

## November 2018

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

I love this time of year. The holiday season is around the bend, the weather is changing, and we have the opportunity to reflect on all the blessings and sadness of the year. We've been through a lot together this year. Though seven of our members went to be with the Lord, we welcomed six new members to our congregation through baptism. Be sure to come to service on the first Sunday to honor these 13 people. We watched as four couples made marriage vows with each other. Thirteen of our children were able to go to summer camp because of a generous donation, many of whom would have never had the chance to experience. We took a good look at our confirmation class and made some great improvements. The students (and I!) seem to be appreciating the new curriculum and structure. We had over sixty kids participate in our summer vacation Bible school. Our weekly narrative lectionary has fed us and kept us well connected to God. All in all, a pretty good year and much to give thanks for.

Looking at the month ahead, be sure to come celebrate Josi's marriage. We'll have our thankoffering service on the third Sunday, a great chance to give thanks. I am going to be gone the week of Thanksgiving to spend time with family so we'll have a supply pastor on the last Sunday.

"Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, and his mercy endures forever!"

Blessings,

Pastor Koos

**Pastor's Report**  
**October 2018**

It was a solid month of shared ministry. I was able to make 8 visits, lead 6 worship services including both chapel services and a "Kumbaya" service celebrating our summer camp experiences, participate in 1 committee meeting, 8 text studies, and 2 men's Bible studies, teach 4 confirmation classes and 4 Bible studies, and sing in 3 adult choir practices.

Unfortunately, we had no one interested in becoming a new member with the fall class. We'll try again in the spring. It's good to have the spring/fall classes available though. Speaking of classes, I completed the pre-marital counseling sessions for Carly Rahe/Hunter Oliver and look forward to marrying them on the 27<sup>th</sup>. I have one more session with Josi Hoesche and Justin Remmers but also am looking forward to marrying them on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. I think the wedding for Sam Garrison and Adam Van Buren was a great success and foresee a blessed marriage ahead. It was a blessing to welcome Hailey Tietjen to our community through the baptismal waters. Finally, I was able to meet my mentee, Kenton, out at the school and am eager to get to know him in the months ahead.

Blessings,  
Pastor Koos

# ***Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes***

September 19, 2018

## **I. Call to order**

Chairperson Brian Scherling called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on September 19, 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 Deb that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.
- b) Treasurer's Report: A copy of the monthly treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$5,125.90 as of August 31, 2018 with available cash of \$1,160.23. Steve made a motion to accept the report and it was seconded by Karen. Motion carried.
- c) Investments Report: The investment balance as of August 31, 2018 was \$54,934.50.
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report. Pastor is working on the mural in the Nursey. He met with Pastor Rick at Soap Creek to work on the details of the Joint Reformation Sunday Service which will be October 28<sup>th</sup>. Pastor will be gone at a Theological Conference October 29-31<sup>st</sup>.
- e) Memorial Report: There was no report.
- f) Suggestion Box: There was a concern about the acolytes not serving correctly on communion Sundays. Pastor will remind the acolytes about the process.
- g) Committee Reports
  - 1. Social Committee reported that the Silent Auction raised about \$260 which will go towards the Sunday School. There are a few items left if anyone is interested.
  - 2. Worship Committee reported that Praise Service will be October 7<sup>th</sup>. Starting in September, Liturgy will now be setting 10 during worship.
  - 3. Evangelical Committee reported that a thank you was sent to our visitor during August.
  - 4. Parish Education/VBS reported that the Sunday School Kick off went good.
  - 5. Youth Group reported that the first meeting will be September 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - 6. Confirmation Committee reported that a mentor program will be starting with mentors for the 11 confirmation students.
  - 7. Property committee reported that the landscape project north of the Fellowship Hall is done. They will wait till spring to let the dirt settle before they landscape. Special thanks to Chuck Holtmeier, Jack Holtmeier, Brian Scherling and Mike Holtmeier for all their work on this project. Reported that the control panel and the wiring is bad in the bell tower so it will be looked at.

## **II. Old Business**

- a) The Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry fundraiser has been planned for St. John's Lutheran Church in Beatrice.
- b) The Adult & Teen Challenge gave a presentation during our service. We will look into giving a donation of the offering from the joint service with Soap Creek.
- c) The locks on all the doors have now been changed so they all match with the same key.

### **III. New Business**

- a) The Wifi connection does not reach to all the classrooms because of the distance. We received a quote of \$670 to fix this problem. We will table the discussion to see if there are other options.
- b) Rick and Terri Mangus are part of the Alter Committee and they would like to step away from these duties. We are looking for volunteers to take over these duties. A notice will be put in the bulletin and newsletter.
- c) Our vacuum cleaner does not work anymore. It is over 10 years old and we cannot get parts for it. Steve priced one for \$380 at S&S Sweeper Store. Mike made a motion to purchase a new vacuum cleaner for about \$380. Karen seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- d) Discussed that the Baptism plaque needs to be updated. Brian will work with Jenn on getting it up to date.

There was a motion by Mike and a second by Steve to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The next meeting will be October 17th 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.**  
**November 2018**

*11-07-18 Micah 1:3-5; 5:2-5a; 6:6-8*

1. Do you see God as just a loving God? Do you view Him as a wrathful God? Do you see God as both loving and wrathful? How do you hold these two characteristics in tension? (1:3-5)
2. What was the message for Samaria and Judah? Why is God coming down from the heavens?
3. Why is idolatry a sin?
4. Why does Micah begin his prophecy with Samaria?
5. Why do you think God would give such a large role to such a small village? (5:2-5a)
6. Why do you think Micah used both the ancient (Ephrathah) and modern name (Bethlehem)? 1

*Chronicles 2:50-51*

7. Think outside the box. What are some reasons that Micah might have used the character of the shepherd to describe the coming Messiah, especially when shepherds were seen as third class citizens?
8. Why is showing mercy so difficult? How does it feel to be shown mercy? (6:6-8)
9. What does it mean to be a disciple, a follower of the living Christ?
10. Can you identify any form of violence and injustice in your own context?

*11-14-18 Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; 2:1-4*

1. Where did Hezekiah go wrong?
2. What are the half-truths in Rabshakeh's speech to the city walls (13-20)?
3. What similar lies and half-truths do powerful voices in our society endlessly repeat so as to demoralize the people of God?
4. What is the Assyrian commander's view of the Lord Jehovah?
5. How does this attack compare to their opening attempt?
6. How has their assertion about God's role in all of this changed?
7. What is Hezekiah's initial response?
8. How does Hezekiah rightly interpret the TRUE nature of the attack?
9. What is the work assigned to Hezekiah by God to deal with this attack?
10. What does Isaiah see happening in this period known as "the days to come" (i.e.; this period which is the New Testament era?)

*11-21-18 NO BIBLE STUDY (Thanksgiving Break)*

*11-28-18 Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:3b-6, 17-19*

1. What are some things that you see in the political, corporate, and Christian worlds that make you wonder if God is watching? How do you think God ought to respond to these things?
2. If God responded in the ways you just mentioned, would He be just? Why or why not?
3. What does Habakkuk teach us about God's knowledge of and response to evil?
4. God responds to Habakkuk by informing him that He will use the Babylonians to punish Judah. This is not what Habakkuk expected; in fact, God even tells him as much. What are some other examples in Scripture where God acted in a way that wasn't expected?
5. In what ways has God acted unexpectedly in your life? What situations has God put you in where you were reluctant or even afraid to trust Him? What have you learned about God through these experiences? What have you learned about faith?
6. What is your typical pattern of prayer when you are making requests of God? How does waiting factor into your prayer life?

7. What kind of benefits would waiting bring to your prayer life? Have you ever prayed and prayed and prayed and not made the connection to the clear answer God was providing because you didn't stop to wait?

8. Habakkuk was troubled by God's response and intended action against Judah but he placed his faith in God regardless of the disaster that awaited them. What are some things that we tend to look to for happiness?

9. What are some good things in the Christian life that we tend to look to for happiness?

10. What in your life, if taken away, would cause you to lose your happiness? What makes God better than having it all?

Treasurer's Report September 30, 2018

Bank Balance as of 8/31/18	\$5,125.90
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	<u>Income</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>
Offering	\$9,045.75	
Donations	\$4,000.00	
Other	\$141.00	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$13,186.75</b>

		<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 Salary	\$300.00	
01-04	Custodial Salary	\$490.62	
01-06	Pension Fund, Housing & SECA	\$1,301.91	
02-00	Mileage	\$202.74	
04-00	Postage	\$102.54	
04-04	Office Equipment	\$150.99	
05-00	Village Utilities Church	\$388.53	
05-01	Village Utilities Parsonage	\$351.86	
05-02	Natural Gas Church	\$25.15	
05-03	Natural Gas Parsonage	\$26.55	
06-01	Benev. Transfer	\$600.00	
06-04	Vanco E-giving Fees/Return	\$50.80	
07-01	Devoational Books	\$102.80	
08-00	Telephone Church	\$172.27	
09-02	Confirmation	\$388.03	
11-00	Church Maintenance	\$690.72	

Total Expenses	\$9,130.68
Previous Months Checks that Cleared	\$3,890.67
Available Cash as of 9/30/18	\$5,291.30
Outstanding Checks	\$0.00
<u>Reconciled to Balance on Bank Statement 9/30/18</u>	<u>\$5,291.30</u>

	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Account Balance</u>
Other Accounts:			
Benevolence (Savings Account)	\$737.04		\$9,465.05
Capital Improvement Fund (Savings Account)	\$104.36		\$3,796.93





**Worship Committee** will meet on Wednesday, November 7 at 5:30 pm

**WELCA board** will meet Sunday, November 11 following the service

**Hope Circle** will meet Monday, November 12 at 9:00 am

**Church Council** will meet on Wednesday, November 14 at 8:00 pm

**Shalom Circle** will meet on Monday, November 19 at 7:00 pm



**Janice Buhr is our Tried-and-True Treasure for November - December.** 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. **NOVEMBER – Service Group #7**



### 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.



Date	Attendance	General Offering	Benevolence Offering	Property Offering	E-giving Offering
9/23	91	1045.00	\$50.00	\$5.00	\$795.00
9/30	125	\$1175.00	-	-	\$110.00
10/7	98	\$1631.00	\$50.00	-	\$976.25
10/14	119	\$1430.00	\$35.00	\$5.00	\$210.00
10/21	58	\$1055.00	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$464.00

### 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 **NOVEMBER**

DATE	SCRIPTURE READER	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	COMMUNION SET UP
				COMMUNION ASSISTANT
November 4	Dominic Smith	Cooper Stokebrand	Lana Hager/ Marvin & Lois Zimmerman	
November 11	Tim Garrison	Jackson Kirchoff	Lana Hager/ Marvin & Lois Zimmerman	
November 18	Kanin Baker	Ashlynn Brown	Lana Hager/ Marvin & Lois Zimmerman	
November 25 (Communion)	Barb Nelson	McKenzie Smith	Lana Hager/ Marvin & Lois Zimmerman	Ashley Garrison/ Chris Roesler

**HEAD USHER:** Chris Woerner

**USHERS:** Nate Morrissey, Alex Tietjen, Brent Rahe, Gary Niemeyer, Morgan Stokebrand

**OUTREACH VISITATION:** Service Group 7

**CURRENT SERVICE GROUP:** Service Group #2 (Arlyce Albert/Dan & Connie Scherling)



# NOVEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
(Pastor gone 11/19-11/25)				1	2	3 Hoesche/ Remmers Wedding  (Reminder to change clocks)
4 "Elisha Heals Naaman" ALL SAINTS DAY Care-A-Lot 8:45 AM Praise Choir 9:00 AM <b>PRAISE SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> WHITE	5 Daylight Savnigs Time WHITE	6 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	7 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Bible Study 8:30 am Worship Committee 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm	8 Good Samaritan Chapel 10:30 am	9	10
11 "Micah" Sunday School 8:45 AM Adult Choir 9:00 AM <b>WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> (Children's Bells) WELCA Board following Service GREEN	12 Hope Circle 9:00 am	13 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	14 Bible Study 8:30 am  Confirmation 6:30 pm  Church Council 8:00 pm	15	16 <b>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE</b>  DeWitt Comm. Club Pancake Supper 5:30-7:30pm	17
18 Swords into Plowshares" Sunday School 8:45 AM Adult Choir 9:00 AM <b>THANKOFFERING SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> GREEN	19 (Pastor Gone)  Shalom Circle 7:00 pm	20 (Pastor Gone)	21 (Pastor Gone)  Men's Bible Study 6:30 am	22 (Pastor Gone)  <i>Thanksgiving</i>	23 (Pastor Gone)	24 (Pastor Gone)
25 (Pastor Gone) NO Sunday School Youth Group to People's City Mission Adult Choir 9:00 AM <b>COMMUNION SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> (Pulpit Supply) WHITE	26     WHITE	27 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	28 Praise Choir 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm	29	30	

# NOVEMBER 2018

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
				1 Roberta Aden Jamie Beerenstrauch	2 Kelly Bagwell Austin Barnts Steve Klostermeier	3
4 Jim Miller Elsie Woerner	5 Amber Koch Priscilla Koch	6	7 Hayden Wickwire	8	9	10 Ervin Beerenstrauch Tina Groathouse Victor Schuerman
11 Velda Jensen	12 Maddox Smith Cindy Wollenburg	13	14 Karli Scherling	15	16 Cayden Kropp Bennett Reck	17 Samantha Koos Morgan Stokebrand Dean Thernes
18 Celena Chavez	19 Cody Wollenburg	20 Harold Aden Madison Kirchhoff	21 Baylee Kropp	22 Baylon Klostermeier Zachary Kuhn Ron Wollenburg	23 Mary Holtmeier Tyler Pieper	24
25	26 Lyric Hoesche Brian Rahe Karen Rahe	27 Mike Rahe	28	29	30 Kristi Rahe Kerri Thornburg	

**Please keep** Mary Garrison, Randy Garrison, Charity Hatfield, Marge Badman, Jim Burger (Donna Garrison's Father), Ervin Beerenstrauch, and Denise Michel **in your prayers.**

**Please take a minute and add your Wedding Anniversary** to our signup sheet on the entryway counter so that we can update our records. Thanks!

**Care -A-Lot kids and friends:** Our next gathering will be November 4th at 9:00 in the fellowship hall to make tie blankets. We hope to see you there for a fun morning of creating and visiting!

**Thank you to everyone who so generously donated items and money for our Lutheran World Relief projects.** A special thanks to those who helped with making blankets and those who helped assemble the kits. We had a great response! We collected: 80 school kits, 63 personal kits, 21 baby kits, 2 sewing kits and 33 blankets. We have a table in the back of the church with the kits we made displayed.

**Our annual WELCA Thankoffering service will be Sunday, November 18th.** The Thankoffering service is a perfect time to celebrate Women of the ELCA and to continue the tradition of giving in gratitude for the many blessings bestowed upon us. Coming soon, you will find an offering envelope in your church mailbox to be used for Thankoffering Sunday. A yellow Thankoffering box will be put out to collect your envelope in. The box will be out for a 2-week period. Please consider a Thankoffering for your many blessings to help continue the ministries and mission of our women's organization. Mission Community, Karen W.

Please check the **Sunday School Bulletin Board** weekly. We will have important dates on there as well as a donation wish list throughout the year. Thanks!

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

**Friday, November 16 – DeWitt Community Club Annual Pancake Supper** from 5:30 – 7:30 pm at the DeWitt Community Center. Free Will Offering. A Turkey will be given away every 20 minutes starting at 5:50, must be present to win. Donations will be for Community Projects to help various activities and to help assist the community.

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 Shirley's home on October 8, 2018, with 7 members present. Shirley was the hostess. Shirley opened the meeting by reading an article concerning prayer. Jean gave a Treasurer Report. Shirley stated that Connie has done a great job informing our members what we need for kids for Lutheran World Relief, and the response has been good. Next month the kits will be taken to Lincoln. We discussed plans for our Christmas party set for December 10<sup>th</sup>. We plan to go to Clark Jeary in Lincoln, where Beryl and Ervin now reside. If we bring a spouse or friend we should bring a gift for them too, so everyone will have a gift to open. We briefly discussed what we will do about gifts for charity, etc. this year. We decided to send Betty Sharon, our special friend, a gift card again this year. Shirley shared a pamphlet she has regarding scams and charities to avoid giving to. We will make a decision on this next month. As there was no other business, the meeting was closed. Kathy led the Bible study entitled "Turn, Turn, Turn: A Time for Faithful Repentance," based on passages from Matthew, Luke, 1 Corinthians, and other books. We closed with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will be on November 12th. Kathy will be hostess and Shirley will lead the Bible Study. Jean Placek, Sec./Treas.

## Lutheran Men in Mission

Lutheran Men in Mission - November

We are continuing our series on Spiritual Basics: Becoming a Christian this month. It's been a good series so far learning some of the basics, but also learning how to act and live out that faith. What are our responsibilities as Christians? How can I be sure about my actions and faith? This month we hope to look deeper into these topics with following topics: November 7 – Topic 3 "What About My Sins" Mark 15:1-15 (Jesus: My substitute) & Ephesians 2:1-10 (God's gift of grace). November 21 – Topic 4 "How Can I Be Sure?" John 20:24-31 (An honest doubter) & 1 John 5:1-21 (Confident faith). As always coffee and snacks are provided. Our meetings run on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday from 6:30-7am. All are welcome.

## Shalom Circle

Shalom Circle met on Oct. 15 with 7 members present. The Layette, School and Health Kits were worked on before the meeting. Election of Officers are as follows: President-(not available as yet), Mission Action-Eunice, Mission Community-Karen, Mission Growth-Arlyce, Sec/Trea.-Bev, Card secretary-Lois. WELCA-We will try to do something special for each Sunday in Advent this year. Our Christmas Program will be Dec. 16 with Groups 7 and I serving. We can no longer bring Lutheran World Relief items to Lincoln. November 18th will be our THANKOFFERING SERVICE. Shalom has visitation for October. Our circle should bring food items to the November Meeting for our men in service--Nothing with peanuts. Preferably Beef Jerky, candy or gum and we are to send Melvin Luksik, our special friend, a card for Oct. (Halloween-Thanksgiving). Prayer Concerns were given. Our Hostess and our Bible Study Leader was Lois. Our next meeting will be November 19 with Linda leading the Bible Study and serving as our hostess. Offering was taken. Sec/Trea. Shirlye Wollenburg

## WELCA

Next meeting November 11th 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

*(Mary Garrison's Son)*

### **Matt and Meighen Friesen**

CMR 480 Box 487  
APO, AE 09128  
(In Navy in Stuttgart, Germany)

**Please continue to keep these members in your prayers:**

### **Janice Buhr**

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

### **Ervin & Beryl Beerenstrauch**

Clark Jeary  
8401 S. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Apt. 320  
Lincoln, NE 68516

### **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