

The Deaf Lutheran



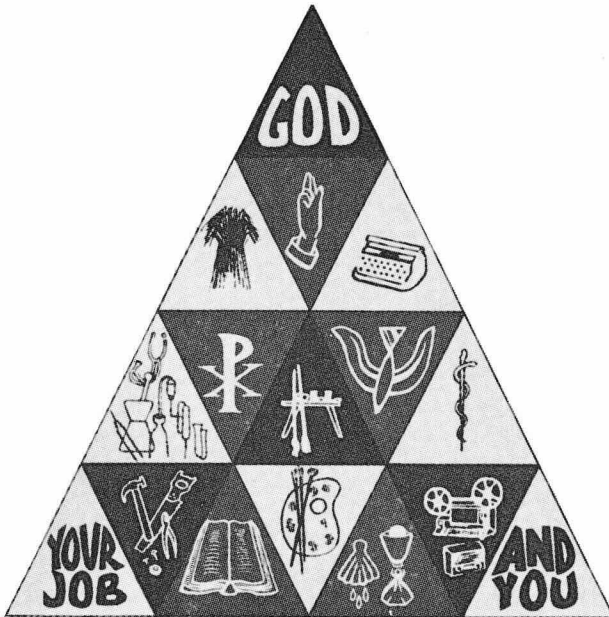
*Ephphatha, that is
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 60

April 1968

Number 4



Our SPECIAL Work

Christian Vocation In Focus — April

Each one of us has a vocation. What is it?

The word *vocation* is from a Latin word which means *calling*. Actually we have two callings or vocations.

Our first vocation is our relationship to God. He has called us from the world of sin and evil (darkness) to His world of grace, love, and forgiveness (light). We are called to be the children of God by faith in Jesus Christ.

As God called us to be His children, He also calls us to our work. He has given us the ability, skill, and interest to work in our own particular trade, profession, job or occupation. This is our second vocation and is important for us, too. With our work we earn money to buy the food, clothing, and shelter we need for ourselves and our family.

Whatever we do as our vocation, whether it be barber, carpenter, housewife, apprentice, farmer, printer, teacher, or minister, we take pride in our work.

No job is too small to matter. No job is better than another. *What* a person does is not as important as *how* and *why* the job is done.

Martin Luther once said about our work: “[A Christian’s] labor [is] very noble. In fact, the most menial labor, such as washing diapers, becomes an activity prompted by love to God. Whatever the Christian does, in a high or low position of life, he does it to the glory of God and puts his body into the service of God and his fellow men.”

Some people think that we cannot take our Christian faith with us to work. Sometimes the actions of our friends and fellow workers as well as the demands of some unions do not agree with our faith and God’s teachings. At times it may seem easier to copy the careless, sloppy work of others or waste time by fooling around. We may be tempted to waste material or take some of our work home with us without paying for it. This waste of time and material, however, comes under the category of stealing from

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

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

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Published monthly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. 63118. Subscription price, \$2.00 a year (\$1.00 if paid through local Lutheran pastor). 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 Rev. Earl Thaler, Subscription Manager, 31 West Beacon St., West Hartford, Conn. 06119.

our employer, and that is a matter between God and us.

Paul tells us in the Bible that we are not only working for a boss, but we also work for the Lord Jesus. The Lord knows what we do with the ability He gave us, and He pays wages, too. His wages are different from the money we earn, for His wages are eternal.

A Christian can combine his faith and his work if he remembers he is working for Jesus Christ, too. When we remember this we will enjoy our work, take pride in what we do and how we do it, and try to do our best at all times. We will be honest in our dealings with other workers as well as with our own work. We will be obedient to our supervisors.

Our work gives us many opportunities to witness and share our faith with our co-workers. In our work we serve both our company and our Lord Jesus. Through our attitude and actions while we are working, we show others what Jesus Christ truly means to us. The person who is most like Christ is the one who is faithful in all things—in his worship of God as well as in his work. He will not want to keep back any of his abilities or his labor from God.

All the thousands of different *legal* vocations are pleasing to God. He demands from us that we work the best we can at our job. He also demands that we serve and honor Him at the same

† Dr. John W. Behnken †
St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. John W. Behnken, who led our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for nearly three decades of its greatest growth, died Feb. 23. He was buried on Ash Wednesday after funeral services in Holy Cross Church, St. Louis.

The widely known churchman and friend of our Lutheran Deaf Missions had been in failing health for some time and died in a hospital near Hollywood, Fla., while visiting a son and his family.

Dr. Behnken was president of the Synod for 27 years and retired in 1962 at the synodical convention in Cleveland. He then was elected honorary president.

Biographical sketches of Dr. Behnken's life and work have appeared in other Lutheran church publications, notably the *Lutheran Witness-Reporter*. Your pastor has these in his library. Ask to read them.

time. While we are working we must remember that we are Christians—followers of Christ. He wants us to work with honesty, diligence, and obedience. This understanding about Christ and our job can help us to enjoy whatever we do. It will give us a better understanding about the "whole job"—our hours at work and our entire Christian life.

Again Paul tells us: "*Whatever*

you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you are working for the Lord, and not for men. Remember that the Lord will pay you; you will receive what He has kept for His people. For Christ

is the real Master you serve.”
(Colossians 3:23-24, TEV)

Christ is Lord over all—including your work.

Adapted from the *Silent Visitor*
Omaha, Nebr., Field

A Real Challenge

Hong Kong News

Much to my dismay, the days and weeks in Hong Kong are just as short as they were in New York. As I get into the work here, the challenges become clearer.

My first responsibility is to the Deaf Evening School conducted by the Lutheran Church. In February I officially became the principal of this school in which 50 deaf children are enrolled. Since the classes are conducted from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m., we cannot accept very young children even though the school offers grades Primary 1—6.

A natural question is why we conduct a school so late in the day. We have no place to operate it any earlier. Right now we cannot even estimate when funds will be available to build a school for the deaf. We are, however, presently working to begin a limited number of classes for hearing-impaired children in the newly built church school which opened in February. We plan to have these special classes start in September. At the start of this program we will have financial problems to solve since government subsidy for these classes cannot be given us until

April 1969. We feel we must begin this program in September 1968, however, for beyond that date the classroom space will be taken for the hearing children. It is anticipated that the deaf children will be integrated with the hearing children for certain school activities right from the beginning, with total integration as a long-range goal.

My greatest single problem is that of learning to speak Cantonese and to read the Chinese characters. The language problem is bothersome when I sit in the classrooms to observe the teachers or when I conduct their weekly training sessions. My presentation comes out as an interesting combination of Cantonese, English, and Chinese Sign Language. Two of the eight teachers are deaf and four of the other six understand some English. None of them have had the benefit of special training in the education of the deaf, but they are most eager to learn.

The teaching of language to the deaf is another challenge. The spoken dialect of Cantonese is difficult for me as a hearing person because it is based on tones—some teachers say the language has nine tones, while others say

seven. This means that seven or more words could have exactly the same formation and sound except for the tone. This in itself is enough of a problem, but it is further complicated by the written language. Not only is there no phonetic writing of characters for the Cantonese sounds, but it is quite common for the written form to have a sound of its own. For example the word for "we" in spoken Cantonese is "ngo da," while in reading "we" in print, it is pronounced "ngo müin."

Coming from a language with a rather carefully defined grammar to a language for which I have yet to find a book explaining its grammar is another problem. As far as I can determine, the Chinese learn their language by repetition and use rather than from a grammar book. In this type of system the deaf are at a definite disadvantage, since they cannot hear the spoken language and they have limited opportunity to attend school.

Many deaf children will not be

Home for the Young Deaf Continues in War-Torn Nigeria

Ibadan, Nigeria

News reached the DEAF LUTHERAN recently from Mrs. Adelaide Oyesola (director of the home), through Mrs. Charles Yung-hans, of the blessings the Lord has sent the Home for the Young Deaf.

The Ibadan diocese of the Anglican mission announced its decision on Oct. 30 to sponsor the work of the home. For that purpose a new £40,000 home will be built within the next 12 months on 10 acres of land offered by St. James Cathedral, Ibadan.

For this current year's expenses your Lutheran Deaf Mission Society sent \$500 to the home. The gift was delivered by hand with the kind help of a traveling Michigan university official.

As Mrs. Oyesola acknowledged receiving the gift, she wrote: "I extend to you our heartfelt gratitude for your kind donation. May God who has said, 'Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of these little ones, you have also done it unto Me,' bless His church."

Next month is Lutheran Deaf Mission Society month. Remember the work of your LDMS in your prayers and with your gifts. LDMS offerings may be given through your local congregation or sent to *LDMS Financial Secretary, Rev. Robert Blakely, 14 Robinwood Rd., Norwood, Mass. 02062.*

attending school because of financial reasons. A greater percentage of deaf children live among the people on the lower economic levels. This happens because these poorer families cannot afford to seek "expensive" medical attention when their children are sick. These poorer families are not even able to pay the tuition for a deaf child to attend school, even if the tuition is only US \$2.00 per month. Instead, they send their children out to work at a very early age to help support the family.

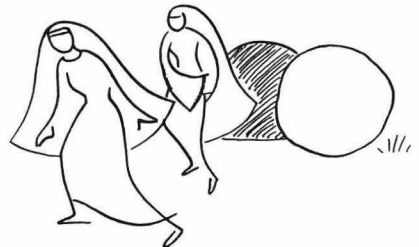
All of this makes our work in Hong Kong both interesting and challenging. From time to time I will keep you informed about our activities and work with these letters in the DEAF LUTHERAN. We also enjoy hearing from you. We ask that you continue to pray for the blessings of the Lord upon us and our work. We sincerely pray that the Lord will fill each day of your life with love and happiness.

REV. LOUIS R. JASPER
Kowloon, Hong Kong

The Resurrection

After the Sabbath, as Sunday morning was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the grave. Suddenly there was a strong earthquake; an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled the stone away, and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid that they trembled and became like dead men.

The angel spoke to the women. "You must not be afraid," he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus who was nailed to the cross. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come here and see the place where He lay. Quickly, now, go and tell His disciples: 'He has been raised from death, and now He is going to Galilee ahead of you; there you will see Him!' Remember what I have told you." So they left the grave in a hurry, afraid and yet filled with joy, and ran to tell His disciples.



Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Peace be with you." They came up to Him, took hold of His feet, and worshiped Him. "Do not be afraid," Jesus said to them, "Go and tell My brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me." (Matthew 28: 1-10)

From "Good News for Modern Man," the New Testament in Today's English Version with line drawings by Swiss artist Annie Vallotton, published by the American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10023. Copyright 1966.

Directory of Regular Sunday Services

The listings in this directory are limited to those congregations that conduct regular services every Sunday.

In addition to these, your Lutheran missionaries serve 184 preaching stations throughout the United States and Canada.

If you are interested in these unlisted once-or-twice-a-month services in your state, the pastor serving your area is listed on page 64 of this magazine. He will be happy to answer any questions.

For your information as you read this directory, "SS" means Sunday school, "BC" means Bible class, and times listed are a. m. except where noted otherwise.

ARIZONA

Phoenix, Our Savior

5105 N. 7th Ave.
SS — 9:30. Worship — 9:30
Rev. Theodore Frederking, pastor

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles, Pilgrim

1233 S. Vermont Ave.
SS — 11:00. Worship — 11:00
Rev. A. T. Jonas, pastor

Oakland, Memorial

1011 Grove St.
SS — 9:00, BC — 11:15
Worship — 10:00
Rev. Clark Bailey, pastor

Riverside (at Hope)

2882 Arlington Ave.
CSDR Worship — 8:30
Rev. G. Gehrs, pastor

COLORADO

Denver, Bethel

750 S. Franklin St.
Worship — 11:00
Rev. Donald Zuhn, pastor

CONNECTICUT

West Hartford, Lutheran

31 W. Beacon St.
Worship — 9:45. Tues. BC — 7:30 p. m.
Rev. Earl J. Thaler, pastor

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington, Christ

5101 — 16th St. N. W.
See Rev. D. Pokorny for information

FLORIDA

Miami, Deaf Zion

15000 N. W. 27th Ave.
Worship — 7:00 p. m. BC — 8:15 p. m.
Rev. Walter Busby, pastor
Mrs. D. Myhre, parish worker

ILLINOIS

Chicago, North, Our Savior

1400 N. Ridgeway Ave.
BC — 9:00. Worship — 10:00
Rev. C. Jones, pastor

Chicago, South, Ephphatha

7956 South Park Ave.
Worship — 10:00
Wednesday BC — 7:30 p. m.
Rev. Leroy W. Mason, pastor

Jacksonville, Christ

104 Finley St.
SS & BC — 8:45. Worship — 10:00
Rev. Orlin Anderson, pastor

INDIANA

Indianapolis, Peace

4201 N. College Ave.
SS — 9:30. Worship — 10:30
Rev. Myron Prok, pastor

IOWA

Des Moines, Calvary

7th & Forest Avenue
BC — 9:30. Worship — 10:30
Rev. James Bengelsdorf, pastor

MICHIGAN

Detroit, Our Savior

6861 E. Nevada Ave.
SS — 10:00. Worship — 10:00
Rev. N. E. Borchardt, pastor

Flint, St. Paul's

402 S. Ballenger Highway
Worship — 11:00
Rev. Robert Bremer, pastor

MINNESOTA

St. Paul, Prince of Peace

205 N. Otis Street
SS — 10:30. Worship — 10:30
Rev. A. L. Hauptman, pastor
Mrs. F. Finke, parish worker

MISSOURI

Fulton, at St. Paul's

Highway 54 & Douglas Blvd.
Worship — 8:30 a. m.
Rev. C. Bremer, pastor

Kansas City, Pilgrim

38th St. & Gillham Road
SS & BC — 9:45. Worship — 10:45
Tuesday BC — 7:30 p. m.
Rev. A. E. Ferber, pastor

St. Louis, Holy Cross

101 N. Beaumont
BC — 9:00. Worship — 10:00
Rev. Floyd Possehl, pastor

MONTANA

Great Falls, Christ

11th Ave. South & 34th Street
SS — 10:45. Worship — 9:45
Rev. R. Johnson, pastor

Missoula, Christ

at Higgins & Daily Sts.
Worship — 3:00 p. m.
Rev. R. Johnson, pastor

NEBRASKA

Omaha, Bethlehem

51st & Lake Sts.
Worship — 9:00
Rev. W. H. Lange, pastor
Vicar Robert Henrikson

NEW JERSEY

Newark, St. Matthew's

510 Parker St. at Ballantine Pky.
SS — 10:00. Worship — 10:00
Rev. C. R. Gerhold, pastor

Trenton, Nativity (at Savior)

Front & Montgomery St.
Worship — 11:00
Rev. William Aiello, pastor

NEW YORK

Elmhurst, St. Matthew's

41—01 75th St.
SS — 9:00, BC — 1:30 p. m.
Worship — 11:00
Rev. Daniel Hodgson, pastor
Miss Johanna Becker, parish worker

New York, St. Mark (Mt. Zion)

145th at Convent
Worship — 3:00 p. m.
Rev. Daniel Hodgson, pastor
Miss Johanna Becker, parish worker

Rochester, Alpha

580 Winton Rd. N.
BC — 9:30, Worship — 10:45
Rev. R. Rynearson, pastor

NORTH DAKOTA

Devils Lake

SS — 9:00, BC — 9:45
Worship — 8:10
Rev. R. Leonhardt, pastor

OHIO

Cleveland, Christ

E. 25th & Payne, downtown
SS & Worship — 10:45
Wednesday BC — 8:00 p. m.
Rev. Martin A. Hewitt, pastor

Columbus, Holy Cross

360 Morse Road
SS & BC — 9:30, Worship — 10:45
Wednesday BC — 7:30 p. m.
Rev. William A. Ludwig, pastor

Toledo, Good Shepherd (St. Paul)

428 N. Erie St.
SS — 11:00
Worship or BC — 11:00
Rev. Larry Harris, pastor

OREGON

Portland, Hope

1700 NE 132nd St.
SS — 9:15, Worship — 10:30
Vacant

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh, Trinity

409 Swissvale Ave.
SS & BC — 10:00, Worship — 11:00
Rev. Frank Wagenknecht, pastor

SOUTH DAKOTA

Sioux Falls, Trinity

101 S. Mable Ave.
SS & BC — 9:00. Worship — 10:00
Rev. George Ring, pastor

TENNESSEE

Memphis, Grace

210 Washington St.
SS — 9:00. Worship — 10:15
Rev. Donald Leber, pastor

Memphis, Peace

1008 E. McLemore Ave.
SS — 2:30 p. m. Worship — 1:00 p. m.
Rev. Donald Leber, pastor

TEXAS

Austin, Jesus

1307 Newton Ave.
Worship — 11:00
Rev. Don Haug, pastor

Dallas, John of Beverley

7611 Park Lane
SS & BC — 9:00, Worship — 10:30
Rev. William E. Duey, pastor

WASHINGTON

Seattle, Our Redeemer

1101 15th Ave.
BC — 10:30, SS & Worship — 11:00
Rev. John A. Beyer, pastor

WISCONSIN

Delavan, Holy Cross

116 Walnut St.
SS — 8:00, BC — 9:15
Worship — 10:00
Rev. M. Kosche, pastor

Madison, Silent

1929 Huxley St.
Worship — 9:30
Rev. Robert Corl, pastor

Milwaukee, Emmanuel

4328 W. North Ave.
BC — 9:00, SS — 9:45
Worship — 9:45
Rev. Martin E. A. Mueller, pastor

CANADA — ALBERTA

Edmonton, Cross of Christ

115 St. & 60th Ave.
SS & BC — 9:30. Worship — 10:30
Rev. Robert A. Bauer, pastor
Miss J. Torgerson, parish worker

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver, Trinity

School Ave. at College
(2900 Kingsway)
SS & BC — 10:30
Worship — 11:00 & 7:30 p. m.
Thursday BC — 8:00 p. m.
Rev. Wayne Bottlinger, pastor
Mr. Alex Brodie, lay worker

MANITOBA

Winnipeg, Jesus (Immanuel)

College & McKenzie
Worship — 11:00
Rev. F. P. Gehrs, pastor



FIELD

GLEANINGS

Dixie Region's News

Deaf Student Honored

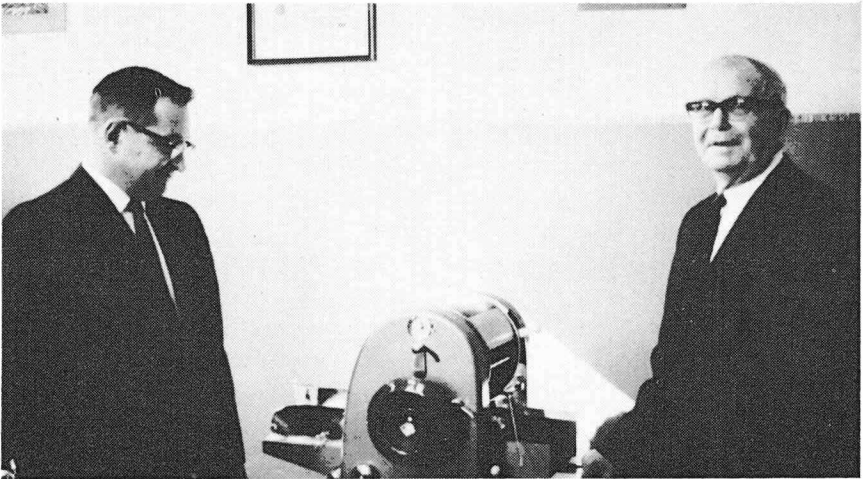
Miami, Fla. One of the five beauties on the Lutheran Laymen's League float in the Orange Bowl parade in Miami last New Year's Eve was 17-year-old Janet Hunter, a student from the Florida School for the Deaf at Saint Augustine. Miss Hunter was chosen to ride the float for her faithfulness in Deaf Zion Lutheran Church and Sunday school.

The float's theme was "Peace in Christ."

Campus Pastor Lectures

Dallas, Tex. Rev. Daniel Pokorny, Lutheran campus pastor at Gallaudet College, Washington, D. C., was the guest preacher at the John of Beverly Chapel for the Deaf, Dallas, Feb. 18.

Pastor Pokorny conducted the morning Bible class session with a movie about Gallaudet College and his work as campus pastor.



Central Region News

North Chicago, Ill. Mr. Henry Niemeyer (left), president of Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf, and Mr. John Anderson, the congregation's oldest attending member, look approvingly at an almost-new mimeograph machine given them recently

The mimeograph and a photocopy machine were a gift to the congregation from the now-disbanded Northern Illinois District Walther League

The needs of the deaf for higher general education and spiritual education highlighted his sermon presentation. The special service was conducted by Rev. William Duey, pastor of the Dallas deaf congregation. Miss Lynna Harrison, although blind, was the pianist for the service.

REV. W. A. DUEY, *Reporter*



The Sonoma Index-Tribune

Sonoma, Calif. Lori Avilla, 5, deaf daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Avilla, who is crippled from cerebral palsy, gives her eager attention to her Sunday school teacher, Marion Van Manen. Mr. Van Manen is a deaf member of Faith Lutheran Church (hearing) in El Verano

Besides this special Sunday school class, the congregation soon hopes to give religious training to the deaf children at the Sonoma State Hospital. In addition Mrs. Avilla regularly interprets the hearing worship service for the small group of deaf members of the congregation

Eastern Region News

Around-the-Clock Interpreting Service

Trenton, N. J. The Trenton Chapter of the Protestant Guild for the Deaf of New Jersey decided last January to try an experiment for the benefit of the deaf in the Mercer County area. They voted to pay for an answering service on a 24-hour schedule that would make it possible for a deaf person to get an interpreter any time of the day or night.

Each deaf person will be provided a card which reads: "I am a deaf person. To communicate in legal and medical emergencies, I need an interpreter. To obtain an interpreter in the greater Trenton area please call 599-3626."

Good Advice

Trenton, N. J. On Saturday evening, Jan. 20, I stopped in at the Trenton Silent Club to inform the members of the 24-hour interpreting service being offered the deaf here.

As I sat waiting for my turn to talk, I listened to very excellent presentation by Mr. Carl Anderson on "What Makes a Good Organization?" The highlights of his talk are worth repeating.

He said that a good organization:

- 1) Serves people. We should offer service to the aged deaf, service to those deaf who need financial help, service of the older deaf to the younger deaf, service

to the handicapped deaf, service to the hearing and other groups that have needs.

2) It has love. Members have love for one another. This is a love that has, at its center, patience for people different from us. It is a concern for others and their needs. It is a love that puts the other person first.

3) It means hard work and faith. All members in the group must be willing to work hard and support their program. It means faith in the job you are doing and the belief that you can do the job.

4) It means attending your own church regularly. We make an effort to attend church and learn what God expects from us in our daily lives.

Mr. Anderson concluded that as we go about showing service, love, and hard work, people will begin to notice that the organization is good and not self-centered.

We can apply these ideas to a church too. When the people in the church show love to one another as Christ has shown love to us, then the church will grow. I remember that Jesus said: "I was in jail and you visited Me, I was hungry and you fed Me, I was thirsty and you gave Me a drink." Sharing and serving out of love for God and for others is every person's job.

To Carl Anderson I say, "A lecture well spoken." To the deaf I say, "Support the programs of your church, your club, your frat, your national and local deaf associations."

Carl Anderson and his wife Beverly are volunteers at the Johnstone Training and Research Center in Bordentown and work with mentally retarded deaf children.

Central Regional Conference

June 7—9
Camp Cilca
Springfield, Ill.

* * *

Dixie Deaf Lutheran Conference

June 11—13
Miami, Fla.

* * *

Eastern Semiregional Conference

April 27—28
Washington, D. C.

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Great Lakes Regional Conference

June 14—16
Cleveland, Ohio

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Midwest Lutheran Deaf Lay Conference

July 26—28
Omaha, Nebr.

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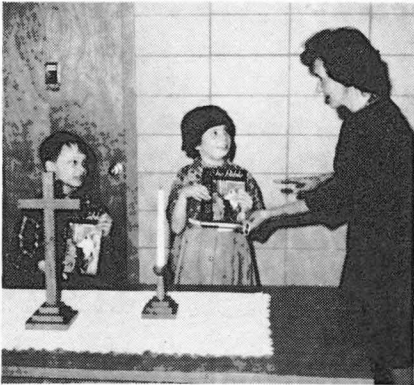
Pacific Coast Regional Conference

May 30—June 2
Los Angeles, Calif.
Pilgrim Tower Dedication
June 2

A Belated Welcome

New York, N. Y. May we extend the region's belated welcome to Miss Johanna Becker, who arrived from Canada last fall to serve the New York City Field as a teacher.

Miss Becker served as parish worker at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Edmonton, Alta., Can., from 1964 to 1966. She is no stranger to New York, however, for she received her degree in special education from Syracuse University, Syracuse, N. Y., and has worked at Mill Neck Manor Lutheran School for the Deaf, on Long Island, N. Y.



Mrs. Edna Rinas presents "The Bible in Pictures" to children in the lower school department of the American School for the Deaf of West Hartford, Conn. More than 40 deaf children have received this Bible from the Lutheran Church of the Deaf, West Hartford



Miss Mary Ellen Johnson, academic teacher at the American School, gives up her "free" hour to help teach these weekly religion classes. Miss Johnson previously has helped with the Lutheran-sponsored classes at the Crotched Mountain School for the Deaf, Greenfield, N. H.

These weekly religion programs are conducted under the supervision of Pastor Earl Thaler in his New England Field

Dr. Harms Preaches to the Deaf

Baltimore, Md. On Sunday, Jan. 21, the congregation of St. Mark Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Baltimore, heard Dr. Oliver R. Harms deliver the sermon in their worship service. Dr. Harms, president of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, with headquarters in St. Louis, was in Baltimore for the 80th anniversary celebration of Emmanuel

Lutheran Church (hearing). Since the deaf use this church for its worship, Dr. Harms agreed to preach to the deaf, too.

Dr. Harms spoke about the basic facts of our faith, based on a text from Romans. He stressed that the deaf themselves must be

missionaries to other deaf persons so that the truth of the Bible will be spread. Only the deaf who know the language of signs can really bring the good news to other deaf so that all can understand.

REV. WILLIAM AIELLO, *Reporter*



LIGHT FOR YOUR WAY

Daily Bible Readings for April

Include the following in your prayers this month:

- that those who bring the love of God to the poor and needy in our church's welfare work may be strengthened in their task.
- that I may reflect God's love to me as I deal with others.
- that God would give me the humility to worship and serve Him.
- the deaf of the world, especially those living in areas of war and trouble.
- your pastor, that the Holy Spirit will guide his work.
- our church workers who celebrate birthdays this month:
 - Mrs. Catherine Bengelsdorf, pastor's wife, Des Moines, Iowa (4-1)
 - Pastor Arnold Jonas, Los Angeles, Calif. (4-1)
 - Mrs. Eleanor Bauer, pastor's wife, Edmonton, Alta., Can. (4-6)
 - Mrs. Marilyn Gehrs, pastor's wife, Riverside, Calif. (4-15)
 - Mrs. Shirley Prok, pastor's wife, Indianapolis, Ind. (4-18)
 - Pastor Daniel Pokorny, Washington, D. C. (4-18)
 - Pastor George Ring, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. (4-21)
 - Pastor Walter Westermann, Greensboro, N. C. (4-21)
 - Mrs. Alberta Jonas, pastor's wife, Los Angeles, Calif. (4-23)
 - Mrs. Marie Ferber, pastor's wife, Kansas City, Mo. (4-25)
 - Pastor Walter Busby, Miami, Fla. (4-27)
 - Mrs. Louise Bailey, pastor's wife, Oakland, Calif. (4-28)

Theme: "God and Social Action." God created people to live for Him and for one another. As we Christians live in our own part of the world, we are to proclaim God's love also by living in love with our fellowmen.

People Are Personally Responsible

- April 1** — **Amos 1:1-15.** Amos, the herdsman prophet, declares that the Lord will roar in judgment from Zion. We *are* responsible to God for how we live.
- April 2** — **Amos 4:1-13.** God will judge those people who oppress the poor and crush the needy. May I show mercy to others even as God is merciful to me.
- April 3** — **Amos 5:1-27.** Amos urges Israel to repent, to turn away from the sin of oppressing the poor, and walk God's way. God's people are to hate evil and love good (verse 15).
- April 4** — **Amos 7:1-17.** The government and religious leaders are angry with Amos for speaking words of judgment against Israel. In obedience to God's call, Amos refuses to flee or to stop speaking God's Word.
- April 5** — **Amos 8:1-14.** Because of their sin of misusing and oppressing the poor, the land suffers an economic depression. Lord, lead me that I may live justly and mercifully before my fellowmen. Amen.

The Injustice of Class Distinctions

- April 6** — **Micah 1:1-16.** God's judgment on Samaria (northern kingdom) and Jerusalem (southern kingdom) for their idolatry (worship of false gods).
- April 7** — **Micah 3:1-12.** God's judgment on the injustice practiced in the land.
- April 8** — **Micah 4:1-13.** The Golden Age of God — an age of peace in which men will be guided by the love of God.
- April 9** — **Micah 5:1-15.** In lowly Bethlehem Ephrathah, in Judah, the everlasting Ruler of Israel shall be born. Here Jesus later entered the world. Also Gentiles (non-Jews) shall be drawn into the people of God.
- April 10** — **Micah 6:1-16.** My true worship of God does not only happen in church, but also in all my life as I deal with people with justice, mercy, and humility (read verse 8).

Wise Words for Everyday Living

- April 11** — **Proverbs 1:1-33.** The life wisely spent is that of worship and honor to God, not that of gathering earthly things.
- April 12** — **Proverbs 11:1-31.** As a wise person may I seek to live peaceably with my fellowmen and to avoid conflict (read verses 12 and 30).
- April 13** — **Proverbs 14:1-35.** I honor God best by showing love and mercy for my fellowmen.
- April 14** — **Proverbs 17:1-28.** God's people wisely respect also the poor (v. 5), love their friends also in time of trouble (v. 17), and have reason to be of a cheerful disposition (v. 22).

- April 15** — **Proverbs 21:1-31**. God's people are to seek to help the poor (v. 13), and to eagerly go the way of righteousness and kindness (v. 21).
- April 16** — **Proverbs 22:1-29**. Both rich and poor are under God's hand, and both are to be equally respected. Children are to be trained in the way of the Lord.
- April 17** — **Proverbs 25:1-28**. Humility and compassion are encouraged. Forgive me, Lord, for my heart of stone. Amen.
- April 18** — **Proverbs 29:1-27**. God's people are encouraged to respect the rights of the poor, defend justice, and seek the way of peace.

Gospel of Christian Action

- April 19** — **Mark 1:1-45**. John the Baptizer prepares the people for Jesus' ministry of salvation. Jesus' public ministry begins.
- April 20** — **Mark 2:1-28**. Jesus preaches, forgives, and heals a palsied man, calls Levi (Matthew), meets His enemies, and declares Himself Lord of the Sabbath.
- April 21** — **Mark 7:1-37**. Jesus preaches against a religion of the lips, one that only follows the ideas and practices of the past. He shows his concern for non-Jews. May I have a living faith that shows itself by my concern for all people.
- April 22** — **Mark 9:1-50**. Jesus' transfiguration; His supremacy over demons; His counsel concerning humility.
- April 23** — **Mark 10:1-52**. Jesus emphasizes that marriage is holy, blesses little children, and warns of the danger of seeking wealth. He points to His forthcoming death and resurrection (verses 32-34) and describes life in the Kingdom as one of service (verse 45).
- April 24** — **Mark 11:1-33**. Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem; His cleansing of the temple; His silencing of those who challenge His authority.
- April 25** — **Mark 12:1-44**. Jesus meets those who wish to trap and kill Him. He encourages me and all men to love and to be generous.
- April 26** — **Mark 13:1-37**. Jesus teaches about the end of time and encourages His people to be ever ready for His second coming.
- April 27** — **Mark 14:1-72**. Events leading to Jesus' trial.
- April 28** — **Mark 15:1-47**. Jesus before Pilate and His crucifixion and burial.
- April 29** — **Mark 16:1-20**. Jesus' resurrection and His appearances to His followers. My commission to proclaim the living Christ.

Cutting Across Class Lines

- April 30** — **Philemon 1:25**. In this single chapter Paul asks Philemon to receive Onesimus, his runaway slave, as a brother in Christ. Paul thinks of Onesimus as a son in the faith and asks Philemon for love's sake to give him brotherly consideration (v. 9). Do I show similar respect for all my fellow believers?

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