

The Deaf Lutheran



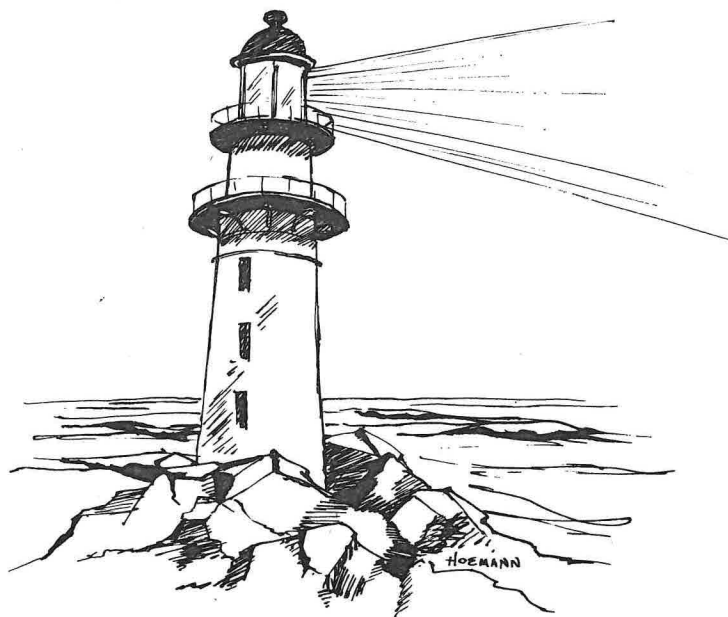
*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 55

SEPTEMBER 1963

Number 9



"I Am the Light of the World"

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These ministers preach in more than 230 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at over 70 city and state schools for the Deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The Deaf need God's Word.

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

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

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"I Am the Light of the World"

The world is the kingdom of darkness. It is under the power of Satan, the prince of evil. Satan wants to keep many people in the world in spiritual darkness. His weapon is **sin**.

Men are born in sin, grow in sin, live in sin, and die in sin. Death in sin does **not** give people a peaceful close and relief from darkness. Death takes them into even greater darkness of punishment called hell.

Why is sin dark? Sin is dark because it is the breaking of God's law. When anyone disobeys God, he sins. We are living in a world that is darkened by sin.

Jesus announces that He is the **Light** of the world. Jesus brought light into the dark world when He came personally to the earth. He was here to banish the blackness of

sin. He obeyed the law fully for all sinners. He was crucified on the cross to be punished for their sins. He suffered and died in their place. This is how He broke the power of darkness for all men.

Believe in Jesus and accept Him as your Savior. His light enables you to understand God rightly. Through the light of Christ believers see the clear way to an open heaven. Now we see that Christ is the Light who brought us out of a dark, sinful life, smashing its power over our souls. Let us resolve to walk with Him, resisting temptations to sin. Pray that Jesus will keep His light before us always.

Please read John 1:4-9, 8:12, and 12:46 in your Bible now.

REV. W. LUDWIG
Columbus, Ohio

Workshop for Lutherans on Deafness and Rehabilitation

The Workshop for Lutherans on Deafness and Rehabilitation on July 1-3 brought to Washington, D. C., the largest number of clergymen who serve exclusively deaf congregations ever assembled in the nation's Capital. Participants from three Lutheran Church bodies met with representatives of the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration and individuals from independent rehabilitation agencies to discuss areas of possible cooperation between Lutheran church personnel who serve the Deaf and the V. R. A.



Mr. Ed Carney (l.) of St. Louis talks with Dr. Boyce Williams of Washington, D. C., during the workshop



Dr. Powrie V. Doctor (l.), coordinator of the workshop, talks with Rev. Sterling Simonson, Executive Director of Ephphatha Missions for the Deaf and for the Blind, The American Lutheran Church, and with Rev. William F. Reinking (r.), Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions to the Deaf, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

The total number of participants was approximately 100, 25 contributed by the V. R. A. and 75 contributed by the three Lutheran church bodies: the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod (50), the Lutheran Church in America (12) and The American Lutheran Church (12). One participant was from the Department of Social Welfare of the National Lutheran Council.

Several areas of mutual assistance were discussed during the workshop. The following might be mentioned:

As the minister to the Deaf lectures before church and civic groups, he can contribute toward a favorable public image of the Deaf on the part of the general public, he



Mrs. Barbara Sachs, member of the Steering Committee and recorder of a discussion group, reports to the plenary session



Rev. William Kohn, newly elected full-time President of the Southeastern District, was principal speaker for the workshop banquet on July 2

can promote job opportunities for the Deaf, and he can recruit candidates to the helping professions, specifically for rehabilitation counselors.

The minister to the Deaf can promptly refer job opportunities which have come to his attention and deaf clients who might benefit from services provided by the V. R. A. to the rehabilitation counselor.

The minister to the Deaf can cultivate a genuine concern for the welfare of the Deaf by means of person-to-person contacts with responsible leaders in the community. He can promote the establishment of facilities for the education, rehabilitation, and counseling of the adult Deaf and the multiple-handicapped Deaf. He can support legis-

lation which will provide challenging opportunities for the Deaf.

The minister to the Deaf can guide deaf people to public agencies which are available to meet their needs. Especially he can inform the Deaf of the nature and scope of services offered by the V. R. A. in his state and community. He can give supportive counsel to a deaf client as his case is being processed by the agency.

This is only a partial list. The proceedings of the workshop will be available in a few months. Certainly the ideas generated by the workshop itself should serve as a spark to ignite further thought and action on the part of Lutherans who serve the Deaf and Lutherans who are deaf.

Special thanks are in order to Dr. James Garrett, Miss Cecile Hillyer, and Dr. Boyce Williams, who served



Rev. Ralph H. Gorsline, chaplain at the Oregon School for the Deaf, serves as a luncheon speaker



Rev. Frank Gyle (r.) of Miami reports for his discussion group; Mr. Stanley Roth, superintendent of the Kansas School for the Deaf, is the interpreter

on the planning committee of the workshop for the V. R. A., to Dr. Leonard Elstad and Gallaudet College for serving as sponsor of the workshop, and to Dr. Powrie V. Doctor, who acted as coordinator. Also the participants of the workshop deserve recognition for the enthusiasm with which they approached the three-day meeting and for the fine contribution which they made by way of presentations in the plenary sessions and in their discussion groups.

TREAT your enemy so that you will have nothing to regret after he has become your friend.

Ephphatha Conference

Second Report

The members of Ephphatha Conference divided their time between sessions at Carver Hall of Howard University and sessions at the International Congress on the Education of the Deaf at Gallaudet College and the Washington coliseum.

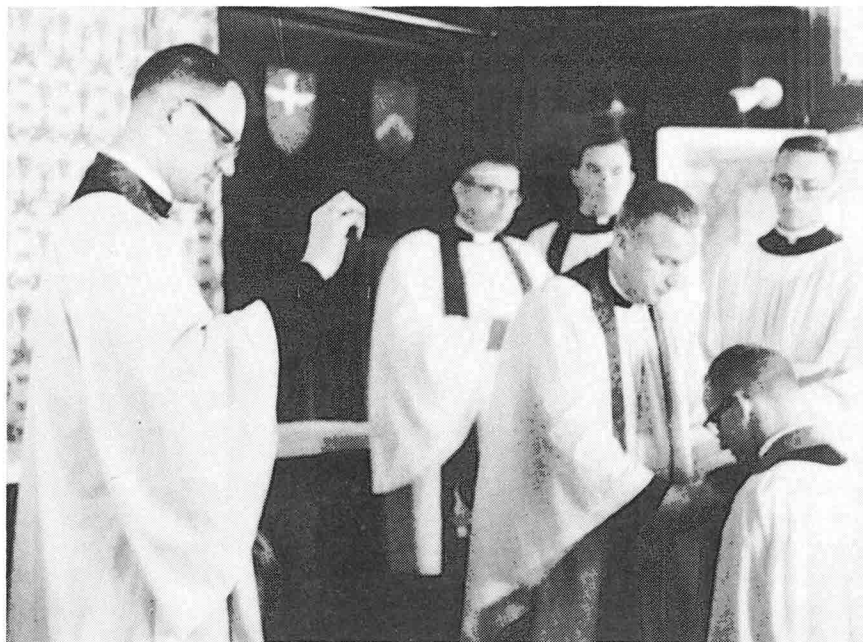
On Friday, June 28, the conference attended the section meeting on religion in the men's gymnasium at Gallaudet College. Rev. Thomas F. Cribbin served as chairman of the panel, which consisted of Rev. John P. Hourihan of New Jersey, Rev. Douglas Slasor of Washington, D. C., and Rev. William F. Reinking of St. Louis.

Rev. Reinking, Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions to the Deaf of the Missouri Synod, spoke on the church's responsibility to the deaf child.

Other topics covered by plenary sessions and sectional meetings of the I. C. E. D. attended by members of Ephphatha Conference were audiological and otological assessment, psychological testing, manual communication, concept formation, the multiple handicapped, early detection, genetics, mathematics, natural science, social studies, vocation, and others.

The length of Ephphatha Conference was extended from the usual four and one half day session to a full five days so that attending sessions of the I. C. E. D. would not limit the program of Ephphatha Conference.

Sing, O heavens, and be joyful, O earth, and break forth into singing, O mountains; for the Lord hath comforted His people and will have mercy on His afflicted. Isaiah 49:13.



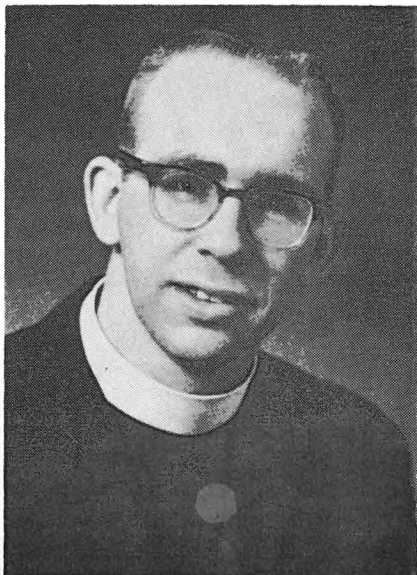
The ordination of Rev. Donald E. Leber at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Newark, N. J. L. to r.: Rev. C. R. Gerhold, Rev. Howard Leber, Rev. John S. Damm, Rev. Arlo M. Mueller, Vicar Harold Fleischauer, and Rev. Donald Leber, kneeling

Rev. Donald Leber

Rev. Donald Leber, graduated May 30 from Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Ill., was ordained to the holy ministry on June 23 at Newark, N. J. Rev. A. Mueller officiated, with Rev. C. Roland Gerhold serving as interpreter. Pastor Leber's brother, Rev. H. Leber, delivered the sermon.

Pastor Leber was installed July 14 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Memphis, Tenn., as missionary to the Deaf in the Memphis field. Rev. Paul Martens officiated, with Rev. W. Westermann serving as interpreter and preacher.

Rev. Leber was confirmed at Our Savior Lutheran Church, North Bergen, N. J. After attending Union Hill High School in Union City,



Rev. Donald Leber

N. J., Pastor Leber continued his education at Concordia Collegiate Institute, Bronxville, N. Y., and Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rutherford, N. J. He was enrolled at Concordia Seminary in Springfield in 1958.

Pastor Leber studied the language of signs under Rev. Leroy Mason. He assisted in the Sunday school program at Christ Chapel, Jackson-

ville, Ill., did summer field work two summers in the Newark field, and interned in the Miami field under the supervision of Rev. Francis Gyle.

Mrs. Leber is a graduate of Concordia Collegiate Institute, Bronxville, N. Y. Pastor and Mrs. Leber were married July 7, 1962. Their home will be at 889 N. Willett Ave., Memphis 7, Tenn.

Helping Hands

A missionary to the Deaf has only two hands. Usually they are busy communicating the love of God through the language of signs. Many times they are also busy at the typewriter or on the steering wheel of a car. And many times they have more work than they can honestly manage. So the missionary looks around for "helping hands."

One such group of helping hands is the Messiah Ladies' Guild of Indianapolis. This group of hearing

women let their hands work to help Pastor Daniel Pokorny bring the Good News to children at the Indiana School for the Deaf. The ladies meet and make Bible verse cards for the children. These cards are used as a word game on a flannel board and help the children learn their Bible verses.

These helping hands save many hours of work for Pastor Pokorny and help bring God's Word to the Deaf.



"Helping Hands" make Bible verse cards

Hot, Humid, and Tense

The past three months have been uneasy ones in many parts of the United States. As temperatures rose, so also did tensions, and racial protests and outbreaks of violence splashed across the front pages of the newspapers.

But we should not be misled by the newspaper publicity into believing that these racial problems are something new. The mass demonstrations which are calling attention to the problems are new, but the problems themselves are older than any man alive today.

Who is to blame for them? Ask 20 people and you will get 20 answers, all different. Right-wing segregationists blame the Negro for not keeping in his place "where he belongs." Left-wing integrationists blame the Southern aristocracy and its weird doctrine of white supremacy. The so-called conservative middle blames everyone but itself and wishes the problem would go away.

But last summer the "go slow, shut your eyes, and maybe it won't happen here" slogan became less and less comforting. Sit-in demonstrations and mass marches have carried the message from diners to amusement parks to churches and right to City Hall in scores of towns and cities in states from north to south and east to west. Wherever the place is that segregationists think Negroes belong, Negroes are no longer willing to stay there. And while Elphaz says "Go slow" and Bildad says "These things take time" and Zophar says, "We can't afford a demonstration here, it will drive away business," Job's neighbors in "Niggertown, U. S. A." are

not impressed and certainly not comforted.

And why should they be? Why should any United States citizen be content with substandard housing, crowded schools, and menial jobs? Why should any taxpayer be content to contribute toward the maintenance of public facilities which he is not permitted to use? How can a citizen be satisfied with law-makers for whom he would not vote (if he could vote) and with laws which deny him privileges which other citizens enjoy?

The demonstrations may not be the best kind of public relations for the Junior Chamber of Commerce to use in its pamphlets and speeches, but they get results.

The fact is that every Negro citizen of the United States is the "fellow American" of every non-Negro citizen. Many of them are also "fellow Christians" of non-Negro Christians. The color of his skin does not change for the Negro citizen the color of his flag, nor does it change for the Negro Christian the name of his Lord.

It is quite possible for a majority group to force a certain amount of segregation on any minority. A restaurant could decide, for example, that it will not serve men with bald heads or women with red hair or people with dark skins. Real estate agents can agree in advance that they will not show a certain house to men with bald heads or women with red hair or people with dark skins.

Do these things happen? Not to men with bald heads or women with red hair they don't. But they do happen to people with dark skins.

Why? Is it because they have dark skins? Not really, or tomorrow the ban might just as well fall on people with the wrong color hair. It is not the color of the Negro's skin that makes restaurant owners invoke "no trespass" laws and realtors haul down "for sale" signs. Usually it is fear. The restaurant owner fears that the white majority will take its business elsewhere if he serves the Negro minority. Real estate agents and the white majority fear a drop in property values and an upheaval of families and customs in a community. Certainly it is not the Negro who is the cause of these consequences. It is the reaction of the white majority to his Negro fellow American that is responsible.

This places the blame for much of the current problem squarely on the so-called conservative middle. It is the conservative middle that is afraid of having Negro neighbors in its community. It is the conservative middle that prefers to subsidize Negro churches rather than inviting Negroes to join its own. It is the conservative middle which would patronize restaurants "for whites only" rather than one which served also people with dark skins.

The plight of the Negro Deaf is extremely serious. Unemployment is much higher among the Negro Deaf than it is among the Deaf in general. Average salaries of Negro deaf people are far below the average salary of people in general or of the Deaf in particular. The academic achievement of Negro deaf people is often very low. Many are illiterate.

In many areas white deaf people associate with Negro deaf people and vice versa. But there are cities where the Negro Deaf are not wel-

come at the local club for the Deaf. One would think that the common physical disability would make racial characteristics secondary, and this is sometimes apparently the case. But it does not always hold true. One would think, too, that since the Deaf are often the victims of prejudice and misinformation on the part of the hearing majority, they would be more sympathetic toward the predicament of another minority, a racial minority for example. But also this is not always true.

The conservative middle must do more, however, than recognize the needs of the Negro minority for equal treatment under the law according to the Constitution. The conservative middle must recognize that it, too, has a need. If the Negro Deaf, for example, need a better education, then the large majority of so-called conservatives have a need to provide it. If Negro people need equal opportunity to exercise their privileges as citizens and their capabilities as human beings, then the conservative middle has a need to grant equal opportunity to everyone regardless of his race or national origin. If Negroes need fair treatment, then non-Negroes need to give fair treatment. Those who tolerate injustice have just as much need for justice as those who suffer from injustice.

The writer once stopped at a restaurant with a group that included a few Negro graduate students from a local college. The manager of the restaurant refused to serve the integrated group. When asked about his reaction to being refused service one of the Negroes in the group replied, "Well, I have a little advantage in this situation. I understand

his problem, but he doesn't understand mine."

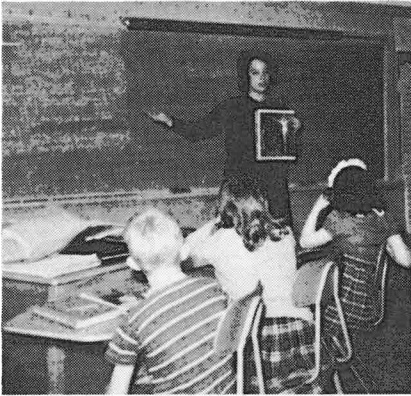
Perhaps this is the greatest need — understanding. For the Christian, however, there is an even greater need — the need for forgiveness. Negro Christians need to forgive white Christians for many an evil deed. White Christians need to forgive Negro Christians for many an evil thought. And all Christians need forgiveness from God for their

lack of genuine concern for one another. We cannot escape the indictment of John. If a man does not love his brother, whom he has seen, how can he love God, whom he has not seen? This is the command that we have from God, that if a man loves God, he should love his brother, too.

Are white and Negro Christians brothers? If they are not, then how can they both call God their Father?



Field Gleanings



Miss Andrea Oscarson of Trinity Lutheran Church conducts a weekly class in religion at the Austine School for the Deaf at Brattleboro, Vt.

New Members in Newark Field

Newark, N. J. On June 5 William Bell was received in membership with the Lutheran church by the rite of confirmation. Mrs. William Bell and John Lyons were received by confession of faith.

† Mrs. William Brockmeyer †

Jacksonville, Ill. Mrs. William Brockmeyer, a member of the Lu-

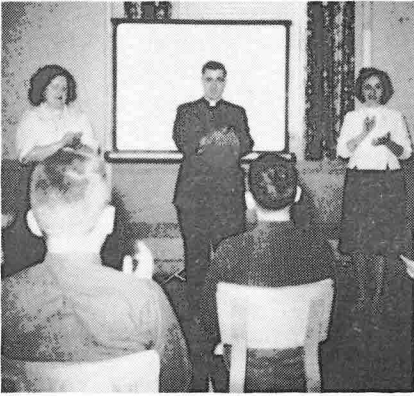
theran Church of the Deaf at Decatur, Ill., since 1954, departed this life on June 6. Funeral services were held in Decatur June 8 with burial in Iowa.

Central Regional Deaf Conference

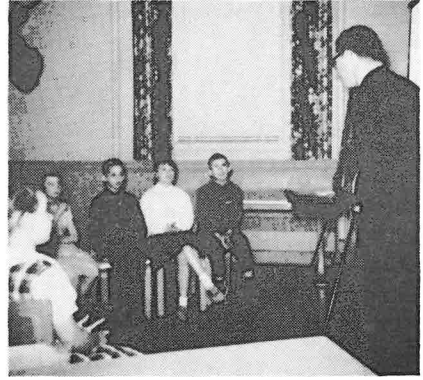
Indianapolis, Ind. The Central Regional Deaf Lutheran Conference will meet September 14 and 15 at the



Mrs. G. Rinas and Miss Alcinda Cochran with a class of Primary children at The American School for the Deaf, West Hartford



Miss Alcinda Cochran, Pastor Earl Thaler, and Mrs. G. Rinas lead a group singing in signs at The American School for the Deaf



Pastor Earl Thaler teaches a primary group with flannelgraph lessons at The American School for the Deaf in West Hartford, Conn.

Sheraton-Lincoln Hotel in Indianapolis. The conference will bring to Indianapolis people from Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana. Last year over 100 persons attended the

Central Regional Conference in Milwaukee.

Albert Reeves is chairman of the conference. He has appointed Jim Swalley to be on the program com-



Luther League meeting at West Hartford, Conn. Seated in front of Rev. Earl Thaler is Skipper Farris, League secretary. Presiding over the meeting is newly elected president, Terry Gennett. Other officers are Harold West, treasurer, and Melvin Eaton, devotional chairman



Confirmed at Edmonton. L. to r.: Fred Barton, David Burnett, Macklin Youngs, Pastor Robert Bauer, Doreen Kane, David Poffenroth, Lewis Welsford

mittee. Billy Pennell, Sr., and Charles Clemons will also assist in preparations for the conference.

† Mr. William Lambrecht †

Omaha, Nebr. William Lambrecht, 67, departed this life June 3. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor E. Mappes on June 6. Mr. Lambrecht was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Omaha.

New Teachers for Detroit School

Detroit, Mich. Four June university graduates who have specialized in the education of the Deaf will begin their teaching careers at the Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit next September. Miss Carole Crenshaw and Miss Patricia Favalon received their training at Central Institute for the Deaf and Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. They were recipients of the School's teacher training scholarships.

Mrs. Cheryl Bauer and Miss Edith

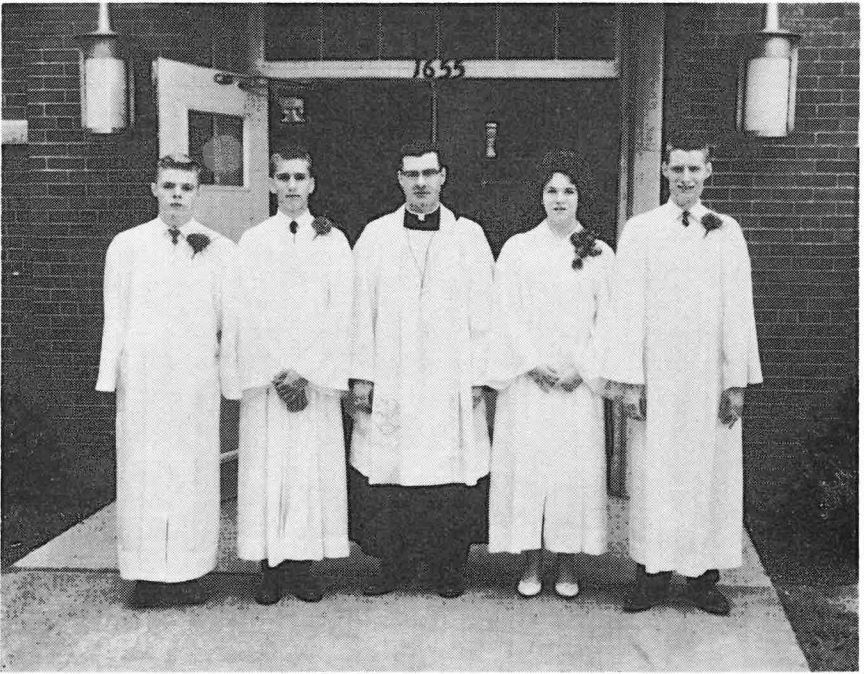
Ulbrich studied at Wayne State University, Detroit, and did their practice teaching at the Detroit Day School for the Deaf.

Five Confirmed in Detroit

Detroit, Mich. On Palm Sunday a class of five children were confirmed in membership with the Lutheran Church by Rev. N. E. Borchardt at a special service at the Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit. Members of the class were Michael Belitz, Tex., Janice DeWitt, Mich., James Bayer, Mich., Janice Katzel, Ill., and Allan Powell, Mich.

The Word in Print

Jackson, Heights, N. Y. St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Jackson Heights, N. Y., has purchased an offset press to print the church paper and to print lessons and other materials for the Deaf. Members of the congregation will operate the press and serve as folders or wrappers for the material.



Confirmed at West Hartford, Conn., May 12, 1. to r.: William Wheeler, Warehouse Point, Conn.; Gregory Roche, East Hartford, Conn.; Pastor Earl Thaler; Penelope Moore, Westfield, Mass.; and George Taft, Worcester, Mass.



Confirmed at Brattleboro, Vt., May 19, 1. to r.: Pastor Earl Thaler; Clyde Kimball, Salem Depot, N. H.; Bruce Hubbard, Lyndonville, Vt.; Beverly Hickey, Laconia, N. H.; Donald Powers, St. Johnsbury, Vt.; and James Dermon, Henniker, N. H.



First class to be confirmed in the new Immanuel Lutheran Chapel for the Deaf in Colorado Springs, Colo. L. to r.: Helen Ruff, Kathleen Johnson, Rev. W. H. Lange, Gail Hamilton, and Elisa Reha. They were confirmed on Palm Sunday

The press will therefore serve a dual purpose. It will not only provide another way in which the Word of God can be printed and presented to the Deaf but it will also provide deaf Christians in New York with an opportunity to serve their Lord and their church with their time and their skills.

VBS

Miami, Fla. Sixty-nine deaf students have attended vacation Bible schools in Miami, Lakeland, and Jacksonville, Fla. A VBS is scheduled for Orlando Aug. 19—23 and Tampa Aug. 26—30.

LSV

Miami, Fla. Mike Shockey attended a training session for Lutheran service volunteers at Lake-

land, Fla., from June 23 to 28. Connie Richardson, a S. W. Miami high school senior interpreted for him. Judy Horne, a student at Gallaudet College (Class of '67) attended a similar training program at Upsala College, E. Orange, N.J., July 7 to 12.

Six Confirmed at Edmonton

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. On June 2 six persons, some from the school for the Deaf, were received into membership with the Lutheran Church by the rite of confirmation at Cross of Christ chapel in Edmonton. Fred Barton was confirmed and baptized, and the following were confirmed: David Burnett, Marklin Youngs, Doreen Kane, David Poffenroth, and Lewis Welsford.



Devotions

“Light for Your Way”

Daily Bible Readings for September

- September 1 — Revelation 9: 1-12
- September 2 — Revelation 9: 13-21
- September 3 — Revelation 10
- September 4 — Revelation 11: 1-13
- September 5 — Revelation 11: 14-19
- September 6 — Revelation 12: 1-6
- September 7 — Revelation 12: 7-17
- September 8 — Revelation 13
- September 9 — Revelation 14: 1-7
- September 10 — Revelation 14: 8-20
- September 11 — Revelation 15
- September 12 — Revelation 16
- September 13 — Revelation 17
- September 14 — Revelation 18
- September 15 — Revelation 19

- September 16 — Revelation 20
- September 17 — Revelation 21
- September 18 — Revelation 22
- September 19 — Galatians 1
- September 20 — Galatians 2
- September 21 — Galatians 3: 1-18
- September 22 — Galatians 3: 19-29
- September 23 — Galatians 4: 1-20
- September 24 — Galatians 4: 21-31
- September 25 — Galatians 5: 1-15
- September 26 — Galatians 5: 16-26
- September 27 — Galatians 6
- September 28 — Philemon
- September 29 — Titus 1
- September 30 — Titus 2

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