

## **February 2017**

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

First and foremost, I want to thank all of those who stepped up to serve as leaders in our congregation for the upcoming year(s). Our congregation is only as strong as those willing to lead it and I have always been pleased with our leadership. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

It is looking like a pretty quiet year ahead. We have a wedding (Rowden/Schuerman) scheduled at the end of April but otherwise no major events on the horizon. The Lutheran church will be celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation at the end of October. I've been talking with area churches and trying to come up with some type of festival to mark the occasion. There will be a grand choral performance to include the various choruses. We'd really like to worship together in a joint service but are still planning it. Advertising will be out by early summer so keep an eye out for it. I really like to see our congregation grow in active participation and I certainly don't want anyone leaving us through death or moving away. We have a strong, tight-knit community that should be doing nothing but growing in faith and commitment.

Many of you may have heard that we will be losing our secretary, Barb Nelson, at the end of this month. She has been integral to the success of our congregation over the years and she will be greatly missed. Please keep her and her family in your prayers as they make their transition. At the same time, please hold our congregation in prayer as we seek her replacement. If you or anyone you know might be interesting in filling the position, please let me or Barb know asap. We'd prefer to fill the vacancy with a member of our congregation before seeking non-member candidates. It shouldn't require more than 10-12 hours/week of labor.

I will continue to hold you all in prayer and hope you will do the same for me and my family.

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

TREASURER'S REPORT - DECEMBER, 2016

	Balance as of 11/30/16			\$7,164.18
	Income			\$24,667.86
	Interest			\$0.39
		Expenses	Outstanding	
01-00	Pastor's Salary	\$3,420.74		
01-01	Treasurer's Salary	\$199.75		
01-02	Secretary Salary	\$357.79	357.79	
01-03	Organist	\$750.00	450.00	
01-04	Custodial Salary	\$510.62		
01-06	Pension Fund	\$1,328.39		
02-00	Mileage	\$380.16		
02-02	Misc. Water Softener	\$27.00		
04-00	Postage & Freight	\$58.70		
04-02	Office Supplies	\$30.32	30.32	
04-04	Office Equipment	\$150.99		
05-00	Village Utilities Church	\$83.45		
05-01	Village Utilities Parsonage	\$159.11		
05-02	Natural Gas Church	\$188.33		
05-03	Natural Gas Parsonage	\$49.93		
06-00	Miscellaneous	\$200.00		
06-01	ELCA Benevolence	\$5,406.00	5,406.00	
06-03	Bank Fees	\$20.00		
07-01	Devotional Books	\$150.00		
08-00	Telephone Church	\$159.52		
08-01	Telephone Parsonage	\$34.50		
09-00	Sunday School	\$310.50		
09-02	Confirmation	\$440.00		
11-00	Church Maintenance	\$552.29		
11-02	Organ	\$435.00	435.00	
06-01	Transfer to Benev. Savings	\$910.00		
	Total Expenses:			\$16,313.09
	Previous months checks that cleared			\$435.32
	<b>Available Cash as of 12/31/16</b>			<b>\$15,084.02</b>
	Outstanding Checks:			\$6,679.11
	Reconciled to balance on bank statement 12/31/16			\$21,763.13
	Other Accounts:			
	Benevolence (Savings Account)			\$7,020.44
	Capital Improvement Fund (Savings Account)			\$22,137.15

# **Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes**

November 16, 2016

## **I. Call to order**

Chairperson Brian Nelson called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on November 16, 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 Jesse Gronemeyer.

## **II. Reports**

- a) Secretary's Report: A copy of the previous minutes was presented. It was moved by Lois and seconded by Jesse that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.
- b) Treasurer's Report: A copy of the monthly treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$7,416.05 as of October 31, 2016.
- c) Investments Report: The investment balance is \$36,202.64.
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report.
- e) Memorial Report: The memorial balance is reported to be \$45,147.94 with \$25,000 designated for capital improvements.
- f) Suggestion Box: None submitted
- g) Committee Reports:
  1. Social Committee reported no additional plans since the previous meeting.
  2. Worship Committee reported the Children's Christmas program to be held December 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 in the evening with soup and cookies to follow. The Christmas Eve program to be held at 6:00 on December 24<sup>th</sup>.
  3. Parish Education reported the next meeting of that committee to be held on the third Sunday of November. Youth Group Ministries reported plans to serve a meal at People's City Mission on November 27<sup>th</sup>.
  4. Property Committee reported the annual heating inspection indicated the need for repairs to the system at a cost of \$3,300. The project to install vinyl siding on the free standing garage at the parsonage at an approximate cost of \$2,000 continues depending on weather and volunteer availability. A dripping valve in the parsonage basement will be checked and repaired by a church member volunteer.

## **III. Old Business**

- a) All end of year church reports need to be submitted early in January in preparation for the Annual Meeting.
- b) Sign-up sheets for ushers and greeters will be posted to allow volunteers to select dates convenient for them to serve.

## **IV. New Business**

- (a) The loose offering for the first and second Sundays of Advent will go toward the Children's Christmas bags.
- (b) Donations to the Pastor's Christmas gift may be made until December 21, 2016.
- (c) Following discussion it was decided to continue to purchase the bulk postage rate at a cost of \$225 per year to cover mailing expenses.

- (d) There was discussion regarding the effectiveness of implementing E-giving. No decision was made.
- (e) The budget meeting for the 2017 church year will be scheduled for the first week in January.

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

Next Meeting, December 21 at 8:00 PM

Communion Assistant for November 27<sup>th</sup> is Jane Stokebrand

Church Council Secretary, Jane Stokebrand

# SERVICE LEADERS FOR FEBRUARY

DATE	SCRIPTURE READER	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	COMMUNION SET UP COMMUNION ASSISTANT
February 5th	Bev Plihal	Kanin Baker	Eugene & Karen Wollenburg/ Arlyce Albert, Liz Poessnecker	
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	Mike Holtmeier	Logan Brown	Eugene & Karen Wollenburg/ Arlyce Albert, Liz Poessnecker	
February 19th	Arlyn Parde	Jack Hopkins	Eugene & Karen Wollenburg/ Arlyce Albert, Liz Poessnecker	
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	Lois Wattjes	Tyson Baker	Eugene & Karen Wollenburg/ Arlyce Albert, Liz Poessnecker	Yvonne Rahe & Lana Hager

**HEAD USHER:** Fred Koch

**USHERS:** John Chavez, Joel Kaelin, Darin Mahloch, Mark Roesler, Brian Stokebrand

**OUTREACH VISITATION:** Shalom Circle

Current Service Group: Service Group #4 (Liz Poessnecker and  
Marvin and Linda Schuerman)

A church is a gift from  
God—assembly required.

# 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

## OFFICE HOURS FOR SECRETARY

Barb Nelson, Secretary  
Summer Hours  
Monday - 5pm to 6:30pm  
Wednesday - 5 pm to 6:30 pm  
Church email: tlcde Witt209@gmail.com



Church Council will meet on Wednesday,  
February 15th 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.

February-- Shalom Circle

We have had to cancel church services a few times. We have not be able to contact some people because we do not have a current phone number or e-mail address. Please let the church office know if your phone number or e-mail have changed since the directory has been printed.

Are you interested in doing e-donations for your offering to the church? If interested, please contact Pastor Koos or the church office know and the Council will look into this service if there is enough interest.

**There is a secretarial position open at Trinity Lutheran Church. Interested persons should send their resume to Duane Wollenburg, 2111 County Road 2250, DeWitt, NE.**

## WORSHIP & ATTENDANCE

1/1/17	31
1/8/17	98
1/15/17	canceled
1/22/17	95

## JANUARY OFFERING

DATE	GENERAL	BENEV.	PROPERTY
1/1/17	2980.00	110.00	0.00
1/8/17	1359.75	50.00	
1/22/17	7939.25	60.00	

# FEBRUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>5</b> Sunday School meets at 8:45 am Care A Lot meets at 8:45 am Adult study group at 8:45 am Praise Choir meets at 9 am Coffee Hour for Harold's birthday 9 am <b>PRAISE SERVICE AT 10 AM</b> WELCA Board meets following the service</p>	<p><b>6</b> Tie Blankets for LWR 9 a.m. to Noon Weather permitting</p>	<p><b>7</b> Pastor Text Study 10 am</p>	<p><b>8</b> Bible Study at 8:30 am Confirmation at 6:30 pm</p>	<p><b>9</b> Good Samaritan Chapel Service 10:30 am</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>
<p><b>12</b> Sunday School meets at 8:45 am <b>WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM</b></p>	<p><b>13</b> Hope Circle meets at 9 am Weather permitting</p>	<p><b>14</b> Pastor Text Study 10 am</p>	<p><b>15</b> Men's Bible study at 6:30 am Bible Study at 8:30 am Chapel Service at Wilber Care Center 10 am Confirmation at 6:30 pm Church Council 8 pm</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>
<p><b>19</b> Sunday School meets at 8:45 am Adult Choir meets at 8:45 am Episcopal Service 9 am <b>WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10 AM</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Articles are Due</b> Shalom Circle meets at 7 pm</p>	<p><b>21</b> Pastor Text Study 10 am</p>	<p><b>22</b> Bible Study at 8:30 am Confirmation at 6:30 pm</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>
<p><b>26</b> Sunday School meets at 8:45 am Adult Choir meets at 8:45 am Youth Group meets at 8:45 am <b>COMMUNION SERVICE AT 10 AM</b></p>	<p><b>27</b> Praise Choir 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>28</b> Pastor Text Study 10 am</p>	<p><b>March 1st</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>service 7 pm</b></p>		<p><b>March 4th is</b> <b>World Day of</b> <b>Prayer</b></p>	

# February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Colton Placek	2 Mitch McDougall	3 Mallory Chavez Joyce Holtmeier	4 Logan Brown Ashley Schuerman
5 Lisa Nelson	6 Beryl Beerentrauch Lucy Morrissey	7 Elaine Erdmann	8	9 Katie Rahe	10 Dorothy Mahloch	11
12	13	14 Amelia Friesen	15 Byron Beerentrauch	16 Dan Scherling	17	18
19 Miley Garrison	20 Mariah Miller Tricia Friesen	21 Gary Niemeier	22	23	24 Herb Rehm	25 Darin Muehling
26 Lyle Fink Oakley Pospisil	27	28 Hank Dankroger Kevin Thornburg				



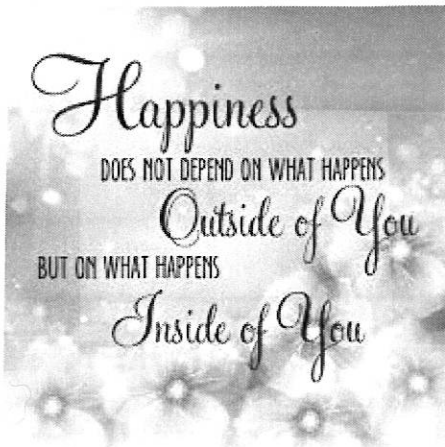
# Hope

Hope Circle will meet at church on February 13th, at 9 am. Jean Placek will have the Bible study and will be the hostess.

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

*above all else*  
guard your heart,  
*for*  
*everything flows*  
from it  
Proverbs 4:23

**REMEMBER ITEMS FOR THE  
FOOD PANTRY**



2017 offering envelopes are available in your church mailbox at the back of the church. If you did not receive a box and would like one, please contact the church office.

# Shalom

Shalom Circle did NOT meet in January due to the ICE STORM. Our next meeting will be February 20 at 7:00 p.m. with Arlyce leading the HYMN STUDY and serving as hostess.

*Attention congregational members, if you have an account with Thrivent Financial and have not designated your Choice Dollars for 2016, please call their office at 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" to see if you are eligible to designate Choice Dollars to our church. These Choice Dollars are rewards earned on your accounts and if they are not designated by your choice, they stay in the Thrivent Financial company account to be designated as they wish. You have through March 31, 2017 to designate Choice Dollars earned for the year 2016. For year 2016 your Choice Dollars were used to purchase fleece for high school senior blankets, handicapped pwes, an electric piano for use in the balcony, and a riding lawn mower for pastor to use at the parsonage.*

*Thank you so much for your efforts to make these things possible!! If you have any quesitons, please contact one of the Advocates.*

*Arlyce Albert 402-239-0127*

*Shari Pieper 402-821-2733*

*Roberta Aden 402-683-4535*

Please keep in your prayers the families of Otto and Don Wollenburg. Their brother, Bob Wollenburg, passed away on 1/17 and his funeral was 1/21/17.

Arlin and Analee Schuerman and their family. Analee's mother, Norma Right, passed away on 1/20.

Adult choir is resuming practice each Sunday morning at 8:45 am starting February 19th. We invite anyone who would like to join us, please come!

#### Sunday School Parents:

Just a reminder that the kids are participating in the worship services. Children's sermons are held every Sunday except for communion Sunday. On the 2nd Sunday of the month, they ring bells and on the 4th Sunday of the month they sing a song or two that they have been working on in opening.. Please let your kids participate in these activities.

Our Tried and True Treasure for February through April is Elaine Erdmann. Please feel free to write on her poster located by the church bulletin board.

Elaine Erdmann will be having her 85th birthday on February 7th. She is residing at Good Samaritan, 401 S. 22nd, Room 113, Beatrice, NE 68310

Miles Jacob Klasek was baptized on Sunday, January 8th. His parents are Jake and Missy Klasek. God's blessings.

Come join Harold Stokebrand on Sunday, February 5th during coffee hour (starting at 9 am) as he celebrates another birthday.

Adult Choir  
resumes practice  
February 19, 2017  
at 8:45 am



## Empyrean Trail 5K

Benefitting Carol Joy Holling Camp's Scholarship Fund



**Carol Joy Holling Camp  
Ashland, NE**

**SATURDAY, FEB. 4  
9 a.m. Packet Pickup  
11 a.m. Run**

**Lazlo's lunch, 2 Empyrean  
beers, and a giveaway item  
are included.**

**Prizes for Flight Winners**

Cost : \$41 per runner

**Learn more and register online at  
[www.caroljoyholling.org/empyrean-trail-5K-run-](http://www.caroljoyholling.org/empyrean-trail-5K-run-)**

**Bible Study Questions**  
**Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m.**  
**February 2017**

*02/01/17 Matthew 5:13-20*

1. What are some uses for salt? *Leviticus 2:13; Exodus 30:34-35; 2 Kings 2:19-21; Job 6:6-7*
2. What does it mean to be the "salt of the earth?"
3. What uses do you think Jesus was thinking of in our lesson? *Vs. 13 (hint: Salt's main use in Jesus' day was as a preservative)*
4. In Mark's version of the Sermon on the Mount in verse 9:49 he says that everyone will be "Salted with fire," what do you think he means by this?
5. How might you be like 'salt' in your neighborhood, in your family, in your workplace?
6. What is the principle that light teaches? *Luke 2:29-32; John 1:1-9, 8:12, 9:1-5, 12:44-46; 1 John 5-10; Ephesians 5:6-8; Philippians 2:12-18*
7. What does this concept mean to us as Christians? How does the light affect us?
8. In verses 14-16 the light is good works we do (*verse 16*), what are some of these good deeds? *Matthew 5:1-12*
9. How were the Scribes and Pharisees failing to be the salt and light of the world?
10. How does your desire to avoid being insulted or persecuted in some way hinder your living in a righteous way or following Jesus?

*02/08/17 Matthew 5:21-37*

1. In verses 21-24, what would a "brother" (*adelphos*) be? *Leviticus 19:9-18*
2. Is anger as bad as murder? Why or why not? (Think of it in Godly terms and in humanly terms) *1 John 3:15*
3. What is the evil in calling someone a fool (*mwre*)?
4. How do you "settle matters" with someone according to this passage?
5. Is Jesus putting resolution above worship in verses 23-24? How does this apply to the Lord's Supper?
6. What is the point of similarity between adultery and lust? *1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Colossians 3:5; James 1:13-15; Matthew 6:22-23*
7. As we often do, Jesus used exaggeration to make which important point in verses 29-30?
8. What does this passage say about divorce, and is this still valid today? Why have we strayed so far from this teaching?
9. How does *vs. 33-37* apply to us? Give an example. *James 5:12; Hebrews 4:12-13; Leviticus 19:12; Exodus 20:7; Hebrews 6:16; Deuteronomy 23:21-23; Ecclesiastes 5:4-5; Psalm 24:3-5*
10. Where does truth come from? *John 14:6; Psalm 119:156-160*

*02/15/17 Matthew 5:38-48*

1. Give five reasons people lie.
2. Why would a liar try to cover up his lies with "swearing"?
3. What types of lies are the easiest to camouflage? (example, a half truth)
4. What would have to change in your life to be free from lying?
5. What are the general causes and the cure for lying to the one you are married to?
6. Discuss examples in the life of Christ where He 1) turned the other cheek; 2) gave more than what the law demanded of Him; 3) gave up personal wealth, divine privileges, and heaven that He had a right to in order to help others.

7. Why do people in our own time want the government to treat us as Jesus has called us to treat others, but we feel no personal conviction to do so for our “neighbor” if it will cost us personally?
8. What would a marriage look like if a husband and wife approached their marriage with the large hearted and selflessness of the new righteousness of Christ?
9. Discuss with genuine honesty what is required of us to live out the divine love birthed within us as described by Jesus.
10. What would selfless, agape love look like in a marriage?

02/22/17 Matthew 17:1-9

1. Why were only Peter, James, and John invited to have this experience?
2. Why do you think the Transfiguration was necessary?
3. Why do you think Moses and Elijah appear on the mountain with Jesus? What are the connections between these three figures? *Exodus 34:4-9; 1 Kings 19:11-14*
4. Imagine if you were there seeing this marvelous event; how would you have felt? What would you have done and said?
5. At this stage of Jesus’ ministry, why do you think it is important for Jesus to hear these words from his Father?
6. Which is more important – Jesus’ *identity* or his *activity*?
7. How do you think the transfiguration affected the Disciples’ faith and purpose?
8. Why did Peter want to build a tent? What would you have wanted to do?
9. God warns the Hebrews many times not to be distracted; yet, they did become distracted, and in so doing became lost and wandered for 40 years. Why did they not listen? What ideas or beliefs prevent you from listening to God or to other godly advice?
10. Why do you suppose that in the Bible, virtually every encounter a person had with God or an Angel was met with that person experiencing utter terror? How does this affect your mindset of God’s Holiness?

## *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  
2767 Daniel Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92111



#### **Additional Prayer requests for**

Please continue to keep these members in your prayers:

Christina Schuerman  
(Arlin Schuerman's  
Daughter)  
Marge Badman  
Arlin and Analee Schuerman  
and family  
Don and Shirlie Wollenburg  
and family  
Otto and Ann Wollenburg  
and family

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

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

Roger Rahe  
Wilber Care Center  
611 N. Main  
Wilber, NE 68465