

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 60

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Number 11

O Lord,

we praise Thee,

bless Thee,

and adore Thee,

in thanksgiving bow before Thee



Stewardship Corner

For or Against?



November is the month our country set aside for our special day of thanks-giving.

Although we have the Lord Jesus in our hearts and daily give thanks to Him, we still offer special thanks to the Lord our God on Thanksgiving Day. We thank Him for our country and the freedom that is ours here in America. One of the greatest freedoms is that of worship — the freedom that brought the Pilgrims to America.

Yes, we give thanks to God for the freedom of worship, but do we show our thanks by using this freedom? Do we go to church every Sunday? Do we tell others about our faith? It is truly a wonderful blessing to be free to tell other people about our

Savior, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who saved us from sin, death, and the devil.

Our government offers all of us freedom of religion; but, truly, how many of us *use* it? It is a wasted freedom if we do nothing about it. Millions of Americans claim to be Christians, but very few really stand up for the Lord Jesus. It is one thing to say, "I am a Christian," and another thing to *be* one! It is not our words that take us to heaven; it is what is in our hearts that counts!

We are either for Christ or against Him. Whose side are you on?

The Lutheran Signal
REV. EARL J. THALER

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

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

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I Am Yours – Completely

Christian Stewardship In Focus — November

One of the greatest moments in history showing a woman's devotion to her husband was the love-until-death of Adrienne, wife of the famous French general, Lafayette.

After serving General Washington on American battlefields, Lafayette returned to France. A few years later the French Revolution started, in which Robespierre launched the Reign of Terror. Forced to flee from France, Lafayette was captured by the Austrians and thrown into jail.

During this time Adrienne stayed in France and saw her grandmother, mother, and one of her sisters carried away to the guillotine and death. When she herself barely escaped death, she decided to make the dangerous trip to Austria to be with her husband. The emperor of Austria re-

fused to free her husband but gave her permission to join him in the dungeon of Olmutz.

Adrienne shared Lafayette's miserable bare prison life for 2 years. She became ill. After a life of continuous self-sacrifice, she died. On Christmas Eve, 1807, moments before her death, she spoke these last words to her beloved husband: "I am completely yours."

What an amazing devotion! Yet this is the picture that most beautifully describes the love and loyalty every Christian should have for Jesus, who loved us even unto death on a cross that we might be His to live under Him in His kingdom.

This month our congregations and people will make plans and pledges for 1969. We will show by what we give and by what we do whether or not we are *completely* His.

Christians are stewards (managers) of God's blessings. Christian stewards consecrate (give for holy purpose) their very lives. They believe that everything they are or have or do has no value unless it is offered for service in God's kingdom.

If it is good and right to be a steward of God, then in all things God must be *first*. If God is not first, then He is not our God. Instead, whatever we put first in our lives is our god.

The Lamplighter

REV. A. L. HAUPTMAN

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FIELD

GLEANINGS

Pastors Honored at Ephphatha Conference

St. Louis, Mo. On Sunday, July 14, at the annual Ephphatha Conference banquet, several of our pastors were presented certificates of recognition on their special anniversary year. So recog-

nized were Rev. Arnold Jonas, Los Angeles, Calif. — 30 years as pastor; Rev. August Hauptman, St. Paul, Minn. — 20 years; Rev. Clark Bailey, Oakland, Calif. — 15 years; Rev. Ervin Oermann, Milledgeville, Ga. — 15 years; Rev. Earl Thaler, West Hartford,



Monterey, Calif. These ladies, members of Memorial Deaf Congregation in Oakland, signed the choir number at the worship service of the California and Nevada District Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention in Monterey, April 27—28. L. to r.: Mrs. Margaret Burroughs, Mrs. Mary Lee Krueger, Mrs. Janice Van Manen, Mrs. Bethany Seitz, Mrs. Joycie Brodrick, and Miss Maria Johnson

Conn. — 10 years; Rev. Donald Leber, Memphis, Tenn. — 5 years; and Rev. Martin Hewitt, Cleveland, Ohio — 5 years.

The conference also applauded our pastors who have given many long years of service to the Lord: Rev. Waldemar Ferber, Fargo, N. Dak. — since 1917; Rev. John A. Beyer, Seattle, Wash. — since 1919; Rev. Walter Westermann, Greensboro, N. C. — since 1921; Rev. Theodore Frederking, Phoenix, Ariz. — since 1921; Rev. Erich Eichmann, Portland, Oreg. — since 1921; Rev. Ernest Scheibert, Melrose Park, Ill. — since 1922; and Rev. A. E. Ferber, Kansas City, Mo. — since 1924.

Our warm congratulations to all these servants of the Lord — our faithful pastors.

Great Lakes News

Deaf Congregation's Retreat

Toledo, Ohio. Good Shepherd of the Deaf Lutheran Church of Toledo sponsored a retreat for all members of the Northwest Ohio Field. Some 20 deaf members from the Toledo congregation and three preaching stations attended their first annual retreat at Camp Hemlock, Mich., Sept. 13—15.

A full program included Bible study; the full-length movie, *The Parable*, a very interesting film without words; and two special presentations of particular interest to the area deaf. The first of these presentations was the "geographical church." Guest speaker was Rev. Robert Bremer, pastor

of St. Paul Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Flint, Mich. Pastor Bremer explained how many deaf scattered over a large area could be organized as a geographical church. Instead of a headquarters congregation and many scattered preaching stations, the deaf would be united in one congregation, with officers and church services in all cities involved.

The second special feature of the retreat was James Storer's slide-lecture of the "Lutheran Church in Africa." Mr. Storer, a masonry contractor by trade, volunteered several months of his time to Lutheran Brotherhood Exchange in 1967 and took his family to Cameroon, Africa, where he directed and built several brick and block structures for Lutheran missionaries. His slide presentation concerned his experiences while working in the mission field. Mr. Storer, a hearing Lutheran, is active in the life of Good Shepherd deaf congregation.

A Bible class and Holy Communion service on Sunday morning concluded the enjoyable, worthwhile, and inspiring retreat.

REV. R. BREMER, *Reporter*

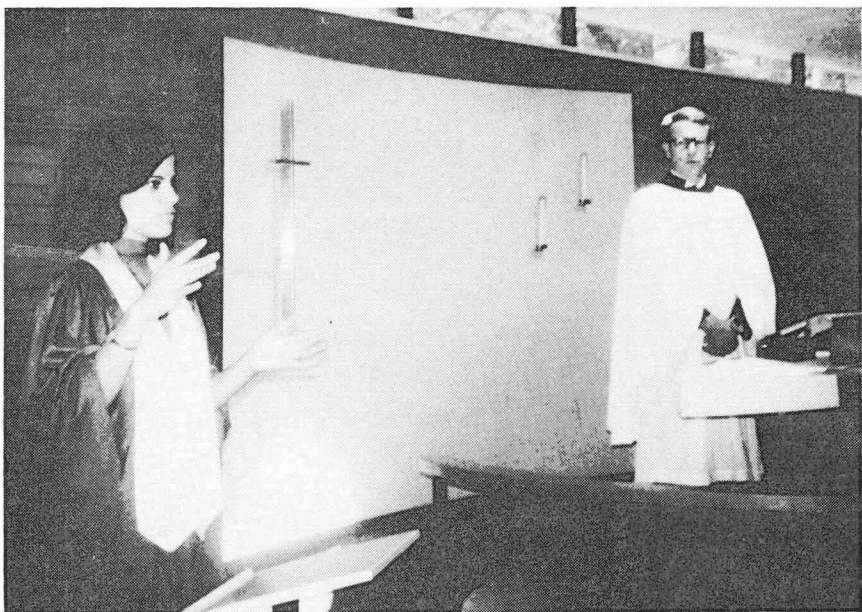
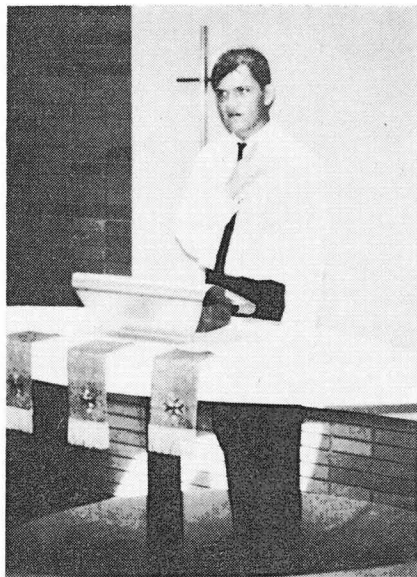
Midwest Region News

Youth Program

St. Paul, Minn. Last September the young people of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf, St. Paul, conducted their annual Sunday youth service. The service followed a busy summer

in which the church's young people participated in softball games, language of signs classes, and a chartered bus trip to Gallaudet College, Washington, D. C.

The youth program at Prince of Peace is planned to guide and develop future church leaders as well as provide Christian recreation and fellowship. The responsibility and Christian concern that the young people show in preparation for the youth service give an indication of their spiritual growth. In the picture, right, Elmer Lean Jr. takes his turn in leading the congregation in worship during the youth service.



Rita and Arlen Finke, above, lead the young people in worship. After their wedding last June in Brooklyn, N. Y., and a trip to Yellowstone National Park, they studied at the University of Min-

nesota. During the summer they were in charge of the summer youth program at Prince of Peace. In September Arlen began his second year as the boys physical education instructor at the Lu-

theran School for the Deaf, Mill Neck, Long Island, N. Y. Rita also works at the school as a substitute teacher.

Television Promotes Church's Deaf Ministry

Kansas City, Mo. As part of its "Faith in Focus" program, Television KOAM, Pittsburg, Kans., invited Rev. Alvin E. Ferber, pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Kansas City, to explain his congregation's program of bringing the Gospel to the deaf.

The 30-minute program, shown at noon, Saturday, Oct. 12, featured an interview of Pastor Ferber and a demonstration of various phases of his program, including his work in evangelism — leading the deaf to Jesus.

Station KOAM serves a wide area in southwest Missouri, southeast Kansas, and northeast Oklahoma, part of the area served by Pastor Ferber in his Kansas City Field.

Regional Conference

Omaha, Nebr. "What should the church say, if anything, about the problems facing the world today?" This was the question 100 deaf Lutherans in the Midwest Region discussed at their 15th annual conference in Omaha, July 26—28.

Discussion of four problem areas was led by various deaf congregations in the region. The conference agreed that the church

truly has a powerful weapon to use against the problems of (1) crime and immorality, (2) prejudice and discrimination, (3) communism, and (4) the rebellion of today's youth. The weapon is the



Rev. Delbert Thies, former full-time pastor to the deaf, was guest speaker at the Midwest Regional Conference

Word of God, which has the power to change man's heart.

The Saturday evening banquet featured several songs and hymns led by Mrs. Emma Mappes of Omaha. Rev. Delbert Thies, hospital chaplain in Omaha, was the banquet speaker and presented his work of ministering to the sick and aged. Pastor Thies formerly served the deaf in Memphis, Tenn., and Jacksonville, Ill., and still ministers to the deaf in Hastings, Nebr., part of the Omaha Field.

Bethlehem Congregation in

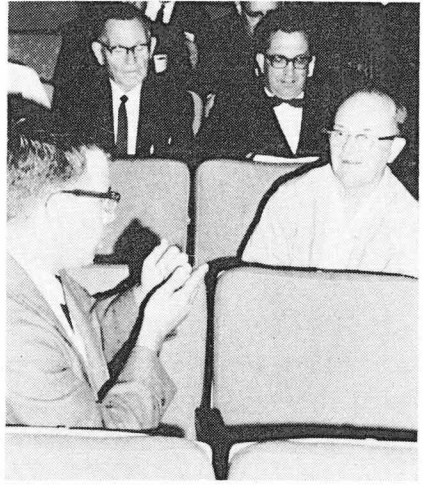
Omaha was the host congregation for the conference and provided a very nice setting for meetings and the closing service. Rev. George Ring, regional counselor, was the guest preacher for the Sunday morning worship service.

REV. D. ZUHN, *Reporter*

Central Region News **Chancel Drama**

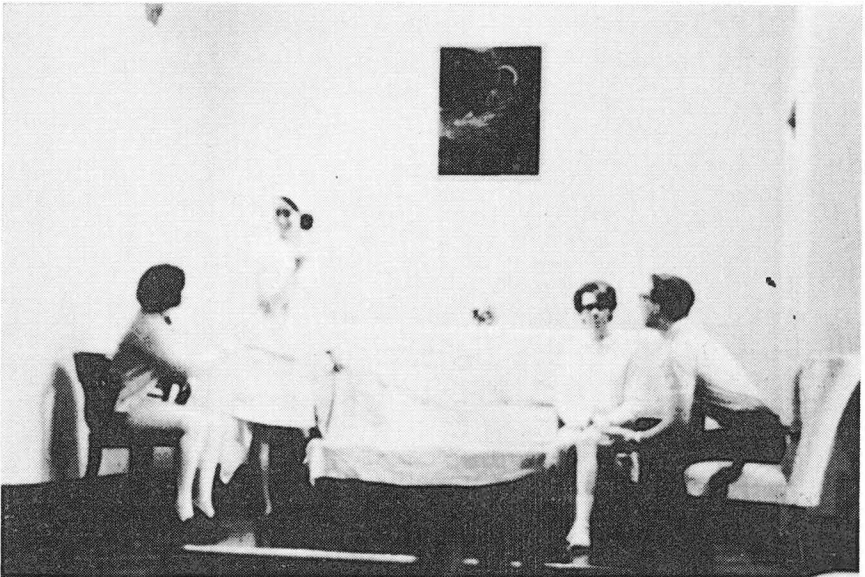
Chicago, Ill. Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf, in north Chicago, participated in a unique service of worship on May 12. The service included the 35-minute chancel drama, "By Love."

Ten students of the language of signs class at Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, presented the drama about forgiveness. Fol-



Rev. Charles Jones interprets the Northern Illinois District convention proceedings to Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf lay delegate, Benjamin J. Greenheck. The convention was held in DeKalb, Ill.,

June 23—26



Hearing students of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, use their knowledge of signs to present a drama in the chancel of Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf during a worship service last spring



One of the conference meetings conducted by the Central Region held in one of the camp buildings at Camp Cilca. Vice-president Joe Kindred speaks on conference business while conference president Archie Marshall and treasurer Harvey Boldt sit at the right

lowing the drama, Rev. Charles Jones, pastor of the congregation, led a discussion on the meaning of the play, emphasizing that Christian forgiveness is not necessarily easy to give.

Regional Conference in a Camp Setting

Springfield, Ill. The Central Regional Conference was attended by about 60 persons at Camp Cilca, north of Springfield, June 7—9. We had beautiful weather, and everyone enjoyed the rustic outdoor atmosphere and camp setting.

The theme of the conference was "Light of Our Life." A most interesting part of the program

was the buzz sessions. The conference divided into three smaller groups, each with a lay leader who led the discussion of Bible verses that explain Jesus, the Light of our life. The verses and discussion centered on our personal life, evangelism and stewardship — how to bring people back to church and how we can give ourselves to make the church grow stronger.

Rev. Charles Jones of north Chicago preached at the Sunday morning worship service, and Rev. Myron Prok of the Indiana Field served as liturgist.

The conference had a good balance of study, business, and recreation. A variety of skits and

entertainment from the various fields filled our Saturday evening.

Officers elected for the new year are Archie Marshall, president (reelected), St. Louis; Joseph Kindred, vice-president, Indianapolis; Mrs. Margaret Krause, secretary (reelected), Milwaukee; Harvey Boldt, treasurer (reelected), Milwaukee; and Albert Arneson, advisor to the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society (reelected), Milwaukee.

A vote of thanks was given to Rev. Prok, pastoral advisor to the 1968 conference, for the excellent work he and his helpers did in planning the meeting.

Our 1969 conference will be hosted by the north Chicago congregation, who also plan to use a camp setting. It will be fitting to have our conference in Chicago in 1969, for next year we will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the beginning of our Lutheran deaf missions in Chicago.

REV. O. ANDERSON, *Reporter*

Eastern Region News

Deaf Couple Honored

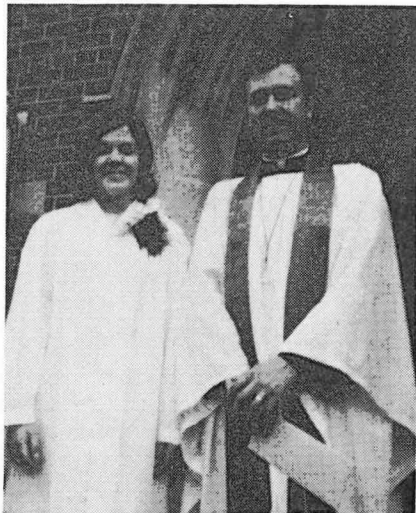
New York, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Brook celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 7. They renewed their marriage vows in St. Matthew Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Elmhurst, with Rev. George Kraus officiating. Both Mr. and Mrs. Brook have been members of the deaf congregation for many years. A small family reception was given for them at their home.

Confirmation Day

Elmhurst, N. Y. On Pentecost Sunday, June 2, Miss Jane Barker was confirmed and welcomed as a member of St. Matthew Lutheran Church for the Deaf. Rev. Daniel Hodgson, the congregation's pastor, instructed Miss Barker for one year.

Jane attends Bryant High School, which integrates deaf students with the hearing high school program.

Pastor Hodgson praised Jane for her regular attendance at church and her faithful studying of the lesson material. He emphasized to her as well as to the congregation that confirmation instruction is only the beginning of a Christian's lifelong study of God's Word, so necessary for growing stronger in our faith.



Confirmation day: Miss Jane Barker and her pastor, Rev. Daniel A. Hodgson



Members of the New York Field gather for fellowship and work once a month on Sundays to help their pastor put out their monthly newsletter and other special mailings. This happy group of volunteers gathered on Sept. 1. They are, l. to r.: Mrs. D. Sampson, Mrs. J. Woods, Mrs. D. Hodgson, Miss J. Becker (our mission teacher), and Miss K. Brown

Surprise Party for Pastor and His Wife

Trenton, N.J. The best kept secret of the year was the surprise party that Nativity deaf congregation gave Pastor and Mrs. William Aiello on their fifth wedding anniversary, Aug. 11.

Guests from the Lutheran churches in Camden and Newark, Pastor Aiello's parents and relatives, and friends gathered in Trenton for the occasion. Needless to say, Pastor and Mrs. Aiello were very pleased with the warm reception given them by the 50 guests.

Fellowship and Work

Elmhurst, N. Y. On the first Sunday of each month, members of the New York deaf mission spend the afternoon assembling the monthly newsletter. Although getting the church paper ready for mailing is a lot of work, the people who help are willing to give of their time to get the job done.

The September paper carried two items of special importance. First, members and friends were informed about the New England Lutheran Lay Conference in Connecticut, Sept. 28—29.

Second, the paper contained an explanation of our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod's "Make Things Happen" special offering program. Members of the New York deaf mission were eager to see that everyone helped "make things happen" through their special offering on Oct. 6.

Summer Camp for Deaf Children

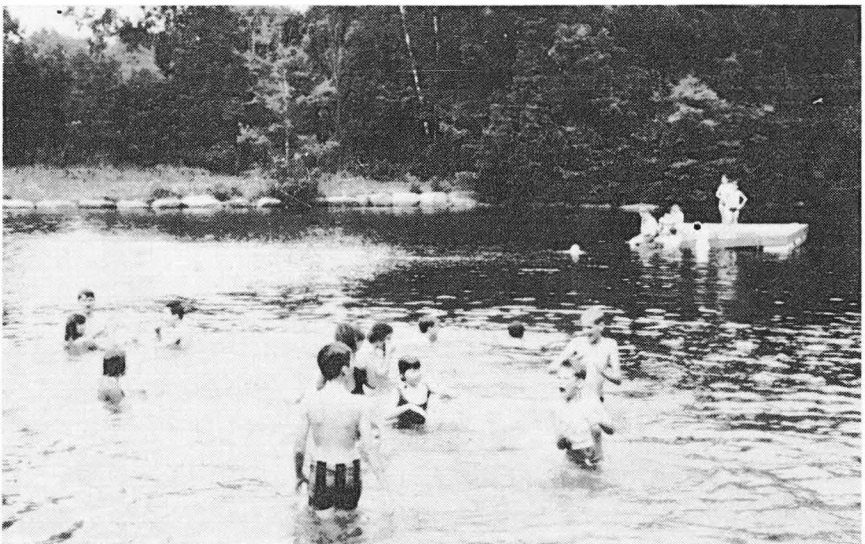
West Hartford, Conn. Children from six New England schools for the deaf attended the 1968 summer camp program at the Monadnock Bible Conference of Jaffrey Center, N.H., July 27—Aug. 9. Rev. Earl Thaler, pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Deaf, West Hartford, directed the program.

Included in the daily program

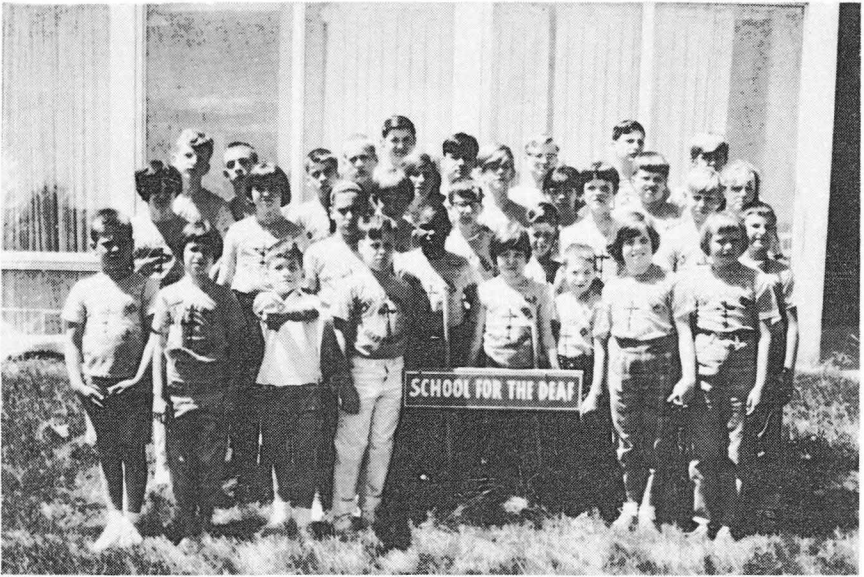
were Bible study, swimming, crafts, sports activities, and movies followed by evening devotions. The children also enjoyed horseback riding, a hayride, a visit to the New Hampshire and Vermont schools for the deaf, and a trip to the famous steamtown — museum of old steam locomotives — with an hour ride on an old train.

The six schools represented by the 38 campers were American School for the Deaf, West Hartford, Conn.; Mystic Oral School, Mystic, Conn.; Boston School for the Deaf, Randolph, Mass.; Augustine School for the Deaf, Battleboro, Vt.; Crotched Mountain School for the Deaf, Greenfield, N.H.; and The Gov. Baxter School for the Deaf, Portland, Maine.

REV. W. AIELLO, *Reporter*



Deaf children enjoy a swim. This was one of the many daily activities at the New England summer camp this year



New England's young deaf campers pose for a picture in front of the deaf school in Greenfield, N.H. Part of the camping activities included field trips to museums and schools



LIGHT FOR YOUR WAY

Daily Bible Readings for November

Include the following in your prayers this month:

- give thanks to the Lord because He is good; He has blessed you abundantly with all that you have.
- that God will help you in faith and joy to set aside a generous part of your earnings for His use through the church.
- that God would bless the deaf throughout the world and give them the needs of their body and soul.
- that your congregation may be knit together in Christ in a spirit of love and service.

- that you may not become tired of being busy for Jesus in your congregation.
- that your own home may have roots and foundation in Jesus Christ, to walk with Him and serve Him.
- our church workers who celebrate birthdays this month:
 - Pastor Martin E. A. Mueller, Milwaukee, Wis. (11-1)
 - Pastor Robert Corl, Madison, Wis. (11-5)
 - Mrs. Shirley Harris, pastor's wife, Toledo, Ohio (11-11)
 - Pastor Russel Johnson, Great Falls, Mont. (11-16)
 - Mrs. Katherine Thies, pastor's wife, Omaha, Nebr. (11-22)
 - Mrs. Effie Rohe, pastor's wife, St. Louis, Mo. (11-29)

Theme: "All Christians Are Priests Before God." In Jesus Christ we can call to God as "our Father," and we can present our requests to Him. We also are to worship and pray to Jesus Himself. The great men of the Old Testament such as David and Moses looked forward to the Messiah's coming and talked directly and personally to God. The psalms, written by these men, express their humble, repentant, personal, and priestly prayers of thanksgiving. They are a good reminder for us today.

- Nov. 1 — Psalm 4:1-8.** A psalm before sleeping. A prayer for safety and rest while God is always with us.
- Nov. 2 — Psalm 5:1-12.** A morning prayer when we arise, for strength and guidance during the day.
- Nov. 3 — Psalm 6:1-10.** A psalm of weeping in times of personal sorrow. A prayer for mercy, with confidence in God's deliverance.
- Nov. 4 — Psalm 13:1-6.** A psalm expressing our wanting help from God.
- Nov. 5 — Psalm 16:1-11.** A psalm that puts God first — now and forever. The Lord is with us at all times, and He saves us from eternal death. Read Acts' 2:25.
- Nov. 6 — Psalm 17:1-15.** A psalm and prayer for God's protection. God always takes care of His people, especially in time of emergency.
- Nov. 7 — Psalm 25:1-22.** A psalm of petition and trust in God. A prayer of confidence (trust) in God's mercy, asking for forgiveness for all our sins.
- Nov. 8 — Psalm 26:1-12.** A psalm whereby we thank God for His gifts and the privilege of worshiping in His house.
- Nov. 9 — Psalm 31:1-24.** A psalm for times of trouble. A reminder to trust in God's help and to overcome difficulties with His power. Our troubles are in His hand.
- Nov. 10 — Psalm 32:1-11.** A psalm for us sinners. A prayer of confession and forgiveness.
- Nov. 11 — Psalm 38:1-22.** A psalm for us when we feel sorry for ourselves. In times of self-centered, self-inflicted sorrow, read Psalms 38 and 34.

- Nov. 12 — Psalm 42:1-11.** A psalm for us when we seek God in difficult days. God helps us smile even in times of trouble.
- Nov. 13 — Psalm 43:1-5.** A prayer psalm for God's light and guidance.
- Nov. 14 — Psalm 45:1-17.** A psalm of the kingdom of God pictured in terms of bridal joy.
- Nov. 15 — Psalm 51:1-19.** David's great psalm of repentance and faith. Note the verses we use in our worship services.
- Nov. 16 — Psalm 56:1-13.** A psalm of confidence in God when people are hurtful to us. We must trust in God rather than in man.
- Nov. 17 — Psalm 57:1-11.** A psalm for a time when people seem to be planning to hurt us. Note the closing prayer of praise and confidence in God.
- Nov. 18 — Psalm 60:1-12.** A psalm for a time when God deals with us in His discipline of love. A prayer of deliverance after He justly corrects us.
- Nov. 19 — Psalm 61:1-8.** A great psalm and prayer of confidence in God.
- Nov. 20 — Psalm 63:1-11.** A psalm in which we can express our desire for God and His never-ending love.
- Nov. 21 — Psalm 67:1-7.** A psalm of praise and blessing. We are to fear and respect God for His mercy and generosity.
- Nov. 22 — Psalm 70:1-5.** A brief but bold psalm in which we ask for God's help.
- Nov. 23 — Psalm 75:1-10.** A psalm of thanksgiving to God for His wondrous works and righteous judgments. Let us thank and praise God in and for all things.
- Nov. 24 — Psalm 77: 1-20.** A prayer to God during the night hours. The psalm discusses how God deals with us men and closes with a note of assurance.
- Nov. 25 — Psalm 86:1-17.** A personal prayer for God's abiding presence and a promise to walk in God's truth.
- Nov. 26 — Psalm 92:1-15.** A psalm that urges us to praise God in the morning and in the evening. God blesses His people.
- Nov. 27 — Psalm 108:1-13.** A prayer for God's help in time of war; we pray for the deliverance of loved ones and God's power for the achievement of victory.
- Nov. 28 — Psalm 130:1-8.** A psalm of expectant waiting. A cry from the deep places of trouble for forgiveness, patience, and renewal.
- Nov. 29 — Psalm 141:1-10.** A prayer rising as incense asking for God's strength for doing what is right in His sight and for protection against evil.
- Nov. 30 — Psalm 143:1-12.** A psalm in which we can express our thirst for God, our plea for deliverance from wanting to give up, and our request for the wisdom and power from God to overcome trouble.

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