

The Assistant Pastor

April and May, 1942

Alton Gene Anderson

Alton Gene Anderson was born on June 24th, 1938, and baptized on July 17th by the Rev. H. M. Tjernagel. He died of pneumonia after an illness of only a few hours' duration on Sunday, April 12th, 1942. He is survived by his father, Alfred N. Anderson, his mother, Mrs. Gina Hagen Anderson, his sister, Geraldine, his brother, Ronald, his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Rollef Hagen, and by numerous uncles, aunts, and cousins. Interment was at Jerico Lutheran Cemetery on Tuesday, April 15th. His age was three years, seven months, and eighteen days.



Sermon

Mark 10:13-16

In Christ Jesus dearly beloved friends and family of the departed Alton Gene Anderson.

There is something particularly sharp and piercing in the pain that we all feel in the death of a child such as we have now witnessed. There seems to us so little purpose in the Lord's doings in giving life and birth to a little being, of creating a place of affection for him in the bosom of his family, and then so suddenly and without warning to take him away from them. His parents would not be human if they did not cry out, "Why has the Lord dealt thus with us?"

His brother, his sister; all those whose hearts have glowed at sight of that fine little boy would be less than the frail mortals they are if they did not cry out, "To what purpose has a merciful God dealt this rude and shattering blow?"

These questions are human indeed, and reflect the grief and pain that attends such acts and judgments of God. But you, Christians and believers, have answers for those questions; you have a balm in your grief. And your grief is not one which will now chide and reproach the Lord for this His judgment and chastening.

For the words of our text, "Suffer the little children to come unto me," ring in your ears now as a hymn of thanksgiving to God, who, though filling your home with grief, has dealt kindly and mercifully with this little one whom you love.

The circumstances under which the words of our text were spoken are familiar. Parents had brought their infants and young children to Jesus that He should touch them. Those parents, too, were believers. And their bringing their children to Jesus showed their desire that their precious ones should come under the influence of the Savior and be saved by Him. You were with those parents on that day when you brought this little boy to church to be baptized in the name of the Triune God, that he might be cleansed of his sin, and made a child of Jesus. You have been with those parents every time you have spoken to him of the Savior; every prayer that you have taught him, every word of admonition you have spoken to him has been your bringing of this child to Jesus. All that you have done for your little boy has been in obedience to the invitation of Jesus, "Suffer the little children to come unto me."

You have heeded Christ's invitation. Can you now be certain that he is in heaven with the Jesus to whom you brought him in baptism, in his prayers, and in your instruction? Most assuredly you can! When he was baptized the Holy Ghost performed a marvelous miracle. He took that child that had been conceived and born in sin and who came into this world an enemy of God and a child of Satan, and created faith in him. Yes, truly, the Holy Ghost made a believer of that infant, and there is no reason whatever for thinking that the child lost that faith, so miraculously instilled in him since then.

Undoubtedly you have been thinking of how, if things had not gone as they did, his life might have been saved. But how unutterably worse would your regret now have been if you had not heeded the invitation of Jesus to "Suffer the little ones to come unto me." That your little boy *was* brought to Jesus may now be your pillar of strength and comfort.

For there can be no doubt that God's will has been done. Our text tells us that the disciples rebuked those who brought their children to Jesus, as though the soul of a child were of no concern to the Savior. He showed how great His concern is for them by the fact that He was extremely displeased with the disciples over their conduct in trying to prevent those parents from bringing their children to Jesus. He tells them, "Of such is the kingdom of God!" His meaning is clear. The saints in heaven are those whose faith is such as that of a child. We know how implicitly and unwaveringly a child believes the things his parents tell him. And here Jesus tells us to believe like little children. Their faith is the faith that we should pray for.

If Jesus' description of a true faith is true, then who of us will doubt the faith that this child had, nor wonder about its soul's salvation?

Jesus says, "Suffer the little children to come unto me." Now He has come and has taken this little one. Whom among us would now wish to take him back from the arms of Jesus?

Whom among us will now be like the disciples who rebuked the parents who brought their children to Jesus, and turn about to rebuke Jesus for taking this little boy. Surely no one, and least of all his parents who loved him more than we. His

family are Christians, and they will gladly accept their loss and their grief and their broken hearts for the sake of the blessedness in which their beloved son and brother now dwells.

And finally, let me call to your minds the words of the child's stricken father who said, "He's safe now." Is there a father or mother among us who thinks at all who has not trembled as he thought of the responsibility that God gives us with each of our children, the responsibility of bringing up that child so that he will be prepared for the hour of death.

Truly God has been merciful to this child. Now He has taken the responsibility for this boy. He is where neither Satan or the world can tempt him. He dwells among the saints and angels to praise God for all eternity. Amen!

SYNOD CONTRIBUTIONS

January 1 to May 1, 1942

	Saude	Jerico
Teacher's Salary and Synod Fund.....	\$ 43.60	\$ 58.90
Home Missions	99.78	152.45
Jubilee Fund	32.80	65.10
"Special Contribution"	34.25	33.65
Church Extension	1.00	1.00
Deaf Mute Institute	11.50	36.35
Bethany College		1.00
Lutheran Hour	2.00	4.00
Hans Bleken	3.50	6.75
Nigeria Mission	2.00	1.00
Debt Fund		1.00
Needy Pastors		1.00
Army-Navy Fund		1.00
	\$230.43	\$363.20

The above table lists the total amount contributed by the Saude and Jerico congregations from the beginning of this year until May 1st. It includes remittances made by the treasurers of the congregations, and remittances made by the pastor from memorial wreaths and other money given him to send to the treasurer of the Synod.

During past years the pastor was treasurer of the congregations so far as Synod contributions were concerned. He mailed the monthly envelopes out with the Assistant Pastor, took the money from the boxes in church, and mailed it to the treasurer of the Synod. However, since the envelope system has been adopted, the envelopes have been included in the packs of weekly envelopes, and remittances to the Synod treasurer have been made by the treasurers of the congregations. However, some money has still come to the pastor for remittance, such as memorial wreaths and other special individual donations. It naturally makes for confusion that remittances are made to the Synod by more than one person. Therefore, I would request that if you wish to make a special donation to the Synod, that you give the money to the treasurer of your congregation and not to me. And likewise the memorial wreaths will be given to the treasurers to remit.

In recent years the treasurer of the Synod has been requesting permission not to be obliged to print lists of names of donors of individual congregations, but only the totals sent in by the congregation as a whole. Some congregations have been willing to comply with that request. In recent memorial wreaths the money has been sent to the

treasurer, and you will find the individual contributions listed in this issue of the Assistant Pastor. Those lists of names have little meaning to persons who read the Sentinel. They are only of local interest, and therefore our purpose will be served if the lists are printed in the Assistant Pastor.

In Memory of Alton Gene Anderson

To Church Extension: \$1.00 by Mr. and Mrs. Alvie T. Johnson and family.

To Debt Fund: \$1.00 by Mr. and Mrs. Carl G. Johnson and family.

To Army-Navy Fund: \$1.00 by Ole Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Johnson and sons.

To Synod Fund: \$1.00 each by Mr. and Mrs. Louie Paulson and family and Mr. and Mrs. Alert Johnson and family.

To Bethesda Home: \$1.00 each by Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Knutson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Alva Knutson and Nels, and Mrs. Otto Hansen.

To Bethany College: \$1.00 by Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Munson.

To Deaf Mute Institute: \$1.00 each by Mr. and Mrs. Severt Roberson and Sybil, Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Johnson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Severt Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. N. Anderson and family. 50c each by Dale Roberson, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Munson and Linda.

To Home Missions: \$2.00 by Mr. and Mrs. Røllef Hagen, \$1.00 each by Mrs. Annie J. Johnson, Thomas, and Norma Jean, Mr. and Mrs. Jens Anderson and family, Mrs. Mary Attleson, Henry, and Nordeen, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Johnson, Mrs. Alice Heimerdinger and son, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Gilbert and Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Knutson and Stella, Mr. and Mrs. Omar Roberson and Gary Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred N. Anderson, Geraldine and Ronald Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reinhart, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Vaala, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Heimerdinger and family, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Anderson and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Anderson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Johnson, Mrs. O. N. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Anderson, Andrew N. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Roberson, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Robinson and family, Pvt. John E. Attleson, 50c by Mr. and Mrs. Alvie J. Johnson and family.

In Memory of Mrs. Henry Ellingson

To Home Missions: \$5.00 each by Saude Ladies' Aid, Mr. Henry Ellingson, Carrie, Lars, and Gregor Vaala. \$1.00 each by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lee, Dawson, Minn., Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Haakenson, Madison, Minn., Mrs. Caroline Thorson, Madison, Minn., A. G. Vaala and family, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hoffland, Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffland, Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Robinson and Marcia Ann, Oscar and Emma Borlaug, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Haugen, Myron, and Gladys.

To Lutheran Hour: \$1.00 each by Mr. and Mrs. Theo. G. Vaala and children, and Miss Ragnhild Honsey.

To Deaf Mute Institute: \$2.00 by Mr. and Mrs. John Ellingson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Haugen. \$1.50 by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Borlaug and Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Behrens, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Culbert. \$1.00 each by Mr. and Mrs. John O. Knutson and family, Paul and Norman Landsverk, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Vigdal and family, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vaala, Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Knutson and Lavonne, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff O. Knutson, Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Anderson. 50c by Pvt. Palmer Anderson.

To Hans Bleken: \$1.00 each by Mrs. E. Ellingson and Johanna, and Hannah Vaala and family.

To Nigeria Mission: \$1.00 by Mrs. R. D. Gray and Mrs. Mamie Grimso.

To Church Extension: \$1.00 by Mrs. Hanna Hoffland and Fred.

In Memory of Mrs. John O. Knutson

To Foreign Missions: \$1.00 by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Gilbert.

To Hans Bleken: \$1.00 each by Knut Knutson, Sever Fossen family, Mrs. Mae Fossen.

To Lutheran Hour: \$1.00 each by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred J. Vikdal and Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Knutson and family, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Roberson, and Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Gilbert.

To Deaf Mute Institute: \$5.00 by Jerico Ladies' Aid, \$2.00 each by Mr. and Mrs. Alva Knutson and Nels, John O. Knutson and family and Mr. and Mrs. Orvin Knutson

and Betty Ann, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Knutson and family. \$1.00 each by Mr. and Mrs. Henry O. Knutson, Wallace and Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Anderson, Mrs. Caroline Vigdal, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Landsverk, Norman and Paul, Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Knutson, Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Knutson and Lavonne, Ingval Knutson, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff O. Knutson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Tollef Knutson and Hazel, Mr. Henry Ellingson, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Vigdal and family, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Munson, Mr. and Mrs. Ned Borlaug and family, Mr. and Mrs. Severt Roberson and family, Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Johnson and family, Mrs. Hannah Hansen, and Mr. and Mrs. Nels Ellingson and family.

To Home Missions: \$1.00 each by Andrew N. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. John Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. Ole A. Knutson, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Anderson and family, Ora Natvig, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Robinson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Theo. G. Vaala and family, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Knutson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Steensland, Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Anderson and family, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Landsverk, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Johnson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson.

Items from Redeemer Congregation "The Power of God"

"What is Christianity?" This is a question which a Christian should be able to answer. It is a question which those who are lukewarm should ponder. It is a question which should be answered for the sake of those who are not Christians. "The Power of God," a motion picture produced according to the latest technical skill, answers this important question in a stimulating manner. "The Power of God" will be shown in New Hampton, at the Legion Hall, Thursday, May 28, at 8 P. M. Keep this date in mind. Resolve not to miss this entertaining and thought-provoking presentation of Christian doctrine and Christian life. Bring your unchurched friends, for this is a picture you will especially want to have them see.

"The Collection Plate"

Since January 1, the members of Redeemer congregation have been placing envelopes in the collection plate. The use of the Duplex system should by now have proven its value to the congregation. Week by week the envelopes have silently reminded us to be regular and liberal in our support of the ministry of the word and sacrament. They have enabled us to assume a larger obligation and to meet that obligation. The monthly envelope for building fund has provided us with an opportunity to lay aside a little toward the day when a definite use for that money will develop. Let us continue to use our envelopes in the spirit in which we have begun, laying aside on the first day of the week as the Lord hath prospered us.

Financial Statement. January 1 to March 31, 1942.

Income	
Balance, January 1	\$ 9.82
Current Expense Env.	\$30.80
Loose Change	12.52
Building Fund	11.55
Synod Fund	9.53
	<hr/>
	\$64.40
	<hr/>
	\$74.22
Expense	
Envelopes and Books	\$11.98
Hall Rent	30.00
Salary	10.00
Building Fund	11.55
Synod Fund	9.53
	<hr/>
	\$73.06
	<hr/>
Balance March 31	1.16
	<hr/>
	\$74.22

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.

To the Ladies

The Assistant Pastor has taken very little notice of the activities of the Ladies' Aids during the last two years. But that is by no means because they have been inactive. This would be a good time to review their activities.

Since June 1st, 1940, the following ladies have entertained the Jerico Aid:

June 5, 1940, Mrs. S. T. Roberson.
June 20, 1940, Mrs. John Robinson.
July 11, 1940, Mrs. Alfred Robinson.
July 18, 1940, Mrs. Jeff O. Knutson and Mrs. Henry Robinson.
July 31, 1940, Mrs. Fred Amman.
August 15, 1940, Mrs. Carl Roberson.
August 28, 1940, Mrs. Belle Robinson.
September 11, 1940, Mrs. Oscar Vigdal.
September 25, 1940, Mrs. H. O. Knutson.
October 9, 1940, Mrs. C. A. Knutson.
October 24, 1940, Mrs. Alfred Johnson.
November 6, 1940, Mrs. M. A. Robinson.
November 21, 1940, Mrs. H. A. Knutson.
December 5, 1940, Mrs. Clarence Cutsforth.
December 18, 1940, Christmas Party.
January 3, 1941, Mrs. Anna Olson.
January 15, 1941, Mrs. Albert Haugen.
January 29, 1941, Mrs. L. A. Robinson.
February 26, 1941, Mrs. Severt Johnson.
March 12, 1941, Mrs. O. N. Ferkenstad.
March 26, 1941, Mrs. Carl J. Johnson.
April 9, 1941, Mrs. Ole Ellingson.
April 23, 1941, Mrs. Louie Paulson.
May 7, 1941, Mrs. John O. Dahlen and Mrs. Otto Dahlen.
May 21, 1941, Mrs. Henry Munson.
June 4, 1941, Mrs. Joe Johnson.
June 20, 1941, Mrs. Ole Overboe.
July 2, 1941, Mrs. L. S. Roberson.
July 23, 1941, Mrs. N. S. Tjernagel.
August 27, 1941, Mrs. Gilman Robinson.
September 10, 1941, Mrs. Louie Douglas.
September 26, 1941, Mrs. J. P. Landsverk.
October 8, 1941, Mrs. J. C. Johnson.
October 22, 1941, Mrs. Ole J. Anderson.
November 11, 1941, Mrs. Andrew J. Johnson.
November 18, 1941, Mrs. Alvie Johnson.
December 2, 1941, Mrs. Ole C. Johnson.
December 16, 1941, Christmas Party.
January 29, 1942, Mrs. Jeff A. Knutson.
February 12, 1942, Mrs. Art Cutsforth.
February 25, 1942, Mrs. Harold Munson.
March 11, 1942, Mrs. Alfred Anderson.
April 8, 1942, Mrs. Omar Roberson.
April 22, 1942, Mrs. James Dahlen and Mrs. Rosie Dahlen.
May 6, 1942, Mrs. Harvey Roberson.

During this period of time the Jerico Aid has cleaned and painted the church basement, purchased numerous items for the kitchen, purchased 25 folding chairs, and laid a rug in the sacristy. It has paid half the expense of redecorating the parsonage in 1941, and has bought two vases for the altar. It has sponsored an annual Christmas party, the proceeds of which have been sent to the Deaf Mute Institute, and has served dinner on each Mission Day, the proceeds going to Home Missions in the amount of about fifty dollars each year. It has kept the church clean, through regularly held house-cleaning days. It has cooperated with the pastor in every way, and has always been ready when there was work to be done for its church. In the year 1940-41, it contributed \$81.37 to various Synod purposes. In the year 1941-42 its contribution was \$121.70.

Since June 1st, 1940, the following ladies have entertained the Saude Aid:

June 6, 1940, Mrs. Otto Hansen.
June 27, 1940, Mrs. Hannah Vaala.
August 30, 1940, Mrs. N. S. Tjernagel.
September 19, 1940, Mrs. Thos. Swenumson and Miss Lena Landsverk.
September 29, 1940, 50th Anniversary.
October 8, 1940, Mrs. Iver Natvig and Mrs. Elmer Natvig.
November 26, 1940, Mrs. Carl Miller and Mrs. Olena Natvig.
December 19, 1940, Christmas Party.
January 23, 1941, Mrs. John Borlaug.
February 13, 1941, Mrs. Nels Borlaug and Mrs. Henry Borlaug.
March 20, 1941, Mrs. Carlyle Natvig.
May 8, 1941, Mrs. Caroline Vigdal and Mrs. Henry Ellingson.
May 22, 1941, Mrs. Arthur Arnold.
June 5, 1941, Mrs. Carl Natvig.
August 7, 1941, Mrs. John Natvig and Mrs. Ole Natvig.
August 21, 1941, Mrs. Odell Natvig and Mrs. Nels Ellingson.
September 25, 1941, Mrs. Ned Borlaug.
November 20, 1941, Mrs. Nelvin Hereid.
December 18, 1941, Christmas Party.
March 12, 1942, Mrs. Geo. Natvig.
April 24, 1942, Mrs. Chris Treider.
April 30, 1942, Mrs. Oscar Natvig.

During this period of time the Saude Aid has celebrated, in magnificent fashion, its 50th Anniversary. It set in motion preliminary moves which have brought about the construction of a new basement, and donated \$300.00 toward that project. It has met regularly for the purpose of cleaning the church, and paid one-half of the Saude congregation's share of the expenses connected with redecorating the parsonage last year. It has resolved to give one-half of its regular income toward Church and Charitable purposes. It is making plans for equipping its new kitchen, and redecorating the Altar and Pulpit and Altar rail. It has been alert and willing whenever it has seen an opportunity to serve its church. It remitted \$104.17 to the Synodical Treasury in the year 1940-1941.

It should be noted in the case of both Aids, that many members have given the suggested amount of money in place of serving, where, for one reason or another the person was unable to entertain in her turn.

"THANK YOU"

say the Saude and Jerico congregations to their ladies for serving so well, and for doing so many things that would otherwise be undone, for making our congregational life more pleasant, and for serving their Lord modestly and efficiently.

Our Honor Roll

Pvt. Ledru A. Natvig, 2nd Platoon, Co. A, 66 Bn.
U. S. Army Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas.
Pvt. Chester Johnson, Platoon, 351, M. C. B.
San Diego, California.
Pvt. Harris Vaala, 54 Pursuit Sqn., 55 Pursuit Group.
Paine Field, Everett, Wash.
Pvt. Oscar Aasen, Troop B, 2nd Squadron, C. R. S. T.
Fort Riley, Kansas.
Pvt. Norman Landsverk, U. S. Army Air Corps,
405 T. S. S. Bks. 202, Sheppard Field, Texas.

These names are added to the list printed in the last Assistant Pastor. Please keep me informed of all changes in their addresses so that they may receive the devotional literature that is mailed to them each month.