

The Trinity Trumpet

March 2020

www.tlcavoca.com

Pastor:
Eric Meissner
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WHY?????

As we enter into Holy Week and march toward the cross, a journey in which we are called to look at what Jesus said in John 16:33: *"In this world you will have trouble. You are going to have tribulations."* In this passage He really didn't address the magic question, the question of WHY? That is the question that has been on people's minds since the beginning to time. Why is there pain? Why is there suffering? Why do bad things happen to good people?

I wish I could give you the perfect answer from God on this issue but I can't. The Bible says in I Corinthians 13:12 in essence that in this world we don't have perfect knowledge because we are finite human beings. We may not be able to make out all the peripheral answers in terms of why. But there are some key biblical truths that are illuminated to us through scripture. If we keep our eyes on those points of light, just like the taillights of a truck, I believe they will take us to a place of understanding where our hearts and our minds can be satisfied. What are these points of light?

Point of Light #1

God is not the creator of evil and suffering. *"God saw all that He made, and it was very good."* Genesis 1:31

Point of Light #2

Though suffering is not good, God can use it to accomplish good. *"We also rejoice in our suffering, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."* 2 Corinthians 7:10

Point of Light #3

The day is coming when suffering will cease and evil will be judged. *"The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."* 2 Peter 3:9

Point of Light #4

Our suffering will pale in comparison to what God has in store for His followers. *"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."* Romans 8:18

Point of Light #5

We decide whether to turn bitter or turn to God for peace and courage. *"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."* John 16:33

What is God's ultimate answer to the question of why is there suffering? It is not in words; it is the WORD! God's ultimate answer is not an explanation; it is the incarnation. Christ Jesus fully God and fully human, coming into our experience to live, die and rise again to new life!

Let us walk through the "whys" of life in the light of Christ this Holy week and beyond!

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

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.



Lenten Worship Services Schedule

March 4– United Church of Avoca will host the service and dinner, with First Presbyterian Church of Walnut performing.

March 11– Peace Church of Walnut will host the service and dinner, with St. Marys of Avoca performing.

March 18– Trinity Lutheran Church of Avoca will host the service and dinner, with United Church of Avoca performing.

March 25– St. Marys Church of Avoca will host the service and dinner, with Peace Church of Walnut performing.

April 1– First Presbyterian Church of Walnut will host the service and dinner, with Trinity Lutheran Church of Avoca performing.

Holy Baptism

Evelyn Rose Soetmelk was baptized during the 10:15 a.m. service on Sunday, February 23rd. Evelyn is the daughter of Aaron & Jackie Soetmelk. Her baptismal sponsors were Mike Shaw and Sarah Shaw-Dixon. Congratulations Soetmelk family and welcome Evelyn, into the family of Christ!



Church Council

President: Kathy Soetmelk
(712) 249-9027

Property Management: Dale Krohn
(402) 880-5072

Secretary: LeAnne McCarthy
(712) 307-0117

Christian Education: Josh Guyer
(402) 682-1254

Worship: Ron Winter
(531) 205-5378

Finance: Mike Jorgensen
(712) 250-0774

Outreach: Alan Blakestad
(712) 343-2566

Stewardship: Larry Chapman
(712) 307-2832

Treasurer: Shela Jacobsen
(402) 490-2423



CHURCH
BUSINESS

Weekend of	Total Attendance	Total Gifts Received
02/02/2020	174	3652.00
02/09/2020	—	7610.00
02/16/2020	188	5209.00
02/23/2020	47	2807.00



Troy Walker-Janice Schroder,
Margaret Maassen-Janice Schroder

Trinity Lutheran Church Women met on February 6th, 2020, in the fellowship hall. Shirley Pattee played the piano for a Sing-a-long. Laura Ann Allen read "A Stairway to Prayer". Bonnie Kardell read "Chimes of God's Grace" from "The Upper Room" and Janiece Schroder read "Wash Day" from "In No Time At All".

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

Treasurer's report was read and approved.

There were no bills.

Correspondence was read.

Christian Service will meet on February 11th and February 25th, 2020.

Mission Community: No report

Bible Study Group: Will meet with Joyce Mez.

Old Business: Donna Hoepner's funeral went well.

New Business: Saturday night services will be held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday nights of the month.

Next meeting will be March 5th, 2020.

Motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Kelly. Seconded by Sally Matthies. M/C

Preamble was recited.

Table grace was sung.

Laura Ann Allen, Secretary.

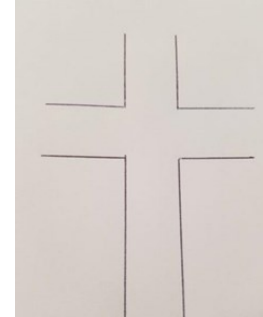
TRINITY'S FIVE & DIME



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. Praise and glory to God for his never changing word, faithful love, and countless blessings. May his life-giving word nourish us and strengthen us as we strive to fulfill the purposes, He has for us. Amen. Neil Paulsen



The Three Crosses (Part 1)



It is refreshing and renewing to see God’s handy work in our daily lives. Whether it is when he reveals himself to us through his word, or through something that we are privileged to see with our own eyes, either man made or by his design. These brief glimpses of his presence are both comforting and re-assuring that he is with us, and that peace it creates within us, is just a sample of his all-encompassing peace that we will receive when his Kingdom has finally come. This edition of The Five and Dime is centered on just that subject; and as we enter the Lenten and Easter season, it seemed to be the appropriate time to share this story.

It was January 16th, 2019, and I was just about ready to head to work. The weather was a typical Iowa January morning. There was a crispness in the air, with not even a hint of a breeze. The sun had not made its full appearance yet, but the eastern sky was beginning to be painted into a one-of-a-kind picture by the creator of the universes himself. The yellow began to illuminate the hill that the sun was trying to peek over, spilling over into an orange shade, then light blue merging with some purple. It was a sight that I wished I would have had an extra 30 minutes to spare and be able to just sit and watch as God’s canvas unfolded before me. But not having that extra time to spare, I went about my task, and went to back the car out of the garage. The garage is on the north side of our house, and the timber lies just to the north and east of the house. So, there is a fair number of trees on those two sides of the house, so if you’re wanting to see anything other than trees, one must look up. As I backed the car out of the garage and turned it so that I was headed to go down the lane, I was able to look in the northeast direction. And it just so happens that in that direction, there is a break in the trees where more of the sky is visible.

March 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

		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		Dora Rock & Bonnie Kardell	Beth Schueman & Brenda Roloff

	Saturday March 7, 5:00 p.m.	Sunday March 8, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday March 8, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Read-	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	Eli Collins	Joey Blotzer
Camera	n/a	n/a	Lauren Yates
Greeters	Karen Pope	Gary & Katie Collins	Nicole & Heath Lamp Family
Ushers	n/a	Bob and Barb Brown	Angie & Dale Maassen
Altar Guild	Ronda Holst	Dora Rock & Betty Oehlertz	Beth Schueman & Brenda Roloff

		Sunday March 15 , 9:00 a.m.	Sunday March 15, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Readings		Greg Petersen	Gary Soetmelk
Prayers		Donna Rold	Suzette Blakestad
Support		Dora Rock	Gary Soetmelk
Communion Asst.		Donna Rold	Dale & Jane Tech, Lesley Krummel
Acolytes		Kaeden Rold	Lilly Scott
Camera		n/a	Jessica Jacobsen
Greeters		JoAnn Krummel & LuAnn Jen-	Brenda Kelly Family
Ushers		Jason and Jessica Rold	Mike & Holly Hansen
Altar Guild		Dora Rock & Betty Oehlertz	Beth Schueman & Brenda Roloff

	Saturday March 21, 5:00	Sunday March 22, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday March 22, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Readings	Dick Holtz	Nancy Kelly	Gayle Stuart
Prayers	Jan Holtz	Peggy Osbahr	Karen Hansen
Support	Roger Nelson	Jerry Conroy	Sue Paulsen
Communion Asst.	Donna Rold	Peggy Osbahr	Robb Jacobsen & Amy Thornton, Sue Paulsen
Acolytes	n/a	Justin Freeman	Macy Thronton
Camera	n/a	n/a	Saydi Paulsen
Greeters	Kathy Nelson	Michelle Freeman	Brad & Mandee Myers Family
Ushers	n/a	Julie Engel and Mabel Jacobsen	Dawn & Paul Harder
Altar Guild	Ronda Holst	Dora Rock & Betty Oehlertz	Beth Schueman & Brenda Roloff

		Sunday March 29, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday March 29, 10:15 a.m.
Scripture Readings		Nancy Collins	Betty Kubik
Prayers		Janiece Schroeder	Deb Meissner
Support		Larry Chapman	Dean Krohn
Communion Asst.		Nancy Collins	Dean & Joy Krohn, Deb Meissner
Acolytes		Charlie Lane	Ayden McCarthy
Camera		n/a	Isabelle Wheatley
Greeters		Betty Oehlertz	Shane & Lacey Brockhoff Family
Ushers		Kaleigh and Travis Lane	Jill & Todd Feigenbutz
Altar Guild		Dora Rock & Betty Oehlertz	Beth Schueman & Brenda Roloff

April Volunteer Schedule

	Saturday April 4, 5:00 p.m.	Sunday April 5, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday April 5, 9:00 a.m.
Scripture Readings	Judy Williams	Neil Paulsen	Janae Sternberg
Prayers	Dorothy Nelsen	Dora Rock	Karen Rodriguez
Support	Don Nelsen	Sheila Jacobsen	Ron Winter
Communion Asst.	Judy Williams	Neil Paulsen	Lori & Ron Winter, Janiece Schroder
Acolytes	n/a	Tyson Osbahr	Graycen Partlow
Camera	n/a	n/a	Luke Sternberg
Greeters	Diane Taylor	Breanna Pauley Family	Jill & Kyle Clayton Family
Ushers	n/a	Kris McCarthy & Marlene Nel-	Brock & Jenny Partlow
Altar Guild	Roger & Kathy Nelson	Bonnie Kardell & Jo Ann	Janiece Schroder & Maxine Sornsen



The Trinity Lutheran Church Women are asking for Chairmen to head up the Aebleskiver Supper in November. All three of the present chairpersons have stepped down after many years of service. Donna Rold, 11 years; Nancy Collins, 7 years; and Joy Krohn 7 years. We thank them very much for their many dedicated years of service. (They have agreed to help volunteers get started.) We are hoping someone will come forward, otherwise we may be forced to discontinue the Aebleskiver Supper. This would be after 58 years at Trinity and many years before that at English Lutheran before the merger of the two churches.

Please give this your prayerful consideration and contact Jeannie Klindt at 343-2218 or Laura Ann Allen at 343-2284.

Thank you very much.

Trinity Lutheran Church Women



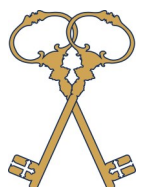
Olivia McCarthy Fund

A new fund has been established here at TLC to help assist the Terry & LeAnne McCarthy family financially with their daughter's battle with leukemia. Olivia and her parents are currently traveling frequently for treatments. If you would like to contribute to Olivia's fund, please designate Olivia on your offering envelope or text donation. Please continue to keep Liv and her family in your prayers!

Pictured: The Sunday School students gave a gift basket full of goodies and made cards to send some cheer to their friend and classmate, Olivia.

New Church Hours

The south basement church door will now be unlocked M-F from 8 a.m. to Noon. This is a change from previously being open 8 a.m to 8 p.m. everyday. If you have an event or meeting scheduled, where you will need in the church during hours when it is not open, please contact Pastor Eric or Sue in advance for a key.



Trinity Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2020

In Attendance: Pastor Eric, Kathy Soetmelk, Dale Krohn, Ron Winter, Alan Blakestad, Sue Paulsen, and Shela Jacobsen.

A call to order was made by Kathy. She opened the meeting with a prayer and silent centering, and we introduced the new members present: Ron, Alan, and Dale.

New officers were elected and committee leaders as follows:

President – Kathy Soetmelk	Finance Committee – Mike Jorgensen	
Vice President-Alan Blakestad	Property – Dale Krohn	Worship – Ron Winter
Secretary – Leanne McCarthy	Outreach – Alan Blakestad	Education – Josh Guyer
Treasurer – Shela Jacobsen	Stewardship – Larry Chapman	

A motion was made by Ron Winters to approve the new Officers and Committee Leaders and seconded by Alan Blakestad. Motion carried.

Thank You cards were written to show our appreciation for past council members, Dean, Katie & Cristin. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Dale Krohn and seconded by Ron Winters. Motion carried. A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Dale Krohn and seconded by Ron Winters. Motion carried.

Shela gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made to approve the report by Alan Blakestad and seconded by Dale Krohn. Motion carried.

No President's report was given as this was Kathy's first meeting as the new President.

Pastor gave his monthly report. He asked if we were aware of anyone sick or in the hospital. Upcoming events include Parks/Kramer wedding Feb 22, Evie Soetmelk baptism Feb 23, Ash Wednesday Feb 26, First Communion classes are last five Sundays of Lent, and TLC will host Lenten services on March 18.

Sue provide the group with the Director of Ministry in Daily Life report. On 1/19/20 Youth met in the church basement for food, fellowship and games for their kickoff for 2nd half of the year. On 2/1/20, Youth watch the movie "I Can Only Imagine" and 7 youth were in attendance. On 2/26/20, Youth will meet to pack food for the backpack program again.

No Church Council Reports were given as only new members were in attendance.

Old Business discussed: Terry McCarthy will be looking to see if/why the Church Bells are not working before we purchase anything new, and Dean Krohn is still looking into getting a new lock for the south door with a keypad on it.

New Business discussed: We are setting up a Liv McCarthy fund to help pay for their expenses going back and forth to the hospital with her. Pastor will mention this to the congregation on Sundays also.

Membership changes consisted of a new address for Dean & Joy Krohn, and 1/25/20 was Donna Hoepner's funeral.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Dale Krohn and seconded by Ron Winters. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Shela Jacobsen – Treasurer
(for LeAnne McCarthy – Secretary)



YOUTH GROUP 2020

Youth group is back on the move! We gathered for a movie night here at Trinity. The movie "I Can Only Imagine" was our feature presentation. We also met and packed 224 bags of food for our Outreach program that sends bags of food to the school on a weekly basis to children in need. Some of the faces you might recognize from these pictures are Macey Thornton, Zachary Nielsen, Charley Lane, Rylie Knop, Saydi Paulsen, Graycen Partlow, Anistyn Roskens, Lilly Scott, Ella Langer, and Isabel Luna.

March Schedule

Saturday, March 14– AMC Movie Night

Wednesday, March 18– Help serve and clean up after the Lenten Soup Supper

Friday, March 27th– "Mercy Me" Concert



MARCH Birthdays

March 01	Christopher	Best
March 01	Ashley	DeJong
March 01	Neil	Paulsen
March 01	Michael	Schuelman
March 02	Dale	Roush
March 02	Bodee	Winter
March 03	Jordan	Jacobsen
March 05	Alexis	Crees
March 05	Kelsey	Harder
March 05	Joyce	Kardell
March 05	Hazel	Miller
March 06	Ethan	Hansen
March 06	Roxanne	Plymale
March 07	Donna	Schuelman
March 08	Donald	Hansen Jr.
March 08	Robb	Jacobsen
March 08	Brenda	Kelly
March 09	Tanner	Lamp
March 09	Charles	Lane
March 09	Makenzie	Long

March 10	Jade	Brockhoff
March 10	Sarah	Gross
March 11	Clarence	Harder
March 12	Calvin	Parker
March 12	Charlotte	Parker
March 13	Laird	Buboltz
March 13	Lois	Partlow
March 13	Saydi	Paulsen
March 13	Morgan	Sieh
March 14	Betty	Holtz
March 15	Gerald	Conroy
March 15	Tyson	Osbahr
March 16	Olivia	Sieh
March 17	Brynlee	Holst
March 17	Erin	Ronnfeldt
March 17	Lynn	Roush
March 18	Angela	Fritz
March 18	LeAnne	McCarthy
March 18	Jolene	Schuelman
March 18	Wesley	Young

March 19	Wayne	Allen
March 20	Donna	Schuler
March 22	Nicholas	Nelsen
March 22	Shirley	Pattee
March 23	Barbara	Schuelman
March 24	Everett	Hansen
March 24	Gary	Nielsen
March 25	Tucker	Osbahr
March 25	Jackson	Woltmann
March 26	Taylor	McCreehy
March 27	Andrea	Danker
March 27	Abigail	Roush
March 28	Jacob	Collins
March 29	Emma	Jorgensen
March 29	Kiptyn	Lamp
March 29	Hartvig	Nelsen
March 31	Adam	Hansen
March 31	Wyatt	Sieh

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/SS 11:30 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. First Com- munion Class	2 2 p.m. Prayer Team 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	3 6 p.m. Alive in Christ Choir	4 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m. Confirmation	5 2 p.m. TLCW Meeting 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Food Pan- try 6:30 p.m. Peace Haven Worship	6 Pastor's Day Off	7 5 p.m.—Worship
8 8 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/SS 11:30 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. First Com- munion Class	9 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	10 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	11 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m. Confirmation	12 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Food Pan- try	13 Pastor's Day Off	14 5 p.m. Youth Group to AMC
15 8 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/SS 11:30 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. First Com- munion Class	16 9:30 a.m. Salem Lu- theran Home Wor- ship 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	17 6 p.m. Alive in Christ Choir	18 10 a.m. Bible Study 6 p.m. Lenten Service and Soup Supper	19 9:30 a.m. Faith Bible Study 2 p.m. Avoca Nursing Home Worship 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Food Pan- try	20 Pastor's Day Off	21 5 p.m.—Worship
22 8 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/SS 11:30 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. First Com- munion Class	23 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	24 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m. Christian Service 6 p.m. Alive in Christ Choir	25 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m. Confirmation	26 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Food Pan- try	27 Pastor's Day Off 5:45 p.m. Youth Group to Mercy Me Concert	28
29 8 a.m. Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/SS 11:30 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. First Com- munion Class	30 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	31 6 p.m. Alive in Christ Choir				

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

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.

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