

The Trinity Trumpet

April 2026

www.tlcavoca.com

Pastor:

Matt Bahnfleth

(402)-750-8327

mattbahnfleth@tlcavoca.com

Director of Ministry in Daily Life:

Sue Paulsen

(402) 639-6054

tlcspaulsen@tlcavoca.com



*"[I]f Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you." **Romans 8:10-11***

*"On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." **John 20: 19***

"[W]hen the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory." 1 Peter

March "Madness" gives way to Glory & Honor

It's not just one thing but several that make March a time of "Madness." First, you have the swelling of excitement and anticipation as basketball teams from all over the country work (play) to get themselves to the top of the heap in hopes of finding a spot in "The Bracket" for their shot at the title of National Champion. Along the way you secretly hope and wait to see if a "Cinderella" team emerges and can bring down the big boys in a David and Goliath type, "facing the giants" kinda vibe. How far will they go? Can they make it all the way?

Then if that wasn't enough excitement and drama for you, enter the Red Carpet of Stars and Celebrity, dressing in clothing most would never desire, if dare, ware, gathering to see who can take home the little Golden Man of status and perfection. To the victor belongs the spoils and people are willingly giving up three hours of their life and now paying for the exclusive privilege of watching people with way too much money, and political clout (truly or not) grind through an evening of ups and downs to see who is the best.

Then throw in the tumultuous conditions of the weather as Winter and Spring clash like Titans claiming to hold on to their right to rule the season, even if only for awhile as the next season moves in upon us. Storms of every kind pop up and troubles inevitably come with them.

Now, don't get the idea that I am jaded towards all this; I like to see if a movie I've seen and found good was in other people's minds praiseworthy; or stars who I felt performed well were acknowledged for their efforts. And the only time of the year that basketball is worth turning my TV on to watch a game, is during the tournament. There, people are playing their hearts out and literally leaving it all on the court. Win or go home, you see.

Can people hold the same fervor for a victory that engulfs all the madness that can be mustered, good and bad, in this world? Where a crown is awarded to those who trust only in this victory for security, identity, and where frail and faltering people are willing to play their hearts, out leaving them on the court of life, because they cannot contain themselves in this victory. Where they are compelled to tell the story, live the story, share in the glory and sacrifice it all because it is win or go home here too.

For this victory, are people willing to give up time and money to be part of it? Do people flock to the place where truth is told and the weak will inherit the earth because one who is greatest, in the "maddest" move ever, left a throne of eternal glory to be so humbled as to be born to insignificant people, in a backwater town, in a stable? One who willingly chose a life of poverty having no home, no job so no income, but only what was shared with Him along the way, by the love of others, so He could do His work; and to give His life to have them with Him.

The best part is that no matter what people do, this one, Jesus Christ, has done His work; it is finished. His very ...

Church Council

President: Nicole Krohn
(712) 309-2318

Property Management: Harley Spencer
(712) 544-2120

Secretary: Amber Scott
(712) 249-2688

Christian Education: Megan Hansen
(402) 681-0806

Worship: Eric Sieh
(402) 650-3065

Finance: Joy Krohn
(712) 307-0496

Outreach: Christina Berndt
(712) 269-6763

Stewardship: Beth Nielsen
(402) 689-1981

Treasurer: Shela Jacobsen
(402) 490-2423

Trinity Lutheran Church



Focusing on the **CROSS**.
Following Christ's **LOVE**.

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

...life given to see that a way was made through the madness of this corrupted creation: the pain, suffering, and loss of this life. Now that victory is made available to every single wayward, hurting, struggling player, and actor. Even for the person just blown around by the tumult of the storms of life with no direction, here too they can find that this victory is won for all; and it's given to them to be received, and opened, lived and shared, because it is free, it

is forever, and it is for them, because Jesus is for them. As the fresh air of that abandoned tomb comes rushing forth it flows over everyone who trusts in this Jesus. It is the breath of life that the Spirit feeds as He broods over the chaos of this creation, with new words of creation are spoken. No longer, "Let there be light," but "there is LIFE," you are forgiven, repent and believe the Good News. "Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." *Matthew 11:28-30*

Step out of the madness, step into the Light of Life, and celebrate in word, deed, action, giving, and service to others, the victory won for you by He who is the greatest, but gave it all up to have you with Him, FOREVER!

Blessed Easter. He IS Risen. Pastor Matt



Sunday, March 29 — Palm Sunday, 8:15 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, April 1, 7 p.m. Easter Cantata at Trinity by Walnut Community Choir, performing "My Easter Story"

Thursday, April 2 — Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m. Worship/ First Communion

Friday, April 3 — Good Friday, 7 p.m. Good Friday Worship

Sunday, April 5— Easter, 7 a.m. Worship, 9 a.m. Worship



**Celebrate the joy of Easter
with us on
Sunday, April 5th!
Services will be held at
7:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.**



First Communion will be celebrated for those who recently completed the classes. This will be held during our Maundy Thursday Worship Service on April 2nd at 7 p.m.


**Save the Date for VBS
"TO KNOW HIS NAME"
June 22-25**



We are in need of two more host homes for our Day Camp Counselors. If you would be willing to host, please contact Megan Hansen at 402-681-0806. This is a great way to get to know our counselors well & provide them a spot to rest each evening.

Stay tuned for additional details. We will be looking for additional volunteers to make this event a success!



 Weekend of	Total Attendance	Total Gifts Received
03/01	53/66	5,218.00
03/08	41/72	340.00
03/15	60/60	11,410.00



April 01	Jorden	Johnson
April 01	Kadence	Coolidge
April 02	Linda	Feekes
April 03	Dean	Schuelman
April 04	Connie	Schroder
April 04	Harrison	Nelsen
April 05	Melissa	Christian
April 06	Barbara	Lynch
April 06	James A.	Johnson
April 06	Blakely	Maassen
April 06	Maelie	Madden
April 06	Finley	Krummel
April 07	Makenzie	Whyte
April 07	Sally	Matthies
April 08	Baylee	Meyers
April 08	Joslin	Heilig
April 11	Nancy	Kelly
April 11	Traci	True
April 11	Kyle	Rock
April 11	Rylinn	Madden
April 12	Katherine	Roush
April 12	Jordyn	Speede
April 13	Abbie	Willett
April 13	Mark	Gress
April 13	Reva	Bylund
April 14	Astelle	Graham

April 15	Christian	Jorgensen
April 15	Milton	Hanson
April 15	Roman	Scheffler
April 15	Emma	Blotzer
April 16	Leslie	Nielsen
April 16	Beckett	Anzalone
April 18	Cody	McCreedy
April 19	Bella	Lamp
April 20	Ronda	Holst
April 21	Lucy	Krohn
April 21	Harleigh	Brockhoff
April 22	Roger	Kubik
April 22	Hugo	Dittmer
April 23	Talon	Stevens
April 23	Cristin	Rold
April 24	Shela	Jacobsen
April 24	Creed	Henningsen
April 26	Ross	Pattee
April 26	Harley	Spencer
April 27	Lisa	Willett
April 27	Zoey	Maassen
April 28	Nicole	Tiarks
April 28	Karen	Dittmer
April 28	Heather	Smith
April 28	Lacey	Brockhoff
April 30	Katelin	Weis
April 30	Tenley	Pattee

**Wednesday, April 8th,
Bible Study
5:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 22nd,
Bible Study,
5:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 6th,
Senior & Summer Sendoff,
5:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.**

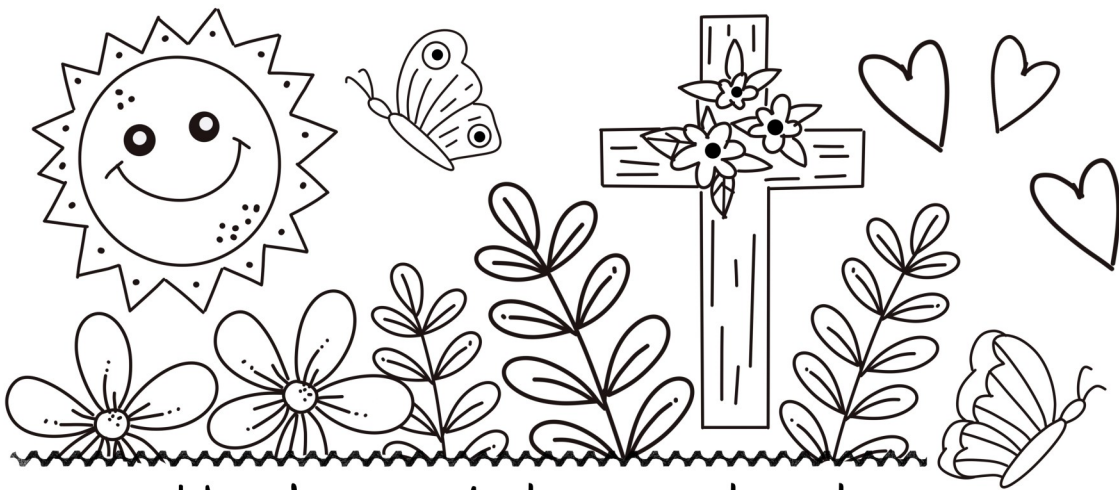


Friendly Reminder:

Scholarship applications for graduating seniors are due by April 1st. They can be mailed in to Trinity Lutheran Church at PO Box 456, Avoca, IA 51521 or emailed to tlcspaulsen@tlcavoca.com. Thank You!



- ◆ Mike & Wendy Jorgensen– Given in memory of Bob & Connie Jorgensen
 - ◆ Randy & Ginny Lamp– Given in memory of loved ones
 - ◆ Peggy Osbahr– Given in memory of mom, Beulah Strong
 - ◆ Chris & Wendy Dierking– Given in memory of Bryce Albright
 - ◆ Gary & Kathy Soetmelk– Given in memory of loved ones
 - ◆ Gary & Kathy Soetmelk– Given in honor of those serving in the military
- ◆ Sally Matthies, Gary & Deanna Krummel– Given in memory of Janice Hansen
- ◆ Dean & Jolene Henning– Given in memory of Wayne, Anita & Dion Grooms
 - ◆ Karen & Jim Hansen– Given in memory of loved ones
 - ◆ Eric & Angela Sieh– Given in memory of Erwin & Martha Sieh
- ◆ Ryan & Gina Winter– Given in memory of Grandma & Grandpa Winter
 - ◆ Maxine Sornsen– Given in memory of Gene Sornsen
- ◆ Jerod & Amber Johnson– Given in memory of Jackson William Johnson, Karen Johnson, Culver and little loved ones
 - ◆ Evie Scott– Given in memory of Alondra Vargas
 - ◆ Henry & Sue Paulsen– Given in memory of our loved ones



He is not here; he has



April/May Volunteer Schedule

	Maundy Thursday, April 2nd 7:00 p.m.	Good Friday, April 3rd 7:00 p.m.
Communion Support	Reva Bylund & Rhonda Holst	NA
Communion/Offering	Roger Nelson, Linda Schumacher, Reva Bylund	NA
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Maeleigh Rold	Peggy Osbahr
Greeters	Scott & Christina Berndt	NA
Acolytes	Trevor Madden	NA
Worship Steward		
	Easter Sunday, April 5th 7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday, April 5th 9:00 a.m.
Communion Support	Reva Bylund & Rhonda Holst	Janiece Schroder & Bella Lamp
Communion/Offering	Wendy Dierking	Judy Williams, Ron Winter, Becky Bahnfleth
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Linda Andersen	Danny Pattee
Greeters	Linda Schumacher	Gary & Kathy Soetmelk
Acolytes	Jersey Harris	Joslin Heilig
Worship Steward	Mike Jorgensen	Mike Krummel
	Sunday, April 12th 8:15 a.m.	Sunday, April 12th 10:15 a.m.
Communion Support	na	na
Communion/Offering	na	na
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Wendy Dierking	Neil Paulsen
Greeters	Eric & Angela Sieh Family	Ryan & Gina Winter Family
Acolytes	Paxton Holst	Cohen Griffen
Worship Steward	Darrian Irlbeck	Sue Paulsen
	Sunday, April 19th 8:15 a.m.	Sunday, April 19th 10:15 a.m.
Communion Support	Reva Bylund & Rhonda Holst	Janiece Schroder & Bella Lamp
Communion/Offering	Amanda Graham	Lacy & Shane Brockhoff, Jacob Collins
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Astelle Graham	Greg Petersen
Greeters	Chris & Wendy Dierking	Dan & Megan Hansen Family
Acolytes	Blair Krohn	Lauren Knop
Worship Steward	Shela Jacobsen	Greg Petersen
	Sunday, April 26th 8:15 a.m.	Sunday, April 26th 10:15 a.m.
Communion Support	Reva Bylund & Rhonda Holst	Janiece Schroder & Bella Lamp
Communion/Offering	Ryan Graham	Holly, Kendra & Taylen Hansen
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Wendy Jorgensen	Arla Pickham
Greeters	Matt & Becky Bahnfleth	Mike & Holly Hansen Family
Acolytes	Brynneligh Lane	Rylinn Madden
Worship Steward	Matt Bahnfleth	John Scott
	Sunday, May 3rd 8:15 a.m.	Sunday, May 3rd 10:15 a.m.
Communion Support	NA	NA
Communion/Offering	NA	NA
Scriptures & Prayers Readers	Nicole Krohn	Cristin Rold
Greeters	Ryan & Amanda Graham Family	Jerod & Amber Johnson Family
Acolytes	Trevor Madden	Tyler Pieken
Worship Steward	Matt Todd	Gary Soetmelk

April Communion Bread

First Communion Class

Worship Volunteers

If you are unable to volunteer during your scheduled time at worship, please help by finding a replacement. Switching available dates with others on the schedule is a great place to start. Thank you, everyone!

Council Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: February 12th, 2026

Members Present:

Shela Jacobsen, Pastor Matt, Beth Nielsen, Nicole Krohn, Amber Scott, Christina Rauch, Megan Hansen, Sue Paulsen, Eric Sieh, Harley Spencer and Joy Krohn.

Call to Order/Devotion: Meeting is called to order by Nicole Krohn. Devotion given by Pastor Matt.

Recognizing Guests: None

Thank You Cards: None

Election of officers: Motion made to accept all nominations for new positions by Amber Scott, seconded by Megan Hansen, Motion passed. Harley Spencer made a motion to cease all nominations. Seconded by Eric Sieh. Motion made by Eric Sieh to pass all nominations on ballot with one vote, seconded by Christina Rausch. Motion passed.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Eric Sieh, seconded by Christina Rausch. Motion passed.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: Motion was made to approve the minutes as amended by Christina Rausch, seconded by Megan Hansen. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Report and bills were submitted. A motion was made to approve the report by Amber Scott, seconded by Harley Spencer. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Lenten services will be at 7pm starting on Ash Wednesday. Pastor spoke to Nan Sams at the United Church and they are happy to allow us to use their fellowship hall for confirmation and any funerals during our fellowship hall remodel.

President's Report/Comments: None

Director of Ministry in Daily Life Report: Yandas came and mixer for audio system was not working. To fix the piece would cost the same amount as a new piece with warranty. A new mixer was purchased.

Council Reports

Property Report: Harley came in this week and reviewed some items and we are needing a larger fire extinguisher in the furnace. He would like to move the current fire extinguisher from the furnace room to the kitchen. Discussion was held on how we allow the fire department in the building in case of an emergency. Harley will discuss with the fire department on what their protocol is. The light on the backside of the furnace room needs to be turned to prevent the chain from breaking. Eric will give Harley the number for the electrician who has done previous work for adjustment of the light as it hardwired.

Worship: Working on updating the altar guild manual.

Outreach: Christina reported for Amber Johnson and an update was given on the midterm hugs. Summer kickoff event will be May 30th and planning will begin soon.

Stewardship: None

Finance: Discussion being held for online payment options. Venmo will not work, so other options are being explored.

Education: A new testament curriculum will be started soon. We will be starting on vacation bible school planning.

Additional Council Report Notes:

Old Business: We are still waiting to hear from the city on the galvanized pipe issue. Sue will follow up with them.

New Business: Pastor received a note from Teresa Vanheusen regarding a community safety net for helping teach kids about the risks of drugs and how to avoid their use. A \$16/student investment will help provide this information to a child in the AHSTW. They have asked the church to partner with them to provide this information. Motion was made by Eric Sieh to approve the donation of 20 books, seconded by Amber Scott. Motion passed.

Discussion was held on the fellowship remodel and timing of removal of items, remodel, and item selection. A motion was made by Eric Sieh to rent the 40 ft grade A container, seconded by Harley Spencer. Motion passed.


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

Next meeting will be held on March 12, 2026 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amber Scott, Secretary

A.P.R.I.L

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>5 7 a.m. Easter Worship 9 a.m. Easter Worship</p> 	<p>6 1:30 p.m. Peace Haven Worship 4:15 p.m.—5p.m. Youth Hand Chimes 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.— Bell Choir Office Closed</p>	<p>7 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>8 5:30 p.m.—7:15 p.m. Confirmation Class 5:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m. Youth Group Bible Study</p>	<p>9 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry 7 p.m. Council Meeting</p>	<p>10 Pastors Day Off</p>	<p>11 7 a.m.—8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study & Breakfast</p>
<p>12 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship/Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Worship 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p>13 4:15 p.m.—5p.m. Youth Hand Chimes 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.— Bell Choir</p>	<p>14 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Chris- tian Service 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>15 5:30 p.m.—7:15 p.m. Confirmation Class</p>	<p>16 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry</p>	<p>17 Pastors Day Off</p>	<p>18 7 a.m.—8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study & Breakfast</p>
<p>19 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship/Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Worship 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p>20 9:30 a.m. Salem Lutheran Nursing Home Worship 1:30 p.m. Peace Haven Worship 4:15 p.m.—5p.m. Youth Hand Chimes 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.— Bell Choir</p>	<p>21 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>22 5:30 p.m.—7:15 p.m. Confirmation Class 5:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m. Youth Group Bible Study</p>	<p>23 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry</p>	<p>24 Pastors Day Off</p>	<p>25 7 a.m.—8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study & Breakfast</p>
<p>26 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship/Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Worship 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p>27 9:30 a.m. Salem Lutheran Nursing Home Worship 4:15 p.m.—5p.m. Youth Hand Chimes 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.— Bell Choir</p>	<p>28 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Chris- tian Service 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study 9 a.m. Allen Place Worship</p>	<p>29 5:30 p.m.—7:15 p.m. Confirmation Class</p>	<p>30 4 p.m.—6 p.m. Food & Clothing Pantry</p>		

**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.

Sunday Worship Services Schedule
Traditional Worship at 8:15 a.m.
Sunday School/Fellowship/Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Contemporary Worship at 10:15 a.m.
Holy Communion celebrated during each worship service.