

The Assistant Pastor

June, 1943

Grace for Grace

In commemoration of the ninetieth anniversary of the old Norwegian Synod, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the present Norwegian Synod, our Synod has published a fine book titled, "Grace for Grace".

Many of you may remember the fiftieth anniversary of the Synod which was celebrated in Decorah in 1903. For that occasion a large book was published in the Norwegian Language under the title "Festskrift". It was distributed far and wide among Norwegian Lutherans. No book like it has been published in our circles since then until our present anniversary book, "Grace for Grace".

The book has been edited by Dr. S. C. Ylvisaker, and much of the material in it has been written by pastors G. O. Lillagaard, and Chr. Anderson. It contains a brief history of our church, and a discussion of the doctrines that we believe, and have contended for through the years.

We so often hear even our own members asking what the difference between our Synod and other Lutheran bodies is. This book, "Grace for Grace" answers that question thoroughly. It is worth reading for that fact alone. But its value, above all, lies in the fact that it shows us, Lutherans living now, what gratitude we owe Him, our Creator and Preserver for His manifold mercies toward us. He has truly showered us with Grace upon Grace.

In ordinary times your pastor would call at every home, in order to get the book widely distributed. But the gasoline shortage makes that impossible. Therefore it is being mailed to you. In it you will find an envelope which you may use to pay the dollar that is being charged for the book. You may drop it in the collection plate on any Sunday. If you feel that you cannot afford to keep the book, you may return the book to your pastor. However, we hope that all will keep, and read their copy of this fine volume.

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

N. S. Tjernagel, Pastor

SAUDE CONGREGATION

Trustees: Carl Miller, John Natvig, Martin Borlaug.
Treasurer: Milton Boleng.
Secretary: Fred Steensland.
Cemetery Committee: Oscar Natvig, Henry Borlaug, N. S. Tjernagel.
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. Arthur Anderson, president; Mrs. Omer Ellingson, secretary; Miss Adelia Natvig, treasurer.

JERICO CONGREGATION

Trustees: J. N. Anderson, Tom Roberson, C. O. Vigdal.
Secretary: Alfred N. Anderson.
Treasurer: Jeff A. Knutson.
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. Tollef Knutson, president; Mrs. Alvin Johnson, secretary; Mrs. Andrew J. Johnson, treasurer.
Cemetery Committee: Mrs. Carl A. Knutson, Mrs. M. A. Robinson, Mrs. C. O. Vigdal.

Donald Earl, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Henry, received Christian Baptism at the residence of Mrs. Hannah Vaala, the child's grandmother, on Sunday, June 20, 1943. His birth date is May 25, 1943. Sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Knutson, and Orin and Gladys Vaala.

Acknowledgement is herewith made of a contribution of \$2.00 made by Mr. and Mrs. Alva O. Knutson for the Assistant Pastor. Belated acknowledgement is also made of the contribution of \$5.00 made by Ingval O. Knutson for current expenses of the Jerico congregation for the year 1942. This should have been acknowledged in the January issue of the Assistant Pastor.

May we repeat here the request we have frequently made. We regret very much the fact that errors are sometimes made by the pastor and officers of the congregation in acknowledging contributions for various funds. But what we wish to say here is this, that if you will place your contribution, for whatever it may be, in the envelopes provided, the danger of error will be greatly minimized. In fact, we do not know of a case, so far, where an error was made in cases where the envelopes were used. If you have lost the envelope intended for the contribution you wish to make, then use any envelope, size does not matter, that you may find around your home.

The Offering for the Army Navy Fund at Jerico on June 27, and at Saude on July 4, is more important this year than in the last two years because of the fact that there are now more men in the services than before, and because an ever increasing number of them are now overseas. In many cases, especially with those boys who are overseas, the religious literature mailed to them by our Army Navy Commission is their only contact with the church. In the work of bringing God's Word to the men in uniform we have adopted the motto, "They Shall Not March Alone!", meaning that we will not ask them to fight for us without our sending God's Word with them.

The Jerico Congregation has 32 men in the

service at the present time, the Saude Congregation 9 men. In order to carry our fair share of the expense incurred for our service men by the Army Navy Commission, the Jerico offering should total \$160.00, and the Saude offering \$45.00. If you were not present when the offering was made at your church, please bring it to the next service you attend. Your offering envelope is in your package of envelopes.

The Cemeteries at Saude and Jerico are being kept up beautifully, this year as in past years. When you look, with justifiable pride, at your beautiful churchyard please remember your annual dues for their upkeep. Payment should be made now to members of the committees in charge. The Jerico Committee is Mrs. Carl A. Knutson, Mrs. C. O. Vigdal, and Mrs. M. A. Robinson. The Saude Committee is Henry Borlaug, Oscar Natvig, and N. S. Tjernagel.

THE JUBILEE SYNOD MEETING

After returning home from a week's attendance at the Norwegian Synod's Jubilee Convention, your pastor can not help regretting that you could not all have been there. It was a Jubilee Convention, in the highest Christian sense of the word.

Our jubilation was manifested first and foremost by the doctrinal essays and discussions which took place. These have been reviewed in the Lutheran Sentinel, and will be printed in full in the Annual Report which will be available to you in August. The sermons and devotionals of the convention also were a continual thanksgiving to God who has kept the Word undefiled among us for these ninety years, and which enabled us to weather the storm of the 1917 union and emerge a small Synod, but undaunted in our effort to know and teach nothing but the counsel of God revealed in His holy Word. The principal emphasis in the doctrinal discussions was on the three all-important doctrines of the Christian Church:

'Sola Scriptura', 'By The Word Alone'

'Sola Gratia', 'By Grace Alone'

'Sola Fidei', 'Through Faith Alone'

1) By the Word alone we receive the knowledge necessary to salvation. This Word is God's Word, verbally inspired, and therefore errorless.

2) By grace alone, and not by our own merit, we receive salvation.

3) Through faith alone we obtain the grace of the redemption of Christ.

Because the Catholic Church rejected these doctrines, Luther separated from them and instituted the Reformation. Because the leaders of the Reformed Church rejected these doctrines Luther broke with them and established the Lutheran Church, separate from the Reformed Church. Because our former brethren in the faith in the Lutheran Church rejected these doctrines, we separated from them in 1917, and established the Norwegian Synod. How merciful and gracious God has been toward us in permitting us to keep these soul-saving doctrines when so many have sinfully denied them.

A source of great rejoicing at the Jubilee Convention was the report of the Synod's treasurer.

1) Rev. Galstad reported that where the Synod's debt last year was \$80,000.00, it now stands at \$30,000.00.

2) He reported that in spite of the collections for the Jubilee Thankoffering, the Synod balanced its budget during the past year. For many, many years the Synod's books have closed at the end of each year with an average deficit of \$3,000.00. There was a small balance this year.

3) He reported that this year's Convention Offering was substantially larger than ever before.

Surely there is cause for rejoicing in all this. The motto adopted for the collections for the Jubilee Thankoffering, "Thy People Shall Be Willing", has indeed been proved true.

The Synod resolved to designate the month of October for the completion of the Thankoffering. The debt remaining may be classified under two headings. The first part is the so-called "Secured Debt". This is a debt of about \$10,000.00 which is self-liquidating, and will pay for itself. However, though it will eventually pay for itself, the Synod must, in the mean time, pay interest on this amount. The remainder of the debt, our "Actual Debt", is owed to various persons, and this minimum should be paid before the close of the Jubilee year.

The treasurer reported that wherever he went in his visits at the homes of our people he heard the repeated remark, "If this is not enough to pay the debt, you are welcome to return and ask for more later." Emboldened by that sentiment on the part of our people the Synod asks each congregation to make a second collection during the coming month of October. Then those who were unable to contribute last fall will have a second opportunity. And those who, under God's blessing, are able to add to their first contribution will have the privilege of doing so. There was a general feeling of confidence at the Synod meeting that, since God's grace had enabled us to repay so large a part of our debt, we should surely be enabled to complete the happy task we set for ourselves.

For many years the Synod has discussed the possibility of establishing a Theological Seminary at Bethany College. We have the building and the equipment there, and even some teachers who could use part of their time giving instruction to the seminary students.

At the present time some of our theological students are attending the theological seminary of the Wisconsin Synod, others that of the Missouri Synod. This causes a certain amount of confusion. Furthermore they can not receive instruction at those schools in the Norwegian Language, or in the traditions and background of our own church body. Therefore the Synod has empowered the Board of Regents of Bethany College to make plans for establishing our own seminary at Bethany College as soon as possible.

ANNUAL REPORT

Saude Ladies Aid

The Saude Ladies Aid was entertained during the past year by Mrs. Enus Ferkingsstad, June 19, 1942; by Mrs. Henry Reinhart and Mrs. Rollef Hagen on Aug. 27, 1942; by Mrs. Arthur Anderson on September 10, 1942; by Mrs. Theo. G. Vaala on September 24, 1942; by Mrs. Tom Swenumson, on October 22, 1942; by Mrs. Hannah Vaala on November 12, 1942; by Mrs. N. S. Tjernagel on December 3, 1942; by Mrs. Carlyle Natvig, on March 4, 1943; by Mrs. Iver Natvig on April 1, 1943; by Mrs. Martin Borlaug on April 15, 1943; by Mrs. Andrina Munson and Mrs. Fred Steensland on May 12, 1943; and by Mrs. Carl Natvig on May 27, 1943. Mrs. Hannah Hoffland and Miss Carrie Vaala each contributed \$10.00 in place of serving. Miss Pearl Natvig contributed \$10.00 toward equipping the kitchen. The Young People's Society contributed \$33.33, and Isabel Larson and brothers contributed \$10.00 toward refurnishing the Church Altar. Others donated various useful items for the kitchen.

During the past year the Ladies Aid sent a New Testament and carrying case to each member of the Saude Congregation in the armed services. It redecorated the Altar, Altar Rail, and Pulpit. It served dinner at the Mission Festival, and during two days of the Circuit Meeting. It paid for the electric stove, and the sink in the kitchen, in addition to purchasing many other necessary articles of equipment. It provided the church basement with three new tables. In addition to the things here mentioned, the Ladies Aid rendered the congregation of which it is a part many other valuable services.

We are also very happy to know that it did not only serve the needs of its own congregation, but contributed a total of \$110.26 to the Missionary and Charitable activities of the Church at large.

The Ladies Aid officers during the past year were, Mrs. Carlyle Natvig, president; Mrs. Martin Borlaug, treasurer; Mrs. Nels Ellingson, secretary; Mrs. Anna Anderson, Mrs. Clara Borlaug and Miss Gertrude Natvig were the food committee, and Mrs. Fred Steensland and Mrs. T. G. Vaala were the auditors.

JUBILEE THANKOFFERING

Jerico Congregation

Aasen family	\$ 40.55
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Amman	31.50
Alfred A. Anderson and sisters	50.00
Alfred N. Anderson and family	27.75
Andrew N. Anderson	28.00
George N. Anderson and family	31.75
Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Anderson	10.00
Jens Anderson and family	10.00
J. N. Anderson and family	39.30
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Anderson .....	.....
Ole A. Anderson and family .....	.....
Ole J. Anderson and family	10.00
Mrs. T. S. Attleson	7.50
Hans Braham .....	.....
Arthur Cutsforth and family	6.85

Clarence Cutsforth and family	2.25	Mr. and Mrs. Severt Knutson .....	.50
Mrs. Arnold Myren .....	.70	T. O. Knutson and family .....	.....
John B. and Carlton Dahlen	26.00	Mr. and Mrs. Tollef Knutson	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. James Dahlen .....	.....	Mr. and Mrs. Carl Landsverk	1.50
Mr. and Mrs. John O. Dahlen	1.75	Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Landsverk	15.00
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Dahlen .....	.....	Mr. and Mrs. Orval Landsverk .....	.....
Mr. and Mrs. Otto Dahlen	1.00	Otto Melver .....	.....
Mrs. Rosa Dahlen .....	.....	Will Mettner and family	1.95
Louis Douglas and family .....	.....	Mr. and Mrs. Harold Munson .....	.....
Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Ebert	3.50	Mr. and Mrs. Henry Munson .....	.....
Bessie Ellingson	2.00	Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Munson and Paul .....	.....
Carl Ellingson	5.00	Harvey Nelson .....	.....
Elling Ellingson	5.00	Nels Nelson	13.00
Ole Ellingson and family	24.65	Stanley Nelson .....	.....
Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Ferkenstad and Clifford	96.50	Mr. and Mrs. Norman Nelson	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Foss and Edwin....	10.00	Mrs. Carl Njus .....	.....
Mrs. Mae Fossen	27.50	A. W. Olson	5.00
Mrs. Ole Fossen .....	.....	Mrs. Anna Olson	2.60
Severt Fossen and family	37.00	Miller Olson	5.00
Albert Haugen and family	11.50	Gunder Olson	1.00
Alvie Iverson and family .....	.....	Clara Olson .....	.40
Mrs. Martha Iverson and Lena	21.50	Lawrence Olson .....	.10
Mr. and Mrs. Alert Johnson	2.00	Melvin Olson .....	.50
Alfred Johnson and family .....	.....	Mrs. Annie K. Olson .....	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred T. Johnson	7.80	Mrs. Ole Overboe	1.15
Mr. and Mrs. Alvin J. Johnson .....	.....	Louis Paulson and family	7.10
Mr. and Mrs. Alvie T. Johnson	13.00	Mr. and Mrs. Carl Roberson	11.20
Andrew J. Johnson and family	10.00	Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Roberson	28.00
Mr. and Mrs. Carl G. Johnson	28.35	Mr. and Mrs. John S. Roberson	30.55
Mrs. Anna Johnson .....	.....	Knute Roberson	500.00
J. C. Johnson and family	1.00	Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Roberson	68.00
Mrs. Jack Johnson	20.00	Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Roberson	30.00
Joe Johnson and family	5.00	Norman Roberson	6.30
Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Johnson .....	.....	Olaf Roberson and family	29.05
John O. Johnson	7.00	Mr. and Mrs. Omar Roberson	12.65
John M. Johnson .....	.....	S. T. Roberson and family	31.50
K. C. Johnson and family	18.75	Mr. and Mrs. Tom Roberson	10.00
Mrs. L. A. Johnson	5.25	Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Robinson	20.00
Sigvard and Carl Johnson .....	.....	Mr. and Mrs. Alvie Robinson .....	.....
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Johnson	2.75	Mr. and Mrs. Gilman Robinson	10.00
Ole C. Johnson and family	21.00	Mr. and Mrs. Henry Robinson .....	.50
Ole J. Johnson and family	62.00	J. A. Robinson and Milton	112.00
Mr. and Mrs. Sever O. Johnson	11.00	L. A. Robinson and family	1.25
Mr. and Mrs. Alva O. Knutson	31.00	Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Robinson .....	.....
Carl A. Knutson and family	5.00	Mrs. Lena Robinson .....	.....
Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Knutson and Stella..	9.30	Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Robinson	25.00
Kenneth Knutson, U. S. A.	4.50	Ole T. Thompson and family .....	.....
H. A. Knutson and family .....	.....	Mr. and Mrs. Thom Thompson	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Knutson	21.00	C. O. Vigdal and family	27.90
Ingval O. Knutson	5.00	H. K. Knutson	1.00
J. A. Knutson and family	25.10	Mr. and Mrs. Severt Knutson	1.00
Jeff O. Knutson and family	10.00	Total	\$2,000.55
John O. Knutson and Edna	10.60	Unpaid Pledges	197.50
Knut Knutson	18.50	Total Cash and Pledges as of June 20,	
Olaf Knutson and family	10.00	1943	\$2,198.05
Ole A. Knutson	25.00	The above acknowledgement of Jubilee contribu-	
Mr. and Mrs. Ole J. Knutson	1.50	tions includes contributions made in last year's blue	
Orvin Knutson .....	.90	Jubilee envelopes, contributions made to Rev. M.	
Mrs. Robt. Knutson and Edwin	3.00	Galstad, and payment of pledges to Alfred N. An-	
		derson. Acknowledgement has been made by	
		family so as to save space. The list would have	
		been much longer if every communicant had been	
		listed.	