

# The Assistant Pastor

September, 1930

## *Religious Books*

“If religious books are not widely circulated among the masses of this country and the people do not become religious, I do not know what is to become of us as a nation. And the thought is one to cause solemn reflection on the part of every patriot and Christian. If truth be not difused, error will be; if God and His Word are not known and received, the devil and his works will gain the ascendancy; if the evangelical volumn does not reach every hamlet, the pages of a corrupt and licentious literature will; if the power of the Gospel is not felt through the length and breadth of the land, anarchy and misrule, degradation and misery, corruption and darkness, will reign without mitigation or end.”

--- Daniel Webster

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## The Assistant Pastor

Published and edited by the pastor of the Jerico and Saude Lutheran churches affiliated with the Norwegian Synod of the Synodical Conference.

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### Church Directory

H. M. Tjernagel, Pastor

#### SAUDE

Trustees: Iver Ellingson, H. Larson, O. N. Anderson.  
Treasurer: A. G. Vaala.  
Secretary: John Natvig.  
Ladies' Aid: Miss Lena Landsverk, president; Mrs. T. Swennumson, secretary; Mrs. D. O. Natvig, treasurer.  
Cemetery Committee: Alf Vaala, H. O. Natvig, John Borlaug, Anna Vaala, Lena Landsverk.

#### JERICO

Trustees: Alvie O. Knutson, O. Firkenstad, Fred Amman.  
Treasurer: J. A. Robinson.  
Secretary: J. A. Knutson.  
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. L. A. Robinson, president; Mrs. M. Dahlen, secretary; Mrs. S. O. Johnson, treasurer.

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### Standing Services

#### JERICO

First Sunday, Norwegian, 10:45 a. m.  
Third Sunday, English, 10:45 a. m.  
Saturday School every Saturday, 9:30 a. m.  
Confirmation class, 2 p. m. Fridays.

#### SAUDE

Second Sunday, Norwegian, 10:45 a. m.  
Fourth Sunday, English, 10:45 a. m.  
Saturday School, 2 p. m.  
Confirmation class, 9:30 a. m. Fridays.  
*Fifth Sunday by special announcement.*

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### BAPTISMS

Sigrid Delores, a daughter of Alvie Iverson and wife Gladys, nee Nelson, born May 18, was baptized June 15. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Nels Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Lars Sanderson.

Orietta Sylvia, born March 28, was baptized August 3. Parents: Andrew Olson and wife Gertrude, nee Olson. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Sever O. Johnson.

Merlin Lewis, a child of Lewis Heimerdinger and wife Alice, nee Hagen, was born July 27 and baptized August 31. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Heimerdinger, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred N. Anderson.

### CONFIRMATION

June 8 the following were confirmed at the Jerico Church: Selmer Aasen, Alice Anderson, George Cletus Anderson, Bernice Eveline Dahlen, Andrew Lloyd Douglas, Olaf Carlyle Johnson, Corrine Angeline Knutson, Ruth Laurine Munson, Alorth Nelson, Laurine Robinson, Lloyd Raymond Roberson.

God grant that they may all remain true to their confirmation vow.

July 30 a very pretty church wedding took place in the Saude church. The bride was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Hanson, Inger Thelma. The groom was the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Knutson, Tollef Arthur. Relatives and friends of the bridal couple filled the beautifully decorated church.

Since our last issue we find three deaths entered in the records of the Jerico church.

Albert Olson, the stay of his widowed mother, died

at the age of 28 years. Pneumonia followed by peritonitis was the cause of death. We said he was the stay of his widowed mother. That is, strictly speaking, not true. God is the ever ready and the ever present help to every one who will accept His help. To Him we commend the bereaved mother. He will never die.

Our dear little cross bearer, Norbert Anderson, was on May 19 transferred from a life in pain and sickness to the bliss of Heaven. Norbert suffered more or less during the entire four years of life among us. We rejoice in the knowledge that through Christ Jesus he is now eternally free from pain and suffering and is happy in the white-robed throng before the throne of God.

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Mrs. Nels Nelson, nee Sarah Johnson, was born in Howard Co. May 29, 1876. She was the eldest child of Gudmund Johnson and wife Anna, both deceased. She was baptized and confirmed in the Saude church. October 12 she was united in marriage to Nels Nelson. Seven children were born to them: Mrs. Theodore Knutson, Mrs. Alva Knutson, Mrs. Olaf Roberson, Mrs. Alvie Iverson, Norman, Stanley, and Harvey, all of whom are esteemed members of our Jerico church.

Last winter she was stricken with a slight cerebral hemorrhage. She was taken to the Park Hospital at Mason City, Iowa, where she was treated to recovery, but not completely well. Monday morning, July 28, she was again stricken, this time with a severe cerebral hemorrhage, after which she did not regain the power of speech. The end came at 12 o'clock noon, Wednesday, July 30. All her children and their father were about the bed when she died.

Besides her husband and children, she is survived by four sisters, Mrs. S. S. Larson of Finlayson, Minn., Mrs. Lena Robinson of Jerico, Mrs. Tollef Johnson of Cresco, Mrs. Will Mettner of New Hampton, three brothers, John G. Johnson of Dugdale, Minn., Ingvald Johnson of Charles City, Gilbert Johnson of New Hampton, and eleven grandchildren.

With the passing of Mrs. Nelson an unusually active and competent wife and mother, a helpful neighbor and a loyal church member is removed from our midst.

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Rev. M. O. Dale is in charge of the Strandebarm Christian day school, and he will also substitute for the pastor of the congregations when the last mentioned is absent from home on official duties as president of our Synod. Rev. Dale is not a stranger to these communities. We are assured that he will be met with kindness and confidence in the homes as well as when he appears in the pulpit. May God richly bless Rev. Dale's work in our midst.

Miss Jeanette Jordahl, who last year taught the Strandebarm school, will this school year have charge of the Lime Creek school, Rev. H. Ingebritson's congregation. Miss Jordahl would have continued with us, had not changed conditions made it desirable, if not imperative, for the pastor to get some assistance. Though we bid Rev. Dale a hearty welcome, we regret that Miss Jordahl could not continue with us.

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We would like to be able to report a long list of our young people in attendance at our church schools. At

the present writing we have Arthur Anderson Neelak and Rolf Tjernagel continuing at their respective schools, Bethany College, Lutheran Seminary, Thiensville, Wis., and Concordia College, St. Paul.

The society organized last spring by the young people of our Saude church, is a going thing. If you doubt it, come and see them when they conduct their business meetings, come and hear their programs, come and look at them when they play, come and taste the lunches served, and you will be convinced that we have a fine active crowd of boys and girls that may some day jeopardize the records set by the boys and girls of "the good old days."

The last meeting of the society was held at the home of Arthur and Theodora Anderson Sunday evening, August 31. The spacious rooms of the Anderson home were filled to overflowing during the devotional exercises and the rendering of the program. The lawn was none too large when all turned out to play.

The officers of the society are the misses Martha Munson, Margaret Natvig, Gunhilda Treider, and Alvie Natvig, president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, respectively.

Another summer season is almost spent. It should in the future be spoken of as one of special blessings to us. While many sections of our country have suffered for want of rain, we have had enough to bring us a good crop of hay, an unusually bountiful harvest of oats, and the promise of very fair corn. High winds and tornadoes have passed us by as have also severe electric storms. The summer now drawing to its close will likely be remembered as "the hot summer," but we should not forget that the general health of the communities was very good.

Times have been hard, some will say. Yes, in a sense, that must be granted, but, after all, would we have known it if no one had told us? If we had not read of the bread lines in the cities as a result of unemployment and of the fear that the coming winter would greatly increase their length, we would hardly be justified in speaking of hard times. It is true some of our produce has been lower in price than usual, but not alarmingly so. No one among us who has wanted to work has been without work; no one to our knowledge has gone without three good meals a day. The barns and silos are well filled with winter feed and we have no reasons to fear that the cellar bins and shelves will not yield the necessities for the dining room table during the winter now soon approaching.

Dear friends and fellow Christians, let us not forget to thank our Heavenly Father, who is so good and has provided so bountifully.

As to our Church, it is our opinion that the two outstanding accomplishments of the summer are the securing of the Rev. Dr. S. C. Ylvisaker as president of our College at Mankato, and the Rev. J. E. Thoen as editor of our church organs, Tidende and Sentinel.

Dr. Ylvisaker has at Luther College and at Concordia College, St. Paul, proven himself a school man of marked ability and qualifications. We believe that under his leadership our College will soon be up out of the valley and that its halls will ring with the happy voices of many students.

In Rev. Thoen we will have an editor who has served the Church faithfully for many years and in

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varied capacities; one who has worked hard and suffered much to preserve the truth of God among us. Rev. Thoen has proven himself able to teach by word of mouth and also by means of the pen. His weekly talks to us through our papers will be valuable reading and we feel assured will be of great benefit to us as individual Christians, as individual congregations as well as to our Synod as a union of congregations.

Regarding developments in the Lutheran Church of our country at large, it can be said that uniting goes on apace. The Ohio, Iowa, and Buffalo synods have this summer merged into the American Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The Ohio Synod was one of the synods that together with the Missouri, the Norwegian and other synods formed the Synodical Conference in 1872. It soon withdrew, however, on account of its disagreement with the affiliated synods on the doctrine of Election—Naadevalget. From the Ohio Synod "Naadevalgstriden" was brought into the old Norwegian Synod by Prof. F. A. Schmidt and caused the strife that raged there in the eighties.

The Iowa Synod attacked the Norwegian Synod for its doctrine of Justification — retfærdiggjørelsen — in the early seventies and has not since showed any change of front.

In view of these and other things that might be mentioned, it is enlightening to note that The Norwegian Lutheran Church of America with the above named new body and other synods, such as The Augustana Synod, which invites and welcomes Bishop Sørderblom, a super-modernist, to its pulpits, The Lutheran Free Church, whose official organ has definitely rejected the doctrine of Verbal Inspiration,—I say, it is enlightening to note that the above named church bodies have this summer formed one body to be known as The American Conference and which is similar in organization to our Synodical Conference, namely a federation of synods which are in agreement in doctrine.

It thus becomes more and more clearly evident to even the casual observer, that the union of 1917 was the first definite step of an overwhelming majority of the old Norwegian Synod, away from the old paths and onto the very paths that they had up till then so strenuously objected to travel.

And all this manifestation of doctrinal indifference takes place in the four hundredth anniversary year of the Augsburg Confession! How can any one read the history of the Augsburg Confession and the two or three decades immediately following, without realizing that the spirit of the unionist and compromiser Melancthon is prevailing in many sections of the Lutheran Church of today and that the spirit of Luther is banned and his voice stilled?

And what of the voice of Jesus which says: "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump"?

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