

# The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,  
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

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Number 1

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## A Prayer for the New Year

Let us ever walk with Jesus,  
Follow His example pure,  
Flee the world, which would deceive us  
And to sin our souls allure.  
Ever in His footsteps treading,  
Body here, yet soul above,  
Full of faith and hope and love,  
Let us do the Father's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, abide with me;  
Savior, lead, I follow Thee.

*The Lutheran Hymnal, No. 409*

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### THE DEAF LUTHERAN

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The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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## Mixed Feelings About Tomorrow?

Some people look forward to the new year with two different feelings. On the one hand they are relieved the old year has passed by, for last year they tasted the fear and the bitterness of life that sickness, accident, and death give to sinners. They look forward with hope that the new year will be good to them with peace, happiness, and health.

At the same time, while they hope for good things to come, they fear the future with its many unknown and unseen events. They are not eager to begin a new day or a new year.

Do you ever feel that way?

Once a little boy was sent to take a package to his mother's friend who lived a few blocks down the street. He was not a big boy, but a very little boy. He was at the door, ready to start, but he waited a little bit, not eager to go — not yet.

"Mother," he said in a troubled voice, "it's so far, and I've never gone that way before. I—I'm not really afraid, but — couldn't you go a little way with me?"

She understood his feeling and said quietly, "Mother'll go all the way with you, son." And so, his little brown hand in mother's, he walked the new way without fear.

We stand at the beginning of the new year as Christians who know the love of God. Our hope rests in His Son, who died for our sin and who rose from the dead to give us forgiveness and eternal life. With trust as a little child we walk that new, unknown way into 1966 with Jesus at our side, for He said, *Remember, I am with you always till the end of the world.* (Matthew 28:20)

Let's make the prayer on the cover of this month's DEAF LUTHERAN our own every day of 1966 — *Let us ever walk with Jesus.*

Season's  
Greetings

The Deaf Lutheran  
extends to its readers  
best wishes for a New  
Year blessed by  
our God.

## Stewardship Corner

### “We Give Thee But Thine Own”



The Holy Bible often talks about the Christian's family relationship with God. He is our heavenly Father who cares for us, His children. *I will be a Father to you and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty* (2 Corinthians 6:18). God wants it that way.

Sometimes we do not remember our family relationship with God. Sometimes we are too busy with our earthly pleasures and we forget about our Father in heaven. We even say, "All these things are mine, and I will do with them as I please." Is that right?

Let's look at those things. Are they really all mine? As Christians we must say that everything we have comes to us as blessings from God. Our lives, our health, the food we eat, our skills, our money, everything we have is a blessing, a gift from God, our heavenly Father.

God the Father *gave* us all we have and more. He is the *giver* of every good and perfect gift (James 1:17). God the Father *gave* His Son Jesus to die on the cross for man's sin (John 3:16). God the Son, Jesus, *gave up* His life so that all people could receive forgiveness and eternal life (Galatians 2:20). God the Holy Spirit continues to *give* us faith, forgiveness, strength to walk as Christians in this world. (Luke 11:13, 1 Corinthians 6:19)

If God has blessed us with so much, we should also gladly *give back* a part of our blessings as a *thank-offering* to Him. This is called Christian *stewardship*. This means we worship God and talk to Him in prayer regularly. We listen to Him speak to us through His Word, the Bible. We gladly give our time and skill to do His church's work. We give thank offerings of our money to support His church.

Do we put God first on our list of love-giving? Do we thank Him for His blessings? Pray often the hymn verse we sing:

We give Thee but Thine own,  
Whatever the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

*The Lutheran Hymnal* No. 441

# The Church Moves Forward

## Supporting Deaf Missions

### **The Detroit Convention Third Report**

During the 72 years that our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has served the deaf with pastors and missionaries God has blessed our work. From 1894, when one missionary served the deaf, until 1966 God has expanded Lutheran Deaf Missions and today has given us 45 full-time pastors, 4 part-time pastors, 2 semi-retired missionaries, 4 vicars, 4 parish workers, and one lay worker. To help this staff of 60 workers, God has provided our church with 6 men willing to serve Him as a Board for Missions to the Deaf. Praise to the Lord for these blessings!

### **New Board**

During its convention in Detroit, Mich., June, 1965, delegates elected five men to a new term of office on the Board for Missions to the Deaf.

Rev. Ernest R. Drews, chairman of our board, was reelected to a 4-year term of office. Pastor Drews serves Jehovah Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn., and in 1965 he observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the ministry.

Rev. Elmer Koberg, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was also reelected for 2 years.

The newly elected pastor on the Board is Rev. Walter D. Uhlig, professor at Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr. Professor Uhlig once served the deaf as missionary following his graduation from the seminary. He served the Spokane, Wash., Field for 1 year; Memphis, Tenn., and the Southern states for 2 years; and the Los Angeles, Calif., Field for 6 years. He was elected to the Board for a 4-year term.

Two laymen were also elected. Mr. Fred Fiechtner, member of Grace Lutheran Church, Fargo, N. Dak., was elected to a 2-year term. Mr. Fiechtner owns and operates the Farm and Home Supplies Stores in Fargo, N. Dak. He has previously served his church as member of the Board of Social Welfare of Synod and of the Mission Board of the North Dakota District.

The other layman, Paul J. Gerdes, was elected to a 4-year term. Mr. Gerdes is a lawyer and a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, Colo.

We welcome the new members of the board and pray God's blessing upon their work of love in the coming years.

Our Board for Missions to the Deaf proposed two important memorials to the synodical convention at Detroit. Both were adopted as resolutions by the voting delegates.

## **Oral Deaf Sunday Schools**

The first of these resolutions looks at the spiritual needs of deaf children. Many thousands of deaf children attend public day schools in over 800 cities of the United States and Canada. It is not possible for our missionaries to visit all of these schools and teach the children God's love in Jesus.

Since most of these children are taught only by the oral (lip-reading and speech) method of deaf education, it is possible for Sunday school teachers at our hearing churches to reach these children and teach them in regular Sunday school classes.

The delegates agreed to urge the officials of each District with their Christian education leaders to work with our Board for Missions to the Deaf and our missionaries. First, they will set up a training program for the Sunday school teachers. Then they will encourage hearing congregations to provide the classes for the deaf children.

The Board for Missions to the Deaf and the Board of Parish Education will establish training schools for the teachers as well as produce materials for the classes.

To get part of its program started, the Board for Missions to the Deaf has appointed a Committee on the Production of Lesson Materials for Oral Sunday Schools. Rev. H. W. Hoemann, Washington, D. C., will serve as chairman of the committee with

Rev. Frank Wagenknecht, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Mrs. Florence Finke, parish worker, St. Paul, Minn.

## **Lay Training for the Deaf**

The second important resolution concerns deaf adults who are interested in serving Jesus on a full-time basis in the church. Because of this interest and the need for more trained workers with the deaf in our missions, Synod adopted the resolution proposed by our Board for Missions to the Deaf.

The resolution urged the Lutheran Lay Training Institute (for hearing laymen) and our board with the help of the Board for Higher Education to "consider the establishment of a lay training program for qualified deaf adults."

If you the reader are interested in such a training program for full-time lay service in the church, talk it over with your pastor. Details of this program will be sent to him as decisions are made, and he will advise you on the proper application to the training school.

## **Pray for Your Church**

We are proud of our church, especially when it is interested in the problems of the deaf and acts to help. But the church has no success unless God blesses its work. Pray that our heavenly Father will lead our church in the coming year and bless the work we do in His name.



## LIGHT FOR YOUR WAY

### Daily Bible Readings

#### for January

#### Daily Bible Reading Guide for 1966

Daily Bible reading is the kind of habit every Christian should enjoy. When we take time from our busy lives to practice this good habit, God gives richer blessings to our soul. Jesus said, "A man doesn't live on bread alone but on every word that God speaks" (Matthew 4:4). We listen to God with our hearts open to receive His words — His anger and judgment against our sin and His forgiveness for Jesus' sake. There is no other way for us to live before God.

To help you listen to God regularly, the DEAF LUTHERAN encourages you to use "Light for Your Way," a daily Bible reading guide for your personal devotions in 1966.

This year we will read about the men and women who heard God's Word of judgment and forgiveness and who told others. We want to know these people, so let's put ourselves in their shoes. We go with them and share their lives. We listen with them while God speaks to them. We go with them to worship, to battle, to preach, and even to death. We

will experience their awe, their fear, their faith, their courage, their love. We will rejoice with them at their victories, sorrow with them over their sins. And in all this learn to know their God.

After the Bible reading for each day, we have added a few words about its meaning for you. Think about this quietly for a while.

We encourage you to pray and talk with God. He always hears you. He will answer your prayer if you believe. When you pray, always thank and praise your God for His goodness to you. Remember that you are before God as a sorry and forgiven sinner.

Pray about your own needs and give the needs of others into God's care. Pray for your church, your fellow members and their needs. Pray for your pastor, for all the missionaries to the deaf, their wives and families, and for our special workers. The date on which their names appear is their birthday.

May God bless you with a stronger faith as you hear God speak to you every day in this new year.



- Jan. 1** — **Hebrews 11:32—12:1**. The people of God overcame their problems with faith in God. Pray that God may give you that same strength in faith.
- Jan. 2** — **Romans 9:1-13**. God Himself chooses and calls us to be His people. Give thanks to God that He gave Jesus into death for our salvation, for by faith in Him we have forgiveness.
- Jan. 3** — **Genesis 6:1-10**. One man, Noah, loved God and followed Him. God called him to preserve the truth. Pray that God will give strength and courage to the leaders and teachers of our church.
- Jan. 4** — **Genesis 6:11-22**. God gives Noah a command that did not agree with man's reason. Pray for Rev. A. T. Jonas, Los Angeles, Calif.
- Jan. 5** — **Genesis 8:1-22**. God saved Noah and his family. They thanked God for His act with their worship. Thank God for saving you — from sin, from eternal death.
- Jan. 6** — **Hebrews 1:1-14**. God shows Himself to people through His own people, the church. Ask God to give you courage to speak to others for Him.
- Jan. 7** — **Genesis 9:8-17**. God makes a covenant (agreement, treaty) with His people. Pray that God's New Covenant of forgiveness in Jesus be given to the people of all nations.
- Jan. 8** — **Genesis 11:31—12:9**. Abraham was called away from home and friends to go with God. Ask God to give a strong faith to those who have left home to do His work.
- Jan. 9** — **Genesis 15:1-16**. God gives His covenant promise of salvation to Abraham. Pray for your family that God keep them faithful to His Word.
- Jan. 10** — **Genesis 17:1-14**. God establishes a sign of the covenant promise for Abraham and his children. Pray for Rev. H. W. Hoemann, Washington, D. C.
- Jan. 11** — **Genesis 17:15-27**. God's covenant promise with man is sealed in circumcision. Pray that God will give a strong faith to those who are baptized into the New Covenant promise.
- Jan. 12** — **Genesis 18:1-15**. Abraham welcomes the Angel of the Lord. Ask for the faith to know God as He leads your life.
- Jan. 13** — **Genesis 18:16-33**. Abraham prays for a city in need. Pray for the deaf of the Cleveland, Ohio, Field that they accept God's guidance of their lives.
- Jan. 14** — **Genesis 20:1-18**. Fear of other men makes Abraham's faith in God weak. Pray for Rev. J. A. Beyer, Seattle, Wash.
- Jan. 15** — **Genesis 21:1-8**. God keeps His promise to Abraham. Pray for the deaf of the Texas-Oklahoma Field that they learn to depend and trust their God for all their need.
- Jan. 16** — **Genesis 22:1-14**. Abraham's faith and love are tested. Ask for the courage and faith to let nothing stand between you and God.



- Jan. 17** — **Genesis 22:15-19.** God gives you the strength to pass through a testing. Pray for the forgiveness of your sins of weakness.
- Jan. 18** — **Genesis 23:1-20.** The death and burial of Sarah. Ask God to comfort the aged and the lonely with assurance of their salvation.
- Jan. 19** — **Genesis 25:1-11.** A great man dies in faith. Ask God to give you faith and trust in Him until the end of your life.
- Jan. 20** — **Romans 4:1-22.** Faith does not doubt; it does not question what God does for us. Ask God to give you such a faith that accepts everything from God.
- Jan. 21** — **Hebrews 11:8-19.** This is an example of faith for all members of Jesus' church. Give thanks to God for those who have shown us the way of faith and trust.
- Jan. 22** — **Job 1:1-12.** A rich man who walks without sin depends on God. Pray for the deaf of the Delavan, Wis., Field that God would bless their work for Him.
- Jan. 23** — **Job 1:13-22.** Satan tempts Job to sin against God by destroying his possessions and family. Pray that God may give you the faith to resist sin.
- Jan. 24** — **Job 2:1-10.** With a strong faith Job continues to praise God even in sickness. Thank God that your nation has peace and prosperity that you may worship Him without fear.
- Jan. 25** — **Job 19:1-22.** In despair Job cries out to God for an answer. Ask God that the deaf of the Kansas City, Mo., Field may hold to their God in every temptation and trial.
- Jan. 26** — **Job 19:23-29.** Job speaks his trust in God's continual love. Pray that the new members of your church may grow up in the Lord with a faith as strong as Job's.
- Jan. 27** — **Job 42:1-17.** A strong faith which holds to the Lord through every temptation gets blessed at last. Pray for the millions of people across the world that do not know the love of the living God. Ask God to bring them to faith. Pray for Rev. R. Bauer, Edmonton, Alta., Canada.
- Jan. 28** — **Genesis 25:19-28.** God chooses Jacob as His own. Pray for Mrs. Ferol Lee Hauptman, pastor's wife, St. Paul, Minn.
- Jan. 29** — **Genesis 25:29-34.** Esau sells his birthright for food. Pray for your pastor and the officers of your congregation that they may depend on the Lord's guidance in all their actions.
- Jan. 30** — **Genesis 27:1-29.** Jacob gets the covenant blessing by deceiving (lying to) his father. Thank God for the forgiveness which we receive by faith in Jesus Christ.
- Jan. 31** — **Genesis 27:41—28:5.** Jacob flees from his brother's hatred. Pray for the members of your congregation that all may experience the love of Jesus and share that love in Christian fellowship with one another.



## FIELD

## GLEANINGS

### **Summer Camp — New Jersey Field**

*Newark, N. J.* Some 64 deaf boys and girls, representing 9 schools for the deaf in New Jersey during July and August.

The camp program was set for two 2-week schedules. All participating campers joined in Bible study, sports, and swimming. In addition they had their choice of such activities as arts and crafts, archery, fishing, forestry-cooking, horseback riding, Indian-nature, boating-canoeing, photography, hiking, and riflery.

This year the campers for one 2-week period were privileged to get to know Rev. Eno Savisaari, Lutheran pastor to the deaf in Turku, Finland. (See the Oct. 1965 issue of the DEAF LUTHERAN, "Lutheran Deaf of Finland" feature.) Pastor Savisaari served 2 weeks as a counselor at the camp.

### **Lutheran Open-House Week In Vancouver, Canada**

*Vancouver, B. C., Canada.* Trinity Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Vancouver conducted a Lutheran Open-House Week, also called "Families for Christ," during the week of Oct 31 to Nov. 3.

The program began on Sunday,

Oct. 31. Families gathered for their regular service at 2:00 p. m. After the service all those attending the afternoon worship service were encouraged to stay for fellowship and a potluck dinner.

That evening from 7:00 to 8:00 members of Trinity and their families were guided in an informal Bible study by their guest speaker, Rev. Robert Bauer, pastor of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Edmonton, Alta., Canada.

The purpose of the week was to help both members and friends gather their families around Christ and bring Christ into the family life. The hour of study included an opening hymn, a short talk for the children, a question-and-answer period, the study of the Gospel of St. John, and a closing prayer.

### **Mrs. Pauline Gustin Celebrates 100th Birthday**

*Seattle, Wash.* Mrs. Pauline Gustin, a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Seattle, celebrated her 100th birthday on Sept. 15. Mrs. Gustin was honored with a party at the Colonial Nursing Home, where she lives in Seattle.



Rev. J. A. Beyer, pastor of the deaf in the Seattle, Wash., Field, congratulates one of his members, Mrs. Pauline Gustin, on her 100th birthday. Edward Gustin, her son, joins them in the moment of happiness

Mrs. Gustin was a charter member of the Puget Sound Association of the Deaf when it was founded in 1904. She was also present when Our Redeemer Lutheran Church was established in 1918.

#### News Notes from the Field

*Vancouver, B. C., Can.* Rev. W. C. Bottlinger recently conducted a ten-day course in the language of signs as a courtesy for the staff at the Woodlands School for the Mentally Retarded. The class for 16 people was held for two hours every evening, Sept. 7—17.

*Great Falls, Mont.* On Sept. 19 Christ Deaf Congregation of Montana held a special service of thanks to God for His blessings upon the congregation's building program progress. The final agreement concerning the purchase of property has been reached, and the congregation now looks forward to the building of their chapel.

*Detroit, Mich.* The Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit opened its doors on Sept. 7 for its 93d school year and welcomed 117 pupils. Of these 15 are new students.

The annual cost to educate,

house and feed a deaf child at the Lutheran School for the Deaf is about \$3,000.00. Since the school receives about one eighth of this in tuition fees from parents, the balance must be received through freewill offerings.

**Survey Team to Nigeria, West Africa.** Last month the DEAF LUTHERAN reported to its readers about the survey team sent to Nigeria, West Africa, by the Lutheran Friends of the Deaf. **Rev. C. Roland Gerhold**, missionary to the deaf in the Newark, N. J., Field, was the fourth member of the team and went at the request of the **Lutheran Deaf Mission Society**. The Lutheran Deaf Mission Society paid the expenses for Rev. Gerhold's share of the trip.

What is the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society? Beginning next month in the DEAF LUTHERAN, **Rev. Martin G. Kosche**, President of the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society, will write a series of articles about the organization, its history, goals, purpose, and your part in its program. Look for it.

**Rochester, N. Y.** **Rev. Walter Busby** encourages his members at his preaching stations to use a Bible study guide, "Journey Through the Bible," for home Bible study. With the study guide the deaf read the Bible, answer questions, and then correct their own work.

**St. Louis, Mo.** **Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf** held a special afternoon service on

Nov. 21 to lay the cornerstone of their new church. Professor Martin C. Warth of Concordia Seminary, Brazil, South America, preached the sermon.

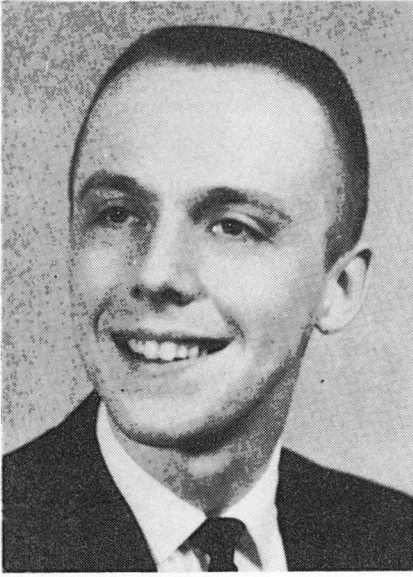
**Miami, Fla.** **Deaf Zion Lutheran Church** is calling a new pastor. **Rev. Francis Gyle**, who served the Florida Field for 13 years, accepted the position at the Florida School for the Deaf in St. Augustine last August as dean of students.

Deaf Zion congregation called **Rev. G. A. Gehrs**, Riverside, Calif., missionary to the deaf of Southern California, but he has declined the call after much consideration and prayer. No further calls have been extended.

**Newark, N. J.** While **Rev. C. Roland Gerhold** traveled to West Africa last November with the survey team, **Vicar Donald Hodgson**, who serves the New York City Field under the guidance of **Rev. Louis Jasper**, helped out in the school program at the Bruce Street School. Sunday services and Bible classes were conducted by **Rev. William J. Hausmann** of Harrison, N. J., a former missionary to the deaf.

#### **Rev. Hasse Commissioned**

**Miami, Fla.** **Rev. Donald E. Hasse** was commissioned as missionary to the deaf of the new North Florida-Southern Georgia Field, Sunday, Aug. 22, at Deaf Zion Lutheran Church, Miami, in an evening service.



**Rev. Donald E. Hasse**

Rev. Walter A. Westermann, missionary to the deaf of the Greensboro, N. C., Field and counselor of the Southeastern Region of our Lutheran Deaf Missions, preached the commissioning sermon.

Rev. Philip Schlessmann, counselor of the North Miami Circuit,

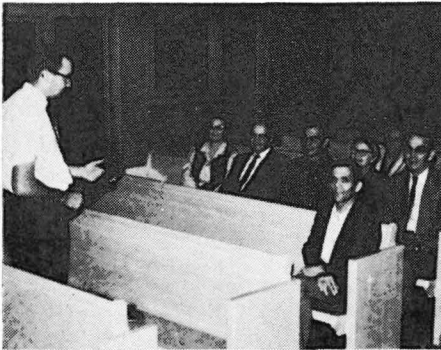
read the act of commissioning after the sermon.

Rev. Hasse is a native of Sauk City, Wis. After attending Concordia College in Milwaukee, Wis., and Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, Ind., Rev. Hasse completed four years of study at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., in May, 1965. One of these four years was spent as a vicar at St. John's Lutheran Church, Staten Island, N. Y.

Rev. Hasse was ordained to the ministry of our church in Reedsburg, Wis., June 13, 1965.

Presently, Rev. Hasse is serving Deaf Zion Lutheran Church and the Florida Field as vacancy pastor. Rev. Francis G. Gyle, former pastor of the Florida Field, accepted an invitation last August to be the dean of students at the Florida School for the Deaf in St. Augustine.

Rev. Hasse is married to the former Peggy Jo Kock of Spencerville, Ind. The couple have a year-old daughter, Tamara Sue.



**Rev. William A. Duey, missionary to the deaf of the North Texas-Oklahoma Field, displays a machete, a large heavy knife used in South and Central America, to the deaf in Oklahoma City during a lecture on Spanish mission work.**

## Ephphatha Conference — 1965

### Index for the Deaf Lutheran

During the 1965 Ephphatha Conference held in Detroit, Mich., last June a resolution was passed to encourage the publishing of an index for the DEAF LUTHERAN.

The resolution pointed out the need to have such an index to help anyone locate the historical background of any deaf congregation or field. Besides this, articles and other materials printed in the back issues of the DEAF LUTHERAN have little reference value without an index.

With this issue the DEAF LUTHERAN takes the first step in providing such an index for its readers. Following these comments you will find the index to Volume 57, 1965.

The resolution also suggested that a 5- or a 10-year index be published in the future gathering each yearly index into one larger index for that period. Ephphatha Conference is also looking into the possibility of publishing a complete index of the DEAF LUTHERAN for the years 1909 through 1964. Watch the DEAF LUTHERAN for more information.

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