

August 2015

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

It's hard to believe that the summer is quickly coming to an end. Our kids will be heading back into the classrooms this month for another year of exciting and fruitful learning. Just when our household routines have become somewhat familiar, we're expected to get back to the 9-month flurry and this can be rather unsettling. Please hold our families with schooled children (and adults!) in prayer as we make the transition back to more structured routines. Try to remember the wisdom of Proverbs 10:17—"whoever heeds instruction is on the path to life."

While members return to the classroom and household routines adjust, congregational life will also begin to shift back to the program year this month. I've reached out to four of our six committees who don't meet monthly and have scheduled meetings to reconnect and prepare for the year ahead. If you belong to any of these committees, I look forward to gathering with you at our scheduled times.

The summer feels like it was too short because we kicked it off with the disastrous flooding in earlier May. The last 2.5 months have been consumed with getting our homes and lives back in order. Many of us couldn't enjoy lazy summer days with looming household repairs on our minds. There is an exciting development to our town's recovery efforts. Town leadership has met with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and has formed a long-term recovery team entitled DART (DeWitt Area Recovery Team). Our congregation's Tim Garrison is serving as chairman of the committee. Tim, members of the fire department, and I will be out in the community throughout the month assessing the household repairs still needing to be done. DART will have access to the resources of a variety of relief agencies (i.e. Red Cross, Lutheran Disaster Relief, Blue Valley Community Action Partnership, etc.). If you are still in need of resources or know someone in the greater community, please let Tim or I know and we'll get your names added to the list. We've become organized and the relief should be provided soon.

Finally, my family and I are going to squeeze a vacation in at the start of the month for a family wedding up in Wisconsin. More driving, more family, more FUN! Please keep us in prayer as we will keep you all in ours.

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

Pastor's Report
July 2015

I survived my first summer camp experience at Carol Joy! What a wonderful opportunity to submerge myself in the lives of early teenagers for a week. They have such a unique perspective on God and the world around them. They refreshed my soul just as much as the Denver theological conference back in May. Thank you for helping sponsor me and the confirmand I brought along. It was truly a transformative experience and we can't wait to return next July. Perhaps we can convince a couple more kids to join us. It was also a treat having 5 other confirmands come up on Friday for a mid-summer campout just down the road from Carol Joy at Mahoney State Park. Don't worry...I took a nice, long nap on Sunday afternoon!

Aside from the 5-day getaway, the ministry here at Trinity has been equally fruitful. Over the last month, I led or co-led 4 worship services including our annual 4th of July community service and a joint service with Soap Creek, made 11 visits on the hospitalized, shut-in, and regular members, participated in 3 text studies, guided 3 Bible studies, led 1 chapel service at the Wilber Care Center, baptized 2 children, instructed another VBS session, led a Sunday evening service at First Lutheran in Wilber, and even helped judge the best cannonball and belly flops down at the pool party. I was asked to be a part of the town's newly formed "Long-term Relief Committee" in response to the recent flooding and agreed to contribute. I look forward to providing spiritual care for those struggling to get their lives back in order. Again, please continue holding them in prayer especially as we enter into the "dog days" of summer. Having to deal with cleaning and rebuilding is much more difficult when the heat is unbearable.

I hope to see many of you out at the 3 local county fairs in the next couple weeks. Fair season is finally upon us...let the funnel cakes be plentiful!

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

Treasurer's Report

July 15, 2015

Balance as of 6/17/15	\$21,763.49
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Income	\$4,672.77
Interest	\$1.15

Pastor's Salary	\$3,320.74
Secretary Salary	\$674.73
Custodial Salary	\$510.62
Treasurer's Salary	\$193.94
Mileage	\$223.10
Health Insurance	\$210.00
Misc. Water Softener	\$25.00
Baptism Supplies	\$56.33
Postage & Freight	\$107.96
Copies from Copy Machine	\$242.54
Office Equipment	\$150.99
Village Utilities Church	\$297.87
Village Utilities Parsonage	\$249.19
Natural Gas Church	\$48.59
Natural Gas Parsonage	\$31.98
Miscellaneous	\$1,354.03
Special Benevolence	\$209.00
NE Synod Assembly	\$160.00
Telephone Church	\$125.38
Telephone Parsonage	\$34.50
Confirmation	\$58.30
Church Maintenance	\$172.44
Lawn & Landscape	\$120.00
Repairs to the Parsonage	\$4,351.46
Property Insurance	\$2,675.00
Transfer to Benev. Savings	\$910.00

Total Expenses:	\$16,513.69
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Balance as of 7/15/15	\$9,923.72
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Benevolence (Savings Account)	\$15,082.55
Sinking Fund (Savings Account)	\$421.82
Property Projects (Amount included in General Fund)	\$17,858.80
Continuing Education (Amount included in General Fund)	\$613.33

Semi-Annual Pastor's Report
July 26, 2015

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

Though it's only halfway through the year, today we celebrate a little over a year of shared ministry together. Thank you all for making it such a special year for me and my family! Our ministry has produced many fruits since last summer. We've come a long way together and I pray we have many years of shared ministry ahead.

The fruits of our ministry has come in many forms in the last 6 months. Since starting up home visitations back in February, I've been blessed to be welcomed in 35 of our 130 member households. What a privilege to get to know many of you better than Sunday morning allows. Thank you for opening up your homes and lives to me and my family. Sadly, we've sent 3 of our members to be with the Lord. Gladly, we've welcomed 9 children into God's care through the baptismal waters and a family into our congregation through a new member's class. My ministry was enriched by 3 continuing education opportunities: Rural Ministry Conference in Dubuque, IA, Prepare/Enrich training in Kearney, NE, and the Festival of Homiletics in Denver, CO. Thank you for sponsoring me at these 3 training events. I was blessed by joining members at a few congregational events: a UNL women's basketball game, a golf tournament at Hidden Acres Golf Course in Beatrice, NE, and a party at the pool here in town. We've shared another joint service with our sister congregation, St. Paul Lutheran, and teamed up with both the First United Methodist and St. Augustine's Episcopal congregations to lead another successful 4th of July service. What a joy to get away for a week of summer camp up at Carol Joy Holling up in Ashland, NE!

Of course we've also had a big shared struggle to contend with as well. A devastating 30-year flood at the start of May has tested the faith and patience of a lot of us over the last couple months. We've rebuilt and cleaned but the process is slow, especially as the summer heat grinds down on us. Even so, the floodwaters have brought out the best of us, giving an opportunity for great generosity to be shared. Our shared ministry has only been strengthened by the disaster.

We should be welcoming a few more students into the confirmation class this fall and perhaps some new members at another new member class. We'll incorporate some new music through the praise choir and reboot our parent study and youth groups. We should have a good sized group of students getting confirmed in the spring. We might even have a synod-approved constitution to ratify into effect at our annual meeting in January. May the Lord continue to bless us with such fruitful ministry!

Many blessings,

Pastor Sean Koos

Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes

June 17, 2015

I. Call to order

Vice-chairman, Brian Nelson, called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on May 20, 2015. Pastor led devotions. Members in attendance were Pastor Koos, Chris Woerner, Brian Nelson, Darin Mahloch, Larry Pieper, Jane Stokebrand, and Chuck Holtmeier

II. Reports

- a) Secretary's Report: A copy of the previous minutes was presented. It was moved by Darin and seconded by Brian that the minutes be approved. Motion carried
- b) Treasurer's Report: A copy of the monthly report indicates a balance of \$ 21,763.49 as of June 17, 2015. There was a motion by Larry and a second by Chuck to approve the treasurer's report. Report was approved
- c) Investment: Report indicates a balance of \$37,345.00 which is a decrease over last month's balance.
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report. Please note the Community Church Service to be held on July 5th followed by a BBQ with donations going towards the Tri County Back Pack fund.
- e) Memorial Report indicates a balance of \$15,041.79.
- f) Committee Reports:
 1. Social Committee has finalized plans for a Pool Party to be held at the DeWitt Pool from 8:00 to 10:00 P.M. on July 11th. There is a fee of \$75 which will be paid by Trinity Lutheran.
 2. Worship Committee reports three baptisms in the month of June. Kathy Erickson will play the organ for Sunday Service on June 28th while our regular organist is on vacation. July 12th will be a joint service with Soap Creek Church with a meal following. Trinity Lutheran members are assigned to bring desserts and side dishes.
 3. Youth Development had no new reports.
 4. Stewardship/Finance/Budget had no new reports
 5. Property Committee reported as follows.
 - Downspouts were replaced at the parsonage to reduce water seepage in the basement.
 - Termenex will be contacted regarding a small hole noted near the parsonage which may indicate the presence of a mole or ground squirrel.
 - Following discussion, there was a motion by Larry and a second by Chuck to purchase a repurposed water softener from Culligan of the same size we

had for \$500. The contract with Culligan indicated that damage to the current softener due to natural disaster is the financial responsibility of the user. Trinity Lutheran will continue to rent the reverse osmosis system from Culligan as well as having them continue to supply the salt.

- The property committee will have an electrician check outlets in the parsonage basement and replace switches as needed. The committee will arrange for painting the parsonage basement, and replacing the windows and sink in the parsonage basement. Council members agreed to proceed with these projects without the necessity of further council action.

Suggestion Box: No submissions

III. Old Business

- (a) The Golf Tournament was attended by four teams of four each and raised \$386 after expenses to be donated to the Tri County Back Pack program.
- (b) Vacation Bible School held its first meeting on Pentecost Sunday with a good turnout. It was suggested to advertise the next sessions to welcome participants who are not members of Trinity Lutheran.

IV. New Business

- (a) The Semi Annual Meeting will be held July 26th following church services.
- (b) A Bible Camp fund for youth will be supported by donations from the July 5th BBQ.
- (c) The Mid-Summer Confirmation Camp Out is scheduled for July 10th at Mahoney State Park with all confirmands encouraged to attend.
- (d) Lawn services for the parsonage were discussed. Discussion included the possibilities of purchasing a new mower or hiring a lawn service for the remainder of the year. At this time it was determined to ask for bids for lawn service.
- (e) Following discussion there was a motion by Darin and a second by Larry to purchase a dehumidifier for the church and parsonage at an expected cost of \$243.96.

Adjournment: There was a motion by Adam and a second by Darin to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried

Lord's Prayer: In conclusion of the meeting, Pastor led the group in The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, Jane Stokebrand

AUGUST 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pastor will be on vacation August 3rd — August 10th						1
2 PRAISE SERVICE AT 10 AM WELCA meets following service	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 HYMN FEST SERVICE AT 10 AM	10 Hope Circle meets 9 am	11 Altar Guild meets at 7 pm	12 Worship Committee meets at 5:30 pm	13 Good Samaritan Chapel Service at 10:30 am	14	15
16 WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM	17 Shalom Circle meets at 7 pm	18 Mission Coordinators meet at 7 pm	19 Wilber Care Center Chapel at 10 am Church Council meets at 8 pm	20 Bible Study at 10 am	21	22
23 VBS at 8:30 am WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM	24 <u>Newsletter</u> <u>articles are</u> <u>due</u>	25 Social Committee meets at 7 pm	26	27 Bible Study at 10 am Parish Education meets at 7 pm	28	29
30 COMMUNION SERVICE AT 10 AM	31					

August 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 Linda Schuerman Hayden Woerner	3 Sydney Holtmeier George Scherling	4 Trevor Dunn Jamie Koos Josh McDougall	5 Jordan Rahe	6 Alona Kramer Nancy McDougall Dan Tesar	7 Henry Holtmeier Macey Gronemeyer Anthony Rahe Eric Stokebrand	8 Shari Pieper
9 Stella Morrissey Karen Rahe Doug Stokebrand	10 Darin Mahloch Burke Hardy	11 Tonya Bragg	12 Jean Placek Carly Preston	13 Randy Badman Donna Garrison	14 Anita Oltmans	15 Kathy Stokebrand Turner Faxon
16 Jordan Muehling	17	18 Walter Wollenburg	19	20 Maci Hicks	21 Jane Stokebrand Jamie Wattjes	22 Pierce Damrow Micah Hofsetter
23 Kurt Schmidt Lois Zimmerman	24 Journey Pospisil Delaney Uher	25 Kaylin Scherling	26	27 Sharyl Friesen	28	29
30 Sophie Sobotka	31 James Johnson					

SERVICE LEADERS FOR AUGUST

DATE	SCRIPTURE READER	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	COMMUNION SET UP
				COMMUNION ASSISTANT
August 2 nd	Liz Poessnecker	Kynlee Uher	Verdell & Priscilla Koch/ Arylce Albert/ Liz Poessnecker	
August 9 th	Tim Garrison	Maddox Smith	Verdell & Priscilla Koch/ Arylce Albert/ Liz Poessnecker	
August 16 th	Bev Plihal	Jordan Muehling	Verdell & Priscilla Koch/ Arylce Albert/ Liz Poessnecker	
August 23 rd	Mike Holtmeier	Morgan Stokebrand	Verdell & Priscilla Koch/ Arylce Albert/ Liz Poessnecker	
August 30 th	Arlyn Parde	Logan Brown	Verdell & Priscilla Koch/ Arylce Albert/ Liz Poessnecker	Jana Muehling & Teri Mangus

HEAD USHER: Randy Badman

USHERS: Darin Muehling, Craig Wollenburg, Ron Hinzman, Bruce Rahe, Mark Roesler, Logunn Baker

OUTREACH VISITATION: Service List #1

*His splendor is above the
earth and the heavens.*

OFFICE HOURS

OFFICE HOURS FOR PASTOR KOOS

Tuesday - 1pm to 5pm

Wednesday & Thursday - 8:30am to 5pm

Friday & Saturday - 8:30am to Noon

Sean Koos, Pastor

Church Office # 683-3225

Parsonage # 683-2425

Cell Phone #402-806-6878

Email: pastorkoos@gmail.com



We will tie blankets for LWR on Monday, August 31st.

We meet at church at 9 am to noon. All are welcome to join us. No experience required.

OFFICE HOURS FOR SECRETARY

Barb Nelson, Secretary

Monday & Wednesday - 5pm to 6:30pm

Church email: tlcdewitt209@gmail.com



Church Council will meet on Wednesday, August 19th at 8pm

WORSHIP & ATTENDANCE

6/28/15 118

7/5/15 60

7/19/15 105

7/26/15 102



OUTREACH VISITATION

All members of the Congregation will be asked to remember the home bound and those in need of visitation during your month assigned. Service List Leaders and Circle Chairperson are responsible for contacting facilities to set up visitation dates and/or times for playing bingo or other planned activities.

JULY OFFERING

Date	General	Benev.	Property
6/28/15	1877.51	50.00	17.00
7/5/15	583.00	100.00	17.00
7/19/15	4835.35		27.00

Hope

Hope Circle met Monday morning, July 13, 2015, at church with 6 members present. Anna was hostess.

Shirley opened the meeting. Jean read the Treasurer's Report.

Shirley read a long letter written by Frank Thompson, husband of Beth Ulrich Thompson, concerning the life of our special friend, Jim Ulrich, who passed away recently. Shirley mentioned that our circle gave \$10 to the memorial fund for Jim Ulrich.

After discussion, it was determined we will tie blankets again on August 31st.

Shirley gave a report on the May 3rd WELCA board meeting.

Shirley led the Bible Study entitled "Be Like The Widow," based on Luke 21:1-4.

Our next meeting will be on August 10th. Annalee will lead the Bible Study and we will have potluck.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Jean Placek

Sec./Treas.

Treasurer Report

Balance May 2015	\$63.00
Offering	\$47.00
Deposited	\$32.00
Kitty	\$15.00
Balance July 13, 2015	\$78.00

Shalom

Shalom Circle met on July 20

Mission Growth reported on Farmers Market...It will be brought before the WELCA Board for further consideration.

Community Action-Cards were signed for our servicemen and Bev also passed around a sheet for food for serving the Warren's Table on August 25. Volunteers for serving were also give

Karen reminded us of the Semi-Annual congregational meeting which will be on July 26.

Prayer concerns were given.

Lois served as our hostess and Bible Study leader on the Book of Revelations , Chapters 8-11.

Our next meeting will be the Warrens Table in August and in September, Linda Schuerman will serve as our hostess and Bible Study Leader on Revelations: Chapters 12-13-14.

Meeting adjourned

Secretary/Treasurer

Shirlie Wollenburg

Please note that we are no longer collecting cell phones and ink cartridges. We are still collecting items for Lutheran World Relief which are listed in WELCA yearbooks.

WAYS YOU CAN USE YOUR TALENTS

I am looking for **volunteers to be a part of a Meals for New Moms group** at Trinity. I would like to provide 6 meals to the new moms in our congregation within the first couple of weeks of baby arriving. Please call me with questions or to volunteer. Thanks in advance! Penny Holtmeier, 402-230-0718.

Portals of Prayer books for the next quarter, July through September, are available at the back of the church. These are free devotional books for your use, please feel free to take one.

A time to heal 12-week program is being offered to help men and women after undergoing treatment for cancer. See church bulletin board for more information.

We are looking for **individuals who are good with the computer** to share the duties of running the screen for Sunday worship service. Please contact Pastor Koos.

We are looking **for someone or a group to organize and care for the church library**. If you are interested, please see Amy Stokebrand our WELCA president.

Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry Beatrice is having their Feeding for 5,000 benefit on Sunday, August 30th, 10 am to 12:30 pm. More information is posted on the church bulletin board.



Owen Mitchell McDougall was baptized July 19th. Parents are Josh and Kayla McDougall.

Keep in your Prayers

SERVICEMEN

SSG – Brock Johnson
4305 N. 60th
Lincoln, NE 68507

IT1 Matthew Friesen
USS FORT WORTH (LCS-3)
Unit 100228 Box 19
FPO FP 96665

Darin Bartlett, Mary Garrison Son.
His address is:
Darin Bartlett
PSC2 Box 10723
APO, AE 09012

His email is:
Bartlett_Riley@yahoo.com

Matt Friesen's Home address:
Meighen Friesen
1342 Via Dwight
Ramona, CA 92065

Jerry Saathoff
Gold Crest Care Center
200 Levi Lane
Adams, NE 68301

Ada Nolte
Haven Manor
730 Larkspur Dr. Apt.#16
Hickman, NE 68372

Walter & Anna Wollenburg
Wilber Care Center
611 N. Main
Wilber, NE 68465

Elaine Erdmann
2211 Sunset Dr. Apt. #112
Beatrice, NE 68310

George Scherling
2073 County Rd X
DeWitt, NE 68341



Additional Prayer requests for

Please keep the following
families in your prayers as
they mourn the passing of
family members.

Please continue to keep these
members in your prayers:

Doug Damkroger

Kathy Stokebrand

Sharon Rehm

Helen Burger

Do You Have Unmet Needs?

The mission of the DeWitt Area Recovery Team is to locate those individuals and families within the DeWitt Fire District damaged by the May 2015 flooding with unmet needs and find resources to provide recovery services for them. We will provide services regardless of age, creed, race, color, gender, disability or religious preference. The goal of this committee is to see all of our fellow residents fully recover from these floods.

This long-term recovery team has been formed from—and is being led by—members of the DeWitt community and surrounding area, and is being supported by local, state, and national resources.

DeWitt Fire & Rescue will be reaching out to the community, on behalf of the long-term recovery team, to try to contact all those who need help to move forward. We are reaching out to the affected families to let them know of the resources available to them. Volunteer, financial, personal support and guidance may be available to the community.

DART will also be at the Community Appreciation Day on Sunday August 16th from 11:00-2:00 at the DeWitt Community Center.

