

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 50

SEPTEMBER 1958

Number 9



Dedication of parsonage of Bethel Lutheran Deaf Church, Denver, June 8, 1958
Pastor Clark R. Bailey reading the rite of dedication
(Story on page 131)

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 Rev. W. Westermann
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Rev. O. C. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago 17, Ill. — REgent 4-3621
 (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

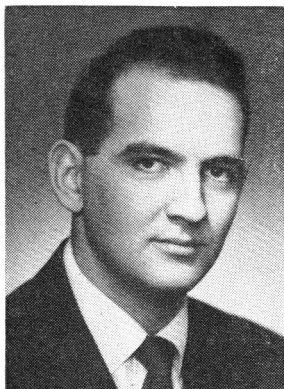
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The New Executive Secretary

The bulletin of Holy Cross Lutheran Deaf Church of St. Louis carried this item on August 3:

"Last Friday evening there was



The Rev. Wm. F. Reinking

a special meeting of the voters' assembly to discuss the call of Pastor Reinking to become Executive Secretary to the Board of Missions to Deaf. After much discussion it was

moved and seconded that the congregation release Rev. Reinking to allow him to accept the call. The voters then passed the motion unanimously. The pastor then announced his intention to accept the call. The decision was not what does Holy Cross Church want or what does Pastor Reinking want, but what does the Lord want. The unanimous vote showed very clearly what the Lord did want. Until another pastor is called, accepts, and is installed, Rev. Reinking will continue to serve as pastor."

Thus the issue has been decided. May God bless the efforts of Rev. Reinking, who enters the work with some trepidation and the plea that the prayers of his brethren in the work and of our Deaf may support him and that God would give him wisdom and power to be helpful in this office.

Parsonage Dedication at Denver, Colo.

Members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Deaf Church, Denver, gathered at 1230 Elizabeth Street on June 8 for the dedication of the newly acquired parsonage for the Colorado Field. Rev. Clark R. Bailey, pastor of Bethel, read the short dedication rite on the front porch, with the congregation gathered on the lawn. Darlene Schmidt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schmidt, served as acolyte. At the conclusion of the service, Mr. Clarence Schmidt, president of the congregation, received the key for the house from Mr. Walter Schmidt, secretary of the congregation, while Mr. Ray Dietz, treasurer, looked on. After President Schmidt unlocked

the door, the members and friends filed into the parsonage for an open house, with refreshments served by the ladies of the congregation.

The house is about 40 years old and will serve as the headquarters for the work of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod among the Deaf in the Rocky Mountain area. Before Pastor Bailey and his family moved into the house, considerable remodeling was done, and most of the house was painted. Some of the members of Bethel helped with the painting.

Services for the Deaf in the Denver area will continue to be held at St. John's Lutheran Hall, 55 W. 3rd Ave., every Sunday at 11:00.

Remodeling of Trinity Church, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Pastor Curtis Schleicher began serving the Sioux Falls Field July 30, 1944. He soon realized the need of a place of worship for the



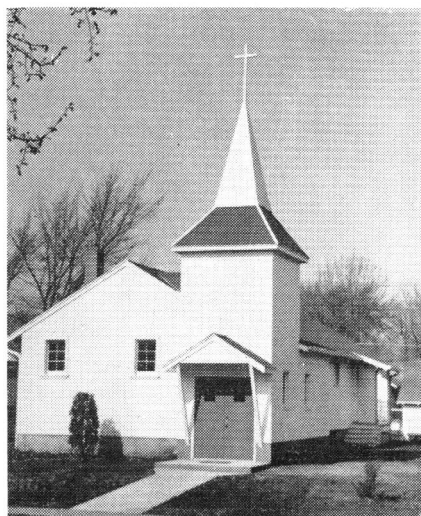
Trinity, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. The "Old" Look

Deaf of Sioux Falls and for the children in our classes at the South Dakota State School for Deaf in this city. After the members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League of this state became interested, they eventually undertook the buying of two lots adjoining the Deaf School campus, and over a period of about four years they contributed funds at the rate of \$300 annually.

The chapel was completed and dedicated for the use of the Deaf on December 18, 1949. The building, 20 by 60 ft., has a full basement. Altar, pulpit, baptismal font, and pews were purchased from a congregation which had outgrown its place of worship.

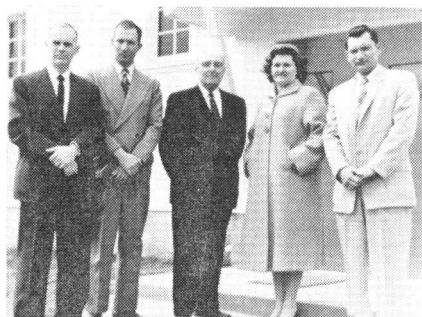
This property belongs to the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. The Board of Directors has a committee which under the chairmanship of the First Vice-President looks after any needs, so that the best interests of Deaf Missions in this locality will be promoted. Trinity Congregation, though small in membership, has taken care of its maintenance since the beginning, besides contributing \$3.00 per service to the pastor's salary.

Two years ago, in 1956, our Board of Missions to the Deaf decided to sell Synod's former parsonage, located two miles distant from church and Deaf School. However, the new parsonage acquired instead did not have a room for a pastor's study. So the pastor had to move his library and office equipment into the vestibule of the chapel. But now all traffic in and out of the church and to the basement had to go through the pastor's study. It be-



Trinity, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. The "New" Look

came evident that an addition of only 4×19 ft. to the front right corner would provide the following improvements: A far more convenient entrance to both the church and basement, a roomy pastor's study



Sioux Falls Confirmation Class. Pastor Cordes between Mr. and Mrs. Donald Servold standing between Arvin Massey (left) and John Hutchins

and church office, a suitable cloak-room for churchgoers, more needed room for the kitchen by the removal of the dangerously steep stairs to the basement. Besides, it would make possible an inviting tower topped with the former steeple. Plans for these changes were presented to the Board of Directors of the South Dakota District and accepted. A committee of three from among their number met with Pastor Cordes, made several valuable suggestions for improving the plan, and then authorized the remodeling. It was undertaken and completed in the fall of 1957. The South Dakota District underwrote \$2,000 for this project, Trinity Congregation and Ladies' Aid had gathered \$450, and \$150 came from another source. Members of Trinity helped with some of the construction and the painting of the first coat. But they themselves, under the leadership of one, did all the work that

resulted in a well-arranged and serviceable kitchen.

We, Trinity Congregation and pastor, are deeply grateful to the Lord for His kindness and blessing. We thank Him for making the hearts of fellow Christians willing to help us, so that we have a pleasant place of worship. Here we can learn of His marvelous loving-kindness in Christ Jesus, who will at last receive us into the glorious mansions He Himself has made ready for us. According to His will He will transfer us from the church on earth to the church in heaven.

ROBERT F. CORDES

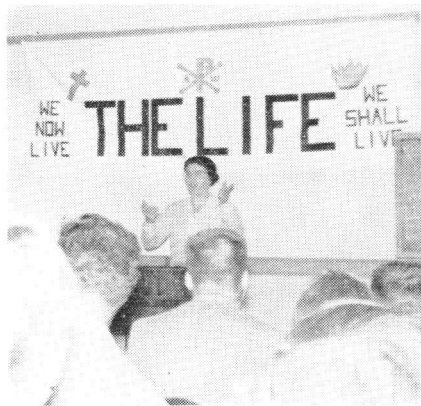
Eastern Seaboard Deaf Retreat

June 6—8, 118 people gathered at the beautiful Pocono Crest, mountain resort at Pocono Pines, Pa., for the third annual retreat. "Living Today for Tomorrow" was the theme for the meeting, and interesting topics and Bible study fitting this theme were presented. Miss Norma Bushey of the North Carolina School for the Deaf presented the opening paper titled "The Judgment." This was followed by "Every Minute Counts," given by Harlan Smith of Rochester. Worthwhile and meaningful discussion followed both presentations. Dr. Salvner and Rev. Westermann presented Board matters.

Beautiful, sunny weather favored us on Saturday afternoon, and it was fully enjoyed by all who came. Boating, swimming, tennis, cro-golf, softball, and croquet were some of the sports in which the guests heartily indulged.

Saturday evening, after a number of speeches and humorous anec-

dotes, a young magician from New Jersey, under the alias of "Blackdini," delighted the folks with his tricks and mystifying magic.



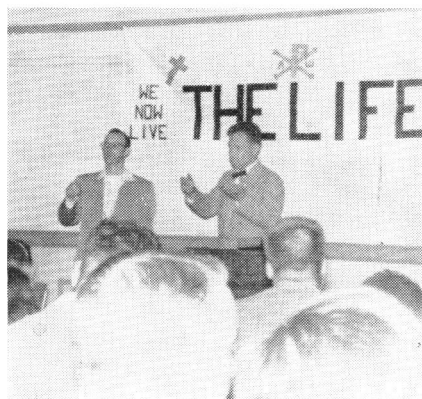
Miss Norma Bushey, secretary of the Eastern Seaboard Deaf Conference, delivering paper on "The Judgment"

Sunday morning's Bible study, ably led by Pastor Harry Hoemann of Pittsburgh, Pa., brought forth lively and interesting discussion on the topic "How to Answer the Unbeliever." The study was based on the words of 2 Peter 3:3-15, which reminds us that the same God who in the beginning made the world still rules and guides the ways of men today. By the same Word of His power He will fulfill His promise of the Last Day, and we who are mindful of His Word will so live that we may be found faithful in the end.

The Bible study was followed by the Holy Communion service, which concluded the retreat. The sermon was preached by Vicar Jasper, who has served the past year in the Boston field. Liturgists and celebrants at the service were Pastors Simon and Gerhold. Choir members from New York City and New Jersey added much to the

service by beautifully and gracefully signing the hymns.

Those traveling the farthest to the retreat were Mr. and Mrs. Meizner of Findlay, Ohio. Also of interest, for their time in travel to get to the retreat, were Mrs. Mildred Lawson and Mrs. Jennie McGee of Jamestown, N. Y., who spent 11 hours, including two transfers by bus, to reach Pocono Pines. Yet they said it was worth the effort, and they plan to return again next year. Also of note were the many new faces, especially from among the younger set. It was most encouraging to see the youngsters' interest in the work of the church and the study of God's Word. The election resulted in the choosing of Dana Libby of Newark as chairman, and Miss Norma Bushey of Akron, Ohio, teacher at the North Carolina School, as sec-



Rev. Harry Hoemann interpreting Chairman Dana Libby at Pocono Crest, Pa., June 7, 1958

retary-treasurer. Next year's meeting is to be held again at Pocono Crest, Pa., in early June.

Some people know Christ; some just know about Him.

PRAYER is the flight of the lonely man to the only God.



Our Synod

Synod's Theological Institutions

The log-cabin college shown in the July DEAF LUTHERAN was the first school of our Synod. Founded by the Saxon immigrants in 1839 in the woods at Altenburg, Perry Co., Mo., it became Concordia Seminary. It was moved in 1849 to St. Louis. Its first home there was enlarged in 1858 and completely replaced in 1882, an addition being erected in 1907. In 1926 Concordia Seminary found its new and present home on a fine 71-acre wooded tract in western St. Louis. Since that time additional buildings had to be erected. The replacement value of the institution is about seven million dollars.

Originally a preparatory classical department was conducted at this institution, but this was transferred to Fort Wayne, Ind., in 1861.

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, is the largest Protestant theological school in America. January 1, 1958, it had an enrollment of 658 students and a teaching staff of 45 men. Since 1839, 6,784 ministerial candidates were graduated from this institution.

To enter, a person must have been graduated from a recognized college. The course includes work in English, German, Latin, Greek, and Hebrew and is extended over four years. The first two years are spent in study at the school, the third in a supervised internship in some parish, after which the student returns for another year of study at the seminary.

Another Concordia Seminary is located at Springfield, Ill. It is sometimes referred to as the "practical" seminary. The purpose of the "practical" school was and still is to train, by a somewhat abbreviated course of study, men that are a little older and more mature for the practical work in the ministry.

This institution was founded in 1846 in Fort Wayne, Ind., by a pastor in Germany, Rev. William Loehe, and Dr. William Sihler and became a college of our Synod in 1847, the year of the founding of our Synod. The "theoretical" seminary at Saint Louis and the "practical" seminary at Fort Wayne had classical pre-theological departments. In 1861 the "practical" seminary was shifted to Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and the classical department of St. Louis was transferred to Fort Wayne.

So from 1861 until 1875 the "theoretical" and the "practical" theological departments were housed together in St. Louis. In the meantime the St. Louis buildings could not house the growing enrollments. At that time the privately owned former Illinois State University at Springfield, Ill., had been bought by Trinity Lutheran Congregation there, and the "practical" seminary was offered a new home in Springfield, transfer being completed in 1875.

Last year this seminary had an enrollment of 375 students, in-

structed by 16 men. 2,652 pastors have gone out into the Lord's vineyard from this institution. The replacement value of its buildings is held to be about two million dollars.

A total of 9,436 pastors have gone out from these two theological seminaries since 1839. What an army to carry the light of the Gospel to the ends of the earth! And the start was made in the little log cabin in the forest near Altenburg, Mo.

And this is not the complete story. Our Synod maintains seminaries in other countries. We have two Districts in South America, the Argentine and the Brazil District. The languages spoken in that area are Spanish, Portuguese, and German. In Brazil we maintain the Seminario Concordia at Porto Alegre, which was founded in 1904 and had an enrollment of 185 students last year and 14 on the faculty. And a pre-theological school or proseminary was established in 1957 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, that has two instructors and had 13 students last year.

In the Argentine District the Seminario Concordia is located at Villa Ballester, established in 1942, and the preparatory institution is at Obera, Mis., Argentina. It was begun in 1956 and had 18 students and one teacher.

As in South America, so our Synod has always kept in mind to prepare native workers to carry on the work in their homeland in its extensive foreign-missions program in India, China, and Japan. Such natives have no language problem; they are at home in the climate; the mode of living is not strange to them, and usually the work can be carried on at some financial saving.

They are not foreigners to the people as are the men and women we send over from America and who must struggle a long time to learn the language and to become accustomed to the new country. This policy pays off well, and this year a synod of India could be organized. It is small and will stay under our wings for a while, but it will grow.

In 1924 the theological seminary at Nagercoil, India, was established. It has already sent out a good number of workers. Five men are on its faculty, and there were 28 students last year.

At Hankow, China, in 1922 the theological seminary was established, and it did good work. And while the Communistic upsurge has forced its closing in late years, the workers that were prepared for the Gospel and went out are now, if so be that God preserved at least some of them, the seed to keep the light of truth burning, even if only in little flames.

In 1953, in Chia Yi, Formosa, a seminary was opened. It had 12 students last year and three men on its faculty. This may be a substitute for the loss of the Hankow institution.

Three instructors taught 18 students last year at Tokyo, Japan, where a seminary was opened in 1953. And in Manila in the Philippines a seminary was established in 1955; and six students were enrolled there last year, taught by three instructors.

May God bless and keep these institutions, where men are trained to go out and to do for us what Jesus wants us to do. Let us support schools and students and teachers with our prayers and funds.



Field gleanings

Columbus, Ohio — Making a good profession of their faith, **Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gilbert** were on July 13 accepted into full membership with Holy Cross Lutheran Deaf Church. May God bless them and keep them ever mindful of the fact that through faith their names are written in the Book of Life above, and that faithful adherence to the Gospel truth and regular attendance at Word and Sacrament will enable them to run well their course here on earth and assure them of ever being with the Lord. — Four ladies of the ladies' aid attended the Central District convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, which was held at Columbus June 11 and 12, Pastor Drachenberg interpreting for them. These ladies signed the Lord's Prayer and "Beautiful

Savior" for the convention, and Pastor Drachenberg was given an opportunity to speak to the assembled delegates. He and Pastor Frederking of Cleveland were given the chance at the Central District's convention at Fort Wayne, June 16—20, to speak on our work for the Deaf.

Vicar Rodney Rynearson and **Miss Rhoda Ryan** were married June 22 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church by Rev. E. A. Licht. Mr. Rynearson, having completed a year of vicarage at Chicago, now returns to the St. Louis Seminary for his last year of study. Mrs. Rynearson's home is in St. Louis. May God bless their union!

Rochester, N. Y. — During the last months we had the joy of hearing good professions of faith from a



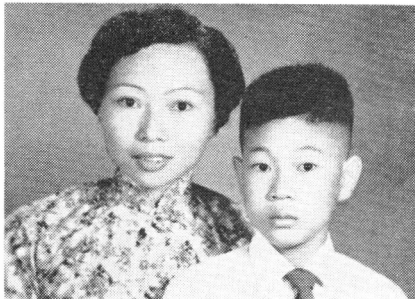
Pastor Herbert Rohe and class confirmed at Rochester, N. Y., Palm Sunday, 1958. In front, next to Rev. Rohe, stand Miss Irene Groat, Miss Linda Sickler, and Mr. and Mrs. LaVerne Sickler, who are hearing but joined that the whole family can worship together. In back row, left to right, Mr. Dorman Harvey and Mr. and Mrs. John Eustis. Mrs. Owalee Eustis is the daughter of Chief Clinton Rickard, a prominent citizen of the Tuscarora tribe, near Sanborn, N. Y.

number of Deaf from Rochester and other stations of our field. May their names remain always on the Book of Life above. A picture of the class that was confirmed on Palm Sunday in Rochester appears with explanatory remarks elsewhere in this issue.

In Jamestown, N. Y., on May 26 four members were welcomed: **Mr. and Mrs. Donald Grann**, in whose home we met for many months while studying the Catechism, **Mrs. Jennie McGee**, and **Mrs. Mildred Lawson**.

Recently a youth club was formed at Alpha Church, with **Kent Fenley** as president and **Miss Irene Groat** as secretary-treasurer. The members show encouraging enthusiasm for the work of the church. "Stamps for Missions" is one of their current projects, and they are also sponsoring a paper drive in fall, by which they hope to add to the Lord's treasury.

The Alpha Ladies' Guild has recently joined the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. This is, however, not their first time at joint women's work. Since 1952 they have taken part in the work of the local Women's Auxiliary League of Mis-



Koo Che Kang and Mother

sions, which has done a great deal of work in the interest of local institutional missions. We are also pleased to note their interest in

foreign missions. At their June meeting the Alpha Guild voted to send a year's tuition to little Koo Che Kang (pictured with his mother) from Hong Kong, China. He is attending the Hong Kong School for the Deaf. His mother has had a difficult time earning enough funds to keep him in school. Last fall the first gift was sent for his tuition, and we know that his mother will be more than happy to know that we are helping this year also. His mother was recently confirmed by our missionaries in that area. H. R.

William Ludwig and **Miss Sigrid Ellram** of Minneapolis were joined in wedlock on June 29 by Rev. Geo. R. Kraus, Minneapolis. The couple will live in Springfield, Ill., where Mr. Ludwig will complete his studies for the holy ministry next June, having served as vicar in the Twin Cities this last year. May the Lord bless the marriage of these two!

The California and Nevada *Lutheran Witness* reports that the Lutheran Deaf of San Francisco chose as the name of their group "Mission Lutheran Church of Deaf of San Francisco." It states also that on March 30, Palm Sunday, five adults were added to the membership list by the rite of confirmation.

St. Louis, Mo. — It was a shock for all members of Holy Cross to hear that Pastor Reinking had received the call to become the successor of Dr. J. L. Salvner and to be the new Executive Secretary of the Board of Missions to Deaf. But after the matter had been thoroughly considered and the decision had been made, the members felt that the Lord wanted Pastor Reinking's good

talents to be used to benefit all the Deaf in the Mission. Some members rose after the decision and said that they had come with the intention of speaking against letting him go, but were convinced by the discussion that the best interests of the work would be served if he would accept the more responsible office. But all are very happy that the Reinkings will continue to belong to our congregation and that he will serve us until a successor has been found. It is fortunate that this year two men are completing their studies at the seminary who have served as vicars last year: Mr. Louis Jasper, who served the New England field, and Mr. Rodney Rynearson, who served the South Chicago field. Mr. Jasper conducted services August 3 and 10, while Pastor Reinking was on vacation.

Kansas City, Mo. — Our Kansas City people were very much pleased to hear that Mr. Franklin P. Wagenknecht, student at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, for three years, chose to spend his year of internship as a vicar in the Deaf Mission at the Twin Cities. While considerable information about the new workers was given in the July DEAF LUTHERAN, Vicar Wagenknecht, modest as he is, did not inform the Editor how he had shown his interest in the Deaf and the Mission by his activity among the Deaf and for our work in Kansas City, his home. He has preached at Pilgrim Deaf chapel a number of times and in most of the stations in our area and has assisted Pastor Ferber by making missionary and sick calls and in other ways. We all are glad that he is working with and for the Deaf and know that the Twin City Deaf will find him very agreeable and able. —

Pilgrim Lutheran Deaf Church is participating in the "Every-Member Visiting or Sector Plan" which the Lutheran churches of the Kansas City area are sponsoring for the week of September 21—25. Systematic visiting with nightly services has brought good results, and a number of areas have made this an annual feature. A. E. F.

Houston, Tex. — Pastor Oermann and his little son Timmie, who June 17 had suffered severe burns in a picnic fire and were in the hospital at Ville Platte, La., two weeks, are doing well. Pastor Oermann, who burned his arms and hands severely while trying to extinguish the blazing clothes of Timmie, is again able to use his hands and fingers in spelling and signing. Even Timmie, more severely burned, will not require skin grafting, as was feared. The accidents, our readers will recall, happened when the family returned from a missionary journey to Mississippi and Louisiana. Dr. J. L. Salvner came to Pastor Oermann's rescue, conducting services for him at Houston July 10 and at Austin and San Antonio July 13. In reporting, Dr. Salvner wrote to the DEAF LUTHERAN of his joy that Pastor Oermann is gathering the first fruits of his work in Texas. In the Houston service two adults were baptized and welcomed as members. On August 10 Rev. Oermann confirmed two adults and baptized one adult and two children. We all praise and thank God for these blessings upon the work of Rev. Oermann. May the good Lord continue to be with him and his flock and bless him more and more in order that many more Deaf may learn to know the Savior and say in faith with St. Paul: "He loved me

and gave Himself for **me.**" Galatians 2:20.

Hannibal, Mo. — On June 7 **Mr. Adam Schafer** of Center, Mo., departed this life after having been in failing health for some time. His body was laid to rest in Center on June 9. He was one of the group of Deaf of the Hannibal-Quincy area that attends the monthly services of Rev. Thies of Jacksonville. — When Pastor Thies on July 27 was unable to conduct the Hannibal service, Pastor Uhlig of Overland, Mo., substituted for him. He was as pleased to see the "full house" of Deaf as we were to meet him again who had served us until two years ago.

D. T.

Houston — **Miss Judy Johnson** and **Mr. Avelino Villarreal** were married on June 6 at Trinity Lutheran Church. May the Lord bless this union.

Austin — **Miss Betty Mae Dietert** and **Mr. Allen Lee Delome** were married on July 26 at Jesus Church of the Deaf. They will make their home in Orangefield, Tex. May the Lord bless them.

San Antonio — On July 3 **Mrs. Alice Zieler** fell asleep in Jesus. She had been ill for several months. She was buried in San Antonio on July 5.

Madison, Wis. — In order to give those attending the Wisconsin Association of Deaf convention at Appleton, Wis., July 20 an opportunity to attend services, Pastor Kosche accepted the invitation of Faith Lutheran Church to preach the sermon in the service and to interpret the service that Sunday morning. The attending Deaf had seats of honor on the front seats. — On March 23 **James Walter Kosche**, son of Rev.

and Mrs. M. Kosche, was laid into the arms of Jesus in Holy Baptism, as was **David William Ekloff**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Royal Ekloff, May 11. May God bless and keep these lambs. — **Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Walsvik** of Madison are happy about the coming of a son, Arnold, Jr., on July 1 to keep company with his three sisters; and **Mr. and Mrs. Verle Suhr** of Rockford, Ill., rejoice over the birth of Branda, who came to them July 6. — **Miss Augusta Dowe**, aged 76, a member of the Watertown Deaf group and a faithful attendant at the services always until illness kept her at the Jefferson County Hospital, died February 16. She was cheerful in her sickness and never lost hope or faith. She was given Christian burial at Horicon, Wis. — Two wedding anniversaries deserve mention. **Mr. and Mrs. August Gierloff** of Beloit, who had been married by Rev. T. M. Wangerin May 17, 1898, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in the circle of a large gathering of friends, and **Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Hermann** of North Freedom, Wis., celebrated their golden wedding anniversary June 15. They were married by Pastor Wangerin June 17, 1908. Despite their age all four jubilarians are very regular and faithful in their church attendance. They have learned to say with the psalmist, "The Lord is the Strength of my life." God be with them in the evening hours of their lives. — We may have a disappointment and not be able to occupy the chapel at Delavan when school opens in September. Since sufficient funds could not be gathered, the contractor could not go ahead with the construction. The building operations had been going ahead

quite well; but now there is not enough time to complete the work by September. Rev. Kosche has been visiting congregations of Wisconsin, speaking of the need and gathering funds. In order to enable him to do this, Rev. Mueller of Milwaukee relieved him by serving some stations, and Dr. Salvner spent several weeks in August in the area, serving the groups so that Pastor Kosche could gather funds for the project. We sincerely hope that the remaining money will be gathered so this much-needed project can be completed.



Kokomo, Ind., Bible Class with Pastor O. C. Schroeder (left)

The Anvil of God's Word

Last eve I stood before a blacksmith's door
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
And, looking in, I saw upon the floor
Old hammers worn with beating years of time.
"How many anvils have you had," said I,
"To wear and batter all these hammers so?"
"Just one," said he; and then with twinkling eye,
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."
And so, thought I, the anvil of God's Word
For ages skeptics' blows have beat upon;
Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unchanged — the hammers gone.

JOHN CLIFFORD



Zacchaeus and Stewardship

When we see the name Zacchaeus, most of us think about the little, short man who climbed up a tree to see Jesus. We don't usually think of Zacchaeus as a good steward.

And yet Zacchaeus is an example of good stewardship. We read in Luke 19: 8 that he was willing to give

one half of his money and property to the poor. Besides this he promised to pay back four times the amount of money he had taken by cheating.

Zacchaeus was not a good steward in his younger years. He was chief among the publicans, the crooked tax collectors in Palestine at that

time. He was so selfish and greedy for money and the nice things it would buy that he overcharged his fellow citizens on tax rates and kept the extra taxes in his own pocket. Even the greedy Pharisees could see that Zacchaeus was a sinner. He was the worst of the crooks.

But when Zacchaeus climbed the tree that day and then met Jesus, he was a changed man. Of all the people in the large crowd Jesus noticed him. The name Zacchaeus means "God has remembered." God remembered Zacchaeus. Jesus said to this sinner sitting in the tree: "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for today I must stay at your house." So Jesus came into his house and into his heart with God's mercy and forgiveness. When Zacchaeus knew that God loved him and forgave him,

he was full of joy. Then he showed his faith and joy by giving one half of his money to the poor. He was being a good steward.

You and I are also greedy and selfish by nature. Our heart is not better than Zacchaeus' heart was. In spite of our sinfulness Jesus has noticed us and remembered us. He has come into our homes and into our hearts with His love and forgiveness. He comes into our hearts by His good Word and Sacraments, where we learn that God loved us sinners and gave His Son on the cross to pay for our sins. When we hear and believe this good news, our hearts, too, overflow with joy. We, too, are changed men and women. Let us show our change as Zacchaeus did.

AUGUST L. HAUPTMAN



Know Your Bible

Zephaniah

Zephaniah prophesied between the years 639 and 608 B. C. During these years Nahum, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, and probably Huldah the prophetess, lived; it was the time just before Judah, also called the Southern Kingdom, was led into captivity to Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar.

Zephaniah was a great-great-grandson of King Hezekiah and lived under Josiah, who with Hezekiah was perhaps the best of the twenty kings of the Kingdom of Judah, twelve of whom were bad kings; but the two-tribe Kingdom

of Judah was more fortunate than the ten-tribe Northern Kingdom, called also the Kingdom of Israel, whose nineteen kings were all bad. King Josiah instituted a reform and tried to abolish idol worship, but this movement was in a large measure outward and not a true inward reform, and under the following kings Judah sank lower and lower. Zephaniah probably was a moving power and had much to do with Josiah's attempt at reform.

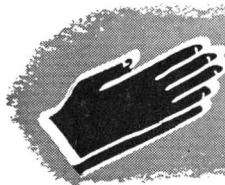
Things being as they were, one cannot expect that his message would be anything else than a sharp

criticism of the wickedness of his day. And as he was of royal blood, he could attack the princes and the nobility very severely for their wickedness and for their feeling (chap. 1:12) that nothing would be done about it. He likewise spoke against the wickedness of surrounding nations; in short, he attacked wickedness everywhere and asked for genuine repentance, otherwise God's anger would come over Jew and non-Jew.

But he also gave comfort to true believers, stating not only that believing Jews would be spared and God's church preserved, but people from all nations would through faith become members of the real "Israel" which is another name for God's holy, universal, Christian Church in which there would be "pure lan-

guage," pure teaching of God's Word. In the last verses (chap. 3: 9-20) is comfort for the penitent, assurance that the sins are forgiven, and the plea to be cheerful and to work for the Lord: "Let not thy hands be slack!"

His book is one of elegant, meaningful language; and while it contains no direct specific prophecy of the coming Messiah, Luther says of Zephaniah: "Though he is a minor prophet, yet he speaks more of Christ than many other and greater prophets, almost exceeding even Jeremiah." Luther refers to Zephaniah's "Gospel sense," who correctly sees that only truly penitent sinners who trust in the Messiah's redemption will be saved, whether they be Jew or non-Jew. Read the book in one sitting.



Devotions

"Light for Your Way"

Readings for September 1958

September 1 — Acts 1:1-14
 September 2 — Acts 1:15-26
 September 3 — Acts 2:1-28
 September 4 — Acts 2:29-47
 September 5 — Acts 3:1-16
 September 6 — Acts 4:1-22
September 7 — Acts 4:23-37
 September 8 — Acts 5:17-42
 September 9 — Acts 6:1-15
 September 10 — Acts 7:44-60
 September 11 — Acts 8:1-7
 September 12 — Acts 8:26-40
 September 13 — Acts 9:1-19
September 14 — Acts 10:1-23

September 15 — Acts 10:24-48
 September 16 — Acts 11:19-30
 September 17 — Acts 12:1-17
 September 18 — Acts 13:1-12
 September 19 — Acts 13:44-52
 September 20 — Acts 15:1-29
September 21 — Acts 16:6-15
 September 22 — Acts 17:16-34
 September 23 — Acts 21:17-36
 September 24 — Acts 22:30—23:11
 September 25 — Acts 23:31—24:23
 September 26 — Acts 25:1-12
 September 27 — Acts 25:23—26:32
September 28 — Acts 27:1-26
 September 29 — Acts 28:1-16
 September 30 — Acts 28:17-31

"The Lord Gave the Word." Psalm 68:11



Bible Quiz

Why did God permit Eglon, the king of Moab, to trouble and defeat Israel? Judges 3:12.

In what respect are unrepenting evildoers like dogs and pigs? 2 Peter 2:22.

What kind of prophet would some people like to hear now, as at the time of Micah 2:11.

What was the taste of the heavenly manna that God gave to the Israelites in the wilderness? Numbers 11:8 and Exodus 16:31.

What were the names of some of the idols the unfaithful Israelites worshiped, which they adopted from the heathen? Amos 5:26.

Could people of one tribe of Israel marry people of another tribe of Israel? Numbers 36:6.

What is going to happen in the future to all things that now are? Ecclesiastes 2:16.

How does the wise man die? Ecclesiastes 2:16.

Why was Habakkuk to use very big letters when he would write his message to the people? Habakkuk 2:2.

Why did God daily give manna to the Israelites in the wilderness? Exodus 16:4.

What were the necessary qualifications for those that were assistant judges of Moses? Exodus 18:21.

In which court matters did Moses act as judge, and in which did his assistant judges officiate? Exodus 18:22.

What was the penalty in Israel for kidnaping a person and selling him or her into slavery or keeping such a one that had been kidnaped? Exodus 21:16.

That God comes swiftly and suddenly with help or punishment and man can do nothing about it, is indicated by the wagon on which the Lord rides; which is that chariot? Isaiah 19:1.

To whom was one of the daughters of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt at the time of King Solomon, married? 1 Kings 7:8.

Who was the most famous metal worker and sculptor who made the castings of gold, silver, and brass for Solomon's house and the temple? 1 Kings 7:13, 14.

About which wish of Moses did God forbid him to pray any more, and how did God tell him to keep still about it? Deuteronomy 3:25, 26.

Who will live forever? John 17:3.

Water covers three quarters of this present earth, but in what way will the new earth be different from this one? Revelation 21:1.

What happened to a Jew in the Old Testament if he used curse words or spoke wickedly against God? Leviticus 24:13, 14.

What effect will it have upon children if their parents are unreasonable against them? Col. 3:21.