

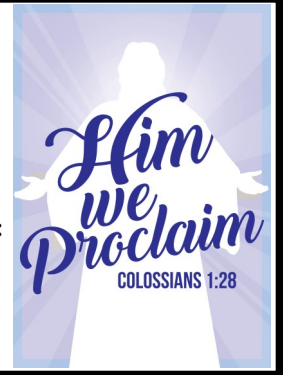
The Trinity Trumpet

February 2020

www.tlcavoca.com

Pastor:
Eric Meissner
(402) 660-1121
tlcpastoreric@gmail.com

Director of Ministry in Daily Life:
Sue Paulsen
(402) 639-6054
tlcspaulsen@gmail.com



Shinkicks & Light Givers

I once heard a story about Doug Dailey, a Sunday School Superintendent, and he writes of his experience with a new little visitor at his church. One Sunday morning a new family walked into the church. The smallest in the family was in kindergarten and her name was Sarah. "I told her I was glad she had come to our Sunday School, and she kicked me, in the shin, hard!" I thought, "This is a fine way to begin our friendship." But I resolved to be kind to her. The next Sunday I welcomed Sarah with determined friendliness, and she kicked me, in the shins, Hard, twice!

One Sunday as I sat in church, I noticed Sarah sitting with her family at the other end of the pew. Pretty soon little Sarah slid over to where I was and said, "Mr. Daily, I hate you." I said, "I know, I know." I thought, "well this is better than getting kicked in the shins."

Time passed. One Sunday I was in the kindergarten room. The children were listening to a Bible story. I tiptoed in, got a tiny chair and sat down at the edge of the circle. Pretty soon a little boy got up and came and sat on my knee. Then Sarah stood up and came and sat on my other knee. She didn't say anything, and she didn't look up, but her little hand reached out and took mine. I thought, "Maybe things will work out after all." So, they have. Now when we meet, she runs to me, looks up and puts her arms around me, and I put my arms around her. In a humorous but very graphic way, this little story illustrates the two basic conditions of people in God's kingdom here on earth. There are those of us, like Sarah, who want the light of love more than anything else. We may be 50 years old and still inside were like little Sarah desiring to be held and loved no matter how many times we've kicked others in the shins. Has anyone you've tried to love ever said to you, "You don't really love me," and done something mean to you to prove it? Yes, there are many Sarahs in each of our lives.

Then there is the second kind of person in God's kingdom, the Sunday School Superintendent, the Light Giver, the one who knows the light of Christ's love is stronger than any darkness the shin kicker can offer. The Light Giver, who knows in his or her heart that the reason little Sarahs kick shins is because they are so in need of Christ's love. The Sarahs will seldom admit there need. It takes the eyes of faith to perceive the darkness. In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven!

Together in Christ Jesus,
Pr. Eric

An Invitation to Serious Faith

I will strive to...

PRAY daily
WORSHIP weekly
READ the Bible
SERVE at and beyond Trinity
Be in **RELATIONSHIP** to encourage
spiritual growth in others
GIVE of my time, talents & resources

Trinity Lutheran Church



Focusing on the **CROSS**.
Following Christ's **LOVE**.

301 N. Chestnut St. AVOCA, IA
712-343-2518



Ash Wednesday is February 26th. A worship service will be held at 6 p.m. including Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes. Please join us in preparing our hearts for the season of Lent.

Worship Schedule Change

Beginning In February

Saturday Worship Service 5:00 p.m.

1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month

Sunday Worship Services at

9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Sunday School 10:15 a.m. (During the school year)

See You at Worship

First Communion classes will begin on March 1 and be held every Sunday thru March. This is open for all fourth graders and above wishing to participate. The students and parents will meet for class after the 10:15 service at approximately 11:30 a.m.



The First Communion ceremony will be held on Palm Sunday, April 5th, 2020, during the 10:15 service. Please contact Pastor Eric at (402) 660-1121 or at tlcpastore-ric@gmail.com if your child would like to participate.

I will sing and
make melody
to the LORD.

Psalms 27:6



Mark your calendars. The musical group "Faith Sound" will be here to lead us in worship on Sunday, February 9th during our 9 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. services.

Church Council

President: Dean Krohn

(712) 249-0760

Property Management: Larry Chapman

(712) 307-2832

Secretary: LeAnne McCarthy

(712) 307-0117

Christian Education: Cristin Rold

(712) 741-3734

Worship: Kathy Soetmelk

(712) 249-9027

Finance: Mike Jorgensen

(712) 250-0774

Outreach: Josh Guyer

(402) 682-1254

Stewardship: Katie Collins

(402) 250-9313

Treasurer: Shela Jacobsen

(402) 490-2423



**CHURCH
BUSINESS**

Weekend of	Total Attendance	Total Gifts Received
12/27/2019	105	6955.66
01/05/2020	195	3095.00
01/12/2020	192	2738.00
01/19/2020	150	6135.00
01/26/2020	94	2593.00



*In
Memory of*

Donna Hoepner— Betty Oehlertz

Trinity Lutheran Church Women met on January 2nd, 2020 in the fellowship hall. Janiece Schroder read "The Old Barn" sent to her by her sister Carolyn. Bonnie Kardell read "Be Specific" from the Portals of Prayer.

President Jeannie Klindt called the meeting to order. Secretary's report was read and approved.

Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Motion was made to pay bills.

Correspondence was read.

Christian Service will meet on January 14th and January 28th.

Mission Community: No report

Bible Study Group: Will meet with Betty Oehlertz.

Old Business: Bernie Lee funeral went well.

Next meeting will be February 6th, 2020.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bonnie Kardell . Seconded by La Donna Conroy. M/C

Preamble was recited.

Table grace was sung.

Laura Ann Allen, Secretary.

TRINITY'S FIVE & DIME



Welcome to “Trinity’s Five & Dime”. This section is dedicated to stories, experiences, and devotionals where together we can share God’s spiritual candy. Glory be to God for the opportunity to share with you some thoughts, experiences, and scripture regarding our everyday lives. May God continue to open our eyes, ears, minds, and hearts to all of the work He does in and around our lives. We praise you for your never-ending love, Amen.

Neil

....The time span of that stop was less than two minutes, and as easy as if there were no cans at that stop! Feeling pretty good about the day’s activities so far, I made my way to the next stop, and that one was almost always full if not overflowing.



Answered Prayers (Part 6)

As I neared the corner of the street I needed to take to get to the next collection box, I could already see that the lid was propped all the way open. That feeling of satisfaction and contentment, slowly started to diminish as I neared the collection box. I remember telling myself, “Those first three boxes were awesome! It was the best way the route could have started. I was already about 35 to 40 minutes ahead of my normal can run, and I’ll still finish earlier than I thought” I brought the truck to a stop, shut it off, got out, walked over to it, and began to move the contents around to see how bad it was. To my surprise, it was just like the previous three stops. Nothing but large bags, and all tied off. No loose can or bottles. There were however, four, eighteen pack boxes of cans, which quickly found their way to the back seat floor of the truck. All of the bags were able to be packed tightly in the back of the truck, which prompted another run to the can shed. I quickly made a return run to the can shed, unloaded and stacked the cargo, and made my way for the last two collection boxes. As I finished the route that day, the last two boxes, were found in the same unusual manner. Completely full, and over full. But all the redeemable items were in large clear and black trash bags. I filled the truck full one more time, and about half full before the route was completed. I was so elated and filled with a wonderful disbelief, that I had overlooked the way to how my day started off with my prayer of a “light and easy route”. It was not until after I got back home, sat in silence, and reflected on the morning as to how God had answered that prayer. As he spoke to me and guided my thoughts to reveal himself, his word and scriptures were slowly brought to light. First, from Romans 1: 9-10 “God knows how often I pray for you. Day and night I bring you and your needs in prayer to God, whom I serve with all my heart by spreading the Good News about his Son. One of the things I always pray for is the opportunity, God willing to come at last to see you.” The explanation of those verses in my Study Bible has it like this: When you pray continually about a concern, don’t be surprised at how God answers. Paul prayed to visit Rome so he could teach the Christians there. When he finally arrived in Rome, it was as a prisoner. Paul prayed for a safe trip, and he did arrive safely – after getting arrested, slapped in the face, shipwrecked, and bitten by a poisonous snake. When we sincerely pray, God will answer – although in his timing and sometimes in ways we do not expect.

Continued...



February Volunteer Schedule

If you are unable to serve during worship at the time you've been scheduled, *please find your own replacement* and let the church office know of the change so the information in the bulletin can be changed. *A great place to begin looking for a replacement is the schedule itself—Look for someone who is scheduled for the same duty during the same worship time.* **Don't forget to check Breeze** for phone numbers and email information, when trying to contact others. If you are not able to find a replacement or have questions, please contact: Kathy Soetmelk:

5 p.m. service, Cell 712-249-9027; Peggy Osbahr: 9:00 a.m. service, Cell 402-680-8256; Sue Paulsen: 10:15 a.m. service, Cell 402-639-6054

	Saturday February 1, 5:00 p.m.	Sunday February 2, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday February 2, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Readings	Dick Brown	Nancy Collins	Joyce Mez
Prayers	Dorothy Nelsen	Janiece Schroder	Amanda Holst
Support	Don Nelsen	Larry Chapman	Gary Soetmelk
Communion Asst.	Reva Bylund	Neil Paulsen	Jerry & Joyce Mez, Sue Paulsen
Acolytes	n/a	Tyson Osbahr	Justin Freeman
Camera	n/a	n/a	Nathan Jorgensen
Greeters	Rose Krohn	Breanna Pauley Family	Chelsie & Chuck Madden Family
Ushers	n/a	Nancy and Ken Collins	Jason & Amanda Holst
Altar Guild	Reva Bylund	Nancy & Ken Collins	Jane & Dale Tech
		Sunday February 9, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday February 9, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Readings		n/a	n/a
Prayers		n/a	n/a
Support		Shela Jacobsen	Mike Krummel
Communion Asst.		n/a	n/a
Acolytes		n/a	n/a
Camera		n/a	n/a
Greeters		Dale and Arlene Rousch	Ashleigh & Cory Maassen Family
Ushers		n/a	n/a
Altar Guild		n/a	n/a
	Saturday February 15, 5:00 p.m.	Sunday February 16, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday February 16, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Readings	Dorothy Nelsen	Dora Rock	Travis Lane
Prayers	Judy Williams	Peggy Osbahr	Karen Rodriguez
Support	Reva Bylund	Dora Rock	Phil Rodriguez
Communion Asst.	Dorothy Nelsen	Peggy Osbahr	Dean & Joy Krohn, Sue Paulsen
Acolytes	n/a	Jessica Jacobsen	Saydi Paulsen
Camera	n/a	n/a	Charlie Lane
Greeters	Darlene Eggerss	Betty Oehlertz	Travis & Kaliegh Lane Family
Ushers	n/a	Devin and Tegan Schroder	Adam & Kristen Krohn
Altar Guild	Reva Bylund	Nancy & Ken Collins	Jane & Dale Tech

		Sunday February 23, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday February 23, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Readings		Nancy Kelly	Dan Rold
Prayers		Janiece Schroeder	Jane Tech
Support		Larry Chapman	Dustin DeJong
Communion Asst.		Janiece Schroeder	Janet & Gary Pattee, Deb Meissner
Acolytes		Eli Collins	Kaeden Rold
Camera		n/a	Lilly Scott
Greeters		Gary & Katie Collins	Dan & Cristin Rold Family
Ushers		Marlene and Frank Nelsen	Amber & Lance Scott
Altar Guild		Donna & Mick Schuler	Jane & Dale Tech

March Volunteer Schedule

		Sunday March 1, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday March 1, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Readings		Jerry Conroy	J Olesen
Prayers		Peggy Osbahr	Connie Von Eschen
Support		Dean Krohn	Jim Hansen
Communion Asst.		Peggy Osbahr	Karen & Jim Hansen, Leslie Nielsen
Acolytes		Luke Sternberg	Nathan Jorgensen
Camera		n/a	Anistyn Roskens
Greeters		Bonnie Kardell	Darren & Nicole Krohn Family
Ushers		Dean and Joy Krohn	Jeremy & Nicole Holst
Altar Guild			Beth Schueman & Brenda Roloff
	Saturday March 7, 5:00	Sunday March 8, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday March 8, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Readings	Dick Brown	LaDonna Conroy	Danny Pattee
Prayers	Ronda Holst	Neil Paulsen	Joyce Mez
Support	Dick Brown	Roger Nelson	Dale Krohn
Communion Asst.	Ronda Holst	Neil Paulsen	Jerry & Joyce Mez, Deb Meissner
Acolytes	n/a	Zach Nielsen	Joey Blotzer
Camera	n/a	n/a	Lauren Yates
Greeters	Karen Pope	Ryan & Beth Nielsen	Nicole & Heath Lamp Family
Ushers	n/a	Bob and Barb Brown	Angie & Dale Maassen
Altar Guild	Carolyn Oldenburg		Beth Schueman & Brenda Roloff

...“Answered Prayers” Continued

Next, from Isaiah 55:8-9 “My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the Lord. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts are higher than your thoughts.” And lastly from Luke 6: 38 “Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full – pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.” So, you see in my prayer, I had asked for an easy route, with a light load. If he had answered my prayer that way, it would have come at the expense of our donation program for the kids in our community. But since his ways are not my ways, and his thoughts higher than my thoughts, he answered my prayer in a way that was never expected. He did give me one of the easiest route that had ever run in the 9 years that I had been collecting cans. But he also gave me the largest amount of cans to bring in on a single run. But the twist was that large haul of cans was all so neatly packaged in all those large bags that it was no work at all. That day, the gift of cans and bottles was pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into my lap. So, when you pray continually about a concern and it’s not looking like god answered your pray to how you thought it should go, take some time to think it over. You may just find his handy-work displayed in a completely different way. When you can’t trace God’s hand, trust his heart. Thanks be to god!

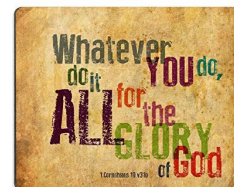
Trinity Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Minutes: January 26, 2020

- Dean Krohn called meeting to order - Pastor Eric did opening devotion and prayer
- Approval of the Agenda: Roger Nelson moved to approve, seconded by Karen Hansen
- Approval of the annual meeting minutes from 2019: Allen Blakestad moved to approve, seconded by Dale Krohn - Treasurer's report was given by Shela Jacobsen (see written report): Dick Brown moved to approve, seconded by Don Hansen
- President's report given by Dean Krohn: reported that in 2019, 963 families were served from the food pantry - Audit report was given: Thank you to City of Walnut and Farm Credit Service
- Pastor's report: See written report; thanks to Sue for all of her hard work; additional thanks to Dean Krohn, Cristin Rold, and Katie Collins for their work on the Council - Elections: All nominees were unanimously voted into office. Motion to approve from Roger Nelson, seconded by Phil Rodriguez. New members include:
Church Council: Alan Blakestad, Ron Winter, Dale Krohn
Memorial Committee: Mick Schuler, Joy Krohn
Audit Committee: Chelsie Madden
Endowment Committee: No new members
Nominating Committee: Jason Rold
- Nomination and Election of three voting members (two adult and one confirmed youth) to the 2020 Iowa Mission District Convention (will plan to ask for volunteers at a later date)
- Salem Lutheran Homes meeting in Elk Horn. Members who plan to attend include: Sue and Alan Blakstad, Jim and Karen Hansen, Dean and Joy Krohn, Janice Schroder, Gary and Kathy Soetmelk.
- Council Committee reports:
 - Property Management: Larry Chapman reported a need to fix some church walls in the spring secondary to water damage.
 - Outreach: No report given
 - Finance: No report given - Worship: See written report
 - Education: No report given - Stewardship: No report given
- Trinity Committees and Organizations:
 - Memorial Committee: Joy Krohn reports plan to send letters to seniors approximately February 1st for scholarships
 - Trinity Lutheran Women: See written report - Lutheran Youth- LYO: See written report from Sue Paulsen. Thank you to those who made donations as the numbers of youth attending is growing. See also written report for Director of Ministry in Daily Life
 - Lutheran Men's Group: See written report - Endowment Committee: Oral report given by Dick Brown; see written report
- Discussion and Adoption of new budget: Josh Guyer moved to approve, seconded by Adam Krohn
- No new business was reported
- Adjournment: motion to approve from Roger Kubik, seconded by Stephanie Ann Harder

FEBRUARY Birthdays

February 01	Loleta	Hansen
February 01	Jeremy	Holst
February 01	Kaleigh	Lane
February 01	Dorothy	Nelsen
February 01	Carol	Sampson
February 04	Gailen	Sidebottom
February 04	Diane	Stamp
February 04	Jerry	Stamp
February 05	Gavin	Winter
February 06	Roy	Guyer
February 06	Lauren	Yates
February 07	Barbara	Piittmann
February 08	Albert	Hoepner
February 08	Henry	Paulsen
February 10	Darlene	Eggerss
February 11	Evelyn	Scott
February 12	Lorie	Espeseth
February 12	Lynn	Gronborg
February 13	Samantha	Andersen
February 15	Denise	Hargens
February 17	James	Berry
February 17	Guy	Scheffler
February 17	Jerrald	Setran
February 18	LaDonna	Conroy
February 19	Evelyn	Clayton
February 19	Lance	Scott
February 20	Ashley	Nielsen
February 21	Ann	Carroll
February 21	Gregery	Fritz
February 22	Paul	Harder
February 22	Mary	Lechtenberger
February 23	Gary	Krummel
February 24	Larry	Feekes
February 24	Jo Ann	Krummel
February 25	Joel	Andersen
February 25	Dale	Krohn
February 26	Amber	Johnson
February 26	Patricia	Jorgensen
February 27	Jessica	Rold
February 28	Hope	Constable

Youth and Parents: **SAVE THE DATES** and plan on joining us for a fun and faith filled time in 2020!



Please keep in mind that the dates shown below are tentative and may change, depending on activities and events that might present themselves as we go, tentatively though-Please mark your calendars!

Here's the plan so far:

Saturday, February 1st

Meet at church at 7 p.m. for a movie! Bring a comfy chair or pillows. We'll be watching "I Can Only Imagine" in preparation for our upcoming concert. Popcorn, snacks, and drinks will be provided. We'll plan on being done by 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 16th

Meet at church at 11:30 a.m. to pack back pack meals for AHSTW Elementary Students.

Lunch provided

Saturday, March 14th

Jeremy Camp Movie in Council Bluffs AMC, please bring your own money for snacks at the theatre. (Another artist who is singing at the upcoming concert)

Meet at 5 p.m.

Dinner provided

Friday, March 27th

7 p.m. "Mercy Me" Concert at the CHI Center in Omaha **This is a first to sign up event.** I have 20 tickets purchased, with 3 reserved for drivers. Be the first to RSVP now- you don't want to miss this!

Meet at 5:45 p.m. in the church parking lot. Please eat before you come.

Sunday, April 5th

Meet at the church at 8:45 a.m. to travel to City Light Church in Council Bluffs for worship at 9:30 a.m. After worship, we'll be volunteering at the animal shelter. Lunch provided on our way home.

Sunday, April 12th

Youth group will help provide for and serve Easter breakfast after the sunrise service.

Sunday, April 19th

Meet at 11:30 a.m. at the church to travel to Escape Omaha to try our hand at an escape room.

Lunch provided.

Sunday, May 3rd

Meet at 11:30 a.m. at the church

We'll be doing a canned food drive, similar to the one we did in Omaha last October at Dare to Share.

Drivers will be needed for this activity so we can split up in groups.

Parents: Please contact Sue Paulsen at 402-639-6054 or tlcspaulsen@gmail.com with any questions or if you want to join us and help out! **Volunteer drivers and meal helpers are always greatly appreciated!**

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5 p.m.—Worship 7 p.m.—Youth Group
2 8 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m. Bible Study	3 2 p.m. Prayer Team 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	4 6 p.m. Alive in Christ Choir	5 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m. Confirmation	6 2 p.m. TLCW Meeting 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Food Pan- try 6:30 p.m. Peace Haven Worship	7 Pastor's Day Off	8
9 8 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Faith Sound 10:15 a.m. Faith Sound/Sunday School 11:30 a.m. Bible Study	10 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	11 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m. Christian Service 6 p.m. Alive in Christ Choir 7 p.m. Committee Meetings 8 p.m. Council Meeting	12 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m. Confirmation	13 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Food Pan- try	14 Pastor's Day Off	15 5 p.m.—Worship
16 8 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. Youth Group	17 9:30 a.m. Salem Lu- theran Home Wor- ship 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	18 6 p.m. Alive in Christ Choir	19 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m. Confirmation	20 9:30 a.m. Faith Bible Study 2 p.m. Avoca Nursing Home Worship 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Food Pan- try	21 Pastor's Day Off	22
23 8 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m. Annual Meeting	24 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	25 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m. Christian Service 6 p.m. Alive in Christ Choir	26 10 a.m. Bible Study 6 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service	27 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Food Pan- try	28 Pastor's Day Off	29

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
301 N. CHESTNUT STREET
P.O. BOX 456
AVOCA, IA 51521-0456**

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #3
AVOCA, IA 51521-0456**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Trinity Lutheran Church

301 N. Chestnut Street
Avoca, IA 51521
(712) 343-2518

For assistance or to leave information,
contact the church office at the number shown above.
In an emergency, contact Pastor Eric Meissner at (402) 660-1121.

Worship Services

**Saturdays 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month at 5 p.m.
Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
Holy Communion: Celebrated at each worship service
Sunday School during the 10:15 a.m. Worship service**