

# The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,  
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

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Volume 57

August 1965

Number 8

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**You are no longer foreigners or strangers but fellow citizens, a part of God's holy people and members of His family. You are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, and Christ Jesus Himself is the Cornerstone. In Him the whole building is fitted together and grows to be a holy temple in the Lord. In Him you, too, are built up with the others to be God's home in the Spirit.**

**— Ephesians 2:19-22 Beck**

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## THE DEAF LUTHERAN

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

Published monthly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. 63118. Subscription price, \$1.00 a year. Second-class postage paid at St. Louis, Mo.

THE DEAF LUTHERAN goes to press on the 3rd Friday, two weeks before issue. Send all news, pictures, stories, and articles by the 12th of the month, seven weeks before issue, to Rev. Martin A. Hewitt, Editor, 1221 Virginia Ave., Cleveland, Ohio, 44107

Send subscriptions, address changes, and cancellations to THE DEAF LUTHERAN, 210 N. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo. 63102

For promotional materials write Rev. Earl Thaler, Promotion Manager, 32 Brunswick Ave., West Hartford, Conn. 06107

## Lutherans in South Vietnam

The war in South Vietnam is far away. We know very little of what is happening there. The news magazines and papers give us only brief sketches of the bombing, the jungle ambush, the wounded and dying men, women and children. Our soldiers have a difficult time finding the enemy. Both friend and enemy look alike.

Such a war is frustrating; it seems hopeless, because we cannot see what is happening. This war, and any war, is terrible and senseless. Yet whether we agree with our Government's policy of helping defend poorer nations or not, one thing is clear — Americans are there, and Americans are dying.

Sometimes we Christians fall into the habit of separating our church life from our daily life. Then when we read the events of the world, we forget that God is still in control. When we go about doing our daily tasks, we forget that God's people live daily to serve Him in all that they do with love for Him and for others.

Yes, Americans are in South Vietnam. But we are closer to the war than that fact. Christians are in South Vietnam, and among them are Lutheran people. Some are American soldiers, some are civil personnel at the American Embassy, some are pastors, our military chaplains.

They are not safe from the bullets and the bombs of the Viet

Cong as they serve God and their country. Many of them have died. Yet as they live and as they die, these Christians by their actions show their faith in the one God who lives and rules.

They are like Capt. Norman W. Heck, Jr., a Lutheran soldier who volunteered to serve in Vietnam. Capt. Heck was very concerned for the welfare of the Vietnamese people. In a letter addressed to his pastor and fellow Lutherans in Highland Park, Ill., he urged our Lutheran Church to send laymen and missionaries to help serve the needs of the poor Vietnamese. Capt. Heck gave himself to the Lord, and the Lord used his Christian concern and his skill to help the Vietnamese protect their homeland from the communists. On Dec. 8, 1964, Captain Heck gave his life to this service and was killed in action.

Miss Barbara Robbins, a 21-year-old secretary who worked less than one year at the American Embassy in Saigon, was another who gave her life in serving God and her country. Before leaving for Vietnam, Miss Robbins talked a long time with her Lutheran pastor in Washington, D. C., so that she could be a fine example for the Vietnamese of a Christian serving her Lord Jesus. Miss Robbins was killed when the Viet Cong bombed the U. S. Embassy in Saigon on March 20.

Our pastors are there, too, as

was Chaplain Earl C. Kettler, who recently returned home from a one-year tour of duty in Vietnam. Chaplain Kettler traveled by helicopter to serve the scattered outposts where our fellow Americans and, yes, fellow Lutherans are helping the Vietnamese. His life was in constant danger as he served his Lord by ministering to His people.

As we continue living day after day at home in America, can we not do something for our fellow Christians in Vietnam? As the war continues in that faraway country, we become bored and disgusted with reading the same thing day after day of the killing

and dying of people. In the same motion of throwing down the newspaper we forget our fellow Christians who are serving God and our country in Vietnam.

We can do much to help them — we can pray. We can pray that God will use the fine Christian love and example of His people to bring the Vietnamese to faith in Jesus. We can pray that God will give His people a deeper faith and love as they continually meet danger. We can pray that God will give comfort and hope to the families in America who have given their fathers and sons and daughters to God for His work in Vietnam.

## Leftover Brick

This Spring I dug up a small area of my yard for a little garden. I wanted to plant some tomatoes and peppers for summer salads. The job would have been a lot easier if there had not been so much rock and brick and mortar in the soil. I must have dug up at least a dozen chunks of brick, some of them nearly whole. They were probably left over when my house was built, and the bulldozer covered them up with dirt.

Since I was spending more time picking up bricks than spading up dirt, I had time to think. I remembered those Bible verses (on this month's cover) which talk about the stones in God's temple, the church. In that Scripture the stones are people. Jesus is the chief Cornerstone. The apostles and prophets are the foundation layer. Then each generation of Christians adds another layer of stones to the building. When the building is complete, life on earth will end.

The church is like a house or a building. Each member is one of the bricks or stones. All of them put together make up God's church eternal.

But what about the bricks that are left over? What happens to them? What about the people who do not become part of the temple of God? What of them?

It is sad to think of it, but they become part of the rubble, the waste, the trash heap. And what a waste it is! Created by God in His own

image, bought and paid for by the precious blood of Christ, they are now discarded.

As I thought of these things, I felt sorry for the bricks that I was digging up. They, too, were paid for by the contractor. They were fashioned by the same kiln that baked the other brick in the house. I decided to save them. I stacked them up in a pile by the side of the house. Maybe next summer I will make a planter out of them for the patio or the carport. Maybe the house in which I am living can still be thought of as incomplete. Maybe there is still time to include these leftover brick in the total structure.

And for many of the people in the world today, maybe there is still time to believe in the Lord Jesus. Maybe if Christians, like you who are reading this magazine, will go out and dig them up, maybe there is still a place for them in the church. Are some of them broken? Are they dirty from lying around so many years? That's all right. God can make them clean and whole again. Pray that God may find a place for them in His church.

When your chapel was built, were there any bricks left over? Yes, of course. How many deaf people in your town or city are not members of your congregation or any Christian congregation? People are too precious to become rubble. Don't let them go to waste. Use them, and let them be used for the glory of God and for the building of His church on earth.

REV. H. W. HOEMANN

## God Blessed Our Deaf Missions in 1964

The 1964 statistics show that the Lord has richly blessed the work of our church's mission to the deaf. Arranged below are the 1963 and 1964 statistics.

	1963	1964
Baptized members .....	10,843	11,263
Confirmed members .....	5,071	5,134
Children baptized .....	205	208
Adults baptized .....	61	40
Children confirmed .....	131	89
Adults confirmed .....	143	134
Total adults won .....	209	175
Number receiving Lord's Supper .....	29,490	30,770
Marriages .....	52	81
Burials .....	91	95
Enrolled in children's classes .....	2,854	3,826
Number of church services .....	5,612	5,745
Total church attendance .....	183,283	210,914
Contributions, home budgets .....	\$115,114	\$160,198

Contributions, world missions .....	\$ 26,657	\$ 30,108
Organized congregations .....	42	43

We thank and praise God that He has brought 264 deaf into our church in 1964. These 264 deaf include confirmed children and total adults won. What a wonderful blessing of God upon the labors of our faithful missionaries and members!

But let us not stop and proudly look backwards. The Lord's work does not end. How well shall we serve the Lord in 1965? The Lord wants us to serve Him with everything we have, not only with our money and goods but also with our abilities and time.

We have but one task to do. The Lord Jesus commanded us: "Go and make disciples of all people. Baptize them into the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always till the end of the world." (Matthew 28: 19-20 Beck).

## The Detroit Convention—First Report

*Detroit, Mich., June 16—26.*

Gathering under the convention theme, *Even So Send I You*, taken from Jesus' words in John 20: 20, 21, about 800 voting and advisory delegates met to make important decisions that our church might serve God better.

In the opening Communion service, Dr. George Wittmer, Third Vice-President of the Synod, emphasized each individual member's responsibility to use God's Word and to carry out God's command to the church. This means, first of all, that we must carry the Word of Truth to all parts of this sin-filled world—the truth that "the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin." Second, the church must serve all the needs of people, especially the needs of the poor and sick.

President Oliver Harms outlined the basis for our church's activity:

(1) We strengthen our trust in God's infallible (without error) Word; we give ourselves eagerly to study and use this Word.

(2) We confess our sins as His people, and we ask God to forgive us for Jesus' sake.

(3) We pledge ourselves to work hard to preserve our united faith by keeping peace with our fellow members.

(4) We promise that we will try to establish the unity we have in Jesus with other Christians.

(5) We give ourselves up to one task of continuing to proclaim God's Good News of Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

(6) We seek to offer Jesus' mercy and forgiveness to everyone who suffers the guilt and shame of sin.

(7) We give into God's hands for His care and mercy both the church and the world which He created and redeemed by Jesus.



**Dr. Oliver R. Harms, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, conducts a business session during the 46th convention of our church**

During the opening session Dr. Harms was reelected to a second term of four years as President of the 2.7 million-member Lutheran church. Five Vice-Presidents were also elected during the 10-day convention: Dr. Roland P. Wiederaenders, First Vice-President; Dr. Theodore F. Nickel, Second Vice-President; Dr. Paul H. Streufert, Third Vice-President; Dr. W. Harry Krieger, Fourth Vice-President; and Dr. George W. Wittmer, Fifth Vice-President.

The President and his Vice-Presidents are responsible for making sure that our church follows the correct teachings of the Bible. They also help our church's activities and programs move forward smoothly.



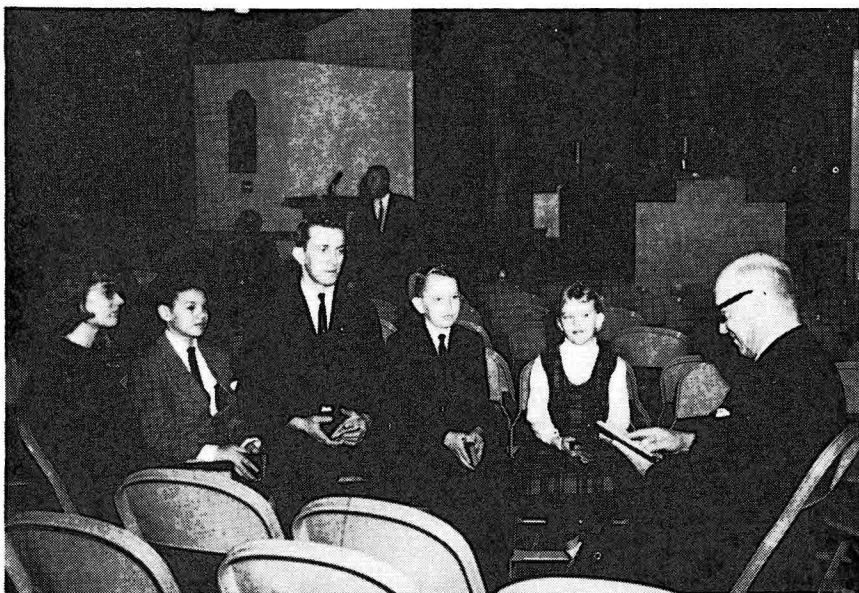
## FIELD

## GLEANINGS

### **Pastor A. E. Ferber Serves Boy Scouts**

*Kansas City, Mo.* On Sunday, May 2, Rev. A. E. Ferber, pastor of the Kansas City Field, conducted the morning worship for the Heart of America Boy Scout camporee.

Schools for the deaf in Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Arkansas were represented by 264 Boy Scouts, their leaders, and several school officials.



**Five students of the Kansas School for the Deaf, Olathe, study the Bible with their pastor, Rev. A. E. Ferber, in a Sunday Bible class at Redeemer Lutheran Church (hearing)**

**Left to right, Glenda and Samuel Timm, Jerry, Ronnie and Wanda Starks are Pastor Ferber's "helpers" for the *Monday* Bible study class at the Kansas School. Pastor Ferber's Monday class totals 96**

**These five "helpers" encouraged 10 others to love the Lord Jesus. The Holy Spirit used the Christian witness of these "helpers" to bring the 10 children and adults into the Lutheran Church by Baptism or confirmation at a recent service**





**Pastor A. E. Ferber (left) and his *Sunday Bible* class at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Olathe. Helping to teach the young deaf are several adults (back row, left): Herbert Brock and Arthur Thompson, senior student assistant. Back row, right): Miss Helen Stutheit, senior student assistant, and Robert Baker. This year Pastor Ferber is in his 41st semester of Bible teaching work at the Kansas School for the Deaf**

### **Our 1,027 New Church Workers**

*St. Louis, Mo.* During the last week in April the Board of Assignments of our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod assigned 1,027 men and women to full-time work in the church.

Of this number 229 men were called as pastors. Of the seminarians 10 will become teachers, 5 will serve missions in Africa, 5 will become missionaries to the deaf, 14 will serve mission churches in the Middle East, Japan, India, Taiwan, Hong Kong, New Guinea, and the Philippines.

Another 197 seminary students will begin a one-year assignment as vicars. They will get pastoral experience while working along with one of our pastors. Three vicars will serve in deaf missions this year.

Our church operates 1,381 elementary schools in North America. This year 540 men and women graduates of our teacher colleges will accept the task of serving the Lord as teachers.

Also assigned were 23 parish workers, 20 graduate and intern deaconesses, and 18 lay workers.



**Mrs. Mary Sandberg (center), houseparent at the Austine School for the Deaf, Brattleboro, Vt., received special recognition and the gift of a hymn-book at a recent service of Trinity Lutheran Church (hearing). Mrs. Sandberg interprets the entire service each Sunday for all Protestant students of the Austine School**

**Rev. Harry S. Carlson, pastor of Trinity Church, makes the presentation as Mrs. Nancy Long looks on. Both Mrs. Sandberg and Mrs. Long are teachers in the Lutheran religious program each Monday afternoon at the school for the deaf**

**Although a hearing person, Mrs. Sandberg is a member of the Lutheran Church of the Deaf of West Hartford, Conn. Both her parents and husband were deaf. Rev. E. J. Thaler serves the New England field**

Our Lutheran church numbers 2,744,574 baptized members in North America. These members are served by 4,735 parish pastors in 5,915 congregations and 133 preaching stations.

The Lord richly blesses the work of His people. Yet we still have 417 congregations without a pastor. Pray that God will lead more young people to serve His people as pastors and teachers. Pray that every Christian will accept the task God gives His church. Let us serve the Lord with gladness!

† **Emma Amelia Bartha** †

*Baltimore, Md.* Mrs. Emma Bartha, mother of Mrs. Galen Adams of Martini Deaf Congregation in Baltimore, departed this life on May 7 at the age of 72. Funeral services were conducted for the bereaved family by Pastor H. Hoemann at the Burns Funeral Home in Towson, Md., on May 10. Interment was at Moreland Memorial Park.

## Great Lakes Retreat

*Cleveland, Ohio.* The annual Great Lakes Regional Lutheran Deaf Laymen's Retreat was held at Camp Crag, 25 miles south of Cleveland, June 4—6. Registrants included 68 adults and 18 children from the five Great Lakes fields — Pittsburgh, Pa., Rochester, N. Y., Detroit, Mich., and Columbus and Cleveland, Ohio.

The theme of the retreat emphasized the Christian's joy, which is *Joy Beyond All Telling*. Laymen presented the topic in four parts: (1) The Joy of Living and Working for Jesus, (2) The Joy of Witness-



These five young people from the California School for the Deaf, Riverside, were confirmed May 9 and promised to remain true and faithful to Jesus' holy church. Left to right they are Janice Dienst, Marilouise Hale, Ray Bloodworth, Manfred Krick, and Kathy Carlsen

Seated in the picture are Rev. G. A. Gehrs, Jr. (left), pastor of the Southern California Field of Lutheran Deaf Missions, and Rev. Wm. S. Graumann, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church (hearing) and First Vice-President of the Southern California District

The Riverside deaf congregation uses the facilities of Immanuel Church and asked Rev. Graumann to participate in the service. Pastor Graumann preached his sermon on the text John 6:66-69 and assisted Rev. Gehrs with the Lord's Supper

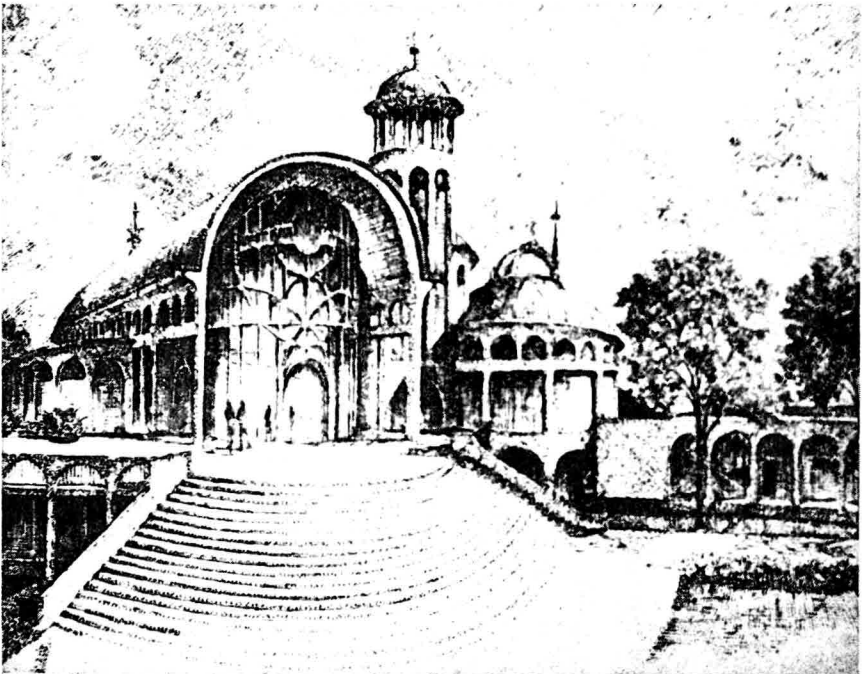
The confirmation service emphasized the command and promise of Jesus to His followers: "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Revelation 2:10)

ing, (3) The Joy of Stewardship, and (4) The Joy of the Quiet Heart Through Prayer.

Highlights of the business meeting focused on an appointment of a constitutional revisions committee, the decision to send the \$48.00 Sunday offering to the School for Young Deaf, Ibadan, Nigeria, and the election of officers. 1965—66 officers are: president, Donald Mowl, Pittsburgh; vice-president, Louis Kieffer, Pittsburgh; secretary, Clarence Heffernan, Rochester; treasurer, George Lawther, Pittsburgh; auditor, Earl Froelich, Cleveland; and advisory member to the Deaf Mission Society, Clarence Schulz, Detroit.

### Montana Camp

*Great Falls, Mont.* Lutheran deaf in the Montana area attended their annual camp July 17—18 near Kalispell, Mont. The theme "Love One Another" was chosen to teach how God wants His people to live in this world. The recent problems in Alabama show how men forget God's will and cause much pain and murder with their hatred.



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church (hearing), Dallas, Tex., has approved the above sketch of their new worship facilities. The small domed building (right center) has been included as a chapel for the Dallas deaf. This John of Beverly Chapel will seat 100 people comfortably and will be constructed so as to have an atmosphere favorable to worship and especially suited to the needs of the deaf



(L. to r.) Rev. Henry A. Burandt, pastor emeritus of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Rev. Walter H. Meyer, pastor of Our Redeemer, and Rev. William Duey, pastor of the Dallas deaf congregation, conduct a joint service for the deaf and hearing in worship and ground breaking on Easter Sunday, April 18. The new facilities for Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, including the John of Beverly Chapel for the Deaf, are expected to be ready for use in November of this year

### **School for the Deaf Receives Movie Honor**

*Detroit, Mich.* The movie, *A New Life for Jennifer*, produced by the Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, received the 1965 Blue Ribbon award at the American Film Festival recently held in New York City. This annual film festival is sponsored by the Educational Film Library Association, and awards are given on the basis of general excellence of the movie plus its outstanding ability to tell its story and for the beauty of its presentation. The purpose and goal of the film are also important factors which help the judging.

*A New Life for Jennifer* was made for the school by Portafilms, Drayton Plains, Mich. At present 24 copies of this fine production are heavily scheduled for showings throughout the United States and Canada. Requests for showings have also been received from Australia and Hong Kong.

The 27-minute color movie portrays deaf children from tiny tots to 8th-graders as they progress through their special educational program. Ask your pastor to interpret it for you.



## LIGHT FOR YOUR WAY

### Daily Bible Readings

#### for August

- Aug. 1** — **John 8:31-47.** The Pharisees refused to accept Jesus as Lord, yet Jesus' words emphasize the *truth* of God's mercy. Pray for Rev. Martin Hewitt, Cleveland, Ohio, and Rev. Roger Leonhardt, Fargo, N. Dak.
- Aug. 2** — **John 8:48-59.** Believe in the Lord Jesus, study Scripture to know him, and you will grow with faith and strength to meet any problem. Pray that God's Spirit may keep you strong in faith.
- Aug. 3** — **Matthew 17:1-13.** Jesus prepared Himself and His disciples for His death and departure. Pray that God would show His power for His church in every nation.
- Aug. 4** — **John 11:1-27.** You will never die, for Jesus has died for you. Pray for the hope and comfort that brings us close to God.
- Aug. 5** — **John 11:28-57.** Those who refuse to accept forgiveness also reject Jesus even though He proves He is God. Pray that God would confuse the plans of unchristian rulers against the church.
- Aug. 6** — **Matthew 21:1-17.** Praise your God, and let the deaf in your city know your worship of Him. Pray for the deaf in the Springfield, Ill., field that they be strong in the faith.
- Aug. 7** — **Matthew 23:1-22.** Hypocrisy (2-faced) based on pride is the greatest evil. Understand your weakness, and know your need for Jesus! Pray for Mrs. Carol N. Aiello, pastor's wife, Trenton, N. J.
- Aug. 8** — **Luke 21:1-28.** We have no promise of perfect peace. Be ready to confess your faith even though someone may want to hurt you for it.
- Aug. 9** — **John 13:1-20.** Jesus loved His fellowmen so much that He gave Himself for them. Ask God to give the members of your church the blessing of eagerness to serve Him.
- Aug. 10** — **John 13:21-38.** Jesus knows the hearts of man. He forgives all. Accept His forgiveness. Pray that God will give you the comfort of sins forgiven.

- Aug. 11 — Mark 14:12-25.** The blessings of the Lord's Supper are for you. Do you regularly receive this gift with faith? Pray that your congregation will be united under the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.
- Aug. 12 — John 14:1-17.** Through Christ we know God and come to Him. Put your trust in God, who has saved you! Pray for your fellow Christians who serve God as they work with the Vietnamese against communism.
- Aug. 13 — John 14:18-31.** We worship and work with the strength the Holy Spirit gives us. Pray that the Holy Spirit may guide the officers of your congregation.
- Aug. 14 — John 15:1-17.** God has chosen you to show His love to all men, and especially to those who believe in Him. Pray for the deaf of the Oakland, Calif., Field, that they walk in love for each other.
- Aug. 15 — John 17:1-26.** Jesus prayed for you as a member of His church. Pray for your fellow Christians in your congregation. Ask God to bring them into a closer unity of faith.
- Aug. 16 — Luke 22:39-53.** We intend to do good, but good wishes do not stop us from doing evil. Pray for forgiveness and for the strength of God's spirit to worship Him in truth.
- Aug. 17 — Luke 22:54-62.** If we try to tell God what to do, we may fail in faith. Pray for our fellow Christians in Hong Kong that they be strong in faith.
- Aug. 18 — Mark 14:53-65.** Jesus was sentenced for telling the truth. Be as faithful to this truth as He. Pray for the weaker members of your church who have not yet learned the joy of a strong faith.
- Aug. 19 — Matthew 27:11-23.** The agreement of the crowd sometimes is not the right opinion. Dare to disagree with your crowd. Pray that parents in your church give their children examples of deep trust in God.
- Aug. 20 — Luke 23:1-12.** Only if you accept Jesus as Savior and give yourself to Him can you rightly judge His truth. Pray for the deaf who were newly confirmed and baptized this year that they always walk with Jesus.
- Aug. 21 — John 19:1-16.** Pontius Pilate was weak, but the pressure by the crowds was great. Ask for forgiveness for the time you accepted the advice of your friends to do wrong.
- Aug. 22 — Luke 23:26-43.** Jesus would not save Himself — because He wanted to save you. He has taught us how to give ourselves in love. Pray God to give wisdom to the members of the Board for Missions to the Deaf.
- Aug. 23 — John 19:17-30.** Whatever hope you have, this is central: Jesus' death means your life forever. Pray for Mrs. Eleanor Bauer, pastors' wife, Edmonton, Alta., Can., and Mrs. Emma Mappes, pastor's wife, Omaha, Nebr.

- Aug. 24 — John 19:31-42.** Joseph wanted to give honor to a great man. It became honor to his God. Pray for Rev. Martin Kosche, Delavan, Wis.
- Aug. 25 — Matthew 28:1-10.** Jesus will never disappoint you! He is risen to be our perfect Strength, our never-failing Hope. Pray for hope and courage in the hearts of those who plan your congregation's program.
- Aug. 26 — John 20:1-18.** In all your troubles the risen Lord asks that you trust Him to lead you through to glory. Pray for the deaf of the Milwaukee, Wis., Field that they put their trust in Jesus.
- Aug. 27 — Luke 24:13-35.** Trust your Lord to keep His promises, or your heart will burn with shame when He blesses beyond what you thought He could do. Ask God to lead your congregation forward with strong challenges.
- Aug. 28 — John 20:19-29.** You are sent to the world as Christ was sent. Act as though Jesus were with you, and your faith will not fail you. Pray for courage to live the Christian life.
- Aug. 29 — John 21:1-19.** The one great requirement for the Christian is *love*. Pray for a growing love, and use it when dealing with other people.
- Aug. 30 — Matthew 28:16-20.** Each Sunday you meet your Lord in the presence of His followers. Pray that you will know that Jesus is always with you, and depend on Him to direct you.
- Aug. 31 — Luke 24:44-53.** Our faith in Jesus and what He has done for us is *joy* beyond everything earthly. Pray for joy in your salvation.

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