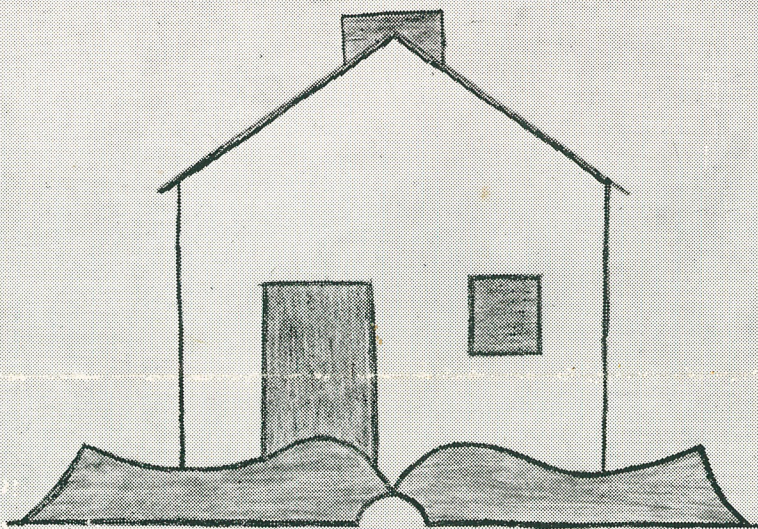


The Assistant Pastor

May, 1945

BUILT ON THE
WORD OF GOD



CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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 Swenumson, Juel Natvig, Martin Borlaug.
Treasurer: Odell Natvig.
Secretary: Arthur Anderson.
Cemetery Committee: Oscar Natvig, Henry Borlaug, N. S. Tjernagel.
Ladies' Aid: Miss Johanna Ellingson, president; Mrs. Tom Swenumson, secretary; Mrs. Ned Borlaug, treasurer.

JERICO CONGREGATION

Trustees: Selmar Aasen, Tom Roberson, Carl G. Johnson.
Secretary: Kenneth Fossen.
Treasurer: Ole J. Johnson.
Ladies' Aid: Mrs. Tom Roberson, president; Mrs. K. C. Johnson, secretary; Mrs. Edwin Johnson, treasurer.
Cemetery Committee: Mrs. Sever O. Johnson, Mrs. Carl Landsverk, Mrs. Ole J. Anderson.

SAUDE LUTHERAN SCHOOL

The second year of Saude Lutheran School is drawing to a close. We thank God Almighty for the many blessings he has bestowed on our school and its pupils. We thank God for the earnest and selfless service of our teacher, Mr. Armin Keibel. During the present year the following pupils have been enrolled:

First Grade: Roger Johnson, Anna Matilda Steensland.

Second Grade: Lou Ann Paulson, Carol Mae Natvig, David Anderson, Sonja Ferkingstad, Dennis Natvig, Anna Tjernagel, Lois Tjernagel.

Third Grade: Rosaleen Vaala, Carolyn Boleng, Joan Johnson, Paul Swenumson.

Fourth Grade: Lorraine Johnson.

Fifth Grade: Helen Landsverk, David Swenumson.

Sixth Grade: June Anderson.

Seventh Grade: Velora Cutsforth, Phillip Boleng.

Eighth Grade: Hazel Knutson, Donna Knutson, Hilma Anderson, Harvey Knutson, Harold Paulson.

Our little school was begun last year with only a bare half-dozen children enrolled. Because our first teacher, Mr. R. L. Wiechmann, was willing to let his car serve as a school bus, last year's enrollment was immediately increased to thirteen. When the present school year drew near to a beginning, it became obvious that if the school was to continue we would need a school bus. A suitable vehicle was secured, and Mr. Keibel was immediately willing to drive it. Thus our enrollment was increased to its present figure of twenty-four. There have been many other problems that our school has been obliged to face, but invariably the Lord of the Church has shown us the answer. We have been concerned about how we could maintain our own school, but that has been provided for too, for we have had all the money that we have needed to pay expenses. We worried about whether the building would be warm enough, but the heater we secured has kept the building warm in the coldest weather at an amazingly low cost.

We have learned a great many things these two years too. Your pastor confesses that he had thought

that being superintendent or director of a school was just a routine matter that could easily be discharged. But after two years he realizes what a responsibility it is. Courses of study, text books, and other school matters change rather frequently and it is not easy to keep up with what is expected of our pupils. This was most forcibly brought to our attention this year when we had the added responsibility of five eighth grade pupils, none of whom had attended our school previously. It would have reflected on our school, of course, if any of these pupils had failed in the County examinations. We are happy that we can report, on the contrary, that all passed with very satisfactory grades.

Another thing we learned during the past year was that the school bus route that our bus has taken this year has been much too ambitious. It has been a gruelling task for Mr. Keibel to make that drive of nearly eighteen miles before and after school every day, in all kinds of roads. The school route next year will have to be shorter. This can be arranged with the cooperation of the patrons. This year we have driven practically to the doorstep of the homes of the children. If some of the children can arrange to go part of the way, the distance the bus must drive can be shortened, and it can remain on good roads. Children are expected to travel up to two miles to the township schools.

Our school was organized under the name Saude Lutheran School, but during the past year half of its pupils have come from families of the Jerico church. It would therefore appear that the time has come for regarding this as a joint venture of both congregations, and to locate the school where it can serve the greatest number of children with a minimum use of the school bus. This consideration is forced upon us by the fact that the building we have used during the past two years will not be available another year.

Among the problems that have loomed before your pastor in thinking of next year's school the greatest has appeared to be the matter of securing a qualified teacher. It was evident long ago that no candidates would be available from the Seminary at Thiensville, whence Mr. Wiechmann and Mr. Keibel were secured. And there just did not seem to be any other place to look for a new teacher. But we have the answer to that problem too. We are to have the services of Mr. Rudolph Honsey, who is being graduated in July from the Seminary at St. Louis. He is a member of the congregations of Rev. H. Ingebritson at Lime Creek, Iowa. We are extremely fortunate in securing him as teacher. He is personally known to me, and I have every reason to believe that he will be an excellent teacher.

The second problem that has confronted us is the securing of a suitable location in which to hold school. Surely the Lord who has found a solution for so many of our problems will also be with us in solving this one.

WHY CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS?

I am fully aware that many are asking why we must have a Christian school, many are wondering about the necessity of it when public schools are available for our children. The simple answer is that the public schools are compelled by law to operate under a certain limitation. That limitation is that they can not teach religion. They are obliged to

teach Geography without saying that God made the world and all the wonderful things in it. They are obliged to teach History without stating that the hand of God has guided all historical development. They are obliged to try to make good citizens out of little boys and girls without teaching the ten commandments, and without speaking of the love of Christ for sinners.

That limitation is a potent weapon in the hands of Satan, for he knows that the best way to destroy the soul is to make man ignore God. He knows that if a child can be kept in an atmosphere where God is not mentioned, the child will in later years be a much easier prey than the child that has grown up in a Christian home and a Christian school.

The first and foremost fact of nature is that there is a God who created and governs the universe. Education which ignores that fact is a distorted education. For sinners the most important fact in all knowledge is the truth that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died to save sinners. Education which ignores that fact is pretty useless education for sinners.

Because public schools operate under the limitation that they must ignore God they are not good enough for our children. As Christian parents we must help them to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Our children are our most precious possession. The nurture of their souls is our highest responsibility. No true Christian will shirk his responsibility to his child's soul.

YOU CAN THANK GOD FOR YOUR CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

By A. Keibel

When God asks you to do something, He blesses you if you obey. If you honor your parents, it will be well with you and you will live long. If you hear the Word of God and keep it, you will be blessed. When God tells the Christian Church to teach all nations to observe all things He has commanded, obedience will have its reward. And when God says, "Suffer the little children to come unto me," "Feed my lambs," "These words . . . teach them diligently unto thy children," and "Bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," He will always send blessings where these words are obeyed. Since your Christian day school gives such definitely God-commanded attention to your children, it receives God's favor and blessings. Does this not please you and make you grateful? You can thank God for your Christian day-school for two great blessings: for the good it does your children and for the good it does your church.

For the Good It Does Your Children

The purpose of your Christian day school is to provide your children with a proper and balanced education, to give them what they need for the healthy development of the mind and the soul, to fit them for life, to fortify them against temptations, to make them good citizens of the Church and their country.

The Christian school gives your children daily Christian training. Each day is opened with a hymn and with prayer, the study of Biblical history, the study and application of the principal parts of Christian doctrine, and the memorizing of a number of Bible-passages and choice hymns. The first hour

of every morning is devoted to religion. Throughout the day, whenever it is necessary, the Word of God is used for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness and for comfort. Every effort is made to have your children observe in their lives what they have learned from the Bible. Your school is Christian, not only in name, but in fact. Therefore, also the secular subjects are taught from a Christian viewpoint and your children's activities, even in play, are directed and guided according to Christian principles.

You would not deliberately starve your child to save money, yet many parents commit the atrocity of starving the souls of their children for such a reason. They argue that what was good enough for them is good enough for their children. The truth is that it was not good enough for the parents. And those who say that they are paying for public education and want their money's worth—they think more of their silver than of their children's souls.

There is a tremendous difference between the aim of the public school and your day school. The public school ignores the spiritual needs and the eternal destiny of the child and aims to prepare him only for this life, training him to be a success, a good neighbor and citizen, and to enjoy the best this life may offer. It is a world-centered education. The Christian view of education, however, is based on faith in Jesus, who has worked our salvation and in whom we have eternal life. Because we know how short life is, we Christians live in this world, but not with it nor for it. Christian education is heaven-centered.

The pupils of a Christian day school, for the greater part, grow into strong men and women, whose lives reflect the love which God and their Savior showed them. They become a credit to their community, overcome the fears of an accusing conscience and look forward to the glories of heaven in favorable times as well as in unfortunate times and in the hour of death. In learning to be ready for the life hereafter, they learn to seek first the kingdom of God. That is what makes your Christian day school a blessing for the good of your children. It is also a blessing in another way.

For the Good It Does Your Church

You can also thank God for your Christian day school for the good it does your church. Your church has several blessings because of its interest in teaching its children. Because your children become thoroughly indoctrinated and are brought up in a Christian way, you have greater assurance that your children will remain with the church to help strengthen its foundation, and also that they will be more useful members of the church and the community at large. Dr. Martin Luther said, "Nothing will be of greater service to us and our descendants than the maintaining of good Christian schools and the training of the young." Your children will be members of your church in years to come. Will they be able to take your place? Only if they are educated in the way Christ commanded will the future Church stand firmly upon God's Word. Little or lack of training in God's Word makes for indifference, shallowness and obstinacy in performing the important tasks set before every Christian church. If your church is to remain spiritually healthy, grow more firm and vigorous, the next generation, your children, educated in your day school, will be fit to serve with understanding. If

your Christian day school is ever permitted to die, the end of your church may be at hand, for history shows that those church bodies which failed to maintain parochial schools forsook pure doctrine and drifted into shallow, liberal company. Let this never happen to you.

Your Christian day school holds great promise of blessings for you—for your children and for your church. Certainly, you have reason to thank God for the Christian day school in your midst!

Lord, graciously bless and prosper the training and teaching of the young that they may grow up in Thy fear and to the glory of Thy holy name!

QUOTATIONS

Rev. Geo. Luecke: "The Lutheran Church also distinguishes herself from most of the other Protestant churches by the way in which she educates her young members and prepares them for, and receives them into, full membership. The Lutheran Church has always laid great stress upon the necessity of a thorough Christian education and indoctrination of her children. . . . And to give them this, she has adopted, and maintains, wherever possible, the Christian parochial school as the best means available under conditions in which she must carry on the work of the Lord in this country."

Dr. Walther: "As all church denominations of America have contributed toward their own dissolution as soon as they allowed the state to provide the instruction for their children, the continued, careful fostering of our parish schools is and remains, next to public preaching, the principal means of maintaining and fostering our Church."

A. C. Stellanor: "Necessary as it is to mold the character of children for this life, it is as nothing compared with the transcendent necessity of making Christians of them and securing for them eternal salvation."

The following children have been baptized in our churches recently:

Calvin Sanford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Omar Roberson, born at New Hampton, Iowa, November 18, 1944. Sponsors at the baptism on December 10, 1944, were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Roberson, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Roberson. Baptism at Jerico church.

Gloria Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Douglas, was born at New Hampton, Iowa, on December 1, 1944, and received Christian Baptism at Redeemer church on January 15, 1945. Sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Knutson, Elaine and Bernard Douglas.

Waldon Sanford, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Johnson, born at Elma, Iowa, on March 12, 1945, received Christian Baptism at the Jerico church on April 1, 1945. Sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Alvie T. Johnson and Walter and Stella Johnson.

Karen Joyce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Omer Ellingson, born at Cresco, Iowa, on March 28, 1945, received Christian Baptism at the Omer Ellingson home on April 19, 1945. Sponsors were Mr. and

Mrs. Nels Ellingson. Witnesses, Mrs. Monrad Hildahl and Orvin S. Hildahl.

Assistant Pastor contributions have been received as follows: Severt Knutson, \$1.00; Tom Swenumson, \$1.00; J. P. Landsverk, \$1.00; Orval Landsverk, \$1.00; Mrs. Hannah Hanson, \$1.00; Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Natvig, \$1.00; L. A. Robinson, \$1.00.

Cemetery Fund envelopes are enclosed with this issue of the Assistant Pastor. They are intended for your use in contributing toward the care of the cemeteries for this year. Please place your contribution in the collection plate or give it to one of the members of your cemetery committee.

Graduation Exercises for the five pupils who have graduated from Saude Lutheran School will be held in the Jerico church on Sunday, May 27, at 10:30 a. m. The Baccalaureate Sermon will be delivered by the Rev. C. M. Gullerud of Bethany Congregation, Mankato, Minn. A pot-luck dinner will be served at noon. At 2:30 in the afternoon the children of the school will give a program under the direction of the teacher, Mr. Keibel. All are invited to spend the day at Jerico church.

We regret an error that got into the financial report. Contribution made by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur N. Borlaug should have included \$4.00 to Synod Fund. The figure was correctly recorded in the treasurer's books. It was simply a copyist's error.

The blue envelopes in your package of collection envelopes are for your use in contributing toward the work of preaching the Gospel "to every creature." The world needs that Gospel sorely. Be sure you contribute something each month.

The Building Fund collection for payment of the mortgage on the Chapel in New Hampton, which was announced last November, has made very slow progress. Your pastor has had a very busy winter, but he is resolved to complete the personal canvass of the homes of our congregations during the month of May.

The Annual Synod Meeting of the Norwegian Synod will take place June 3rd to 7th, Sunday till Thursday. There are good train connections from here to Mankato, and we hope our congregations will be well represented at the meeting.

The Synod is now planning a Synod-wide Thank-offering when the war ends. You have received a folder advertising this offering. Further information will be given in the pages of the Lutheran Sentinel.

On Sunday, June 10th, the first Sunday after the Synod meeting, there will be meetings of the voting members of the congregations to discuss certain matters of a spiritual nature which are vital to the life and health of our congregations. The meeting at Jerico will be at 2:30 p. m. and at Saude at 8:00 p. m. I hope that every member of voting age will be present. These meetings will be very important for our future welfare as Christian congregations.