

## July 2018

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

Oh, how I love this time of the year. The days are the hottest of the year but the summer rhythm has firmly established itself. The fervor of the baseball season is over, the summer schooling is completed, and unless your kids are involved in the various fair activities the days are long. There's no set schedule to govern the household and everyone seems to let out a collective sigh of contentment. (Sorry, working adults, your rhythms remain relatively unchanged.) Family members reconnect after another year of busyness and find they actually enjoy each other's company. Go figure!

It is in these quiet times of the year that we need to not only collect ourselves and give thanks for all of God's blessings but also to discern God's will for our lives. I always return to Paul's wisdom in his letter to the Romans: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect." (12:2) God has a will and a plan for each of our lives. Perhaps more importantly, He has a will and plan for our congregation. We must open ourselves to being transformed by his will and have faith that He is working good in us.

Looking at the calendar, we've got a pretty quiet month of ministry in store. Be sure to share in fellowship with our Methodist and Episcopal neighbors at our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July community service on the first Sunday. We continue our series on 1 John and begin a new series on Ruth. Our semi-annual meeting will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> after service and all are invited to come hear how we've done so far this year. Otherwise, a regular month of activities awaits us. While you're staying cool, try to listen to how God is calling you to serve your neighbor and our congregation in the year ahead.

Many blessings,

Pastor Koos

**Pastor's Report**  
**June 2018**

Though the temps have been unseasonably high for the last month, the ministry has cooled off a bit as we've shifted into the summer tempo. I was blessed with opportunities to make 3 visits, lead 4 worship services, participate in 1 committee meeting, teach 4 bible studies and 1 men's bible study, and attend 4 pastor's text studies. It was good meeting up with colleagues and other synod delegates at this year's gathering in Kearney. It is always exciting when members gather to elect or re-elect a bishop. Of course, our bishop is so well-liked in the synod (and churchwide!) that he was overwhelmingly re-elected for another six-year term. Thank you, Liz and Bev, for taking time out of your busy schedules and representing our congregation at the gathering. And thank you for all those who attended our picnic over the Memorial Day weekend. As usual, it was a scorcher standing next to that grill but I was glad to do it to share in fellowship with friends. This year's vacation bible school was quick but effective. The kids had a blast (polar?) reconnecting and having fun together. A very special thank-you to Josi, Mandy, Penny, Adena, the youth, and all who helped make it a memorable event. What a joy to have those kids running around the church that week!

Many blessings,  
Pastor Koos

# **Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes**

May 16, 2018

## **I. Call to order**

Chairperson Brian Scherling called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on May 16, 2018. Pastor Koos led the group in devotions. Members in attendance were Pastor Koos, Brian Scherling, Mike Holtmeier, Yvonne Rahe, Nate Morrissey, Karen Wollenburg, and Steve Garrison

### Reports

- a) Secretary's Report: A copy of the previous minutes was reviewed. Mike made a motion and it was seconded by Karen that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.
- b) Treasurer's Report: A copy of the monthly treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$2,344.11 as of April 30, 2018 with available cash of \$83.64. Steve made a motion to accept the report and it was seconded by Nate. Motion carried.
- c) Investments Report: The investment balance as of April 27, 2018 is \$53,144.55.
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report. Pastor will be on vacation June 20-26<sup>th</sup> so communion will be June 17<sup>th</sup> and a Hymnfest on June 24<sup>th</sup>. He will take vacation October 10-13<sup>th</sup>. Discussion for thoughts and ideas was held on congregation summer fun in June, July and August. We will discuss more at the next meeting. Discussed a pergola and chain link fence for the parsonage and also fixing the garbage disposal.
- e) Memorial Report: The memorial balance is reported to be \$19,525.09 as of April 25, 2018.
- 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 that several youth in the congregation will be playing special prelude music for the upcoming weeks. Pentecost Sunday is May 20<sup>th</sup> so please wear red. Pastor Koo's family will host their annual cookout for Memorial Day on May 27<sup>th</sup>. June 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the praise service and choir with the Vacation Bible School program. VBS will be May 29-31<sup>st</sup>. Synod Convention is June 1-2. The youth group will be going to Worlds of Fun June 4<sup>th</sup>.
  3. Evangelical Committee had no report.
  4. Parish Education/VBS had no report.
  5. Youth Group had no report.
  6. Confirmation Committee had no report.
  7. Property committee reported that the air conditioning project is finished and operating instructions were gone over. The sprinkler system will be looked at the coming weeks. We will be looking at the landscaping on the north side of the church.

## **II. Old Business**

- a) We have 11 users signed up for E-Giving.
- b) We heard an update on the church newsletter. We received about 60 responses from the short survey that went out to our members. We mailed out 74 newsletter in April. We will continue the discussion until the next meeting to see how it is going.
- c) A gift card will be given to Liz Poessnecker this Sunday for her time and dedication to the church directory.

### **III. New Business**

- a) Discussion was held about the Benevolence. We will wait until mid year to pay the first half that is due. Our current Benevolence transfer each month is \$750. Mike made a motion to change to \$600 per month starting in May. Motion was seconded by Steve and the motion carried.
- b) The Semi Annual Meeting will be July 22<sup>nd</sup> after the service.
- c) The church insurance policy was discussed. The Executive Committee will meet to review our current policy. No action was taken.

There was a motion by Mike and a second by Karen to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The next meeting will be June 13th 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.**  
**July 2018**

*07-04-18 1 John 4:1-6*

1. Why does John encourage us to “test the spirits”? How does this change the way we accept or reject teaching from others?
2. Read 1 John 4:1–3 and identify the criterion John gives to “test the spirits.”
3. What does it look like to test Spirits, and test things that others say?
4. John paints a contrast between those who are of God and of the world, how do those who are of God live differently/ how is it visible?
5. Why are false prophets and teachers capable of drawing large crowds and garnering fame, status, and popularity?
6. What are two characteristics we learn about non-Christians in 1 John 4:5– 6?
7. Why is it so important for us to discern, accept, and embrace teaching from godly teachers?
8. How does one discern between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error (1 Corinthians 14:37; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 John 4:6)?
9. If a person is truly led by the Spirit of God, what will they confess (1 John 4:2)?
10. How does one discern between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error (1 Corinthians 14:37; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 John 4:6)?

*07-11-18 1 John 4:7-21*

1. Where do we find the source and motivation to love one another? How does the answer to this question alter the way you strive to love others?
2. What does someone’s lack of love for others say about them?
3. God has revealed himself as light (1 John 1:5) and love (1 John 4:8). What do these characteristics tell us about God?
4. Have you ever doubted God’s love for you? How does 1 John 4:9 encourage us during these times of doubt?
5. How is love defined in 1 John 4:10–11? How does this definition of love change the way you love others?
6. Do you struggle with having assurance about salvation? Why or why not? What do we learn from 1 John 4:14–18 about receiving assurance?
7. If a person states that he or she is a Christian, but shows his lack of love through his bitterness and unforgiving spirit, should we affirm that he is a Christian?
8. Does it really matter that Jesus really came? Isn’t it good enough that this thought inspires us to do good (1 John 4:14)?
9. What phrase is stated in 1 John 4:8 and repeated in 4:16? What does this practically mean to you? Does this mean that God does not judge sin? Why or why not?
10. Why is it important that we love, as John writes in 1 John 4:19, because He first loved us?

*07-18-18 Ruth 1:1-22*

1. What do you think Elimelech's motivations were for leaving Israel and going to Moab?
2. What indications do you see in this passage that Elimelech was disobedient to God?
3. What wisdom do you take from Naomi's choice to return to the land of Judah?
4. Why does Naomi discourage them from returning with her? Consider how it affects her emotionally. Ruth responds in love and faith (vs. 17) even in the face of certain hardship.
5. How would it feel to return to your hometown empty handed?
6. How does Naomi respond? How can you empathize with her response?
7. What is your experience of immigration?
8. How does it feel to encounter and to influence (and being influenced by) different people and cultures?
9. What are the plusses and minuses of your encounters?
10. How can Christians (and the church) play a bigger role in turning immigration into a pilgrimage of justice and peace? What can we offer to people of different religions and values?

*07-25-18 Ruth 2:1-23*

1. One of the main themes of Ruth 2 is God's providence and provision. List all the instances in this chapter where we see God's provision for Naomi and Ruth
2. Boaz is described as a "worthy man" (v. 1). What are some ways in which his character is shown in this passage?
3. God's law required landowners like Boaz to provide for the poor by leaving behind some of their crops during the harvest time. What are some ways in which Boaz goes beyond the minimum requirement of the law and seeks to honor God in his actions?
4. Describe Boaz's treatment of Ruth. Why did he act so favorably toward her?
5. In verse 20, Naomi identifies Boaz as "a close relative ... one of our redeemers." Why is this important to Naomi?
6. Kinsman-redeemer is an interesting Bible subject. Look up more information about this topic. How is Boaz a type of Christ?
7. Discuss the character of Ruth from what we have learned so far in the book. What aspects can we apply to our lives?
8. Study Deuteronomy 23:3. Are there other possibilities that may explain Israel accepting a Moabitess into their community?
9. Under such circumstances as Naomi (and Ruth) have endured, there are usually two reactions from people: blame God and fall away or lean on God and grow stronger in Him. Discuss which reaction is Naomi's.
10. What part of Ruth's promise (Ruth 1:16, 17) has she kept so far?

**Treasurer's Report May 31, 2018**

	Bank Balance as of 4/30/18			\$2,344.11
		<u>Income</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	
	Offering	\$12,559.25		
	Bank Transfers	\$25,085.17		
	Other	\$53.00		
	Total Income			\$37,697.42
		<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	
01-00	Pastor's Salary	\$3,582.00		
01-01	Financial Secretary's Salary	\$203.17		
01-02	Secretary Salary	\$382.37	382.37	
01-03	Organist	\$450.00		
01-04	Custodial Salary	\$510.62		
01-06	Pension Fund, Housing & SECA	\$1,301.91		
02-00	Mileage	\$238.71		
02-01	HSA	\$210.00		
02-02	R/O	\$27.00		
02-03	Culligan Water Supplies	\$53.00		
03-02	Altar Supplies	\$38.25		
04-00	Postage & Freight	\$113.60		
04-02	Office Supplies	\$201.35		
04-04	Office Equipment	\$150.99		
05-00	Village Utilities Church	\$194.58		
05-01	Village Utilities Parsonage	\$168.90		
05-02	Natural Gas Church	\$438.13		
05-03	Natural Gas Parsonage	\$110.52		
06-01	Benev. Transfer	\$600.00		
06-04	Vanco E-giving Fees	\$43.95		
07-07	Devotional Books	\$65.00		
07-04	Technology	\$92.06		
08-00	Telephone Church	\$170.71		
08-01	Telephone Parsonage	\$34.50		
09-00	Sunday School	\$200.35		
09-01	Bible School	\$85.00		
11-00	Church Maintenance	\$25,131.88	\$26.71	
11-03	Lawn & Landscape	\$60.00		
	Total Expenses			\$34,858.55
	Previous Months Checks that Cleared			\$2,260.47
	Available Cash as of 5/31/18			\$2,922.51
	Outstanding Checks			\$409.08
	Reconciled to Balance on Bank Statement 5/31/18			\$3,331.59
		<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Account Balance</u>
	Other Accounts:			
	Benevolence (Savings Account)	\$700.00		\$6,581.51
	Capital Improvement Fund (Savings Account)	\$2,339.60	\$25,085.17	\$7,290.47



**Worship Committee** will meet on Wednesday, July 11 at 5:30 pm

**WELCA board** will meet Sunday, July 8 following the service

**Hope Circle** will meet Monday, July 9 at 9:00 am

**Shalom Circle** will meet Monday, July 16 at 7:00 pm

**Church Council** will meet on Wednesday, July 18 at 8:00 pm



**Herb Rehm is our Tried-and-True Treasure for June/July.** Please feel free to write on his 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. **JULY – Hope Circle**



**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](http://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
5/27	73	\$1165.00	-	\$20.00	\$455.00
6/3	132	\$3826.00	\$50.00	\$5.00	\$405.00
6/10	67	\$1100.00	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$671.25
6/17	93	\$1485.00	\$35.00	-	\$149.00



**PASTOR SEAN KOOS**

Church: 683-3225 Parsonage: 683-2425

Cell Phone: 402-806-6878

Email: [pastorkoos@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 **JULY**

DATE	SCRIPTURE READER	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	COMMUNION SET UP
				COMMUNION ASSISTANT
July 8	Barb Nelson	Gage Heller	Larry & Lois Wattjes/ Jim & Joyce Holtmeier	
July 15	Jane Stokebrand	Karli Scherling	Larry & Lois Wattjes/ Jim & Joyce Holtmeier	
July 22	Dominic Smith	Jackson Kirchoff	Larry & Lois Wattjes/ Jim & Joyce Holtmeier	
July 29 (Communion)	Tim Garrison	McKenzie Smith	Larry & Lois Wattjes/ Jim & Joyce Holtmeier	Lois Zimmerman/Julie Koch

**HEAD USHER:** Brian Scherling

**USHERS:** Larry Wattjes, Celena Chavez, Shae Wattjes, Mallory Chavez

**OUTREACH VISITATION:** Hope Circle

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



# JULY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>COMMUNITY SERVICE</b> United Methodist Church 10:30 am	2 Praise Choir 5:30 pm	3 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	4 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Bible Study 8:30 am	5	6	7 TC FFA Farmer's Market
8 "1 John, part 3" Praise Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am <b>PRAISE SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> WELCA Board following Service GREEN	9 Hope Circle 9:00 am	10 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	11 Bible Study 8:30 am Worship Committee 5:30 pm	12 Good Samaritan Chapel 10:30 am	13	14
15 "1 John, part 4" <b>WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> GREEN	16 Shalom Circle 7:00 pm	17 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	18 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Bible Study 8:30 am Wilber Care Center Chapel 10:00 am Church Council 8:00 pm	19	20 <b>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE</b>	21 TC FFA Farmer's Market
22 "Ruth, part 1" <b>WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> Semi-Annual Meeting following Service GREEN	23	24 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	25 Bible Study 8:30 am	26	27	28
29 "Ruth, part 2" <b>COMMUNION SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> GREEN	30	31 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am				

# JULY 2018

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
1 Jesse Gronemeyer	2	3 Cameron Brown Julia Garrison	4	5	6 David Schneider	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 Sammy Kirchoff Julie Koch	26 Alan Dunn	27	28
29 Deanna Brown Norm Michel Karen Nelson	30 Brian Nelson	31 Spencer Morrissey				

Please keep Bonnie Schuerman, Jack Garrison, & Denise Michel in your prayers.

**FREE CAMP!** Some very generous friends are making it possible for students from Tri-County Public Schools to attend Carol Joy Holling Camp in Ashland for FREE! Carol Joy Holling offers summer camping opportunities for 1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students throughout the months of June and July. For more information and to register for camp, login to [www.CarolJoyHolling.org](http://www.CarolJoyHolling.org). You can also check out the camp video at <https://vimeo.com/188032990>. Use the discount code "Tri-County" when registering and the price will be reduced to a \$50 deposit that will be refunded to you after your child has attended camp. For more information contact Jessica Wertz, our Registrar, at [jwertz@nlom.org](mailto:jwertz@nlom.org) or 402-944-2544.

**Mission Action Projects** – We have assembled Personal Care Kits and we are continuing to work on Baby Care Kits. We are still in need of sleepers and onesies/t-shirts. We will start to collect items for School kits in July and August when the Back to School sales begin. Thank you for your help with these projects. - Connie Scherling

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

**Saturday, June 30 – Farmers Market sponsored by TLC WELCA** from 9:00 am -12:00 pm at the Rahe Building across from the City Office. Baked goods, garden produce, homemade jams/jellies, crafts and a few vendor items for sale. Proceeds go to Church and Community Projects.

**Sunday, July 1 – Community Service at Methodist Church 10:30 am**

**Farmers Market** will be held on **Saturdays July 7 & 21, August 11 & 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Sunday, July 22** – Semi-Annual Meeting following the Worship Service

Consider using our **Electronic Giving** and scheduling a recurring contribution to avoid writing checks and preparing envelopes each week! Go to [www.trinitylutherandewitt.com](http://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/](https://www.facebook.com/tlcdewittne/)

## Hope Circle

Hope Circle met at the Wilber Care Center on June 8, 2018, to play Bingo with the residents. Our next meeting will be on July 9, 2018. Jean will be hostess and Shirley will lead the lesson. Jean Placek, Sec./Treas.

## Lutheran Men in Mission

July brings us into a new study for our men's group. We are starting a series on For Men Only: Issues Men Face. Topic 1 on July 4 will be about Opening Up with passages from Luke 18:9-14 (A Pharisee and a tax collector) and 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (You're not alone). On July 18 the topic is Fatal Attraction with passages from 2 Samuel 11:1-27 (David and Bathsheba) and Matthew 5:21-48 (Lust in the eye – adultery in the heart). As always, we meet the first and third Wednesday of each month from 6:30-7am. All men welcome!

## Shalom Circle

SHALOM CIRCLE met on June 18 with 9 members present. Liz opened the meeting and the minutes of the May meeting were read and approved. Connie stated that the Layette project is now in progress and in September when school supplies are on sale, the School Kits will be on the agenda. Our Farmers Market will be June 30. Anyone wishing to donate items of produce or baked goods could deliver them to the Rahe building at around 7:30 or 8:00 on that day. Proceeds will be for Trinity Lutheran projects. Our Circle will be serving "WARRENS TABLE" in Beatrice in August. Discussion was held on our next year's Bible Study Lessons. It was decided that we could order "Gathering Magazine" on our own as there are very good lessons in them and we could use them as our Bible Study for the 2018-19 year. We will order our own magazines, so we will have them by October. Prayer concerns were given. The Lesson was given by Liz on "LET US PRAY" and Jan served as our hostess. Our next meeting will be July 18 with Karen leading the Bible Study and serving as our hostess. Offering was taken, and the meeting was adjourned. Sec./Treas. - Shirly Wollenburg

## WELCA

Farmer's Market – June 30<sup>th</sup>

We assembled Personal Care Kits and Baby Kits, still need items for Baby Kits. We will work on School Kits in July and August. We will also be collecting blankets in September and October.

Next meeting is July 10<sup>th</sup> following Church Service

# KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS...

## SERVICEMEN

### **SSG – Brock Johnson**

4305 N. 60<sup>th</sup>  
Lincoln, NE 68507

### **Darin Bartlett**

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

[Bartlett\\_Riley@yahoo.com](mailto: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 13<sup>th</sup> St.  
Geneva, NE 68361



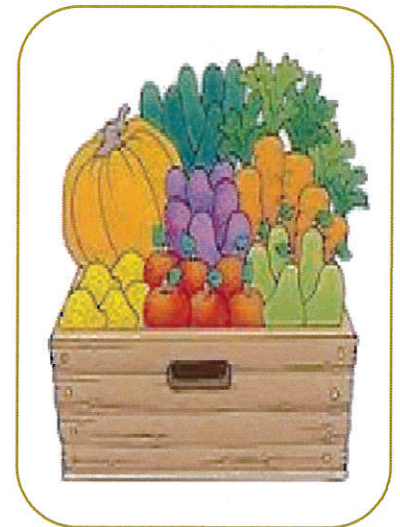
# Farmers Market

**Saturday June 30, 2018**

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

**Sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church  
WELCA. Located in the 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 8:00 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.

**FARMERS**

**MARKET**

**DEWITT, NE**

**SATURDAYS**

**9:00 - 11:00 A.M.**

**July 7 & 21, August 11  
& 25 and Sept. 8th**

- Produce, Crafts, Homemade Goods
- Vendors Welcome
- No Booth Fees
- In Front of First State Bank of Nebraska
- Hosted by Tri County FFA
- Contact: Dave Barnard: 879-5584