

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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No. 1

New Year

Father, let me dedicate
All this year to Thee,
In whatever earthly state
Thou wilt have me be.
Not from sorrow, pain, or care
Freedom dare I claim;
This alone shall be my prayer:
Glorify Thy name.

If Thou callest to the cross
And its shadows come,
Turning all my gain to loss,
Shrouding heart and home,
Let me think how Thy dear Son
To His glory came
And in deepest woe pray on:
Glorify Thy name.

L. TUTTIERT, 1825

New Year and New Vows

When New Year arrives, many think of their past mistakes and sins and desire to improve their life and turn over a new leaf. Even some who do not believe in Jesus realize that they ought to make improvements in their lives.

In the old year, 1938, many sins were committed against God, against the neighbor, and against the soul. Some have forgotten God, and for this reason they have worshiped God very little or not at all. Some have sinned against their neighbor by gossiping, quarreling, harboring hatred, and committing other sins. Some have greatly harmed their soul by drunkenness, fornication, uncleanness, gambling, anger, neglect of the Bible and the church, and other sins too numerous to mention.

Some people, when thinking about their past sins, do not want to change. But that is the sure way to everlasting ruin. If you, dear readers, desire to go to heaven, you must re-

pent and be sorry for having offended God with your sins and by the grace of God turn to Jesus Christ your Savior. Believe that, when He suffered and died on the cross, He fully atoned for your sins and bore the curse and punishment which you had deserved. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved," Acts 16:31. "The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin," 1 John 1:7.

Do you want to begin the new year aright? Beseech the Lord to keep you in the true faith and to grant you grace to live unto Him who died for you and rose again. Like Joshua, the second leader of Israel, make the vow, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Yes, let us serve the Lord faithfully in 1939. Let us go to church regularly; let us worship the Lord daily at home; let us lead a holy, Christian life. Let us often pray and ask God to give us His Holy Spirit so that by His help and strength we may keep our vow and remain faithful to God until He comes to judge the world or until we must depart this life. In the hour of death may we be found clinging to our Savior, who will take us to heaven, there to celebrate an eternal new year together with all the holy angels and with all the saints who have gone before!

T. F.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE SECOND ARTICLE

"I Believe in Jesus Christ"

The First Article of our Christian Creed told us of the creation of the world. We learned from God's Word also that the Lord

God made all things very good and that He created also our first parents good and holy. However, the devil came and led them into sin, and now all people are born in sin and daily sin much, and therefore all are on the way to everlasting punishment. And man cannot free himself; there is nothing that he can give or do to buy back his liberty. Jesus says: "What is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matt. 16:26.

Redemption

Is there no help for man? Yes, thanks to God, there is. The Second Article speaks of redemption, of buying back what man lost, of saving the world. Is it possible that some one should have paid for us and so made us free? Praise be to our God! We not only confess, I believe in God the Father who has made me, but also, I believe in Jesus Christ who has redeemed, or saved, me.

Jesus

Who is it that has saved us? His name is JESUS. It is a God-given name. The angel of God came to the Virgin Mary and told her: "Thou shalt bring forth a son and shalt call His name JESUS," Luke 1:31. To Joseph, to whom Mary was espoused, or engaged, the angel spoke the same words. Surely God must have had a special reason for giving Him who was to be born of the Virgin Mary this name. Parents often give their children names that do not mean anything; but when God gives a name, it must have a wonderful meaning. The angel explains this name to Joseph by saying: "Thou shalt call His name JESUS; for *He shall save* His people from their sins," Matt. 1:21. The name Jesus therefore means Savior. What a blessed name! This name has brought comfort to unnumbered sin-burdened souls. It is a name which has moved many a heart to sing and to rejoice. It is a name above every other name. Peter says: "There is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved," Acts 4:12. You can be saved only by this name. It is the password into heaven, the key to the door of heaven.

Christ

This Jesus is the King and Savior promised in the Old Testament, the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed. Of Him David writes: "Therefore God, Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above Thy fellows," Ps. 45:7. Prophets, priests, and kings were anointed with oil and thus set apart for the service of the Lord; but Jesus was "anointed with the Holy Ghost and with power" and so was set apart to be our Prophet, to teach us, our Priest, to give His life an offering for our sins, and our King, to rule forever and ever. Yes, He is the Christ, the King and Savior promised of old.

I Believe in Jesus Christ

Believe in this King and Savior and say with the Samaritans: "We know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world," John 4:12. Begin the new year in the name of Jesus, trust in Him always, and the coming year will be a blessed year for you. May God grant it!

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for January

"The hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice and shall come forth," John 5:28

Bible-Lesson: Mark 12:18-27

"Then come unto Him the Sadducees, which say there is no resurrection; and they asked Him, saying, Master, Moses wrote unto us, If a man's brother die and leave his wife behind and leave no children, that his brother should take his wife and raise up seed unto his brother. Now, there were seven brethren; and the first took a wife and, dying, left no seed. And the second took her and died, neither left he any seed; and the third likewise. And the seven had her and left no seed. Last of all the woman died also. In the resurrection, therefore, when they shall rise, whose wife shall she be of them? For the seven had her to wife. And Jesus, answering, said unto them, Do ye not therefore err because ye know not the Scriptures, neither the power of God? For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are as the angels which are in heaven. And as touching the dead that they rise, have ye not read in the book of Moses how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, I am the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob? He is not the God of the dead but the God of the living; ye therefore do greatly err."

When Jesus had silenced the Pharisees and Herodians who came to Him with a question about paying tribute (taxes) to Caesar, the Sadducees came to Him with another question.

The Sadducees were a group of people who, like many people today, did not believe in the resurrection of the dead. Therefore they asked Jesus a question which they thought He could not answer and which would make Him and His teaching of the resurrection look ridiculous. In this way they hoped to turn the people against Jesus and His teachings, so that they would no longer follow Him.

They remind Jesus, first of all, of the law which Moses had given them: "If a man's brother die and leave his wife behind him and leave no children, that his brother should take his wife and raise up seed [children] unto [for] his brother," Deut. 25:5-10. Then they told Him the story of seven brothers who had all taken the same wife in obedience to this law of Moses, and asked Him: "In the resurrection, therefore, when they shall rise, whose wife shall she be of them? For the seven had her to wife."

Jesus is not in the least disturbed by their question. He quickly answers it and shows them how utterly foolish it is. Neither need we be disturbed when people today invent all kinds of foolish questions about the teachings of the Bible. By asking such questions they merely show their ignorance, as we see from the answer which Jesus gave the Sadducees: "Ye know not the Scriptures (Bible), neither the power of God." God's Word plainly teaches the resurrection of the dead, also in the book of Moses, to which they refer and which they professed to believe. There God calls Himself the "God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." These three men had already died, but still God is their God, as He said to Moses; for He is not the God of the dead but of the living. Before God these men are not dead but living. Their bodies are merely asleep in the grave until the Great Day, when their bodies will be raised from the grave by the power of God to be reunited with their immortal soul.

And when they enter this life in heaven, "they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are as the angels which are in heaven." Marriage was instituted for the welfare of man in this life; in the life to come the bodies of the believers will no longer be earthly but heavenly, glorified, immortal; no longer united by the earthly ties of marriage but by the spiritual union with Christ, their Savior. E. EN.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Duluth-Superior Field. — During the past year this field has again enjoyed God's blessing. In Devils Lake about ninety children attended the pastor's classes. Thirteen children were confirmed on May 22, of whom three were also baptized before confirmation.

During the summer months the pastor was kept busy visiting such points where the deaf are unable, usually on account of distances, to come to any of our regular services, which are held at many places throughout the year. Such summer services were held in Milnor, Skaar, Rhame, Killdeer, N. Dak., and also in Williston, where we had the pleasure of seeing Ruth Erickson, home from college, come to services, so that she might again receive Holy Communion.

Three deaths must also be reported from this field, all three from Northern Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. J. Evans of Spooner, Wis., have died during the summer months. It always had been a great pleasure for the pastor to come to their home and show them the grace of God which is in Christ Jesus. In Superior we mourn the loss of our oldest member, Mr. F. Braff, who died on November 7 at the age of 77 years. Death was caused by an automobile accident.

Services in Roseau and Twin Valley, Minn., will have to be discontinued during the winter months, since snow makes the roads impassable, so that the deaf cannot come to services. But winter is always the time when the deaf around Ebro, Minn., can and do hitch their horses to their sleighs and drive through the swamp to services, since nearly all of these deaf live rather close to one another.

W. FERBER

Minneapolis Mission. — Lloyd C. Carlson and Jenny N. Iacono were joined together in holy matrimony November 23 in the pastor's home. May they take Jesus, the only Helper and Savior, as their Guide through life to everlasting life in glory!

On Sunday afternoon, November 27, four communicants were added to our oral group, Katherine Sparr by Baptism and Ruth Kilchesky, Harriet Langved, and Rose Leiter by confirmation. After baptism and confirmation they partook of the Lord's Supper with the other members. May they ever abide in Jesus and serve Him in the beauty of holiness! May our Lord Jesus keep them in His grace to life everlasting! At the present time we have fourteen boys and girls under instruction in the Minneapolis Oral School.

The Young People's Society of Trinity Church at Faribault (Rev. O. Volz, pastor) again gave a Christmas party to our 45 boys and girls from the Faribault School on Sunday, December 4. They also had invited fifteen blind boys and girls from the School for the Blind. First we met in church for a Christmas service, in which the name of our Lord and Savior was glorified. Pastor Volz gave a brief address on "True Christmas Joy," which was interpreted by the Minneapolis missionary. After the service all went to Trinity School, where the young people had arranged games, prepared a good supper, and also had a gift for every one. These young people also furnish transportation for the monthly services which we are holding in Trinity Church. Instructions are given every Saturday at the School for

the Deaf. We all deeply appreciate the kindness of these young people and pray that God may richly reward them for it. To all a hearty "Thank you."

J. L. S.

Omaha Mission.—After several months of conscientious study of the Bible-truths Mr. Vernon Meyer of Lincoln, Nebraska, and Mr. Glenn Cooper, supervisor at the Nebraska School for the Deaf, made a good public confession of their faith in their Savior Jesus Christ and have become members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Meyer was confirmed on October 30 and Mr. Cooper on December 18. The latter also received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. God keep them in this saving faith and in His grace.

Mr. Benjamin Redington and Miss Ruth Clemens of Sioux City, Iowa, were joined in holy wedlock after the services there on November 20. The wedding took place at the home of the bride's parents. A number of deaf friends also attended the ceremony. May the Lord bless them and grant them a happy married life.

On October 16 the deaf at Sioux City held special mission services and also prepared a dinner in the Lutheran school-hall. The proceeds for the dinner were given to the new Bethlehem Church (deaf) in Omaha, to be used for a bulletin-board or anything else needed for the church. We thank you, kind friends! We were glad to see some of our South Dakota friends present, from Sioux Falls and Yankton.

Our attendance at the Council Bluffs State School has increased considerably during the fall months. We now have an enrolment of 71 in our various classes. Many of these are not from Lutheran homes; however, the parents have given their consent to have their children instructed in the one thing needful, and many of the letters show how they realize the great importance of having their children learn the Bible-truths. The pastor's wife has been helping out in teaching the little ones the Bible-stories.

Services for hearing people are being conducted every Sunday at the Bethlehem Church (deaf) in Omaha. Candidate Norbert Mueller has taken over this work, and the Lord has signally blessed this mission endeavor. An average attendance of 60 people in the services and of 42 children in the Sunday-school speaks for itself, namely, that the need of a Lutheran Church in our section of the city is great. The District Mission Board has made arrangements to remunerate the deaf congregation for the use of the church. E. M.

St. Louis, Mo.—A class of nine children of the St. Louis oral day-school, the Gallaudet School, is instructed weekly in the schoolroom of near-by Christ Lutheran Church by the missionary.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf has during the last three years conducted its services in the chapel of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church on Olive Street and Pendleton Avenue, St. Louis. This chapel is being remodeled, and this made necessary the changing of the hour of worship to the afternoon and the using of the main church auditorium for a while. Delays in connection with the building operations have caused some inconvenience to the hearing congregation and to us; but by the end of the year we hope that

the work will be completed. Since the room is used by various groups, there sometimes are inconveniences; but the deaf are very grateful to St. Stephen's for getting the use of the rooms, which are so centrally located. We hope that the St. Louis deaf will soon get their chapel; for without a doubt the lack of it is a real handicap. N. P. U.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—On November 7 Mr. J. Pattmeier of Logansport, Ind., a deaf friend whom we had known for almost thirty years, departed this life. He attended services regularly until poor health kept him at home. Mr. Pattmeier was a sincere Christian during his earthly pilgrimage and is now in glory with the Savior. To every true believer death is merely a door through which he enters into a better and fuller life. May the risen Savior be the comfort of the bereaved!

A Christian blind friend on the Pacific Coast sent us this message after receiving his *Herald for the Blind* in November: "You and your Church are so kind in sending me the literature in raised type. I thank you and try to spread your good work by loaning my magazine to others. I thank you again very, very much." A blind, aged physician also living in the same territory, wrote: "I like your *Herald* very much; it is well printed and wrapped so that the letters are not mashed. The articles are just what I need and like. It is the best magazine that comes to me." May the printed Gospel continue to bring the Savior's blessing into the homes and hearts of our readers! O. C. S.

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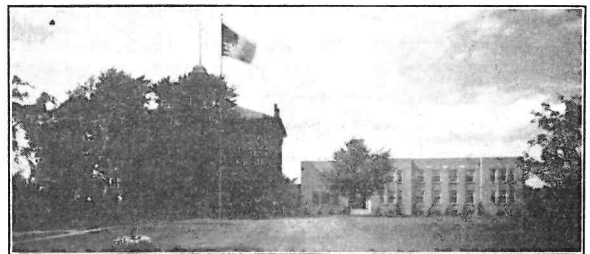
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