



Oak Leaves

Newsletter of the ELS Historical Society

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Issue 4

150 Years: We Continually Remember

A History of the Saude Lutheran Congregation in Saude, Iowa

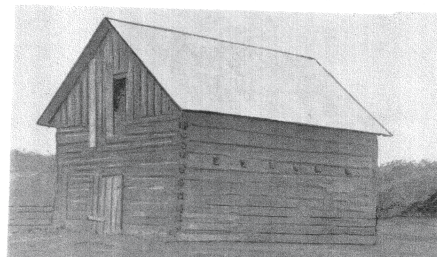
By Gretchen Swennumson

150 YEARS: WE CONTINUALLY REMEMBER, based on I Thessalonians 1:3, is the theme for the anniversary celebration of the Saude Lutheran Church on August 17, 2008. In the early 1850's a small group of Norwegian immigrants came in ox-drawn prairie schooners to an area located in the northern part of what was called then Obispo township, (now named Utica township) in Chickasaw County, Iowa. The area where they built their log cabin homes was known as the Little Turkey settlement. Early burials of pioneer settlers were in a small plot of ground used as a cemetery in Howard County, a few miles north of where the early log church was built in Chickasaw County.

Twelve of the settlers buried there were later re-interred in May 1862 near the log church, once it had been built. Among the first to settle here were John Johnson Landsverk, Tollef Olsen Haugen, Aslak Torvildson, Knut Olsen Kultane, Kittel Kittleson Stordalen, Halvor Eivindson, and Ola Tostenson, all from the Upper Telemarken area of Norway. John Svenungson Bolager, and the brothers Alf Olson Vaala and Gregor Olson Vaala who came from Lower Telemarken area of Norway, and Knut Tostenson Einang from Slidre, Valdres, Norway.

These early Norwegians were stalwart in their faith and, after constructing their mea-

ger log homes, there was no hesitation about meeting in various homes to have church services. One of the services was held at the Gregor Olson Vaala home and it was there that the first baptism of record was performed in May 1855 by Rev. **Ulrik Vilhelm Koren**, an early Norwegian Lutheran circuit pastor. Koren had nineteen settlements in southern Minnesota and northeast Iowa he attended to with his pastoral duties. He would arrive either on horseback or driving a horse-drawn homemade wagon. When he came to the **Little Turkey settlement**, he would perform baptisms, marriages, the churching of mothers, and consecrate burials all on the same day!



Log Church

Rev. Koren carried with him a small journal in which he recorded these earliest events, and by the dates it shows that his settlement visits were made maybe only 4-6 times a year. As more immigrants came to the area, the pioneer settlers decided to build a structure to be used specifically as a church to accommodate the growing num-

bers of immigrants. In 1857, the “*Dale Norske Menighet*” (Dale Norwegian Congregation), as they called themselves, was formed. In 1860, a one and a quarter acre plot of ground was purchased from Andreas and Cornelia Larsen for the sum of \$10.00 with Henry S. Gilbert, T. Oleson, and Swennum Swennumson acting as trustees of the congregation. The same year a log building was constructed of logs. It measured 30 feet long and 20 feet wide and had only simple wooden benches for seating to be used as their church. Sometimes they would have the musical accompaniment of a psalmodicon, as they sang the hymns.



In 1858, a call letter was sent to the Rev. U. V. Koren of Washington Prairie (near Decorah, IA), bearing the signatures of several of the above-named pioneer men asking him to be their official pastor. Rev. Koren accepted the call, and since there was a parsonage at the Washington Prairie church, he continued the commute to and from Saude until he resigned his position in 1869, due to the demanding workload of being involved as an officer in the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod, which he was instrumental in forming.

In 1869, Rev. **John P. Moses** became the first resident pastor. There was now a need for a parsonage, so in 1870 a small wooden frame structure was erected to use as a parsonage. Later, in 1893, a new and larger house was constructed at a cost of \$1400, and the old parsonage torn down.

That parsonage is still in use at the present, and has had remodeling and improvements made through the years.



Saude parsonage

In 1874, construction also began on a new frame church next to the log church. The log structure previously used as a church was later purchased by T. O. Haugen and moved to be used for a family dwelling. The new frame church had the masonry work done by Ola Anderson Sjobakken and the carpentry done by Lars Moen of Calmar, IA. The frame church was 60 feet in length and 40 feet wide, and 20 feet high. The steeple was 14 feet square at the base and about 100 feet in height. The chancel was 14 feet long and 20 feet wide. It was dedicated in November 1875. Twenty-eight years later on July 8, 1903 the church was struck by lightning and burned to the ground.



Saude Lutheran Church building, 1875-1903

It was during the pastorate of Rev. Moses that the election controversy erupted, and there were many years of strife for the pastor and congregation. It created such turmoil that several members of the Saude church left and formed another church in the town of Saude nearby. They left the Norwegian Synod and joined the United Norwegian Lutheran Church. Finally, in the fall of 1889, the Saude church members came to the conclusion that it would be in the best interests of the congregation that Pastor Moses give up his work in their midst, and so he resigned.

The next Pastor was **J. G. Ness**. He came under the most trying and difficult conditions, trying to mend the hatred and bitterness caused by the election controversy. Not long after his installation, he was stricken with an incurable disease, but he continued his work as pastor to the best of his ability until his death in February 1895. It was during his years at Saude that the Jerico congregation became a sister congregation and the parish then became known as Saude-Jerico.

The interim pastor was Eivind Brock who served until September 1895, when Rev. Karl Xavier became the resident permanent pastor. The summer of 1903, Rev. Xavier resigned his position to accept a teaching position at a seminary in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

The second frame church was now under construction to replace the first one that burned. The second frame church constructed was started soon after the fire in 1903, and was erected at a cost of over \$6000. The contractor was Martin Johnson of Cresco, IA, and this structure had a furnace for heating. This church was built similar in design and capacity to the first church and was dedicated in 1904. Pastor **John Rugland** served next as pastor from 1903 until 1909 when the congregation advised him to accept a call to North Dakota.

Rev. **M. K. Bleken** then accepted the call to Saude in 1909. This pastor had to guide the congregation through a difficult period once again: the years leading up to the "merger" 1917, and the reorganization of the Norwegian Synod in 1918. Rev. Bleken had worked hard and prepared the congregation for the re-organization, and when he died in December 1922, the Rev. P. C. Forsæth, the interim pastor who had been helping Rev. Bleken during his final illness, took over the congregational duties in January 1923.

In March 1923, the Rev. **H. M. Tjernagel** assumed the duties of the Saude-Jerico parish. Until this time, all church services had always been conducted in the Norwegian language, and under the pastorate of Rev. H. M. Tjernagel, the transition from Norwegian to English began. There was only one service every Sunday. One Sunday the service was at Jerico and the next Sunday at Saude. One Sunday the service was in Norwegian and the next Sunday in English. There also was also an old custom still in effect, of the women and children seated on one side in the sanctuary and the men on the other side. Rev. H. M. Tjernagel also served as Synod President while he was serving the Saude-Jerico parish.

This pastor was very much concerned about having a thorough indoctrination of the youth of the parish. As a memorial to his wife, Anna Brue Tjernagel, who died in 1925, Rev. H. M. Tjernagel, his brother, and sons erected a log cabin near the parsonage and named it *Strandebarm* after her childhood home in Norway. It was used as the first Christian Day School, and the Pastor's own children and nearby children of the congregation attended. They were instructed by various seminary students and vicars, some of whom became pastors in the Synod. The school eventually closed when there were no more school-age children living close enough to attend. As early as 1877, the

Saude congregation members were talking about how to provide adequate Christian teaching to the youth. The public schools could not provide “The One Thing Needful”, and additionally they were taught only in English.

Pastor Moses, at that time, urgently felt the church should have its own school, but with the building of the parsonage, new church, and the meager incomes of the parishioners, there wasn't much accomplished. It was proposed to have school for ten months a year, but often it only amounted to five. Innovative thinking led to having summer “Norwegian School” which was held in the rural public school buildings that were unused in the summertime. The courses were instruction in the Norwegian language, Catechism, Bible History and Hymns.

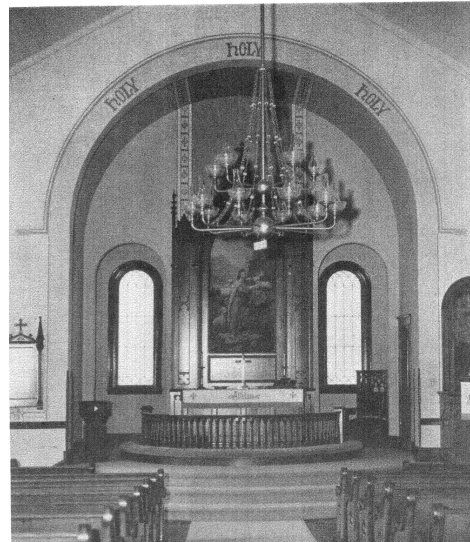
This method of using empty school buildings in the summer, eventually was replaced in the 1930's by Saturday school which was held every Saturday instead, only during the school year. Rev. H. M. Tjernagel was a faithful shepherd and for some years also had published monthly a newsletter titled *The Assistant Pastor* which contained much information about the congregation, schools, and a brief sermon. There were always reminders and sometimes admonishments to the members as to what they could and should be doing concerning the Word of God. This pastor was very adamant about church attendance and living a true Christian life. The congregation was shocked and saddened by his brief illness and demise in March 1940.

After his father's death, Rev. **Neelak S. Tjernagel** assumed the pastorate. He eliminated the Norwegian services and had only English services.

The basement under the Saude church was constructed in the early 1940's by Martin Borlaug, and having help from various men in the congregation digging and hauling

away dirt with horses and wagons. Under Tjernagel's leadership, in 1943 a full-time Christian Day School was started. After being pastor at Saude for five and a half years, he decided that it would be in the best interests of all concerned that he resign from his call. He left the Saude parish in late 1945.

It was 1946 when Rev. **M. H. Otto** accepted the call to Saude. During his time at Saude, he eliminated the practice of segregated seating, men on one side of the sanctuary and women and children on the other. Also, electricity replaced the kerosene lighting used up until then. He was pastor until July 1957 when he was given a release so he could accept a call to teach at the Synod's college and seminary in Mankato, MN.



Saude interior - 1958

In 1958, Rev. **M. E. Tweit** became Saude's pastor and served until 1971. He also served as vacancy pastor. Under his pastorate the Saude Men's Club came into existence in 1968.

From 1972-79 Rev. **G. A. R. Gullixson** served as pastor. His wife was confined to the parsonage for health reasons and she died in December 1977. Pastor Gullixson retired in 1979.

Rev. **Timothy Erickson** became the next pastor in 1979. He stayed until 1982 when he accepted a call to be a missionary in Peru.

Rev. **Glenn Obenberger** was ordained into the ELS ministry at the Jerico church in 1983. He immediately became pastor of Saude-Jerico parish and served until 1988, when he accepted a call to Tacoma, WA.

Rev. **Mark DeGarmeaux** became the next pastor at Saude-Jerico in 1988. He served until 1995 when he accepted a call to be chaplain at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, MN.

Rev. **Kent Dethlefsen** served the Saude-Jerico parish from 1995 until 2006, when he accepted a call to Ukiah, CA.

The current pastor is Rev. **Daniel Larson**, who accepted the call to Saude-Jerico in September 2006.

The Saude church has had various titles throughout the years, the first being the *Dale Norske Menighet*, then later called the *Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church*, then in 1922 the title was again changed to the **Saude Lutheran Church**, after the area of Sauderad in Telemark, Norway, from where some early settlers had emigrated. The Saude church has the distinction of having the oldest membership in the Synod. The

Saude church has an active Sunday School, Ladies' Aid Society, Bethany Auxiliary, and Men's Club.

The celebration on **August 17, 2008**, will not only be one of thanks and praise to God, who has kept this small congregation with His Grace and Blessings spanning three different centuries, but also to remember our early pioneer forefathers, who, although faced with many adversities, have left us a rich heritage. We are assured of God's promise in Isaiah 55:11: "*My Word ... shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.*"

We hope that many of you will be with us on this special day to participate in a day of historical significance in our Synod.

If you want more information on this special event you may send an e-mail to mamag@iowatelecom.net with the word "Anniversary" in the subject line.

Gretchen Swennumson is a member of Saude Lutheran Church, rural Lawler, Iowa.

Oak Leaves needs your help!

Send us *your* ideas, articles, and suggestions for **Oak Leaves**. We welcome information and articles on church anniversaries, and articles of Synodical and local significance.

And remember to visit the Historical Society's website:

www.evangelicallutheransynod.org/history

or

www.els.name/history

Norseland Lutheran Church — 150th Anniversary

By Craig Ferkenstad

It seemed to be a disappointing day 150 years ago, when the first Norwegian pastor came to Norseland. He wrote about his crossing of Lake Prairie:

I was going out into the county to conduct services and had to cross a little river whose banks form a swamp perhaps a half a mile in width. A young man who had a swift team of horses was going to drive me, but he did not know the lay of the land it seemed, and when we came to the marshy banks of the river, he did not dare to go on for fear his horses would get stuck. As the people on the other side were standing looking for the wagon that was to bring the preacher, they suddenly discovered that it was turning and going back. They were just beginning to feel chagrined at this when they noticed a dark object moving towards them above the tops of the tall grass. As it approached there came into view first a pair of arms and a head and then little by little the whole body of a man, and it appeared that this was the preacher. He did not have his clothes on, but carried them and all his baggage on his head till he came on dry, firm ground. There he sat down and calmly dressed so that he could appear before the people in a state more becoming to a clergyman.

The Rev. **Laur. Larsen** conducted a Service and was present when a congregation was organized on Sunday, June 6, 1858. People also came from Norwegian Grove, Swan Lake, and St. Peter. They also had met the previous day when the first children were baptized. The name of the congregation was the *Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Nicollet County*. This name was retained for ninety-nine years until it was changed to *Norseland Evangelical Lutheran Church*.

Until shortly before the time of the congregation's organization, the Nicollet settlement was the westernmost settlement of Norwegians in North America. Until recent decades, no nation other than Norway has sent a larger portion of her population to the

United States.



Pastor Larsen agreed to visit the congregation at least two times yearly until he accepted a Call to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. This arrangement was continued until the first resident pastor arrived. In anticipation of the arrival of a resident pastor, discussion began about the construction of a parsonage. A parcel of land was offered for the construction of a church building, provided it was "not to be smaller than the Swedish Lutheran Church." In 1864 the congregation purchased an old school building which was used for Services and later for church school classes.

Pastor **Thomas Johnsen** became the first resident pastor in 1863 and served the congregation for forty-three years. He was a member of the first Norwegian class to graduate from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. His field of labor consisted of all the Norwegian Synod congregations which were located west of the Minnesota River. His mission travels took him to at least seventeen counties in Minnesota and Iowa. It is said that eventually fifty congregations were formed out of this original field.

During his pastorate, a parsonage was constructed on ten acres of land owned by the congregation. It was ready for occupancy by December 1864 and is described as a half-finished log house with two large

rooms. The roof was not substantially covered and snow and rain seeped through. A short time later, however, it was improved and made a cozy dwelling which was covered with siding three years later. Other buildings constructed at the parsonage farm included a barn, granary, summer kitchen, corn-crib and wood-shed.

A church building was first constructed in 1866, with members contributing their labor. Some of the members made trips to St. Anthony (Minneapolis) for the necessary lumber for the interior finishing. The building consisted of one large room, which was 28' x 30' and would have had an impressive appearance sitting on the top of the summit of the present cemetery. By 1884, the congregation had grown to the size that more room was needed. It was decided to build an entrance and tower with a steeple at the front of the church and an addition to the west for the altar. Dedication Services were held over two days upon its completion. A year later, in 1885, the debt was paid and it was decided to purchase a bell for \$300. The bell was manufactured in Cincinnati, Ohio and still rings in the present church building. A stable for horses stood at the west side of the cemetery. The altar painting of the Crucifixion was painted by the famous Norwegian-American artist Herbjørn Gausta in the early 1890s and is yet framed in the present church building. His works also hang in the gallery of the Minnesota State Historical Society in St. Paul and the Norwegian-American Museum in Decorah, Iowa.

The first building also housed one of the first pipe organs in the state and was the pride of the congregation. It was constructed by a farmhand who had been an organ builder in Norway. By 1872 his task was finished and a balcony was constructed to house the instrument. Air pressure was supplied by three bellows, which were tramped by foot power instead of pumped by hand. The organ pumpers would tramp down first

one, then the next and then the third, when it was time to apply pressure to the first once more. The organ had a single row of keys and quite a number of stops. The keys were fashioned from an elk horn. Eventually the organ fell into a state of disrepair and finally was removed from the building in the 1890s.



Norseland Lutheran Church 1884

As the congregation continued to grow, additional congregations were formed from the original membership. A congregation was organized in St. Peter in 1867. Swan Lake Lutheran Church was organized the following year. Norwegian Grove Lutheran Church was formed in 1881.

Pastor Johnsen had hopes that a new church building could be constructed for the 50th anniversary of the congregation. He was of the opinion that God had blessed the members of the congregation and the congregation could now have more than the minimum which was deemed absolutely necessary. The matter was set-aside following Pastor Johnsen's death in 1906, with the need to construct a new parsonage. The current parsonage was constructed at a final cost of \$4,411.79 and the pastor's family moved into the new house in November 1907. A formal Dedication Service was

conducted the following month. In 2007 the exterior of the parsonage was painted with historic colors typical of the time of its construction.



Norseland Lutheran Church 1953

The next undertaking of the congregation was the construction of a new church building. A new site was chosen on land to the north of the road. The cost of the building was \$14,000. Impressive Dedication Services were conducted on October 31, 1911. The dedication included four Services, three sermons, and six addresses. As the congregation was leaving the church at the close of the morning Service a memorial window placed in the church in honor of the Rev. Thomas Johnsen was unveiled. An office and entrance were added to the building in 1974. A south narthex was completed and Dedicated in 1997 at a cost exceeding one-quarter million dollars.

The congregation became a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in 1924, following the disalignment and merger of the Norwegian Synod. In support of the congregation, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod held its convention at Norseland the following year.

A number of anniversaries have been observed over the years. Of special significance is the 75th anniversary in 1933. At that time, the Young People's Society presented the gift of a pipe organ to the congregation. The Dedication Concert for the organ was held on the evening of the Diamond Jubilee of the congregation. The young people of the congregation also have made improvements to the organ and its chamber upon the 100th, 125th, and 150th anniversaries of the congregation.

Several ladies' organizations also have existed. In 1906 the pastor reported there were four Ladies' Aid and two young girls' societies. All of the various ladies' societies were joined into a single organization by 1943. Since that time, the Ladies' Aid has continued to support the work of missions, promote Christian fellowship within the congregation, and help the congregation with its needs. The Ladies' Aid selected and purchased a new Altar, Pulpit and Baptismal Font in 1927. It has especially been concerned with the kitchen and dining room of the church and the decoration of the interior of the parsonage. It was responsible for the carpeting of the Nave of the church in 1951 and 1980. The Ladies Aid has been responsible for supervising the remodeling of the church kitchen in 1939, 1955, and 2003. The organizational meeting of the southern Minnesota Women's Mission Society was hosted in 1983. The society met here again in 1983 and 2008.



Christian Day Schools have been operated at two different times during the congregation's history. A school was conducted 1868-93. In 1930, a few families of the congregation organized a school with the first class meeting in January 1930 at the parsonage. A school building was moved to the church property in 1948. This school conducted classes for fifty years. During this time, 167 students heard the lessons taught here. In 1982, the congregation became a member of the Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School Association which had been formed three years earlier.



Norseland Lutheran School 1947

The last decade of the Twentieth Century brought a renewed interest to make the church building handicapped accessible with the construction of a new entrance including an elevator and new rest rooms. Construction occurred during the winter of 1996-97 and the Narthex was Dedicated on September 14, 1997. During this same time, the congregation purchased new hymnbooks which preserved the liturgical heritage of the Norwegian Rite used by founders of the congregation.

Twenty-one members of the congregation have entered into full-time church work and eight daughters of the congregation have become pastor's wives.

The following pastors have served the congregation:

Laur. Larsen (1858-59),
 B. J. Muus (1860-63),
 Thomas Johnsen (1863-1906),
 B. M. Raffteseth (1906-10),
 J. J. Strand (1910-25),
 O. M. Gullerud (1925-37),
 M. E. Tweit (1937-59),
 Joseph Petersen (1959-68),
 Theodore Aaberg (1968-76),
 Tosten Skaaland (1976-80),
 Norman Madson (198-93),
 Craig Ferkenstad (1993-present).



Norseland Lutheran Church 2007

Upon her sesquicentennial, the congregation confesses that, although the winds of change have blown, we yet stand upon the firm rock of the inerrant Bible. The Norwegian language is rarely spoken and the ways of doing things may have changed but the teachings of the Bible have not changed. The doctrines which are preached from the pulpit and the truths which are taught to the children are the same teachings as the members of this congregation would have heard 150 years ago. The salvation given by God's grace in Christ has not changed. During this anniversary year, we are reminded that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

Craig Ferkenstad serves as pastor of Norseland and Norwegian Grove Lutheran Churches, as secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and board member of the ELS Historical Society.

Anniversaries: Churches and Schools of the ELS

(Please inform the editors of errors and omissions.)

1853: 155 years ago

Den norske Synode

The Norwegian Synod was founded.

1858: 150 years ago

Paint Creek Lutheran Church, Waterville and Waukon, IA, divide into East and West congregations.

Norseland Lutheran Church, St. Peter, MN, organized as Nicollet Lutheran Church.

1888: 120 years ago

English Lutheran Church, Cottonwood, MN, organized as The Norwegian Lutheran Congregation.

1893: 115 years ago

Parkland Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, organized.

1898: 110 years ago

St. Petri Lutheran Church, Grygla, MN, organized.

1903: 105 years ago

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Detroit, MI, organized.

1918: 90 years ago

The “Little” Norwegian Synod (now the ELS) organized at Lime Creek, IA, refusing to join the merger of most Norwegian Lutherans in 1917 for doctrinal reasons.

Lake Mills Lutheran Church, Lake Mills, IA, reorganized.

First Shell Rock Lutheran Church, Northwood, IA, reorganized.

Somber Lutheran Church, Northwood, IA, reorganized.

Center Lutheran Church, Scarville, IA, organized.

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Albert Lea, MN, organized.

1923: 85 years ago

Saude Lutheran Church, Lawler, IA, joined the ELS.

Jerico Lutheran Church, New Hampton, IA, joined the ELS.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Amherst Junction, WI, joined the ELS.

Western Koshkonong Lutheran Church, Cottage Grove, WI, established a Christian Day School.

1928: 80 years ago

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Belview, MN, organized.

Manchester Lutheran Church, Manchester, MN, joined the ELS.

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, joined the ELS as Bethany Lutheran Church.

Concordia Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, organized.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN, established. It later merged with Fairview to form King of Grace in Golden Valley.

1933: 75 years ago

River Heights Lutheran Church, E. Grand Forks, MN, organized as Bygland Lutheran Church near Fischer, MN.

1938: 70 years ago

River Heights Lutheran Church, E. Grand Forks, MN, joined the ELS.

Zion Lutheran Church, Tracy, MN, joined the ELS.

1948: 60 years ago

Richland Lutheran Church, Thornton, IA, joined the ELS.

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Hawley, MN, joined the ELS.

1953: 55 years ago

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Bagley, MN, organized.

Bethany Lutheran Church, Princeton, MN, organized.

Calvary Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, joined the ELS.

1958: 50 years ago

Scarville Lutheran Church, Scarville, IA, re-established its Christian Day School.

1963: 45 years ago

Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Waterloo, IA, organized.

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Lengby, MN, joined the ELS.

1968: 40 years ago

Faith Lutheran Church, East Jordan, MI, joined the ELS.

Faith Lutheran Church, Hillman, MI, organized.

Peru Mission established.

1973: 35 years ago

Wayfarer’s Chapel Lutheran Church, Fillmore, CA, organized.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Riceville, IA, joined ELS.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Brewster, MA, organized.

Bethany Lutheran Church, Port Orchard, WA, joined the ELS.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Iola, WI, organized.

1978: 30 years ago

St. Luke Lutheran Church, Mount Vernon, WA, joined the ELS.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Yelm, WA, joined the ELS.

1983: 25 years ago

Trinity Lutheran Church, Sebastian, FL, organized.

Grace Lutheran Church, Piedmont, MO, joined the ELS.

1988: 20 years ago

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Grass Valley, CA, organized.

Peace Lutheran Church, Jefferson City, MO, joined the ELS.

Grace Lutheran Church, Weston, OH, joined the ELS.

1993: 15 years ago

Peace Lutheran Church, South Lakeland, FL, organized.

1998: 10 years ago

Hope Lutheran Church, West Jordan, UT, joined the ELS.



ELS Historical Society—Twelfth Annual Meeting Saturday, June 14, 2008

at Saude Lutheran Church, Lawler, Iowa

THE WORD OF THE LORD GROWS:

*Successful mission work forms a congregation,
strengthens a congregation,
and flows from it throughout the world*



- 6:15 am Charter bus loads in Mankato, MN
(Cost will be determined soon)
(Bethany Lutheran College YFAC parking lot)
Bus will stop in Albert Lea to pick up attendees
if any are interested.
- 9:30 am Registration and Coffee
10:00 am Opening Devotion
- The Founding of Saude Lutheran Church**
10:15-11:00 am *Session 1. Mission work of Dr. U. V. Koren*
Presented by Rev. Craig Ferkenstad and others
11:00-11:15 am Musical interlude and break
11:15-12:00 *Session 2. Mission work of H. M. Tjernagel*
Presented by Prof. Mark Harstad and others
- 12:00-1:30 pm Lunch. Visit the Strandebarm school and the church cemetery
- 1:30-1:45 pm Business Meeting
- Spreading the Gospel in South America**
1:45-2:45 pm *Session 3. Mission work in South America*
Presented by Missionary Tim Erickson (former pastor at Saude)
- 2:45 pm Closing hymn and announcements
3:00 pm Afternoon coffee
3:30 pm Bus departs, with a stop at Jerico Lutheran Church
(Supper on your own. Bring a sack lunch or eat after our expected arrival
in Mankato: 7:30pm.)

**Cost of Luncheon and bus fare from Mankato to be determined.
More information available in May issue of *Oak Leaves*.**

To help us plan the bus arrangements, please contact Elsa Ferkenstad to reserve a spot on the bus.
Elsa.Ferkenstad@blc.edu or 507-344-7354.

Oak Leaves
ELS Historical Society
6 Browns Court
Mankato, MN 56001

Renew your membership!

ELS Historical Society

Name: _____

Address: _____

Send completed form and check (see box below right
for type of membership and correct amount) to:

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6 Browns Court — Mankato, MN 56001

Oak Leaves is published periodically by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod
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cund, Craig Ferkenstad, Betsy Hermanson, Ryan MacPherson, Paul
Madson, John Moldstad, Robin Ouren

Oak Leaves welcomes articles of both Synodical and local significance
for publication. Articles maybe edited for style, clarity, or length to al-
low for publication. Submitted manuscripts will be deposited in the
archives of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

MEMBERSHIP

All membership
renewals are due **June 1**

Voting Membership:

\$10/year: individual
\$15/year: husband & wife

Associate Membership:

\$15/year: individual
\$25/year: institutional
\$5/year: student

Lifetime Membership:

\$200