

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

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Number 12

Thy King Cometh unto Thee!

Jesus, Thy church with longing eyes
For Thine expected coming waits.
When will the promised light arise
And glory beam from Zion's gates?

Come, gracious Lord, our hearts renew,
Our foes repel, our wrongs redress,
Man's rooted enmity subdue,
And crown Thy Gospel with success.

Oh, come and reign o'er every land;
Let Satan from his throne be hurled,
All nations bow to Thy command,
And grace revive a dying world.

Teach us in watchfulness and prayer
To wait for the appointed hour
And fit us by Thy grace to share
The triumphs of Thy conquering power.

WILLIAM H. BATHURST, 1831

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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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A New Year of Grace

The last Sunday in November ushered in the new church year. The cycle of the church year begins with the meaningful season of Advent, which leads to Christmas and Epiphany and is soon followed by Lent, Easter, and Pentecost; then after Trinity comes the second half of the church year, which in our country ends with Thanksgiving Day. And a year passes about as fast as the foregoing short sentence swiftly is read.

The church year can be called a year of grace. In it we review the wonderful story of the love of God Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who is gracious and offers us grace in the Word and the Sacraments.

We are now in Advent. This is the preparatory season in which we must get ready for Christmas. We do not here mean the buying and preparing of Christmas presents for those whom we love and for those from whom we possibly expect to receive presents. We rather mean that we should become ready to present ourselves as a holy sacrifice to Him whom the Father in heaven presented to the world at that first Christmas in Bethlehem of Judea. He, Christ, is the "King of Glory," who comes again to us through the Gospel and the holy sacraments. We hear again the prophecies of the Old Testament from the very first one given right after the fall of our first parents in which we are told that the "Woman's Seed" (child) would come to crush the power of Satan, and which are given throughout the books of the Old Testament. The "Prince of the house of David," the "Prince of Peace," the "Branch," "Shiloh," the "Virgin's Son," the

"Lord Our Righteousness" and many other glorious names are given that wonderful Babe of Bethlehem.

He comes to us. Let us present ourselves to Him. Since He comes not as a visible guest into our homes but rather into our hearts, we must prepare our hearts by sweeping out sin and all manner of ungodliness and unrighteousness. True repentance for sin is necessary, and true faith that He is indeed what the angel called Him in the announcement to the shepherds in the fields of Bethlehem, a "Savior" "unto all people."

Then we shall again kneel in thankful wonderment before that humble manger in Bethlehem, and in our hearts that song will rise which we feel even if we cannot voice it in a mighty chorus with the heavenly hosts as it sounded once long ago over the hills of Judea in the midnight hours of that unforgettable day when "God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

And having begun this church year in that blessed manner, let us continue to walk in that light which shines forth from Bethlehem and from the star of the divine Word, which led the Wise Men to worship the King. Let us pass through Lent and Easter through Pentecost and Trinity until Thanksgiving Day comes again.

For some of us perhaps a funeral service will be held during this new church year. But if we are what we want to be and claim to be, Christians, then the year truly will be a year of grace and that Thanks-

giving Day will come which will continue throughout unending ages.

Every year of our life brings us closer to our end. True, there comes for all the Day of Judgment, but "there is no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit." (Romans 8:1)

We wish all our readers a very blessed year of grace.

Thank You

Frequently, when readers renew their subscription, they add a few words about themselves and how they enjoy the DEAF LUTHERAN. We cannot enumerate all names, but sometimes the mention of these good people encourages others to bear up under unpleasant circumstances. Miss Katie Schmidt of Paris, Ark., writes that she gets much pleasure out of the magazine and thanks God that He has been so good to her. She is 83 years old, alone since her mother died in 1917, and yet not alone, as her Lord is with her. Suffering from arthritis and being under a doctor's care for years and getting many a bump and fall during the years, she is cheerful and even added a gift for the Mission to her subscription. And in Lafayette, Ind., Miss Anna M. Hertlein, almost 87 years old, crippled and a shut-in, quotes the verse of Myrtle C. Brent:

He placed me in a little cage
Away from gardens fair;
But I must sing the sweetest songs
Because He placed me there,
Not beat my wings against the
cage
If it is my Father's will,
But raise my voice to heaven's
gate
And sing the louder still.

For years she has sent hundreds of little verses of hope and encouragement to sick and troubled souls in letters in both the English and German languages. Now shut-in and longing to "go home," she also mentioned Elgin Ecket's lines:

Please do not call me "Shut-in"
When my eyes can see a star,
My ear can hear sweet music,
And my soul can travel far.

Announcement

The **new address of the business office** is

The Deaf Lutheran
210 North Broadway
St. Louis 2, Mo.

To this office send all subscriptions, changes of address, and cancellations.

Until January 1, 1959, send all news items, articles, pictures and stories to Rev. N. P. Uhlig, Editor, 9607 Baltimore Ave., Overland 14, Mo.

January 1, 1959, Rev. Uhlig retires, and a new editor will have been appointed, whose address will be announced.

Subscription price of the DEAF LUTHERAN after January 1, 1959, will be one dollar per year; however, you can get credit at the rate of fifty cents per year if you pay before January 1. If you are in arrears and if you wish to profit for some years ahead, take advantage of this offer. Send money to 210 N. Broadway, St. Louis 2, Mo.

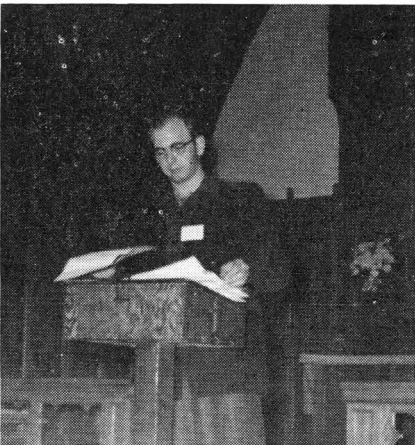
The Midwest Lutheran Deaf Conference

September 13—15 were the dates of the 1958 meeting of the Midwest Lutheran Deaf Conference, and the



Chairman George Dietz welcomes delegates at Denver meeting

place was Denver, Colo. The great distance between the cities belonging to this conference naturally prevents many from attending; but all the stations were represented by delegations. The Sunday service was at the downtown YMCA, and the



LeRoy Rickabaugh discusses "How to Walk with God in Daily Life"

meetings were at Calvary Lutheran Church on Saturday and Monday, and the banquet Saturday evening was held in the rooms of Emmaus Lutheran Church.

The sessions were opened with a service conducted by the host pastor, Rev. C. R. Bailey. After the preliminaries the first paper was read. The theme of the conference was "In Step with God." Mrs. Ed. Maier, Arapahoe, Nebr., represent-



Mrs. Ed. Maier reads her paper at the Denver Conference

ing the Colorado field, read the first paper on "The Bible Guides Our Steps with God." It was well presented and discussed. Also the following essays were well presented and gave rise to discussion and helpful encouragement.

In the absence of Rev. Wm. F. Reinking, the Executive Secretary of the Board of Missions to Deaf, the regional representative, Rev. A. E. Ferber, gave a general report on the progress of the work among the Deaf in the Lord's kingdom. Mr. Leroy Rickabaugh of Des Moines read a paper on "How We Keep in

Step with God in Daily Life"; Rev. A. E. Ferber treated "How We Walk Together with Others with God," setting forth how Christians are joined together in congregations and Synod; and Mrs. Nick Petersen of Omaha spoke on "How We Keep Step with God in Prayer."

Another subject that came in for attention was a report by Rev. Carl Hiller, the Executive Secretary of the Colorado District, who reported on the meeting of the Fiscal Conference, held in St. Louis the first week of September. In this conference the budget of Synod for 1959 was set, which will be sixteen and one half million dollars and which makes us all conscious of the fact that we all will have to be very conscientious in supporting the work of the Kingdom with our funds as well as with our prayers and personal services.

Mr. Eugene Hughes, Kansas City delegate, spoke on "Every Member Visitation," in which effort the goal is to meet every member of the congregation and discuss the problems and needs of the congregation and thus keep all aware of our duty and privileges as Christians.

In the Sunday morning Communion service Rev. Herman Graef of Omaha was the preacher, Rev. Bailey the interpreter, and Mr. Raymond Dietz the lay reader. Rev. L. Stacy of Des Moines conducted the Bible class, which preceded the worship service.

The service and the Bible studies and the lectures in the sessions were inspiring, and the delegates do not easily forget such a meeting. It is only to be regretted that on account of the distances not all the members of the area could attend. Therefore it is well to hold the conferences

in various cities by turns. Next year's meeting will be held in Omaha, Nebr.

Two resolutions adopted at the conference should get mention. One stated that "We should strive to increase our Kingdom work and contributions in 1958 by at least nine per cent. The other takes note of the fact that some church groups disturb our members by trying to induce them to leave our church, and therefore "We appeal to our members to be loyal to their Savior and the Lutheran Church."

Mr. George Dietz, who was chairman of the conference the last three years, was succeeded by Mr. Eugene Hughes of Kansas City; Mrs. Nick Petersen of Omaha is vice-president; and Mr. Leroy Rickabaugh of Des Moines is secretary-treasurer.

On a very interesting bus tour on Sunday afternoon a modern-design church, Grace Lutheran, Rev. H. H. Hellbusch, was visited; also the Lutheran high school, Wheat Ridge Sanatorium, and the "Red Rocks Theater" in the foothills of the Rockies 35 miles from Denver.

Heavenly Advice

Seek an anchor for your soul,
God's love and grace can make you whole.

To dying men in this world of strife
God wants to give eternal life.

Success, money, and acclaim
Will vanish like a drop of rain;
Worldly treasures are but sinking sand.

Learn on Christ, the Solid Rock, to stand.
O. C. S.

"What you do speaks so loud that
I cannot hear what you say."

Notes from the Executive Secretary's Desk

It is October, and the weather is warm and pleasant as I write these notes. But just yesterday I saw a small Santa Claus in a store window. It will not be long now until all the stores and streets will be gaily decorated. The business world is preparing for its biggest Christmas that it has ever had. Are you preparing for a big Christmas? You do not have to have a ten-foot Christmas tree or spend hundreds of dollars for gifts to have a big Christmas. Your Christmas will be as big as the love that you have in your heart for the Baby Jesus, the Savior, whom God gave to us that first Christmas night. Your Christmas will be as big as the thanks you have for the Baby Jesus, who made Himself humble to be born on earth to die for us. Your Christmas will be as big as the praise you give to our Father in heaven, who loved this sinful world so much to give us His only Son to take away our sins. As you look at your Christmas tree, let it point you to heaven from where came the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

As you see the evergreen branches of the tree, let them make you think of the everlasting life you have through faith in Jesus. As you see the pretty lights on the tree, let them make you remember that Jesus is the Light of the world, who shines in hearts darkened by sin. As you send out your Christmas cards, let the cards announce the good news of the Savior's birth as the angels announced it to the shepherds. As you eagerly open your gifts, remember God's Gift to you—His Son. Then come with your gift to Jesus as the Wise Men from the East came with their gifts. Give an extra special gift of money to your Savior as you put your envelope into the collection plate on Christmas morning. Then continue to give generously to your church and Synod during all of 1959 that more and more souls who still live in the darkness of sin will see the Light of the world and know their Savior, Jesus. Yes, your Christmas will then be a big one. A blessed and most merry Christmas to you all!

WILLIAM F. REINKING

Understanding the Church Signs

The Sign for "Lutheran"

The first followers of Jesus did not call themselves "Christians." The enemies of the Lord thought to disgrace them by giving them that name (Acts 11:26). The Protestants did not take that name to themselves, but others called them Protestants because they protested against false teaching and wrongs in the church. The Lutheran Church has also been given signs by the Deaf. How these name signs have

come about is quite interesting. There are different versions or stories, but we will pick out some of the interesting ones.

Years ago the pastors wore a black gown with a collar. To this collar was attached a sort of bib. It was about two inches wide and eight inches long, made of linen. It hung at the upper chest like the letter V upside down. These two narrow bands, or strips, represented the Law and the Gospel. When the Deaf

saw this, they first used the two L hands, made with the thumb and the index finger, and described the two lapels, or bibs, at the chest. Later they used only one hand. This sign is quite common to this day. As time went on, another sign came into being. It was the letter L of the right hand set on the left S hand, the closed fist, as in the sign for "church." How did this sign come into use? One of our missionaries brought it from a school for the Deaf. We traced this sign, and here is how it is supposed to have come about. A little girl was being sent off one morning by a counselor to the wrong Sunday school group. She knew she was a Lutheran but could not spell the word. She did, however, know the sign for church and that "Lutheran" began with L. So she emphatically put the letter L on the left S hand and declared her faith. The instructors henceforth adopted the sign, and the missionary brought it into use.

As time went on, another sign worked its way into our church. It has been explained in many ways, but only one is worth mentioning at this time. A teacher at Gallaudet College paid us this compliment with this explanation. The sign is as follows. The left palm is held up and facing forward, and the right thumb of the right L hand is thumping against it. Now this sign can be confused very easily with the sign for "law" if not signed carefully. But if you remember what the teacher said, you will do it correctly. The thumping thumb is Luther nailing the 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church at Wittenberg. These three signs identify us throughout the country.

G. W. G.

Rev. Simon Accepts Call

Rev. Donald E. Simon, who has during the recent years served the New York field, has accepted a call of Christ Lutheran (hearing) Church at Milford, Mich. He preached his farewell sermon on November 16 in New York and was installed in Milford on November 23. We see him leave the service of the Deaf with regrets, for he has been doing very good work in the Mission to the Deaf.

We wish him continued success and blessings in his new charge, a mission territory about thirty-five miles northwest of Detroit, where two congregations will be under his care, the second being a small rural church at Hamburg, not far from Milford.

We know that he will not forget the Deaf and the Mission to Deaf and serve Deaf locally as opportunity presents itself; perhaps even helping out the Detroit worker in emergencies.

Correction

In the November issue the dedication of the new chapel of the Lutheran School for the Deaf at Mill Neck, Long Island, N. Y., was reported, but a wrong name was given. The name of the chapel is **John of Beverly Chapel**.

Christianity that costs nothing, does nothing, gives nothing, and suffers nothing is worth nothing.

Prayerful pews make for powerful pulpits; prayerless pews make for powerless pulpits.

When a man turns his back on God, he faces the devil.

One Above Greater

One of Frederick the Great's best generals was Hans Joachim von Ziethen. He never was ashamed of his faith. Once, after he had been ridiculed by the king for his refusal to attend a banquet because he wanted to receive Holy Communion, he solemnly shook his gray head, stood up, saluted the king, and then said in a firm voice: "Your Majesty knows well that in war I have feared no danger and everywhere have boldly risked my life for you and my country. But there is One above us who is greater than you or I—greater than all men; He is our Savior and Redeemer, who died for Your Majesty and has dearly bought us all with His own blood. In the power of this faith your brave army has courageously fought and conquered. If Your Majesty undermines this faith, you undermine the welfare of your state."—From *Alpha*, Rochester, *Bulletin*.

Leper Mission

"Harold L. Barr, a Lutheran farmer from Wisconsin, is on the island of Culion, in the Philippines, working in a leper colony of 6,200, where he helps those unfortunates grow better crops to supplement their meager diet and receive an income from surplus crops. He volunteered to become a lay missionary in this lonely spot in the Pacific, is organizing Bible classes, and witnessing unto Jesus as the only Savior. He lives and works 200 miles from the nearest mission of our Synod, which sponsors the work. Will he himself become a leper? It is possible. . . . Harold Barr does not consider himself a hero or a martyr. He saw the need while with the Coast Guard, and he went back to stay. Can we as Christians consider our gifts for missions a sacrifice when we think of Harold Barr?"—From the *Calvary Messenger*.



Sioux City, Iowa.—On November 9 **Miss Donna O'Connor** and **Mr. Floyd Norris** were united in holy wedlock by Rev. Herman Graef. May God bless their union.

Chicago.—**John Howard**, a resident of the Indiana Home for the Deaf for many years, suffered a heart attack in October. When Rev. Schroeder visited him in the hospital at Lafayette, Ind., he was cheerful and unafraid. Jesus comforts His followers with these words: "In the world ye shall have trib-

ulations; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33) O. C. S.

Lewistown, Mont.—From our section of the country we can report that a new Sunday school has been started at Great Falls and had its first session September 7. Deaf children from the Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind attend it. Four of the five teachers are deaf, **Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lyons, Mrs. Arthur Miller, and Miss Darlene Ostrum**; these four and a hearing lady

from Trinity Lutheran Church, **Mrs. Vernon Meier**, make up the faculty. The meetings are at present held at the Montana School for the Deaf, but when the church of Trinity Congregation, at present under construction, is completed, the pupils will be transported there on Sundays.

In former years Pastor Hauptman instructed the children on Wednesday afternoons and evenings. That meant large classes of children of many ages thrown together in one class—a very poor teaching situation for handicapped children. Now, with the Sunday school setup enlisting five teachers, classes will be small and better grouped according to age of the pupils. Also a more favorable hour of the day will be utilized instead of the leftover hours of a long school day as was formerly the case.

Pastor Hauptman meets with the teachers twice a month to prepare the lessons and improve teaching techniques, and meets with the confirmation class regularly. Church services are conducted monthly on the third Sunday for adults and older children at Trinity Church.

At Spokane **Mrs. John Frisby** suffered a stroke on October 4 and fell asleep. She was laid to rest October 9, Pastor Hauptman conducting the service.

MRS. HELEN LAPPIN

Detroit, Mich.—Church work is going on here as usual at the School for the Deaf and in Our Savior Deaf Congregation. Recent official pastoral acts of Rev. Borchardt included the marriage of **Larry Lucas** and **Marlene Nabors** at our chapel in Detroit on September 13 and the marriage of **Donald Reed** and **Wyona Hattis** at Vicksburg, Mich., on Oc-

tober 4; in Flint **Mary Jane Christensen** was baptized on November 2. May the Lord bless all these!

Jacksonville, Ill.—At Decatur **Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Varner** could celebrate their sixtieth wedding anniversary some time ago. He is 88 years old, and she is 90 and has just learned to walk again after having been confined to her bed and room by a long illness. May God keep these two faithful Christians who never miss going to His temple if they can.—Congratulations are due **Doris Bright** and **Franklin Forrester**, who were married at Springfield on August 23. Also to **Mr. and Mrs. James Anderson** (Imogene Ragland), to whose home in Springfield **Michael Allen** came on August 18, and to **Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Kramer** of Quincy, where **Peggy** recently arrived.

St. Louis, Mo.—On September 7 four children of Mrs. Jackson were baptized by Pastor Reinking. They are **Gloria Ann, Johnnie, Jr., Leonard**, and **Bernard Jackson**.—Rev. M. C. Weissbach of Niagara Falls, Ontario, on September 21 performed the rite of Holy Baptism, when his granddaughter, **Julia Louise Jasper**, was laid into the arms of Jesus.—And on September 28 **Dennis Gale Gorge**, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gorge of Caseyville, Ill., received Holy Baptism from Pastor Reinking. A baptismal shell, the gift of Mr. Alvin Hartman, was used for the first time in this service.—**Mr. Alvin Hartman, Mr. Cleveland Young**, and **Mr. James Millspaugh** were received into membership of Holy Cross Church by confirmation on September 28. May the Lord graciously keep all these young and old children of God during their life

in faith! — On October 26 mission festival was observed. Mr. Wm. Ludwig of the Springfield Seminary preached the sermon in the morning service, and Dr. Herman Koppelman, Assistant Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries, spoke in the evening service and showed beautiful colored slides of the work of our church in Asia and the Pacific. — When Pastor Reinking could not be present, Rev. Uhlig has been officiating in the Communion service on several occasions recently. —

The pipe organ in Holy Cross Chapel is being used in the services now. Since there always are hearing persons present at the services, **Mrs. Louis Jasper** accompanies the hymns on the organ so that the hearing persons can sing the hymns while they are being signed to the Deaf. The Deaf themselves, feeling the vibrations, expressed themselves as being thrilled thereby, and thus the service becomes more solemn to them.

New York. — The bulletin of St. Matthew's Deaf Church carried this little story recently. One day in some church, as the offering plate was being passed, the announcement was made that the offering was for missions. When one man refused to give something, the usher quietly said to him: "You'd better take some out; this is for the heathen, you know." — In the third quarter of this year 34 services were held in St. Matthew's, St. Mark's, and in Hempstead, attended by 492 persons; collections were \$982; 168 were guests at the Lord's Table.

Worcester, Mass. — The little group at Worcester is quite active and is proving that good work and

good times are possible even if the number participating is small. The officers of the group are **Robert Naschke**, president; **Mrs. John Sandberg**, secretary; **Mrs. Robert Naschke**, treasurer; **John Sandberg** and **Miss Alice Ulfves**, trustees; **Everett Ulfves**, usher. — On October 26 the Deaf met with the hearing church for a Reformation service conducted by Pastor Thaler. — At West Hartford a new class of children from the primary grades has been started at the American School for the Deaf. **Mrs. Balsis**, mother of a pupil at the school, teaches the class. — The Deaf of Springfield, Mass., and vicinity are now meeting in nearby Holyoke, at First Lutheran Church, whose pastor is **Rev. Walter E. Menzel**. It was he who, while studying at the Springfield, Ill., Seminary in 1940, invited Rev. Uhlig of Jacksonville, Ill., to come to the seminary and teach signs to interested students. Thus the teaching of the sign language at the Springfield Seminary was inaugurated, which has brought a score of workers into the Mission to the Deaf of our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

South Chicago, Ill. — Sunday, October 19, **Curtis Brown** was received by Holy Baptism into the kingdom of God. May God bless and keep him strong in faith! — The ladies' aid of St. Philip's Lutheran Deaf Church sponsored a fellowship dinner Saturday, October 18. About fifty Deaf from all over Chicago attended. The evening was a big success. The next morning there were fifty-five adult Deaf in the service — a record attendance! — The ladies' aid, the men's club, and the Bible class joined to support the work of the

Lord by raising enough money to purchase one of the best obtainable duplicators, a Gestetner, and giving it to the congregation; this will enable the pastor to serve the local congregation and the entire field better. Truly the Lord is pleased to see such willing work by His people. — We are all happy to see that God heard our prayers so that **Mr. Askew Turner** has been returned to the congregation after having two serious operations. — Twice a month we meet the sign language class at Concordia Senior College at Fort Wayne, Ind. Interest is very great. A class of thirty has taken up the study of the sign language. The students meet regularly in addition to the lessons with the instructor, thus taking time to practice and review the signs among themselves. When these men enter the St. Louis Seminary, they will be able to sign well, and the number of Lutheran pastors ready and able to serve the Deaf will gradually be increased considerably. L. W. M.

Des Moines, Iowa. — The Preaching-Teaching-Reaching mission conducted October 26—29 was success-

ful and will continue to produce results. Pastor Thies of Jacksonville, Ill., was the guest preacher in the services which were conducted nightly. Ten of the members made 35 calls, 26 of these being successful visits. Two were found ready to join the church, and one child was won for the Sunday school. The visits showed that our church has many friends. — Deepest sympathy goes to **Mr. and Mrs. Francis Dietsch** of Burlington, whose son was killed on October 19 while with his father and his uncle on a duck hunting trip, his gun discharging while he was placing it into a boat. — On September 7 **Cheryl Ann**, the infant daughter of **Rev. and Mrs. Stacy**, received Holy Baptism from her father. On October 19 Rev. Stacy also baptized **Danny Nicholas**, the son of **Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Routans** of Des Moines. May the Lord keep these His lambs safely during their life! — At Fort Dodge, Iowa, **Miss June Weidt** and **Mr. Robert Larson** were joined in marriage by Rev. L. Braeunig on September 21, Miss Darst interpreting. Congratulations!



Our Synod

Synod's Teachers Colleges

Since it is generally acknowledged that good schools build and strongly support good congregations, our church has since its establishment considered a parish school a very useful and even necessary institution having many advantages over

a Sunday school only. Sunday schools also are very necessary, however, and therefore one usually finds a Sunday school where a parish school is maintained.

To have a good school it is necessary to have good teachers; and be-

cause a teacher in a church school must have a good training to teach the religious as well as the general secular subjects, we maintain two teachers colleges, one at River Forest, Ill., and the other at Seward, Nebr. At some of Synod's junior colleges special teacher-training courses are given; the students preparing themselves for teaching positions at such institutions complete their training either at River Forest or Seward, which are four-year colleges and are accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Such training courses are given at Austin, Tex.; Edmonton, Alta., Canada; Oakland, Calif.; St. Paul, Minn.; and Winfield, Kans.

In 1843, six years before the log cabin college at Altenburg, Mo., was transferred to St. Louis, the start was there made to prepare school-teachers. When in 1846 a college was opened by Dr. Wm. Sihler at Fort Wayne, Ind., not only pastors but also teachers were to receive training there. Also at Milwaukee in 1855 a private teachers seminary was opened; this was transferred in 1857 by Synod to the Fort Wayne institution. Then in 1864 Synod established the Addison, Ill., teachers seminary, which in 1913 was relocated at River Forest, Ill., a western suburb of Chicago.

In the year ending June 1958 the River Forest teachers college had a faculty of 64 men and women and 842 students, 368 men and 474 women. Its fine buildings constitute a value of about seven million dollars. 3,982 graduated from this college since 1864.

The Seward teachers college was established in 1894. It was founded as a preparatory department for the

Addison, Ill., school, its graduates completing their professional training at Addison. It became a full seminary in 1906, but has a high school department besides the full college. Last year its faculty numbered 42 men and women for the 624 students, of which number 286 were men and 338 women. Its buildings represent a value of about three million dollars. Its graduates number 1,592 men and women teachers to date.

The graduates of these teachers colleges leave the institution with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Education and usually are acceptable in every state for teaching positions in the public schools as well; and the honor rolls of public elementary schools and high schools give eloquent testimony about the quality of the Lutheran schools and teachers.

Both at River Forest and at Seward the members of the graduating classes do several weeks of practice teaching in the schoolroom under the constant supervision of training teachers. At River Forest, Grace Lutheran Church has its school on the campus of the college, and the school of St. John's Lutheran Congregation adjoins the Seward college campus. These training schools assure well-trained and practical teachers.

Since congregations usually expect the teacher in the school to be the organist and choir leader in the congregation, the music departments in both colleges are outstanding. While not every graduate emerges as a musician and qualified organist and choir leader, our church has fared very well, and these college-trained leaders have had a great part in preserving the

art of song and singing in Lutheran churches.

There exists a great scarcity of teachers in our country. Not only in our Synod have the wants of many congregations been unfilled year after year, so that over six hundred teachers are needed at present, but in the public schools a similar want of teachers exists.

The Lutheran schoolteacher not only serves the congregation in the eight grades of the elementary school, but in most instances teaches in the Bible classes of the congregation and directs youth organizations besides his work as organist

and choir leader; and especially in isolated areas he may be called upon to conduct reading services, serve as congregational secretary for the voters' assembly and is helpful in perhaps additional ways. Sometimes a teacher is not sufficiently appreciated; but there are thousands of grownups in our Synod who thank God for the privilege of having sat at the feet of conscientious teaching men and women and learned not only the arts of reading and writing and arithmetic but got a good understanding of life and how to meet its problems successfully; above all to know the Lord.



Zechariah

This prophet lived at the time when the Hebrews came back from the captivity in Babylon and the temple was to be rebuilt. He and Haggai prophesied at about the same time. This was about 520 B. C. and about fifteen years after the return from Babylon. The temple construction had been begun but had been stopped. It was a trying time. Both prophets encouraged the people to continue the work.

But the prophet saw more in the temple than a visible house of worship. In the spirit he saw the invisible church of God symbolized, or represented, by the temple. The book of fourteen chapters contains very many pictures and expressions that tell of Christ and the glory of Christ's church of the New Testament. The book is a hard one to

explain completely, and a number of different explanations of some of the visions have been given by teachers of the Bible. But many of the visions are clear or clearly explained as they are presented. Zechariah and Isaiah have more references to the Messiah than any other Old Testament prophet.

The book can be divided into three parts; part one brings nine visions which describe the struggle and the victory of God's kingdom in the first six chapters. Chapters seven and eight tell of a question raised by the people about fasting and its answer. The coming of Christ's kingdom is told in two prophetic addresses in chapters 9 to 14.

The first vision speaks of four horses; God's scouts that report the condition of the world. The four

horns in the second represent the enemies of God's people; the four carpenters or smiths in the third vision are the servants of God that destroy the enemy nations. In the fourth vision the measuring of Jerusalem signifies the building and growth of the church. The fifth vision of the filthy garments and the ninth of the woman in the ephah, or bushel, represent the wickedness and sin which shall be taken away. The candlestick, giving light, symbolizes the church; the olive trees seem to represent the faithful servants of Christ; the flying roll shows the curses that are heaped upon the evildoers.

Many references to Jesus and to events in His life are indicated in this short book. He is called the "Branch" (3:8 and 6:12), His ride

into Jerusalem as King is foretold (9:9), the pierced hands are mentioned (12:10), the thirty pieces of silver for which He was sold (11:12) and which were to be given to buy the potter's field (11:13) and that were cast by Judas into the temple (11:13). Jesus in the Upper Room said that in that night would be fulfilled what the prophet had said (13:7) that the sword would smite Him, the Shepherd, and that His disciples would all flee and be scattered. "In one day" — Good Friday — the sin of the land will be removed (3:9).

Zechariah is a deep book, but it is very clear and beautiful in setting forth that Jesus is the Savior and His church will not be overcome by the old evil foe, Satan. Thoughtful readers of the Bible will love it.



Devotions

"Light for Your Way"

Daily Readings for December

December 1 — James 4:1-12
 December 2 — James 5:7-20
 December 3 — 1 Peter 2:1-10
 December 4 — 1 Peter 4:1-11
 December 5 — 1 Peter 5:1-14
 December 6 — 2 Peter 1:1-21
December 7 — 2 Peter 3:1-13
 December 8 — 1 John 1:1—2:6
 December 9 — 1 John 3:1-18
 December 10 — 1 John 4:1-12
 December 11 — 1 John 4:13—5:5
 December 12 — Jude
 December 13 — Revelation 1:1-20
December 14 — Revelation 2:13-29
 December 15 — Revelation 3:7-22

December 16 — Revelation 4:1-11
 December 17 — Revelation 5:1-14
 December 18 — Revelation 7:9-17
 December 19 — Revelation 14:14-20
 December 20 — Revelation 20:11-15
December 21 — Revelation 21:1-8
 December 22 — Revelation 21:22 to 22:5
 December 23 — Isaiah 42:1-13
 December 24 — Isaiah 9:1-7
 December 25 — Matthew 1:18-25
 December 26 — Psalm 124
 December 27 — Psalm 135
December 28 — Psalm 8
 December 29 — Matthew 25:31-46
 December 30 — Matthew 25:14-30
 December 31 — Revelation 22:6-21

"Behold, thy King cometh unto thee." (Zechariah 9:9)



Bible Quiz

With what was the ship loaded that was wrecked on which Paul was being carried to Rome as a prisoner? Acts 27:38.

What did the wicked king Manasseh of Judah bring upon his people? Jeremiah 15:3, 4.

What did Jesus always know when he spoke about laying down His life for the sins of the world? John 10:18.

When is a two-mile walk not very pleasant? Matthew 5:41.

When can we call a Christian person mature and full-grown who can "eat strong meat," which means that he understands and obeys the deeper teachings of the Bible? Hebrews 5:14.

What must grown-up people be called if they still must be reminded of the simplest truths of the Bible, which are called spiritual "milk"? Hebrews 5:13.

As King David did to his son Solomon, what advice should old parents give to their children? 1 Kings 2:3.

How did King Solomon show that he honored his mother, Bathsheba? 1 Kings 2:19.

What benefit comes to them that call upon the name of the Lord? Acts 2:21.

Why are pure things [right and true things] not accepted by some people? Titus 1:15.

What should believers be very careful always to remember and to do? Titus 3:8.

What did Adonijah, the elder brother of Solomon, get when he asked to get as a wife Abishag, who had nursed his father, David? 1 Kings 2:24, 25.

Why was it proper and necessary that God's Son Jesus should become a human being in order to destroy death and bring to man the resurrection from the dead? 1 Corinthians 15:21.

As what kind of angel [messenger] did the Galatians receive Paul? Galatians 4:14.

How do some people consider those that tell them the truth? Galatians 4:16.

What was written on the foreheads of the redeemed people that John saw in a vision? Revelation 14:1.

How did Jesus show His sorrow when He stood with Mary and Martha at the grave of their brother, Lazarus? John 11:35.

What kind of money cries unto the Lord? James 5:4.

What comes to those and rests on them that walk [live] according to the rule of the Gospel and thereby show that they are "new creatures"? Galatians 6:15, 16.

What did Jesus, "the Image of the invisible God," do at the beginning of the world? Colossians 1:16.

Who is the bride of the Lamb of God? Revelation 21:9, 10.