

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is
Be opened.*

MARK 7:

Volume 59

June 1967

Number 6



Sportsman — Christian



The baseball season is well under way. Many of us eagerly watch the games played by our favorite team. As you watch a ball game, have you ever stopped to think about the private lives of the various men on your team? You might be surprised to find that many of the players are dedicated Christians.

Alvin Dark, formerly a star infielder with the Chicago Cubs and now manager of the Kansas City Athletics, was one who lived a Christian life as he rose to na-

tional fame in baseball. He started his dedicated Christian life when he was a newsboy in Lake Charles, La. Even at that early age he was a tither. His weekly earnings were only \$2.50, but he put 25¢ or 10 percent of that into the Sunday school offering plate each Sunday.

As his income increased, so did his offerings, until he was giving several thousand dollars each year for the support of the Gospel ministry. About this lifelong habit Alvin Dark said, "I was

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

**Official Paper of the Board for Missions
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 1st Friday, 4 weeks before issue. Send all news, pictures, stories, and articles by the 12th of the month, 7 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

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taught that tithing would not bring me riches, but that it would bring His blessings. I found that to be true.”

The tithe is a simple formula: set aside 10 percent of your income for God to use through His church.

Both Abraham and Jacob were tithers even before God made it a law for His people Israel. Paul says that Abraham is the spiritual father of all of us because he believed in Jesus for the forgiveness of sins. (Romans 4:11)

While tithing is no longer required for us New Testament Christians, it is a guide for our cheerful and thankful giving. The love we have for Jesus, our Savior, ought to pull on our hearts and lead us to do even better than the Old Testament law.

Why don't you try tithing? Like Alvin Dark and many other dedicated Christians, you will find that it brings God's blessings. Not only does it bring His bless-

Cover Story

Deaf artist Forrest C. Nickerson of Winnipeg, Canada, painted our cover picture. His full-color religious oil painting has been lithographed on fine-quality paper and has been offered to the deaf for framing. The 11" by 14" reproduction of the painting is priced at \$3.50 plus 25 cents for postage. It may be purchased from:

**Forrest C. Nickerson
1485 Lincoln Avenue
Winnipeg 3, Man., Can.**

Mr. Nickerson is a member of the Winnipeg Church for the Deaf, The United Church of Canada.

ings to *you* personally, but because you give generously many others will also hear the Good News of Jesus.

REV. A. L. HAUPTMAN

A Census in Eastern Nigeria

A year ago the DEAF LUTHERAN printed Rev. C. Roland Gerhold's series of articles on his visit with a survey team to West Africa. Rev. Gerhold visited Nigeria and Ghana to study the needs of the deaf living in these two countries.

On the basis of the survey reports our church studied the possibilities for taking over and supporting the Home for Young Deaf as a Lutheran school for the

deaf in Ibadan, Nigeria. The possibility of starting a deaf mission program and sending missionaries to work with the deaf was also discussed. However, because of the shortage of pastors working with the deaf and because of the lack of funds, the Board of Missions has decided not to begin the work at this time.

This decision has not discouraged the Lutheran Deaf Mission

Society, which conducts an annual appeal to raise funds to support mission work for the deaf of foreign countries.

Recently the secretary for deaf missions in St. Louis, Rev. Herbert Rohe, received an interesting letter from Mr. P. C. Obidigbo, a deaf welfare and education specialist at the Municipal School for the Deaf and Dumb, Ogbete, Enugu, Eastern Nigeria. Mr. Obidigbo gives an encouraging report concerning their government's interest in the deaf. We quote from his letter:

A survey on incidence of deafness [how many deaf] was conducted at Enugu, Aug. 16—23, 1966. From the survey it was discovered that 102 deaf persons live in Enugu. Of this number 11 are adults, while 91 are children. Only 30 of these children are in elementary school, 5 attend a special day school, and 25 others are cared for in elementary schools for hearing children.

The remaining 31 children stay in their homes. Their parents think of them as useless to the

family and give them no educational opportunity.

These hearing-handicapped children need help and sympathy. The help can be provided by establishing a Residential School for the Deaf in Enugu, where they can be given education and special training in speech, lipreading, and the use of hearing aids.

During the survey it was reported that parents often send their children to rural areas as soon as they discover that the children have a hearing impairment. This would show that many deaf live in rural areas.

On the strength of this I have suggested that our survey be extended to reach all parts of Enugu Province and even to extend it to Onitsha Province. It is obvious that the number of hearing-impaired persons in the two provinces will be very great.

Readers of the DEAF LUTHERAN are encouraged to pray for the deaf of Nigeria and West Africa that someday soon the Good News of salvation will be preached to them. Let us support our Lutheran Deaf Mission Society.

Deaf Texans Will Benefit by State Laws

The Hon. Paul Floyd introduced 14 bills on Jan. 17 to the Texas State House of Representatives. The bills were concerned with services and facilities for the deaf of Texas.

One of the most interesting of the bills introduced is House Bill

No. 25, which proposes to create a State Commission for the Deaf. This commission would have six members, who would be appointed by the Governor. Two of the members of the commission must be deaf, and the term of office would be six years.

The commission would appoint a qualified deaf or hard-of-hearing person as executive director. This person would oversee the rendering of all services to the deaf except those which are by law the responsibility of other state agencies.

The commission shall conduct a census of deaf persons in Texas and compile a current registry. It will collect all kinds of information concerning the deaf and will act as a source of information about the deaf for interested per-

sons. The commission would be able to accept gifts or grants of money for use in expanding and improving services to deaf persons in the State of Texas.

Another bill, House Bill No. 36, encourages the state to pass a law providing interpreters for the deaf in civil cases. The interpreters would be paid for their services out of court funds.

It is noteworthy to mention that Texas already has a law to provide interpreters for the deaf in criminal cases.

Exploring in the Bible

With this issue we introduce a series of studies on the life of David, King of Israel and ancestor of Jesus. The reader is encouraged to read the selected passages of Holy Scripture, think about them, and fill in the answers where needed.

David saw himself as a child of God. In everything he tried to place himself in God's hands. As a young man David depended on the Lord with unquestioning trust, obedience, and faithfulness.

King Saul had become jealous of David's popularity with the people of Israel and had tried to kill him. David with a band of friends remained in hiding, moving about from place to place for a number of years.

In your Bible read 2 Samuel 1:1-4 and 2:1-4.

David was in _____ in southern Judah when the news of King Saul's death came. David remembered that Samuel, God's prophet, had anointed him to become the king of Israel after Saul's death. But now what should he do? The nation was in confusion. King Saul had been killed in battle.

David turned to the Lord in prayer. He asked God if he should go back to the leading cities of Judah. The Lord answered, "_____." Then David asked to which place he should go. The Lord told him to go to _____.

David obeyed God and was made the king of the nation of Judah.

Now read 2 Samuel 5:15.

The northern tribes of Israel remembered David as the young man of God who had often helped the Israelite people in time of battle while Saul was still king. They knew that God had chosen David to be king of all the tribes of Israel.

So the elders of _____ came to David at _____, and anointed him _____ over _____.

David's age when he began to reign: _____

The number of years David ruled Judah: _____

The number of years David ruled both Judah and Israel: _____

David's age when he died: _____

Answers on page 92.



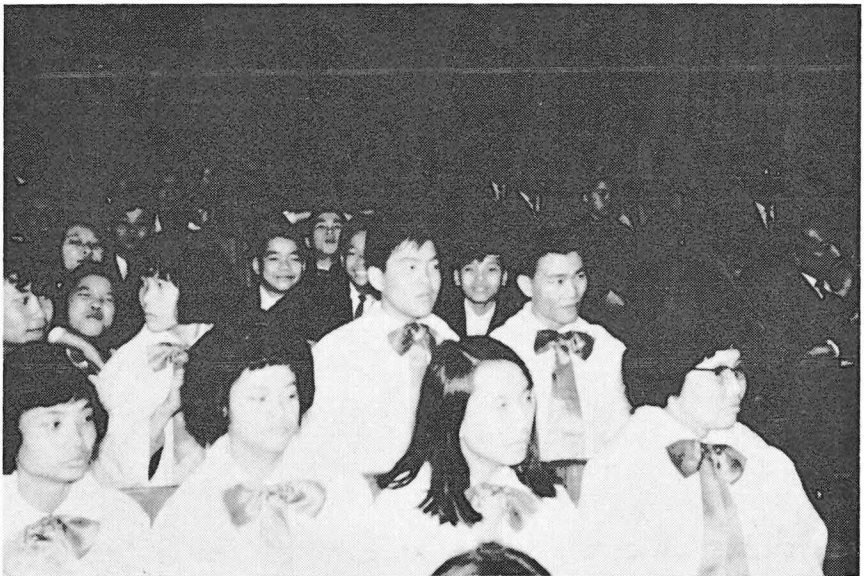
Guests at the Hong Kong deaf anniversary service include (first pew, l. to r.): Rev. Roy Karner, chairman of the Hong Kong conference; Mr. Harold Schmidt, conference secretary; and Mr. Yip Tai Chi, deaf teacher from Macao

The woman in the second pew is Miss Martha Boss, deaconess-nurse at the Haven of Hope Sanatorium in Hong Kong

In the third pew at the left end is Mr. C. K. Ku, head of the Deaf Welfare Unit, Hong Kong Social Welfare Dept. At the other end is Mr. Tsau Tsor Yin, assistant director, Special Services Dept., Hong Kong Social Welfare Dept.

Hong Kong Anniversary

On Feb. 19 Rev. Philip Ho, pastor for the deaf at the Chatham Road Chapel in Kowloon, addressed some 200 worshipers who gathered to praise God for His many blessings on the deaf. This service marked the sixth anniversary of the first Lutheran deaf service in the Hong Kong area. Miss Yip Wai Ying interprets the service



Worshipers gather at the Chatham Road Chapel in Kowloon, Hong Kong, for the special anniversary service. Miss Wong Shuk Ming, acting principal of the Kowloon Deaf Evening School, is sitting in the front pew, right

The Question Box

Q. *What is the never-forgiven sin?*

— Mrs. L. C., Cincinnati, Ohio

A. Our Lord Jesus says in Mark 3:28-29 (Beck): *I tell you the truth, anything that people do will be forgiven, their sins and their slanders, though they slander ever so much. But anyone who slanders the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. Yes, he is guilty of an everlasting sin.* See also Matthew 12:31-32; Luke 12:10; and John 12:39-40.

The never-forgotten sin is the slander or sin against the Holy Spirit. Why can it never be forgiven?

Holy Scripture teaches us that the Holy Spirit's work is to convince a person of his sin, bring him to repentance, and give him faith in Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. That person may understand the Gospel truth; and yet he says to himself, "I know what the Bible says about Jesus is probably true, but I will never believe it." As he argues and fights against this truth, he always resists the Holy Spirit's effort to make him sorry for his sin. He stubbornly refuses to turn away from his sin and seek forgiveness through Jesus Christ. This is the sin against the Holy Spirit.

If this person refuses until his death to believe in Jesus, whom God sent to remove his sins, how and where else will his sins be forgiven? God tells us in His Word that forgiveness can be found in no other way. That is why the sin against the Holy Spirit can never be forgiven.

Anyone who feels guilty about his sins, who is sorry for doing them, and who seeks God's forgiveness for Jesus' sake is NOT guilty of the never-forgiven sin. Anyone who fears he has done the never-forgiven sin is surely not guilty of it, because the Holy Spirit is at work bringing that person to a stronger faith in Jesus his Savior.

REV. WILLIAM A. LUDWIG

Next month a Cleveland, Ohio, man asks: *In what year was Christ born?*

Address your questions on any church-related subject to: The Question Box, Rev. William A. Ludwig, 360 Morse Road, Columbus, Ohio 43214



FIELD

GLEANINGS

Deaf Students Receive Scholarships

St. Paul, Minn. For the third year since 1965 the Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Company of Minneapolis, Minn., has presented scholarships to students in the special classes for the deaf at Minneapolis Lutheran High School.

The four Lutheran students

who received the scholarships, Karin Reksten, Deborah Lentz, Steven Warnes, and Dale Finke, hope to use them next year at Gallaudet College, Washington, D. C.

The interest of Lutheran Brotherhood in the education of these young people shows the society's growing awareness of the special needs of church and community.



Four Lutheran students receive scholarships from Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Company. Mr. R. H. Gerberding, a member of the Board of Directors of Lutheran Brotherhood, presents the scholarships to Miss Judith Grimm, the special teacher of the deaf classes. Happily watching the presentation are the four honored deaf students: Steven Warnes, Karin Reksten, Dale Finke, and Deborah Lentz

The special classes at the Lutheran high school are supported in part by a grant from the Wheat Ridge Foundation. The grant provides a special teacher to help the students and direct the program at the high school.

Minneapolis Lutheran High School's deaf program combines daily religious training and Christian living with the deaf student's academic education. The program has received recognition from many sources throughout the United States.

New Counselor

West Hartford, Conn. At their regional pastors' conference on Feb. 25 the pastors of the Eastern Region elected Rev. Earl J. Thaler as counselor.

Rev. Thaler replaces Rev. Louis Jasper as regional counselor and will complete the unexpired balance of his term. Rev. Jasper has accepted the call to Hong Kong.

Ephphatha Conference

Mill Neck, Long Island, N. Y. Next month our Lutheran pastors who work with the deaf in the United States and Canada will meet together at the Lutheran School for the Deaf, Mill Neck. Their annual Ephphatha Conference will be held July 17—21.

Part of the time our pastors spend at the meeting will be set aside for the usual conference business and reports. The major share of conference time this year, however, will be devoted to a workshop on mental health.

The workshop is designed to help and encourage our pastors as they deal with the care for the spiritual needs of the deaf in mental institutions.

Words of Wisdom

On Interest

A young lady said to her friend, "I cannot get interested in missions!"

"No," replied her friend, "you can hardly expect to. It is the same as getting interest in a bank. You have to put something in before you get any interest. And the more you put in—time, money, prayer—the more the interest grows."

Has Your Faith Had This Experience?

Some time ago the story was told about a slave who had, by the force of his sterling worth, risen high in the confidence of his master.

One day as they passed the slavemarket this slave saw a Negro whose gray head and trembling, bent form showed him to be in the last weakness of old age. He implored his master to purchase him.

The old man was bought and taken to the estate. When there, he who pleaded for him took him to his own cabin, placed him in his own bed, fed him at his own table, and gave him water from his own cup. When the old man shivered, he carried him into the sunshine. When he drooped in the heat, he took him softly to the shade.

“What is the meaning of all that?” one of those who watched asked about his kindness. “Is he your father?”

“No.”

“Is he your brother?”

“No.”

“Is he, then, your friend?”

“No, he is my enemy.” Then he explained, “Years ago he stole me from my native village and sold me for a slave. But the good Lord has said in His Word, *If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him a drink. If you do this, you’ll heap burning coals on his head. Don’t let evil conquer you, but conquer evil with good.*” (Romans 12: 20-21 Beck)

Readers of the DEAF LUTHERAN

Notice to Subscribers

If you change your address, please send us your new address at least 4 weeks before you move. You will not want to miss a single issue of your DEAF LUTHERAN.

Please enclose the address label on the back page when you send in your address change. Thank you.

The Deaf Lutheran, 210 N. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo. 63102.

may submit news and pictures for the Field Gleanings section directly to their regional reporter. Addresses will be found in the roster on page 96.

Regional Reporters

Future issues of the DEAF LUTHERAN will contain a small but significant change in the Field Gleanings section. News, stories, and pictures will be grouped according to regions and will be gathered and submitted by regional reporters.

The reporters for each region will be able to keep a close contact with the congregations and fields within their own area of the country. This should provide the DEAF LUTHERAN with a broader picture of our Lord’s work than we have seen in the past.

The following pastors have agreed to be their region’s reporter:

Central Region — Rev. Orlin Anderson, Jacksonville, Ill.

Dixie Region — Rev. William A. Duey, Dallas, Tex.

Eastern Region — Rev. William Aiello, Trenton, N. J.

Great Lakes Region — Rev. Robert Bremer, Flint, Mich.

Midwest Region — Rev. Donald Zuhn, Denver, Colo.

Pacific Northwest — Rev. Russel Johnson, Great Falls, Mont.

The reporter’s position for the *California Region* is unconfirmed as this issue goes to press.

Dixie Region News . . .

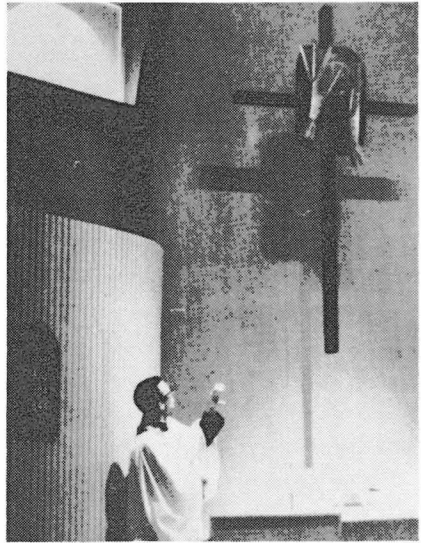
**35th Anniversary
of Mission Work**

Dallas, Tex. March 5 marked 35 years of Lutheran services for the deaf in Dallas. Guest speaker was Rev. Harold L. Fleischhauer, Sulphur Springs, Tex., former vicar among the deaf in New Jersey.

The services were conducted in



Rev. Harold Fleischhauer, guest speaker for the 35th anniversary service of the first worship service for the deaf in Dallas, encourages the deaf to remember the Lord and His work



During the anniversary service the congregation dedicated the "Jesus' Hands" cross. The cross is the central focal point in the worshiper's view in the new John of Beverley Chapel

the new John of Beverley Chapel, which was dedicated on Nov. 20.

During the special anniversary service the "Jesus' Hands" cross was dedicated.

The theme of Rev. Fleischhauer's sermon was "Remember Who You Are," with a text from Deuteronomy. He reminded the worshipers that God has chosen us through Jesus to be saved and to save the world. Each Sunday at worship the deaf will see the reminder in the "Jesus' Hands" cross.

The first Lutheran worship service was conducted in Zion Lutheran Church, then on Swiss Avenue, by Rev. Martin E. A.

**Answers for Exploring
in the Bible**

Ziklag	king
"Go up"	Israel
Hebron	30
Israel	7
Hebron	33

Mueller of Waco. Services were continued on a monthly basis.

Rev. A. E. Ferber, residing in Kansas City, Mo., began cottage Bible study meetings with the deaf in Picher and Commerce, Okla., as early as 1927.

In 1931 Rev. Martin E. A. Mueller, who had studied under Pastor Ferber, was commissioned to begin mission work among the deaf in Texas. For several years he resided in Waco. The first confirmation service for the deaf in

Texas was conducted by him on July 26, 1936.

Since that time 11 other missionaries have served the Dallas congregation. In 1964 the Texas field was divided. Today Rev. Donald Haug, stationed in Houston, takes care of South Texas, while Rev. William Duey serves the deaf of North Texas and Oklahoma from the Dallas headquarters.

REV. WILLIAM DUEY
Reporter, Dixie Region



LIGHT FOR YOUR WAY

Daily Bible Readings for June

Sing His Praise in His Congregation

- June 1** — **Psalm 139.** Why do you forget that your ascended Lord knows where you are and what you are doing? Pray for strength to be faithful. Pray also for Rev. Robert Bremer, Flint, Mich., and Rev. Rodney Rynearson, Rochester, N. Y.
- June 2** — **1 Corinthians 3.** The Word of God and His sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ways God gives you to grow spiritually. Do you use them faithfully? Pray for greater spiritual growth.
- June 3** — **1 Corinthians 4.** People watch your actions very closely because you say you are a Christian. Does your everyday life praise God? Pray that we may do nothing to bring disgrace to the name of Jesus.
- June 4** — **1 Corinthians 6.** We are members of God's family. May we remember that in our dealings with others. Pray for understanding and love among members of your congregation.

- June 5** — **Joel 1.** Do you remember to praise God when your life is pleasant and comfortable? Pray that you may not forget God and all He has done and still does for you.
- June 6** — **Joel 2.** How often you have justly deserved God's punishments because of your sins! Repent and pray for forgiveness. Pray also for Mrs. Thelma Blakely, pastor's wife, Norwood, Mass., and Mrs. Viola Gerhold, pastor's wife, Newark, N. J.
- June 7** — **Joel 3.** God continually protects you. Why are you so shy to to speak about Jesus to others? Pray for courage to live your faith in word and deed at all times.
- June 8** — **Galatians 6:7-10.** We never have a "vacation time" from the work Christ Jesus gives us. Pray that your pastors and teachers remain humble before God as they do His work.
- June 9** — **John 14.** Christ is your Savior. What is more important than having faith in Jesus? Pray that all men may know the joys of faith in Him.
- June 10** — **John 15.** Can other people see that Jesus Christ lives in you? Do you accept His power in your life? Pray that your life may be a blessing to others. Pray also for Mrs. Patricia Pokorny, pastor's wife, Washington, D. C.
- June 11** — **John 16.** In a troubled world you are privileged to enjoy the glories of your salvation. Pray that men everywhere might experience this happiness. Pray for Rev. F. G. Gyle, St. Augustine, Fla.
- June 12** — **2 Corinthians 13.** A living faith expresses itself in all areas of life. Pray that all you do may glorify God.
- June 13** — **1 Peter 1.** You are God's child. The joys of heaven are far greater than any present suffering. Ask God to support and defend His church in its difficulties throughout the world.
- June 14** — **1 Peter 2.** You owe your highest allegiance to God. Ask God to keep His people faithful to Him. Pray also for Mrs. Karen Gehrs, pastor's wife, Winnipeg, Man., Can., and Mrs. Gwendolyn Johnson, pastor's wife, Great Falls, Mont.
- June 15** — **Ephesians 6:1-9.** Do you serve God by honoring your superiors? Ask God to give hope and strength to the newly graduated pastors and teachers.
- June 16** — **Ephesians 2.** Your salvation is a gift of God and rests upon the truth of God's Word. Pray for those who doubt God's promises, that they may find the peace and comfort of faith.
- June 17** — **Ezra 1.** What are some of the many things you could do to beautify your house of worship? Pray that God would make all Christians cheerful workers for the church.
- June 18** — **Ezra 2:68-70 and 3.** It is an honor for you to help in maintaining a house of God. Pray that God might bless all congregations and workmen constructing new churches.

- June 19 — Ezra 4.** Decisions made in a hurry may cause great difficulty in the church. Pray that God would guide and bless the decisions of the leaders of our church. Pray also for Rev. G. A. Gehrs, Riverside, Calif.
- June 20 — Ezra 5.** Have you the courage to do God's work against the objections of others? Pray for the mission congregations in foreign lands, who serve the Lord among unbelieving peoples.
- June 21 — Ezra 6.** God always rules the affairs of men for the good of His church. Pray for a spirit of love and understanding in your community and among all nations.
- June 22 — Ezra 7.** You are saved to serve. Pray that the members of your congregation may work together for the glory of God.
- June 23 — Ezra 8.** The church needs your financial support. Do you support it as God has prospered you? Pray that Christians may be cheerful contributors to His cause. Pray also for Mrs. Irene Possehl, pastor's wife, St. Louis, Mo.
- June 24 — James 1 and 2.** The fight of faith is always worthwhile. Pray for courage to live your faith before others.
- June 25 — Ezra 9.** Our companions influence us either for good or evil. Pray that God's Word will work in the hearts of all members of your congregation.
- June 26 — Isaiah 40.** God has the answer to all problems. Why should you be afraid? Pray that God will reveal His power to all nations. Pray for Rev. C. R. Gerhold, Newark, N. J.
- June 27 — Isaiah 41.** Your sins often make you feel a stranger to God, but you must remember that God in His mercy remembers you. Pray for a confident faith in Jesus your Savior. Pray also for Mrs. Selma Westermann, pastor's wife, Greensboro, N. C.
- June 28 — Isaiah 42.** What are you doing, what can you further do, to spread the story of God's love for all? Pray that all the members of your congregation may be willing to share their faith in Jesus with others. Pray also for Rev. James Bengelsdorf, Des Moines, Iowa.
- June 29 — Isaiah 43.** Do you see the urgency of preaching Christ Crucified, the Savior of all? Ask God to give understanding and a strong faith to His people.
- June 30 — Romans 16:17-18.** A love for God in humble repentance and a proud self-conceit may never be united. Pray that all ministers of God's Word may teach it faithfully. Pray also for Rev. Leroy Mason, Chicago, Ill.

Remember your Ebenezer Thankoffering and pray:

O Lord God, You are wonderful and deserve all praise. You have favored us with the gift of life and the greater gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to all who remember these blessings the grace of gratitude, the peace of pardon, and the hope of fulfillment of Your precious promises in every day of their lives. Amen.

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