

August 2018

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

Oh no...our kids are going back to school this month! Where did the summer go?! I know we've still got plenty of hot days left but it's always sad to send the kids back to the classroom after 3 months of getting used to them around the house. We've just started getting a routine going and they brighten up the days so much. Oh well...they can't play their life away. Learning is good.

And working is good, too, for all the rest of us who don't get the 3 months off. Our shared ministry keeps plugging away, month after month, even if it's at a little slower tempo. This month we continue in the summer tempo without our choir, Sunday school classes, and confirmation classes. Because of Czech days being held on the first weekend, we decided to push our Praise Service to the second weekend. Otherwise a fairly regular month of ministry is in store. We'll finish out our sermon series on the book of Ruth and start up our final series on stewardship and generosity. The new year of lectionary will begin in Sept. so we'll get away from the 4-week sermon series. It looks like we'll get back to the book of Genesis with the story of Noah and the flood. It's always good to start a new year with the book of Genesis. I guess the minds behind this alternative lectionary are pretty sharp after all.

I will be officiating the wedding for Chase Hardin and Trish Goering on the last Saturday so be sure to keep them in your prayers as they begin this new, God-blessed and God-sanctioned phase of their lives. The love they share for each other is inspiring. Here's to many joyous years together!

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

Pastor's Report
July 2018

It's been a long 5 weeks since last I reported and I want to offer another thank-you for letting me get away for a rejuvenating vacation. My wife and I reconnected after 10 years of getting our family started and found (surprise, surprise!) we still love each other and enjoy being with each other. But it felt good to return to our loving children and supportive congregation. Thank you!

It was especially reassuring to come back to some good, healthy ministry. Over the last 5 weeks, I was able to make 6 visits, lead 8 worship services including 4 chapel services and our 4th of July community service, participate in 3 committee meetings, 4 pastor text studies, and 2 men's bible studies, and guide 3 regular bible studies and 2 praise choir rehearsals. Recall I was asked to be a part of the synod's planning team for the Middle School Gathering and we met to discuss the 2019 gathering. Finally, I met with 2 couples, Hardin/Goering and Van Buren/Garrison, to complete the necessary premarital counseling for their upcoming weddings. Not a bad month's ministry considering a vacation was squeezed in there somewhere.

Blessings,
Pastor Koos

Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes

June 13, 2018

I. Call to order

Chairperson Brian Scherling called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on June 13, 2018. Pastor Koos led the group in devotions. Members in attendance were Pastor Koos, Brian Scherling, Mike Holtmeier, Yvonne Rahe, Nate Morrissey, Karen Wollenburg, Steve Garrison, Deb Schwan and Amy Stokebrand

Reports

- a) Secretary's Report: A copy of the previous minutes was reviewed. Mike 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 \$3,331.59 as of May 31, 2018 with available cash of \$2,922.51. Mike made a motion to accept the report and it was seconded by Steve. Motion carried.
- c) Investments Report: The investment balance as of May 25, 2018 was \$53,563.69.
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report. Pastor will be on vacation June 20th-26th. The Community Worship Service will be July 1st at the Methodist Church. Pastor gave an update of the Synod Gathering he attended. He is looking at having youth members that attended the Carol Joy Holling camp this summer come to a service in August and give a short presentation to the congregation.
- e) Memorial Report: The memorial balance was reported to be \$18,576.57.
- f) Suggestion Box: No report.
- g) Committee Reports
 1. Social Committee discussed the future date of the Sunday School Kickoff in August. Details to come.
 2. Worship Committee reported the Hymnfest will be June 24th. Community Worship July 1st. They are still looking for youth members to play special music during service.
 3. Evangelical Committee had no report.
 4. Parish Education/VBS reported that they had a great turn out this year for Vacation Bible School with 69 children.
 5. Youth Group: Pastor reported that the Youth Group's trip to Worlds of Fun and the painting of their classroom will be later in the fall.
 6. Confirmation Committee reported that they had met with Pastor to get ideas for changing the confirmation classes and they will continue to meet in the upcoming months.
 7. Property committee reported that they will be looking at fixing the landscaping on the north side of the church so the down spots are pointed away from the church so no water damage occurs. The air conditioner at the parsonage stopped working on Memorial Day but has since been fixed. Discussed the options for the underground sprinklers to update the wiring and replacement of valves.

II. Old Business

- a) We heard an update on the church newsletter. We will be reducing the number of newsletters that are mailed out each month because of either emailing it instead or putting it in member's church mailbox.
- b) The Semi-Annual meeting will be July 22nd after service.

III. New Business

- a) A representative from Barney Insurance attended to explain our current insurance policy and how it will be changing. Our deductible will be going from \$1000 to \$5000 per occurrence. The council heard how we could make some changes to our policy to lower our premiums. No action was taken.
- b) Mike made a motion to update the wiring and replace valves on the underground sprinklers thru Automatic Rain Sprinklers from Beatrice and pay for it thru the capital improvement fund. Yvonne seconded the motion and the motion carried.

There was a motion by Mike and a second by Steve to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The next meeting will be July 18th at 8:00pm. In conclusion of the meeting, the council recited the Lord's Prayer.

Church Council Secretary, Amy Stokebrand

Bible Study Questions
Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m.
August 2018

08-01-18 Ruth 3:1-18

1. What would you have done if you were in Naomi's situation? Would you have tried to devise a plan to get Boaz and Ruth married?
2. Naomi's plan involves Ruth cleaning herself up, going to the community threshing floor, laying at Boaz' feet, and asking to be covered by his garment (wing). How does this proposal differ from what we see in our modern culture?
3. When Boaz awakes and asks Ruth "Who are you?," Ruth responds with her request to come under the wing, or covering of Boaz. Based on his reaction, what specifically is Ruth asking Boaz?
4. Was Ruth's request inappropriate?
5. What would have happened if Ruth had not done what Naomi asked her to do?
6. What does the fact that Boaz did not pursue a relationship with Ruth, other than providing for her needs, tell us about Boaz' character? Are you willing to be patient and let things develop at God's time in your life?
7. Was there any prior indication that Boaz would be open to this request from Ruth? What does this tell us about trusting God?
8. What is so remarkable, from Boaz' perspective, about Ruth's request to Boaz?
9. Boaz says that he is a kinsman redeemer in verse 12. What is a kinsman redeemer and what responsibilities do they have? (Leviticus 25:25; 35: 47-49; Numbers 35:19; Deuteronomy 25:5-10)
10. As Ruth leaves the threshing floor the next morning, Boaz gives her a gift. What does this gift tell us about the extent to which Boaz continues to take care of Ruth and Naomi?

08-08-18 Ruth 4:1-22

1. How long did it take for Boaz to locate this other closer relative? How would you explain this "chance" encounter?
2. The other kinsman redeemer is never named. What are some reasons why this other relative is not mentioned by name?
3. When Boaz meets with the kinsman redeemer, why does he gather the city elders? Was it common for the city elders to be involved in this kind of negotiation?
4. Boaz tells the other kinsman redeemer that Naomi is selling a piece of land and that he should buy it. Why does Boaz talk about redeeming the land first and redeeming Ruth second?
5. What was Boaz's reaction when the other redeemer chose to pass on the offer? How is the hand of God working behind the scenes to orchestrate this negotiation?
6. When Boaz becomes the kinsman redeemer, what all did he redeem? Ruth 4:9-10
7. How important is it for us to be people who are respected among our neighbors and coworkers? What kind of influence can we have when people know that we are men and women of great character?
8. At the end of chapter 4, Naomi is told that Ruth, her daughter-in-law, is better to her than seven sons. Again, what does this tell us about the kind of woman Ruth is, and the kind of people that God blesses and works through?
9. Naomi ends up being filled back up when her grandson is born ... contrast the end of Ruth with the beginning.
10. The story of Ruth is really the story of us and how God has redeemed us through the work of Jesus Christ. Compare Boaz, Ruth's kinsman redeemer to Jesus, our kinsman redeemer.

08-15-18 Matthew 6:19-34

1. Do you agree that we live in an “age of anxiety”? If not, why not? If so, what are some examples that make you think so?
2. Very few people think their god is money. Pastors almost never have members ask for counsel “because I need help overcoming greed.” Why is money such a deceptive master?
3. Worry is a big deal because it says that I care more than God, I’m more powerful than God, and I know better than God. How does Jesus challenge and give comfort related to each of these lies?
4. “Worry is praying to yourself.” What comes to mind when you hear this? How can we start worrying in God’s direction?
5. Why is this a good scripture to consider when thinking of one’s thankfulness toward God?
6. In verse 21 Jesus says, “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” The word treasure here means, “a place where good and precious things are stored.” Discuss this verse. What does the heart have to do with worry?
7. Why do you think Jesus says in verse 30, “Oh you of little faith?” How is faith related to worry?
8. Is Jesus promising an easy life in this passage? What is He promising?
9. Does “don’t worry” mean “don’t plan?” What does God expect of us then?
10. Does “don’t worry” mean “don’t be concerned?” Why or why not?

08-22-18 Mark 10:17-31

1. What does the way the man approaches Jesus tell you about his sincerity?
2. Does the man ask the right question, the wrong question, or the right question in the wrong way (v. 18)? Explain.
3. What were Jesus’ commands (go, sell, give, come, follow) designed to reveal about the man, and how do you know they succeeded? If Jesus said this to you, what would have been revealed about yourself?
4. Why could the man not obey Jesus’ commands (v. 22)? Would you have been able to obey Jesus’s radical command?
5. Why is it difficult for the wealthy (vs. 23, 25) or in fact anyone (v. 24) to enter the kingdom of God?
6. Explain how one would give up each of the things in v. 29 “for (Jesus’) sake and the gospel.”
7. Is Jesus teaching that eternal life is gained by selling all and giving to the poor? Why/why not? Is He teaching that every believer must sell all and give to the poor? Why/why not?
8. Why did Jesus demand such actions from this man but not Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)? Is it bad to be rich? Explain.
9. What is the state of your heart toward wealth and the false security it brings?
10. How can you assess whether or not you are walking away from Jesus and His blessings because of your possessions?

08-29-18 Luke 12:13-34

1. Why should we not worry about what to eat and what to wear?
2. Of what is worrying a sign?
3. What does it mean to seek the kingdom of God?
4. What gives God, the Father, pleasure? What does this tell us about God?
5. What kinds of arguments does Jesus use in this passage?
6. What can worrying not accomplish?
7. How can we overcome worrying?
8. What is the relation between seeking the kingdom and receiving it as a gift? Compare Phil. 2:12-13.
9. What does Jesus say to do with our possessions? How should we apply this to our lives? See I Cor. 16:1-2; II Cor. 8:1-9; Gal. 6:10.
10. How does what v. 34 says show where our hearts really are, or does it?

Treasurer's Report June 30, 2018

	Bank Balance as of 5/31/18			\$3,331.59
		<u>Income</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	
	Offering	\$9,450.75		
	Bank Transfers	\$1,296.31		
	Other	\$52.82		
	Total Income			\$10,799.88
		<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	
01-00	Pastor's Salary	\$3,582.00		
01-01	Financial Secretary's Salary	\$203.17		
01-03	Organist	\$300.00	\$75.00	
01-04	Custodial Salary	\$490.62		
01-06	Pension Fund, Housing & SECA	\$1,301.91		
02-00	Mileage	\$248.24		
04-00	Postage & Freight	\$50.00		
04-02	Office Supplies	\$17.49		
04-04	Office Equipment	\$150.99		
04-05	Account Fees	\$30.00		
05-00	Village Utilities Church	\$160.74		
05-01	Village Utilities Parsonage	\$180.53		
05-02	Natural Gas Church	\$106.83		
05-03	Natural Gas Parsonage	\$42.66		
06-01	Benev. Transfer	\$600.00		
06-04	Vanco E-giving Fees	\$45.60		
07-01	Devotionals Books	\$102.80		
07-05	NE Synod Assembly	\$495.37		
08-00	Telephone Church	\$172.26		
09-06	Worship	\$91.96		
11-00	Church Maintenance	\$1,029.20	\$749.20	
11-03	Lawn & Landscape	\$261.14		
11-04	Repairs to Parsonage	\$267.11	\$267.11	
	Total Expenses			\$9,930.62
	Previous Months Checks that Cleared			\$408.58
	Available Cash as of 6/30/18			\$3,792.27
	Outstanding Checks			\$1,091.31
	Reconciled to Balance on Bank Statement 6/30/18			\$4,883.58
		<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Account Balance</u>
	Other Accounts:			
	Benevolence (Savings Account)	\$711.50		\$7,293.01
	Capital Improvement Fund (Savings Account)	\$19.54	\$1,296.31	\$6,013.70



Worship Committee will meet on Wednesday, August 8 at 5:30 pm

WELCA board will meet Sunday, August 12 following the service

Hope Circle will meet Monday, August 13 at 9:00 am

Church Council will meet on Wednesday, August 15 at 8:00 pm

Shalom Circle will serve Warren's Table on August 28



Eileen Damkroger is our Tried-and-True Treasure for August/September. Please feel free to write on her poster located by the bulletin board.



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 Group #5**



ELECTRONIC GIVING

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. 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, locate the link to our online giving page and follow the instructions.



Weekly Offering

Date	Attendance	General Offering	Benevolence Offering	Property Offering	E-giving Offering
6/24	50	600.00	-	\$5.00	\$690.000
7/1	<i>Comm. Service</i>	-	-	-	\$105.00
7/8	76	\$1900.00	\$75.00	-	\$971.25
7/15	59	\$2850.00	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$105.00
7/22	81	\$1831.00	-	\$15.00	\$809.00

PASTOR SEAN KOOS

Church: 683-3225 Parsonage: 683-2425

Cell Phone: 402-806-6878

Email: pastorkoos@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday- Friday 1pm-5pm & 8pm-12am

Saturday 1pm to 5pm

SECRETARY - JENN UHER

Church: 683-3225

Email: tlcdewitt209@gmail.com

Cell: 402-245-8198

OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Wednesday 5pm-6:30pm

(Updated Hours will be posted on Office Door)



Service Leaders For **AUGUST**

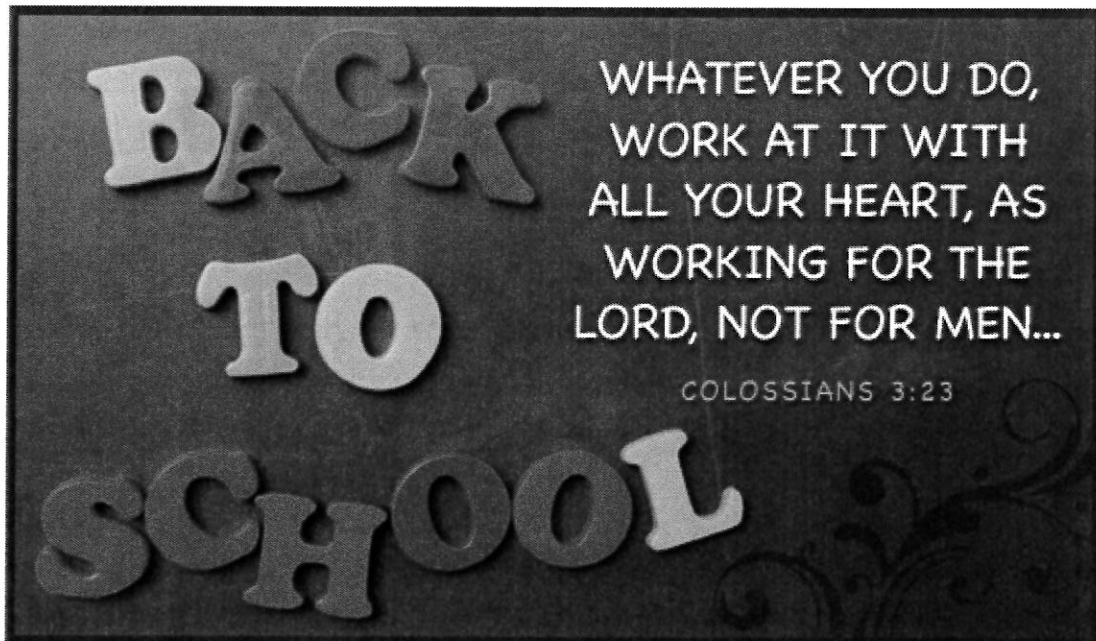
DATE	SCRIPTURE READER	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	COMMUNION SET UP
				COMMUNION ASSISTANT
August 5	Liz Poessnecker	Tyson Baker	Harry & Jean Malchow Arlene Scherling	
August 12	Mike Holtmeier	Colton Placek	Harry & Jean Malchow Arlene Scherling	
August 19	Krayten Uher	Josh Muehling	Harry & Jean Malchow Arlene Scherling	
August 26 (Communion)	Kynlee Uher	Evelyn Baker	Harry & Jean Malchow Arlene Scherling	Julie Koch/Pam Garrison

HEAD USHER: Matt Uher

USHERS: Kynlee Uher, Krayten Uher, Kanin Baker, Jay Weber, Alyssa Brown

OUTREACH VISITATION: Service Group #5

CURRENT SERVICE GROUP: Service Group #7 (Don & Shirly Wollenburg/Eunice Mahloch)



AUGUST 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
REMINDER! Sunday School will start on Sunday, September 9.			1 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Bible Study 8:30 am	2	3	4
5 <i>"Ruth, part 3"</i> WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM GREEN	6 Praise Choir 5:30 pm	7 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	8 Bible Study 8:30 am Worship Committee 5:30 pm	9 Good Samaritan Chapel 10:30 am	10	11 TC FFA Farmer's Market
12 <i>"Ruth, part 4"</i> Praise Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am PRAISE SERVICE 10:00 AM WELCA Board following Service GREEN	13 Hope Circle 9:00 am	14 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am SCHOOL STARTS TRI COUNTY	15 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Bible Study 8:30 am Wilber Care Center Chapel 10:00 am Church Council 8:00 pm	16	17 <u>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE</u>	18
19 <i>"Stewardship/Generosity, part 1"</i> WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM (Baptism) GREEN	20	21 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	22 Bible Study 8:30 am	23	24	25 TC FFA Farmer's Market Hardin/Goering Wedding
26 <i>"Stewardship/Generosity, part 2"</i> COMMUNION SERVICE 10:00 AM GREEN	27	28 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am Shalom Circle Serve Warren's Table	29 Bible Study 8:30 am	30	31	

AUGUST 2018

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
			1	2 Linda Schuerman Hayden Woerner	3 Sydney Holtmeier	4 Trevor Dunn Jamie Koos Josh McDougall
5 Jordan Rahe	6 Nancy McDougall Dan Tesar	7 Macey Gronemeyer Henry Holtmeier Anthony Rahe Eric Stokebrand	8 Shari Pieper	9 Stella Morrissey Karen Rahe Payton Smidt Doug Stokebrand	10 Burke Hardy Darin Mahloch	11 Tonya Bragg
12 Jean Placek Carly Preston	13 Randy Badman Donna Garrison	14	15 Turner Faxon Kathy Stokebrand	16 Jordan Muehling	17 Blakely Weber	18 Jurgen Baker
19	20 Raylynn Murray	21 Jane Stokebrand Jamie Wattjes	22 Micah Hofstetter	23 Kurt Schmidt Lois Zimmerman	24 Journey Pospisil Delaney Uher	25 Kaylin Scherling
26	27 Sharyl Friesen Sayber Hoesche Kayla McDougall	28	29	30 Sophie Sobotka	31 James Johnson	

Please keep Larry Wattjes, Ervin Beerenstrauch, & Denise Michel in your prayers.

There is a special need for **School Kits** for Lutheran World Relief this year! Please remember when you are out school shopping if you can pick up some extra items for these School Kits. Each kit contains the following: 4 – 70 sheet wide or college ruled notebooks, 1 – blunt scissors, 1 – ruler, 1 – pencil sharpener, 5 – unsharpened #2 pencils, 1- eraser (2 ½ inches long), 5 – ball point pens, 1- box of 16 or 24 crayons. There is a tote in back of church for these items. Thank you – Connie Scherling

Sunday School will begin on September 9th. We will begin the program with a Kick Off Potluck Lunch after Church. Hot Dogs and chips will be provided. Please bring a side dish to help us celebrate. Please check our Sunday School Bulletin Board Weekly. We will have important dates on there as well as a donation wish list throughout the year. The Care-A-Lot program will be doing a fundraiser to help the Sunday School Program. We would like to ask the congregation to donate pumpkins (medium size) by September 16th. These will be decorated and sold before church at a later date. If you would like to donate, please put them in the Care-A-Lot room. Thank you so much for your help! – Josi Hoesche

SAVE THE DATE: On September 9th which is Sunday School Kickoff, we will be having a silent auction on some of the older items in the church we no longer use. Benefits will go towards the Sunday School Budget and should be a fun time! Please plan on attending.

UPCOMING EVENTS – Check the bulletin board or front windows for more information.

Farmers Market will be held on **Saturdays, August 11 & 25th and September 8** from 9:00 am - 11:00 am in front of First State Bank, DeWitt. There will be produce, crafts and homemade goods. Vendors welcome – no booth fees! This event is hosted by the Tri County FFA.

Christ Lutheran Church Pickrell is Celebrating 125 years on Saturday, August 4 and Sunday, August 5. The schedule of activities is posted on the bulletin board and front window.

Consider using our **Electronic Giving** and scheduling a recurring contribution to avoid writing checks and preparing envelopes each week! Go to www.trinitylutherandewitt.com, and click the green OFFERING button and follow the instructions.

If you can't make it to the Bible Study, check out the questions on our Facebook page ...
www.facebook.com/tlcdewittne/

Hope Circle

Hope Circle met at church on July 9, 2018, with 4 members present. Jean was hostess. Shirley opened the meeting by reading an article entitled "Why Teachers Weep." Shirley stated that items for the school kits are still needed. Kathy said they are no on sale at some stores. Also, we will be collecting blankets, used or new, to give in place of the quilts we made in the past. They need to be at least 60"x80" and should be clean. They do not accept the thin fleece blankets. These are for Lutheran World Relief and will be taken to Lincoln again in November. As the response was good last year, there will be a box in church to collect these kit items and blankets. Our Circle is up in July for outreach visitation. Shirley encouraged us to either visit or send cards to shut-ins and others having health problems. Shirley read an article from the Junior Auxiliary entitled "Why It Is Important to Show Respect to the American Flag." Our next meeting will be on August 13th. Analee will lead the lesson, and it will be announced later as to either hostess or potluck. Shirley led the Bible Study entitled "Let Us Pray," based on several Psalms. We closed with prayer. Jean Placek, Sec./Treas.

Lutheran Men in Mission

Lutheran Men in Mission – August 2018

This month we continue our study titled "For Men Only: Issues Men Face" and we cover two topics. On August 1st the topic is called "My Dark Side" and will cover passages from Mark 6:14-29 (Dirty dancing) and Romans 7:7-25 (A war within). On the 15th the topic is called "My Doubts" and will cover passages from Mark 9:14-29 (I believe; help my unbelief!) and 1 John 5:1-21 (Real confidence). The study group meets the 1st and third Wednesdays of each month from 6:30-7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and snacks provided.

Shalom Circle

SHALOM CIRCLE met on July 16 with 7 members present. Minutes were read and approved. WELCA's Farmer's Market was not well attended this year, nor did they have any produce. All baked goods. Only about 1/2 of what was donated last year was received this year. Some topics of concern will be brought up at the annual meeting on the 22nd. Shalom circle will again be serving "WARREN'S TABLE" in Beatrice on the 28th of August. Members signed up for their contributions to this and also volunteered to help serve. September will be our SCHOOL KIT collections for the entire Congregation. This will be posted. Karen gave the lesson on "The Practices of Prayer" and also served as our hostess. Magazine orders for "GATHER" magazine were discussed. Our next regular meeting will be September 17 with Connie giving the Bible Study and Serving as our hostess. Prayer Concerns were given. Offering was taken. Meeting Adjourned. Sec/Treas. - Shirlye Wollenburg

WELCA

We will be collecting items for School Kits. Items that we come up short on are Erasers, Pencil Sharpeners and Rulers.

Farmers Market was successful. Thanks to everyone that donated produce/baked goods.

Next meeting August 12th following Church Service.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS...

SERVICEMEN

SSG – Brock Johnson

4305 N. 60th
Lincoln, NE 68507

Darin Bartlett

FSC 1501 Box 1205
APO AE 09704
(He's Stationed in Greenland)

Bartlett_Riley@yahoo.com
(*Mary Garrison's Son*)

Matt and Meighen Friesen

2767 Daniel Avenue
San Diego, CA 92111

Please continue to keep these members in your prayers:

Janice Buhr

Villa at Flowing Springs
2211 Sunset Dr. 3225
Beatrice, NE 68310

Eileen Damkroger

103 N Juniper
DeWitt, NE 68341

Herb Rehm

Wilber Care Center
611 N Main
Wilber, NE 68465

Anna Wollenburg

Wilber Care Center
611 N. Main
Wilber, NE 68465

Richard Wollenburg

Heritage Crossings
501 N 13th St.
Geneva, NE 68361