

The Trinity Trumpet

June 2025

www.tlcavoca.com

Pastor:

Matt Bahnfleth

(402)-750-8327

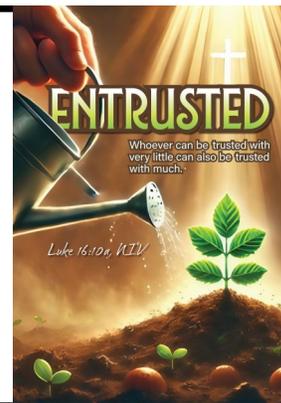
mattbahnfleth@gmail.com

Director of Ministry in Daily Life:

Sue Paulsen

(402) 639-6054

tlcpaulsen@gmail.com



Singing the Same Old New Song to the Lord

“Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.” Luke 24:44

The psalms are meant for singing. They are actually songs. They are songs of the people of God written by the people of God. Luther always states that the psalms are meant to be prayed as well. We don't have to make us extemporaneous words and prayers to speak to God, He has given us His own words for us to pray to Him; and if praying with God's words, we can't get off the mark about our prayers. The psalms are for meditation, reflection, for grieving, for joyous celebrations, for contemplation, and for understanding.

When my mother died, it was the words of Romans and the Psalms that brought relief and comfort. When I am feeling isolated and outnumbered, it is the words of Philippians, 1 & 2 Peter and the Psalms that strengthen and encourage me. When grace is needed to be heard it is Isaiah, the Gospels, Colossians, and the Psalms that I turn to hear most quickly those words of forgiveness and peace. When I recognize myself not who or where I should be the Prophets, Corinthians, the Gospels, and Psalms that lay the Law and will of God before me to call me to truth in Him.

The psalms are made up, like all the scriptures, with different genres. In them there are psalms of confession, thanksgiving, lament, wisdom, prophecy, hymnody, and declaration of royal trust. They are written by people just like me, well kings and such but humans, with all my faults and failings that share the gamut of human experience and expression that have been inspired by the Holy Spirit to speak to, for, and from me. The psalms pull all the scripture together and show us our deep need to be in conversation with the God of creation and our redemption.

I remember in the 1970's when the green LBW, the authorized hymnal of the NALC, when the Lutheran churches came together to create a common work. Though it all fell apart as things are want to do in a fallen world, one of the greatest gifts for me that came from that hymnal is the setting of psalm tones into place to once again make the psalms something that people sing. Sadly, many do not use that gift today which is still in the ELW. When I get my moments of retreat with the Society of the Holy Trinity, besides getting to worship the daily orders 7 times through the day, is listening to how our voices join, male and female, to bring the psalms to life in song. It is amazing.

More amazing still is learning that all the psalms are written about one person – Jesus. Every one of the 150 psalms are about Him, which should not surprise us because as we read all the scripture we first have to ask, “What is Jesus telling me, the Church, about Himself and what He is doing?” Jesus Himself says as much in speaking to the teachers of the day when He tells them in **John 5**, “*You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.*” Or on the road to Emmaus when He tells these struggling disciples, “*Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.*”

And the quote above as well.

The psalms are not about you or me, they are about Jesus, and in them we learn what it means to follow and to trust Him. These songs of life written by those led to pen them, speak to us still today of God's masterful gift and unimaginable salvation brought to us through Jesus His Christ. They speak to us in every situation about God's preeminence and power, while calling us to in all situations recall

..continued

...His saving and caring hand on every aspect of our fallen and sin saddened lives. They are meant to be sung by us as individuals, and as a body of broken and failing sinners brought together and made one by the waters of baptism, through Jesus' death and resurrection. So, this summer we will be looking at the psalm, sometimes according to the lectionary and others not so we don't miss any gems, though they all are; we will dig into God's word so sing the songs that are old, but speak new life to us still today, of Jesus and His salvation work for us.

Peace for the Journey Pastor Matt



Vacation Bible School is right around the corner!

Time: 9 AM-2 PM (Grades K-5, 24-25 school year)

9 -11 AM (Ages 4- Grade PK)

Date: June 23rd-26th

*A donation of \$30/student is appreciated. Registrations can be found on our Facebook page and will close on June 1st. If you are interested in helping or have questions, please reach out to Megan at megan.hansen328@gmail.com or 402-681-0806.



Our 2025 graduating seniors were recognized during our 10:15 a.m. service on May 4th. Scholarships were awarded during this time. Pictured: (Back Row) Zachary Nielsen, Charles Lane, Luke Sternberg (Front Row) Camden Soukup, Sienna Christian, Macy Thornton, Tyson Osbahr



Christina Berndt
Tyler & Jacueline Boysen
Dean & Jolene Henning
Ron & Linda Tapke
Matthew Todd



On Sunday, May 4th, Trinity welcomed Dean Christensen into the family of God. Dean is pictured with dad, Zach, holding him and, mom, Lauren with big sister, Madeline. Also pictured, is Dillon Baylor, Dean's baptismal sponsor.

On Sunday, May 18th, Trinity welcomed Astelle, Eli, and Aubrey Graham (pictured l to r) into the family of God. Their parents are Ryan and Amanda Graham and their baptismal sponsors are Stephanie & Brett Dorsey.



Summer is upon us and the clothing pantry is in great need of summer clothes! Clothing can be left in the downstairs hallway of the church or dropped off at the clothing pantry in Walnut on Thursdays between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Thank you in advance for helping fill this need!



June 01	Tyler	Boysen
June 01	Adam	Krohn
June 01	Christian	Pieken
June 02	Rodney	Hargens
June 04	Lillian	Scott
June 05	Dennis	Langer
June 06	Dawsyn	Brockhoff
June 06	Peyton	VanCleave
June 07	LaVonnie	Sidebottom
June 08	Bentley	Madden
June 08	Philip	Rodriguez
June 09	Susan	Paulsen
June 10	Travis	Hensley
June 10	Daniel	Rold
June 11	Ken	Collins
June 13	Penelope	Rold
June 15	Shane	Brockhoff
June 15	Graycen	Partlow
June 16	Joseph	Blotzer
June 16	Jolene	Henning
June 16	Madison	Holst
June 16	Nikki	Jorgensen
June 16	Nathan	Smith
June 17	Marlene	Nelsen
June 19	Linda	Andersen
June 19	Benjamin	Ehlers
June 20	Brandy	Luth
June 20	Katlyn	Patzner
June 21	Angie	Brisbois
June 22	Richard	Holtz
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	Hayli	Clay
June 26	Ivan	Irlbeck
June 27	Alan	Maassen
June 29	Lyla	Clayton
June 29	Rhett	Clayton
June 29	Rosalie	Krohn
June 30	Tonya	Olesen

Church Council

President: Nicole Krohn
(712) 309-2318

Property Management: Darian Irlbeck
(712) 307-1007

Secretary: Amber Scott
(712)-249-2688

Christian Education: Megan Hansen
(402) 681-0806

Worship: Eric Sieh
(402) 650-3065

Finance: Ryan Winter
(712) 307-0553

Outreach: Amber Johnson
(402) 681-6847

Stewardship: Christina Berndt
(712) 269-6763

Treasurer: Shela Jacobsen
(402) 490-2423

 Weekend of	Total Attend- ance	Total Gifts Received
04/27	39/75	8359.75
05/04	75/145	4514.00
05/11	120	3305.00
05/18	52/73	5785.00

In
Memory of

thank
you

Karen Johnson– Dorothy Nelsen

Dear TLC members, thank you all so much for the prayers these past few months. My breast cancer was very rare and took much testing with end result being a lumpectomy and radiation. All is well now. Again, I so appreciated the prayers.
Carol Sampson, Pikeville, NC



It's not too early to start gathering things up that you would like to donate to our rummage sale in September. We accept most anything-like furniture, clothing and toys, etc. Do not bring your items to the church until the sale . Thank You!

HAPPY
Father's
DAY

June/July Volunteer Schedule

	Sunday, June 1st 9:30 a.m.
Communion Support	Dora Rock, Janiece Schroder
Communion/Offering	John Scott, Morgan & Eric Sieh
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Linda Andersen
Greeters	Matt and Becky Bahnfleth
Acolytes	Blair Krohn
Worship Steward	Dale Krohn
	Sunday, June 8th 9:30 a.m.
Communion Support	Dora Rock, Janiece Schroder
Communion/Offering	Gary & Kathy Soetmelk, Lane Thornton
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Becky Bahnfleth
Greeters	Brandi Pieken Family
Acolytes	Kiptyn Lamp
Worship Steward	Dean Krohn
	Sunday, June 15th 9:30 a.m.
Communion Support	Dora Rock, Janiece Schroder
Communion/Offering	Judy Williams, Gage & Hayli Clay
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Christina Berndt
Greeters	Linda Schumacher
Acolytes	Rylinn Madden
Worship Steward	Mike Krummel
	Sunday, June 22nd 9:30 a.m.
Communion Support	Dora Rock, Janiece Schroder
Communion/Offering	Becky Bahnfleth, Shane & Lacy Brockhoff
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Suzette Blakestad
Greeters	Lance & Amber Scott Family
Acolytes	Tyler Pieken
Worship Steward	Greg Petersen
	Sunday, June 29th 9:30 a.m.
Communion Support	Dora Rock, Janiece Schroder
Communion/Offering	Reva Bylund, Ron Winter, Linda Andersen
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Wendy Dierking
Greeters	Eric & Angela Sieh Family
Acolytes	Stella Rold
Worship Steward	Ron Winter
	Sunday, July 6th 9:30 a.m.
Communion Support	Linda Andersen, Becky Bahnfleth
Communion/Offering	Jacob Collins, Jerry Conroy, Wendy Dierking
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Karen Hansen
Greeters	Gary & Kathy Soetmelk
Acolytes	Katie Scheffler
Worship Steward	John Scott

Worship Volunteers

If you are unable to serve at your scheduled time, please find a replacement and then let Eric Sieh know. Eric can be contacted by calling/texting him at (402) 650-3065 or by emailing him at eric.m.sieh@gmail.com

June Communion Bread

Denise Young & Emery Brockhoff



Please Note: On May 25th we will start our summer worship schedule. We will go to one worship service at 9:30 a.m. Fellowship time will be held on the first Sunday only of each month following the service. If anyone would like to help with fellowship, please contact Kathy Soetmelk at 712-249-9027.



On May 11th, we moved our worship outside! Many thanks to all who made this possible!



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

...So, we see, just a Jesus's life had begun being laid in a place that no one had ever been laid before, his earthly life also ended the exact same way, laid in a place that no one had ever been laid before.

TIME

I want to look at a couple of passages that are in succession (but in reverse) in the book of Luke that point to the work of Jesus. Both of them we've heard and should be fairly familiar with them, and they are found in the 8th Chapter of Luke. The first one I want to look at starts at verse 26 and goes through 39, and I will just paraphrase them for simplicity. Jesus and his disciples have been sailing across the lake and have landed their boat on the shore. As soon as Jesus is climbing out, he's met by a man who is possessed by many demons. This man because of being possessed by demons has become homeless, without clothing, and has taken up residence in the cemetery outside of town. Jesus had commanded the demon to leave the man's body. The demon in the man spoke to Jesus and referred to him as "Jesus, Son of the Most High God". (Now in my readings of the Bible, I have always found it odd, strange, or whatever you want to call it, that the evil spirits or demons know exactly who Jesus is and what he's capable of doing. And yet most of the people who are around Jesus, who hear his teachings, see his work, and are looking for the Messiah have no clue of who Jesus is and know what he's capable of doing. Sometimes you can't see the trees for the forest.) So, Jesus asks the demon possessed man what his name is, and he says that his name is Legion, for he is filled with many demons. The demons then keep begging Jesus not to send them into the bottomless pit. There happened to be a large herd of pigs nearby feeding on a hillside, and the demons asked if they could leave the man and enter into the pigs. Jesus gave them permission, and they entered the entire herd, and the herd then plunged down the hillside into the lake and drowned. The news quickly spread and soon a crowd had gathered and saw the demon possessed man sitting at Jesus' feet, fully clothed, and perfectly sane. This in turn frightened the local people, and they asked Jesus to leave their area. As Jesus was leaving, the man who had been possessed asked if he could go with him. But Jesus said no to his request and told him to stay there and tell his family and everyone what the Lord had done for him, and he did just that. The second passage is a few verses back and is found in verses 22 through 25. Here Jesus and his disciples decide to get in a boat and go across the lake to the other side. Shortly after setting out across the lake, Jesus settles in and starts to nap. Not long into their trip a fierce storm came down on the lake, and the boat began to fill with water, and the disciples noticed that they were in real danger. So, they went and woke Jesus up and shouting that they were going to drown. Jesus then rebuked the wind and the waves and everything became calm. The disciples were terrified and amazed and asked, "Who is this man? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" The correlation I found between these two passages is that all of us will have or have had storms in our lives, just like the man possessed by many demons, or the disciples in the boat. We can feel imminent danger, become shambles, an outcast, and even at the end of our rope. But it is when we give the control over to Jesus, he can calm the wind and the wave and cast our demons into an abyss so that we may find peace and calmness within his arms. It can be somewhat ironic that the story of Jesus calming the physical wind and waves happens before he calms the spiritual wind and waves. Sometimes to see the peace in our future, we have to look at the work of Christ in our past. At confirmation this past week, the question was asked, "What does it mean when you're at the end of your rope?" As I thought about it, I came to the conclusion: that when it seems like I have nothing left, Jesus is all that I have left. I encourage you to take up your Bible and give those passages a read at your convenience. Maybe you'll spot more than meets the eye.

April 2025 Minutes

Date of Meeting: April 10, 2025

Members Present:

Shela Jacobsen, Pastor Matt, Amber Johnson, Nicole Krohn, Darrian Irlbeck, Amber Scott, Christina Rauch, Megan Hansen, Eric Sieh, and Ryan Winter.

Call to Order/Devotion: Meeting is called to order by Nicole Krohn. Devotion given by Amber Scott

Recognizing Guests: none

Thank You Cards: none

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Christina Rauch, seconded by Megan Hansen. Motion passed.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: Minutes were in order and no corrections made and a motion was made to approve the minutes with amendments by Darian Irlbeck, seconded by Christina Rauch. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Report and bills were submitted. A motion was made to approve the report by Ryan Winter seconded by Darian Irlbeck. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Reminder that pastor will not be here the week after Easter. May will be a very busy month with baptisms, 2nd communion class, and graduation.

President's Report/Comments: Plans to begin the process of organizing information and updating the church's website.

Director of Ministry in Daily Life Report: 17 youth group members plus 4 drivers traveled to the Harlan Youth Gathering on April 2nd. We head to Harlan next on April 16th to watch the "King of Kings" movie. April 30th we meet for Bible Study. We've had sound system complications that started after the power outages with the last snow storm on the 19th of March. Tentative plan is to replace the broken mixer system with a new one at the cost of \$1795.00 and will be installed by a Yandas tech on April 16th, who will also perform maintenance at that time on our entire sound system. Will have the additional costs associated with that in addition to the new mixer. New Computer installs are planned for April 22nd & 23rd.

Council Reports

Property Report: Tree roots caused a block in the sewer main of the parsonage. Griffen Plumbing was able to use a drum auger to clear the pipes. Errin Gunderson will be here this week to replace outlets/receptacles in the church. He will be back in the next few weeks to install the new exterior lighting.

Outreach: Positive response from the young adults who received a midterm hug (care package). A few church members who adopted a young adult received thank you cards. Continuing to brainstorm further support and creating lasting relationships among this age group of membership.

I am seeking a few members to join me in forming a fellowship committee. As mentioned in the April newsletter and weekly bulletin, I hope this committee will plan 2-3 events that will bring all ages together for a time of fellowship.

On May 11th, there will be an event to celebrate Mother's Day by having breakfast, one church service, and taking the church service outside the sanctuary to the parking lot (weather permitting). This event will be discussed at the council meeting. Many hands will help make this event a success.

Karen and Phil Rodriguez are wanting to do more with music outside of the weekly praise band during Sunday church service. We have been brainstorming ways to share music with the public outside of the church facility. Possible name for this might be "Jammin' with Jesus". This is not official.

Looking at ways to incorporate the puppets into church services. Short scenes related to the sermon message. This is in collaboration with Pastor Matt.

Stewardship: No report Finance: No report Service: No report.

Education: VBS registration & details should go out this week. We did adjust the ages from 4-5th grade. After discussion with teachers from the younger group, we decided age 4 is an ideal age to begin VBS. This will not change the ages for Sunday School. The last day of Sunday school will be May 11th. With graduation & Memorial Day weekend, we feel this will be best to have Sunday school wrapped up at that time. There will be no formal Sunday school program to wrap up the year but we will have gifts for Mother's Day and bring them to the fellowship hall at the end of Sunday School on May 11th.

Additional Council Report Notes: None

Old Business: Still searching for members for the convocation in August. 2 possible members have spoken interest and will confirm with pastor in the next couple weeks. Council members need to send dates to Pastor for weekend availability in May, June and July. Amber Johnson spoke on moving brunch from May 4 to May 11 with only one service at 10:15 and brunch served at 9 am with Sunday School to remain at 9:30. With a possible outside service for this as well. Amber Scott and Christina Rauch will work on providing a flatbed trailer for the event.

Discussion held regarding fall schedule for services. Motion made by Amber Scott to continue services in the current schedule, seconded by Christina Rausch. Motion passed. Fellowship will be held once a month during the summer months after service.

New Business: May 4th is senior sunday during the 10:15 service. Council will be providing a reception during fellowship hours for the seniors. Memorial day weekend, May 25th, will be the start of the summer services with the service being held at 9:30. No fellowship that weekend. Confirmation will be June 8th with their faith festival occurring June 6th and 7th.

A request was made by Dianna Bryant to use the fellowship hall for a blood drive on July 12th but due to the foundation work and the possibility of no air conditioning it will not work this time. But would like to encourage them to use the fellowship hall next time. Discussion held regarding doors not being locked or not closing all the time. Currently there is a list of people to check doors daily. A reminder will be sent to those people.

Visioning: Discussion was held regarding chapter 2.

Adjournment: Eric Sieh made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Ryan Winter.

Next meeting will be held on May 8, 2025 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amber Scott, Secretary



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 5:30-7 p.m. Bible Study	2 1:30 p.m. Peace Haven Worship	3 4-5:30 p.m. Seedlings	4	5 2 p.m. TLCW Meeting 2 p.m. Avoca Nursing Home Worship 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	6 Pastors Day Off	7 5:30 p.m. Faith Formation Festival
8 9:30 a.m. Worship/Confirmation 5:30-7 p.m. Bible Study	9 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Christian Service	10	11	12 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry 4-5:30 p.m. Sprouts 7 p.m. Council Meeting	13 Pastors Day Off	14
15 9:30 a.m. Worship 5:30-7 p.m. Bible Study	16 9:30 a.m. Salem Lutheran Nursing Home Worship	17 4-5:30 p.m. Seedlings	18	19 2 p.m. Avoca Nursing Home Worship 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	20 Pastors Day Off	21
22 9:30 a.m. Worship 5:30-7 p.m. Bible Study	23 9 a.m.-2 p.m. VBS	24 9 a.m.-2 p.m. VBS 9 a.m. Allen Place Worship	25 9 a.m.-2 p.m. VBS	26 9 a.m.-2 p.m. VBS 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry	27 Pastors Day Off	28
29 9:30 a.m. Worship 5:30-7 p.m. Bible Study	30 1:30 p.m. Peace Haven Worship					

**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.

Summer Worship Schedule Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship following the service on the 1st Sunday of each month.

Sunday School will resume after Labor Day.

Holy Communion celebrated during each worship service.