

# The Deaf Lutheran



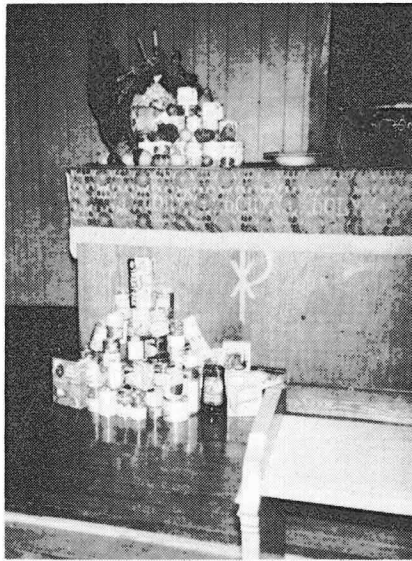
*Ephphatha, that is,  
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 58

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Number 11



A deaf congregation fills a "horn of plenty" to overflowing with a thankoffering to God for His blessings.

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### THE DEAF LUTHERAN

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The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

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# A Thankoffering

*Miami, Fla.* On Thanksgiving Day last year the members of Deaf Zion Lutheran Church, Miami, were encouraged to show their thanks to God in a special way.

First of all, Mrs. Doris Myhre, parish worker of the Miami Field, made a very colorful "horn of plenty," which was placed on the altar on Thanksgiving Day.

During the service Pastor Donald Hasse, vacancy pastor, led the congregation to think about the blessings God had given them, which are often taken for granted — a good home, parents, friends, employment, and many more. But more important than all other blessings was the greatest gift — free salvation through Jesus Christ.

At the close of the sermon members of the congregation one by one brought their thankoffering to God's altar. They filled the "horn of plenty" to overflowing with an offering of food.

After the service the food was gathered up and taken to the home of a family which had seen much misfortune. Serious illness and unemployment threatened to leave their Thanksgiving table somewhat bare. However, it was the prayer of Deaf Zion Congregation that their special thankoffering would help this family say a special thank-you to God this year. It did exactly that.

*Oh, give thanks unto the Lord,  
for He is good.*

REV. D. E. HASSE

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## *Expressions of Faith*



Now thank we all our God  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us  
And keep us in His grace  
And guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next!

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven:  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore!  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.

*The Lutheran Hymnal, No. 36*

## Brazil—First Deaf Convert

*In the interest of our church's new program of mission work among the deaf in Brazil, the following letter is reprinted by request. Missionary Victor C. Lehenbauer's description of the deaf man's conversion appeared previously in the September 1959 DEAF LUTHERAN. ED.*

Dear—:

During the first year of my missionary life under the Southern Cross I was traveling through the dense Brazilian forest under a blazing heat, when all of a sudden I had a glimpse of two figures crossing my path some distance ahead of me.

Not thinking anything about it, I continued on my way when suddenly these same two persons appeared in front of me, one holding my mule on one side and the other on the other side. "A holdup!" I thought at first. But soon I noticed that they were asking me for a picture of a saint. I asked them why they wanted this from me. "Because you are a priest," they answered.

I then answered them that I didn't have pictures of saints with me. When I saw their downcast faces, I explained to them that I was a Lutheran missionary and that if we believe in Christ we do not need pictures of saints to help through the different adversities of life.

After we explained to them our faith and work, they introduced themselves as Brazilian workers in the forest. One of them also explained that his brother was deaf, and so he had to explain all that I had told him. I stayed there for a few hours explaining to them all I could about their Savior until I finally had to continue on my way to the mission station. But I invited them to come and hear more about Christ, their Savior.

They decided to come along with me and clear the forest path for me. They stayed with me until late that night ready to hear all they could, the same the next morning, always the one brother explaining to the other what had been said, until finally I had to leave. So we departed from one another, promising to see each other again next month when we could continue the instruction.

When, next month, I came through the same forest, the hearing brother came to me and told me that his deaf brother was dead, but that before dying he had told him to tell the missionary that he was believing in Christ as his Savior. Then he told me that he had been cutting down forest trees when his brother came out to call him for dinner. While he was coming through the forest, he walked right into the path of a falling tree. He was crushed and died, but not before confessing that he believed in Jesus as his Savior.

This was, as I believe and as far as I know, my first conversion in Brazil, the conversion of a deaf man.

Sincerely yours,

VICTOR C. LEHENBAUER

# Brazil

## A Fourth "R" for the Deaf

This month the DEAF LUTHERAN turns its attention to Brazil, the largest country in South America and the fifth-largest country in the world. We are interested chiefly in the deaf of Brazil and, having the opportunity, interviewed a pastor and his family who live there — Rev. and Mrs. Martim C. Warth and their daughter Beatriz.

The Warth family was in the United States from November 1964 to February 1966. During this time Pastor Warth studied at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., working toward degrees in advanced theology.

Rev. Warth was born in Brazil and is a graduate of our seminary in Porto Alegre. He has served various hearing congregations in Brazil and was also principal of our largest high school and business school there. Since 1964 he has been a professor at our Concordia Seminary in Porto Alegre.

Mrs. Warth is also a native Brazilian. She is the daughter of Edwino Hoerlle, a retired pastor. Her three brothers are also serving our church in Brazil in its new mission fields.

Their daughter Beatriz thoroughly enjoyed her first visit to the United States and last year received her first lessons in the English language. At home Beatriz speaks Portuguese and some German with her parents, the languages most widely used in Brazil.

About 50 percent of the population of Brazil cannot read and write. They know only poverty as their way of life. Yet poverty and lack of education are not the only problems, Prof. Warth pointed out to us. The people in Brazil are eager to learn, but superstition and spiritualism are still important in their lives. The only answer to that problem is the Christian message of salvation by faith in our Savior Jesus, which our church in Brazil fervently preaches and teaches.

### A Gift for the Deaf

Generally, the situation of the deaf in Brazil is not known. Only last year the government began its first school to teach the deaf the basic three "R's" — "reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic." No church is involved in teaching the deaf about Jesus, the Savior. Thus when Rev. and Mrs. Warth returned to their home in Porto Alegre last February, they took with them a gift for the deaf of Brazil — the fourth "R," religion.

What kind of gift will this be? What kind of program will they set up for teaching religion to the deaf? No definite answer can be given at this time, for the Warths must first take a good look at the deaf in their situation and only then can they feel their way into a program.

Actually, Mrs. Warth will be the chief bearer of the gift. Be-



**Prof. and Mrs. Martim C. Warth and their daughter Beatriz. The Warths, members of the Lutheran Church in Brazil, South America, are very much interested in the deaf of Brazil and plan a program of religious education for deaf children**

fore they came to the United States, Mrs. Warth had an experience with one of the children she was teaching. The incident seemed to be a direct request from God. It happened when she asked one of her 9-year-old pupils to write on the theme, "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb."

The little girl wrote: "I love Jesus. I know that Jesus loves me. I know that He was good to people of His time, and that He healed many people. He healed also a man who was deaf. I have two sisters who are deaf. They cannot hear or speak. I try to show them the pictures of Jesus

so that they may love Jesus as I do. I know that Jesus can make them hear and speak. Why does He not make them hear and speak?"

Mrs. Warth could not forget the thought. Was God asking her to bring this gift to these girls?

### **Some Preparation**

When the Warth family arrived in St. Louis, they became acquainted with Rev. Floyd Possehl, our Lutheran pastor working with the deaf in the St. Louis area. Mrs. Warth decided to enroll in Pastor Possehl's language of signs class, and soon the whole Warth

family was learning the language. The Warths attended Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf and worshiped with the deaf while in St. Louis.

Prof. Warth was the guest preacher for the cornerstone laying of Holy Cross Congregation's new chapel (DEAF LUTHERAN, April 1966).

Through the efforts of Rev. Herbert Rohe and the Board for Deaf Missions of our church, Mrs. Warth was able to attend some teacher training classes at Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis.

While a year is not long enough to complete the training program required to become a teacher of the deaf, it is a start in the right direction. Mrs. Warth is hopeful and plans to start with the children from their congregations. Perhaps it will be necessary for her to bring the children into her own home for the instruction.

Beatriz also plans to help her mother in whatever program is set up.

As soon as results of her efforts are clear, the Warths plan to present the problem of religious education for the deaf to the Lutheran Church in Brazil with the hope of interesting someone in full-time work with the deaf.

We can all share the wonderful enthusiasm of the Warth family as they accept this tremendous challenge of bringing the fourth "R" to the deaf of Brazil. We can pray for God to bless their efforts. We can pray that God's Spirit will help the deaf to understand His love and believe His promises. We can support our Lutheran Deaf Mission Society with our contributions and our prayers.

MRS. GRACE HUGHEY  
MRS. IRENE POSSEHL  
St. Louis, Mo.

## Good News from Porto Alegre, Brazil

### A Foonote to the Previous Article

As this issue was being prepared, the DEAF LUTHERAN received more interesting information concerning the progress of Rev. and Mrs. Martim Warth's program of religious instruction for the deaf in Brazil.

Rev. Warth recently wrote to Rev. Herbert Rohe, Secretary of Deaf Missions, St. Louis, Mo., and stated that a religious class for deaf children has begun.

Portions of Rev. Warth's letter, quoted as follows, relate his thinking on the situation in Brazil:

*It was April 22 when my wife Naomi visited the Linden family of Christ Congregation here in Porto Alegre. To her surprise Naomi discovered that they have three deaf children. The oldest, Esther, age 15, is not only deaf but also crippled. For this reason she never had an opportunity to go to school. Naomi immediately discovered that she is a very in-*

telligent girl and learns very easily. The second girl, Edith, is 13 years old and only deaf. She already had the privilege of going to a special school. The little deaf boy, Sergio, age 5, wanted immediately to join the girls in a learning situation.

Every Tuesday afternoon the children are brought to Concordia High School, where we have a free room for the time being.

At this point we have to decide where to go with our program and what to do. Frankly, we do not know exactly what to do. Our work among the adult deaf has no chance for the time being, since hardly anyone has had a special education in the language of signs in the past. Every deaf adult uses the signs he likes best. It is not impossible but rather difficult to organize a group and reach them in the language of signs, especially when everyone signs differently.

As I wrote you before, we sent a letter to all the pastors and missionaries in the field to ask them about deaf people. I have received about 10 percent back in reply. The letters are all encouraging, but the pastors do not know of too many adult deaf.

For the time being we thought developing the work among the children was the more important. Brazil now has three schools for the deaf, one sponsored by the government and two private schools. We visited two of the schools. When they heard that

we were interested in deaf work, they welcomed us with real joy. They told us that more than 120 children are still on an official list waiting to get an opportunity to study in a special school for the deaf. Brazil does not have enough facilities. Our work would be very welcome.

Rev. Warth's concluding remark perhaps would indicate the direction in which a Lutheran program of religious instruction might go. He states: We did not find many more Lutheran deaf children in the area, but such a school could develop into a mission school.

As Christians we will surely together pray God's rich and continued blessings upon the family of Rev. and Mrs. Martim C. Warth and their efforts in teaching the deaf children about Jesus, their Savior. May the Lord lead them as they develop their program in the best interests of the deaf and of the church.

**Remember in your prayers the unchurched deaf of the world and the work of your Lutheran Deaf Mission Society.**

**Send all your gifts for foreign deaf mission work through your Lutheran Deaf Mission Society. LDMS financial secretary is Rev. R. G. Blakely, 233 Winter St., Norwood, Mass. 02062.**



# Meet a Fellow Deaf Lutheran

## NORMAN LEO DAVIS

World War II is history and for some people perhaps a forgotten history. But the memory of that war and the pride of personally sharing in the victory still lingers in the thoughts and hearts of many.

The deaf who worked in the vital defense industries like Norman Leo Davis also remember. Norman looks back on some 24 years of work at Radiation Laboratory, Berkeley, Calif., with sat-

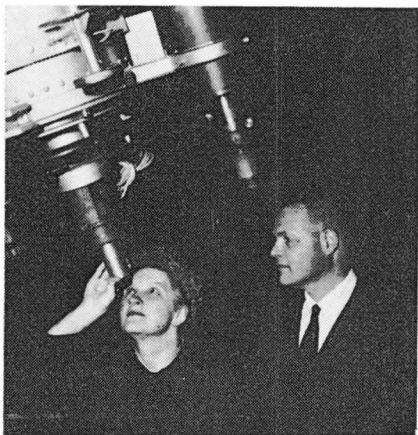


isfaction. Realizing that he was only one of thousands who worked on the Manhattan Project, Norman showed us the citation he received from the Secretary of War on Aug 6, 1945, for participating in work essential to the production of the atomic bomb which helped end our war with Japan.

Currently Norman is classified as a Senior Machinist II, something like a tool-die maker who does precise machine work and the fabrication of equipment for research.

Norman's wife, Loretta, shares his enthusiasm for many activities. Among his many interests Norman finds time for astronomy and telescope-making, geology and mineralogy, theology, art, photography, hiking and marksmanship. He holds a life membership in the National Rifleman's Association and currently is a member of the Eastbay Astronomical Society.

His church, Memorial Lutheran Chapel for the Deaf, Oakland, Calif., is also a center of interest. Active church members, Norman and his wife served their Lord Jesus as Sunday school teachers for 14 years. In addition, this year Norman was elected to his 24th term of office as secretary of Memorial's deaf congregation.





## FIELD

## GLEANINGS

### Pastor Takes Leave of Absence

*Washington, D. C.* Rev. Harry W. Hoemann, pastor of the Washington, D. C., Field and campus pastor at Gallaudet College, recently resigned from his pastorate in order to take advantage of a 3-year doctorate course available to him. He terminated his service on Sept. 30.

Pastor Hoemann is currently enrolled as a graduate student in the department of psychology and psychiatry, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The Catholic University of America, in Wash-

ington. He is majoring in experimental and physiological psychology with a minor in clinical psychology.

For his fall term of study Rev. Hoemann is carrying 12 hours of courses and is involved in the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration's orientation program for psychologists as well as the Center for Research in Thinking and Language directed by Dr. Hans Furth.

We pray the Lord's blessings upon Rev. Hoemann as he begins his long period of study.



Deaf young people eagerly listen as Rev. William Duey explains and leads them in a Bible study of Ephesians

## A Co-op Camp Roundup

Dallas, Tex. Deaf Texans gathered August 5—7 at their annual Lutheran Deaf Co-op Camp roundup at Camp El Har near Dallas. Rev. William A. Duey, pastor in the Texas-Oklahoma Field, guided the camp's activities.

Special assistance was offered the camp by the Koinonians, a group of single young people of Lutheran congregations in Dallas. The Koinonians volunteered to be responsible for planning and preparing the camp's meals. They also helped lead the games and sports activities and joined together with the deaf in their Bible study.

This year's Bible study centered in the Book of Ephesians. Selected portions of Ephesians were studied under the theme "God's Top Secret Plans."

Another feature of the camp's program this year was the lecture given by their guest speaker, Mr. Donald G. Pettingill. Mr. Pettingill is director of counseling services for the deaf at the Callier Hearing and Speech Center, Dallas. His lecture brought his hearers up to date on the latest happenings that concern the deaf in Dallas, in Texas at large, and also nationally.

In particular, Mr. Pettingill informed the group about the federal government's plan to establish a National Technical Institute for the Deaf. This school would enable the deaf to get technical training in various fields after their high school program.



**Mr. Donald G. Pettingill, guest lecturer, informs the campers of many interesting and exciting events happening in the world of the deaf today**

Some 36 persons attended the week-end camp. Everyone CO-OPERated and worked together to make the camp successful. Next year's roundup is already planned for August 18—20.

### Workshop Announced

Washington, D. C. It may be of interest to the readers of the DEAF LUTHERAN to know of the increasing concern of Jewish leaders to serve the spiritual needs of Jewish deaf.

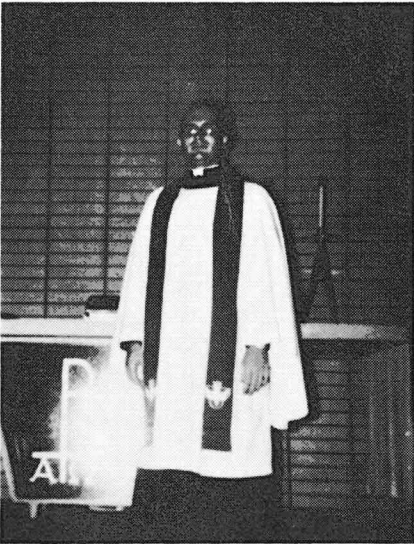
The National Congress of Jewish Deaf (NCJD) plans to sponsor a workshop titled "Orientation of Jewish Clergy and Layreaders to Deafness and Vocational Rehabilitation." The workshop has been proposed for the fall of 1967.

The planning meeting for the workshop was held in Washing-

ton, Oct. 26—27. Mr. Alexander Fleischman, president of the NCJD, will serve as director of the workshop.

### Rev. Johnson Installed

*Great Falls, Mont.* Rev. Russel P. Johnson, Jr., was installed as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Montana on Sunday, July 17, at Peace Lutheran Church (hearing), Great Falls, in an afternoon service.



**Rev. Russel P. Johnson, Jr.**

The service was conducted by Rev. N. L. Raedeke, pastoral counselor of the Great Falls area. Rev. R. R. Rynearson, counselor for the Pacific Region of deaf missions and pastor of the Spokane, Wash., Field, preached the sermon. The rite of installation was performed by Rev. E. T. Leckband, who at that time was first vice-president of the Montana District.

Christ Deaf Congregation of 155 members is unique in that it is the incorporation of the Lutheran deaf of the whole state of Montana. About 70 deaf and hearing attended the service of installation, many traveling great distances to meet their new pastor.

Rev. Johnson is a native of Detroit, Mich. After attending our church's junior and senior colleges at Milwaukee, Wis., and Fort Wayne, Ind., Rev. Johnson completed 4 years of study at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., in May 1966. His third year of study was spent serving Trinity Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Pittsburgh, Pa., as vicar.

Rev. Johnson was ordained to the ministry of our church in St. John's Lutheran Church, Detroit, Mich., June 5, 1966.

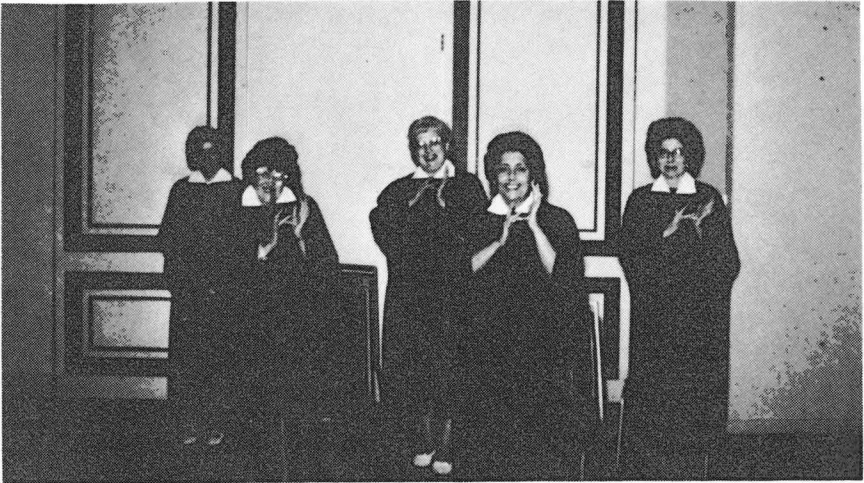
Rev. Johnson is married to the former Gwendolyn Grace Hayes, of Lake Worth, Fla.

### Thoughts on a Deaf Camp

*Delavan, Wis.* "A good time was had by all" would sum up the story on the week of camping held Aug. 7—13, sponsored by the Delavan, Wis., field at Camp LuWiSoMo near Wild Rose, Wis.

The group that participated was small, but it was a good beginning. In all our camp party numbered 13, including Rev. Martin G. Kosche, his family, and four young deaf.

We stayed in the large farm home on the camp property, and it served us well. Each morning we had a Bible study hour. The



**Cleveland, Ohio.** The choir of Christ Lutheran Church (Deaf), Cleveland, presented their sign version of "Beautiful Savior" as an anthem during the opening Communion service of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League's Ohio District convention, July 13. Rev. Martin A. Hewitt, who interpreted the convention for seven deaf delegates and guests, directed the choir at the worship service. L. to r.: Miss Elinor Ilse, Mrs. Catherine Smith, Mrs. Lillian Long, Mrs. Betty Jean Cassese, and Mrs. Dorothy Perry

balance of the day was divided into different camp activities — swimming, canoeing, hiking, crafts, campfires, horseshoes, horseback riding, volleyball, badminton, baseball, and so forth. Yes, we even had an airplane ride over the camp area and a hayride. Each day closed with a devotion. Campers gathered together each evening to plan the following day's activities. Chores were shared by all.

We are convinced that such a camp for the deaf is a good thing. Chief advantages from the church's viewpoint are twofold: First, the church has an opportunity to observe its youth as they actually live together. Christians together have the opportunity to

apply the Christian teachings to their daily-life situations as they come up. Second, camping gives the opportunity for many informal but profitable discussions on religious questions and teachings of the Bible.

We think camping is a good thing to sponsor in our church. We are already making plans for next year's program.

*The Silent Newsletter*  
REV. MARTIN G. KOSCHE



## A Unique Vicarage

*Colorado Springs, Colo.* In September Mr. Garland L. Iseler began his year of practical experience as a vicar. He was assigned to Immanuel Lutheran Church and School (hearing) of Colorado Springs, serving under the guidance of Rev. Walter A. Enge, president of the Colorado District.

Since Immanuel Lutheran Church is almost directly across the street from the deaf school in Colorado Springs, Vicar Iseler will devote part of his time helping Rev. Donald Zuhn serve the deaf in the Colorado Springs area.

Mr. Iseler's home is in Michigan. He attended our church's schools in Milwaukee, Wis., Fort Wayne, Ind., and the seminary in Saint Louis.

We welcome Vicar Garland Iseler into his part-time service



Vicar Garland L. Iseler

to the deaf. We pray the Lord's blessing upon his work of practical experience and learning.



## LIGHT FOR YOUR WAY

### Daily Bible Readings

### for November

*As we pray every day to our heavenly Father, let us remember our church in our prayers. Pray for its colleges and seminaries, pray for its mission outreach to all the world, pray for its pastors and teachers, and pray for all its members who together must carry out the Lord's command in Matthew 28:19-20.*

**Nov. 1—3 John 1-15.** John encourages his congregations in the way of truth. Pray for your church's leaders. Pray also for Rev. M. E. A. Mueller, Milwaukee, Wis.

**Nov. 2—Revelation 1:1-20.** John sees a vision from the Lord while in exile on the island of Patmos. Pray for Christians who are separated from home and friends.

- Nov. 3** — **Revelation 22:8-21.** John's vision ends in hope. Pray that God will soon come in power for His people, to bring us to our heavenly home.
- Nov. 4** — **Luke 5:27-32.** Matthew, the tax collector, is called to be a disciple. God has also called you. Pray for His Spirit to lead you in service to Him.
- Nov. 5** — **Matthew 10:1-15.** Jesus sends his disciples to do God's work. Ask God to give you the zeal to give your time to Him for His work. Pray also for Rev. Robert Corl, Madison, Wis.
- Nov. 6** — **Matthew 2:13-23.** In his gospel Matthew relates Jesus to the promised Savior of the Old Testament. Pray for your church's mission work in foreign lands.
- Nov. 7** — **John 3:1-15.** A successful man, Nicodemus, meets Jesus. Pray that wealth may never close your heart to God.
- Nov. 8** — **John 7:32-52.** Jesus has a friend in the supreme court of Jewish religious leaders. Pray for the courage to witness to Christ in all your activities.
- Nov. 9** — **John 19:38-42.** Nicodemus buries Jesus with honor. Ask God to use your gifts to the glory and honor of Jesus.
- Nov. 10** — **Acts 6:1-6.** Stephen is elected to serve his church as deacon. Pray for the officers of your congregation that they may serve God well.
- Nov. 11** — **Acts 6:8-15.** A bold man of faith, Stephen is on trial for his life. Pray for all who give up their own safety and family loyalty for Jesus' sake.
- Nov. 12** — **Acts 7:51-60.** Stephen prays for his murderers. Ask God to give you patience to forgive those who attack you.
- Nov. 13** — **Acts 7:54—8:1.** Young Saul helps murder Stephen. Pray for those who do not know the power of God's grace.
- Nov. 14** — **Acts 9:1-19.** Saul, an enemy of Christians, is converted and called by God to serve Him. Give thanks for your faith and salvation.
- Nov. 15** — **Acts 9:20-30.** Paul first attempts mission work. Ask that God bless all your gifts and work with success.
- Nov. 16** — **Galatians 1:11-24.** A young missionary is encouraged by his fellow Christians. Pray for the zeal, patience, and love to encourage your fellow Christians in your home congregation. Pray also for Rev. Russel Johnson, Great Falls, Mont.
- Nov. 17** — **Acts 11:19-30.** Paul is called to preach Christ at Antioch. Ask for joy in the work to which you are called.
- Nov. 18** — **Acts 13:1-12.** The church sends out the first foreign missionaries. Pray God to give His church the love to support its missionaries adequately.
- Nov. 19** — **Acts 13:44-52.** Paul turns to the Gentiles (non-Jews). Pray that all nations may hear the Gospel of Christ.
- Nov. 20** — **Acts 14:8-23.** Paul is stoned and left for dead. Ask for peace in the security of knowing God's promises.

- Nov. 21 — Acts 15:1-21.** The church asks its missionary to report. Pray that the many churches of today may learn to know one another.
- Nov. 22 — Acts 15:36-41.** A second missionary journey begins for Paul. Ask that the church may become powerful in prayer for its missions. Pray also for Mrs. Katherine Thies, pastor's wife, Juniata, Nebr.
- Nov. 23 — Acts 16:6-15.** The Christian church moves into Europe. Pray especially for missions in European and Soviet countries.
- Nov. 24 — Romans 8:31-39.** Gratitude for God's victory. Thank God for His self-giving love in all things.
- Nov. 25 — Acts 16:17-40.** A personal triumph at Philippi. Ask that your congregation be known and respected in its community.
- Nov. 26 — Acts 17:16-34.** God's Word is given to the intelligent Greeks. Pray for pastors serving students at colleges and universities.
- Nov. 27 — Isaiah 62:10—63:9.** Prepare the way for the Christ. Pray for your congregation that it be more zealous to bring Christ to all people.
- Nov. 28 — Acts 19:1-20.** Truth triumphs over evil. Pray that the Gospel of the Kingdom may overcome man's wickedness.
- Nov. 29 — 2 Corinthians 12:1-10.** God's grace is made perfect in weakness. Ask for patience to work in the place which God has given you. Pray also for Mrs. Effie Rohe, pastor's wife, St. Louis, Mo.
- Nov. 30 — Acts 20:7-17.** Paul counsels with his churches. Pray that all who worship with you may put their hope in Christ.

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