

The Assistant Pastor

September, 1936

What Do We Deserve?

Shall we say something about the weather? No, we will not speak about how hot it has been nor how dry. We should, however, while we yet feel the smart of the recent chastisement, bow our heads in deep humility and confess that we have deserved the eternal heat of Hell-fire and the parched tongue of the rich man who was "tormented in this flame."

Anyone who speaks of **deserving** anything but the above reveals thereby that he does not know the holiness, the righteousness, and the justice of God, nor the abysmal depth of depravity of the human heart, soul, and mind.

"We sin much every day and deserve nothing but punishment." That is a catechism truth which every soul must acknowledge and confess or it will never know the refreshing, lifegiving shower of God's grace in Christ Jesus, that great love "that casts out fear," nor shall they ever see the "city that has no need of the sun neither of the moon to shine in it; for the glory of God does lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof." Rev. 21, 23.

On the other hand the soul that does confess its own demerits will find certain hope of joy and riches in the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ, which cleanses of sin. Through love He assumed your demerits, through faith in Him, His merits are accounted as yours. Such a soul will through the enlightenment of the Word see the footprints of God on hills and mountains, His majesty in the firmament and the waters beneath. His magic touch on fields and flowers. It will all be acknowledged as His doing and therefore acceptable and good, whether the fields are parched or green and the flowers wilted or in their fragrance and beauty.

O Pride that speaks of deserving anything good, get thee hence to Satan from whence thou came. Let us, O God, walk humbly with Thee as Thy dependent children and save us from that which we deserve, for Christ's sake.

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. M. Tjernagel, Pastor

SAUDE CONGREGATION

Trustees: Chris Treider, 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. Omar Miller, president; Mrs. Chris. Treider, secretary; Miss Martha Munson, treasurer.

JERICO CONGREGATION

Trustees: Geo. N. Anderson, 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 Assistant Pastor raps at your door again. Will you invite him in and give him a few minutes of your time? He has nothing to sell, neither does he beg, but he does have valuables to give away. Should he say things that you do not like, or that you do not agree with, or make mistakes in his statements of fact, please report to the regular pastor.

As a newspaper we belong to the stage-coach days, as the following news items will testify.

Carolyn Elizabeth, a child of Mr. and Mrs. Borlaug, was born May 16th and baptized May 31st. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Martin Borlaug; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dahlen.

Meryl Rae, a child of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Natvig, was born June 24th and baptized July 26th. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Kratz; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Munson.

Shirley Ann, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Knutson, was born July 15th and baptized August 2nd. Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Roberson; Oriette and Kenneth Knutson.

All of the regular activities of our churches, excepting the Saturday School have continued throughout the summer: the regular services for public worship have been held, the Aids have been active, and the Jerico Y. P. S. has met regularly.

The following class was confirmed in the Jerico Church June 21st. Oliver Henry Anderson, Paul

Lowell Munson, Vern Alert Johnson, Geraldine Ruby Anderson, Doris Arlene Knutson, Stella Geneva Knutson, Theodora Sigrid Knutson, Verna Maxine Johnson, Lucile Arlene Paulson, and Hannah Aasen. Sunday evening, July 5th, the members of the class were guests of honor at a banquet given in the church parlors by the Y. P. Society.

The Y. P. Convention of the Northern Iowa and Southern Minnesota Circuit, announced in our June issue to meet at Jerico June 26, 27, and 28, was a success. The young people proved themselves good hosts, and the experienced mothers of the Aid knew just when and where help and counsel was needed. Good dinners were served with professional efficiency. The Sunday exercises, the sermon by Rev. H. Naumann, the address by Rev. A. M. Harstad, the singing of the choral union, were safely above the mediocre. The essays read on Friday and Saturday were finished products and will, we believe, bear blessed fruit for years to come. They were not products of the minds of men, but a presentation of the Word and wisdom of God applied to given subjects.

The U. & I. Club of the Jerico Aid believing that if they started they might reach their destination sometime, did start. The Club set as its objective the interior re-decorating of the church. They did not set a fast pace, nor did they decide we must have it done by a certain day, month, or year. "Let's start," that is all they agreed upon. You would be surprised to know how far they have gone already. Faithful, persistent striving works wonders.

The Assistant Pastor has special orders to inform all the women of the Aids how much the occupants of the parsonage enjoy and appreciate the spik and span, the delightfully fresh and clean redecorated upstairs in the parsonage. The hallway and every room is papered, the floors are painted, doors and casings are enamel. He is instructed also to invite everyone to come and see for themselves how cozy and cheerful they have made the pastor's study, which is one of the upstairs rooms.

As our readers know, we are not given to recording personal news items, as, for example, Alvie Natvig will teach at Iowa Falls the coming school year; Norman Borlaug is in the Forestry Service back in Connecticut, etc., etc., or N. N. called at the parsonage on a given date, etc., etc. It would be rather interesting to record where our boys and girls go to when they leave home and what they do, but such a record would have to be 100% correct and complete, therefore we dare not undertake it.

However, we can not refrain this time from reporting that on a certain day in August a car stopped at the parsonage door and Lena Landsverk stepped out followed by a spry, apparently, young man with white hair. These were followed by Carl Swennumson, Mrs. Anna Anderson, and an unknown elderly lady. You might know we immediately figured that the last named were to be the witnesses. It soon developed, however, that the "young man" was 86 years old and that his

name was Nils Landsverk, the last of the five John Landsverk boys. He has for many years been a resident near Ft. Benton, Mont. The unknown lady proved to be his daughter. She grew to womanhood in the Saude community, but moved away forty years ago and has not been back till she made this visit together with her father. We like to have our people bring their visitors and make a call at the parsonage.

The complaint is old and has long been a refrain in the Saude congregation, that we have no gathering place outside of the church auditorium. Finishing up the basement of the church has often been spoken of; the erection of a parish house has also been mentioned as a possibility. As often as talk along these lines has arisen, it has again subsided. In this matter of a gathering place for Aids, Y. P. meetings, etc., we stand just where we stood over seventy-five years ago.

The above may be considered the preamble to a resolution passed by the Aid not long ago to the effect that a committee of three be appointed to consider the advisability and practicability of starting a forward march towards the long coveted goal, a gathering place as above mentioned. Mrs. Omar Miller, Mrs. Carl Natvig, and Mrs. Martin Borlaug were elected to serve on the committee. If this committee finds that the time has come to make a start, it will so report to the Aid. And then if the Aid decides to line up for action, something will happen; the "broom brigade" is not to be trifled with.

Confirmation classes will be enrolled September 4th, and the Saturday Schools will open the 5th. The pastor will, as usual be in charge of both. However, if parents leave it all to him very little will be accomplished. Two absolutely essential things must be attended to by the parents, namely, that the children attend classes regularly and that they come with lessons learned. It is your bounden duty, not merely to think, to presume, to take for granted, that your child knows its lesson, you must **know** that it does. I once asked a mother whose son came regularly to confirmation class with lessons unlearned: "Do you hear his lessons before he goes to class?" Believe it or not, her answer was: "He won't let me," and with that she seemed to think she was excused. May God help pastor, parents and children to apply themselves diligently to the all-important work here spoken of.

CONVENTION OFFERING Saude

Orin, Ruth, and June Anderson, Nels Paulson, each 10c; Pearl Paulson, Kenneth and Ann Marie Natvig, Palma and Charlotte Borlaug, John Anderson, each 25c; Mrs. Anna Anderson, 30c; Mrs. Caroline Vigdal, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reinhart, Adelia and Juul Natvig, Mrs. Inger Natvig, Pearl Natvig, Belle Larson, Mr. and Mrs. R. Hagen, Mrs. Otto Hanson, Hilda Hanson, Mrs. E. Ellingson, Johanna Ellingson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ellingson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Borlaug, Arthur and Nels Anderson, each 50c; John Leifson, David and Beulah Swennumson, and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Swennumson, Paul Swennumson, Bertha C., Helga, Bertha J.,

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Jerico

Adis and Donna Mae Johnson, Ann Lorraine, Donna Mae and Hazel Roberson, each 5c; Roy and Pearl Roberson, Paul, Cletus, and Calvin Johnson, Kenneth and Stella Knutson, Olaf Johnson, each 10c; Helen Landsverk, 14c; Agnes and Mrs. Rose Dahlen, Mrs. Anna Olson, each 15c; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dahlen, Hazel Knutson, each 20c; Harvey, Norman, Omar, Roberson, Geraldine and Ronald Anderson, Harvey Knutson, Nels Harvey and Arline Knutson, Ole Johnson, Ambrose and Arley Haugen, Eldred Johnson, Miller Olson, Melvin Olson, Sibyl and James Roberson, Lawrence and Clara Olson, Johnie Dahlen, each 25c; Mr. and Mrs. Tollef Knutson; Lena Iverson, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Rob Knutson, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Overbo, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Iverson, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Dahlen, Mr. and Mrs. Carl G. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Orval Landsverk, Mr. and Mrs. Will Mettner, Mr. and Mrs. Henry O. Knutson, Mr. and Mrs. Ole K. Olson, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Haugen, Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Knutson, Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Anderson, Loyd Roberson, Clifford Firkenstad, Lawrence Robinson, Alvie O. Johnson, each 50c; A. W. Oleson, S. S. Roberson, Mrs. Mae Fossen, J. C. Johnson family, Paul Munson, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Vigdal, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Amman, Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Firkenstad, Theo. Knutson family, Ole I. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Alva Knutson, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Roberson, Chris Roberson, Alfred Robinson, Milton Robinson, Peter Overbo, Knut Roberson, each \$1.00; Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Roberson, \$1.50; Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Munson, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Roberson, L. A. Aasen family, each \$2.00.

A good father provides his children with food and clothing and the best care he is capable of. He also provides so that they may take part in the Sunday offerings and may be along and contribute to church collections otherwise. Our boys and girls are happy and proud to give what they have received. If father has neglected to provide them with "offer-skilling," a coin for the offering, they feel bad. How would the father feel if he should discover that his son who had received a quarter for the offering, placed a penny on the altar instead and kept the quarter for himself?

Let this suggest to you an honest examination of yourself as a child of our Heavenly Father. Are you happy to give as He has prospered you? Do you feel bad because you are not able to give as you would like to? Do you withhold and use selfishly what He has given you to give?

Heavenly Father, help us, through Christ Jesus, to deal honestly with Thee as Thy stewards.

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