

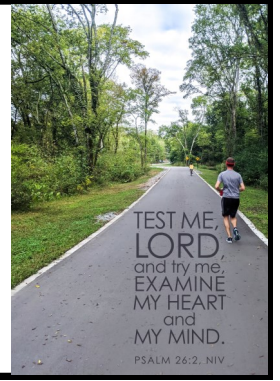
The Trinity Trumpet

March 2021

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



FOLLOWING JESUS TO THE CROSS

In less than five weeks we are going to celebrate Easter. It is always one of the most exciting weeks of the year. One of the things we do at Christmas time is we spend several weeks getting ready for the Christmas season – decorating our houses, shopping for gifts, attending parties. A lot of focus goes into that time of year. But it's easy during this time of year to just blow past Lent and Easter and barely know it was here.

Lent provides us with a time to begin to focus our thoughts and hearts toward when we celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, one of the most important events in the history of mankind. Let us look at some of the events and passages that are on the road to the crucifixion and ultimately the resurrection of Christ.

We begin with some rather ominous words of Jesus in John 13:1 *“Jesus knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to the Father.”* If you have spent any time in scripture you soon realize the twelve disciples, most often didn't get it. So here is Jesus with these twelve now announcing that He's about to leave them behind and go back to heaven. Even though we might be feeling like the disciples, left behind, we are not alone.

Three gifts that He promised them and promises you and me!

Jesus has promised you a future. John 14:2-3, *“There are many rooms in My Father's house. I wouldn't tell you this unless it's true. I'm going to prepare a place for you and after I've done this I will come back and take you with me. Then we will be together.”* Jesus tells his disciples that there will be difficulties, but don't forget I will be back for you.

Jesus has promised you a friend. That friend is a person that we know as the Holy Spirit. John 14:16-17 tells us, *“I will ask the Father and He will give you another counselor who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit who leads into all truth. He lives with you now and will later be in you.”* The Bible tells us with assurance the Holy Spirit will never leave you.

Jesus has promised you a gift of a family. A family that we can go to for support. He says I've given you a future that we're going to share together. John 15:12, *“I command you to love each other in the same way that I love you.”*

Allow me to leave you with one final thought. At the beginning of the 14th chapter of John here's what He says is to be **my response: Choose to trust God**. It's a trust issue! Jesus says I have given you these three gifts. They will help you through the journey of life. Until I return and take you to heaven know that there is the promise of the future with me. You have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and then you have these friends. Thanks Be To God as we follow Christ to the Cross!!!!

Together in Christ!

Pr. Eric



During the annual congregational meeting on Sunday, January 31st, 2021, it was voted on and approved to have a new furnace installed in the Narthex. The approximate cost including the furnace and electrical etc was 9,700.00. Donations towards this are greatly appreciated. If donating, please mark your envelopes for the building fund.

Thank You!



Easter's coming! If you would like to order an Easter Lily, please sign up on the order sheet in the Narthex or call Sue in the office at 343-2518 by March 10th. The Easter lilies not only add to the beauty of our Easter celebration here, but they also help to fund the activities of our youth group! Thanks to all!



Sunday, March 28— Palm Sunday, 9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m. Worship / First Communion Ceremony

Thursday, April 1 — Maundy Thursday, 6 p.m. Worship

Friday, April 2 — Good Friday, 6 p.m. Worship

Sunday, April 4— Easter, 7 a.m. Sunrise Worship, 10:15 a.m. Worship / No Sunday School



The dates for VBS have been scheduled! VBS will be held the last week in JUNE. This is a month earlier than in previous years, so please mark your calendars! Also, if you are interested in helping with planning-please contact Sue. All help is encouraged and greatly appreciated!

June 28th—July 1st



Community Lenten Services will be held the following Wednesdays at area community churches during Lent. There will be **no** soup suppers following services this year. The schedule is as follows:

March 3rd— at United Church in Avoca with TLC presenting the drama.

March 10th— at First Presbyterian Church of Walnut with St. Mary's Church presenting the drama.

March 17th— at TLC with Peace Church of Walnut presenting the drama.

March 24th-at St. Mary's Church of Avoca with First Presbyterian Church of Walnut presenting.

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
01/31	81	2405.00
02/07	92	3587.50
02/14	77	6577.00
Ash Wednesday	42	—
02/21	63	2350.00

Please do your part to respect the guidelines and to be respectful of our neighbors and the diversity of opinions on the guidelines while in church. Please enter for worship thru the West doors. Please note that those doors will open only 10 minutes prior to service. You are encouraged to find your seat promptly upon entering. Also upon entering the sanctuary, you will see hand sanitizer and masks for your use. Wearing of masks continues to be highly encouraged. Pews have been marked every other pew for use. Families are asked to sit together. After service concludes, please be patient upon exiting to give others space to exit and exit thru the North door. Please maintain 6 feet of distancing as each situation allows.

March/April Volunteer Schedule

	Saturday, March 6, 5:00 p.m.	Sunday, March 7, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday, March 7, 10:15 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer	Roger Nelson	Jerry Conroy	Danny Pattee
Acolytes	N/A	Terra Buboltz	Cash Freeman
		Sunday, March 14, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday, March 14, 10:15 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer		Greg Petersen	Sue Blakestad
Acolytes		Luke Sternberg	Evie Scott
	Saturday, March 20, 5:00p.m.	Sunday, March 21, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday, March 21, 10:15 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer	Dick Holtz	Janiece Schroder	Gayle Stuart
Acolytes	N/A	Chase Wheatley	Macy Thornton
		Sunday, March 28, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday, March 28, 10:15 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer		Karen Hansen	J Olesen
Acolytes		Ella Johnson	Luke Sternberg
	Saturday, April 3, 5:00 p.m.	Easter Sunday, April 4, 7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday, April 4, 10:15 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer	Ronda Holst	Dora Rock	Deb Meissner
Acolytes	N/A	Kaden Jorgensen	Emma Blotzer

Please note: If you are down to read and do not wish to do so at this time-please do not hesitate to let Sue know.

If you are sick or experiencing any symptoms of COIVD– Please STAY HOME!



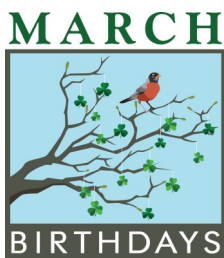
Sunday, February 14th, the youth group gathered in the fellowship hall for lunch, friends and growing faith. We talked about “What the cross means to us.” We assembled crosses from masonry nails as a reminder for us to keep and proudly display.



Upcoming March Dates

***Friday, March 5th– Possible Mt. Crescent Mid Night Madness Skiing. Meet at Mt. Crescent 7 p.m.** We will determine that week if this event will be possible.

Saturday, March 27th– Afternoon movie at the Phoenix in Neola. Time TBA. We will watch the already voted upon “I Still Believe.”



March 01	Christopher	Best
March 01	Ashley	DeJong
March 01	Neil	Paulsen
March 01	Michael	Schuelman
March 02	Dale	Roush
March 02	Laysa	Shreves
March 02	Bodee	Winter
March 03	Jordan	Jacobsen
March 05	Alexis	Crees
March 05	Kelsey	Harder
March 05	Joyce	Kardell
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 12	Calvin	Parker
March 12	Charlotte	Parker
March 13	Laird	Buboltz
March 13	Lois	Partlow
March 13	Saydi	Paulsen
March 13	Morgan	Sieh

March 15	Gerald	Conroy
March 15	Tyson	Osahr
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	Osahr
March 25	Jackson	Woltmann
March 26	Taylor	McCreedy
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

Trinity Trivia: (in case you didn't know or remember) Our outdoor nativity set was donated to Trinity in 1983 by Eric and Murial Olsen. They spent many hours cutting out the pieces and assembling the scene. Harry and Fern Krohn constructed the stable for the back drop. We were able to display it again this year and it still looks pretty good.

Our Lenten cross was made and given for the Bible School by Ernest Andersen in 1978. The Bible School theme was "We Worship God by Following in Jesus' Footsteps". The cross bearer was Larry Skalet who carried the cross from the alley between the church and parsonage. Laura Ann Allen (Ernest's daughter) remembers that there were some steps at Eric Olsen's house across the street to the southwest that were used to depict the tomb. Larry Skalet was the intern at the time and this event was especially meaningful because he had MS which made carrying the cross a challenge. The cross reminds us of the significant price Jesus paid for our salvation and how much God loves each of us.
-submitted by Kathy Soetmelk

Trinity Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2021

In Attendance: Pastor Eric, Kathy Soetmelk, Dale Krohn, Alan Blakestad, Mike Jorgensen, Ron Winter, Beth Buboltz, Sue Paulsen and Shela Jacobsen. Absent: Leanne McCarthy and Larry Chapman

A call to order was made by Kathy. She opened the meeting with a prayer and silent centering
No guests were present at the meeting.

Thank You cards were written to show our appreciation for good deeds to: Terry McCarthy for fixing the outside Church bells, and also to Josh Guyer for serving on the Church Council and all his good work.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mike Jorgensen and seconded by Ron Winter. Motion carried.
A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Dale Krohn and seconded by Alan Blakestad. Motion carried.

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

Pastor gave his monthly report. He asked if we were aware of anyone sick or in the hospital. He mentioned that Laura Ann Allen is in Salem Lutheran Home for rehab at this time. Ash Wednesday is February 17 with services at 6pm. 1st Communion Classes will begin after 2nd service on Sunday Feb 21, and we will be hosting the Lenten Service on Wed March 17 at 6pm. There will be no soup supper afterwards. Pastor also mentioned it is Trinity's turn to provide the Church service at Carsten Farm Days this year and this will be on Sunday Sept 12. We also discussed during Pastor's report how we could help out somewhere financially since we are so blessed with our great congregation. Alan Blakestad mentioned that Salem Lutheran Homes is asking for financial donations for their Chaplaincy. Their Foundation will fund most of it but they are in need of more this year. A motion was made by Mike Jorgensen to donation \$2500 to Salem Lutheran Homes Chaplaincy program, Ron Winters seconded, motion carried.
Sue also brought up that she read the school is in need of 2 dozen TV trays for lunchtime at the Elementary to be able to spread the kids out more than they can now. A motion was made by Ron Winters to purchase TV trays for the school up to \$960, Dale Krohn seconded the motion, motion carried.

Sue provided the group with the Director of Ministry in Daily Life report. LYO meet on Jan 17th and packed 136 food bags for the school outreach program. Their next meeting is Feb 14th in the Fellowship Hall. They also possibly plan on going skiing at Mt Crescent on March 5th. She also reported that the 'Mercy Me' concert they have tickets for has now been officially cancelled after being rescheduled.

Church Council Reports: Finance: Mike Jorgensen reported that Giving Statement are now ready in the narthex
Worship: Ron said the Cross will get put up in the Sanctuary before Ash Wednesday.
Property Management: we are going to start asking for donations to help finance the purchase of the new furnace
Outreach: Alan would like to discuss in depth, our outreach programs and programs in the community to see if there are any needs we can meet. He would also like to develop a culture of Appreciation in the Church and ways to contact members that are not able to come at this time and just let them know we are thinking about them. These will all be discussed further at more council meetings.
Old Business discussed: None
New Business discussed: None
Membership changes: Deaths & Funerals: Frances Howard DOB 7/2/1932, DOD 2/3/21
Address Change: Shane & Lacy Brockhoff to 49506 Hwy 83 Walnut IA 51577
Transfers Out: Steve & Shari Munyon transferred 1/29/21 to Peace United Church in Walnut
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ron Winters and seconded by Alan Blakestad. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Shela Jacobsen – Treasurer (for LeAnne McCarthy – Secretary)
Next Meeting will be March 10th, 2021

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

...We sit in the light of his word while many sit in darkness. Our table is spread with all sorts of food, both for necessity and delight, while millions starve and famish. Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness!



Can't See The Forest For The Trees (Part 9)

From John 17:17 “Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth.” God usually revealed himself to holy and righteous persons. They are his familiars, and you know that it is a part of friendship to communicate secrets. The Lord will communicate his secret to them that fear him. God looked upon it as a violation of friendship to conceal the matter of Sodom from Abraham. So a holy man has a greater insight into truth than a carnal man, for lusts are the clouds of the mind. He that is encumbered with lusts is blind. Revelation is the ground of our faith. What we know by reason is knowledge or opinion, but not faith. Faith supposes a revelation. Revelation can only be the object of faith because it is infallible truth and cannot deceive us. In times past God spoke in various ways – voice, visions, dreams, miraculous inspiration, urim and thummim, angels and signs from heaven – but in these last days he has spoken in his Son. God speaks today through his word and the light of his Spirit. Let us be content with this dispensation. Chrysostom said, ‘the saints should never complain of the darkness of the word, but of the darkness of their own heart!’ if things are dark to you, do not accuse the Scriptures as if they were an uncertain rule, but desire the Lord to open your eyes that you may look into them. Some desire to have Christ speak from heaven as to Paul. Neglecting the word, they desire miracles, to save them from pains of study, prayer and discourse. If men were not drowned in lusts and pleasures, all would be clear. Today, the mind of God is exceedingly open to us when his providence, word, and Spirit are taken together. The apostles laid the foundation and canon by miracles; our duty is only to build upon that foundation. Be content with the word, which is confirmed by miracles, sealed by the blood of martyrs, and manifested to your conscience by divine force.

Song #1 – Keep Me In The Moment <https://youtu.be/EwXlxzNzWV0>

Song #2 – Open They Eyes Of My Heart <https://youtu.be/k9F4hP2AZAw>

Thanks be to God!

March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			6:00 p.m.– Lenten Service at United Church 6:30 p.m.– 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class	4 p.m–6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry 6:15 p.m.– Peace Haven Worship	Pastor’s Day Off	5 p.m. Worship
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/Sunday School 11:15 a.m. First Communion Class			6:00 p.m.– Lenten Service at First Presbyterian 6:30 p.m.– 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class 8 p.m. Council	4 p.m–6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	Pastor’s Day Off	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/Sunday School 11:15 a.m. First Communion Class			6:00 p.m.– Lenten Service at Trinity Lutheran	4 p.m–6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	Pastor’s Day Off	5 p.m.– Worship
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/Sunday School 11:15 a.m. First Communion Class			6:00 p.m.– Lenten Service at St. Mary’s 6:30 p.m.– 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class	4 p.m–6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	Pastor’s Day Off	Youth Group Movie in Neola. Time TBA
28	29	30	31			
8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship/Sunday School/First Communion Celebration			6:30 p.m.– 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class			

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
301 N. CHESTNUT STREET
P.O. BOX 456
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

1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5 p.m.

Sundays at 9:00 a.m & 10:15 a.m.

Holy Communion: Celebrated at each worship service.

Sunday School during the 10:15 a.m. worship service.