



The Assistant Pastor

November, 1935

Psalm 146

Praise ye the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul.

While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.

Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help.

His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God:

Which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein is; which keepeth truth for ever;

Which executeth judgment for the oppressed: which giveth food to the hungry. The Lord looseth the prisoners:

The Lord openeth the eyes of the blind: the Lord raiseth them that are bowed down: the Lord loveth the righteous:

The Lord preserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: but the way of the wicked he turneth upside down.

The Lord shall reign forever, even thy God, O Zion, unto all generations. Praise ye the Lord.

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.

Church Directory

H. A. Tjernagel, Pastor

SAUDE CONGREGATION

Trustees: Thos. Swennumson, John Borlaug, E. Firkingstad.
Treasurer: Oscar Natvig.
Secretary: Ole N. Anderson.
Cemetery Committee: Martin Borlaug, Chris Treider, Mrs. Andrina Munson, Mrs. C. O. Natvig, Miss J. Ellingson.
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. Nels Ellingson, president; Mrs. N. Hereid, secretary; Mrs. John Natvig, treasurer.

JERICO CONGREGATION

Trustees: S. T. Roberson, Ole J. Johnson, J. A. Knutson.
Secretary: A. N. Anderson.
Treasurer: J. A. Robinson.
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. C. O. Vigdal, president; Mrs. Tollef Knutson, secretary; Mrs. Carl G. Johnson, treasurer.

Standing Services

JERICO

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

SAUDE

Second Sunday, bilingual service, Oct.-April, 10:45 a. m.
Fourth Sunday, English, October-April, 10:45 a. m.
Saturday School, 2 p. m.
Confirmation class, Fridays, 9:30 a. m.
Fifth Sunday by special announcement.

The Annual business meeting of the Jerico congregation is set for Wednesday, November 15; Saude, Friday, the 20th.

Thanksgiving Day services will be held at Jerico 10:30 a. m., and at Saude 2:30 p. m.

Candidate W. F. Dorn was just fitting snugly in the Strandebarrow School and in the parsonage, when he received and accepted a call to a pastorate in North Dakota. He is succeeded by student R. Dohrmann, who is a graduate of Concordia College, St. Paul, and besides has had two years at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He expects to complete his theological course next year.

The Saude Aid met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Borlaug the 15th of last month. The hostesses were Mrs. Henry and Mrs. Ned Borlaug. Everybody turned out and enjoyed a profitable and pleasant afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Knutson and Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Knutson were hosts to the Jerico Y. P. Society on Sunday evening, October 6th. The society instructed its president to appoint delegates to a meeting called to be held at Bethany College the 19th to the 20th of October. It was also decided to replace the old and faded signboard on the church with a new one.

Milton Robinson, Cletus Anderson, Clifford Firkenstad, Marjorie Ellingson, and Pearl Roberson were named to go to Bethany College. And they did go and will have a whole lot to tell to all who are willing to listen to them.

The Annual Meetings.

Every voting member of a congregation should be present at the annual meeting unless prevented by unavoidable hindrances. You neglect a duty if you are absent without good reason. How can an organization prosper if its members are not active? Do you want your congregation to just merely drag along? Do you want it to be run by the minister and just a few of the members? Come to the business meeting of your congregation. Your God, your pastor, and your fellow members have a right to expect it of you.

The Jerico Aid was entertained by Mrs. Ole Ellingson October 2nd, and by Mrs. Louie Douglas the 16th. On the 30th, Mrs. J. C. Johnson will entertain. You are quite safe in setting your clock by the Jerico Aid, its functions that precisely. Even a change of administration does not cause the slip of a cog.

Mrs. Mari Steensland

Mrs. Mari Steensland died at her home in Calmar, Oct. 24th. Funeral services were held in our Calmar Church the 26th. Her pastor, the Rev. H. A. Preus, officiated. When the funeral procession arrived at the Saude cemetery, where interment was to take place, a short service was held also in our church, conducted by the local pastor after which Rev. Preus performed the commitment to the grave.

For a short biography of Mrs. Steensland we refer the reader to the April, 1930, issue of the Assistant Pastor.

So far we have received no response to our request for the addresses of our young members who are away from home temporarily.

Thanksgiving Day Services.

We trust that all will plan in advance so as to be able to attend the Thanksgiving services in their church. It is certainly too bad if dinner parties prevent attendance. We hope there will be many happy family dinner parties, but without disregarding Hebr. 10:25: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is." Let every one say with David (Psalm 22:22): "In the midst of the congregation will I praise thee." And, dear young friends, when the evening shadows of Thanksgiving Day fall, the sun has departed and darkness envelops you, then forget not to use "the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God," and say to every tempter, even though it be your very best boy or girl friend: "I have hated the congregation of evil doers," as found in the dance hall, "and will not sit with the wicked" in drinking parties or otherwise. See Psalm 26:5.

Seldom has nature's hand been more lavish or rested more soft on our communities than during the growing season just past. Chronic fault-finders try to find fault, but few are proficient enough to gain a respectful hearing. The general refrain is, "We ought to be very thankful."

Well, then, dear friends, let us be thankful, and let our thanks be directed to the giver of all good gifts and be expressed in words and deeds.

We trust that our offering will reflect the unusual blessings received. You are invited to specify what you wish your offering to be used for. This you can do by enclosing your check or cash in an envelope, any envelope will do, and writing your name and the purpose you wish your thankoffering used for on the outside. If you do not wish to specify, then bring your offering in the usual way and it will be used where most needed in the work of our Synod.

Recruits Meet.

On Saturday, the 19th, a number of young people from various congregations of our Synod met at Bethany College and did the preliminary work necessary to the founding of a synod wide Y. P. Association. The meeting was not swayed by enthusiasm and bombast. My dictionary defines bombast as, high-sounding words; rant; inflated discourse; conceited claptrap. We would characterize the convention as, sane, sober, conservative. The meeting was in session from 2 o'clock p.m. to nearly 6, with only a short intermission.

It is well known that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." The Bethany Students saw to it that no Jack, nor Jill either, was allowed to become dull and drooping. From 8 to 10 in the evening they entertained the visitors with a program which ranged from nonsense to foolishness and was capped by a cup of coffee and a piece of pie for each one present.

Sunday morning a large gathering assembled for worship. Dr. Kowalke, president of Northwestern College, Watertown, Wis., preached the sermon. In the afternoon he spoke again and in a 15 minute talk gave us more helpful information and instruction on The Problem of Youth than can be gleaned from a truck load of modern books on the subject. It should, perhaps, in fairness, be admitted that the bulk of educators, who write books on the subject, are laboring under a hopeless handicap. They don't know, nor do they seem to care to know, what God has said on the question, while Dr. Kowalke does know and in a few minutes he summed it up in clear, simple language. The Revs. Madson and C. A. Moldstad also spoke and the musical forces of the College added their considerable bit. We confidently look for much good to come of this gathering of our young people.

"Survival of the Fittest"

We quote from Frank E. Allen's Evolution in the Balances: "Where development is not directed by man, there is degeneration. This fact is known everywhere, and it is constantly recognized by gardeners and farmers. They know that if fowl, cattle, horses, sheep, and grain are left to themselves, they will degenerate. What farmer would ever think of leaving his blooded horses or cattle to run wild and breed promiscuously under the delusion that they would of themselves develop better grades? It is a fact that all varieties of tame pigeons, tumblers, pouters, carriers, and fantails left to themselves on a desert island, return to the original slate-colored wild pigeon, even regaining the two dark rings around the legs. . . . In the absence of cultivation, the four, some say six, thousand kinds of roses, Marechal Niel and Gloire de Dijon, moss rose and monthly rose, La France and Viscountess

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Folkestone, become once more the sweet and simple wild rose."

"Darwin and others have argued that the long neck of the giraffe is the result of the survival of the fittest. They have asserted that 'giraffes which were the highest browsers, and were able during dearths to reach even an inch or two above the others, will often have been preserved.' This argument defeats itself, because, as the necks of male giraffes are several inches longer than the necks of females, the females, together with the younger giraffes, would all have died, leaving only the long-necked males to perpetuate themselves."

"Many new organs in the process of development would be a hindrance. Even if new organs, when fully developed, are an aid to creatures undergoing the process of evolution: before they were fully developed, in many cases, they would be a hindrance. They, by the rule of natural selection, those creatures which began to develop such organs would not survive. For example, it has been supposed that the feathers of birds have been evolved from the scales of reptiles. But of what advantage could the partially developed feather be to the reptile? Would it not rather be a hindrance? Then the reptiles which had acquired such abnormal parts would either lose them or be eliminated in the struggle for survival."

"The tendency among animals to aid one another is as manifest as the tendency to destroy. Animals band together for mutual protection as well as men. In order to prove this, one simply needs to disturb a hive of bees. . . . Cattle on the prairie protect themselves from wild beasts by forming a circle, with their horns toward the enemy and their calves in the center of the circle. . . . Wild geese have their sentinels, which stand alert as guards while the flock feeds, and give warning of any suggestion of danger. Crows in flight turn to rise higher at the warning cry of their leaders."

"The survival of the fittest is not according to the divine plan. Might does not make right, nor does might always win in nature or among men. 'The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong' (Eccl. 9:11). To the leader of Israel God said, 'It is 'not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts' (Zech. 4:6). 'There is no king saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength' (Ps. 33:16). The war-like Esau gives place to the home-loving Jacob. The mighty Pharaoh gives place to the meek Moses. The Giants of Gath give place to the down-trodden Hebrew slaves. Fortified Jerico falls before the trumpeting worshippers. Proud Haman, though backed by the Persian hosts, falls before despised Mordecai. Not natural selection, but Almighty God, determines who or what shall survive. Not one sparrow falls without God's notice. The very hairs of your head are numbered."

"It is often said that God's providential care does not apply to creatures which have no moral natures. This is incorrect, for we are distinctly told that God's care extends to the creatures of the earth, that He feeds 'the fowls of the air' and clothes 'the grass of the field' (Matt. 6:26-30). 'Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father' (Matt. 10:29). 'He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry' (Ps. 147:9)."

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