

October 2015

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

With the harvest season upon us, I am reminded of the 6th verse of Psalm 67--"The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us." The May/June flooding created quite a challenge for most everyone in our town. The large amount of water either hit our basements or the surrounding fields. We've focused primarily on recovering our basements these last 4 months while our farmers have struggled with planting and replanting. There are many fields that are still quite green, an abnormality for this time of year. Over the next few weeks, our farmers will reap their crops and will see just how hard they were hit. Please hold them in prayer, asking God to bless them with increase.

Our farmers will be putting in long hours and the ministry will be particularly enriching this month. Two of our members will be committing their lives to each other through marriage on the first weekend. Our Praise Choir will also be introducing Paul Baloche's song, "Above All," as this month's "hymn-of-the-month" that weekend. We sang last month's song, "10,000 Reasons," pretty well by the end of the month. Don't be surprised when we bring it back in May 2016. We will welcome new members into our congregation with a reception following the service on the third weekend. On the fourth weekend, we will be celebrating the 498th year since the church's Reformation began...just 2 years away from the big 500th anniversary. I will be taking my 3rd week of vacation from 10/09-10/16 and the council and I have asked Rev. Ken Kramer to come back and lead service on 10/11. Please welcome him with your special graciousness and generosity. I will be attending our synod's fall theological conference up in Kearney, NE from 10/18-10/21. Not before we have our special congregational meeting after service on 10/18 to discuss the constitutional revisions. We will then send the revised edition of the constitution up to the synod to get feedback.

God, our God, has indeed blessed us! Not just our farmers but all of our workers, non-workers, retirees, parents, children, students, teachers, singers, elderly, shut-ins, and sick. We are ALL enriched by God's abundant blessings from day to day. Let us be a blessing to all those we interact with this month.

God's blessings,

Pastor Sean Koos

Pastor's Report
September 2015

It's hard to believe we're on the cusp of another program year! With the recent start of our Sunday school classes, Youth group, parent study group, and confirmation class comes the realization that we made it through our first year of shared ministry. What a blessing it has been to co-build a growing ministry with the members of Trinity these last 15 months! Thank you for sticking with me and trying out a bunch of new things. Some were successful, others less successful, but at least everyone was willing to give them a try. Thank you for exploring how the Spirit wants to lead our congregation. I am confident we've laid a strong foundation for thriving ministry in the years ahead.

This isn't to say the ministry hasn't already been thriving in the last month. I was able to make 18 visits with members, lead all 4 services, a chapel service at Good Sam in Beatrice, 3 Bible studies, and 2 pastors' text studies here at Trinity. I was able to participate in 2 committee meetings and our last vacation Bible school session. I was greatly pleased to see such strong participation in the alternative 4-Sunday VBS structure this summer. Next summer I want to explore both the 4 Sundays and a 3-day midsummer VBS class. I hope the 3-day session won't pull participation away from the 4 Sundays but I missed seeing kids from the larger DeWitt community. Of course, we will need more leaders from the congregation to help make it a success. We'll explore this possibility in the spring.

As mentioned above, I did hold an orientation for the confirmation class as well as teach our first class. Recall that last summer we opened up the class to 6th graders. This year there were 5 eligible students but they've all chosen to wait and start the class next year. It was good to get back into Chip Ingram's teaching on how to be more effective parents. His wisdom on parenting is invaluable. It was unfortunate losing Kenny Hager but we rejoice that his 5 years of suffering came to an end. It was a blessing to lead worship at our neighboring Episcopal congregation after a 4-month break while they recovered from the May flooding. Finally, it is always a treat to re-connect with my fellow 1st-call pastors up at the Carol Joy Holling Center. I always come away refreshed with new ministry ideas and collegiality. Thank you for letting me get away.

Many blessings,
Pastor Koos

Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes

August 19, 2015

I. Call to order

Chairman Chris Woerner called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on August 19, 2015. Pastor Koos led devotions. Members in attendance were Pastor Koos, Chris Woerner, Brian Nelson, Darin Mahloch, Jane Stokebrand, Randy Wollenburg, Adam Wollenburg, 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 as amended. Motion carried
- b) Treasurer's Report: A copy of the monthly report indicates a balance of \$ 13,859.16 as of August 19, 2015. There was a motion by Randy and a second by Adam to approve the treasurer's report. Report was approved
- c) Investment: Report indicates a balance of \$37,133.50 which is a decrease over last month's balance.
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report.
- e) Memorial Report indicates a balance of \$15,440.09 as of August 19, 2015.
- f) Suggestion Box: No entries.
- g) Committee Reports:
 - 1. Social Committee will be meeting August 25th to discuss ongoing activities.
 - 2. Worship Committee reported the Sunday School Kick Off scheduled for September 13th.
 - 3. Parish Education and Youth Group Ministries indicated the last VBS session to be held in August.
 - 4. Stewardship/Finance/Budget had no new reports
 - 5. Property Committee reported one outstanding bill for material to seal the parsonage floor.

III. Old Business

- a) Constitution revision update included the addition of a treasurer to the Church Council while retaining the position of staff treasurer. This change is related to compliance with the model constitution, as well, as providing for an official liaison between the Church Council and the staff secretary. There was a motion by Adam and a second by Darin to approve the revised constitution for presentation to the congregation. The motion carried. The revised constitution is available on the church website and printed copies will be made available.
- b) There was a report that the DART surveys have been returned. There was a request that Trinity Lutheran be available for conducting the required interviews beginning August 19th.
- c) As of August 19th the WiFi system is working properly.

IV. New Business

- (a) The worship and music committee requested updates to the sound system. After discussion the council determined that minor updates can be researched at this time with further sound system updates to be placed on the five year program.

- (b) Pastor will be holding the fall session of the New Member Class on September 20th and 27th, and October 4th and 18th. With October 18th being the induction ceremony.
- (c) Rev. Timothy Bernard, who has assisted us with the constitution revision, has suggested a monetary gift to the Youth Group at his church. Council held discussion, but did not make a decision.
- (d) There was a suggestion from the Worship Committee to try the continuous line for dispensation of communion. There was a motion by Randy and a second by Chuck to try that for the August 30th service. The motion carried.
- (e) Worship Committee also suggested a Hymn of the Month which will be implemented during the September Praise Choir Service.
- (f) September 13th will be the Sunday School Kick Off and distribution of Bibles.
- (g) Confirmation class will be resuming. Sixth grade parents who have replied indicate they will wait until next year to enroll their students.
- (h) Other new business included a report of three transfers out of Trinity Lutheran to include Troy and Kim McCain, Pastor Ken and Alona Kramer, and Bryce and Hannah Simpson family.. Additionally Tim Garrison presented a request by Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Beatrice to assist with flood related needs..

Adjournment: There was a motion by Chuck and a second by Randy 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: September 16th at 8:00 pm.

Communion Assistant for August is Brian Nelson

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary, Jane Stokebrand

Treasurer's Report September 16, 2015

Balance as of 8/19/15		\$13,859.16
Income		\$10,424.50
Interest		\$0.83
Pastor's Salary	\$3,320.74	
Secretary Salary	\$391.92	
Custodial Salary	\$510.62	
Treasurer's Salary	\$193.94	
Mileage	\$258.75	
Health Insurance	\$210.00	
Postage & Freight	\$79.44	
Office Supplies	\$174.92	
Office Equipment	\$150.99	
Village Utilities Church	\$503.31	
Village Utilities Parsonage	\$306.98	
Natural Gas Church	\$25.69	
Natural Gas Parsonage	\$36.70	
ELCA Benevolence	\$5,406.00	
Special Benevolence	\$645.00	
Copyright License	\$208.00	
Telephone Church	\$130.65	
Telephone Parsonage	\$34.50	
Sunday School	\$726.55	
Confirmation	\$314.59	
Worship	\$94.00	
Choir	\$33.15	
Church Maintenance	\$82.10	
Lawn & Landscape	\$265.00	
Repairs to the Parsonage	\$163.57	
Transfer to Benev. Savings	\$910.00	
Total Expenses:		\$15,177.11
Balance as of 9/16/15		\$9,107.38
Benevolence (Savings Account)		\$11,946.55
Sinking Fund (Savings Account)		\$421.82
Property Projects (Amount included in General Fund)		\$18,004.80
Continuing Education (Amount included in General Fund)		\$573.33

SERVICE LEADERS FOR OCTOBER

DATE	SCRIPTURE READER	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	COMMUNION SET UP COMMUNION ASSISTANT
October 4 th	Jane Stokebrand	Tyson Baker	Jack & Mary Garrison/ Tim & Pam Garrison	
October 11 th	Tim Garrison	Hannah Holtmeier	Jack & Mary Garrison/ Tim & Pam Garrison	
October 18 th	Liz Poessnecker	Alyssa Brown	Jack & Mary Garrison/ Tim & Pam Garrison	
October 25 th	Bev Plihal	Krayten Uher	Jack & Mary Garrison/ Tim & Pam Garrison	Jenn Uher & Nancy Mahloch

HEAD USHER: Arlyn Parde

USHERS: Celena Chavez, Brian Nelson, Jeremy Placek, Shae Wattjes, Gary Niemeier

OUTREACH VISITATION: Service List #2

**MERCY, PEACE AND LOVE BE
YOURS IN ABUNDANCE.**

OCTOBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Pastor Koos will be on vacation 10/9 through 10/16</p> <p>Pastor Koos will attend The O-CON 10/18 through 10/21</p>				<p>1 Bible Study with Pastor Koos at 10am</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Garrison/ Stephens wedding</p>
<p>4 Sunday School at 8:45 am Care-A-Lot at 8:45 am Parent's Bible Study at 8:45 am Praise choir meets at 9 am PRAISE SERVICE AT 10 AM WELCA Board following service New Member class at 4 pm</p>	<p>5 Tie Blankets for LWR 9 am to Noon.</p>	<p>6 Area Pastor's Bible Study 10am Worship Committee meets at 6:30 pm</p>	<p>7 Confirmation meets at 6:30 pm Service Project #1</p>	<p>8 Chapel Service at Good Samaritan Beatrice at 10:30 am</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 Sunday School meets 8:45 am Adult choir meets at 8:45 am WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM</p>	<p>12 Hope Circle meets at 9 am at Shirley's House</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 Sunday School meets 8:45 am Adult choir meets at 8:45 am WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM New Member induction at service Reception following service Special Congregational meeting at 11 am</p>	<p>19 Praise Choir at 5:30 pm Shalom Circle meets at 7 pm</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Confirmation meets at 6:30 pm Church Council meets at 8 pm</p>	<p>22 Bible Study with Pastor Koos at 10am</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 Wear Red—Reformation Sunday School meets 8:45 am Adult choir meets at 8:45 am Youth Group meets at 8:45 am COMMUNION SERVICE AT 10 AM</p>	<p>26 Praise Choir at 5:30 pm Newsletter articles are due</p>	<p>27 Area Pastor's Bible Study 10am</p>	<p>28 Confirmation meets at 6:30 pm</p>	<p>29 Bible Study with Pastor Koos at 10am</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Happy Halloween</p>

October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Melissa Bartels
4 Brock McDougall	5 Mike Bergmeier	6 Shirlie Wollenburg	7	8	9 Amy Bowman Amy Stokebrand	10 Colleen Mentel
11 Chris Woerner	12	13	14	15	16 Dale Friesen Eugene Wollenburg	17 Deb Johnson Jayden Thomsen Carson Rahe Eldon Stokebrand
18	19	20	21 Anna Wollenburg	22 Pam Garrison	23	24 Jackson Kirchoff Tricia Schuerman McKenzie Smith
25	26 Harold Malchow	27 Janice Buhr Braxton Karl	28 Paula Pieper Duane Wollenburg	29 Bryson Beerenstrauch Rylan Beerenstrauch Bryce Wollenburg Alexis Johnson	30 Brevin Damrow Galen Plihal	31

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 are trying to update our records in the church office and we need your help. If you have moved, got married, or etc. please email us at tlcdewitt209@gmail.com or call at 402-683-3225. Thanks for all the help in advance.

OFFICE HOURS FOR SECRETARY

Barb Nelson, Secretary
 Monday & Wednesday - 5pm to 6:30pm
 Church email: tlcdewitt209@gmail.com

There will be a special congregational meeting to approve the constitutional revisions on Sunday, October 18th at 11 am.



Church Council will meet on Wednesday, October 21st at 8pm

WORSHIP & ATTENDANCE

8/30/15	88
9/6/15	70
9/13/15	122
9/20/15	96
9/27/15	116

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.

SEPTEMBER OFFERING

Date	General	Benev.	Property
8/30/15	1433.25	25.00	27.00
9/6/15	1720.50	125.00	7.00
9/13/15	2528.25	25.00	17.00
9/20/15	1423.50	25.00	7.00

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

Gerald Rehm

Laura Stanek

Mary Garrison

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 Jerry Saathoff.

Elaine Erdmann is for the months of September and October.

This coming weekend please keep Brad Garrison and Ashley Stephens in your prayers as they will be wed on Saturday, October 3rd.

Shalom

Shalom Circle met on September 19 with 9 members present

MISSION ACTION-Bev reported that the school kits are low on notebooks and that all Shalom members are to bring 4-70 sheet notebooks, wide or college ruled to our next meeting. Prayer shawls were discussed

New WELCA OFFICERS ARE

President-Karen Wollenburg

Vice-President-Liz Poessnecker

Secretary-Tina Holtmeier

Mission Action-Sarah Kramer

Nominating Committee

Lois Zimmerman

Linda K Schuerman

Bonnie Schuerman

Chris Roesler remains as Treasurer, Priscilla Koch as Mission Community

and Donna Garrison as Mission Growth.

Ann Freese has finished the baptismal napkins. 21 were made.

November 15 is our Thankoffering Service

New Hostesses and Bible Study Leaders for 2016 were assigned.

Our new officers for Shalom are

Karen Wollenburg-President

Shirlie Wollenburg-Secretary/Treasurer

Liz Poessnecker-Mission Community

Bev Plihal-Mission Action

Arlyce Albert-Mission Growth

Lois Wattjes-Card Secretary

Prayer Concerns were given

Linda served as our hostess and Bible Study leader on Revelations. Our next meeting will be Oct. 19 with Jan Dunn leading the Bible Study beginning with Chapter 15 and also serving as hostess.

Meeting adjourned.

Sec/Treas

Shirlie Wollenburg

Hope

Hope Circle

September 14, 2015

Hope Circle met on Monday, September 14th, with 3 members present. Annalee was hostess.

We put together 10 school kits before the meeting.

Shirley opened the meeting with a prayer. Jean read the Treasurer's Report.

We will work on kits and tying blankets on October 5th. Shirley mentioned we will put quilts on pews in a few weeks and then begin boxing them so we will have some of the work done and ready to take to the collection in Lincoln in early November.

Discussion was held as to whether our church should continue to have the Farmers Market in July.

We also discussed plans for our Christmas gathering, but no decisions were made.

Shirley said we should all be sure to follow the newsletters and bulletins for meetings, etc.

Shirley led the Bible Study titled "Sabbath Keeping," based on passages from Exodus and Deuteronomy.

Our next meeting will be on October 12th. Kathy will lead the Bible Study and Shirley will be hostess.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Jean Placek

Sec./Treas.

REMEMBER ITEMS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

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.

We will be collecting for a coat drive September 1st through October 11th. Collected articles will be distributed October 17-18th, more information will be forth coming. We will be collecting coats, hats, scarves, and gloves in the coat room. The coats have to working zippers, or buttons. All articles must be clean and usable (no holes).

Anniversary

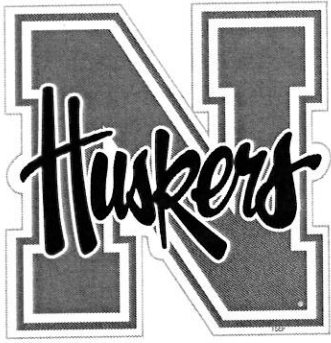
Please join us in celebrating Arlyn and Elaine Parde's 40th Wedding Anniversary. Reception to be held from 2:30 to 5:00 pm on Sunday, October 4th here at Trinity Lutheran Church. Cake and Refreshments provided. We hope to see you there!

Hosted by Lisa, Michelle, Michael and Teresa Parde



Thanks so much to Service Group #1 for all the good work and food for Kenny Hager's funeral. And also for the food brought in from everyone else. It takes all our community at these times of support for the family.

God's Blessing to you all



Go Big Red Appreciation Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, September 29th, 8:00-9:30 am in the DeWitt Senior Center. The Center is celebrating its 25th Anniversary so come and join them for breakfast.

Portals of prayer books for the next quarter are available at the back of the church. Feel free to pick up your free copy today.

Day One (formerly Lutheran Vespers and Grace Matters) is in need of sponsors for this Christian radio program to spread God's word to all. It is a 30 minute program which is on every Sunday morning at 7:05 am on KWBE 1450. The cost for a 30 minute program is \$65. Many shut-ins enjoy listening to this service of message and music. Day One only has enough sponsors for one more month, then it will be taken off the air. Please send your sponsorship to Delores Huls, 515 Clearwater Circle, Beatrice, NE 68310. If you have questions, you may contact her at 402-228-9457.

CAROL JOY HOLLING CAMP PRESENTS:

WILD WEST FEST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH
NOON - 4:00PM
CAROL JOY HOLLING CAMP
ASHLAND, NE

FREE FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Enjoy the zipline (first 100 people, 2nd grade and up), hayrack rides, games, and more!

Visit caroljoyholling.org for more information



**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY SCHOOL 2015**

SUPERINTENDENT – Nate Morrissey
ASSISTANT SUPT. – Amber Koch
SECRETARY/TREASURER – Darcy Baker

PRE K & KINDERGARTEN

Ashley Stephens (Garrison) and Jackie Placek

1st and 2nd GRADES

Jana Muehling and Johanna Koos

3rd and 4th GRADE

Jessi Damrow and Becky Kaeling

5TH and 6th GRADES

Bobbi Scherling and Christa Holtmeier

Junior High

Penny Holtmeier

YOUTH GROUP

Pastor Koos

CARE-A-LOT

Josi Hoesche and Cara Heller

MUSIC DIRECTORS

Nate Morrissey

**First Graders who Received
Bibles**

Blaine Brown
Macey Gronemeyer
Henry Holtmeier
Braxton Karl



We will tie blankets for LWR on Monday, October 5th. We meet at church at 9 am to noon. All are welcome to join us. No experience required.

The Blackwood Brothers in Concert at First Christian Church on Monday, October 26th at 7 pm. Free Admission - A love offering will be received. The First Christian Church is located at 205 N. 7th, Beatrice, NE

How is being a Christian like being a pumpkin?

ANSWER: God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. Cuts off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc... and then he carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the World to see.