

The

Deaf

Lutheran



Ephphatha, Be Opened

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

Official Paper of the Board for Missions of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

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MOVING? CHANGING ADDRESSES?

Please clip the form on the inside back cover with the old address label. Mail it to THE DEAF LUTHERAN, 31 W. Beacon St., West Hartford, Conn. 06119.

Can You Take a Challenge?

Drifting Along or Working?

In September all pastors in The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod received a letter from Dr. William H. Kohn, executive secretary of Synod's Board for Missions, expressing both "pride and pain" and leaving some lingering, disturbing, and haunting thoughts.

The letter was about our New Guinea mission, the Wabag Lutheran Church and their financial dependence on the Board for Missions.

Because of a shortage of funds for missions, the Board for Missions had to cut back and reduce the funds it distributes for programs of missions at home and overseas. The funds set aside to support missionaries and other mission workers and their families, however, were not cut.

The Wabag Lutheran Council discussed the financial situation and decided they could not afford to decrease their important projects in literature, Scripture translation, radio, education, and health ministries. Their only

Editor's New Office

Rev. Martin A. Hewitt The Deaf Lutheran 6301 Alamo Ave. St. Louis, Mo. 63105 choice was to decrease the missionary staff.



The Wabag council decided to request that 9 missionaries going on terminal furlough should not be replaced, that 12 additional missionaries should be called home, and that the remaining 71 missionaries take an 11 percent cut in salary.

Letters from New Guinea church leaders expressed "great confidence and faith that it is Christ's mission" and that "He may be insisting on greater efforts to build a national church," according to Dr. Kohn.

After much prayer and discussion the Wabag Lutheran Church has decided to accept a far greater challenge, and this is cause for joy and pride to see a mission determined to grow with the goal of being independent and selfsupporting.

The painful part is that the church at home is not supporting its missions as it should. The church at home is overlooking doors the Lord is opening. It is forcing its missionaries to accept even greater pain in self-sacrifice.

Activities in one mission field affect the work of other mission fields, and surely it affects our church's ministry to the deaf.

First, in 1969, when the Board for Missions cut funds for programs of missions, it cut \$28,000 from the deaf missions budget. Our many fields and congregations have not felt the squeeze of the cut in funds because we have several vacancies. The money we did not have to pay for pastors and travel was reallocated for our growing programs.

However, the vacant congregations and fields will now feel the squeeze for the rest of 1970, because some will have to delay calling new pastors until 1971. The money is not there to pay their salaries or their travel.

This is a very disturbing fact. Yet this is how the Lord presents the challenge to His church. Like the Wabag Lutheran Church in New Guinea the Lord is asking our deaf congregations to take matters into their own hands, to accept the challenge to grow.

As we said last month, one sign of a growing church is the full support of its members for its programs and work. The challenge is to support your church with your stewardship — your ability, your time, and your money. The challenge is to do *more* than your share.

REV. M. A. HEWITT

Reformation, Thanksgiving

The Church Year Back Cover

Two important days occur in the Trinity Season — the Festival of the Reformation and the Day of Thanksgiving.

The Festival of the Reformation falls on Oct. 31, the day Dr. Martin Luther nailed 95 theses or sentences on the door of the Wittenberg Church 453 years ago. On this day Lutherans give thanks to God that His Word of forgiveness of sins for Jesus' sake is still taught in His church. Through this Word of promise God's Spirit continues to bring new life into His church. We again renew our pledge to be faithful hearers and speakers of the Word of forgiveness and life. Altar paraments for Reformation are red — the color of bloodshed and fire; the symbol of the Holy Spirit. Red tells of zeal for God, labors of love, selfsacrifice, martyrdom, thanksgiving, praise, and prayer.

The Day of Thanksgiving is a recent American addition to the ancient church calendar and falls on the last Thursday in November. It is a day of special, national thanksgiving to God for His blessing on our church and nation. It is a day of praise as well as a day of humility — we praise God for His goodness although we do not deserve His blessings for body and soul. The color used in some Lutheran churches is red. In others white is used to symbolize the holiness of God, purity, and joy.

Thus we approach the end of the church year. Looking back, the church hallows this annual cycle to give a grateful response to God for His redeeming grace in Jesus. Throughout the church year, the Christians also remember in grateful devotion to God the great apostles, martyrs, saints, and angels who were a part of her history. These commemorative days help us understand our place in the church and how each of us fits into God's plan to share His love with all mankind.

Next: Advent

ANNOUNCING

An ILDA Emblem Design Contest

Entries will be displayed and judged at the ILDA Convention, July 16—18, 1971 1st Prize — a \$50 Church Extension Fund Bond

Specifications:

- 1. The emblem should be something simple, clear-cut in design, not elaborate. It should be distinctive, in some way identifying ILDA and showing its purpose.
- 2. Overall dimensions of the design should be no larger than $8'' \times 10''$ on heavy white paper.
- 3. Use only ink or tempera colors, not more than 2 or 3 colors, and no half tones.
- Designs should be mounted on white stiff cardboard, 11"×14", for display with identifying names on the back (not front) for objective judging.

Purpose of the ILDA

The general purpose of the International Lutheran Deaf Association (ILDA) is to promote the Christian faith and life of Lutheran deaf persons and all the deaf throughout the world. A specific goal is to build and support lay leadership among deaf Lutherans in all areas of religious life, faith, activity, and service. ILDA shall also develop programs to be used in the church for the spiritual strength and growth of deaf members of all ages.

If you plan to submit an entry for this contest please write to:

Rev. Quintin Quade 2308 D Avenue N.E. Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402

I Don't Feel Like Giving Thanks

I might as well confess that the last thing I feel like giving is thanks. Don't ask me why. I don't think I could give you all my reasons. Maybe it's the kind of day I had today. Or was it the weather? Hardly. It's a bright and sunny day. If I had any sense or sensitivity, I should be able to sense the sunshine of His smile on me today. Or perhaps I didn't get my way on a point I counted important. Maybe I'm acting like Achilles sulking in his tent or Jonah pouting under the gourd. Because I didn't "get," I won't give, especially thanks!

Maybe it's because my thanksgiving depends on what God gives rather than who God is! You know, maybe I'm trying to make a sort of deal with God: God, You give me what I want; then I thank You for being "gracious" to me. Come to think of it, how blasphemous can one be?

Just imagine if I made a different kind of "deal" and asked Him to give me what I need — and let Him decide! That is the risk of faith, the risk of calling God "Father, dear Father" and meaning it. That kind of faith pleads with Him

to be true to me by being true to Himself,

to treat me not as a bastard,

- but as His Son,
- not as His enemy,

but as His friend,

not as rebel, but as servant.

What more do I want from God than Calvary itself to tell me how it really is between God and me! "If God spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Another way of saying it might be: Friend, if God gave you THE GIFT, do you think He will begrudge you the ribbons? St. Paul once said: "My God shall supply all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus." The little boy wasn't doing too badly when he recited the 23d Psalm this way:

> The Lord is my Shepherd, What more do I want?

Thanksgiving depends on being thankful. I cannot give thanks until I am full of thanks, and before I can be filled with this grace, I must be emptied of my pride.

Gratitude is more than a feeling. It is a confession of faith in God as both Gift and Giver.

MARTIN L. KOEHNEKE

(Martin L. Koehneke is the president of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill., and wrote this article for a District edition of the *Lutheran Witness*, from which it was clipped some time ago. ED.)

Are You Faithful to Christ?

This is what it costs to be faithful:

- It cost Abraham the yielding up of his only son.
- It cost Esther the risk of her life.
- It cost Daniel being cast into the den of lions.
- It cost Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego being put into a fiery furnace.
- It cost Stephen death by stoning.
- It cost Peter a martyr's death.
- It cost Jesus His life. What does it cost you?

Evangelism – 1973

The year 1973 has been set by the major Christian church bodies as "The Year of Evangelism." Some 52 churches throughout the world will be working feverishly to make 1973 a full year for Christianity to evangelize the world.

Evangelism means simply "good news-ism," sharing the good news of Christ with all peo-Our Lutheran Church ple. Missouri Synod's director of evangelism, Dr. Theodore Raedeke, has been asked to head this nationwide thrust. He will be working with the evangelism heads of the other denominations to make Evangelism — 1973 a success.

We want to make 1973 a year evangelism for of our deaf churches too, and that means you and me. We want to be in the middle of it, working with every ounce of energy, mind, body, and spirit to evangelize the deaf. Our aim should be to reach every deaf person in the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That means, we want the deaf not only to know Christ as Lord and Savior, but also to dedicate their lives to Him for time and eternity:

This is no small task. But notice what we are! We are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ shed on the cross, and we were baptized into His family. We are brothers and sisters in the family of God, communing faithfully and frequently at His table for the nourishing, growing, and

strengthening of our souls. We devour His precious Word each day at home and especially each Sunday in church. We are sent by Christ to preach and teach His Gospel and His way of life to every person. You and I, yes, every one of us, are important links in the chain of those who have been Christ's people carrying out His wishes and building His everlasting Kingdom. You and I are linked by faith to the great crowd of believers reaching back to the time of Christ Himself - Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Peter, Paul, Timothy, Lydia, Priscilla, Phoebe, and all those who first rejoiced in Christ's presence and at His resurrection.

By common heritage of faith, you and I go back to that unnamed deaf man who was brought to Christ by his friends. That deaf man was not only healed, he was also saved by Christ for all eternity in heaven. You and I must be the friends who bring other deaf to Christ. Will you please prepare for this great year of 1973? Will you help and work with your pastor, church leaders, fellow-deaf members, and others to be active and alive in this historic cause for Christ?

I would like to suggest that right now, as you read this, you begin thinking of what you can do. Make a list of those who you know need Christ, and pray for them every day. Begin to make sample letters and messages that can be used by yourself and others in talking to the deaf, writing to them, witnessing to the faith, and telling what Jesus means to you and to your life. You want to share the joy, peace, power, and love that you experience each day in Christ Jesus. In a notebook write every idea, thought. and suggestion that comes to you how you and your friends, your local church, your pastor, your Synod, and the Board for Missions may best bring Christ to the deaf. Begin to do it now! When you think of a good idea or a better way we can tell Christ to the deaf, write it down and send it to your pastor and regional advisor.

If you can think of a good motto or theme for the 1973 ILDA convention and our 1972 regional conferences, let us know. A good exciting motto or theme can be a one-sentence sermon that preaches and proclaims our faith to the world.

May God's Spirit fill and fire us to an inspiring and blessed successful year of evangelism — 1973! REV. H. W. ROHE

Notes from 210

Deaf Congregations Join Districts

A number of our deaf congregations have recently joined their Districts. Lest this be misinterpreted and misunderstood, let's be clear as to what this means. This means only that these congregations have become members of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Districts are only branches of The Lutheran Church -Missouri Synod. When a congregation joins the Synod, it does so by becoming a member of the District of the Synod. The congregation applies for membership to the president of the District.

Some deaf congregations in the past have not joined their District because either they took for granted that they were a member of the Synod, or they thought that by joining the District they would become a mission of the District. This is not necessarily the case. By joining the District, a congregation only becomes a full-fledged member of Synod and has the right to send voting delegates to the District and Synod conventions. It does *not* mean that the congregation immediately becomes a mission of the District to receive financial support and subsidy from the District mission board.

On the other hand, if a deaf congregation wants to receive financial support and subsidy from the District, it must apply to the District Board for Missions for such subsidy. This means only that the congregation then receives its financial subsidy from the District rather than from the Synod's Board for Missions. Wherever both the deaf congregation and the District agree to such a subsidy arrangement, they are free to do so. Such an arrangement is already taking place in a few areas. To begin this, some Districts ask part of the subsidy from the Synod's Board for Missions while they share in another part of the subsidy.

Changes in Staff

Rev. Paul Dorr was installed as missionary to the deaf in Mississippi and Louisiana at Jackson, Miss., Sept. 13. (See page 176.)

Rev. Marlin Sampson was installed as pastor of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, San Francisco, Calif., Sept. 27. Shepherd of the Hills is an integrated hearing-deaf congregation formed Aug. 30 when the hearing congregation of Shepherd of the Hills Church merged with Peninsula Congregation of the Deaf.

Rev. Russel Johnson has accepted the call to serve Our Savior Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Detroit, Mich. He will be installed on Nov. 1. Pastor Johnson has served Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Montana since 1966.

To cover the vacancy in Montana Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fairman will move from Spokane, Wash., to Great Falls, Mont. Mr. Fairman, as lay assistant at large, will be commissioned Nov. 22.

Rev. Walter Busby accepted the call to the Northern Florida Field of Deaf Missions. He will be installed in St. Augustine, Fla., Nov. 1. He served the Florida Field headquartered in Miami since 1966 and previously served the deaf in Rochester, N.Y. (1962 to 1966).

Students at LLTI

We are very pleased that the Lutheran Lay Training Institute in Milwaukee has accepted two more students who plan one day to serve our mission.

Miss Roberta Riddlebaugh (hard of hearing) is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Riddlebaugh of Columbus, Ohio. The family belongs to Holy Cross Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Columbus.

Mr. Robert Case, a deaf member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf, St. Louis, recently quit his job after several years of employment at MacDonnell Douglas Corp. to return to school. His wife, Mary, and their five children moved to Milwaukee with him.

Both students will take the twoyear LLTI course and intend to serve the church as lay assistants.

Start a Savings Account For the ILDA Trip

Deaf Zion Congregation in North Miami, Fla., has a unique plan to help members save money for the trip to the July 16—18, 1971, ILDA convention in Chicago. The congregation recently urged members to save an "ILDA Fund" and deposit \$4.25 each week until next July.

They play to attend ILDA. Are you going? Rev. H. W. ROHE



FIELD

GLEANINGS

A Mission Project For Children

The 15th anniversary Hearts for Jesus project, **Ears for Brazil**, will give Lutheran children in the Colorado District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod an opportunity to express their thanks for the blessing of hearing. They will do this with prayer and special love gifts for one year.

The special project is focused on the work of Mrs. Naomi Warth and Concordia School for the Deaf, which she began in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

A goal of \$6,000 has been set to meet the cost of the following:

1. Training for a new teacher in the deaf school and an ongoing study of new methods for the other teachers.

2. Workshop equipment and craft materials for training deaf children for employment.

3. Scholarships for very needy deaf children who are unable to pay for bus fare and lunch.

Promotional materials including beautiful human interest stories by Mrs. Warth were prepared and sent to all hearing churches in the District by Mrs. Elbert White, the project chairman. Rev. Donald Zuhn, pastor of Bethel Deaf Church, Denver, has offered to assist in promoting "Ears for Brazil" by speaking to Sunday schools and day schools as his time permits.

Pastor Dorr Installed

Jackson, Miss. On Sept. 13 Rev. Paul H. Dorr was installed as missionary to the deaf in Mississippi and Louisiana. The Sunday evening service was held in Christ Lutheran Church, Jackson, with both deaf and hearing present. Rev. Donald Haug of Houston, Tex., led the worship



Rev. Paul H. Dorr



Midwest Regional Conference — Denver, Colo., representatives led the panel discussion on the topic, "Worship in the Church: How Can We Make the Youth Feel Part of Our Worship and Our Church?"

service, Rev. Ervin Oermann of Milledgeville, Ga., preached the sermon, and Rev. Donald Leber of Memphis, Tenn., regional adviser, performed the rite of installation.

Pastor Dorr accepted the call from the Board for Missions, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, to serve the deaf in September 1969. Since then, he has prepared himself for this ministry by completing a training program at the University of Tennessee for vocational rehabilitation counselors for the deaf. He is also completing a program meeting degree and national certification requirements in the education of the deaf.

Previous to 1969 Pastor Dorr served hearing churches in Crookston, Valentine, and the Rosebud Indian Reservation in Nebraska. He is a 1965 graduate of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, and attended Thornton Junior College, Chicago, and Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr.

Pastor Dorr and his wife, Carolyn, have three children — Paula, Jeff, and Tim. They will live in Jackson.

Regional Conference

The Midwest Deaf Conference was held in beautiful surroundings at Twin Lakes Covenant Bible Camp near Manson, Iowa, on the weekend of Aug. 14—16. We had a good program for the 60 deaf who attended, thanks to the host committee of Fort Dodge, Iowa, and Rev. James Bengelsdorf of Des Moines.

Mr. Dale Paden of Omaha was elected regional vice-president of the International Lutheran Deaf Association (ILDA), which will have its first meeting in Chicago on July 16—18, 1971. The goal is for 1,000 Lutheran deaf to be at this first meeting. The proposed ILDA constitution was read and discussed, and at the end a motion was passed to support the ILDA.

Rev. A. E. Ferber of Kansas City was congratulated on completing 45 years of service to the deaf. He also was the preacher for the Sunday service, which was very impressive. All who attended agreed that it was a profitable meeting, and there was time for fun too!

> Rev. William Lange Regional Advisor

TV Religious Series

Toledo, Ohio. More television for the deaf. This was the goal of Mr. Martin Kutnyak, director of the Toledo Hearing and Speech Center, when he visited the local educational television station. He had many different ideas about using television for the deaf, and one developed: a 15-minute religious program in signs and speech.

WGTE-TV in Toledo offered their facilities for the show to all



As part of an impressive worship service, delegates and pastors of the Midwest Region hold hands as part of a pledge for missions. The banner "Come, See, Go, Tell" is being placed on the Bible. Pastor Al. Ferber (center) serves as worship leader



The Toledo Blade photo

Pastor Larry Harris and his daughters, Debbie -6 (left), and Becky -4, rehearse for his 15-minute television show on the religious topic "God's Gifts"

pastors for the deaf in the area. Rev. Larry Harris, pastor of Good Shepherd of the Deaf Lutheran Church, and Rev. William Neal, lay-pastor for the deaf at Echo Meadows Church of Christ, took up the challenge.

Their emphasis was to be on practical, day-by-day Christian living. Topics on the programs are everyday events: gossip, fear, aging, children, parents, personal character, the job, the housewife, and others.

Originally scheduled for 13 shows, the program was continued to 27 shows because the station liked them and was willing to support them. These 27 shows will be made into a "package" for distribution. The show, however, has now been discontinued because of lack of funds.

If enough stations around the U. S. become interested in the program, it may again resume. Anyone interested in having the program in his area, contact the local educational television station or public broadcasting station and request the show "Signs of God" from television station WGTE-TV, channel 30, in Toledo, Ohio.

Congregation Moves, Chapel Sold

Chicago, Ill. Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf, North Chicago, worshiped for the last time, Sept. 6, at their chapel at 1400 N. Ridgeway. The building had been used for 48 years.

The congregation will use the facilities of Our Savior Lutheran Church (hearing) at 3457 North Neva Avenue, Chicago. Bible class will begin at 1:30 p.m. and worship services at 2:30 p.m.

Presently serving the congregation is Rev. Charles Jones. Pastor Jones also serves three preaching stations in Illinois and is vacancy pastor for Ephphatha Lutheran Church of the Deaf in South Chicago.

News Notes

Los Angeles, Calif. Pilgrim Towers now has over 180 tenants -160 of them deaf. A convalescent unit for the senior citizens is now being constructed nearby.

Stockholm. Close to 10.000 hearing-impaired persons from all over Sweden staged a demonstration recently by marching to the parliament buildings carrying banners and signs with their demands. These were: full-time interpreters, better welfare benefits, no tax on TV sets (in Sweden, radio and TV are government owned), psychiatrists who are able to communicate with them, and resumption of the language of signs as a means of teaching the deaf child!

-The Frat



LIGHT FOR YOUR WAY Daily Bible Readings Nov. 17—Dec. 31

Include the following in your prayers this month:

- give thanks to the Lord because He is good: He has blessed you abundantly with all that you have.
- that God will help you in faith and joy to set aside a generous part of your earnings for His use through the church.
- that your congregation may be knit together in Christ in a spirit of love and service.
- that the unchurched deaf of your city may know and love the Savior.

- that the witness of your congregation to the birth of the Savior may lead many to faith.
- our church workers who celebrate their birthdays in these months: Mrs. Kathrine Thies, pastor's wife, Omaha, Nebr. (11-22)
 Mrs. Judy Miller, parish worker, Miami, Fla. (11-24)
 Mrs. Effie Rohe, pastor's wife, St. Louis, Mo. (11-29)
 Paul Consoer, lay assistant, Miami, Fla. (11-29)
 Pastor Daniel Hodgson, Elmhurst, N. Y. (12-3)
 Mrs. Stella Uhlig, pastor's wife, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. (12-4)
 Pastor Waldemar Ferber, Fargo, N. Dak. (12-9)
 Mrs. Eleanora Bremer, pastor's wife, Fulton, Mo. (12-12)
 Pastor Wayne Bottlinger, Vancouver, B. C., Can. (12-19)
 Pastor Clark Bailey, Oakland, Calif. (12-27)
 Alex Brodie, lay assistant, Vancouver, B. C., Can. (12-31)

Faith Reflects Itself in All of Life

- Nov. 17 Romans 12:1-2. All of our life is God's. Pray for a courageous faith, to remain faithful both in trouble and in prosperity.
- Nov. 18 Matthew 16:24-28. The life of faith is worth any sacrifice. Pray for wisdom to give all of your life and hope to God.
- Nov. 19 John 12:20-26. God shows His grace through death. Pray for health and for grace to use it for God.
- Nov. 20 Micah 6:6-8. God calls us to show His love to men. Pray for your fellow workers and your neighbors, that they might know God's grace.
- Nov. 21 Matthew 7:21-27. God asks us for a total trust in His power and grace. Pray that your home relationships might know the peace of the Gospel.
- Nov. 22 Romans 12:9-13. Genuine love is a giving love. Ask God to prosper the work of your church.
- Nov. 23 Philippians 4:4-13. The Christian may rejoice in his freedom. Pray that students from your church remain true to the Gospel.

Faith Brings Many Blessings

- Nov. 24 Matthew 5:1-12. God's blessings are always given in His love. Give thanks for the peace of knowing your forgiveness.
- Nov. 25 Matthew 19:23-30. No earthly wealth is worth the Gospel's blessings. Give thanks for your hope of eternal life with Christ.
- Nov. 26 Malachi 3:6-12. It is a blessing that we can give what God has given to us. Give thanks for your abundant food, clothing, and shelter.
- Nov. 27 2 Corinthians 9:1-15. Our love is measured by our neighbor's need. Pray for grace to know that all your gifts come from God.
- **Nov.** 28 1 Peter 3:8-12. The blessing of love requires a sacrifice for love. Pray for the grace to live in fellowship within the church.

Jesus Will Return

- Nov. 29-1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. The Christian still looks forward in hope. Give thanks for the promise of Christ's return.
- Nov. 30 2 Peter 3:1-14. God's assurances are certain. He will come again. Pray for assurance in your days of doubt.
- Dec. 1 James 5:7-11. Patience is a part of faith. Pray for trust to await Christ's return with joy.
- Dec. 2—Luke 12:13-21. The day of judgment is the day of our death. Pray for zeal to work for God while there is time.
- Dec. 3—Revelation 22:6-21. The word of the Gospel includes the promise of Christ's return. Pray that the Christ return soon.

Jesus Will Come to Judge Men

- Dec. 4 Matthew 25:31-46. Mankind is already judged and divided by its response to the Gospel. Pray for wisdom to see the needs of others.
- Dec. 5-2 Thessalonians 1:5-12. We who await His coming glorify God for His grace and power. Pray for faith to leave all judgment to God.
- Dec. 6 Matthew 22:1-14. It is the gracious invitation of God by which we are judged. Ask for forgiveness to cover all your sins.
- Dec. 7 Matthew 24:36-44. The Word of God divides mankind. Give thanks that our Judge both knows us and has accepted us.
- Dec. 8—John 5:25-47. God has always spoken the same Word of grace. Pray that the Gospel might be heard in every land.
- Dec. 9—Luke 12:41-48. We who have heard the Gospel have a deeper responsibility. Pray for courage to live your life in expectation of its end.
- Dec. 10 Matthew 25:1-13. God's judgment is always spoken in forgiveness. Ask God to forgive your proud urge to judge others.
- Jesus Will Come to Reject Evil
- Dec. 11—Luke 16:19-31. Those who choose hell have rejected all hope. Give thanks that our pride and boasting have been defeated by the cross of Christ.
- Dec. 12 Matthew 13:36-43. In this world the Christian and the unbeliever live together. Give thanks for God's promise that His truth will at last prevail.
- Dec. 13 Mark 9:42-48. The temptation to reject grace may come even from within ourselves. Ask forgiveness for the troubles you have caused other believers.

Jesus Will Come to Bless the Faithful

Dec. 14 — Hebrews 11:1-16. The blessings of God are beyond our troubles. Pray for the hope that brings joy to every life.

- Dec. 15 Revelation 4:1-11. The final triumph of the church is assured. Pray that your Christmas worship might remind you again of God's grace.
- **Dec. 16 Revelation 21:22—22:5.** The final blessing of the church is perfect peace. Pray that the Christ come soon with salvation.
- Dec. 17 Revelation 21:1-7. God's presence itself is our hope. Pray that God keep you and your fellow Christians faithful.

Jesus Has Come to Save

- Dec. 18 Luke 1:26-38. God's promises are always fulfilled. Pray that all those who hear your Gospel might know your faith.
- Dec. 19—Luke 1:39-56. In faith we are confident that God fulfills His promise. Pray that the world might know Christ and be reconciled to God.
- Dec. 20 Luke 2:1-20. God came to us that we might know Him. Pray that your children remember the true joy of Christmas in their worship.
- Dec. 21 Matthew 1:18-25. God's word of promise assures us of our salvation. Pray that God remove despair and discouragement from your heart.

Jesus Came to Call Us to Himself

- Dec. 22 Matthew 9:9-13. God's call demands our response. Give thanks that you have been called by God.
- Dec. 23 Isaiah 45:20-25. Through us God calls all peoples into grace. Ask for grace to know yourself united with all Christians.
- **Dec.** 24 1 John 3:1-10. The forgiving Christ has freed us from all sin. Ask God to teach us to know His way of grace.
- Dec. 25 Isaiah 55:1-5. In Christ God invites us to eternal peace. Pray for a grateful heart under the grace of God.
- Dec. 26 Matthew 23:37-39. God has called all men into His mercy. Ask God to give hope to those who now live without hope.
- **Dec.** 27 Ezekiel 18:19-32. God's justice offers forgiveness to all. Pray for a spirit of repentance, without blaming others.
- Dec. 28 John 6:35-40. The will of God is that we accept His mercy. Pray for ability to see your life as God sees it.
- **Dec. 29 Isaiah 1:16-20.** God gives life to those who obediently accept it. Give thanks that God has kept you through the past year.
- Dec. 30 Matthew 11:25-30. Jesus has invited us to humble service. Pray that God keep you faithful through another year.

Jesus Calls Us to Faithfulness

Dec. 31 — Revelation 3:7-13. For all our lives we are God's ambassadors. Pray for the whole Christian church on earth, that it might prosper under grace.

Lutheran Deaf Mission Staff

Full-Time Pastors

Rev. Orlin S. Anderson, 104 Finley St., Jacksonville, Ill. 62650 Rev. Clark R. Bailey, 2406 107th Avenue, Oakland, Calif. 94603 Rev. Robert A. Bauer, 5808 113 B St., Edmonton, Alta., Can.	(217)	243-2528
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