

The Trinity Trumpet

August 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



Safe and Secure

The Resurrection is an exploding flare announcing to all sincere seekers that it is safe to believe. Safe to believe in ultimate justice. Safe to believe in eternal bodies. Safe to believe in heaven as our estate and the earth as its porch. Safe to believe in a time where questions won't keep us awake and pain won't keep us down. Safe to believe in open graves and endless days and genuine praise. ...

Because of the Resurrection, everything changes. Death changes. It used to be the end; now it is the beginning.

—Max Lucado, *When Christ Comes*



A Living Mystery

In *Walking on Water*, Madeleine L'Engle quotes Emmanuel Suhard, a French cardinal in the Catholic Church during the 1940s: "To be a witness does not consist in engaging in propaganda, nor even in stirring people up, but in being a living mystery. It means to live in such a way that one's life would not make sense if God did not exist."

What would it look like in your life to be "a living mystery" — to live in a way that wouldn't make sense if not for God's existence? What risks might you take for the sake of wholeness and justice in the world? To what lengths might you go to serve a neighbor? What fears might no longer fill your heart and rule your mind? Will you see Jesus in people who are poor, be surprised to find him revealed amid suffering? What "fruits" might you allow the Holy Spirit to cultivate in you — generosity, patience, self-control? What grace will you show to others because you have experienced God's love so powerfully? All of which makes sense only because God exists!

-Excerpts from Newsletter, Newsletter August 2022



Worship Leaders Schedule

Sunday, August 7th-Pastor Steve Lund
Sunday, August 14th-Pastor Steve Lund
Sunday, August 21st-Pastor Matt Bahnfleth
Sunday, August 28th-Pastor Matt Bahnfleth



Pastor Matt has accepted the call to Trinity and will begin in the pulpit on August 21st. The following Sunday, on August 28th will be Pastor Matt's installation service here, with Pastor Christopher Staley visiting to lead this celebration. A light reception of cookies and bars will be held following this service.

Please join us in welcoming our new pastor,

Pastor Matt Bahnfleth!



Back to school time is upon us! We will be collecting book bags and supplies again this year and new this year, we are also asking for donations of granola bars, protein bars, etc.! We want to send the kids off with new supplies and some brain food :) A collection bin for the backpacks and bars will be in the narthex! Monetary donations for school supplies is also greatly appreciated! We estimate it costs about 50 dollars per child to meet the needs of one child's school supply list for the year. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please mark your donation in the offering. Let's help our community of kids get back to school!

The Back to School night will be held on Wednesday, August 17th at 6:00 p.m.. Anyone wishing to help with this ministry please contact Sue in the office at 712-343-2518!



Sunday School will resume soon with classes starting again on September 11th!

Church Council

President: Kathy Soetmelk

(712) 249-9027

Property Management: Dale Krohn

(402) 880-5072

Secretary: Amber Johnson

(402) 681-6847

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: Nicole Krohn

(712) 309-2318

Treasurer: Shela Jacobsen

(402) 490-2423



**CHURCH
BUSINESS**

| Weekend of | Total Attendance | Total Gifts Received |
|------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 07/03 | 65 | 4340.00 |
| 07/10 | 85 | 4877.00 |
| 07/17 | 95 | 1577.000 |
| 07/24 | 45 | 6638.13 |



*In
Memory of*

Gene Sornsen– Gary & Kathy Soetmelk

Dick Brown– Gary & Kathy Soetmelk

Jan Niemann– Gary & Kathy Soetmelk

Stacy Rock– Gary & Kathy Soetmelk

Donald Nielsen– Gary & Kathy Soetmelk



The Annual Rummage Sale will be held on September 23rd and 24th. Donated items will be accepted Sunday thru Tuesday of that week. Thanks in advance for your donations!

August/September Volunteer Schedule

| | Sunday, Aug. 7th, 9:30 a.m. |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Scriptures & Prayer Reader | Danny Pattee |
| Communion Helper | Neil Paulsen |
| Acolytes | Collin Harder |
| Support | Dean Krohn |
| | |
| | Sunday, Aug. 14th, 9:30 |
| Scriptures & Prayer Reader | Amanda Holst |
| Communion Helper | Dora Rock |
| Acolytes | Madison Holst |
| Support | Gary Soetmelk |
| | |
| | Sunday, Aug. 21st, 9:30 |
| Scriptures & Prayer Reader | Janae Sternberg |
| Communion Helper | Greg Petersen |
| Acolytes | Ava Paulsen |
| Support | Sue Paulsen |

| | Sunday, Aug. 28th, 9:30 a.m. |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Scriptures & Prayer Reader | Cristin Rold |
| Communion Helper | Kathy Soetmelk |
| Acolytes | Maeleigh Rold |
| Support | Shela Jacobsen |
| | |
| | Sunday, Sept. 4th, 9:30 a.m. |
| Scriptures & Prayer Reader | Arla Pickham |
| Communion Helper | Karen Hansen |
| Acolytes | Bella Lamp |
| Support | Jim Hansen |



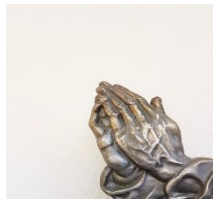
TRINITY'S FIVE & DIME



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

...And the last weapon that Paul is telling the church in Ephesus to use is prayer, and I would say that it is used as both an offensive or proactive weapon, before the battle begins; and also as a defensive weapon. So pray before, during, and after your spiritual battles, and pray with persistence!



“Lord, teach us to pray” Luke 11:1 (Part 2)

Continuing with Paul as our focus on prayer, we find that there are five areas, or qualities that he prays for his Ephesian brothers and sisters, and are good areas for us also to use for our prayers. #1 – Pray for focus, #2 – Pray for hope, #3 – Pray for riches, #4 – Pray for power, and #5 – Pray for love. So, #1 – Pray for focus. Blindness and sightedness, they are 180 degrees apart from each other. You cannot be blind and have sight at the same time. That is also true for the eyes of our heart as well as for the eyes in our head. In that famous song, Amazing Grace; the hymn writer John Newton, who was a slave trader that turned pastor, he penned the lyric “I was blind, but now I see.” That became his testimony as he went through his conversion. Also in that same sense, Saul of Tarsus also was blind, but could finally see. When he met Jesus, on his way to Damascus to round up more of the early Christians, Jesus blinded him with scales that covered his eyes. Then Jesus spoke to Ananias, a believer of Christ, and sent him to talk to Saul. And in Acts 9:17-18 it says: “So Ananias went and found Saul. He laid his hands on him and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Instantly something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized.” The scales falling from his eyes was emblematic of the spiritual transformation that Saul experienced as he realized, so Jesus is alive. So Jesus is real. So Jesus is Lord. He had been blind, so blind that he fought the light and had been arresting Jesus’ followers. But now he saw. Saw so clearly that he followed the Light of the world and proclaimed him throughout the known world. And so, the common theme that runs through Paul’s writings to the Ephesians is this: “Without spiritual sight, we’ll see nothing that truly matters. And he prays for both non-Christians and believers alike in Ephesians 1:16-18, “I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called – his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.” Your heart is the very center of your existence – your core. It’s the headquarters of who you are and what you are – your mind, your emotion, your will. And you need the eyes of your heart opened wide and focused well.



On July 10th, during our 9:30 a.m. worship service, we welcomed Navi James Teresa Robinson into the family of Christ thru baptism. Navi's parents are Tyler & Courtney Robinson. Her sponsors are Erika Van Cleave and Keith Robinson.

Congratulations Robinson family!

Harrison Breck Nelsen was welcomed into the family of Christ thru baptism during our 9:30 a.m. service on July 17th. Harrison's parents are Dustin & Lesley Nelsen. His sponsors are Dane Nelsen and Laura Ring.

Congratulations Nelsen Family!



Baptisms

IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

AUGUST

BIRTHDAYS

| | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 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 |
| 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 31 | Jason | Holst |

Trinity Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes- July 6, 2022

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

Call to Order: Kathy called the meeting to order by reading a devotion titled *Abide in Me*.

Recognizing Guests: Sue Paulsen

Thank You Cards: Thank you cards were given to Joy and Dean Krohn, Angie and Dale Maassen, and Arla Pickham who opened their homes to VBS counselors. Thank you cards were also sent to the United Church and the ladies from the United Church for providing and preparing the food for snacks each day of VBS.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Mike Jorgensen, seconded by Nicole Krohn, motion carried.

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

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

President's Report/Comments: Kathy delivered books to the seniors. Kathy read a thank you card from Aaron Roloff for the book and scholarship.

Sue's Report: Pool party/incentive for all VBS helpers and youth group on 6/22/22. Approximately 45-50 people were in attendance. Other items to report: VBS had a total of 103 kids served. Host homes were Arla Pickham, Dean and Joy Krohn, and Dale and Angie Maassen. July 30th a youth group from Wisconsin will be staying overnight in the church. This group has stayed over before on their way to a mission trip to Texas. Reminder that Sue will be on vacation Friday, July 22nd through Friday, July 29th. Discussion around hosting another back to school night/supplies. A motion was made to use the same amount of money used from last year by Mike Jorgensen, seconded made by Ron Winter, motion carried.

Call Committee: No news to report.

Council Reports:

Education: Sunday school will start on Sunday, September 11th. Superintendents and Beth will continue to meet about the plans for Sunday school. Outreach: None. Finance: None. Property Management: Replacing faucets throughout the church and parsonage. Nick Denning will be mowing the church and parsonage yards. The hail adjuster will be coming to look at the roof for hail damage. Gaining estimates for building repairs. Stewardship: Wanting to look at the nursery room that includes the toys, safety of the pack and play. Spoke to people who would like to be visited by someone from the church. The nursery was cleaned out by sorting through the toys. Talked about the Pac N Play and the diaper changing table. Worship: Discussion around the number of church services. After much discussion a motion was made by Alan Blakestad, to continue church services on Sundays at 9:30 after the new pastor begins at Trinity. The motion was seconded by Nicole Krohn, motion passed. A motion was made to approve the council reports by Ron Winter, seconded by Dale Krohn, motion carried.

Old Business: The constitution was reviewed. Each committee will have a description and role expectations. Pastor Matt will be moved by Lint United Van Lines. Loading the truck on July 27th arriving either July 29th or August 5th. Pastor Matt's compensation package was discussed.

New Business: August 28th will be the installation for Pastor Matt. A reception will be held afterwards by serving cookies from Kami's Cookies.

Membership Changes: No new address changes or name changes. New members to the church are: Jennifer, Lucas, and Liberty Plumb-transferred in from Immanuel Lutheran Church, Harlan, IA. AngieKay Brisbois, previously at St. John's Lutheran Church in Persia, IA (now closed). No deaths or funerals. Baptisms: Nolan Herbert Krohn, DOB- 5/25/21, Baptism- 6/5/22, Parents- Nicole and Darren Krohn, Officiated by Pastor Steve Lund. Madeline Jean Christensen, DOB- 12/10/21, Baptism-6/12/22, Parents- Lauren and Zachary Christensen. Rhett Eugene Clayton, DOB-6/29/21, Baptism-6/26/22, Parents- Jill and Kyle Clayton, Officiated by Pastor Steve Lund. Lyla Jane Clayton, DOB-6/29/21, Baptism-6/26/22, Parents- Jill and Kyle Clayton, Officiated by Pastor Steve Lund. No one to remove from the rolls and transfers. No weddings to report. Dale Krohn made a motion to approve the membership changes, seconded by Alan Blakestad, motion carried.

Adjournment: Ron Winter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Nicole Krohn, motion carried. Next meeting will be held on August 10, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Amber Johnson, Secretary

August 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----|--|---------------------------------------|---|-----|-----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 2 p.m.– TLCW Meeting 4 p.m.–6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry | 5 | 6 |
| 7 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion | 8 | 9 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Christian Service | 10 8 p.m. Council Meeting | 11 4 p.m–6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry | 12 | 13 |
| 14 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion | 15 | 16 | 17 TLC Back to School Night 6 p.m. | 18 4 p.m–6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry | 19 | 20 |
| 21 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion/Pastor Matt | 22 | 23 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Christian Service | 24 | 25 4 p.m–6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry | 26 | 27 |
| 28 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion/Pastor Matt Installation & Reception | 29 | 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
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion: Celebrated as noted on the calendar.
Sunday School will resume after Labor Day.