

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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There Is a Reason

For every pain that we must bear,
For every sorrow, every care,
There is a reason.

For every falsehood that is said,
For every tear-drop that is shed,
There is a reason.

For every grief, for every trial,
For every weary, lonely mile,
There is a reason.

But if we trust Him as we should,
All will work out for our good.
God knows the reason.

Selected

Trials

When Christians meet with disappointment, grief, sickness, and other tribulations, some feel that God has forgotten them or that He is sending them punishment allotted by His wrath. Our Father in heaven, however, tells us in His Holy Word that all trials are sent to His children in love, for their welfare and blessing. Moreover, He has promised believers grace from day to day to bear their burdens. The Apostle Paul makes this clear in the following words: "All things work together for good to them that love God," Rom. 8, 28.

Although Christians may not understand God's ways during their earthly life, they will surely praise and bless Him in heaven for His wisdom and guidance. Believers will then fully realize that all their prayers have been heard at the throne of grace, that God is in truth a prayer-hearing and a prayer-answering God. Through grief and trials He at times teaches His children to "see no man but Jesus

only" and shows them His power to help in seemingly hopeless conditions.

Sorrows and afflictions may indeed become a blessing to Christians. We know that showers do not only hide the sunshine but that they also refresh and strengthen the soil. Likewise trials are to purify and correct God's erring children. David wrote many of his most beautiful psalms under the yoke of affliction. Great sorrows may also create in the hearts of Christians great sympathies for their sin-cursed fellow-men.

To forget our own trials, there is nothing better than to go about among men, strengthening the weak, comforting the sad, bringing the hopeful Gospel of Jesus into sunless lives, and directing attention to the life beyond, where for all true believers the palms of victory will wave forever.

Enemies may strike in malice at God's children to make them fall, but God in love thereby works their growth and welfare, refining them in the furnace of affliction, so that they may not be destroyed like dross as the unbelievers. In dark, gloomy days therefore remember the words of the world's Redeemer: "In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world," John 16, 33. O. C. S.

"Count It All Joy"

If the children of God consider their trials not in their natural bitterness, but in the sweet love whence they spring and the sweet fruits that spring from them, that we are our Lord's gold and that He tries us in the furnace to purify us, this may beget not only patience, but even gladness in the sufferings. — *Leighton.*

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE CREED

"I believe"

The Creed is the second part in our Catechism. The Creed is the confession of our Christian faith. In it we Christians confess what we believe. If anybody asks us Christians, "What do you believe?" or, "What is your creed?" we can point to the Creed in our Catechism.

The Apostles' Creed

This confession of our Christian faith is not built upon the wisdom and teachings of men. It is, to speak with Paul, "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief Corner-stone," Eph. 2, 20. Our faith rests not upon the word of Luther or of any other man, but upon the word of the prophets and the apostles, who spake "not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth but which the Holy Ghost teacheth," 1 Cor. 2, 13. Our faith therefore is built upon the Word of God, and upon that alone.

Three Articles in the Creed

In the Creed you find three articles. There are three because there are three persons in the one God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. These articles tell us what Father, Son, and Holy Ghost have done and still are doing for us. These three articles your sponsors confessed in your name at your baptism; these three articles we again confess at our confirmation; these three articles we confess in every service; and these three articles we ought to pray every day. Therefore it will be of great help to us if we study these articles of our Christian faith.

The Law and the Creed

We have studied the Law. There is a great difference between the Law and the Creed. With thunder and lightning from Mount Sinai the Ten Commandments proclaim the holy will of God, saying: "Ye shall be holy; for I, the Lord, your God, am holy," Lev. 19, 2. The Creed in every article paints a picture of the kind and merciful God, and in golden letters we see it written: "God is Love." In it we find good news of great joy, the sweet Gospel. The Law says: "Thou shalt," telling us what

we should do and what we should not do; the Gospel tells us what God has done for us and our salvation. The Law shows us our many sins; the Gospel offers us forgiveness of sins. The Law works wrath and kills; the Gospel invites and gives life by faith in the Savior. The Law must be preached to those who do not know their sin nor their need of the Savior; the Gospel is for them that look with terror at their sins and regard them as great indeed. The Law says: "Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the Book of the Law to do them," Gal. 3, 10. The Gospel says, John 3, 16: "God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

God Bless Our Studies in the Creed

Let us now study this Creed in order that we learn to know the great love of God in Christ Jesus to us sinners, rejoice in it now and forever, and always boldly and gladly confess our Christian faith to the glory of His holy name.

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for July

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus," Phil. 2, 5

Bible-Lesson: Mark 9, 30—37

"And they departed thence and passed through Galilee; and He would not that any man should know it. For He taught His disciples and said unto them, The Son of Man is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill Him; and after that He is killed, He shall rise the third day. But they understood not that saying and were afraid to ask Him. And He came to Capernaum; and being in the house, He asked them, What was it that ye disputed among yourselves by the way? But they held their peace, for by the way they had disputed among themselves who should be the greatest. And He sat down and called the Twelve and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all and servant of all. And He took a child and set him in the midst of them; and when He had taken him in His arms, He saith unto them, Whosoever shall receive one of such children in My name receiveth Me, and whosoever shall receive Me receiveth not Me but Him that sent Me."

Jesus and His disciples departed from the place where He had healed the boy possessed by an evil spirit and traveled through Galilee

to the city of Capernaum. Jesus did not want any one to know it, for He had something very important to teach His disciples and wanted to be alone with them. The disciples still believed that Jesus would establish a great and powerful kingdom for the Jews on earth, that He would be their king and give to them positions of honor and power in this new kingdom. Therefore Jesus taught them again that He had not come to establish a kingdom for the Jews; He had come to save the people from their sin, and soon He would be delivered (given) into the hands of men and be killed. Jesus knew all that would befall Him, and yet He willingly went to endure that suffering and death on the cross. How great is His love for you and me and all sinners! He willingly went into death that you and I and all men might live with Him in heaven. Jesus also knew that He would gain the victory over sin, death, and hell; for He spoke to His disciples not only of His suffering and death, but also of His rising from the dead on the third day. His disciples, however, did not understand His words and were afraid to ask Him what they meant.

On the way to Capernaum the disciples even disputed (argued) among themselves who should be the greatest in the kingdom of Jesus. They were filled with pride and wanted to hold positions of honor in the kingdom. And when Jesus asked them what they had been talking about on the way, they were ashamed and did not answer. Jesus then told them that, to be great in the kingdom of God, one must be humble and willing to be a servant. The more humble a person is, and the more willing he is to serve his fellow-men, the greater he will be in the eyes of God; and when we serve our fellow-men, yes, when we receive a little child in His name, He looks upon such service as though it were rendered to Him. And when we remember that Jesus humbled Himself for us and even died for us, we shall also be willing to serve Him in true humility. _____ E. EN.

FEAR has ten thousand eyes, and it sees a thousand dangers which do not exist. It calls itself caution, but it is really cowardice. Great men are always bigger than their fears.

Ohio Chronicle

A New Magazine

The Christian Parent, edited by Pastor M. P. Simon, M. A., 1065 Ferry Street, Eugene, Oreg., will endeavor to shed light from the Holy Bible upon the problems of the parent. We agree with the editor in his opinion that the home is more important than either the school or the Sunday-school and heartily recommend this new periodical to parents. It should help Christians to know their Bible and their Savior. _____ O. C. S.

IN THE MORNING MAIL

Minneapolis Mission. — Our work at the schools for the deaf has come to a close. The Faribault school closed its doors May 26 and the Minneapolis school in June. We had a blessed opportunity to bring Christ to many boys and girls in these schools. At Faribault we had three classes: a Bible class of 23, a confirmation class of 14, and a primary class of 13. With the Bible class we studied the Gospel according to St. Mark and memorized Bible verses from the Catechism, in the confirmation class we explained the Ten Commandments and the First and the Second Article of our Christian faith and read the stories of the Old Testament in our Bible History, and in the primary class we studied the Ten Commandments and the Creed without Luther's explanation and Old Testament Bible-stories. These classes met every Saturday morning, and once a month we conducted services with them and adults from the city on Sunday afternoon. In the Minneapolis school we had a class of seven on Tuesdays and a class of 15 on Fridays. With these classes we studied the Ten Commandments and read New Testament Bible-stories.

We thank God for this privilege and ask Him that He would richly bless His Word upon the hearts of all unto the salvation of their souls and the glory of our Savior. _____ J. L. S.

Omaha Mission. — The annual confirmation services for pupils of the Council Bluffs and the Omaha schools for the deaf were held on May 16 and June 6, respectively. The following four pupils were confirmed at the Council Bluffs school auditorium: Marjorie Orr of Columbus Junction, Alice Read of Waterloo, Ivan Allensworth of Waterloo, and Harry Drews of Holstein, Iowa. In Omaha the following six pupils confessed their faith publicly at Immanuel Lutheran Church: Frieda Witte of Deshler, Janet Voigt of Lincoln, Alexander Reichert of Gering, Carol Stafford of Decatur, Gerald Mayes of Holbrook, and Milton Strong of Genoa, Nebraska.

May the Lord keep them in their faith in the Redeemer and in His grace until death!

The following were baptized during the months of May and June: David Olaf Dobson, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Dobson of Omaha; Ronald Eugene Morford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Morford of Huntington, Indiana; Robert Hiltabidel, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Hiltabidel of Omaha; Marjorie Orr, Alice Read, Carol Stafford, and Gerald Mayes.

Revised plans for our chapel and parsonage at Omaha are being blue-printed, and new bids will be received immediately. We hope to begin building operations very soon.

Miss Emma Maser of Lincoln, Nebraska, who has been employed at the Omaha school as supervisor during the past school-year has returned home, but she hopes to be back on the job again next fall.

A large group of deaf from the vicinity of Fort Dodge, Iowa, was on hand for services and a picnic on June 13. The picnic and service was held in one of the beautiful parks of Fort Dodge.

The ninety-eight pupils who attended the religious instruction classes at the two State schools at Council Bluffs and Omaha have returned to their homes for the summer vacation, but they have promised to keep in touch with the pastor during the summer and to be on hand again next fall, excepting those who have been graduated this year. Six communicants at Omaha and two at Council Bluffs were among those graduated.

E. M.

Missoula, Montana.—The recent issue of the DEAF LUTHERAN carried notes of interest to the writer, who feels that others may enjoy hearing about it.

There was the note by Rev. J. L. Salvner, the pastor who instructed my wife in the North Dakota School for the Deaf. As boys' supervisor in the South Dakota school, I had the pleasure of meeting him and attending his services.

The Rev. Eichmann also had an announcement which brought back memories of his holding services for the Missoula deaf at our home. When he left, we gave a farewell supper in his honor and presented him with a picture.

And to be sure, there was Rev. F. A. Hischke's long and interesting report. Rev. F. A. Hischke came to us from Rev. Salvner with enough knowledge of the sign-language to make himself fairly well understood. He pleased the writer so that as secretary of the Montana Association of the Deaf he sought the Mission Board's permission to extend Rev. Hischke's field so as to include the School for the Deaf and Blind.

Rev. W. A. Westerman, our present pastor, like the others, is considerate. He takes pride in the increased attendance. To him will fall the honor of being the first pastor to hold services at the new school next fall.

There is also our local pastor of the hearing, Rev. H. Lang, whose beautiful new church we use. He takes a great deal of interest in the deaf and is trying to learn the signs too. Whenever he finds a new deaf wanderer, he sees to it that the local deaf meet him.

The Board of Missions to the Deaf deserves much credit. We need many more energetic pastors.

A. R. RANGLES, Missoula, Montana

Kansas City Mission.—Our last service at Salina, Kansas, in May was an unusually happy one for our Christians, for two infant cousins were brought to Christ in Holy Baptism. They were: Frances H. Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Brown, and Edmonde L. Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Brown.

On Ascension Day it was our privilege to worship with our oral congregation near Hoisington, Kansas, at

the cordial invitation of Rev. C. Predoehl. A large group of friends of our mission had assembled, and our congregation of deaf from Great Bend, under the directorship of Pastor J. Resner, came some twenty-five miles.

With the kind assistance of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Kent it has been possible for us to conduct in their home regular divine services at Olathe, Kansas. Olathe is the home of the Kansas State School for the Deaf. Mr. Kent is an instructor at the school. On May 13 it was the privilege of the undersigned to address the student-body of the Missouri School for the Deaf at Fulton, Missouri, upon the kind invitation of Superintendent Truman Ingle.

Six pupils from the Missouri school attended our Kansas City service on May 31, immediately upon their return home. Two boys who are members of the School Bible Class cooperated with the pastor in urging others to come. That is doing fine work for the building of the Savior's Kingdom. We extend a cordial invitation to all scholars in this territory to attend our services during their vacation.

A. E. FERBER

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—At our service for the deaf in Lexington during May we were happy to greet again Mr. and Mrs. O. Wilder. A few years ago they moved to another section of Kentucky and had no opportunity to attend public worship. We hope that they will now continue to attend our meetings regularly.

When the deaf move about seeking to improve their condition in earthly matters, they ought to settle in locations where they can be served with God's means of grace, the Word and the Sacraments; for food for the soul is even of greater importance to true happiness than earthly success.

In the past six weeks we have received over ninety new requests for subscriptions to our *Lutheran Herald for the Blind*, Moon type. Following is one of the many letters received requesting this service:

"Mr. M. received his first copy of the *Lutheran Herald* in Moon type, and he is greatly pleased with it. It is just what he has been wanting ever since he lost his sight. The type is unusually good and readily read. Sometimes the books from the library are not so good.

"Will you please place his name on your mailing-list? I am enclosing one dollar as a little contribution to your good work. Only wish it might be more, but our resources are very limited."

O. C. S.

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