

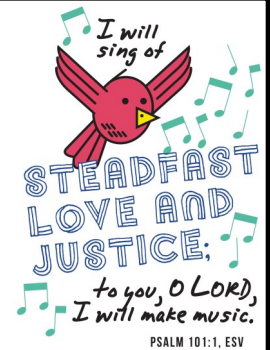
# The Trinity Trumpet

## August 2021

[www.tlcavoca.com](http://www.tlcavoca.com)

Council President:  
Kathy Soetmelk  
(712) 249-9027

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



### The Power of Listening

“The most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen,” says Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen, author and integrative medicine professor. “Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention.”

Twice in Mark 4, while teaching, Jesus urges, “Let anyone with ears to hear listen” (verses 9 & 23, NRSV). One way we show what Jesus means to us is by truly listening to his word — not just hearing sounds but being attentive and intentional. Likewise, one way we love and serve others is by respectfully listening to them: not assuming we know what they feel or mean or will say; not planning what to say even as they’re still speaking, but listening deeply to learn about them and their experience.

We often think living our faith calls for great accomplishments or worldwide reach. But Remen says, “A loving silence often has ... power to heal and to connect.” **Don’t underestimate something as basic and doable as listening as a way to practice Christlike love.**

Dear Heavenly Father, Open my eyes, Creator of the universe, that I may see your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; open my ears, that I may hear what the heavens are telling me about your glory, which transcends all material bounds and yet deigns to reside with human beings.

May I ever marvel at your tender care for us, and give you thanks and praise forever. Amen.

-Excerpts from Newsletter, Newsletter August 2021

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

## *Worship Leaders Schedule*



- Sunday, August 1 Pastor Steve Lund retired LCMC from Omaha
- Saturday, August 7th– Pastor Heather Ploen
- Sunday, August 8th– Nancy Collins/Kathy Soetmelk
- Sunday, August 15th– Pastor Steve Lund
- Saturday, August 21st– Pastor Ron Rasmussen
- Sunday, August 22nd– Pastor Christopher Staley
- Sunday, August 29th, Kathy Soetmelk
- Saturday, September 4th-To be determined
- Sunday, September 5th– Pastor Steve Lund

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help lead worship and to everyone for prayers and working together to be the church. Please continue to pray for the Pastor that God is calling to Trinity to lead us.



**Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us on August 22nd for worship led by Pastor Christopher Staley, Dean of the Iowa Mission District, NALC.** Following worship, Pastor Staley will head up our congregational workshop. We need as many people as possible to be a part of this discussion. Our TLC profile will be put together using the information formed during the workshop. This profile will then go out to all NALC pastors. After the workshop, we will gather for a potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to share!

Pastor Ron Rasmussen from Irwin and Jacksonville churches has agreed to help Trinity with funerals and hospital visits when persons are very ill or near the end of life. Please call the church office and Sue will get in touch with him for you. Please let Sue know when anyone is ill or in the hospital so that we can also have a congregation member visit them.



**Vacation Bible School 2021 is in the books! We had a great fun filled week with approximately 70 students in daily attendance. Also, add to that the 4 Okoboji counselors and approximately 25 helpers each day and as you can imagine the church was fully alive! God provided us with just the right number of helpers with our classes and meal times amongst many other things, such as, great weather, great snacks, and great givers. Our group raised \$378.00 that was donated to World Vision to buy goats, chickens, and ducks for families across the globe in need. We ended the week with a closing ceremony on Thursday evening, which was well attended by parents and families. Following the songs, counselors were pined in the face outside as a “thank you” for being such great givers. Ice cream and fellowship rounded out the evening. Many thanks go out to everyone involved with making VBS week a success by spreading the kindness and love of Jesus!!**



**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
07/04	65	4260.00
07/11	60	3525.22
07/18	55	2898.00
07/25	51	2087.00



**Robert Andersen**– Norma Pattee

**Bruce Holtz**– Betty Oehlertz, Jane Hansen

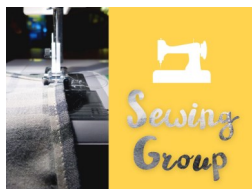
**Peggy Hansen**– Janiece Schroder

**AUGUST**



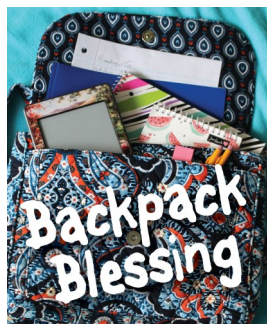
August 12	Andrea	Emmanuel
August 12	Larry	Lippold
August 14	Jackson	Hensley
August 15	Karen	Hansen
August 15	Michael	Scheffler
August 17	Alice	Botcher
August 17	Julaine	Carley
August 17	Courtney	Harder
August 17	Gary	Soetmelk
August 17	Matthew	Sternberg
August 18	Alisha	Allen
August 18	Alexander	Hansen
August 18	Ethan	Hoepner
August 18	Brittany	Kelly
August 19	Eli	Collins
August 19	Wilma	Klindt
August 21	Kristen	Krohn
August 21	Preston	Krohn
August 23	Jordan	Blotzer
August 23	Roger	Nelson
August 24	Joan	Johnson
August 24	Betty	Kubik
August 25	Connie	VonEschen
August 26	Sienna	Christian
August 26	Courtney	Freeman
August 27	Jim	Hansen
August 28	Robin	Andersen
August 30	Jerry	Mez
August 31	Jason	Holst

August 02	Delaney	Carroll
August 02	Michelle	Freeman
August 02	Sheryl	Harder
August 02	Peggy	Jacobsen
August 03	Courtney	Hensley
August 03	Jennifer	Partlow
August 05	Jayna	Engle
August 05	Kieghan	Johnson
August 06	Marie	Madden
August 06	Kaitlyn	Tooley
August 06	Becky	Woltmann
August 08	Breanna	Pauley
August 10	Ava	Paulsen
August 10	Makenna	Paulsen
August 10	Samantha	Scheffler
August 10	Seth	Schmidt
August 10	Bryson	Setran
August 11	Cara Beth	Buboltz
August 11	Gary	Collins
August 11	Janae	Sternberg



Plain colored sheets, fitted or flat, of any size are needed for the Christian service group. Bed sheets are used to make quilts which are then donated around the area.

## Back to School Ministry



Trinity's Back to School Night will be held on Wednesday night, August 18th, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. All volunteers and donations are welcomed to help make this another great night of helping kids start the school year off with the needed supplies to be successful!

Please have donations to the church by Sunday, August 8th. Thank You!

**We will again be collecting donations of backpacks!**

Any and all school supplies are needed or monetary donations are greatly appreciated as well!

## August/September Volunteer Schedule

		<b>Sunday, August 1, 9:30 a.m.</b>
Scriptures & Prayer Reader		Sue Blakestad
Acolytes		Evie Scott
Support		Larry Chapman
	<b>Saturday, August 7, 5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Sunday, August 8, 9:30 a.m.</b>
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Dick Brown	Alice Botcher
Acolytes	N/A	Emma Blotzer
Support	Gary Soetmelk	Jim Hansen
		<b>Sunday, August 15th, 9:30 a.m.</b>
Scriptures & Prayer Reader		Greg Petersen
Acolytes		Kaden Jorgensen
Support		Mike Krummel
	<b>Saturday, August 21, 5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Sunday, August 22, 9:30 a.m.</b>
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Dorothy Nelsen	Peggy Osbahr
Acolytes	N/A	Makenna Paulsen
Altar Guild	Roger & Kathy Nelsen	Bonnie Kardell & Jo Ann Krummel
Support	Don Nelsen	Dean Krohn
Communion Assistants	Dorothy Nelsen	Sue Paulsen, Joy & Dean Krohn
		<b>Sunday, August 29, 9:30 a.m.</b>
Scriptures & Prayer Reader		Janiece Schroder
Acolytes		Ty Nelson
Support		Dale Krohn
	<b>Saturday, Sept. 4th, 5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Sunday, Sept. 5, 9:30 a.m.</b>
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Ronda Holst	Karen Hansen
Acolytes	N/A	Terra Buboltz
Altar Guild	Reva Bylund & Ronda Holst	Marge & Greg Petersen
Support	Gary Soetmelk	Ron Winter
Communion Assistants	Reva Bylund	Janiece Schroder, Ron & Lori Winter

## 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

....'When they see what I do, they will learn nothing. When they hear what I say, they will not understand. Otherwise, they will turn to me and be forgiven.'"



And His



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### (Jesus and His Parables)

Then Jesus said to them, "If you can't understand the meaning of this parable, how will you understand all the other parables? The farmer plant seed by taking God's word to others. The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message, only to have Satan come at once and take it away. The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word. The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who hear God's word, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced. And the seed that fell on good soil represents those who hear and accept God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!"

WOW!! For me, that sentence that Jesus says, "If you can't understand the meaning of this parable, how will you understand all the other parables?" gets me a little on edge, and a little concerned that I may not be grasping the meaning, or the point of what Jesus is trying to make. From what I have read, heard, and even explained by Pastors, theologians; I have come to the conclusion that there are usually multiple things, or lessons being given by Jesus in the stories and parables that have been recorded for us in the Bible. There is usually what I would call the "ground level" information. This would be the message that is direct, straight to the point, as a "matter of fact", and is pretty much face to face context. Then there is what I would refer to as the hidden message, or the "thirty thousand foot view". This is a view that takes me a little more thinking, evaluating, and reflecting on what Jesus is saying. And usually a completely different door is opened up, and further understanding of what Jesus is pointing out. When I think of these two different ways of approaching Jesus' parables, I picture the "ground level" method as if I were standing next to a river. All that I can see is the water flowing in front of me, and that is all that I am concerned about, or faced with. But with the "thirty thousand foot view", I can see all the smaller bodies of water that flow into it, where it is going, how it bends and curves, and effects so many things, that I do not see when I'm at the "ground level" view. Luckily for us, and myself included, we have access to Study Bibles, which give us a better understanding of what the Bible tells us.

## Trinity Lutheran Church - Council Meeting - July 14, 2021

A call to order was made by council president Kathy Soetmelk. In attendance were Kathy Soetmelk, Dale Krohn, Ron Winter, Alan Blakestad, Shelia Jacobsen, Sue Paulsen, and LeAnne McCarthy. Absent were Beth Buboltz, Mike Jorgensen, and Larry Chapman. Kathy opened the meeting by leading the group in a silent centering and prayer. No guests were present. Thank you cards were prepared for the United Church for providing snacks, serving, and monetary donations for VBS. Steve & Joan Frum for donating ice cream for the end-of-week celebration for VBS. To G.G. Harris for changing times of the summer weight program to accommodate youth VBS volunteers. To Courtney Robinson & Ashleigh Maassen for taking the lead for the PK group for VBS. There were approximately 30 children in this group! To Roger & Kathy Nielsen for opening their home to the camp counselors from Okoboji.

A motion was made by Ron, seconded by Dale to approve the agenda, the motion was carried. A motion was made by Dale, seconded by Alan to approve the minutes from the last meeting, the motion was carried. Shelia provided the members with a printed treasurer's report, balance sheet, and check register. No current bills were submitted, however, we discussed payment for volunteer pastors during the interim and we will work to issue checks to those volunteer pastors on a weekly basis. A motion was made by LeAnne, seconded by Ron to approve this information, motion carried. Kathy provided a verbal president's report to the council members. Sue provided the council with a written report. VBS was a success! We had approximately 70 children in daily attendance and 22 helpers. The group raised \$378 for World Vision efforts to donate to farm animals. Several members of the youth group donated their time to assist with VBS. This was especially helpful due to the fact we didn't have as many camp counselors this year. Sue was contacted by Kathy Denning with the Catholic Youth Group to have some possible joint dates for the youth group this fall. Trinity's annual back-to-school night will be held on Wednesday, August 18th. All help is welcomed. In the past, any deficit in donations was covered by the church. A motion was made by Dale, seconded by Alan to provide up to \$1500 for the back-to-school night for the local children. Sue will take care of purchasing any items that we need in order to provide backpacks and school materials to those in need. Larry donated a laptop to allow us to play video while recording the church service. Time was spent with Oxen Technology to load the programs needed and systems in place. A new cord was needed to connect the new monitor in the sanctuary. The free Dropbox service has been discontinued and needs a paid subscription to continue. This is approximately \$120/year. LeAnne stated that there may be other free options available and she would research and talk to METC. Internet was disconnected from the parsonage and equipment returned to METC. The state elevator inspection took place. The annual rummage sale will take place September 24th & 25th. The church was contacted for use of the fellowship hall for the football team dinners this fall. Sue will be out of the office July 23rd-Friday, July 30th. Addition to the agenda, Call Committee report. Chelsie Madden agreed to be the chair of the call committee. Council liaison is LeAnne. A call committee survey will be sent out via printed version in narthex, email and mail to the congregation to determine the top items we will be looking for in a new pastor. The next meeting will be on August 16th. Pastor Staley will be here on August 22nd for a congregational workshop and meal.

Council Reports-Education (Beth Buboltz) - no report, Outreach (Alan Blakestad) - no report, Finance (Mike Jorgensen) - no report, Property Management (Dale Krohn) - the parsonage is in need of an updated bathroom and some fresh paint, Dale will contact contractors and get estimates for these, he will continue to work on the work needed to the ally/parking lot and also the AC unit from Feekes, Stewardship (Larry Chapman) - no report, Worship (Ron Winter) - Ron stated we have not had any issues finding people to fill in and have filled the next few months with volunteer pastors for funerals, weddings, etc. For the interim we will be keeping one service on Sundays as it is difficult to find someone to fill both services. Service time will remain at 9:30 am even after school starts in August. ; A motion was made by Ron, seconded by Dale to approve the reports, motion carried. No old business was presented, no new business was presented.

The following membership changes were given: Name Changes :Amy (Goetzinger) Jacobsen; Deaths & Funerals: Wesley Young, DOB 03/18/1998, DOD 06/09/2021, Funeral 06/17/2021, Pastor Ron Rasmussen officiated., Bruce Holtz, DOB 03/01/1954, DOD 06/21/2021, Funeral 06/25/2021, held at Pauley Jones funeral home.; Weddings :Robb Jacobsen & Amy Goetzinger 06/12/2021, officiated by Pastor Eric Meissner; A motion to approve the membership changes was made by Dale, seconded by Ron, motion carried.

A motion was made to adjourn by Ron, seconded by LeAnne, motion carried. The next meeting will be held on August 11th at 8 PM. The meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by LeAnne McCarthy, council secretary.

## CALL COMMITTEE SURVEY

Please look over the input from the committee as to what they would like to see in the new Pastor.

Please add one of your own at #12.

Vote for the 6 most important ones that you would want in the new Pastor.

Please return them to the church by 8-15-21.

1. Be outgoing and caring.
2. Preach the Word of God focusing on the cross.
3. Be willing to visit the sick and home bound in the congregation.
4. Be involved with our Youth group, First Communion & Confirmation classes.
5. Support and encourage our Bible Study Groups.
6. Give a children's sermon each week and watch over our Sunday School children.
7. Willing to counsel those who need it.
8. Take part in our small-town community.
9. Willing to do traditional and contemporary services for both Sunday and Saturday nights.
10. Frequency of communion. Would prefer to do it each service.
11. Be involved with our local and outreach missions.
12. Please add your input as to what you would want in the new Pastor.



# August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion	2	3	4	5 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	6	7 5 p.m.—Worship with Communion
8 9:30 a.m. Worship	9	10 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m. Christian Service	11 8 p.m. Council Meeting	12 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	13	14
15 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion	16 6 p.m. Call Committee Meeting	17	18 5:30 p.m. Back to School Night	19 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	20	21 5 p.m.—Worship with Communion
22 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion/ Congregational Meeting & Potluck	23	24 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m. Christian Service	25	26 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	27	28
29 9:30 a.m. Worship	30	31				

**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 Kathy Soetmelk at (cell) 712-249-9027, (work) 712-764-4201 or  
(home) 712-343-2429.

### **Worship Services**

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

**Sundays at 9:30 a.m.**

**Holy Communion: Celebrated as noted on the calendar.**

**Sunday School will resume after Labor Day.**