

The Trinity Trumpet

May 2022

www.tlcavoca.com

Council President:
Kathy Soetmelk
(712) 249-9027

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



Where home is

As Christians, we trust that after this life, we'll be safe with God in heaven. What heaven is like is a mystery, but we rely on images from the Bible, including "the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven" (Revelation 21:2). Wait — what? Usually we imagine going "up" to God. What a difference to picture God's city, and God himself, "coming down" to us!

When we travel from the place we know best to visit others, no matter how much we love them we usually don't feel "at home." On the other hand, when I went from college to visit my parents and sisters, I was immediately at home, not just physically but emotionally.

Revelation 21:3 (NRSV) says, "The home of God is among mortals." God is "at home" with us! He knows our routines, understands how we live, fits right in. We don't have to behave in any special way, like for "company," because God is family. He "gets" us and loves us. Best of all, because God is at home with us, we can be at home with God.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

Fixed hours of prayer

As summer approaches, you may look forward to a more relaxed routine. But don't discard all your good habits and commitments! For soul care, try fixed hours of prayer. Simply expand the concept of praying at set times (such as before meals and bed) into praying regularly each morning, midday and evening. Set an alarm on your watch or phone and commit to engaging with God at the specified times. You can do this on your own or with family or friends.

You can pray using Scripture verses, devotional guides, the *Book of Common Prayer* or a resource such as *ExploreFaith.org*. (When I'm tired or overwhelmed, it's helpful to pray someone else's words.) You might want to pray the same prayers morning, noon and evening for a week or a month. This practice isn't meant to replace spontaneous prayers. Instead, use fixed hours of prayer to nurture a consistent habit of conversing with God.

—Janna Firestone

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**.

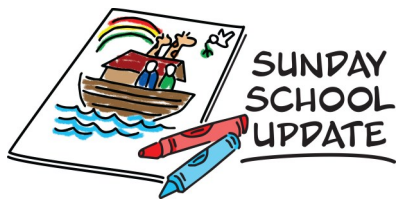
301 N. Chestnut St. AVOCA, IA
 712-343-2518



Please join us on May 15th, as we celebrate our High School Graduating Seniors. We will be honoring them during our 9:30 a.m. service.

Scholarships that were awarded from our Endowment and Memorial committees will also be announced during this time. There will be a light reception for the Seniors and their families following the service, hosted by the church council in the fellowship hall.

Congrats to the Class of 2022!



Our Sunday School Program is getting ready to wrap up for another school year. Please join us on May 8th as we celebrate our students! Our 3rd graders will be receiving bibles, students will receive attendance awards and all the kids will be singing!



VBS is right around the corner-it will held June 20th thru the 23rd! Our theme this year is "Anchored in Hope." The committee has met and preparations are underway. Parents – please watch Facebook in the coming week, our registration link will go live. Early registrations will receive a free T-shirt! All registrations will be due by May 18th. Timely registrations help us greatly! The evening of the 23rd there will be an ice cream social with closing songs by the campers at 6 p.m. Parents and grandparents please plan on joining us! Also, if you are available to help us out in any capacity that week, please let Sue know. Even a few hours a couple days that week can be a big help!! All help is encouraged and greatly appreciated!

Worship Leaders Schedule

- Sunday, May 1st-Pastor Steve Lund
- Sunday, May 8th-Pastor Steve Lund
- Sunday, May 22nd-Roger Nelson
- Sunday, May 29th–Pastor Steve Lund
- Sunday, June 5th– Pastor Steve Lund



In-home communion will once again resume soon. If this is a ministry that you would be available to help with, please contact Sue in the office at 712-343-2518. This is a wonderful ministry and has been missed by many since it's pause due to COVID. Also, if you would like to receive communion in your home please let Sue know that also!

June 20-23



CHURCH BUSINESS

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

Weekend of	Total Attendance	Total Gifts Received
04/03	120	4795.00
04/10	170	33264.93
04/14	55	1095.00
04/15	60	1285.00
04/17	87 & 145	4633.00
04/24	135	3545.00



Donald Nielsen— Thomas & Carolyn Morris, Robert & Donna Scheel, David & Brenda Dau, Gary & DeAnna Krummel, Mrs. Robert H. Brown, Janiece Schroder, Duane & Kristi Nielsen, Betty Oehlertz

Janice Niemann— Janiece Schroder, Dave Niemann Family

Gene Sornsen— Janiece Schroder, Peggy Osbahr, Betty Oehlertz



*Thanks to our
Volunteers*

May/June Volunteer Schedule

Sunday, May 1st, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Dan Rold
Communion Helper	Greg Petersen
Acolytes	Maeleigh Rold
Support	Shela Jacobsen
Sunday, May 8th, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	NA
Communion Helper	Kathy Soetmelk
Acolytes	Collin Harder
Support	Jim Hansen
Sunday, May 15th, 7:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Janiece Schroder
Communion Helper	Marge Petersen
Acolytes	Makenna Paulsen
Support	Larry Chapman

Sunday, May 22nd, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Peggy Osbahr
Communion Helper	NA
Acolytes	Ty Nelson
Support	Mike Krummel
Sunday, May 29th, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Arla Pickham
Communion Helper	Dora Rock
Acolytes	Cash Freeman
Support	Ron Winter
Sunday, June 5th, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Nancy Collins
Communion Helper	Sue Paulsen
Acolytes	Emma Blotzer
Support	Gary Soetmelk

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

...Being a Christian is hard work! From the moment our feet hit the floor in the morning, until we close our eyes at night, the world is constantly at our heels, trying to conform us to its ways and dealings.



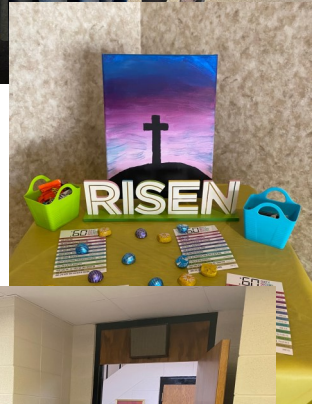
What Was I Thinking (Part 2)

And as I think about the never-ending work to stay grounded, and focused on the cross, I’m reminded of the saying: “Even a dead fish can go downstream.” The current of the river, being the world and its ways, can quickly take you wherever it goes as long as you submit to its control. But for a fish to go upstream against the current, it must be strong and ready to deal with whatever obstacles comes its way. So, we too, if as Christians are to go against the mainstream of life, we must be spiritually strong to fight whatever obstacles comes our way, or an attack. But life is busy, and sometimes in the thick of the battle we can quickly forget the basics, and the mind, as I said, can also do the work of the enemy. And as I was going through one of these seasons, I had a devotional one morning, that reminded me of some of the basics, and it put my mind back in the right frame, and it helped carry me through those battles and attacks. It is based on Philippians 4:8, “And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.” In many ways, we are what we think. Our minds are the root of our actions, and it is through our minds that our affections are stirred. Therefore, it is absolutely imperative that we think about the right things and that we learn to think in the right way. In other words, we must learn to think Christianly. Some people would say that to think Christianly is to have a mind that only contemplates explicitly Christian topics, closing itself to every other notion. But this doesn’t fit the description of Christian thinking that we find in Scripture. The Bible teaches that we actually ought to think about everything, but that we need to learn to do so from a biblical perspective (2 Corinthians 10:5). We should consider music, engineering, medicine, art, justice, freedom, and love – the whole gamut of human existence – through the lens of the revealed truths of God’s word.



Youth group will meet again on **Wednesday, May 18th at 5:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be served before we head over to Omaha. We will be attending a 6-12th grade worship service at Life.Church in Elkhorn, NE. Hard to believe, but this will be our last meeting of the school year!

Please RSVP, as we have some forms to fill out ahead of time and so we can round up enough drivers. Hope all can join us for our year end meeting!



May 01	Ayden	McCarthy
May 02	Kaeden	Rold
May 03	Eliza	Luth
May 05	Kendra	Hansen
May 05	Gianna	Rock
May 05	Carolyn	Spencer
May 05	Dale	Tech
May 06	Emery	Brockhoff
May 06	Josey	Jacobsen
May 06	Jacob	Kelly
May 09	Jagger	Johnson
May 10	Becky	Jacobsen
May 10	Mabel	Jacobsen
May 12	Adalin	Lamp
May 12	Gary	Pattee
May 13	Taryn	Constable
May 13	Linda	Schumacher
May 14	Corey	Madden
May 16	Laura Ann	Allen
May 16	Erin	Carroll
May 16	Claira	Yates
May 17	Kaden	Jorgensen
May 17	Donald	Nelsen
May 19	Kevin	Hansen
May 19	Wayne	Krohn
May 19	Michael	Sampson
May 19	Trey	Starr



May 21	Robert	Brown
May 21	Michael	Hansen
May 21	Taylen	Hansen
May 21	Steven	Jorgensen
May 23	Lexy	Knop
May 24	Devin	Hoepner
May 25	Teresa	Hoepner
May 25	Wendy	Jorgensen
May 25	Ron	Winter
May 26	Callie	Gronborg
May 26	Lori	Sampson
May 26	Marley	VanCleave
May 27	Alan	Blakestad
May 27	Cassidy	Feigenbutz
May 27	Chad	Hansen
May 27	Regina	Hansen
May 28	Ashtyn	Danker
May 28	Jake	Olesen
May 29	Kaleah	Guyer
May 31	Verdean	Berry



Youth group met twice last month. First we decorated for Easter using our paintings from last month and sidewalk chalk. We also cleaned up a Church neighbors yard and had a little fun with an Easter egg hunt! Our next meeting, we met and packed food bags for the school outreach program. One more meeting to go before summer!

Trinity Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes- April 13, 2022

Members Present: Kathy Soetmelk- via phone, Beth Buboltz, Nicole Krohn, Shela Jacobsen, Alan Blakestad, Dale Krohn, Ron Winter, and Amber Johnson. Guest: Sue Paulsen

Call to Order: Kathy called the meeting to order by reading a devotion from a book titled *Abandon By God* with a silent centering.

Recognizing Guests: No guests were present.

Thank You Cards: A card was sent to Mt. Nebo Masonic Chapter in Avoca for the monetary donation given to the food pantry.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Alan Blakestad, seconded by Beth Buboltz, motion carried.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Dale Krohn, seconded by Ron Winter, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Shela Jacobsen shared the Treasurer's Report. No current bills. A motion was made to approve the report by Alan Blakestad, seconded by Nicole Krohn, motion carried.

President's Report/Comments: There are three weeks left of Confirmation Class. All students are doing well with completing sermon notes. There are six students from confirmation class participating in the mentor program. The mentor program consists of church members assigned to a student. Those individuals may share conversation, send a correspondence for a holiday or birthday, and continue to pray for the youth.

Sue's Report: LYO went to see Toby Mac in concert with 34 youth in attendance. April 16th the group will do some yard work for a community member. LYO will meet again April 24th after church. Vacation Bible School planning has begun with sign up available soon. VBS will be June 20-23 this year. Plans to honor seniors will be during the church service on May 1st to recognize graduates. Following the church service a reception of coffee and donuts will be held in the basement. Sue will be out of the office on May 19th and 20th. Sue was needing support for the church services for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Call Committee: This committee met on April 13th with the church council to discuss the plans for a pastor to visit our church. The plan thus far will consist of Pastor Matt and his wife staying the night in Avoca on April 23rd. Pastor Matt will provide a sermon during the church service on April 24th. After church there will be a meet and greet with the pastor. Prior to Matt leaving Avoca, he will be given a tour of the parsonage, the community, say "hi" to the youth group, and have lunch with the call committee and church council at the Ember's.

Council Reports: A motion was made to approve the council reports by Ron Winter, seconded by Dale Krohn, motion carried.

Education: New superintendents for Sunday school will be Angela Sieh and Beth Buboltz. Thank you gifts for Stephanie, Kristen, and Nancy will be given to them for their time with the Sunday school program.

Outreach: Alan reported that the Abelschiever meal will be on Sunday, April 24th at Peace Haven Nursing Home in Walnut.

Finance: No report.

Property Management: No report.

Stewardship: More research for a sign. Nicole will send out greetings to new people visiting our church.

Worship: Need to take the cross down after the sixth week of Easter.

Old Business: Alan reviewed the constitution and has some ideas. This discussion will continue at the next council meeting.

New Business: Looking for a new computer for the church office for Sue. Sue will make the decision about the computer. Ron Winter made a motion, seconded by Nicole Krohn, motion carried.

Membership Changes: No address changes, new members, baptisms, transfers, and removal from rolls. Name changes: Katelin Schroder is now Katelin Weis. Deaths and funerals: Janice Niemann- DOB-07/18/1933, DOD-03/09/2022, Funeral services at Pauley Jones. Donald Nielsen- DOB- 12/27/1946, DOD-03/24/2022, Funeral service held on 04/01/2022 with Pastor Shari Munyon. Wedding: Katelin Schroder and Brandon Weis, 04/02/2022, Officiant by Pastor Heather Ploen. Ron Winter made a motion to approve these membership changes, seconded by Beth Buboltz, motion carried.

Adjournment: Alan Blakestad made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Nicole Krohn, motion carried. Next meeting will be held on May 11, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Amber Johnson, Secretary

May 2022

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion/Sunday School	2 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	3	4 5 p.m. Alleluia Choir 6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Confirmation	5 2 p.m.—TLCW Meeting 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	6	7
8	9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion/End of Year Sunday School Program	9 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	10 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Christian Service	11 5 p.m. Alleluia Choir 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/Senior Recognition/Christensen Baptism	16 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	17	18 5 p.m. Alleluia Choir 5 p.m.—9:30 p.m. Youth Group Worship in Omaha	19 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	20	21
22	9:30 a.m. Worship	23 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Office Closed	24 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Christian Service Office Closed	25 5 p.m. Alleluia Choir	26 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	27	28
29	9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion	30 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir	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
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion: Celebrated as noted on the calendar.

**Sunday School during 9:30 a.m. service., will conclude for the summer after
May 8th.**