united in marriage with **Rev. Earl J. Thaler** at Emmaus Lutheran Church Sunday afternoon, June 22, in a double ring ceremony. The Rev. H. L. Kruckeberg conducted the service, giving an address. Pastor N. P. Uhlig performed the rite and interpreted the sermon, and Mrs. Audrie Avery of Springfield, Ill., interpreted the hymns. A reception at the home of the bride, after the service, concluded the enjoyable and beautiful afternoon. Rev. and Mrs. Thaler left for Youngstown, N. Y., his home, where the couple awaited July 6. On that day Candidate Thaler was ordained at St. John's Lutheran Church by the Rev. E. J. Riemer, Candidate Herman Graef of Eden, N. Y., interpreting the service. Pastor Thaler and his bride have now gone to his field of labor, the New England area. He will serve Boston and Worcester, Mass., Hartford, Conn., Portland and Bangor, Maine. In this territory the work with deaf children in several schools and with the large adult Deaf population of the area will offer him excellent opportunities to use his fine talents. May God bless the newlyweds abundantly and crown Pastor Thaler's labors in the New England field with success.

New York — June 1 **Frederick Arthur Simon**, son of Pastor and Mrs. Simon, was laid into the arms of Jesus in Holy Baptism by his father at St. Matthew's, and on June 29 the **infant daughter** of **Mr. and Mrs. Jay Dee Grant** was baptized by him at St. Mark's. — June 28 Pastor Simon united in marriage **Charles Rancke** and **Mrs. Elizabeth Halligan**. May God's blessings rest upon all the newly baptized and the newlyweds. — 17.95 per cent

of the welfare budget of the Atlantic District is allotted to the Lutheran Friends of the Deaf who maintain Mill Neck Lutheran Deaf School. The amount thus allotted to the Mill Neck School amounts to \$35,000. We must understand that an allotment depends upon the actual gathering of the funds during the year. Let us hope that the budget is met, so that all allotments can be paid. For these welfare agencies need the funds and operate on closely figured margins. — During the months April through June Pastor Simon conducted 43 services, attended by 837 worshipers, and a total of \$2,321 was gathered for the Lord's treasury.

St. Louis, Mo. — Holy Cross Deaf Congregation enjoyed the services of **D. Pokorny, Wm. Marten**, and **D. Murray** during the last school year. These assisted Pastor Reinking in his work with the Deaf, having taken to the sign language very eagerly and well. All these received their bachelor of arts degree in June at Concordia Seminary. — Edgar Boxdorfer, the father of one of our members, **Robert Boxdorfer**, passed away May 30 after having been ill with a heart ailment for three years. — Holy Cross Deaf Congregation being a member of the English District of our church, **Pastor Reinking** and **Archie Marshall** attended the convention of that District at Fort Wayne, Ind., June 23 to 27. Such a session always means a long grind for the interpreting persons; but our pastors gladly take members to the various conventions and meetings of our hearing brethren and interpret the entire sessions, for in such meetings our members learn very much of the extent and work of our church.

Newark, N. J. — "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," said Jesus, and so Christians obey His command. At Hackensack, on May 18, Pastor Gerhold baptized **Holly Robin Bedford**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Bedford, **Norma Jean Driscoll**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson Driscoll, and **Nicholas Louis Zilocchi, Jr.**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Zilocchi. On May 25 **Mrs. Hazel C. Beyer**, wife of August Beyer, was received into the church by Holy Baptism. And at Trenton, N. J., on June 15 six children of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Pierce received the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost. They are: **Alice Lena, Loretter Ella, Leon Moses, Jeff Davis, Albert Cecil**, and **William Wesley**. May God keep His children by His grace!

Sioux City, Iowa — **Mr. and Mrs. Ardo Beavers** were accepted as members of Peace Lutheran Deaf last November. An accompanying cut shows Pastor Mappes instructing Mr. Beavers, who was deaf and became blind six years ago. Both were eager and faithful students during their instruction and gave a fine account of their knowledge



Pastor Mappes instructing Ardo Beavers, who is deaf-blind, and Mrs. Beavers

of Christian doctrine when they were accepted into full membership. Handicaps do not hinder earnest Christians that love their Savior in making hard but blessed efforts to know God's will better. Such people perhaps get greater satisfaction than those to whom learning comes easier. May the Lord bless and keep Mr. and Mrs. Beavers!

Omaha, Nebr. — Rev. Herman Graef of Eden, N. Y., who was on July 13 ordained to the holy ministry by his father, the Rev. Frederick A. Graef, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Eden, arrived at Omaha with Mrs. Graef and their son, Kenneth Earl, and was installed as pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Deaf Congregation on July 20. On account of the limited seating capacity of Bethlehem Church the service was held in the afternoon in the neighboring Bethany Lutheran Church. The Rev. Herbert R. Brase of Bennington, Nebr., Visitor of the circuit to which the deaf congregation belongs, installed Pastor Graef. Pastor Alvin E. Ferber of Kansas City, regional representative of the Board of Missions to the Deaf in the area, preached the sermon. Several pastors of the vicinity assisted in the rite of installation. The service was interpreted by Pastors Mappes and Ferber. After the service a reception for Rev. and Mrs. Graef was held in the fellowship hall of Bethany Church. Pastor Graef assumes the work of the vast field as its pastor. Rev. E. Mappes will continue to serve as assistant, the very severe heart attack of last year demanding that he carry a lighter load and yield the heavy responsibilities to younger shoulders. He and Mrs. Mappes have moved from the parsonage to

2811 N. 66 Ave., Omaha 4, Nebr. Consideration of the many years of faithful service of Pastor Mappes and the installation of their new pastor brought very many Deaf from the entire field to Omaha on July 20; for they wanted to thank Pastor Mappes for his long years of service and wish him further years of useful service and to welcome Rev. and Mrs. Graef. May God bless pastors and members of the flock that is scattered over the western part of Iowa and Nebraska.

Rochester, N. Y. — Palm Sunday, March 30, seven members were welcomed into the fold of the Lord at Alpha Church of the Deaf in Rochester, N. Y. **Dorman Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. John Eustis, Miss Irene Groat, Miss Linda Sickler, and Mr. and Mrs. LaVerne Sickler.** Miss Groat, Mrs. Eustis, and Mr. Sickler received Holy Baptism.

It is interesting to note that Mr. and Mrs. Sickler are the hearing parents of Linda. They are to be congratulated for sacrificing the pleasures of hearing services so that their family can be united in worship and be members of one church. Mrs. Sickler was formerly a member of the Episcopal church in their home town, Pittsford, N. Y., which is about six miles from Rochester.

Also of interest is that Mrs. Eustis is the daughter of Chief Clinton Rickard, a prominent citizen from the Tuscarora tribe near Sanborn, N. Y. The Eustises were married a year ago by the pastor.

Others who have recently been received into membership in Alpha Church are: **Mr. Kent Fenley** by transfer from Christ Lutheran Church of Cleveland, Ohio; **Miss Barbara Coulston** by transfer from Zion Lutheran Church of Harris-

burg, Pa.; and **Mrs. Florence Mortimer**, a deaf-blind lady who is an avid reader of our *Lutheran Messenger for the Blind*. We must thank our faithful co-worker, Pastor Schroeder, for his help in carrying out the instruction of Mrs. Mortimer.

Others in the Rochester field were confirmed on May 25 and 26. On the 25th, in Buffalo, two ladies were confirmed: **Mrs. Roy Bauer**, who was also baptized; and **Mrs. Carl Wolfe**, who with her husband travel to our Buffalo services from Port Colborne, Ontario, Canada.

Chicago, Ill.—On June 7 **Mrs. Maria Lathrop** was found dead in bed at the Indiana Home for the Deaf at Brookston, Ind. For years she was a faithful attendant at our services, partaking regularly of Holy Communion and contributing her widow's mite to the church. She fell asleep on the night of June 6 to awake in heaven. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" (Ps. 116:15).—**Mr. Russell Calvert** is a new resident at the home. He has expressed desire for full membership with our group.

O. C. SCHROEDER

Jacksonville, Ill.—With great regret Jacksonville, Ill., bids farewell to the Broeckers who have left this city for West Trenton, N. J. **Mr. Clarence Broecker**, while teacher at the Illinois School for the Deaf, was of great service to Christ Lutheran Deaf Church, serving as president and in other offices and being the hymn signer of the congregation. He has accepted a teaching position at the New Jersey School for the Deaf. We wish the Broeckers well. May they be of great help in the new location, to Rev. Gerhold, who undoubtedly is very happy to have

them come; and Betty Broecker with her two children will surely be glad to be only about 70 miles from her home in Vineland, N. J.

Mrs. Grace (Ennen) Hefley, aged 63, the wife of Lawrence Hefley of Hardy, Iowa, passed away in her sleep the morning of June 24 and was given Christian burial by Pastor L. M. Stacy June 26.—Another Iowan, **Tommy Attwood**, aged 23, was killed in an auto accident near Iowa City, Iowa, at 2:30 A. M. on June 15. Pastor Stacy was not informed of the accident until after the funeral. Often hearing relatives of deaf people, especially if the hearing people are of a different faith, forget to notify the pastor of the single deaf person of the family; so it is well that deaf folks instruct the hearing relatives not to forget in case of emergencies.

On May 30 a daughter was born to **Rev. and Mrs. Robert Bauer** of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, bringing joy to the home of this admirable couple. God bless the child and the home!

Marvin Thoreson of Washburn, Wis., informs us that his deaf brother, **Ralph Thoreson**, passed away some time ago, date not stated, and was given Christian burial from Christ Lutheran Church, Washburn, Rev. A. Seehase officiating.

On May 18 the **Jesus Lutheran Deaf Chapel**, 1307 Newton St., Austin, Tex., was dedicated. These headquarters, right across from the campus of the Texas School for the Deaf, will make Pastor Oermann's

work with the children of the Lutheran class more effective.

Rock 'n' Roll, according to a British expert on dancing, is "basically the rhythm of tribal group dancing." In other words, uncivilized tribes like and generally practice rhythm dances, and when young people of civilized America and other countries madly and for hours dance this thing, they show that the instincts and actions of uncivilized tribes are present in so-called civilized nations also. God indeed gave sex instincts when He created man, and the sex instinct in itself is not a wrong or a low instinct. But when abused and degraded, it is filthy. And the excitement and occasional outbursts of wild rioting — with destruction of properties that our press reports from time to time in connection with Rock 'n' Roll —

indicate how emotionally upsetting this form of exercise is. If St. Paul were standing with a group of young Christians and watched with them the wildness of such a dance, he would probably say to them: "Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." (Philippians 4:8)

Miss Nancy Coston of Indianapolis and **Jerry Taylor** of Nevada, Iowa, both graduates of Gallaudet College, Class '58, will be joined in marriage at Indianapolis August 23, Rev. Gene Merrell, officiating. They will make their home in Ogden, Utah, where Mr. Taylor will be coach at the Utah School for the Deaf.



Habakkuk

This little book of three chapters seems insignificant among the 66 books of our Bible. But it contains some words, quoted by Saint Paul in Romans 1:17, "The just shall live by faith." Those were the words which helped Dr. Martin Luther when he was torn by inward struggles about the way to salvation after he had tried by self-denial and torturing to find peace with God through his own works. There in the cloister Staupitz, his superior, told him that his own efforts were not sufficient and quoted

the verse "The just shall live by faith." Faith in what Jesus has done for us, and trust in God's love and mercy, that alone can give us the peace that comes from the sure knowledge that our sins are forgiven. The only right answer to the question of salvation is that we are justified by grace, for Christ's sake, through faith.

Habakkuk lived in the time when Jeremiah and Zephaniah lived, when the Chaldeans, who eventually destroyed Judah, were coming. So he labored between 650 and 627 B. C.

We know nothing about his person except that he calls himself a prophet. The Greek version of the tales of Bel and the Dragon of Babel has the title "From the prophecy of Habakkuk, Son of Jesus, from the Tribe of Levi." These tales are found in the apocryphal books contained in the Catholic versions of the Bible. Luther gave them in an appendix to the German version, but he stated that they were not to be held to be equal to the Bible but were good and useful to be read. The name Joshua in Hebrew is the same as Jesus in Greek.

In chapters 1 and 2 Habakkuk speaks as in a dialog between him

and the Lord. He prophesied that God's judgment would come upon the Jewish people through the Chaldeans and that this nation later would also be destroyed. In the third chapter he praises God's majesty, justice, and power. He was evidently a very pious Israelite, speaking what God's Spirit told him to speak. He was swept away by emotions when he considered God's righteousness and power.

If we had nothing else than the line "The just shall live by faith," the book would stand out as giving one of the clearest Old Testamental statements about the truth that faith in Christ, the Old Testament Messiah, saves and gives eternal life.



Devotions

"Light for Your Way"

Bible Readings for August 1958

August 1 — John 8:31-47

August 2 — John 8:48-59

August 3 — Matthew 17:1-13

August 4 — John 11:1-27

August 5 — John 11:28-57

August 6 — Matthew 21:1-17

August 7 — Matthew 23:1-36

August 8 — Luke 21:1-28

August 9 — John 13:1-20

August 10 — John 13:21-38

August 11 — Mark 14:12-25

August 12 — John 14:1-17

August 13 — John 14:18-31

August 14 — John 15:1-17

August 15 — John 17:1-26

August 16 — Luke 22:39-53

August 17 — Luke 22:54-62

August 18 — Mark 14:53-65

August 19 — Matthew 27:11-23

August 20 — Luke 23:1-12

August 21 — John 19:1-16

August 22 — Luke 23:26-53

August 23 — John 19:17-30

August 24 — John 19:31-42

August 25 — Matthew 28:1-10

August 26 — John 20:1-18

August 27 — Luke 24:13-35

August 28 — John 20:19-29

August 29 — John 21:1-19

August 30 — Matthew 28:16-20

August 31 — Luke 24:44-53

"He satisfieth the longing soul." Psalm 107:9



Bible Quiz

From where does life come?
Psalm 36:7.

Why are there really no orphans and fatherless children in this world? Psalm 68:5.

What must we answer those who say that there will be no rising up from the dead, or as some say, that only the saved people will rise from the dead? John 5:28, 29.

Who was the father of King David? Psalm 72:20.

What was Ezekiel to tell the Jews about the four corners of their land? Ezekiel 7:2.

Eve means life, and why did Adam give his wife that name? Genesis 3:20.

What should a man do for his friend that is in trouble? Job 6:14.

How was the ship propelled [moved forward] in which Jonah tried to flee when God told him to preach to Nineveh? Jonah 1:13.

When honor is given to a person that is a fool, how does it fit him? Proverbs 26:1.

Against whom do people come out with weapons? Luke 22:52.

What made the Jews go around the walls of Jericho thirteen times? Hebrews 11:30.

When is a person lame? Proverbs 26:7.

To whom does vengeance [giving punishment for wrongdoing] belong? Psalm 94:1.

Like what is a person who pretends to be very liberal but really gives very little? Proverbs 25:14.

When can we call fighting good? 1 Timothy 6:12.

How did King Joash's scribe and the high priest's officer manage to keep the people contributing money for the repairs of the temple? 2 Chronicles 24:11.

How many days did it take a person to walk around the famous Assyrian city of Nineveh? Jonah 3:3.

Who planted the first garden? Genesis 2:8.

When the wicked queen Jezebel was killed in Jezreel and her body thrown out of the window, trampled to death, and her flesh eaten by dogs, so that they found only the skull and the feet and the hands, the prophecy of Elijah was fulfilled, for what had he said of her death? 2 Kings 9:36, 37.

What can a Christian be expected to do for Jesus which Jesus expects us to do? Matthew 10:32.

Why did Ehud hide the dagger under his cloak on the right side of his body and use his left hand when he killed the king of the Moabites and freed Israel again? Judges 3:15, 16.

Why is it foolish to think that God does not hear and see things that go on in this world? Psalm 94:9.

What do Christians really announce to all whenever they go to the Lord's Table in Holy Communion? 1 Corinthians 11:26.