

The Deaf Lutheran.

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY.

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LUTHERANISM.

On the 31st of October in the year 1517, at about noontime, a monk with haggard face and care-worn features was seen emerging from the door of the Augustinian Convent in Wittenberg, Saxony, holding in the one hand a scroll and in the other a hammer. With a brisk gait he walked through the streets to the Castle Church, which was not far away. There he stopped, unfolded the scroll, and tacked it to the church-door. Upon the long sheet of paper which he posted in this conspicuous place he had written 95 theses directed against the abuses of selling indulgences, or forgiving the sins for money as it was practiced in the Roman Catholic Church, and he challenged anyone to meet him in public debate on these sentences which he meant to defend. There were no newspapers in those days, but no sooner had the sounds of the hammer died away than people stopped and read. Crowds gathered at the church-door. The interesting theses were copied and recopied. They became the talk of the town. Inside of two weeks they were known in all parts of Germany and in four weeks throughout Europe. With a few strokes of his pen this unpretending monk had created a sensation which affected the whole world. He had kindled a fire which burns to this day. That monk was Dr. Martin Luther, and the 31st day of October had thus become the birthday of the Church of the Reformation.

Was Luther, then, the founder of a new church and a new religion? Is the Church of the Reformation a departure from the original Christian Church? Did Luther teach a new religion different from that which Christ taught? This is what Roman Catholics claim. They say the followers of Luther were led away from the old established Christian Church. But far from being a new departure, the Church of

the Reformation is nothing but the restored original Christian Church.

The early Christians rested their faith on the Word of God alone, and would acknowledge no other authority in matters of faith. All their doctrines they derived from the Bible alone, and if a man would set forth a doctrine without scriptural foundation and call it Christian doctrine, he would be termed a heretic, and no Christian would hold fellowship with him. So did Luther acknowledge no other authority in matters of faith. He derived his doctrine from the Bible alone. His work was not a separation from the Christian Church, but a reformation of the Church. The trouble was that the Roman Catholic Church had put away the Bible and taught human laws and doctrines. Luther, being a good student of the Bible, merely cleansed the Church from the many errors and abominations that had crept into it under Roman Catholic misrule, Luther recovered the lost and forgotten Bible which the pope had hid under a bushel, and showed the Christians how they must base their faith and doctrine on the Word of God alone and on nothing else. What then is the Church which bears Luther's name otherwise than the Church which is based on the Word of God alone, the restored original Christian Church, which is built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, of which Jesus Christ Himself is the chief corner-stone?

As the early Christians considered Jesus Christ their only Master, while they among themselves were brethren, so did Luther restore the old corner-stone, Jesus Christ, to its proper place. His great work finally consisted in preaching the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom all men must hearken if they would be saved. Read Luther's many books and in every treatise, in every sermon you will find him singing praises of Jesus Christ,

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the Son of God, the only Savior of fallen mankind.

What, then, is the Church of the Reformation, the Church which adheres to Luther and the doctrines he taught? It is the Church in which Christ, the chief corner-stone, whom the pope had cast aside, putting himself in His place, has been restored. It is the Church whose standard is the doctrine of justification by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and which stands and falls with that great truth: "Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." It is the Church which has gone back to the doctrines, usages, and practices of the original Christian Church which was "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone.

Let us never swerve from this Gospel of Christ. Let us be Lutherans to the core, clinging to the Word of God and to Christ leading a godly life upon this earth, thus showing that we are faithful members of our beloved Church.

Among Our Deaf.

Chicago Mission.

REV. A. REINKE, PASTOR.

A distinct blessing in the form of a child being born to them has recently been shown to the following deaf couples in our congregation: To Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Frank, a girl on Sept. 2nd, to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Handrock of Crystal Lake, a boy on Sept. 6th, to Mr. and Mrs. F. Schultz, a girl some time in July last. May these children grow up and prosper spiritually and physically.

Mr. Wm. Hilmer, of Ceylon, Minnesota, whose father owns and cultivates a very large farm there, will, in October, be a member of our flock. He attended the school at Faribault, Minn., and was confirmed there by the Rev. Mr. Larsen. We bid him welcome and hope that he will feel at home in our midst.

Five years ago our chapel was dedicated, and in commemoration of this fact we shall have appropriate services on Oct. 3rd. A special envelope collection of thanks will be lifted which we hope will greatly reduce our church debt, which has decreased nearly a thousand dollars during the time mentioned.

We wish to draw the attention of all our readers and friends to the new address of our church building. Owing to the recent re-numbering of houses in Chicago, our new number since Sept. 1st is: 2127-2129 Crystal Street.

Milwaukee Mission.

REV. T. WANGERIN, PASTOR.

Four deaf have joined our Bible class and are being instructed in the Chief Parts of the Catechism. They are the Messrs. P. Czapiak, E. Harter, E. Nelson and A. Nolte. This class is still open for anyone wishing to join it. Such deaf as have as yet not taken this course are welcome to become members of the class.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Hilgen of Cedarburg are regular visitors at our Sunday services.

Pastor Wangerin will make another trip to Merrill, Wis., on October 3rd, where he will preach at the mission-festival of Emmanuel Lutheran Congregation followed by a service with the deaf. On the evening of the same day he will open a new field of mission at Wausau, holding services with the deaf of that city, incidentally also lecturing to our hearing friends on the progress of our work. We hope also there to get a few more subscribers to The Deaf Lutheran.

Minneapolis Mission.

REV. J. L. SALVNER, PASTOR.

On the 12th of Sept. the missionary of Minneapolis had another opportunity to lecture before a number of our Lutheran friends in

behalf of our Mission among the Deaf. On this day the congregation at Melrose, Minn., celebrated its annual mission-festival. Part of the collection was given for our work among the deaf. Besides we secured twelve new subscribers for our Deaf Lutheran.

Of our Savior we read in the Scriptures, "As his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath-day." So it seems, that a number of deaf in Minneapolis have acquired the custom or habit of coming to church regularly. On the 12th of Sept., the pastor had intended to drop the services on account of the mission-festival at Melrose. But several of the deaf expressed the wish to have services nevertheless. The pastor was glad to hear this and therefore gave Mr. Hansen, the president of our Grace Congregation, a sermon to be read on Sunday morning. It was reported that the attendance was good.

Toledo Mission.

REV. A. BOLL, PASTOR.

We regret to have lost at Detroit a communicant member in the person of Miss Anna Rechlin, a long time teacher at our school at North Detroit. She was a graduate of this school and also of the State School at Flint, Mich. As teacher she for many years rendered valuable services to our school and endeared herself to all of her pupils. As one of the teachers in the manual department she taught principally English and a correct use of the sign-language. She will make her home with her mother at Saginaw, Mich.

It has pleased God Almighty to take from our midst by a sudden death Mr. John Born of Monroe, Mich. Returning home from work he sought to shorten his way by walking along the railroad track which has dealt the death-blow to so many deaf, and was struck by a fast moving train. Suffering intense pain for two weeks, he died Sept. 9th, leaving his wife and a child two years of age. He was a good scholar of the Bible and with much delight read the psalms of David. On his death bed he confessed his hope of attaining life eternal through Jesus Christ, and received Holy Communion. His remains were laid to rest from the church at Monroe on Sept. 11th, Pastor Boll basing his address on Psalm 116, 15. May God comfort the survivors and

teach us all to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom, for truly, there is but one step between life and death.

Miss Stadler on the first Sunday of the month comes some thirty miles from Blissfield, Mich., to Toledo, in order to attend services there with her fellow-deaf and also to be instructed in the Catechism. The same can be said of Mr. Rudisill who has to go ten miles to attend services at Ft. Wayne on the second Sunday of every month. Their attendance is connected with difficulties and expense, but they are like unto the merchant who was seeking goodly pearls and found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it. Matth. 13, 45. If these deaf, who live so far away, regularly come to services,—ought not we, who live near our place of worship, gladly come and buy the bread of life without money and without price? Is. 55, 1. 2.

Kansas City, Mo., Mission.

REV. N. F. JENSEN, PASTOR.

On Sunday, Sept. 5th, Rev. Jensen preached at the annual mission-festival of our hearing congregation at Freistatt, Mo., in the interest of our mission. After the sermon he gave a demonstration in the sign-language. All present were greatly interested in our work and promised a liberal support to help us carry on this blessed work.

We are glad to report that Mr. John Wear, one of the first catechumens in Kansas City, who left us two years ago going to Colorado for his health, has returned to our city. He was present at our service Sept. 12th., and says he intends to stay till next spring. However, we hope to have him with us permanently.

At our August service in Omaha we had the pleasure of having with us Mr. and Mrs. F. Gierloff former members of our Milwaukee Mission. Mr. Gierloff intends to make his home in Omaha provided he can find permanent employment. We hope he will be successful, as he and his wife would be a great help to our mission.

Mr. Kroenke, a graduate of the Fulton, Mo., state school, has applied for instruction in the Catechism. Mr. Kroenke lives at Concordia, Mo., and his parents are members of our church at that place. We are glad to

have Mr. Kroenke come and take instruction in "the one thing needful," and hope there will be others to join the new Bible class to be organized next month. In the next issue of our paper we hope to report the confirmation of two deaf now taking instructions.

St. Louis Mission.

REV. C. SCHUBKEGEL, PASTOR.

The attendance at the services for the deaf here has improved since these services have been held in Zion Lutheran Church. Divine services are not of human origin like lectures on political and social subjects, but they are expressly commanded by God. In the third commandment God says: "Thou shalt sanctify the holy-day." That means "we should fear and love God, that we may not despise preaching and His Word, but keep it holy, gladly hear and learn it." The fear of God, the holy fear to offend God by transgressing His commandment should restrain us from despising the preaching of God's Word. And that all people who will let anything except works of necessity and charity keep them from attending public worship thereby despise God and His Word, Jesus plainly tells us when He says to His faithful preachers: "He that heareth you heareth me, and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth Him that sent me." "And as the fear of the Lord will keep us from despising preaching and God's Word, the love of God will induce us to avail ourselves of every opportunity to hear the Word of God. As a bridegroom shows his love for his bride by hastening to her whenever he can, thus a true believer's love for Jesus will induce him to hasten to public worship in order to hear the beloved voice of Jesus, his heavenly bridegroom. Every true believer will say with the Psalmist: "Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honor dwelleth. One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in His temple. My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord." And Jesus says: "BLESSED are they that hear the Word of God and keep it."

SERVICES FOR THE DEAF.

CHICAGO, ILL.

Congregation of Our Savior, Crystal St., near North Hoyne Ave., Northwest Side. Services every Sunday, at 3:30 p. m., by Rev. Arth. Reinke, 2127 Crystal St., Chicago, Ill.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Lutheran Zions Church, 21st and Benton Sts. Services every second and fourth Sunday of the month, by Rev. C. Schubkegel, 2936a Madison St., St. Louis, Mo.

TOLEDO, O.

Trinity Lutheran Mission for the Deaf. Services in church, corner Vance and Ewing Sts., the first Sunday of the month, at 2:30 p. m., by Rev. A. Boll, c. o. Carlton, Toledo, O.

FINDLAY, O.

Services in the homes of the deaf by special appointment, by Rev. A. Boll.

LIMA, O.

Services the second Sunday of the month in the church, corner Kibby and Jackson Sts., at 2:30 p. m., by Rev. A. Boll.

CLEVELAND, O.

Services by special appointment, by Rev. A. Boll.

FORT WAYNE, IND.

St. John's Lutheran Congregation for the Deaf. Services the second Sunday of the month in St. Paul's Chapel, corner Barr and Madison Sts., at 7 p. m., by Rev. A. Boll.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Services the fourth Sunday of the month, at 8 p. m., in the church, corner Ohio and North East Sts., by Rev. A. Boll.

PERU, IND.

Services by special appointment, by Rev. A. Boll.

LOUISVILLE, KY.

Congregation of Our Savior for the Deaf. Services the fourth Sunday of the month, at 2:30 p. m., in the church, E. Broadway and Underhill Sts., by Rev. A. Boll.

DETROIT, MICH.

Services for the deaf the third Sunday of the month, at 3 p. m., in the church, corner Gratiot and Rivard Sts., by Rev. A. Boll.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Y. M. C. A. Building. Services every Sunday, at 11 a. m., by Rev. J. Salvner, 2115 9th Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Trinity Lutheran Church, corner Wabasha and Tilton Sts. Services every Sunday, excepting the last Sunday of the month, at 3:30 p. m., by Rev. J. Salvner.

STILLWATER, MINN.

Salem Lutheran Church, corner 4th and Oak Sts. Services the last Sunday of the month, at 3:30 p. m., by Rev. J. Salvner.

WINONA, MINN.

Services on the Tuesday preceding the third Wednesday of every month in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, at 8:15 p. m., by Rev. J. Salvner.

LA CROSSE, WIS.

Services every third Wednesday of the month in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, at 8 p. m., by Rev. J. Salvner.

ELKHART, IND.

Trinity Congregation's Schoolhouse. Services by special appointment, by Rev. Th. Claus, 119 Clinton St., Hammond, Ind.

SOUTH BEND, IND.

St. Paul's Congregation's Schoolhouse. Services by special appointment, by Rev. Th. Claus.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

Services at Lutheran Church, 16th and Cherry Sts., every first and third Sunday of the month, at 3 p. m., by Rev. N. F. Jensen, 1400 Tracy Ave.

OMAHA, NEBR.

Services at Lutheran Church, corner 28th and Parker Sts., every last Sunday of the month, at 3 p. m., by Rev. N. F. Jensen.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Emmanuel Chapel for the Deaf, 1711 Meinecke Ave. Divine services every Sunday, at 10 a. m., by Rev. T. Wangerin, 1711 Meinecke Ave.

RACINE, WIS.

Services every last Sunday of the month, at 2:30 p. m., corner Kewaunee and North Erie Sts., by Rev. T. Wangerin.

SHEBOYGAN, WIS.

Services every four weeks at the homes of the deaf, at 7:30 p. m., by Rev. T. Wangerin.

OSHKOSH, WIS.

Services every four weeks, 226 Bowen St., at 7:30 p. m., by Rev. T. Wangerin.

NEENAH, WIS.

Services by special appointment, by Rev. T. Wangerin

LUTHERAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, NORTH DETROIT, MICH.

The object of this school is to give its pupils a thorough Christian and common education. The regular course of instruction occupies from 7 to 8 years. Children are admitted from the age of 8 years on. Full information and application blanks may be obtained from, Rev. Wm. Gielow, Supt., North Detroit, Mich.