

The Trinity Trumpet

September 2022

www.tlcvoca.com

Pastor:
Matt Bahnfleth
(402)-750-8327
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Director of Ministry in Daily Life:
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“Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ? Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread.” 1 Corinthians 10: 16 - 17

“And the LORD will be king over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be the only one, and His name the only one.” Zech-ariah 14: 9

“Elect from ev’ry nation, yet one o’er all the earth; her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with ev’ry grace endued.” The Church’s One Foundation verse 2

The First Thing, First

I have heard a lot of things in 20 years of ministry from the people of God and not the people of God; some wonderful and not so good. Truth - Faith and Baptism in Christ are our center and hope. Trusting in Christ’s work of salvation alone, God offers us something wonderful forever, but even more, something for now. Do I know what that means to and for ME? Some of the challenging statements are: *“Why do we need to study this stuff?”* and *“All you have to do is believe, right?”* These might not seem to be significant to you, in fact you might feel the same and want to put this down and move on, but here is the rub. The Church in America has been described as “biblically illiterate,” and wow does that make Satan happy. Question -Don’t you think that Satan, the “master of lies” could turn people in the Church into believing they are doing God’s will, while they are not actually doing God’s will?

People of faith share the same struggles as every human, but our faith is meant to offer something different in the face of a broken, fallen, destructive world; not flowery sentimentality that puts on a happy face because that is what Christians do, but something different, alive, and enticing to those around us. Faith never promises easy days and a lack of struggle. Faith informs and directs in struggle, not with far off ideals, but hands on practical parts today. That faith is built and founded on important things: 1) it is a trust in something of eternity built on a *knowledge* of God in the present and the past working for His end, 2) it wrestles and struggles with the *knowledge* of God who loved and wrestled with Jacob and made Him never walk the same way again, and 3) its truth and hope is anchored to the *knowledge* of the character and nature of the God of all creation who alone is God and who alone justly and rightly rules His Church (His bride).

We know all this pastor, so, “Why do we need to study this stuff, don’t we just have to believe?” I’ve been in the Church for 80 years. Question – If you got married and never lived with; talked to; shared stories, hopes, and dreams with; experienced the ups and downs of life with; or learned about your spouse, their ways and thoughts, does it change the fact that you are married? NO. By the definition of what marriage is meant to be, could you really say that you are married? Just because I have a piece of paper saying I am married, doesn’t really make a marriage, does it?

Isn’t that exactly what God is longing to share with You, His child? A deep relationship with Him that is the center of everything and informs everything I do. God wants us to know Him, not just about Him, because that will make us share Him with others, inviting them to come and know Him. He has given us His word is given, and more, because His WORD is a person – Jesus, who came, walked, and taught among us. We trust in a God who comes to us. Not a God far away. But, present; and just like a spouse or boyfriend or girlfriend, He wants us to get to know Him - for life.

Throughout scripture we see texts like above and hymns that state the obvious. How strongly do we hold to those words? Do we even know they are in scripture? Yes, grace is the thing God does, but do I still get lost in the why of life’s challenges? Why is God doing this, why isn’t God fixing this, why would God not be doing this? In a darkening world, fears of covid and well everything, seeming attacks on every side, death, loss, change? Do I know the power of the promise of God’s presence with ME?

Hebrews 13:6 quotes that we can state with confidence what the writer of *Psalms 118* states, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?”

Paul boasts in God’s word, “What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?” *Romans 8: 31*

So we begin; to get into the basics and basis of our faith – knowledge of God in His word.
Pastor Matt

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

Welcome Pastor Matt Bahnfleth, and wife, Becky to TLC! Pastor Matt can be reached by email at mattbahnfleth@gmail.com, in the office on Mondays or by phone at 402-750-8327.



Pastor Matt Bahnfleth

Worship Service Time

At the July meeting, the council discussed worship service times and decided to continue with one service at 9:30 a.m. The service will continue to be a combined style with some traditional and some contemporary parts. It has been great to be worshipping together as one. If attendance creates a need for two services, this can be discussed again.

Kathy Soetmelk, Council President

The Annual Rummage Sale will be held on September 23rd, from 8 am to 8 pm, and Sept, 24th, from 8 am to 11pm. Donated items will be accepted Sunday, September 18th thru Tuesday the 20th of that week. Thanks in advance for your donations!



RUMMAGE SALE



First communion classes will begin shortly for our now 5th grade students. Class dates for students and parents will be September 18th, 25th, and October 2nd. Classes will be held after our worship service on those dates. First communion for those students will be celebrated on October 23rd.

Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 7th. Pastor Matt will be reaching out to parents soon and class times will be announced. Confirmation classes begin for our students during the 7th grade year and go thru their 8th grade year. If you have an older student who would like to attend confirmation classes, please reach out to the office at tlcspaulsen@gmail.com. Thank You!



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
07/31	55	1121.25
08/07	80	3400.00
08/14	88	4841.00
08/21	95	—

Sept./Oct. Volunteer Schedule

Sunday, Sept. 4th, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Arla Pickham
Communion Helper	Karen Hansen
Acolytes	Bella Lamp
Support	Jim Hansen
Sunday, Sept. 11th, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Nancy Collins
Communion Helper	Sue Paulsen
Acolytes	Makenna Paulsen
Support	Mike Krummel
Sunday, Sept. 18th, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Peggy Osbahr
Communion Helper	Marge Petersen
Acolytes	Roman Scheffler
Support	Dale Krohn
Sunday, Sept. 25th, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Janiece Schroder
Communion Helper	Neil Paulsen
Acolytes	Emma Blotzer
Support	Ron Winter
Sunday, Oct. 2nd, 9:30 a.m.	
Scriptures & Prayer Reader	Roger Nelson
Communion Helper	Jerry Conroy
Acolytes	Terra Buboltz
Support	Larry Chapman



Norma Glissmann– Betty Oehlertz,
Roger & Betty Kubik, Janiece
Schroder, Bob & Barb Brown
Doug Langer– Hervetta Ronnfeldt,
Reva Bylund

Congregational Meeting



On September 11th, following the worship service, there will be a special congregational vote concerning roof replacement of the church and parsonage. Your attendance and input is greatly appreciated!



It's never too early to start collecting items to fill your shoeboxes! We are looking forward to another great year with this ministry.



September 01	Larry	Chapman
September 01	Lu Ann	Jensen
September 03	Lane	Thornton
September 04	Benjamin	Kramer
September 04	Jaycie	Schueman
September 04	Dean	Willett
September 05	Kristyn	Nielsen
September 05	Robert	Scott
September 07	William	Bylund
September 10	Sage	Brockhoff
September 10	Janet	Holtz
September 10	Kyle	Sternberg
September 10	Kami	Willett
September 11	Ella	Hansen
September 11	Shelby	McCreedy
September 11	Karen	Pope
September 11	Gayle	Stuart
September 12	Kerry	Danker
September 14	Katherine	Collins
September 14	Margaret	Johannsen
September 14	Katie	Johnson
September 14	Robert Jr.	Jorgensen
September 15	Deanna	Whyte
September 16	Stephanie	Harder
September 17	Joy	Best
September 17	Evelyn	Soetmelk
September 20	Marilyn	Chapman
September 22	Corbin	Pieken
September 23	Karen	Rodriguez
September 24	Bobbi	Lund
September 25	Blake	Holst
September 25	Joy	Krohn
September 25	Trevor	Madden
September 26	Krislyn	McCarthy
September 26	Jason	Rold
September 28	Darren	Krohn
September 29	James	Best



Students that have completed their 2 years of confirmation classes and requirements will be celebrating their Rite of Affirmation of Baptism during the worship service on Sunday, October 30th, 2022.



Sunday, September 11th– Youth Group Kickoff. Games. Cookout. 10:45 a.m. Location TBA.

Friday, September 30th– FRIDAY NIGHT *be the* LIGHTS

“Homecoming Edition” Following the football game. Avoca Clubhouse.

Sunday, October 16th– Brunch/Worship in Omaha 9 a.m.

Friday, October 28th–Shoebox Packing/Lunch. 11 a.m. TLC Fellowship Hall.

Sat, Sun., November 12-13–FCA Weekend of Champions. Grand Island, NE. High School Students only.

Sunday, Nov. 27th—TBD

Sunday, Dec. 11th—Christmas Activity. 10:45 a.m. TLC Fellowship Hall.



Youth group will once again be hosting all 7th thru 12th graders from the AHSTW school district for a night of food, fun and fellowship. This event was a great time for the kids last year! We are looking for donations to help with the event this year. Suggested items, such as cans of pop, bottles of water, sports drinks and desserts would be greatly appreciated! We had over 100 in attendance last year. Monetary donations are also welcomed to help

pay for the meal and prize giveaways. We appreciate all of your support for our youth as we work together to plant seeds of faith throughout our entire community!

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

...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.



“Lord, teach us to pray” Luke 11:1 **(Part 3)**

So, Paul is praying in these verses Ephesians 1:16-18, that those who have come to faith in Jesus may have the eyes of their hearts enlightened, so that they may see clearly. What is he wanting them to see? Well, if we go back just a few verses before this, we will see that Paul has given us his take on salvation, a great hymn of praise. He’s been assuring his readers of all that is theirs in the Lord Jesus Christ: In verse 4, they are chosen to be holy and blameless in God’s sight. In verse 5, they were predestined to be God’s adopted children, loved as his eternal Son is loved. Verse 7 says, they are redeemed by the blood of Jesus, so that they can enjoy the reality of knowing that although they are sinners, they are forgiven sinners. Verses 9 and 10, they have been brought into the great plan of the Father to bring all things into unity and perfection under the glorious rule of his Son. And in verses 11, 13-14, they have an inheritance of eternity with him ahead of them, and the Spirit from him dwelling in them, guaranteeing that they will reach that place. This is something that we should not take for granted. We should be surprised to be part of God’s people. After all, he did not choose us because of anything we have brought to his team. All that we could bring was our transgressions and sins. Even the faith we place in Christ to forgive us is a gift from him. For in Ephesians 2:8-9 it says, “God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this, it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so not of us can boast about it.” Our acceptance by God, our salvation, is not because of our deeds, and us earning and deserving. It is because of our believing and receiving. There is a Pastor that I have listened to talk about a song that was song in his church called “The Family of God”, which contains a line, “I’m so glad I’m a part of the family of God.” And he said that if we’re being honest with ourselves, we should sing it as, “I’m surprised that I’m a part of the family of God.” Because it is very surprising that God would choose us. We should be amazed that the love of God for us goes back into eternity. That before he created the world he set his love upon us.

Trinity Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes– August 10, 2022

Members Present: Kathy Soetmelk, Nicole Krohn, Shela Jacobsen, Alan Blakestad, Dale Krohn, Ron Winter, and Amber Johnson.

Call to Order: Kathy called the meeting to order by reading a devotion titled *Don't Plan Without God*.

Recognizing Guests: No guests present

Thank You Cards: Thank you cards were given to Chelsea Madden for her role as Call Committee Chair. Thank you cards were given to Neil Paulsen, Karen Rodriguez, Nancy Collins, Jerry Conroy, and Roger Nelson for leading church services in the interim of our search for a new pastor.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Ron Winter, seconded by Alan Blakestad, motion carried.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: Minutes were corrected and approved. A motion was made by Dale Krohn, seconded by Alan Blakestad, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Shela shared the Treasurer's Report. Current bills have been paid. A motion was made to approve the report by Alan Blakestad, seconded by Nicole Krohn, motion carried. No bills submitted.

President's Report/Comments: Kathy attended the virtual NALC Mission Convocation this year.

Sue's Report: Planning dates and events for the first semester for LYO. TLC's Back to School Night will be on Wednesday, August 17th at 6 pm. 26 kids are signed up for the event. 1 dozen cookies from Kami's Kookies were ordered with the church logo for the reception following the installation of Pastor Matt on August 28th. Donuts will be ordered in addition to having the cookies. The Clubhouse has been rented to host the "Friday Night be the Lights" event again after the home game. Donations will be accepted for the event giveaways, etc. The AHSTW Football team will be using the Fellowship hall on Thursday evenings for their pre-game meals again this year. A motion was made to donate to the boys Basketball team shirts that are thrown out at games. The motion was made by Ron Winter to have the church logo be placed on the sleeve of the shirt. Motion was seconded by Dale Krohn, motion carried.

Council Reports:

Education: Beth met with Stephanie Harder and Angie Sieh to discuss class planning, volunteers, and a walk through of stored supplies. Sunday school will begin on September 11th with planned activities. The schedule with teachers and volunteers is set through December.

Outreach: Peace Haven has invited our church to sponsor a Sunday meal with their residents. Alan wondered about combining this outreach opportunity with our church Abelschiever supper. Alan will continue to communicate with Gaylean, their coordinator.

Finance: None.

Property Management: See New Business section.

Stewardship: Updating the nursery room is complete. A few items will be given to the rummage sale. Nicole is working on some samples of possible "welcome" cards for the church pews.

Worship: No new report.

A motion was made to approve the council reports by Ron Winter, seconded by Nicole Krohn, motion carried.

Old Business: The constitution was reviewed. Plan to provide a small committee for support for Pastor Matt and Sue.

New Business: Labor Day will be Pastor Lund's last Sunday to provide a sermon. A pizza party will be held on August 14th to thank Pastor Lund for his time with our congregation. Dale shared the estimate from Grinnell Insurance for the hail damage on the church roof and parsonage roof. Dale shared some bids for the roof on the narthex of the church. A bid from JR Roofing LLC from Le Mars, IA and a bid from Quality Steel Roofs and Siding out of Walnut, IA. A special congregational meeting will be held on September 11th at the end of the service.

Membership Changes: No new address changes, name changes, and new members. For deaths and funerals: Norma Glissmann, DOB-09/14/1928, DOD-07/01/2022, Family held celebration of life in Trinity's fellowship hall on August 6th. Baptisms: Navi James Teresa Robinson, DOB-03/25/2022, Baptism-07/10/2022, Parents- Tyler and Courtney Robinson, Officiated by Pastor Steve Lund. Harrison Breck Nelson, DoB-04/04/2022, Baptism-07/17/2022, Parents-Dustin and Lesley Nelson, Officiated by Pastor Steve Lund. No weddings, removal from rolls, and transfers out. Dale Krohn made a motion to approve the membership changes, seconded by Alan Blakestad, motion carried.

Adjournment: Dale Krohn made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alan Blakestad, motion carried. Next meeting will be held on September 14, 2022. Respectfully submitted by Amber Johnson, Secretary

September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 2 p.m.- TLCW Meeting 4 p.m-6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	2 Pastors Day Off	3
4 9:30 a.m. Worship with Pastor Steve Lund	5 Office Closed	6	7 Confirmation Class Begins- Class Time TBA	8 4 p.m-6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	9 Pastors Day Off	10
11 9:30 a.m. Worship Sunday School/ Congregational Meeting 10:45 a.m. Youth Group	12	13 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Christian Service	14 Confirmation Class 8 p.m. Council Meeting	15 4 p.m-6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	16 Pastors Day Off	17
18 9:30 a.m. Worship/ Sunday School 10:45 p.m. First Communion Class Rummage Sale Donation Drop off	19 Rummage Sale Donation Drop off	20 Rummage Sale Donation Drop off	21 Confirmation Class	22 4 p.m-6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	23 8 a.m.- 8 p.m. Rummage Sale Pastors Day Off	24 8 a.m. -11 a.m. Rummage Sale
25 9:30 a.m. Worship/ Sunday School 10:45 p.m. First Communion Class	26	27 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Christian Service	28 Confirmation Class	29 4 p.m-6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	30 Pastors Day Off Youth Group- "Friday Night Be The Lights"	

**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 Matt Bahnfleth at (cell) 402-750-8327.

Worship Services
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Holy Communion: Celebrated during each worship service.
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. beginning September 11