

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 53

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Number 4



He Is Risen

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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

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 The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

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Editorials

He Is Risen



These three short words, "He is risen," are the foundation of every Christian's faith and hope. Paul tells us that if Christ is not alive, then our faith is worth nothing. We are then still in our sins (1 Corinthians 15:17). He goes on to say that if our hope in Christ is good for this life only and not for a life in heaven, then we are of all men most miserable. (1 Corinthians 15:19)

The fact of Jesus' resurrection is

a double gift of hope and faith to Christians. First, His resurrection shows His victory over sin, Satan, and death to be complete. A dead Savior is no Savior at all. But our Savior is a living Savior, a true victor over all the powers of evil. Secondly, His resurrection guarantees our resurrection. His rising from the dead is like a down payment on our own resurrection, marking us for eternity.

The same event which gave joy to the hearts of Jesus' disciples and power to their preaching of the Gospel gives us also joy and power to worship Him and praise Him now and forever.

The Christ whom we worship is exalted far above all heavens. He is King of kings and Lord of lords. And He shall rule forever and ever.

*The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun.
Alleluia!*

The Christian Family

There has been a lot of talk in recent years about the breakdown of the American family. The two things to which speakers and writers usually point are the high divorce rate (showing that husbands and wives do not love each other as they should) and the rising rate of juvenile delinquency (showing that chil-

dren do not obey their parents, teachers, and other lawful leaders as they should).

Many things have been blamed for the fact that marriage and family life are not what they should be. The bad example of actors in the motion picture industry, comic books, television, poor housing,

crowded schools, working mothers, drunkard fathers, and a host of other influences have been charged with wrecking American homes. It has even gotten to the point where some people are complaining that teen-agers have too much money and therefore get into trouble because they don't have to work. At the same time other people are saying that it is poverty that makes people steal, and this is why young people are getting into trouble. Some have too much money, others have too little money, and that is why they steal. Even if the charges seem to have some weight, taken together they just don't quite add up.

Television is a good example of how the blame can be shifted from a personal guilt to a batch of wires and tubes or at least to a few executives whose names we don't know and who live so far away we are unlikely to meet them. People blame television for causing bad effects, but who causes television? TV wouldn't have one violent program after another if no one were watching them. TV is like the fever of a disease. The disease is something that is wrong with American families. Like most diseases it has a fever, a fever to spend more for liquor and cigarettes than on churches and charities, a fever to admire Hollywood actors and actresses instead of statesmen and educators, a fever to read funnies that aren't funny and to watch violent programs on television. True, the fever can do further harm to the body if it is not checked. But checking the fever is not going to cure the disease. And most Americans are not even willing to admit that they are sick.

It is at this point that the church has a real message for American families. Hospitals were founded because people's bodies and minds can become sick. The church was founded because people's souls are sick. And it does no good whatsoever to say over and over, "I'm not sick, I'm not sick." You are, I am, we all are. We might as well admit it.

Hospitals have not succeeded in wiping disease off the face of the earth. Neither will the church succeed in removing all the ills of man. But just as hospitals supply the tools and the medicines for fighting disease, so also the church supplies the means by which we can fight the decay that is tearing apart American families and sending their members to jail. The power of the church is the power of the Word of God, which not only assures us of God's forgiveness, but which can also build our moral strength to the point where we can be messengers of hope in a time when hope is desperately needed.

But the church is not a giant loud-speaker system or public-relations organization that can cure these moral ills by shouting them down. The church is people, people who let the power of God hold sway in their lives, people who live and work with other people with whom they may share this power. And the one place where the most sharing goes on is in the family. And it is indeed a tragic family where the members can share a tube of toothpaste, a box of cereal, a weekly pay check, and the same address, but cannot share their faith and love toward God. The church is effective when its members are effective in



sharing their faith with others, especially with other members of their family.

Lutheran churches throughout the country will be celebrating Christian Family Week May 7 to 14, 1961. This is a good time for each of us to sit down and ask ourselves some questions. What makes a family a Christian family? How can a member of a Christian family share his faith in God with the others? What can Christian families do to share their faith with other families? What can I do right now that will be a step in the right direction?

In the Father's Hand

A small boy once lived with his father in a small house about an hour's walk from town. Many times his father would walk to town late in the afternoon, and the little boy would go with him. They passed through a woods along the way, and the little boy liked to run ahead of his father and hunt for moss or pale flowers in the deep shade.

One day when the father went to town with his son he met an old friend whom he had not seen for many years. They talked and talked until at last it was very dark. Suddenly the father saw how late it was and knew that he ought to be going back home. Calling his son, he started back to the house.

When they reached the woods, it looked different than it did while

the sun was shining. It was dark, and the bushes swayed slowly in the breeze. The little boy did not run ahead of his father. He said, "Wait, Father, let me hold your hand."

Feeling his father's strong hand, he was no longer afraid. He walked along happy because he had a strong father who could lead him by the hand through the deep woods.

We are like that little boy. When the sunshine of good health and happiness fills our life, we feel little need of anyone to guide us. But when we find the sunlight growing dim and the darkness of sickness, grief, or death about us, then we also seek our Father's hand. Then, comforted by His mercy and grace, we, too, can continue on our way, guarded by His almighty power.

"I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die." John 11:25, 26

Late Bulletins

St. Louis, Mo. Rev. Ervin Oermann of Houston, Tex., has accepted the call to the Birmingham Field extended to him by the Board for Missions to the Deaf. Pastor Oermann will assume his duties in Birmingham later this spring, probably in June.

Rev. Theodore Frederking has received the call to succeed Pastor Oermann in the Houston Field.

The call to Birmingham had previously been declined by Rev. A. E. Ferber of Kansas City.

Chicago, Ill. Dr. O. C. Schroeder of Chicago, Ill., was hospitalized in Jackson Park Hospital for pneumonia and a slight heart attack.

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LAY CONFERENCES

Northwest Deaf Laymen's Conference

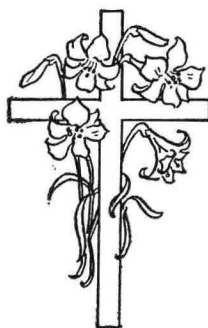
June 29 to July 2

Camp Luther on Lake Hatzig
Mission, British Columbia

Atlantic Regional Retreat

June 9 to 11

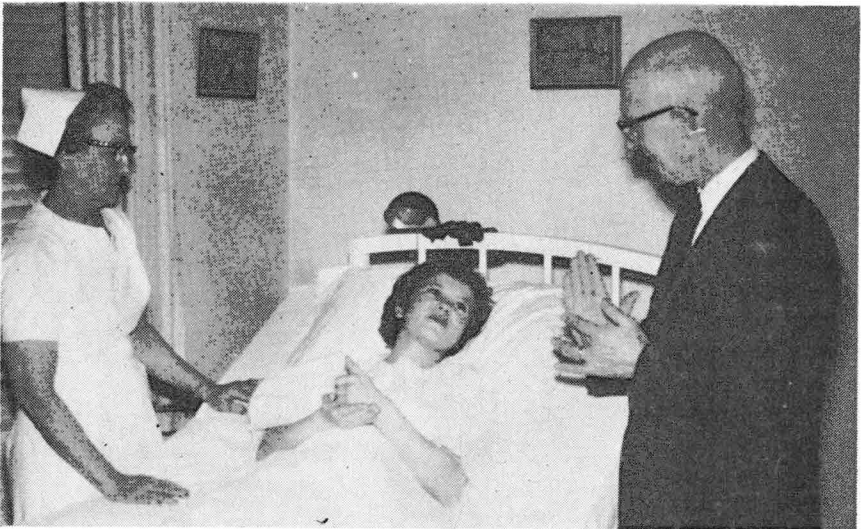
Flanders Hotel
Ocean City, N. J.



The Fargo Parish

The Fargo parish was founded by the now-sainted Dr. John Salvner when he in the year 1914 made his first trip to the State School for the Deaf in Devils Lake, North Dakota. Thanks to the kind welcome and active co-operation every superintendent and the staff have shown us from the very beginning to the present day, the work of our church has prospered and has gained acceptance by the parents of the deaf children until today we have every Protestant child of the school enrolled in our classes. Of course, we will remember that North Dakota is a very Lutheran state not only

among the deaf but also among the hearing people. From Devils Lake this mission spread until today its members are to be found in every part of the state. Our church members usually do not live in large groups but are found either in smaller groups or living rather isolated from other Deaf. Even the difficulties brought about by our Deaf living so scattered over this entire area was to a great extent overcome with the help of the consecrated vicar, Mr. Martin Hewitt, a student from the St. Louis seminary, who helped during the summer months of 1960 and drove his car over 7,000



Although the pupils at Devils Lake enjoy normal health, they may still be overtaken by the usual childhood diseases. When a child is absent from the Sunday school classes, Pastor Ferber makes it a point to visit the school hospital. A good welcome always awaits him from the nurse, Mrs. Henrietta Thacker. The kindhearted nurse keeps enough Sunday school material on hand for the children of Rev. Ferber's classes to study as their state of health in the hospital permits. When Pastor Ferber comes, the child gets an extra opportunity to study the Sunday school lesson of that particular Sunday, as Carol Sulland is doing. Her pastor may also lead her in a prayer of supplication. Carol is from the Grand Forks area



Thirteen of the sixteen communicant members of the Lutheran Church at the Devils Lake school. Front row, l. to r.: Bennie Olson, James Fenton, John Nesvig. Second row: Lew Rask, Curtis Iverson, Parris Ward, Phyllis Frelich, Edwin Skari, James Holte. Third row: Luther Rhoads, Merrill Frelich, Roger Berg, Dennis Frelich

miles to bring God's Word to our people.

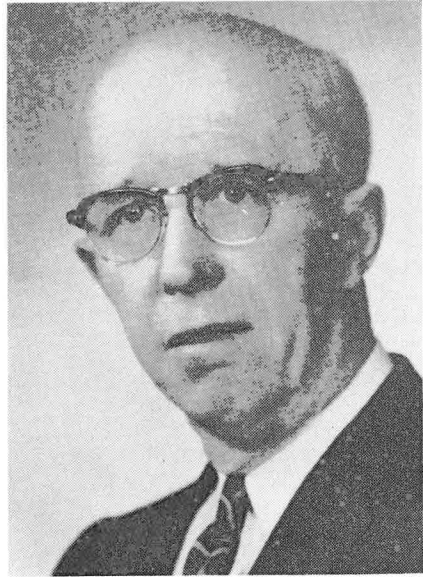
Members living within driving distance of Minot, Devils Lake, Bismarck, Fergus Falls, and Fargo have the opportunity to come to services on a year-round basis. Some of these Deaf, however, must cover great distances to come to church. Looking at the month of January, we see that for the last Bismarck service one car came slightly more than a hundred miles one way, coming from west of the Missouri river to bring Deaf to services. Janice Lauth brought her husband-to-be about 150 miles to this Bismarck service, there to kneel before God's altar and to pray to God to bless

them in their proposed marriage. We also remember how several years ago Charles Cadwell, a young communicant, came from near the Montana line to attend a Bismarck service although he was a very sick man. Charles had to spend some time in the hospital before he was able to return back home.

School work, both in Devils Lake and in Winnipeg, makes it impossible for the pastor to give year-round regular services to many of his members, so work by mail becomes an important part of our work. We have no regular church bulletin, but the pastor sends out monthly short letters to his parishioners. The Fargo group helps the

pastor with the work of mailing these letters. After our monthly weekday service with Lord's Supper we all get together and finish this work of getting these letters ready for the mail. Besides this we also have a monthly Bible class for the Fargo group. This Bible class meets in the homes of the Deaf.

In the Fergus Falls area we visit the State Hospital and have services also in town. Among the Fergus Falls area Deaf we have families with small children. We must meet on a weekday and in the evening, but who can take a group of small children out on a cold winter evening? So we meet in a farm home 16 miles east of Fergus Falls, where we can have these parents either living right there or within a short distance of this home, so that they can bring their whole family to the services.



Rev. W. Ferber

The Canadian work was begun in Winnipeg in the early twenties by Rev. John Salvner, who later be-

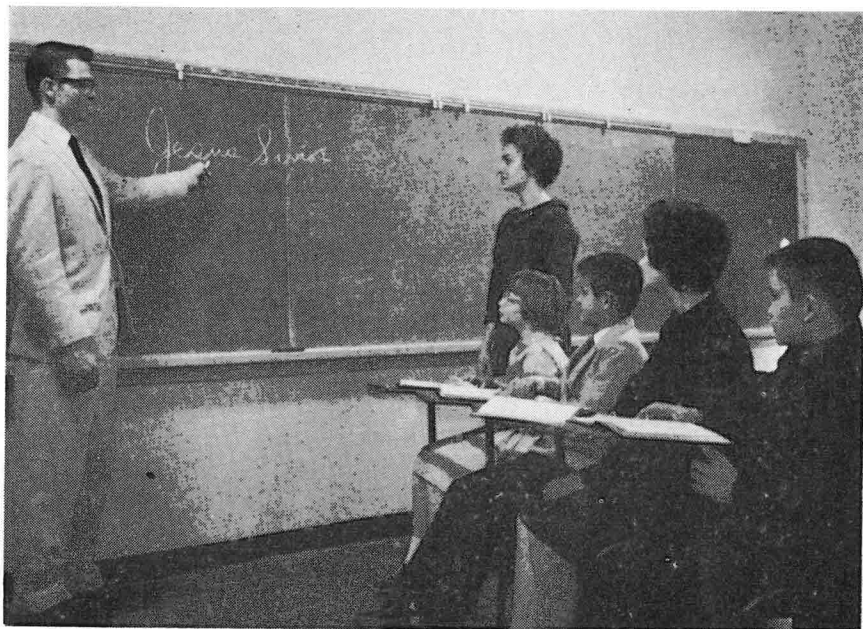


Senior Confirmation Class. Front row, l. to r.: JoAnn Stakston, Sandra Rosevold, Joyce Armstrong, Janis Haugen, Shirley Frelich, Carol Tanner, Karen Wenger. Second row: Larry Hollis, Leslie Owens, James Fandrich (hiding behind Joyce), John Meyer, Francis Feather, Morris Guttu (hiding behind Carol), and James Hayden

came a member of our Board for Missions to the Deaf and the Blind. He made the trips to Winnipeg from his home in St. Paul, Minn. Pastor W. Ferber took over this work during the 1923—1924 school year. Pastor R. Cordes took over the work, moving to Saskatoon in 1935 and then to Winnipeg in 1938. For the last nearly ten years Pastor W. Ferber has again taken over the Manitoba work, concentrating his work mostly on the city of Winnipeg. The number of adult Deaf attending the Winnipeg services is but small, but the interest shown by the children attending the day school is great. The smallest of these children are being transported to the church where the classes are being conducted by the good-hearted father of one of the boys. The rest of the

children come via the public transportation system even though it means a change of buses. Also in Winnipeg, as in Devils Lake, the older children are being taught the responsibility they have of sharing Christ with others. Whenever Mrs. Ferber cannot make the trip with her husband to take over the smallest and youngest children, there is great competition among the older children as to who will be this month's "teacher." It is touching to see how the older children shepherd the smaller children home after the classes are over and the early darkness of the short Winnipeg winter days has taken over.

During the summer months our entire church work changes. Last summer with the help of Mr. Martin Hewitt many of the parents of the



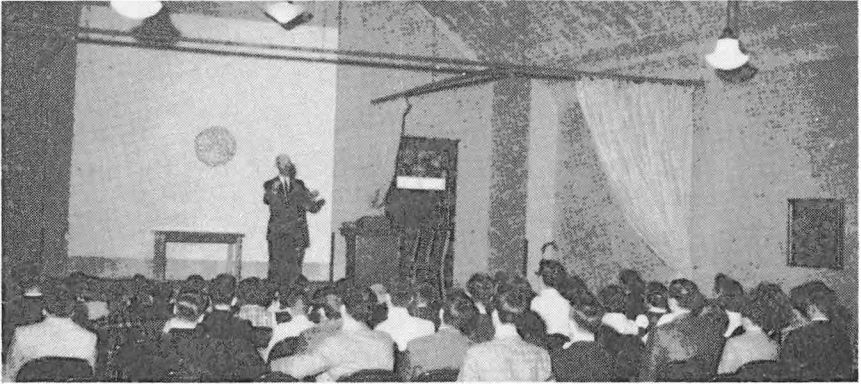
Sunday School Work. Each Sunday morning children from the fourth grade down to the Beginners are taught special lessons prepared especially for them by Pastor Ferber. Each class has two teachers and is usually not larger than six pupils. Here John Nesvig and Phyllis Frelich conduct a class for Peggy Braun, Roger Hall, Shirley Frelich, and Bradley Christensen



Teaching Beginners. Diane Wedwick instructs Laurie Titus and Russell Hanson. Both Laurie and Russell are in school for the first time this year



Memory Work. Beginning with the fourth or fifth grade, pupils in Lutheran classes are required to do memory work. Usually two or three pupils are assigned to a confirmed child to study under his supervision. Here JoAnn Stakston, Carol Tanner, and Diane Hackman study under John Nesvig's supervision



The Sunday morning is brought to a close by chapel services. Conducted by Pastor Ferber, these services are attended by all the pupils enrolled in the religious program supervised by Pastor Ferber, 68 this year. The white wall is used for projected pictures

deaf children were contacted, and these children were given a Sunday school lesson during the summer months, an unusual experience for most of them. The children of the Devils Lake area also for the first time in their life could come to church for a regular Sunday school. Pastor Ferber spent much of his time in Manitoba. He made visits at the Provincial Mental Hospital, visited other Deaf living outside of Winnipeg, made a large number of calls in Winnipeg itself, and conducted a short summer school in that city. He had the active support of several parents of the Deaf. One mother brought her little daughter from about 70 miles away, traveling the round trip every day.

The new life put into this entire parish by the extra help given by

the summer worker, Mr. Martin Hewitt, was so apparent that not only the adult Deaf but also the children of the Devils Lake school have many times asked: "Is Mr. Hewitt again coming back?" We have difficulties of climate and distance, but we cheerfully work together to make our mission a possibility to show us the One Thing Needful. We also wish to thank the many people who through their prayers and kind donations have made this work a possibility. When we think of these many friends, we have especially in mind the people of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, who through our Board for Missions to the Deaf are sponsoring and supporting this work.

W. FERBER

Church Extension Fund

The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod offers a savings plan for its members which not only pays 3% and more interest on deposits but also makes it possible for congregations to borrow funds for building

churches and schools. The following are Synod's policies on Church Extension loans:

Interest

1. Interest will be payable on a minimum loan of \$100.00.

2. Interest is payable on the first day of February and August, and at a rate fixed by the Church Extension Board.

3. No interest shall be payable for a part of a month. Loans received during the first fifteen days of any month will be allowed interest from the first day of the month in which such loans are received. On loans received after the above-named days of each month, interest will be allowed from the first day of the subsequent month.

4. Money must be on deposit for a minimum time of six months to be eligible to earn interest.

Withdrawals

1. Notes submitted for withdrawal during the first 15 days of the month will be honored immediately with interest paid to the first of the same month. Withdrawal requests received after the 15th day of the month will be paid on the last day of the month with interest to the end of said month.

2. To receive payment, the registered owner or co-owner must present the Note or Term Loan, properly endorsed, to the Treasurer's

Office of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. Notes made payable to co-owners using the word "and" must be signed by both co-owners.

3. The amount that is due on Notes shall be payable with interest to the registered owner or co-owner at the time of redemption.

4. Term Loans will be redeemed at maturity at the interest rate designated in the Note. Term Loans submitted for redemption prior to maturity because of emergency needs will be discounted at the interest rate applicable to the period held. — Should an emergency make withdrawal of a Demand Note necessary prior to the minimum period of six months, this Note will then be discounted in the event that a partial interest payment had been made.

Tenure of Notes

1. Demand Notes remain in force until submitted for redemption.

2. Term Loans remain in force until date of maturity. Term Loans may be re-invested for another period of time, if mutually agreeable.



† Mr. Jesse C. Brown †

Los Angeles, Calif. Mr. Jesse C. Brown of San Diego, Calif., departed this life on Jan. 10. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Gerhard Gehrs in San Diego on Jan. 13.

Daughter Born to the Ludwigs

Columbus, Ohio. Pastor and Mrs. William Ludwig of Columbus, Ohio, are the parents of a second child, a daughter this time. Marianne Dorothy was born on Jan. 21.



The front door of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Newark, N. J., on Sunday, Feb. 5, after a 22-inch snowfall. The sign on the door reads, "Use side door"

† **Mr. Chester Correll** †

Memphis, Tenn. Mr. Chester Correll departed this life on Jan. 6 at the age of 73. Mr. and Mrs. Correll were the first members of the Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Memphis.

Nashville Wedding

Nashville, Tenn. Miss Barbara Bostic and Mr. Willie Stewart were united in marriage on Christmas Day, 1960, at the home of Mrs. Mary Rutledge in Nashville, Tenn. Rev. Wayne Bottlinger officiated.

Constitution Committee

Great Falls, Mont. On Jan. 15 a committee met in Great Falls, Mont., to prepare a constitution for the proposed Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Montana. The committee is composed of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lyons, Mr. Newton Shular, Mrs. Pearl Erickson, Mrs. Vernon Meier, and Rev. Rodney Rynearson.



Sixty-four miles of driving on top of a 22-inch snowfall brought eight Deaf to church in Newark on Sunday, Feb. 5. L. to r.: Ruth Kievit (11 mi.), Vicar Harris, Elaine Starkey (3 mi.), Helen Libby (4½ mi.), William Sillyman (2 mi.), Mattie Sillyman (2 mi.), William Anderson (13 mi.), Dana Libby (4½ mi.), Rev. Gerhold, Charles Jones (24 mi.). The round-trip total mileage was 128

The committee continued to meet during February and March. Present plans call for a spring delegate meeting on April 16 at Great Falls for later revisions. Final passage is hoped for at summer camp.

† **J. L. McManima** †

Pittsburgh, Pa. Mr. John L. McManima departed this life on Jan. 3, 1961, at the age of 77. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Frank Wagenknecht on Jan. 5 in New Brighton, Pa.

Great Lakes Pastoral Conference

Cleveland, Ohio. Pastors of the newly formed Great Lakes Region met on Jan. 30 and 31 for a conference in Cleveland, Ohio. Attending the conference were Pastor H. Rohe of Rochester, N. Y.; Pastor Frank Wagenknecht of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Pastor Theodore Frederking of Cleveland, Ohio; Pastor N. E. Borchardt of Detroit, Mich.; and Pastor William Ludwig of Columbus, Ohio. Theme of the conference was "Winning our Members and Prospects for Christ and the Kingdom of God."



First social for Negro Deaf at Faith Lutheran Church attracts 17 guests

Trinity Deaf Congregation Sponsors Negro Social

Pittsburgh, Pa. Trinity Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Pittsburgh, sponsored a social for the young Negro Deaf of the Pittsburgh area on Jan. 28. The group met at Faith Lutheran Church. The evening was quite cold, and the streets were hazardous, but the weather did not dampen or freeze the spirits of the group. A total of seventeen attended this first meeting. The evening consisted of a movie, snacks, and conversation. Mr. and Mrs. John Clark, parents of a deaf daughter, contributed greatly to the success of the event. Mrs. Clark prepared and donated the snacks. Pastor Wagenknecht has announced plans for more meetings in the future.

Emergency Baptism

Rockford, Ill. An emergency baptism was administered to James

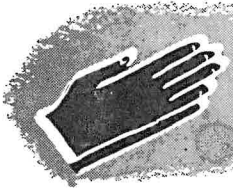
Stanford, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Stanford of Rockford, Ill., at Swedish American Hospital, where James was to undergo surgery. The operation was successful. Rev. Martin Kosche administered the Sacrament.

Dedicate Cross and Organ

Delavan, Wis. Two furnishings of the chapel at Delavan, Wis., which had not yet been dedicated, were offered to the glory of God on Feb. 12. The organ was purchased for use at special occasions because renting one was not practical. The cross was the gift of a member of the Delavan congregation, Mr. Eugene Padon. Rev. Martin Kosche is pastor.

† Mrs. Houston Myers †

Memphis, Tenn. Mrs. Houston Myers departed this life on Dec. 21, 1960, at the age of 61. Mrs. Myers was a member of Grace Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Memphis.



Devotions

“Light for your Way”

Daily Bible Readings for April

- April 1 — Mark 15: 40-47
- April 2 — Mark 16: 1-20
- April 3 — Malachi 1: 1-14
- April 4 — Malachi 2: 1-9
- April 5 — Malachi 2: 10-17
- April 6 — Malachi 3: 1-12
- April 7 — Malachi 3: 13-18
- April 8 — Malachi 4: 1-6
- April 9 — Ecclesiastes 1: 1-18
- April 10 — Ecclesiastes 2: 1-11
- April 11 — Ecclesiastes 2: 12-26
- April 12 — Ecclesiastes 3: 1-15
- April 13 — Ecclesiastes 3: 16-22
- April 14 — Ecclesiastes 4: 1-16

- April 15 — Ecclesiastes 6: 1-12
- April 16 — Ecclesiastes 8: 1-17
- April 17 — Ecclesiastes 9: 1-18
- April 18 — Ecclesiastes 12: 1-14
- April 19 — Habakkuk 1: 1-11
- April 20 — Habakkuk 1: 12-17
- April 21 — Habakkuk 2: 1-17
- April 22 — Habakkuk 2: 18-20
- April 23 — Habakkuk 3: 1-15
- April 24 — Habakkuk 3: 16-19
- April 25 — 1 Timothy 1: 1-11
- April 26 — 1 Timothy 1: 12-20
- April 27 — 1 Timothy 2: 1-15
- April 28 — 1 Timothy 3: 1-16
- April 29 — 1 Timothy 4: 1-16
- April 30 — 1 Timothy 5: 1-16

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