

The

Deaf Lutheran



This is the Christ, our God and Lord, Who in all need shall aid afford; He will Himself your Savior be From all your sins to set you free.

MARTIN LUTHER - 1535

December 1971

Planning for Bible Sunday, Dec. 5?

On the Second Sunday in Advent (Dec. 5, 1971) the churches of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod are encouraged to celebrate Bible Sunday. Note what Paul says in the standard Epistle for this day: "Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope." (Rom. 15:4)

The occasion will also provide an excellent opportunity to highlight the work of the American Bible Society. Your congregation should rejoice in and be invited to undergird financially these fellow Christians who are translating and distributing the Holy Scriptures throughout the world. Become better informed about this ministry, and share with all the members of your parish what you discover about new ways to encourage Bible reading. What can your congregation do to strengthen Bible study in your community and the world?

Some of the congregations of Synod are doing less this year than they did last. Help your congregation expand, not fall back in its support.

Perhaps one of the ideas suggested in the November issue of *Advance* magazine (pages 11 to 14) can help spark new interest in your own congregation. Your congregation's leaders receive copies of *Advance* magazine.

Adapted from Advance

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

December 1971, Vol. 63, No. 10

Official Paper of the Board for Missions of

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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Published monthly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. 63118. Subscription price \$3.00 a year. Second-class postage paid at St. Louis, Mo.

THE DEAF LUTHERAN goes to press on the 1st Friday, 4 weeks before issue. Send all news, pictures, stories, and articles by the 12th of the month, 7 weeks before issue, to Rev. Martin A. Hewitt, Editor, 6301 Alamo Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63105.

Change of address and subscriptions — THE DEAF LUTHERAN, 31 West Beacon St., West Hartford, Conn. 06119.

MOVING? CHANGING ADDRESSES?

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

The Ames Family Arrives Safely in Brazil

September 1971

First of all, we thank Rev. Herbert Rohe for his nice letter and all of our friends for their prayers. Every day of the 21-day trip, we experienced that God was answering prayers.

On the way some Japanese travelers joined us for daily Bible study. They even wanted to learn the sign language.

Rio de Janeiro is situated on a very beautiful bay. We arrived at night and saw the city all lit up. On top of Mount Corcovada the great statue of Christ with arms outstretched made us feel He was welcoming us to this new land where He had work for us to do among the deaf.

The Lord worked one miracle for us after another to get us here. Our final papers came through on the very last day before we left. There were no more openings on the ship for another year. We had sold most of our belongings, rented our house, sold our car, etc., so God answered all our prayers. Then, when we arrived at customs, one missionary had to pay a large sum of money for duty, but the man who inspected our baggage was very nice. He was so glad to have people come to Brazil to help the deaf, we didn't have to pay anything.

Since we stayed in Rio de Janeiro for two days, we took a trip up to Corcovada and also to Sugar Loaf on the cable car to view the whole city. It was beautiful. Then we were driven to Sao Paulo by Charis' sister Faith and her husband, George Pidcoke. With their two little ones they had driven all the way from Parana to meet us, help us through customs, and then take us out to the farm called Sante Fe.

We are now getting settled, unpacking, etc. We will be living in the big house until our new home is ready. Charis' parents, Rev. and Mrs. Sand, live in the big house where we entertain missionaries and visitors. We will be staying in this house until Christmas, when we hope to have our own home ready.

We have very much work ahead of us. John is helping to keep the truck and jeep in repair and to run the diesel light plant. He also has helped with the cattle, branding them and giving them shots. Our boys, Dennis and Mark, love the ranch, for they can ride their horses and even help bring in the cattle. Charis is busy helping to get the big house in order, for it had been vacant for a year and a half.

Now we are asking the Lord to help us find the deaf so we can start working with them. We visited the school for deaf children in Rio. The good people who work with these children try so hard but have so little to work with. We felt very sad that they had so little money for this good work of helping and loving the children. The supervisor was so glad that we had come to help in the work for the greatly neglected deaf. He gave us a book that showed the Brazilian sign language. Most signs are the same as ours. We think we will try to learn the Portuguese language as well as the difference in the signs. So we need your prayers, and we are so glad to get letters. Please write us. We will write to everyone to answer questions. God bless you.

> Affectionately, in Christ, CHARIS AND JOHN AMES C. P. 290 Umuarama, Parana, Brazil

G. O. E. S. 1971

Geneva Report

I am now settled in the office in Zurich where I will be working with the deaf for the next months. So far there are no great problems. It is interesting to note though that I am new here, and on Monday we will have a new secretary. Then the mime group will also have a new ballet director. Such is life, I guess. If I make any great mistakes, at least I can plead complete ignorance of past traditions.



Participants to the first world seminar at Geneva listen carefully through the earphones to the discussions and lectures. In the foreground, left to right: Fr. Oates, Brazil; Mrs. Thevdt, Minn.; and a participant from Ethiopia



Simultaneous translations were made for participants to the first world seminar on the pastoral care of the deaf. Booth 1 was for English, booth 2 for French, and booth 3 for German. (The speaker was talking German so that translator had time to read!) Spanish translations were also made by the two interpreters sitting in the meeting under the booths

The ecumenical seminar for the training of responsible persons for religious work with the deaf ended with a pop. I was hoping it would end with a bang, but such was not the case. Basically the problem was that everyone was lectured out. The program had very little variety, and the third week of sitting and listening was just a little too much.

I do not want to detract from the success or importance of this meeting, however. I think that this first attempt was a fantastic success with so many people from all over the world attending and so much to be discussed and shared. All agreed that another seminar should be held in the future and that we should do everything we can to get it going as soon as possible.

In connection with this I think perhaps 4 years hence would be the best time for a meeting. At that time the World Federation for the Deaf (WFD) will be meeting in Washington, D. C., and it would be logical to have the next seminar there too. That remains to be seen. Actually the relationship between WFD's religious section and the WFD is not clear, and certainly this ecumenical working group for the care of the deaf is not a part of it. In time perhaps things will clarify themselves, and then we will know more.

I will be getting copies of the papers presented and will forward a set to Rev. Herbert Rohe. Many of the papers will be very valuable to our staff.

Perhaps the greatest undertone of the meeting was the great controversy about methods of teaching the deaf. This discussion came up time and time again. I really don't know if it will ever be resolved. It will take all of the time ahead of me to make a real appraisal of that situation here. I can see some advantages to the completely oral environment, but in the church service I think the disadvantages greatly outweigh the advantages. As I said, time will tell.

Greetings to all of you in the Lord. Rev. DANIEL POKORNY

(ED. NOTE: Rev. Daniel Pokorny is living in Zurich, Switzerland, for 10 months [August 1971 to June 1972] to explore the methods of European work with the deaf. In August he attended G.O.E.S. 1971, that is, the first ecumenical seminar for training responsible Christians working among the deaf, where he presented three papers. For additional information see the article on page 151 of our November issue.)

THE TEST of a good sermon is that the hearers go away saying, not "What a lovely sermon" but "I will do something about it."



Pastor Pokorny interprets the discussion of a section of the first world meeting for the pastoral care of the deaf into American sign language for Fr. Axelrod, a priest from South Africa, and another priest from Brazil. Both are deaf. More than 75 participants attended the 3-week seminar from all parts of the world



An afternoon at a villa near Geneva. Participants in the world seminar on pastoral care of the deaf: Ronald Rhodes, Greenbelt, Md. (wearing Gallaudet shirt), is a member of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Washington, D. C., and visited the seminar several times. Kjell Omahr Mork, a student from Gallaudet College (former president of the Gamma Delta), was a full-time participant at the seminar

The Signs You See in Church

Contribute

A special sign for "give" in the sense of helping others or of supporting the church and other worthy organizations is of value. It might also bring out some fine thoughts in the Bible.

The deaf are very clever in developing signs from a common sign. The sign for "give" is one such common sign. The question is, does our common sign for "give" really bring out the right thought of congregational giving? How can we sign the idea of stewardship, of the whole membership bringing its offerings? What does the word "contribute" really mean?

Even the English word is interesting. The first syllable of the word, "con," means "together with." Tribute means an amount of money to be paid. Take a look at the expenses needed for a church, for mission work, for example. When this amount is added up and put before the people, they see this. Here is an amount which we are to bring together. That is what it means to contribute. We sign it: Both hands are held forward at waist height, palms up and thumb and fingers close together as holding something. Then move the hands together toward the center as toward a plate or box to drop the gift. When done with a somewhat circular motion it gives the picture of all the members doing their share. This sign has a more delicate and impressive manner than the one for "give."

If we use the sign for "give" in

Rom. 15:26, the wonderful action of the willing people is lost. "For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem." Use the sign for "contribute" and you are putting into descriptive language the willing hearts and hands bringing their gifts.

G. W. GAERTNER

(This is the seventh article of Dr. G. W. Gaertner's series on church signs reprinted by request from the 1959 DEAF LUTHERAN. ED.)

All About COSD

Serving Our Purpose

Some people don't quite understand why the Council of Organizations Serving the Deaf was organized. Everyone understands there is much work to be done, and any new agency is welcomed in the hope it will take up some of the slack that exists in services to deaf people. But where does the COSD fit into the scheme of things?

Back in 1961 there was a workshop of deaf people sponsored by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation in Fort Monroe, Va. The participants dreamed big dreams of how services and opportunities for deaf persons could be improved.

One of the dreams was about an agency that would pull together all of the national organizations serving the deaf. With such a united voice, perhaps good things would begin to happen. Although immediate action was impossible, the idea proved to be a profitable one. In 1965 the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare requested that the National Health Council conduct a survey on the need for a coordinating agency for organizations serving the deaf. This survey resulted in positive action.

The certificate of incorporation of the Council of Organizations Serving the Deaf, Inc., was signed in December 1966. It shows the purpose to be "to promote the best interests of deaf persons through cooperative efforts by autonomous member organizations of and for the deaf."

This purpose was to be accomplished by eliminating social and economic barriers, preventing deafness, coordinating and strengthening services of member organizations, and providing liaison between organizations of and for the deaf and other organizations interested in the deaf. Further, it would share information about deafness, enlist the support of organizations and of the general public, and solicit funds for the accomplishment of these purposes.

In its infancy the COSD concentrated on "cooperative efforts" by bringing 15 national organizations serving the deaf together for board meetings and forums.

"Liaison" provided by the COSD office facilitated the "sharing of information" to "coordinate and strengthen" services of member organizations.

COSD personnel work to "eliminate social and economic barriers" by representing member organizations on national committees and boards.

Because of the financial crisis,

present council activities must be concentrated on "enlisting support" and "soliciting funds."

How well has the council served its purpose for the past 4 years? We know that we haven't done enough, but we have made progress, and we do have some dreams of our own for the future.

We are positive thinkers. So when (not if) COSD gains some financial footing, we would like to provide member organizations with legislative counseling, fundraising expertise, publicity and public relations service, creative writing, think-tank services to find solutions to problems, and clearinghouse services to disseminate information about deafness. We know what we want to do, and with financial support we can hire the professional staff to provide these services.

COUNCILings Newsletter

What Does God Pledge?

God Pledges Spiritual Blessings

1. A Savior — "The Good News was promised long ago by God through His prophets and written in the Holy Scriptures" (Romans 1:2 TEV). "[Mary] will give birth to a son, and you will name Him Jesus — for He will save His people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

2. Forgiveness for the sorry sinner — "The blood of Jesus, His Son, makes us clean from every sin.... If we confess our sins to God, we can trust Him, for He does what is right — He will forgive us our sins and make us clean from all our wrongdoing." (1 John 1:7b, 9)

3. He is always with us — "Jesus answered him: 'Whoever loves Me will obey My message. My Father will love him, and my Father and I will come to him and live with him.'" (John 14:23 TEV)

4. The Holy Spirit, the Com-

forter, the Helper - "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, the Spirit of truth, to stay with you forever." (John 14:16 TEV)

5. Answer to prayer — "Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks will receive, and he who seeks will find, and the door will be opened to him who knocks." (Matthew 7:7-8 TEV)

6. Eternal life — "And this is what Christ Himself promised to give us - eternal life." (1 John 2:25 TEV)

God Also Pledges Temporal Blessings

1. Help in time of trouble -"For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, Fear not, I will help you." (Isaiah 41:13 RSV)



Special Events at Silent Lutheran

Madison, Wis. On Sat. evening, Sept. 18, the congregation of Madison Silent Lutheran Church several delighted in notable events. For the occasion the congregation gathered for a spaghetti supper.

Vicar Kenneth Schnepp and his

2. Daily bread — "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall not cease." (Genesis 8:22 RSV)

3. Protection — "Because you made the Lord your defender, the Most High your protector, no disaster will strike you, no violence will come near your home. God will put. His angels in charge of you to protect you wherever you go." (Psalm 91:9-11 TEV)

4. All other needs — "And my God, with all His abundant wealth in Christ Jesus, will supply all your needs." (Philippians 4:19 TEV)

SOME OF OUR people would be ashamed to have someone pay their grocery bill, but they don't seem ashamed to have someone else pay their mission bills.

FIFI D

GLEANINGS

Jeanne were welcomed. wife They will serve in the Madison field for one year under the guidance and counsel of Pastor Robert Corl.

The congregation also honored Pastor Corl. As a token of appreciation for his 10 years of service, a gift certificate was pre-



Honored by Madison Silent Lutheran Church are "arriving" Vicar Kenneth Schnepp and his wife Jeanne and Pastor Robert and Altha Corl

sented to Pastor Corl and his wife Altha.

Later the congregation dedicated the lighting system that illuminates the church steeple. It was given in memory of Thomas Hansen by his family.



ILDA

Cultural Contest Winners

Chicago, Ill. The cultural displays at the first International Lutheran Deaf Association convention here drew much interest and participation. Many handcraft and art displays were judged in three categories. The first-place prize was a \$10 bond deposited

Arthur Nadler, president of Silent Lutheran Congregation, presents a gift certificate to Pastor Robert Corl on the occasion of his 10th anniversary in deaf missions — all served in Madison. Looking on are Mrs. Altha Corl; Royal Eklof, secretary; Harold Schrank, vice-president; and Leon Elmer, financial secretary in the Church Extension Fund in the name of the winner.

Solid or three dimensional art. First place (\$10): Roland Emerson, Elyria, Ohio. Second place: Ralph Davis, Jackson, Miss. (a self-supporting deaf-blind man)

Graphic or flat art. First place (\$10): David Christenson, Milwaukee, Wis. Second place: Roland Byington, Milwaukee, Wis.

Sewing. First place (\$10): Mrs. Hanni Adams, Detroit, Mich. Second place: Mrs. Roland Emerson, Elyria, Ohio.

The three judges were Herbert Schulingkamp, a deaf architect, New Orleans, La.; Mrs. Betty Breoker, deaf, art major, now counselor to deaf students at Delgado College, New Orleans, La.; and Rev. Paul Dorr, a former commercial artist, Jackson, Miss.

New LWML Projects

The Atlantic District LWML



LIGHT FOR YOUR WAY Daily Bible Readings December

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 this month:

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. Dorothy Quade, pastor's wife, Cedar Rapids, Iowa (12-9)
Pastor Wayne Bottlinger, Vancouver, B. C., Can. (12-19)
Mrs. Carol Oettel, lay minister's wife, Chicago, Ill. (12-23)

has granted \$300 to the Metropolitan New York Mission to the Deaf.

A grant of \$2,500 will be given by the California and Nevada District LWML for religious materials for teaching the deaf.

In South Dakota the LWML district has granted \$2,000 for visual aids for the deaf.

A \$100 gift from the St. Charles Zone of the Missouri District LWML was received in October by Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf, St. Louis, for a filmstrip projector.

News Snatches

Alpha Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Rochester, N. Y., celebrated the 20th anniversary of its organization, Sunday, Oct. 3. The congregation honored 12 of the 17 charter members who still live in the Rochester area.

Inspired by the deaf couple, Mr. and Mrs. John Ames, who have moved to Brazil as lay missionaries to illiterate deaf, *Calvary Lutheran Church for the Deaf*, *Des Moines, Iowa*, recently voted to send the Ames 10 percent of its loose plate offerings.

Pastor Clark Bailey, Oakland, Calif. (12–27)

Alex Brodie, lay minister, Vancouver, B. C., Can. (12-31)

- Dec. 1 Acts 21:7-14. Paul is willing to accept everything that happens to him with Christian patience and humility. Pray that God will give you courage to live and willingly suffer things for Jesus' sake.
- Dec. 2—Acts 21:17-36. Paul is arrested on a false charge. Give thanks to the Lord for the freedom to worship Him.
- Dec. 3 Acts 22:30—23:10. Paul speaks and throws the Sanhedrin into confusion. Pray that God would confuse the enemies of His Gospel when they seek to destroy His church.
- Dec. 4 Acts 23:12-35. Paul is taken to Caesarea for safety. Pray for the understanding that our earthly life is short. Ask God to help you do His work now.
- **Dec.** 5—Acts 24:1-23. The trial before Felix. Pray for the leaders of your nation that they may know and be faithful to the Lord.
- Dec. 6—Acts 25:1-12. Paul appeals to the Roman emperor. Pray that God's will may be done in your life.
- Dec. 7 Acts 26:1-32. A bold defense but no hope. Pray that your family and friends remember Christ and His love during this Advent-Christmas season.
- Dec. 8—Acts 27:1-20. Hardships on the journey to Rome. Pray for all who are lonely and separated from their friends.
- Dec. 9—Acts 27:21-44. When trouble comes upon the travelers, Paul takes charge. Pray for the courage to help others in time of trouble or danger.
- Dec. 10 Acts 28:1-10. Delivered to safety from the storm. Pray for people who you know are having trouble in their lives.

- Dec. 11 Acts 28:17-31. Paul's preaching of the Good News is accepted by some and rejected by others. Ask that the message of the Gospel may enter the hearts of all in this Advent season.
- Dec. 12 2 Corinthians 11:21-33. Paul has a great burden as a missionary. Ask that your pastors and teachers might have the peace of Christmas in their homes and lives.
- Dec. 13 Philippians 1:12-26. A decision in spite of life or death. Pray God to give you the courage either to live or to die for Jesus.
- Dec. 14 Philippians 3:2-16. A grateful striving for perfection. Ask for the hope of a better faith and life in God.
- Dec. 15 2 Timothy 4:6-18. Paul writes his last words. Ask that God might use you as a servant to the end.
- Dec. 16 Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-5. Luke, a doctor, writes two books of the New Testament. Pray for Christian doctors and nurses in their work.
- Dec. 17 Acts 16:6-12. Luke joins Paul in his work. Pray for medical mission stations in foreign countries.
- Dec. 18 Colossians 4:10-17. Luke remains with Paul in prison. Ask that God would support all His workers in hope.
- **Dec. 19 2 Timothy 4:9-13.** Luke continues faithfully with Paul to the end. Ask for grace to continue in the Christian fellowship of the church.
- Dec. 20 Luke 10:38-42. A meal is prepared for Jesus. Pray that our Christmas spirit of welfare may continue throughout the year.
- **Dec. 21 John 11:17-44.** A beloved friend is raised from the dead. Give thanks for the hope of the resurrection and eternal life.
- **Dec. 22 John 12:1-8.** A humble honor for Jesus, the Savior. Pray that gifts at Christmas may be given with Christian love.
- Dec. 23 Luke 1:26-38. God chooses a mother for the Savior. Thank God for the responsibilities He has given to you.
- Dec. 24 Luke 2:1-7. Unto you is born a Savior. Thank God for the gift of Himself in Christ.
- Dec. 25 Matthew 1:18-25. The birth of a King. Ask for God's grace to fully give yourself in obedience to His rule.
- Dec. 26 Luke 2:41-50. A mother searches for her Son. Pray for the understanding of the Gift, the Savior, whom God has given you.
- Dec. 27 John 2:1-11. Mary's faith continues in spite of a rebuke. Pray for the children in your congregation that they may learn to pray.
- Dec. 28 Mark 3:20-35. A mother's concern for safety. Ask for wisdom in the work you do for God.
- Dec. 29 John 19:23-27. A great, deep sorrow. Ask for forgiveness for the sins you did this past year.
- Dec. 30 Psalm 103:1-22. An expression of thanks for life and faith. Give thanks to your heavenly Father for the blessings you have enjoyed.
- Dec. 31 Psalm 95:1-7. Praise at the end of the year. Praise God for the grace of life and hope.

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Lutheran Deaf Mission Staff

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International Lutheran Deaf Association

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