

## July 2017

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

As I mentioned in last month's article, our shared ministry is sure rich this summer. We've already been blessed through the annual synod gathering, vacation Bible school, joint service with Soap Creek, and youth mission trip to the Indian reservation of Pine Ridge, SD. This month we'll welcome the new Methodist pastor, Pr. Ed Millican, at our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July community service. We'll host our local men's barbershop choral group, the Homestead Harmonizers, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. I've been asked to represent our state's Benedictine priory in Schuyler, NE at this year's annual oblate gathering in Duluth, MN from July 14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. Recall that I've been meeting with the Benedictine monks for retreats on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month for the last 7 months. The retreats have enriched my own spiritual journey by the wisdom and insight of the dedicated monks. I felt it was an honor to represent them at the national gathering so I gladly accepted the invitation. Jana Muehling will use this opportunity to share about our vacation Bible school during service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Our praise service got kicked back from the usual 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday to the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. We will then gather to reflect on our shared ministry of the first half of the year at our semi-annual meeting following the service. I'll be taking a group of confirmation kids to summer camp at the Carol Joy Holling Center in Ashland, NE that 4<sup>th</sup> week as well.

We're going to try something new this year in the hopes of getting constructive feedback from our members. You should be receiving a survey in the mail to help gauge some of our strengths and growth areas. The council and I strongly encourage you to complete them and return them by July 16.

Over the next few months, ALL members will be invited to consider having their picture taken to be included in a new 2017 congregational pictorial directory. It's been 5 years since the last directory was made so we're due for an updated version. Just something to consider...

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

**Pastor's Report**  
**June 2017**

And you thought we'd make it out of the stormy season of spring without any damaging storms?! Not in Nebraska! Yet again my family and I are amazed by the weather patterns of Nebraska. Our recent storm, with all its wind, lightening, and subsequent power outage, was awesome to behold. Thank you for another memorable experience, Nebraska!

Just because our shared ministry went into its "summer mode" over the last month does not mean it lessened by any means. I was still blessed with opportunities to make 12 visits, lead 7 worship services including both chapel services at the Good Samaritan Center in Beatrice and the Wilber Care Center, teach 5 Bible studies, participate in 5 pastor text studies and 2 men's bible studies, and oversee 2 committee meetings. I attended our annual synod gathering in Kearney. Sadly, we lost one of our treasured members, Elaine Erdmann, and I was honored to lead in her funeral service. Our vacation Bible school was a smashing success thanks to all our helpers and all the efforts Jana put into planning it. I think our kids had a great time making new friends and learning more about how "God is with you!" (the theme bible point). Thank you to all those who donated their time and resources.

Many blessings,  
Pastor Koos

# ***Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes***

May 17, 2017

## **I. Call to order**

Chairperson Duane Wollenburg called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on May 17, 2017. Pastor Koos led the group in devotions. Members in attendance were Pastor Koos, Duane Wollenburg, Lois Wattjes, Joel Kaelin, Brian Scherling, Yvonne Rahe, Cody Wollenburg, Jesse Gronemeyer and Amy Stokebrand

### **Reports**

- a) Secretary's Report: A copy of the previous minutes was reviewed. Jesse made a motion and it was seconded by Yvonne that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.
- b) Treasurer's Report: A copy of the monthly treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$7,160.00 as of April 30, 2017. The available cash balance is \$5,489.44. Joel made a motion to accept the report and it was seconded by Cody. Motion carried.
- c) Investments Report: The investment balance as of April 28, 2017 is \$39,669.47.
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report.
- e) Memorial Report: The memorial balance is reported to be \$18,810.18 as of March 31, 2017.
- f) Suggestion Box: It was suggested to apply blue paint on the ramp by the handicapped parking on the east side of the church so no one can park on either side of the ramp because it doesn't allow a person to walk up the ramp if cars are parked on either side. The Council will look into options.
- g) Committee Reports:
  - 1. Social Committee had nothing to report.
  - 2. Worship Committee reported the agenda for Vacation Bible School which will be held June 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> from 2-4:30pm. There will be 7 stations for the children to work at. The committee is working on the Joint Community Worship for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration which will be July 2<sup>nd</sup> this year.
  - 3. Evangelical Committee reported that they are working on baptism books to give to the parents. They are also looking at new member packets that might include the photo directory, cook book, welcome letter and a catechism book.
  - 4. Parish Education reported that the time has been determined for VBS and they are looking for volunteers. The Youth Group has finalized their Mission Trip. It was reported that Thrivent Financial will match the \$50 per member for the trip.
  - 5. Property Committee reported that the siding for the garage still needs to be put on. The sign in front of the church needs to be patched up. Received another invoice for treatment for the lawn from Courtney's Lawn Service.

## **II. Old Business**

- a) A time for the siding to be put on was discussed. Looking at trying on Memorial Day if volunteers can be found.
- b) It was determined that Liz Poessnecker is willing to do the photo directory again this year. The Council thought the earliest it would be done would be in August based on Liz's schedule.

- c) We plan on sending out a congregational survey to ask about what is important to families in the church and the idea of an evening service. A time was set for the executive members to meet and work on drafting this survey.

### **III. New Business**

- (a) The joint service with St. Paul Lutheran (Soap Creek) Church will be on June 25<sup>th</sup> at their church.
- (b) The Synod Assembly will be June 2-3<sup>rd</sup>. Pastor, Liz Poessnecker and Bev Plihal will be attending.
- (c) The Barbershop Vocal group Pastor is a member of will be singing in place of a sermon on July 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be a freewill offering that day.
- (d) Pastor was approached about the church being used for a Peace Financial Class that is put on by the Dave Ramsey organization. It is a 7 week class and would just be held in the church. The Council would like more information.
- (e) The church letterhead needs to be updated. There was a quote from Arbor Ink that it would be less than \$50. Brian made motion and Jesse seconded it to go ahead and get this updated. Motion carried.
- (f) Welcome Inserts were discussed to be put in the pews for guests that tell a little bit about the church. Lois will look into getting a draft done for the next meeting.
- (g) Reimbursement of the \$100 that the church is contributing towards the fee to each of the confirmands that are going to the Summer Bible Camp was discussed. It was decided that a check will be sent directly to Carol Joy Holling closer to the camp date in July.

There was a motion by Brian and a second by Cody to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. In conclusion of the meeting, the council recited the Lord's Prayer.

Church Council Secretary, Amy Stokebrand

Treasurer's Report		May 31, 2017	
	Bank Balance as of 4/30/17		\$7,160.00
		<u>Income</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>
	Offerings	\$9,513.08	
	Total Income		\$9,513.08
		<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>
01-00	Pastor's Salary	\$3,433.79	
01-01	Treasurer's Salary	\$199.75	
01-02	Secretary Salary	\$418.12	
01-03	Organist	\$600.00	
01-04	Custodial Salary	\$510.62	
01-05	Payroll Taxes	\$1,619.17	
01-06	Pension Fund, Housing & SECA	\$1,221.74	
02-00	Mileage	\$204.37	
02-01	Health Insurance (HSA)	\$420.00	
02-02	Water Softener Reimbursement (R/O)	\$54.00	
03-00	Bulletins	\$89.70	
04-00	Postage & Freight	\$57.03	
04-02	Office Supplies	\$247.32	
04-04	Office Equipment	\$150.99	
05-00	Village Utilities Church	\$126.15	
05-01	Village Utilities Parsonage	\$157.41	
05-02	Natural Gas Church	\$297.50	
05-03	Natural Gas Parsonage	\$61.63	
06-01	Benev. Transfer	\$917.00	
06-04	Vanco E-giving Fees	\$17.60	
08-00	Telephone Church	\$159.83	
08-01	Telephone Parsonage	\$69.00	
09-03	Youth Group	\$596.00	
09-05	Continuing Education Pastor	\$369.89	
11-00	Church Maintenance	\$51.39	
11-03	Lawn & Landscape	\$348.57	
	Total Expenses		\$12,398.57
	Previous Months Checks that Cleared		\$1,670.56
	Available Cash as of 5/31/17		\$4,155.03
	Outstanding Checks		\$119.48
	Reconciled to Balance on Bank Statement 5/31/17		\$4,274.51
		<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>
	Other Accounts:		<u>Account Balance</u>
	Benevolence (Savings Account)	\$977.00	\$0.00
	Capital Improvement Fund (Savings Account)	\$0.00	0.00
			\$6,083.92
			\$17,139.89

**Bible Study Questions**  
**Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.**  
**July 2017**

*07-05-17 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

1. Jesus thanked His Father for hiding “these things” from the wise and prudent. What are some of the “things” He is referring to?
2. Who are the children that Jesus speaks of in verse 25?
3. How do you become a child in this way?
4. What place does wisdom and intelligence have in the things of faith?
5. In verse 27, Jesus said, “And no one knows the Father except the Son... How does a person come to know the Father?”
6. In the Old Testament the rebellious Israelites were often accused of being “stiff-necked” by God and by His prophets? What comparison is being made and what does “stiff-necked” refer to?
7. What is meant by the words ‘yoke’ and ‘burden’ here in this teaching of Jesus?
8. You won’t fully understand vs. 28, if you don’t also take into consideration vs 29. What is the important demand or condition on the promise? Why is that important?
9. No one can find rest in Christ for his soul if he doesn’t meet the conditions that Jesus also speaks about. So what are the 3 conditions?
10. How do these three conditions prepare us for discipleship?

*07-12-17 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

1. In the story, what does the seed represent?
2. Which of the following are you most like, and why?
  - The one who receives the seed on the path
  - The one who receives the seed on the rocky place
  - The one who receives the seed that fell among the thorns
  - The one who receives the seed on the good soil
3. The one who received the seed on the hard path allowed it to be trampled upon and stolen away. In what ways are you hardened to the truth God is trying to plant in you?
4. In your life, how are you allowing God’s word to be trampled upon or stolen away from you?
5. The one who received the seed on the rocky place experienced trouble and persecution because of God’s word. How have you experienced this in your own life?
6. In the story, this person fell away because of shallow roots. How do strong roots help us to withstand trouble and persecution? What helps you to develop strong roots?
7. What does the good soil look like? What does the harvest/crop in this verse represent?
8. How does having a hard heart, no depth or too many worries crowd out God’s ability to work in our lives?
9. The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns didn’t fall away, but never matured in his faith and his life didn’t produce fruit. This was due to the thorns in his life – worries of life, deceitfulness of wealth, and desires for things other than God. What are the thorns in your life and how do these pose a threat to you maturing in your faith and producing fruit? What can you intentionally do to join with God in removing the thorns that exist in your life?
10. How can you be more like the one who received the seed on good soil? What would good soil look like in your life? What crop is produced by the one who receives the seed on good soil? How does this apply to your life?

# OFFICE HOURS

**SUNDAY, JULY 2** - Community 4th of July  
Worship Service will be held at **10:30 am** at  
**Trinity Lutheran Church** followed by a picnic lunch.

## 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)

## JENN UHER, SECRETARY

Monday & Wednesday - 5pm to 6:30 pm

(Updated hours will be posted on door)

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



Church Council will meet on  
Wednesday, July 19th 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.

## **JULY--SERVICE LIST #5**

**SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING of  
Trinity Lutheran Church will be  
held on Sunday, July 23rd  
following the service.**

**Worship Committee meeting** will be held on  
**Wednesday, July 5th at 5:30 pm.**

On Sunday, July 9th our Worship Service will feature the **Homestead Harmonizers** and a **potluck meal** will follow the service. Remember as you prepare your dish(es) that we will have guests!

Peace Financial University will be holding a 9 week class here at Trinity Lutheran beginning this Thursday, July 6 from 6-7:30 pm. Cost is \$102 per couple. If interested, please talk to Pastor Koos.

Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, Trinity Lutheran relies on your regular contributions. Trinity Lutheran appreciates the efforts of congregation members to make consistent donations throughout the year - especially during popular summer travel periods. To assist you, the church provides a convenient electronic giving option for setting up regular contributions. To donate, visit the church website at [www.trinitylutherandewitt.com](http://www.trinitylutherandewitt.com), locate the link to our online giving page and follow the instructions.

## **WORSHIP & ATTENDANCE**

5/28	76
6/4	50
6/11	65
6/18	72

## **JUNE OFFERING**

DATE	GENERAL	BENEV.	PROPERTY
5/28	765.00		
6/4	2112.00		
6/11	1593.00	100.00	
6/18	1470.00	35.00	



# ***SERVICE LEADERS FOR JULY***

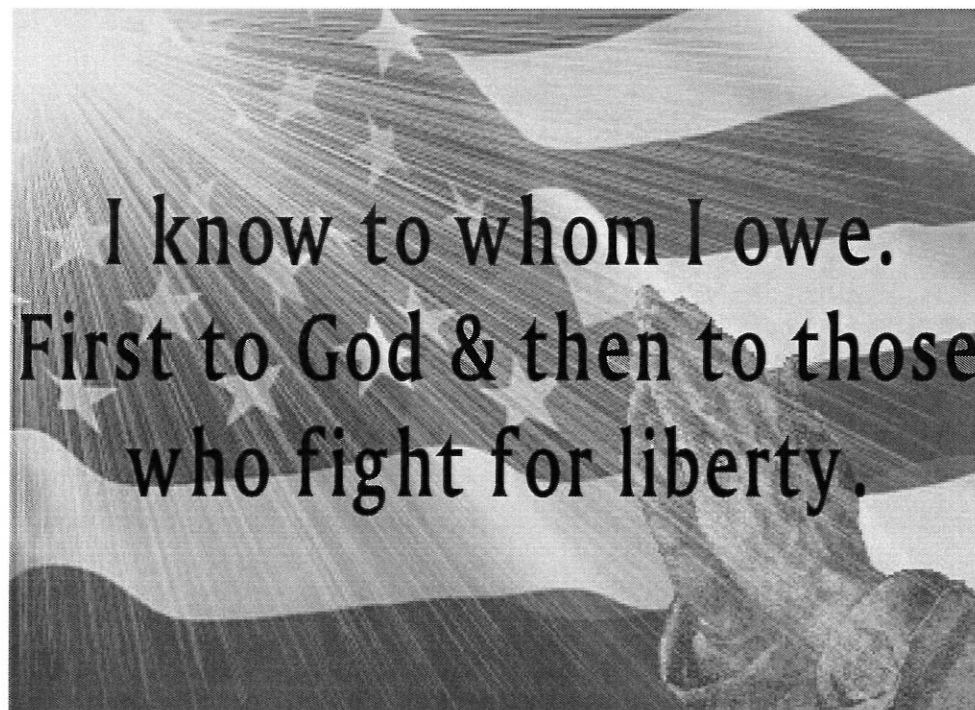
DATE	SCRIPTURE READER	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	COMMUNION SET UP
				COMMUNION ASSISTANT
July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	-----4 <sup>th</sup> of July	Community	Worship Service-----	
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	Karen Wollenburg	Kanin Baker	Alan & Jan Dunn/ Larry & Lois Wattjes	
July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Barbara Nelson	Tyson Baker	Alan & Jan Dunn/ Larry & Lois Wattjes	
July 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Jane Stokebrand	Elsie Woerner	Alan & Jan Dunn/ Larry & Lois Wattjes	
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Garrison	Morgan Stokebrand	Alan & Jan Dunn/ Larry & Lois Wattjes	Marge Badman/ Jill Kropp

**HEAD USHER:** Brian Scherling

**USHERS:** Celena Chavez, Carson Hicks, David Hicks, Shae Wattjes, Travis Murray

**OUTREACH VISITATION:** Hope Circle

Current Service Group: Service Group #5 (Duane/Pat Wollenburg & Chuck/Tina Holtmeier)





# JULY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Pastor will be gone from July 14th—19th.</b>						<b>1</b> DeWitt 4th Celebration Farmers Market 8-12 noon
<b>2</b> Community Worship Service at Trinity Lutheran 10:30 am <i>Meal and Fellowship follows the service</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Happy 4th of July</b> Pastor Text Study at 10am	<b>5</b> Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Bible Study 8:30 am Worship Committee meets at 5:30 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Worship Service at 10:00 am (Homestead Harmonizers) WELCA meets after service	<b>10</b> Hope Circle meets at 9 am	<b>11</b> Pastor Text Study at 10am	<b>12</b> Bible Study 8:30 am	<b>13</b> Good Samaritan Chapel Service 10:30 am	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Hymn Fest Service at 10:00 am (VBS Presentation)	<b>17</b> Shalom Circle meets at 7 pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Church Council meets at 8 pm	<b>20</b> <b><u>Newsletter articles are due</u></b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Praise Service at 10:00 am <i>Semi-Annual meeting following service.</i> (Pastor/Confirmation Class Summer Camp)	<b>24</b> (Pastor/Confirmation Class Summer Camp)	<b>25</b> (Pastor/Confirmation Class Summer Camp)	<b>26</b> (Pastor/Confirmation Class Summer Camp)	<b>27</b> (Pastor/Confirmation Class Summer Camp)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Communion Worship Service at 10:00 am	<b>31</b>					

# July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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						1 Jesse Gronemeyer
2	3 Cameron Brown Julia Garrison Otto Wollenburg	4	5	6 David Schneider Jennifer Retchless-Chavez	7 Alice Wollenburg	8 Edith Holtmeier
9	10 Landen Koch Bruce Rahe	11 Jaden Smith	12	13	14 Lonnie Groathouse	15 Roger Little
16	17	18	19	20 Mike Holtmeier	21	22
23 Nancy Mahloch	24 Darcy Baker	25 Sam Kirchhoff Julie Koch	26 Alan Dunn	27	28	29 Deanna Brown Norm Michel Karen Nelson
30 Brian Nelson	31 Spencer Morrissey					

**WOW! What an exciting week at VBS 2017 -**

**"Maker Fun Factory".** The children learned several stories in the Bible and how to use what they learned in every day life. Several new and very motivating songs were also learned. You will be able to hear more about it at our July 16 church service where we will be giving a presentation. Thanks - Jana Muehling

THANK YOU to Adult Choir members for their faithful attendance this past Lent/Easter Season and a big THANK YOU for singing on our "Lord's Prayer" Sunday! It was fun to work with all of you! - - Kathy

Our **Tried and True Treasure for May through July is Anna Wollenburg.** Please feel free to write on her poster located by the church bulletin board.

The next LWR work day for blankets will be in August. Date & time will be in the bulletins and newsletter.

**Lutheran Men in Mission - July**

Lutheran Men in Mission – July

This month we start a new study on Family Time: Making meaningful memories. This will be a very practical topic to go through as no matter what age or family status you are at, all men can learn from these lessons to become a better father/brother/husband/grandfather... This month we will cover Proper Priorities and Time Together, but later on we cover traditions, vacations, worshiping and leaving lasting values. These studies are independent of each other so if you can't make one or two, join us when you can.

6:30-7:00 am 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month

July 5 – Topic 1: Proper Priorities, "God commands a day off" Exodus 16: 1-35 & "Training for godliness" 1 Timothy 4: 1-16

July 19 – Topic 2: Time Together, "Supper time" John 13:1-17 & "Love is..." 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

*Hope*

No Report.

*Shalom*

Shalom Circle met on June 19. We worked on Decorations for the Fourth Of July for the Wilber Care Center.

The minutes of the May meeting were read. No reports from Mission Growth or Mission Community. Connie thanked the group for Mission Action for working on the decorations.

Prayer Concerns were given

Karen gave the HYMN STUDY on "Jesus Loves Me" and Stand Up Stand Up For Jesus". Karen also served as our hostess.

Our next meeting will be July 17 with Linda K leading the HYMN STUDY and also serving as our hostess for the evening.

Offering was taken.

Our Farmers Market will be July 1 but no details were available.

Meeting adjourned

Sec/Treas - Shirly Wollenburg.

**WELCA HIGHLIGHTS**

\*\*\* Farmers Market will be held Saturday, July 1st from 9am-12pm at the Rahe Building (yellow building) on main street across from the City Office. There will be baked goods, garden produce, home made jams and jellies, craft items, and a few vendor items for sale. Proceeds from the sale will go for projects in the church and community. If you wish to bring items for the sale - please have items to the building by 8:30 am so that prices may be marked. Doors will be open by 7:30am. Contact Pam Garrison at 402-683-4630 with questions. Thank You!



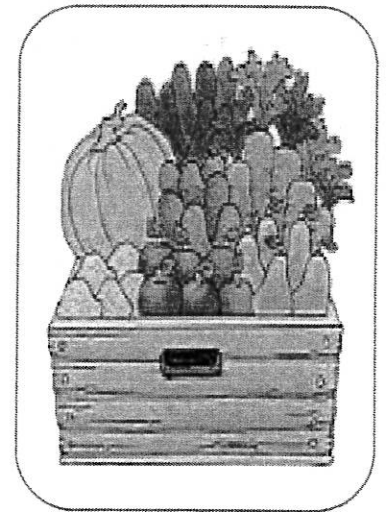
# Farmers Market

**Saturday July 1st**

**9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Rahe Building— on main street  
across from city office. Yellow metal  
building.**

There will be baked goods, garden produce, home made jam and jelly's, craft items and a few vendor items for sale. Proceeds from the sale will go for projects in community and church.



If you wish to bring items in for this sale—please have items to the building by 8:30 a.m. so that prices may be marked. Doors will be open by 7:30 a.m. the morning  
Contact for this is Pam Garrison 402-683-4630. Thank you.

## **Keep In Your Prayers**

### **SERVICEMEN**

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

Darin Bartlett  
PSC2 Box 10723  
APO, AE 09012  
[Bartlett\\_Riley@yahoo.com](mailto:Bartlett_Riley@yahoo.com)  
(Mary Garrison's Son)

Matt and Meighen Friesen  
2767 Daniel Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92111



### **ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please continue to keep these  
members in your prayers:

Roger Rahe & Sharon Rehm

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

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

George Scherling  
Wilber Care Center  
611 N Main  
Wilber, NE 68465

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