

The Assistant Pastor

October, 1935

Confirmands Enrolled

The following enrolled in the Confirmation class at Jerico Friday, the 6th of September: Verne Maxine Johnson, Lucile Arlene Paulson, Stella Geneva Knutson, Doris Arlene Knutson, Geraldine Ruby Anderson, Theodora Sigrid Knutson, Vern Alert Johnson, Paul Lowell Munson, Oliver Henry Anderson, Hannah Aasen.

Aside from the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, three parties are vitally concerned with every class of confirmands: The pastor, the parents, and the confirmand. Each one has definite duties. If either one does not meet his duties and perform them well, it is too bad indeed. It may seriously affect the eternal welfare of all concerned.

The pastor or teacher must teach the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. His prime purpose must be to lead back to God and Heaven through Jesus Christ who is the one and only way. He must be patient, but not careless. It is comparatively easy and quite tempting for a teacher to palm off careless as patience.

Parents: You can not shift your duties to the pastor. The responsibility for regular attendance and lessons **well learned** rests with you. You must realize that during the year of preparation for confirmation, nothing is as important to your child as the work assigned by the pastor. Eighth or ninth grade school work, barn chores or housework not excepted.

Confirmands: How do you hope to reach Heaven if you do not know the way? When do you expect to get a better opportunity to become grounded in the fundamental truths of Christianity? The correct answer is: Never. You will have further opportunity, by the grace of God, to grow in knowledge, but never another opportunity as good to lay the foundation. Therefore, as you love your immortal souls, be diligent in your work, do it honestly, seriously, and prayerfully.

Congregation, you too are concerned. What will you be in the future if your confirmands are not instructed well and placed squarely on the Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ? You can help them by showing interest in them and their work and by praying that the good seed may take root in their hearts.

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. Firkningstad.
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.

Circuit Meeting

The fall meeting of our circuit was held in the Lime Creek Church, Rev. Ingebritson's charge, on September 23 and 24, following the 75th anniversary celebration of the congregation on Sunday, the 22nd.

Present from our congregations were: Nels Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. John Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Ellingson, Chris Treider, Nels Ellingson, and the pastor. If present plans do not miscarry, the Circuit Meeting will be held at Jerico next Spring.

On Historic Ground

The Saude Aid met at the Swennumson home-
stead on Thursday the 19th of last month. It was at that place that the Landsverk-Swennumson party found the end of the rainbow and anchored their prairie schooners in 1854. Mrs. Annie Anderson, nee Swennumson, was hostess to the Aid with the assistance of her sister, Mrs. Milton Boleng, and cousin, Miss Lena Landsverk.

New Officers

The annual business meeting of the Jerico Aid was held on Wednesday, the 18th of September. The new officers elected are: Mrs. C. O. Vigdal, president; Mrs. Tollef Knutson, secretary; Mrs. Carl C. Johnson, treasurer. Mrs. M. A. Robinson and Mrs. J. C. Johnson were chosen as revisors, and Mrs. O. N. Firkenstad was re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer for the Cemetery Association.

Under the management of the retiring officers, the Aid functioned with clock-like regularity and admirable efficiency during the past fiscal year. Harmony has become so well established in the Aid that it is taken as a matter of course. Let us, however, not forget to thank God for that great blessing.

What is the Address?

We are anxious to send the Assistant Pastor to our young members who are away from home temporarily, at school or otherwise. Please inform us of their address. We like to give them a reminder of their home church, and to show them that they are not forgotten.

If you have friends or relatives who are not members and to whom you wish the A. P. sent, we shall be glad to do that, provided you will send their address and the cost of postage, which is just exactly 15 cents for the year's ten copies.

We Saw, We Heard, We Tasted

It was good to look at, surprising to hear, and easy to take. We refer to the Cemetery Association entertainment announced in the September issue of the A. P.

Believe it or not, silver-crowned school-mams and others from the gay nineties, now dairy maids, poultry experts, mothers and grandmothers, sang solos and quartets, gave recitations, and read selections to the utter consternation of their children and grandchildren, who had no idea their elders could do such things. We wonder how many "best fellows" back in the audience were thrilled by the memories that crowded in upon them! The pastor, and, we are sure others as well, was highly pleased at the good Christian judgment shown in the selection of the numbers given.

When the program was ended, the artists immediately went into action as hostesses and in a thrice served a substantial lunch to the large assembly. We tasted and found it "easy to take," but hard to refuse a second helping.

Incidentally, the treasurer gathered in sufficient silver to pay for another year's care of the cemetery.

Mission Festivals

were celebrated at Jerico and Saude on the 15th and 22nd of September, respectively. Candidate Wilbur F. Dorn preached the English sermon at Jerico and the Rev. Bjarne Teigen at Saude. The local pastor spoke in Norwegian at both festivals.

Dinner was served after the services. A charge of 25 cents was made for the dinner, 10 cents for children. The proceeds for the dinner was added to the offering laid upon the altar and sent to our Synod's treasury with instructions that seventy-five per cent be used in our Home Mission work and twenty-five per cent in the Negro Mission work in the South.

Our Saturday Schools

On Saturday, September 7, the basement of the Jerico Church swarmed with happy children ready for another year's work in the Saturday School. Almost without exception each one had a lesson learned for the opening day. Can you beat that? At Saude on the afternoon of the same day, there was also a flock, but much smaller, all set and ready to go.

Those impressionable hearts and minds are placed before us, teachers and parents, to stamp with the Word of Truth in which the Holy Ghost is ever present and active as sanctifier, guide, and comforter. Shall we shirk or neglect the golden opportunity?

What would you say of the pastor that would carelessly and disinterestedly receive your children and hurriedly skim over the lessons and dismiss them as soon as possible? You would, no doubt, have a good big list of ugly names for such a one. If and while you have such names in mind, let us ask: Would they suffice adequately to describe and denounce parents that through carelessness and neglect pay little or no attention to whether or not their child learns its lesson, and who permit trivial things to keep their child from regular attendance?

In other words, how terrible if we, teacher and parents or both, should be a stumbling block to the children! Take your child in your lap and while its heart is beating against yours, think on these things. If you do not take your child's Christian training seriously now your remorseful, bleeding heart may some day be trampled upon by the feet that you had the duty and opportunity to guide by word and example.

Charley Johnson

He was baptized Karl Johan, but very few knew him by that name. Whether it was some yankee school-mam or innate modesty that caused the name Charley to be substituted for the royal name Karl Johan we do not know. Be that as it may, it was a rule almost without exception in the early days that good substantial baptismal names that indicated one's Norwegian ancestry, were changed to some supposedly American equivalent. Thus Lars became Lewis, Sigrid Sarah, and Ingers, Ingeborgs and Gurines became Julias or what not. The present writer has all his life had to answer to a name that is not his name.

Is there a change for the better? Your congregation's record of baptisms is before us. Beginning with the year 1904 the eye scans page after page up to the present year. Imagining ourselves to be future historians, we are forced, by the baptismal names read, to conclude that the membership of the congregations, during the period studied, was a mixture of English, Scotch, Irish, French, and Spanish with a light sprinkling of Scandinavians. The names of the valiant fathers and mothers from Jostedalen, Sogn, and Telemarken are not perpetuated. Too bad. But "smag og behag kan ingen diskutere." After all, nothing else matters much if we, by the grace of God, can perpetuate the Bible religion of our pioneer fathers and mothers.

But this is not what we set out to write. We intended to record a little about the lately deceased Charley Johnson.

Mr. Johnson was born at Calmar, Iowa, of the parents John and Inger Olson Laxvaag, June 22, 1865. The family lived in various places in Winnesick, Howard and Chickasaw counties before locating permanently on a farm three miles north of Jerico. Charley was a mere boy then. On that farm he spent the balance of his life. There he died on Friday evening, the 13th of September, a little past seventy years old.

He was confirmed by the Rev. John Moses October 24, 1880; married by the Rev. Ness to Anna Anderson, one of the many Ole Kleiven girls, July 14, 1892. The union was blessed with three children, John, Ole and Karl. All are residents and heads of families in their native community and were present at their father's death. Ten grandchildren were the

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pride and joy of the invalid grandfather, and his ever faithful wife was his constant nurse throughout his long illness. Though spoken of as not strong, yet she always found the strength to minister to his every want and found happiness in so doing. For the little tots that tumbled about and sometimes on the bed, the invalid had smiles and for his good nurse praise and gratitude, never grouchy complaints. The sons and their wives never tired of doing whatever they could for their father and to help their mother in her long vigil at the bedside.

Everything was mellowed, softened for Mr. Johnson by the love of those about him and by his Christian faith and hope; a faith in the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world, and the certain hope of a resurrection to eternal glory through Jesus Christ.

Card of Thanks

Mrs. Johnson and her sons have requested the Assistant Pastor to bring their sincerest "Thank You" to the many, many kind relatives and friends who have by kind deeds as well as words helped and comforted them in so many ways throughout the lingering illness of their husband and father.

Think it Over

At a dinner a returned missionary sat next to a lady who remarked to him: "Is it true that you are a missionary?"

"Isn't it true that you are?" was his unexpected reply.

An artist was asked to paint a picture of a dying church. He started out by painting a huge church beautifully decorated, and the pews filled with people. In the pulpit was painted one of the most noted ministers of the time. The picture when seen at that stage caused the viewers to remark that it looked like a very much alive church, with no signs of death approaching. The painter replied that the picture was not yet completed. He then painted a large box in the front of the church, upon which was written the word "Missions." With a fine brush he painted over the entire box a fine but tightly-woven cobweb to complete the picture.

"Father," said a little daughter, "do you ever pray?"

He did not like the question, and in an angry tone asked: "Is it your mother or your aunt who has put you up to this?"

"No, father," said the child, "the preacher said all good people pray, and those who do not pray are not saved. Father, do you pray?"

This irritated the father still more and in a rough way he said: "Well, you and your mother and your aunt go your way, and I will go mine."

"Father," said the girl, "which way are you going?"

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