

November 2015

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

What a strange month last month was for me and our shared ministry. Between a wedding/funeral in the 1st week, the week vacation I took in the 2nd week, and the 3-day theological conference in Kearney along with strep throat in the 3rd week, it felt like I ran the gamut between highs and lows. What a rich yet exhausting month of ministry and life celebrations! David's words of comfort found in his 46th psalm couldn't have come at a more appropriate than when we lifted them up on Reformation Sunday. Recall how David relayed God's words, "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." My soul longs to hear these words. I *need* to know that God walks with me in both the quiet times in life as well as the hectic times. David's words ring out like a clap in a crowded room. "Be still...stop allowing life to get in the way of knowing my presence," says God. Just listen and pay attention to God at work in your life, in and through all of your daily labors and rests.

We're a couple months into the school year now and the daily tempo of our students is picking up. Our farmers are feverishly trying to take advantage of the few remaining warm days of the year. Rhythms shift ever so slightly with the time change and pretty soon the holiday season will be upon us. The end of year flurry will come upon us and before we know it we'll be in a new year. We are *all* in a busy time of the year. My busy October likely mirrors the busyness that we are all experiencing these days. We can't let an awareness of God in the midst of our busy lives get pushed away. We are all called to simply "be still!" and know that the fullness of our lives is pale in comparison to the fullness of God. God is much fuller than our lives no matter how important we claim they are. Our lives are as busy as God allows them to be and even then, just imagine how busy God's life is! You want to talk about trying to juggle too many things?! You want to talk about not having enough time to do all that needs to be done?! God juggles an *infinite* number of things and *all* within the allotted time. Of course, God also operates outside of time but now we're splitting hairs. If God can meet deadlines with an infinite number of tasks, then surely you and I can work to meet a limited number of tasks in our allotted time. And be grateful to God for giving us such rich lives! This month let us prepare for the busy Advent/Christmas season by finding the time to simply be still and revel in the awesome fullness of God.

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

Pastor's Report
October 2015

What a whirlwind month it has been! It's hard to believe we've come to yet another monthly council meeting. Where did the time go?! I suppose the farmers have been asking themselves this very question as they've finally gotten out in the fields to harvest. The scramble is on to get the crop taken in. It helps to be blessed with unseasonably warm temps this month.

Though the farmers are scrambling, the ministry seems around Trinity seems to be going equally quick. Since last we met, I was able to make 12 visits, participate in 3 pastor's text studies (lead 2 of them here at Trinity), lead 3 Bible studies, teach 3 confirmation classes, lead 4 worship services, lead 1 chapel service, teach 1 parent study group, participate in 1 committee meeting, perform 2 baptisms, and lead 1 youth group gathering. The annual tailgate party at the Tri-County schools was another success. I also touched base with the area pastors at a meeting at Tri-County schools. We help a special congregational meeting to vote on the newest edition of the constitution and send it up to the synod level for approval and blessing. I officiated at 1 funeral and 1 wedding. I attended a 3-day theological conference in Kearney, NE. It's amazing I was able to squeeze in a week vacation to visit family and friends! Thank you for letting me get away and celebrate a good friend's wedding and reconnect with family.

Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes

September 16, 2015

I. Call to order

Chairman Chris Woerner called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on September 16, 2015. Pastor Koos led devotions. Members in attendance were Pastor Koos, Chris Woerner, Brian Nelson, Darin Mahloch, Jane Stokebrand, Randy Wollenburg, and Larry Pieper

II. Reports

- a) Secretary's Report: A copy of the previous minutes was presented. It was moved by Darin and seconded by Larry that the minutes be approved. Motion carried
- b) Treasurer's Report: A copy of the monthly report indicates a balance of \$ 9,107.38 as of September 16, 2015. Report was reviewed and approved
- c) Investment: Report indicates a balance of \$35,032 which is a decrease over last month's balance.
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report.
- e) Memorial Report indicates a balance of \$16,045.54 as of September 16, 2015.
- f) Suggestion Box: Four signed entries were received and discussed.
 - 1. It was suggested that the acolyte be seated in the first pew to view the screen and be more included in the service. The suggestion will be implemented on a trial basis.
 - 2. There was a suggestion to decrease the number of bulletins ordered and printed. Council agreed to reduce the number from 150 to 125 per service with consideration given to services that might require additional bulletins.
 - 3. There was a suggestion regarding the miscellaneous category in the budget. An increase in the miscellaneous expenses has been noted over the last few months due to flood expenses. The council decided that any item over \$500 be noted as a line item expense.
 - 4. There was a suggestion to have Bibles available for worshippers. Bibles will be made available in the back of the church. Please see an usher for help locating them.
- g) Committee Reports:
 - 1. Social Committee will be hosting the Tri County Tailgate party on September 18th.
 - 2. Worship Committee reported positive comments on the use of the continuous line for communion.
 - 3. Parish Education and Youth Group Ministries reported the conclusion of this year's VBS program as well as the Sunday School Kick Off event hosted in September.
 - 4. Stewardship/Finance/Budget report addressed the budget item of miscellaneous to consider a payment over \$500 be entered as an independent line item.
 - 5. Property Committee reported that the insurance adjuster determined damage to the parsonage roof, but only superficial damage to the church roof not indicating replacement. Following finalization of the insurance report roofers will be contacted for bids.
 - 6. Old Business
 - a) Constitution revision update is available on line and hard copies will be placed in the back of the church. A congregational meeting will be held October 18, 2015 to determine if the congregation approves the proposed changes. If approved the document will be forwarded to the synod for review.

- b) Installation of handicapped pews was discussed. There was a motion by Randy and a second by Brian to contact Ratigan Shottler to install four handicapped pews at the original quote of \$250 per pew. The motion carried.

III. New Business

- (a) Roof damage to the parsonage, insurance payment, and pursuit of a roofer as discussed under the Property Committee report.
- (b) There was a motion by Darin and a second by Randy to reimburse Pastor Koos for the reverse osmosis system in the parsonage. The motion carried.
- (c) Pastor Koos requested and was granted vacation for October 9, 2015 through October 16, 2015. A replacement pastor is being pursued.
- (d) The Fall Coat Drive will be held at Trinity Lutheran on October 17th and 18th. Clean coats with working closures may be donated after September 1st and hung in the designated section of the coat rack.
- (e) A date for the joint congregational service including Trinity Lutheran and Soap Creek church is yet to be determined.

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

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

Next Council Meeting: October 21st at 8:00 pm.

Communion Assistant for September is Larry.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary, Jane Stokebrand

NOVEMBER 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|--|--|-----------|-----------|
| 1 All Saints Sunday Sunday School meets 8:45 am Care A Lot meets at 8:45 am Adult choir meets at 8:45 am Parents Bible study at 8:45 am WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM WELCA Board following service | 2 Tie Blankets for LWR 9 am to Noon <i>Everyone Welcome</i> | 3 Area Pastors Text Study Group 10 am Worship Committee meets at 5:30 pm | 4 Confirmation meets at 6:30 pm | 5 Bible study at 10 am | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Sunday School meets 8:45 am Adult choir meets at 8:45 am Youth Group meets at 8:45 am WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM | 9 Hope Circle meets at 9 am Praise Choir meets at 5:30 | 10 Area Pastors Text Study Group 10 am | 11 Confirmation meets at 6:30 pm Second Service Project at the Wilber Care Center | 12 Good Samaritan worship 10:30 am | 13 | 14 |
| 15 Sunday School meets 8:45 am Praise Choir meets at 9 am PRAISE SERVICE AT 10 AM | 16 Shalom Circle meets at 7 pm | 17 Area Pastors Text Study Group 10 am | 18 Chapel service at the Wilber Care Center 10 am Confirmation meets at 6:30 pm Church Council meets at 8 pm | 19 Bible study at 10 am | 20 | 21 |
| 22 Sunday School meets 8:45 am Youth Group meets at 8:45 am Adult choir meets at 8:45 am THANKOFFERING SERVICE AT 10 AM | 23 Newsletter articles due | 24 Area Pastors Text Study Group 10 am | 25 No confirmation | 26 God's Blessings on this Thanksgiving Day. Give Thanks to the Lord always | 27 | 28 |
| 29 Sunday School meets 8:45 am Adult choir meets at 8:45 am COMMUNION WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM ADVENT BEGINS | 30 | | | | | |

November 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Roberta Aden Jamie Beerenstrauch | 2 Kelly Bagwell Austin Barnts Steve Klostermeier | 3 | 4 Jim Miller Elsie Woerner | 5 Priscilla Koch Christa Holtmeier Amber Koch | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 Ervin Beerenstrauch Vic Schuerman | 11 Velda Jensen | 12 Cindy Wollenburg Maddox Smith | 13 | 14 Karli Scherling |
| 15 | 16 Cayden Kropp Bennett Reck | 17 Dean Thernes Morgan Stokebrand Samantha Koos | 18 Celena Chavez | 19 Cody Wollenburg | 20 Harold Aden Madison Kirchoff | 21 Baylee Kropp |
| 22 Ron Wollenburg Baylon Klostermeier | 23 Natalie Wollenburg Mary Holtmeier | 24 | 25 | 26 Brian Rahe Karen (Mike) Rahe | 27 Mike Rahe | 28 |
| 29 | 30 Kristi Rahe Kerri Thornburg | | | | | |

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

OFFICE HOURS FOR SECRETARY

Barb Nelson, Secretary

Monday & Wednesday - 5pm to 6:30pm

Church email: tlcdewitt209@gmail.com



Church Council will meet on Wednesday,
November 18th at 8pm



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.

November -- Service List #5

If there have been changes in your address, please let the church office know so that the membership directory and newsletter addresses may be updated.

It is that time again to start planning for next year's ushering and greeter schedule. This is a great way to serve. There are sign-up sheets in the entry way. Please place your name by a month that would work well for you. This list will remain up for the month of November. If you have questions, please contact Brian Nelson.

WORSHIP & ATTENDANCE

| | |
|----------|-----|
| 10/4/15 | 118 |
| 10/11/15 | 63 |
| 10/18/15 | 114 |
| 10/25/15 | 115 |

OCTOBER OFFERING

| Date | General | Benev. | Property |
|----------|---------|--------|----------|
| 9/27/15 | 3870.60 | 25.00 | 17.00 |
| 10/4/15 | 2063.00 | 125.00 | 7.00 |
| 10/11/15 | 994.00 | 25.00 | 17.00 |
| 10/18/15 | 1629.00 | 25.00 | 20.00 |
| 10/25/15 | 2680.40 | 25.00 | 10.00 |

SERVICE LEADERS FOR NOVEMBER

| DATE | SCRIPTURE READER | ACOLYTE | GREETERS | COMMUNION SET UP |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---|------------------------------------|
| | | | | COMMUNION ASSISTANT |
| November 1 st | Mike Holtmeier | Elsie Woerner | Leonard & Shirley Saathoff/ Elaine Erdmann | |
| November 8 th | Arlyn Parde | Kynlee Uher | Leonard & Shirley Saathoff/ Elaine Erdmann | |
| November 15 th | Lois Wattjes | Dominic Smith | Leonard & Shirley Saathoff/ Elaine Erdmann | |
| November 22 nd | Karen Wollenburg | Turner Faxon | Leonard & Shirley Saathoff/ Elaine Erdmann | |
| November 29 th | Derrick Damrow | Drey Heller | Leonard & Shirley Saathoff/ Elaine Erdmann | Nancy Mahloch & Nancy McDougall |

Thanksgiving Service will be held at the St. Augustine Episcopal Church. Please watch bulletins for more information.

HEAD USHER: Doug Stokebrand

USHERS: Cooper Smith, Delva Smith, Brent Rahe, Larry Pieper, Nate Morrissey

OUTREACH VISITATION: Service List #5

**EVERYONE YOU MEET IS FIGHTING A
BATTLE YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT.
BE KIND.**



Hope Circle

October 12, 2015

Hope Circle met on Monday, October 12th, 2015, at Shirley's, with 6 members present.

Kathy led the Bible study titled "Make Haste, Oh Lord," based on Psalm 14 and several other psalms.

Shirley opened the meeting with some information found in the Gather magazine concerning body language while praying.

Jean gave a Treasurer's Report.

We discussed whether or not we felt we should continue the Farmers Market and decided we felt people enjoyed going to the event, and it does raise money for other projects.

Shirley mentioned that the radio service needs sponsors, and we may try to give money for one service later this year.

Shirley plans to have a work day before November 1st so we can finish up some kits and do some of the packing of kits, etc. for delivery in November. They plan to pit the quilts on the pews in the next week or so.

We discussed our Christmas gathering but did not make any firm plans. Reservations will probably need to be made, depending on where we go.

Shirley went through the Yearbook and discussed who would serve each month and so on. Officers will remain the same as last year.

Shirley mentioned the Community Club is having "Trunks for Treats" this Halloween at the Senior Center.

Shirley read an article from the Gather magazine titled "Expressions of Faith."

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Jean Places

Sec./treas.

REMEMBER ITEMS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY



Shalom Circle met on Oct. 19.

Report from Mission Action ...Thanked members for School kit items and also prayer shawls were delivered.

Lap robes will be taken to several Nursing homes

Communications were read.

OLD BUSINESS..Farmers Market proceeds went to Tri County Back Pack

NEW BUSINESS..Thankoffering service is Nov. 15 and Advent Service is Nov. 29. No planned activities for advent as yet.

Bible Study lessons were discussed. HYMNS and their origins will be our next lesson study starting in Feb. as January will be a work night for a banner.

Prayer concerns were given.

Jan served as our hostess and Bible study leader on Rev. Our next meeting will be Nov. 16 with Pat leading our Bible Study on Rev. 18-20 and will also serve as our hostess. The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Sec/Treas.

Shirlie Wollenburg



We will tie blankets for LWR on Monday, November 2nd. We meet at church at 9 am to noon. All are welcome to join us. No experience required.

Benefit for Orlalee and Karen Zimmerman on Sunday, November 8, 2015, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm at the DeWitt Community Center.

Barbeque Luncheon with a Free will offering to help with Orlalee's medical expenses. Benefit hosted by St. Paul's Lutheran Church (SoapCreek) of rural DeWitt, NE. Supplemental funding by Homestead Chapter of Thrivent Financial Silent Auction organized by Indian Creek 4-H Club.



Creo James Klasek was baptized on October 4th. He is the son of Chance and Mary Klasek.

Raylynn Kay Murray was baptized on October 25th. She is the daughter of Brittany Reed and Travis Murray.

The Sunday School children are asked to bring food items for their offering for the month of November. Think about some thanksgiving items like sweet potatoes, stuffing, etc. Still not sure what to bring--monetary offerings are always welcome. If you would like to bring items but are not in Sunday school, you are also welcome to contribute. Questions? Please talk with a Parish Education member.

Service Group #2 will be collecting items for bingo prizes to round off our month of visitation. Please bring your items to the church by November 2nd. Kathy Stokebrand will deliver them in November.



*What a caring congregation I belong to.
Thank you so much for the cards, food, well
wishes and most of all prayers during Gerald's
long illness and death. Thank you Service
Group #2 for taking care of the reception
following the memorial service for Gerald.
God bless you all.*

Sharon Rehm



Join us Saturday, October 31st for the kids parade down main street in DeWitt. We will start at the Fire Hall and walk to the Senior Center where we will have Trick and Trunk. The Community is encouraged to come out with their cars, pickups, or even table to join in on the fun. Lets see how many vehicles we can get for the kids to trick or treat at.

The Parade will start at 4:30 at the Fire Hall with Trick and Trunk to follow till 6:30. You can set up your vehicles from 3:30 till 4:15. Sponsored by the DeWitt Community Club adn 20th Century Club.

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
2770 Daniel Avenue
San Diego, CA 92111

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
Sharon Rehm
Roger and Karen Rahe
Alice Wollenburg
Arlyce Albert
Laura Stanek
Lori Bessler

Our Tried-and-True member's poster is posted by the church bulletin board. Please feel free to write on this poster for Elaine Erdmann.

Cards can be sent to Alice Wollenburg c/o Peggy Birky
516 Road 16
Strang, NE 68444