

The Trinity Trumpet

June 2021

www.tlcavoca.com

Pastor:
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tlcpastoreric@gmail.com

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As I sit in front of the computer for the last time forming this newsletter article, a myriad of thoughts flood my mind. Do I talk about this or do I talk about that? After all thirty years is a long time to be writing newsletter articles.

The thought I keep coming back to is Vince Lombardi, the famous Green bay Packer football coach, after a devastating loss, held up a football up and said, "Gentleman, this is what we are about".

After thirty years, I would like to hold up a cross and say, "ladies and gentleman this is what we are about". The lyrics put it best:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

The first stanza tells us who we are to follow:

Come, Christians follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ the Son of God.

The second stanza tells us this is a lifelong endeavor from cradle to grave:

All new born servants of the crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of him who died.

The third stanza asks our Lord to draw us close to Him as we journey forth in His name:

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou has promised, draw us all to thee.

The fourth stanza tells us as Christians our song shall always be one of triumph:

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory!

Even though George W. Kitchin wrote these words in the eighteen century they are as relevant today as they were back then. Hear the refrain again:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

This is the Christians call through out the centuries. It is now my turn to pass the baton to the next generation. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim!!!!

Together in Christ!

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

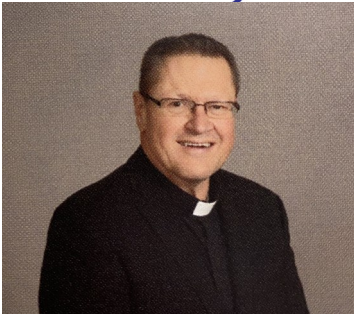
Trinity Lutheran Church



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

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

Our Pastor's
RETIREMENT



On June 13th, Pastor Eric will be retiring.

We will be having a special worship service to celebrate his 30 years of ordination. This will take place during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. There will be a time set apart for sharing at the end. We would love to see everyone at Pastor Eric's retirement party, but know that it might not be possible for all to attend. If you cannot attend and you'd like to send a special message to Pastor Eric, you can send a message or video to our Facebook page or email at tlcspaulsen@gmail.com. We

hope to hear from the many that Pastor Eric has touched in his 30 years of helping us to focus on the Cross! After the service, we'll continue the celebration with a good ole fashioned Lutheran potluck.



Pastor's Retirement Party

Potluck Luncheon

Last names beginning with the letters below please bring:

A-G Main Dish

H-P Side Dish

Q-Z Dessert

It's almost here!! VBS is in just a few weeks to a great week full of fun, faith, and fellow-ship. The registration links were emailed, as well as missing that, please contact Sue at



and the VBS committee is looking forward ship. Registrations are due on June 1st. as, camp week information, so if you are tlcspaulsen@gmail.com.

More volunteers are welcome to join us!

JUNE 28th—JULY 1st

The church council is in search of people who would be willing to be on the Call Committee. The congregation will then vote on the list of willing participants after the June 6th worship service, during the special congregational meeting. Please plan to attend. The Call Committee is the group that will help with the search of a new Pastor to lead TLC. Please let anyone on the council know if you are willing to help out in this way. Thank You!

Congregational Meeting



JUNE 6th

Church Council

President: Kathy Soetmelk
(712) 249-9027
Property Management: Dale Krohn
(402) 880-5072
Secretary: LeAnne McCarthy
(712) 307-0117
Christian Education: Beth Buboltz
(402) 419-3076
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
04/25	108	2338.01
05/02	131	3585.00
05/09 & 05/16	225	13705.51
05/23	86	2512.00

Robert Andersen– Dolores Harder,
Lynn & Callie Gronborg

Bobbie Paulsen– Don & Dorothy
Nelsen, Jerry & Donna Rold

Terry Kuhr– Don & Dorothy Nelsen



Altar Flowers

Beginning in June, the price of the altar flower vases will go to \$20.00 per vase.



We are no longer collecting pill bottles.



June/July Volunteer Schedule

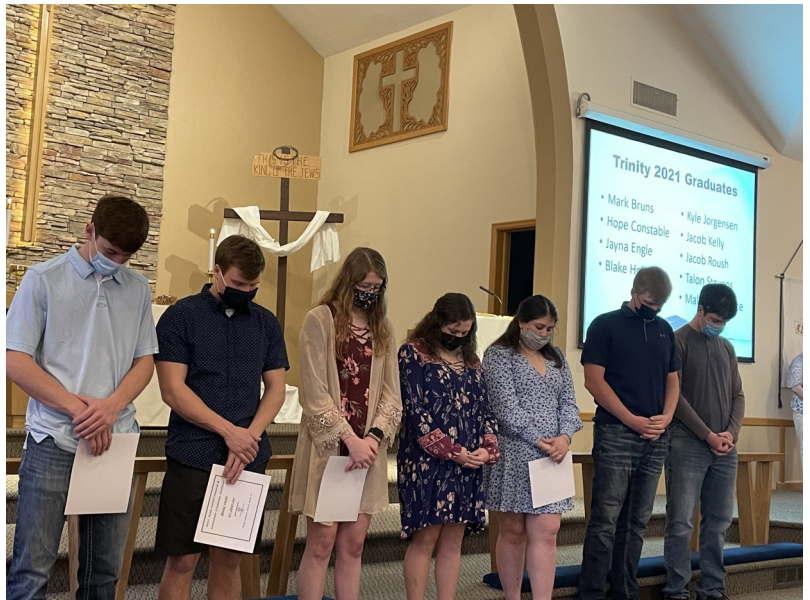
	Saturday, June 5, 5:00 p.m.	Sunday, June 6, 9:30 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Roger Nelson	Janiece Schroder
Acolytes	N/A	Chase Wheatley
		Sunday, June 13, 9:30 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer Reader		
Acolytes		
	Saturday, June 19, 5:00 p.m.	Sunday, June 20, 9:30 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Dorothy Nelsen	Peggy Osbahr
Acolytes	N/A	Ella Johnson
		Sunday, June 27, 9:30 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer Reader		Greg Petersen
Acolytes		Kaden Jorgensen
		Sunday, July 4, 9:30 a.m.
Scriptures & Prayer Reader		Dora Rock
Acolytes		Cash Freeman



Congrats to the Class of 2021!

On May 2nd, during our 10:15 a.m. service, our 2021 High School Seniors were honored. The TLC Class of 2021 (pictured) Jake Kelly, Blake

Holst, Makenzie Whyte, Hope Constable, Jayna Engle, Kyle Jorgensen & Jacob Roush (not pictured) Mark Bruns & Talon Stevens. Scholarships were also awarded during this time. Recipients were Mark Bruns, Blake Holst, Jacob Kelly, Makenzie Whyte and Jayna Engle.



On Sunday, May 9th, the end of the year Sunday School celebration took place during the 10:15 a.m. service. Sunday school attendance awards were given to: Morgan Sieh, Wyatt Sieh, Olivia Sieh, Parker Krohn, Blair Krohn, Roman Scheffler, Katie Scheffler, Guy Scheffler, Max Scheffler, Evan Harder & Hudson Harder. Maligh Rold performed a piece sharing her musical talents on the piano with us. 3rd and 4th graders received their bibles during this time as well. Volunteers who helped to make a successful year included: **Teachers:** Angela Sieh, Lauren Guyer, Sue Paulsen, Nicole Lamp, Cristin Rold, Gina Winter, & Jenny Partlow

Helpers: Kaleah Guyer, Brandi Pieken, Brooke Hilgenberg, Amber Johnson, Graycen Partlow, Saydi Paulsen, Nicole Holst, Katie Collins, Holly Hansen, Marie Madden, & Brooke Hilgenberg



Treats: Angela Sieh, Brooke Hilgenberg, Beth Boltz, Jenny Partlow, Jessica Rold, Brandi Pieken, Lacey Brockhoff, Nicole Krohn, Tamara Hansen, Marie Madden, Sam Scheffler, Amy Goetzinger, & Chelsie Madden

A **BIG thank you** to all our volunteers. It has been a year of uncertainty, but Sunday School has still managed to thrive for the youth. We look forward to resuming in the fall. Kristen Krohn & Stephanie Harder

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

...Mercy is when God spares us from the bad things we deserve. Grace is God giving us the good things we don't deserve. And blessings are when He is generous with both.



Love On The Cross (Part 3)

As I continued to think about the incredible love that Christ has for us, his church, I think of some Scriptures that talks about his love. John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him." 1 John 4:16-19 "We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgement, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. Such love has not fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. We love each other because he loved us first." Matthew 22:36-40 "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." John 15:9-14 "I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command." And Galatians 5:22-23 "But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!"

Very true it is, that Christ's love for us is beyond our comprehension as human beings. For every person on this planet was created uniquely by his very hand, and was created out of his love, and for us to love him in return. When I think about the love I have for my wife, children, grand-children, sisters, brother, family, and friends; and their love is returned back to me; it is a heaven here on earth. But when life produces a situation, or a particular circumstance arises, sometimes those relationships become strained, and the flame of our love can become turned down momentarily. And there is a pain that can be felt until that relationship is mended. When I think about both sides of that coin in my life, the high and the low; and then I compare that to how that high and low must be like for Jesus with all the people in the world, I cannot begin to fathom the intensity that Jesus must feel with his high and low. For mine would be just one grain of sand on the ocean floor when compared to his. One day in heaven, it will all be explained and maybe a bit easier to comprehend, so for now it will be just one of those "Biblical Unknowns".

....continued on next page.

In our Sunday morning Bible Study, we've often had discussions about the fruits of the spirit, and what kind of "fruit" we are producing – good or bad. The Bible also tells us that we will face trials while traveling through this life here on earth. And sometimes those trials have a tendency to make our fruit go bad. But if I can re-direct my focus on those Scriptures about Jesus' love for me, it usually can turn my fruit from bad to good. The one thing I try to always tell myself is, "You will never look into the eyes of someone, who is not loved by Christ." Our fruit is the overflow of our life, and we must be full before we can flow over. So as Pastor Eric has always directed us, "Focus on the cross", and let Jesus' love fill you till you overflow.

God, thank you for loving me yesterday, today, and tomorrow. In times when life seemed to be perfect, and in times when I couldn't love myself. Thanks be to God! Amen!



June 01	Adam	Krohn
June 01	Christian	Pieken
June 02	Rodney	Hargens
June 02	Robert	Jensen
June 04	Lillian	Scott
June 05	Dennis	Langer
June 06	La Verne	Kock
June 06	Peyton	VanCleave
June 07	LaVonne	Sidebottom
June 08	Bentley	Madden
June 08	Philip	Rodriguez
June 09	Dustin	DeJong
June 09	Susan	Paulsen
June 10	Travis	Hensley
June 10	Daniel	Rold
June 11	Ken	Collins
June 12	Novalee	Hutter
June 12	Wayne	Jacobsen
June 13	Penelope	Rold
June 14	Reese	Parker
June 15	Shane	Brockhoff
June 15	Graycen	Partlow
June 16	Joseph	Blotzer
June 16	Madison	Holst

June 16	Nikki	Jorgensen
June 16	Nathan	Smith
June 17	Elizabeth	Munyon-Nielsen
June 17	Marlene	Nelsen
June 19	Linda	Andersen
June 19	Benjamin	Ehlers
June 20	Katlyn	Patzner
June 20	Brandy	Luth
June 22	Richard	Holtz
June 22	Eric	Meissner
June 22	Dora	Rock
June 23	Eric	Allen
June 23	Blair	Krohn
June 23	Judith	Ring
June 24	Steven	Denton
June 24	Abigail	Plymale
June 26	Mark	Bruns
June 26	Ivan	Irlbeck
June 26	Hayli	Paulsen
June 27	Dennis	Hoffmann
June 27	Alan	Maassen
June 29	Rosalie	Krohn
June 30	Tonya	Olesen
June 30	Richard	Schenck



Notes from Your library:

There are few additions to your library. DVDs have been added. Not a great amount so if any of you reading this have additions you want to share to the DVD library feel free to do so. We of course do not need duplicates. Leave any additions with Sue. Thank You.

One DVD is an encapsulated life of David. David is referenced in the Bible as a son of God. Well there is hope for all because David seems to have walked right through at least four Commandments with Bathsheba. This DVD will not win any awards but it is interesting.

Have a great month and enjoy,

Milt



Trinity family, I will share a little bit about the process to call a new pastor. In the guidelines given by the NALC, the call process is a spiritual process of discernment led by the Holy Spirit. It is God's process. It is about the revealing of God's will, and waiting for the Lord to lead just the right person to be our pastor at Trinity. I invite all of you to pray as we begin this process and pray for the person that God is preparing to come to Trinity.

There are 4 steps that begin the call process. 1. The council will arrange for pulpit supply for the coming months, and for hospital visits and funerals. 2. A call committee will be formed by an election by the congregation. 3. The call committee will receive training in a conference call with David Wendel, the NALC Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry and Ecumenism. 4. Pastor Christopher Staley, Dean of the Iowa Mission District, NALC, will come to Trinity for a Congregational Workshop with as many people from Trinity as possible. This will develop our Congregational Profile that will be viewed by all pastors in the NALC.

Timeline for the first two steps: The council met Sunday after worship and began planning for pulpit supply. The NALC prefers that an ordained minister administer communion. This might change how often we are able to have communion at this time.

June 6 there will be a special congregational meeting after worship to elect a call committee.

Please pray about how God might lead you to help in some way. Maybe by leading worship, writing a message, giving a message, serving on the call committee, or supporting others who might be led to do these things. Everyone has an important role to play by praying during this time of transition. Please contact me or a council member if you are able to help or know of someone who might be able to help. Thank you.

Church Council President, Kathy Soetmelk



Trinity Lutheran Church - Special Congregational Council Meeting - May 23, 2021

In attendance: Pastor Eric, Kathy Soetmelk, Shela Jacobsen, Larry Chapman, Ron Winters (via phone), Sue Paulsen, Alan Blakestad, Dale Krohn, Beth Buboltz and LeAnne McCarthy.

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

The first order of business was pulpit supply. Pulpit supply is who will cover the weekly service(s), visitations, funerals, etc. while finding a replacement pastor. Ron (worship committee) will take the lead and Kathy will assist him. As a congregation we should pray for people who can assist in these services until a new pastor is found. Several names were brought up by members of the council and we will reach out to them and ask if they would be willing & able to assist.

The second order of business was the call committee, which will be the group that will work through the process of choosing a new pastor. This will be a volunteer committee that is chosen by the congregation and include 6-10 people, one church council member and a youth. Voting will take place on June 6th during the 9:30 am church service. There will be one liaison between the call committee and the church council. This committee will first be instructed by David Wendell on how this process works, then potential pastors will be interviewed and finally this committee will then make a recommendation to the congregation. All potential names for the call committee need to be provided to Kathy by June 3rd.

The meeting was adjourned by president Kathy Soetmelk.

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	4 Pastor's Day Off	5 5 p.m.—Worship
6 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Special Congrega- tional Meeting	7	8 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Christian Service	9 8 p.m. Council Meeting	10 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	11 Pastor's Day Off	12
13 9:30 a.m. Special Worship/ Pastor Eric's Retirement/ Potluck Luncheon	14	15	16	17 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	18	19 5 p.m.—Worship
20 9:30 a.m. Worship	21	22 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Christian Service	23	24 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	25	26
27 9:30 a.m. Worship	28 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. VBS	29 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. VBS	30 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. VBS	1 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. VBS 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry		

**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 9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion: Celebrated at each worship service.

Sunday School will resume after Labor Day.