

August 2016

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

We survived the hottest month of the year! Phew! I'm sure there were a few days that some of you thought you might not make it. Have no fear; it should be getting cooler from here on out...just in time for school to get back into session! With August comes the return to the classroom. There are some households that welcome the return of the school year routines while there are some that dread all the added stresses of sports and daycare and classes and homework and tests. We sent our oldest daughter off to college this summer and all three of our kids will be heading back to school this month. It'll be quite an adjustment not having big sister around to help out.

It won't be too long before Sunday school and confirmation classes get back into session as well. As we began to prepare for the new year, we quickly realized we are in dire need of Sunday school teachers. We have 4 classes that need teachers: pre-K, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. We'd like to have 2 teachers per class to offer a little flexibility. Please, please, please consider serving in this very important role for our congregation. The faiths of our children begin in the classrooms as we expose them to all the rich teachings of scripture. I can only expose our kids to a few of the teachings from the pulpit and the bulk of the responsibility rests on Sunday school teachers. We need to step up and commit to serving as responsible teachers for our children. We, the educational committee, will provide the curriculum along with suggested activities and teaching plans. ANYONE who has been confirmed can serve in this role (wink, wink, youth members and retirees). Please, please, please consider serving and reach out to either me or Amber Koch, the upcoming year's superintendent, as soon as possible.

Otherwise it should be a quiet month, a change from the last couple months. Thank you to those who came to the semi-annual meeting last month and offered helpful suggestions. We'll bring them to this month's council meeting and discuss possible resolutions.

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

## Pastor's Report

### July 2016

It seems like we were just checking in with each other. Meeting at the end of last month and a few days early this month has shortened the news to report. The most important thing to highlight was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. I was impressed by how well the event unfolded and I had the sense that Bishop Maas was equally impressed. Thank you everyone who helped to plan for the event. I remarked to Bishop as he was getting ready to leave that we're starting a 2-year trend of him visiting our congregation. Recall that he was here for my ordination/installation back in June of 2014 as well. If anyone has any suggestions of an event to celebrate in the summer of 2018, please let me know so we can get on Bishop's schedule!

Of course, the 50<sup>th</sup> celebration wasn't the only ministry we shared in the last couple weeks. I made 7 visits on members, helped lead the 4<sup>th</sup> of July community service and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary service, led a praise service and chapel service at the Good Sam Center in Beatrice, participated in 1 committee meeting and 1 text study, and led 1 Bible study. The Saturday before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July was a busy day for me, starting it off with the 5K run/walk. I was somehow talked into sitting for the dunk booth in the early afternoon and later rode on our congregation's float in the parade through town. My kids and I finished out the day with yet another fantastic fireworks display over our town's ballpark. I slept hard that night!! Thank you for letting me getting away to go up to the University of Minnesota for an all-day parent orientation. I performed a graveside service for the mother-in-law of one of our members (Jerry Lewien). Sadly, we lost another one of our members, Jerry Saathoff, and I had the privilege of leading his funeral service. All in all, a busy few weeks!

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

# **Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes**

June 29, 2016

## **I. Call to order**

Chairperson Brian Nelson called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on June 29, 2016. Pastor Koos led the group in devotions. Members in attendance were Pastor Koos, Duane Wollenburg, Brian Nelson, Jane Stokebrand, Lois Wattjes, Joel Kaelin, and Randy Wollenburg.

## **II. Reports**

- a) Secretary's Report: A copy of the previous minutes was presented. It was moved by Joel and seconded by Randy that the minutes be approved as amended. Motion carried.
- b) Treasurer's Report: A copy of the monthly treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$31,733.75.. There was a motion and a second that the report be approved. The motion carried.
- c) Investments Report: No report.
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report.
- e) Memorial Report: Balance of Memorial Fund to date is \$16,700.54. The amount of \$3,816 was used to purchase a mower. This amount will be reimbursed by Thrivent.
- f) Suggestion Box: There were no suggestions submitted. After discussion there was a motion by Duane and a second by Lois that suggestions items must be signed to be considered by the council, but those names will not published in the minutes. Motion carried.
- g) Committee Reports:
  1. Social Committee had no new report.
  2. Worship Committee had no new report.
  3. Parish Education and Youth Group Ministries reported that a meeting to determine responsibilities of the Sunday School Superintendent was unable to be scheduled in June, but will be upcoming. Camp Noah will provide the Vacation Bible School program. Registration can be completed online. For assistance please contact Kellie Neimeyer.
  4. Property Committee reported two windows have been replaced in the parsonage basement with some finish work remaining to be completed. The air conditioner above the church kitchen requires repair and parts have been ordered. The floors in the sanctuary have been waxed.

## **III. Old Business**

- a) A riding lawn mower has been purchased.
- b) The internet upgrade has been completed.
- c) The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the current Trinity Lutheran Church building will be celebrated July 10, 2016. There will be a meal following the Sunday service with the meat being provided and side dishes to be provided by congregation.
- d) The storage unit rented by the church was discussed. Following discussion there was a motion by Randy and a second by Duane that we discontinue rental of that unit as of July 31, 2016. Motion carried.

- e) Clarification regarding benevolence donations was presented. When contributing to the general fund a member is contributing to the benevolence fund as the designated amount is forwarded to the synod on a monthly basis.

#### **IV. New Business**

- (a) Following discussion there was a motion by Lois and a second by Randy to designate the loose offering for July 10, 2016 to the anniversary fund. Motion passed.
- (b) Pastor Koos presented information on the ELCA synod designated project entitled Good Work, Our Hands.
- (c) Pastor Koos indicated that there is a noise in the parsonage which may be related to the water softener. It was suggested that he call Culligan to determine if that is the problem.
- (d) Pastor Koos plans to sponsor the most recent confirmands for a midsummer camp out at Mahoney State Park. Parents will provide transportation.
- (e) Pastor Koos requested and was granted permission to participate in a Pastor's Getaway July 18<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- (f) The Semi Annual meeting is scheduled for July 24, 2016 at 11:00 A.M.
- (g) The regular council meeting was rescheduled for July 17, 2016 following the Sunday service.
- (h) Other new business included a request for volunteers to develop job descriptions for Trinity Lutheran Church employees to include church secretary, custodial services, and financial secretary. There was a motion by Duane and a second by Joel to pay the Terminex bill for the month of June. The motion carried. There was discussion regarding the establishment of a petty cash fund to provide for reimbursement expenses.

Adjournment: There was a motion by Randy and a second by Joel to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. In conclusion of the meeting, Pastor Koos led the group in praying the Lord's Prayer.

The next council meeting will be held on July 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 A.M. Communion Assistant for July is Lois Wattjes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Secretary, Jane Stokebrand

## Treasurer's Report June 30, 2016

Balance as of 5/31/16		\$14,787.91
Income		\$12,343.10
Interest		\$1.14
Pastor's Salary	\$3,420.74	
Treasurer's Salary	\$199.75	
Secretary Salary	\$278.75	
Organist	\$375.00	
Custodial Salary	\$510.62	
Pension Fund	\$1,328.39	
Supply Pastor	\$202.81	
Health Insurance	\$210.00	
Misc. Water Softener	\$27.00	
Water Supplies (Culligan)	\$66.50	
Office Equipment	\$150.99	
Village Utilities Church	\$138.06	
Village Utilities Parsonage	\$160.34	
Natural Gas Church	\$158.19	
Natural Gas Parsonage	\$44.82	
Special Benevolence	\$240.00	
Devotional Books	\$150.00	
Technology	\$79.13	
Telephone Church	\$136.82	
Telephone Parsonage	\$34.50	
Church Maintenance	\$521.48	
Lawn & Landscape	\$240.00	
Transfer to Benev. Savings	\$910.00	
Total Expenses:		\$9,583.89
Balance as of 6/30/16		\$17,548.26
Benevolence (Savings Account)		\$17,593.70
Sinking Fund (Savings Account)		\$422.02
Property Projects (Amount included in General Fund)		\$18,177.80
Continuing Education (Amount included in General Fund)		\$0.00 (-\$106.23)
Bank Balance 7/16/16	\$34,788.47	

# OFFICE HOURS

## OFFICE HOURS FOR PASTOR KOOS

Tuesday - Friday - 1pm to 5pm

8pm to 12am

Saturday - 1pm to 5pm

Sean Koos, Pastor

Church Office # 683-3225

Parsonage # 683-2425

Cell Phone #402-806-6878

Email: [pastorkoos@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkoos@gmail.com)

## OFFICE HOURS FOR SECRETARY

Barb Nelson, Secretary

Summer Hours

Monday - 5pm to 6:30pm

Wednesday - 6:15pm to 7:15pm

Church email: [tlcdewitt209@gmail.com](mailto:tlcdewitt209@gmail.com)



Church Council will meet on Wednesday,  
August 17th 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.

August -- Service List #3

The planning committee would like to thank everyone who made our 50th anniversary of worship in our present sanctuary a very rewarding day. The presence of Bishop Maas, our former pastors, Pastor Doug and Sue Zurek, Pastor Doug and Jeannette Allen, and Sharon Floth was great. Special thank you to the choir members, our special musicians, Julie Hippen, Karen Rahe and Janice Dunn for their extra effort! Thank you to Kanin Baker and Tyson Baker and the Children's Bell Choir for their part in the worship service. Last of all many thanks are due to our photographer, Liz Poesnecker, Harold and Kathy Stokebrand, Brian and Barb Nelson, and Pastor Koos. This was the 50th planning committee and we want to thank them for their work that was put into planning the balloon send off, coffee hour, and worship service. Thank you to our service groups 7 and 8 for serving the delicious noon meal and to Brian Nelson for grilling the meat.

## WORSHIP & ATTENDANCE

6/26/16	83
7/10/16	122
7/17/16	108
7/24/16	68

## JULY OFFERING

Date	General	Benev.	Property
6/26/16	3414.00	.00	.00
7/10/16	2120.42	.00	.00
7/17/16	2432.00	35.00	.00
7/24/16	1250.00	50.00	

50th Total \$16164.00

# AUGUST 2016

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	<b>PRAISE SERVICE AT 10 AM</b> WELCA meets following service Adult Bible study at 8:45 am	8 Hope Circle meets 9 am	9 Pastor Text Study 10 am	10 Worship Committee meets at 7:30 pm	11 Good Samaritan Chapel Service at 10:30 am	12	13
14	<b>WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM</b>	15 Shalom Circle meets at 7 pm	16 Pastor Text Study 10 am	17 Wilber Care Center Chapel at 10 am Church Council meets at 8 pm	18 Bible Study at 10 am	19	20
21	Episcopal service at 9 am <b>WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM</b>	22 <i>Newsletter</i> <i>articles are due</i> Praise Choir 5:30 pm	23 Pastor Text Study 10 am	24	25 Bible Study at 10 am	26	27
28	<b>COMMUNION SERVICE AT 10 AM</b>	29 Praise Choir 5:30 pm	30 Pastor Text Study 10 am	31			

# August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Linda Schuerman Hayden Woerner	Sydney Holtmeier George Scherling	Trevor Dunn Jannie Koos Josh McDougall	Jordan Rahe	r 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 Jurgen Baker	18	19	20 Maci Hicks Raylynn Murray
21 Jane Stokebrand Jamie Watjies	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			



# Hope

Hope Circle  
July 11, 2016

Hope circle met at the Wilber Nursing home on July 11, 2016, with 7 members present. Anna was hostess. Shirley opened the meeting. There was a short discussion concerning the Farmers Market and also about the 50th Anniversary of our church. Our circle donated \$25 to the anniversary fund.

Shirley read an article concerning summer health tips.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jean shared some of her pictures from a recent trip. The pictures were of the ruins at Ephesus, Turkey and Corinth, Greece, where St. Paul preached and spread the gospel many years ago.

Shirley led the Bible study entitled "Treasure in Clay Jars," based on various chapters in both the Old and New Testaments. This concerned seeking God in conflict.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Our next meeting will be on August 8, 2016.

Annalee will lead the Bible study and we will have potluck.

Jean Placek  
Sec./Treas

# Shalom

Shalom Circle met on July 18. Worked on layettes. So far we have assembled 113 kits.

Mission Growth Reported that Farmers' market was a good success. It was suggested that we change the time to 9:00-12:00 since car registration starts at 9:00 Some items were left but were sold later.

Mission Community -No report

Mission Action: 4th of July favors were delivered to Wilber Care Center. We will be serving "Warrens Table" next month and will use the same menu as always.

NO WELCA MEETING IN JULY but Karen reported that Carol Joy Holling Quilt Auction will be July 20. Semi Annal Congregational meeting will be July 24. WELCA Autumn Renewal will be held in Hastings Oct. 8

Prayer Concerns were given.

Jan led HYMN STUDY with "In The Garden" and "He Touched Me" Linda served as our hostess for the evening.

Thank you Arlyce for serving as Sec/Treas. protem for the meeting

Sec/Treas

Shirlie Wollenburg

There are a pair of children's glasses which were left in a pew at church last week. You may pick them up in the church office.

LIBRARY NEEDS: If you are wanting specific books or CDs in our church library, contact Mary Garrison and we'll try to order them. Also, we need some more shelves built, and if anyone would like to donate their time and talent please also contact Mary and we can discuss type/style. Thank you!

**Portals of Prayer  
Devotional Books are  
located at the back of the  
church. Please help  
yourself to a copy.**



Thank you to all Thrivent members for directing your Choice Dollars to Trinity Lutheran Church. Because of this we were able to purchase a riding lawn mower for the Pastor to use.

Thanks again from your Advocates  
Arlyce Albert  
Shari Pieper  
Roberta Aden

"Thanks" just don't seem to say nearly enough for all the outpouring of love at the loss of Jerry. The PRAYERS, cards, visits, food, preparing the service, memorials and so many other things, it helps get through each day. Several years ago when he was undergoing treatments in PA. We told him he was on the prayer chain back home, his reply was "I can feel it." You are all so special, God blessing to you.

Jerry's Family

I am going to start a men's bible study here at Trinity. The idea came from Christ Lutheran in Pickrell and their Lutheran Men in Mission group. They meet once a month in the evening go through a bible study and do a few small events throughout the year. I would like to do something similar at Trinity. Please contact me by phone or email if interested. In a couple of weeks with those interested we will order study guides and find a good time to meet every month. All ages welcome. Thanks!

[Mike.holtmeier@plantpioneer.com](mailto:Mike.holtmeier@plantpioneer.com) 947-1440

Camp Carol Joy Holling quilt auction will be held on Saturday, July 30th. See the church bulletin board for more details.

### **Sunday School Teachers Needed**

The start of Sunday school is just around the corner. We are in need of teachers for the upcoming school year. Please contact Amber Koch if you are willing to help out in this manner. Amber's phone number is 402-239-5378 or you may contact her by e-mail at [frednamber@Windstream.net](mailto:frednamber@Windstream.net).

The Sunday school staff are also working on the list of children who will be attending Sunday school. If you have a four year old who will be starting Sunday School, please contact Amber using the above information.

The Blackwood Brothers in Concert

The First Christian Church of (DOC) of Beatrice is sponsoring a Blackwood Brothers Concert at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, September 12, 2016 in the church sanctuary. We are thrilled and delighted that they are coming again this year.

Please come and enjoy an evening of music by "The best-known name in Gospel Music!"

**REMEMBER ITEMS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY**

# ***SERVICE LEADERS FOR AUGUST***

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SCRIPTURE READER</b>	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	<b>GREETERS</b>	<b>COMMUNION SET UP</b> <b>COMMUNION ASSISTANT</b>
August 7th	Derrick Damrow	Jurgen Baker	Harry & Jean Malchow/ Arlene Scherling	
August 14 <sup>th</sup>	Dave Hicks	Tyson Baker	Harry & Jean Malchow/ Arlene Scherling	
August 21st	Barbara Nelson	James Kerns	Harry & Jean Malchow/ Arlene Scherling	
August 28th	Jane Stokebrand	Carter Holtmeier	Harry & Jean Malchow/ Arlene Scherling	Deanna Brown & Wendi Barnts

**HEAD USHER:** Kirk Holtmeier

**USHERS:** Hannah Holtmeier, Jim Miller, Darin Muehling, Jordan Muehling,  
Doug Stokebrand

**OUTREACH VISITATION:** Service List #3

Current Service Group: Service Group #2 (Harold & Kathy Stokebrand and  
Arlene Scherling)

*If you fail, never give up because*

*FAIL means*

*“First Attempt In Learning.”*

*End is not the end. In fact*

*END means “Effort Never Dies.”*

*If you get No as an answer remember*

*NO means*

*“Next Opportunity.”*

## *Keep in your Prayers*

### SERVICEMEN

SSG – Brock Johnson  
4305 N. 60<sup>th</sup>  
Lincoln, NE 68507

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

His email is:  
Bartlett\_Riley@yahoo.com

Matt and Meighen Friesen  
2770 Daniel Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92111



### **Additional Prayer requests for**

Please continue to keep these members in your prayers:

Tina Kuhn  
Priscilla Rene  
Harold Huffman  
Amelia Grace Harrison

Please keep in your prayers Leonard & Shirley Saathoff as their son, Jerry Saathoff passed away.

Please keep in your prayers Susan Miller as her mother, Nova Jean Smith, passed away.

Richard Wollenburg  
Heritage Crossings  
501 N 13<sup>th</sup> St.  
Geneva, NE 68361

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

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

Eileen Damkroger  
RR2 Box 43  
DeWitt, NE 68341

Janice Buhr  
2211 Sunset Dr. Apt. #225  
Beatrice, NE 68310

Herb Rehm  
Wilber Care Center  
611 N Main  
Wilber, NE 68465

**Please keep Brittany Reed in your prayers her grandmother, Lynnda Yost (wife of Martin Yost) passed away July 14<sup>th</sup> in Florida.**



Carol Joy Holling Camp, Conference & Retreat Center, Ashland • Sullivan Hills Camp, Lodgepole  
July 13, 2016

Trinity Lutheran Church  
PO Box 248  
DeWitt, NE 68341

Dear Partners in Ministry,

It is that time of year when camp is buzzing with summer activities amid campers swinging down the zip line, singing praise songs with joy, and exploring more about how following Jesus can turn their lives upside down! As we look ahead into the fall, we not only want to continue offering opportunities for the youth faith formation but adults & parents, as well. With that in mind, this year our own Pastor Paula Lawhead will be leading Adult Faith Formation courses.

The Adult Faith Formation will be split up into three courses and will cover the basic teachings of Lutheran theology focusing primarily on the named portion of Luther's Small Catechism (Ten Commandments, Sacraments, and Creed) and the questions of the participants. Each course will follow a simple format and will be applicable as a stand-alone course or as a series. Our hope is that each course attended will continue to broaden the participant's theological understanding. It is our intention for these courses to continue rotating through the three catechism focuses annually so those who miss one will have opportunity again in the next year.

The dates set for the first three courses are:

August 27, 2016  
January 14, 2017  
April 14, 2017

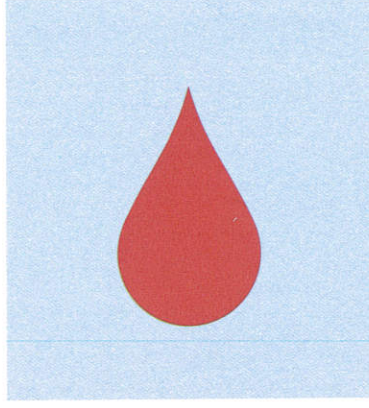
More information and registration can be found at: <http://cijhcenter.org/adultfaithformation>. Any additional questions about this retreat can be directed to Pastor Paula Lawhead. She can be reached by email at [plawhead@nlom.org](mailto:plawhead@nlom.org) or phone 404-944-2544.

Enclosed are a poster and a bulletin insert to distribute to your congregation. Thank you in advance for spreading the word about this new opportunity, and we can't wait to have your people join us for this course.

Thank you!

Amanda Sliva  
Manager/Retreats & Volunteer Programs

Give  
Blood



American  
Red Cross

#ChooseYourDay

# Tri County Area Blood Drive

Location: De Witt Community Building

**Monday, August 15**  
**12:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

To schedule your appointment,  
please call Pam Garrison  
at 402-683-4630.

**Prevent a summer shortage. Give blood.**



Download the Blood Donor App | [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767