

**Pastor Report**  
**September 2019**

It was a smooth start to a new program year. Kickoff Sunday was busy with the installation of Sunday school teachers, blessing of the 1st/5th grade Bibles, and a new ritual, the blessing of backpacks. We had a full lineup of teachers and classes filled with eager students. Thank you again to all the teachers who volunteered to help this year. Our kids depend on you to lay the foundation for their Christian faiths and I am pleased with your dedication. I've enjoyed getting to know the four new students in the confirmation program. Their gentle, inquisitive ways are both refreshing and hopeful. I'd like to see more singers in our adult choir. We can never have too many voices! The praise choir has an exciting list of new songs to introduce in the year ahead. Recall the choir presents the new songs during the offering and then they are slowly worked into the monthly songs for the congregation to sing. I think you'll be pleased with the eight new songs in the next nine months (we won't introduce a new one in April due to Easter).

Otherwise it was a steady month of shared ministry. I was blessed with opportunities to make 5 visits, lead 6 worship services including both chapel services, participate in 1 committee meeting, 1 men's Bible studies, and 4 pastor text studies, and teach 1 men's Bible study, 3 regular Bible studies, and 3 confirmation classes. Let's hope the weather stays warm for as long as possible. Winter is never fun!

Blessings,  
Pastor Koos

## October 2019

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

The program year is well underway by now and it's looking like it's going to be a good, smooth year ahead. The choirs have some exciting songs to look forward to, the classes are solidly structured with quality teachers and engaging lessons, and our worship services are challenging and praiseful. Oh, how far we've come in our five years together! I thank God daily for all the ways our congregation has blessed me and my family. I know we tend to reserve our thanksgivings for the month of November but I can't help lifting mine up a little early. What an honor to serve such an engaging, committed congregation!

We've got another month a rich ministry in store for us. Early in the month I'll be heading up to Kearney again for the annual fall theological conference. It's always good to connect with fellow colleagues and take in some edifying presentations. I'll return only to head back out a couple days later to a Benedictine retreat up in Schuyler. We will have a guest preacher on the second Sunday to accommodate my absence. We'll finish out the month with Reformation Sunday. As per tradition, we have invited our friends from Soap Creek to come and share the worship service that day. But to make it extra special we've also invited our Assistant to the Bishop, Megan Morrow, to offer the message. She'll be discussing her recent mission work overseas. It'll be a service you won't want to miss!

Paul loved starting his letters to the congregations he helped form by thanking God for them. When I think of our ministry together, I hear his words, particularly those written to Philemon: "I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers." (1:4) Let's keep up the good ministry.

Blessings,  
Pastor Koos

# **Trinity Lutheran Church Minutes**

August 21, 2019

## **I. Call to order**

Chairperson Mike Holtmeier called to order the regular meeting of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council on August 21, 2019. Pastor Koos led the group in devotions.

Members in attendance were Pastor Koos, Steve Garrison, Tim Garrison, Brian Smidt, Lana Hager, Deb Schwan, Mike Holtmeier, Karen Wollenburg, Nate Morrissey, and Jane Stokebrand.

### **Reports**

- a) Secretary's Report: A copy of the previous minutes was reviewed. Tim made a motion and it was seconded by Nate that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.
- b) Treasurer's Report: A copy of the monthly treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$8,282.64.
- c) Investments Report: Tim reported the investment account to be \$55,805.26
- d) Pastor's Report: See included report.
- e) Memorial Report: Nate reported a balance of \$16,978.85.
- f) Suggestion Box: Nothing to report
- g) Committee
  1. Spiritual Life and Growth
    - a) Social Committee: Tim offered to talk to people who have hosted a tail gate party in the past. No date has been determined as other groups are hosting activities during football games.
    - b) Worship Committee: See included report. Highlights included Sunday School beginning, blessing the 1<sup>st</sup> grade Bibles and blessing of 5<sup>th</sup> grade backpacks on September 8<sup>th</sup> with a potluck following the Sunday service.
    - c) Evangelical/ Stewardship: Nothing new to report.
  2. Youth Development
    - a) Parish Ed/VBS: See information in worship committee report. Purchase of Sunday School materials is covered by a budget item.
    - b) Youth Group Committee: Painting of the west Sunday School room remains to be completed.
    - c) Confirmation: Confirmation orientation has been scheduled. Currently there are 11 members in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade class pre-confirmation class, and 5 in the Confirmation class. Requirements include 50% Sunday School attendance, 20 sermon notes to be turned in following the Sunday service, and mandatory completion of Wednesday Confirmation classes. Students in grades 5 through 8 will serve as acolytes.
  3. Care, Management and Overview
    - a) Property: Tim reported the Thrasher company is scheduled to arrive on October 28<sup>th</sup> to give an estimate for repairs needed for the parsonage basement. The sump pump for the church basement has been replaced. Mike reported that the deductible for hail insurance is increasing from \$5000 to \$7500.
  4. Pastor's Report: See included. Pastor also presented a request for one transfer out and one new member request. To be handled in New Business

## **II. Old Business**

- a. Steve Garrison thanked the Pastor and Trinity Lutheran for the baptism of his granddaughter Trinity Garrison.
- b. A donation to the Back Pack program at Tri County School in the amount of \$266 was made with funds from the July Community Service.
- c. The loose offering for distribution to Tina Groathouse came to \$450. The Groathouse family thanked all who contributed in this time of need.
- d. Discussion was conducted concerning the proposal submitted last month by the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson regarding separation of Trinity Lutheran Church from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). Items discussed included the following:
  1. Examining causes for decreased church participation other than the ELCA affiliation.
  2. Concerns by council members regarding secret, invitation only, meetings hosted by the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson in violation of the Trinity Lutheran Church constitution.
  3. Concerns were expressed by council members that dissolving Trinity Lutheran Church's affiliation with the ELCA would cause a division in the church that would be reflected in a greater decrease in member participation.
  4. Council members expressed questions and concerns about the philosophy and theology of the organization called, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), which was proposed by the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson as an alternative to remaining with the ELCA.
  5. Council members voted to table further discussion rather than abort the proposal in order to allow members, who had not had the opportunity to be informed, to reflect and have input regarding maintaining or dissolving affiliation with the ELCA.

### **III. New Business**

- a) There was a request for transfer of the Kropp family. There was a motion by Steve and a second by Nate to approve the transfer. Following discussion the motion carried.
- b) Wendi Sullivan expressed interest in joining Trinity Lutheran Church and in taking the new member class. She also requested that her oldest child be admitted to the Confirmation class and her three younger children to attend Sunday School. Following discussion all children are welcome to attend Sunday School and Confirmation.
- c) There was a motion by Brian and a second by Lana to have the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Bibles paid for from the Memorial Fund. The motion carried.

There was a motion by Tim and a second by Karen to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. In conclusion of the meeting, Pastor Koos led the council in recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Reminders: Next church council meeting will be September 18<sup>st</sup> at 8 P.M.

Communion Assistant for July is Jane Stokebrand

**Bible Study Questions**  
**Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m.**  
**October 2019**

*10-02 Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9*

1. Which commandments do you find easiest to obey? Why?
2. Which ones do you find most difficult or nearly impossible to obey? Why?
3. In the third commandment, what does "misuse the name of the Lord your God" mean to you?
4. In the tenth commandment, what does "covet" mean? What does this commandment really mean today?
5. How does God identify Himself in verse 6? Why do you think He refers to Himself this way?
6. To worship "other gods" was strictly forbidden by the 1st and 2nd Commandments. Read Romans 1:18-23. What kinds of images does man turn God into?
7. From the first two commandments, we can see that God requires the exclusive devotion of His people. Read Matthew 16:24-27. What three actions of the New Testament believer manifest his exclusive devotion to Christ?
8. What does it mean to "honor" your father and mother? What is the promise given to Israelites who obey this command?
9. How does the final commandment relate to the commandments "Do not murder," "Do not commit adultery," and "Do not steal"?
10. "To bear false witness" against a neighbor specifically meant not to lie against him in a court of law. Its use in Hosea 4:2 shows that this commandment had a broad application to all forms of lying. To not tell the truth is to despise God whose very nature is truth. Read Colossians 3:9, 10. What reason does Paul give for the believer not to lie?

10/09 NO BIBLE STUDY

*10/16 2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150*

1. God told David he would be a "shepherd of my people Israel". How is a "shepherd" leader different from what we know about self-serving leaders?
2. Describe what it looks like for a husband to be a "shepherd" leader in the home. (Ephesians 5:23-33)
3. Up to this time David was just the king of Judah. After 7½ years of ruling over Judah, David was being anointed as king over all of Israel. List the 3 reasons the tribes of Israel gave to finally recognize David as the king of Israel.
4. For what reason did David gather the men of Israel together?
5. How did they feel about David's request? See I Chronicles 13:1-8.
6. In what way did David and all Israel express their great joy in the ark which represented to them God's presence? Read Psalm 15, 24, 68 which are said to have been written at this time.
7. Psalm 150:1 declares that praises of God should be offered everywhere. In what environments, in addition to church, do you feel free to praise God?

8. Psalm 150:2 offers two categories to draw from for praise. What are they, and how is one different from the other?
9. Why do you think the psalmist gives such a variety of praise actions and instruments?
10. Would you be comfortable with a praise service like the one described here in Psalm 150? Why or why not? What is God's preference for your praise?

*10/23 1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29*

1. In the church, what are some areas in which we must give up individual rights for the sake of the community?
2. Which is more important to preserve in the church: personal freedom or community identity? Why?
3. What are some biblical guidelines for dealing with truly arrogant and selfish leaders? with self-centered members of the community?
4. Should we realistically expect radical change from a new leader? Why or why not?
5. What are some other factors besides the person that would affect how a new leader could bring about change in a community or group?
6. Considering the popularity of independent churches, what advantages and disadvantages are there in individuals belonging to an institutional or denominational church? What advantages and disadvantages are there for a particular congregation to belong to a larger denomination?
7. What are some ways a community of faith can deal with the problem of the third generation?
8. With what action did Jeroboam attempt to secure his reign (1 Kings 12:26-30)? What lesson can we learn from his negative example?
9. Is Jeroboam a worthy leader? Why or why not?
10. Is Jeroboam a better leader than Rehoboam? Why or why not?

*10/30 1 Kings 18:17-39*

1. What surprises you in this passage?
2. The people of Israel were worshipping both Baal and Yahweh. Why is this sort of thing not alright?
3. How do Elijah's prayers contrast with the prayers of the prophets of Baal?
4. What are some of the "false gods" that we serve in our own lives? Are there ways we "dance" and "bleed" in our effort to serve them?
5. What keeps you from going "all in" in regards to living out your faith in God? Why do you think other "gods" still hold sway in your life?
6. How might this story be related to the story of Jesus?
7. How might your life look different if you gave up false Gods, and solely lived for the god of Elijah? What might you do differently?
8. What's so appealing to you about those "idols"? What do they promise you? How do they offer you hope?
9. What does this passage reveal about God and His character? Why is this important?
10. In what ways does Elijah foreshadow the role of Christ?

Treasurer's Report August 30, 2019

Bank Balance as of 7/31/19			\$8,633.64
----------------------------	--	--	------------

	<u>Income</u>		<u>Outstanding</u>
Offering	\$6,121.00		
Other Deposits	\$137.04		
Total Income			\$6,258.04

	<u>Expenses</u>		<u>Outstanding</u>
01-00 Pastor's Salary	\$3,641.08		
01-01 Financial Secretary's Salary	\$206.24		
01-02 Secretary Salary	\$632.72	347.46	
01-03 Organist Salary	\$300.00		
01-04 Custodial Salary	\$490.62		
01-06 Pension Fund, Housing & SECA - Portico	\$1,165.98		
02-00 Mileage	\$226.20		
02-03 Water Supplies	\$33.00		
02-04 Insurance - Portico	\$173.35		
0-00 Postage	\$110.00		
05-00 Village Utilities Church	\$635.80		
05-01 Village Utilities Parsonage	\$249.54		
05-02 Natural Gas Church	\$26.73		
05-03 Natural Gas Parsonage	\$23.68		
06-04 Vanco E-giving Fees	\$46.55		
7-04 Technology	\$25.00		
08-00 Telephone Church	\$173.67		
09-00 Sunday School	\$148.45	\$148.45	
11-03 Lawn Maintenance	\$351.14		

Total Expenses			\$8,659.75
Previous Months Checks that Cleared			\$351.00
Available Cash as of 8/30/19			\$5,880.93
Outstanding Checks			\$495.91
<u>Reconciled to Balance on Bank Statement 8/30/19</u>			<u>\$6,376.84</u>

	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Account Balance</u>
Other Accounts:			
Benevolence (Savings Account)	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$1,448.43
Capital Improvement Fund (Savings Account)	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$4,836.98



**Worship Committee** will meet on Wednesday, October 9 at 5:30 pm

**WELCA board** will meet Sunday, October 13 following the service

**Hope Circle** will meet on Monday, October 14 at 9:00 am

**Church Council** will meet on Wednesday, October 16 at 8:00 pm

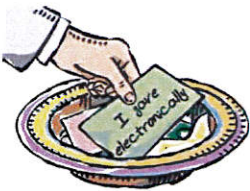
**Shalom Circle** will meet on Monday, October 21 at 7:00 pm



**Anna Wollenburg is our Tried-and-True Treasure for September/October.** 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. **October – Shalom 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.



Date	Attendance	General Offering	Benevolence Offering	Property Offering	E-giving Offering
9/1	72	\$1248.00	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$120.00
9/8	96	\$760.00	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$920.00
9/15	93	\$1095.00	\$35.00	-	\$120.00
9/22	107	\$1375.00	-	\$10.00	\$504.00



**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 **OCTOBER**

DATE	SCRIPTURE READER	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	COMMUNION SET UP
				COMMUNION ASSISTANT
October 6	McKenzie Smith	Macey Gronemeyer	Jack & Mary Garrison Mark & Chris Roesler	
October 13	Barb Nelson	Henry Holtmeier	Jack & Mary Garrison Mark & Chris Roesler	
October 20	Maddox Smith	Braxton Karl	Jack & Mary Garrison Mark & Chris Roesler	
October 27 Reformation Sunday (Communion)	Tim Garrison	Blaine Brown	Jack & Mary Garrison Mark & Chris Roesler	Bonnie Schuerman Jackie Placek

**HEAD USHER:** Tim Garrison

**USHERS:** Doug Damkroger, Mallory Chavez, Alex Tietjen, Payton Smidt

**OUTREACH VISITATION:** Shalom Circle

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



# OCTOBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 "Hear O Israel" Care-A-Lot 8:45 AM breakfast with Care-A-Lot elders at 9:30 am Praise Choir 9:00 AM <b>PRAYERS SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> GREEN	7 <Pastor Gone GREEN	8 Fall Theo Conference	9 Worship Committee 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm <b>Pastor Gone</b>	10 Good Samaritan Chapel 10:30 am	11 Tailgate At TC Football Game 6:00 pm	12 <Pastor Gone
13 "Ruth" Sunday School 8:45 AM <b>WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> <b>Guest Preacher</b> (Children's Bells) WELCA Board following Service <b>Pastor Gone</b> GREEN	14 Hope Circle 9:00 am	15 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	16 Men's Bible Study Bible Study 8:30 am Wilber Care Center Chapel 10:00 am Confirmation 6:30 pm Church Council 8:00 pm	17	18 <b>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE</b>	19
20 "David Anointed King" Episcopal Service 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Sunday School 8:45 AM Adult Choir 9:00 AM GREEN	21 Shalom Circle 7:00 pm	22 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	23 Bible Study 8:30 am Confirmation 6:30 pm	24	25	26
27 "Kingdom Divided" Sunday School 8:45 am Youth Group 9:00 am Adult Choir 9:00 AM <b>COMMUNION SERVICE 10:00 AM</b> Joint Service with SoapCreek Megan Morrow Preaching RED	28	29 Pastor Text Study 10:00 am	30 Praise Choir 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm	31		

# OCTOBER 2019

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
		1	2	3 Melissa Bartels	4 Brock McDougall	5 Mike Bergmeier
6 Shirley Wollenburg	7	8	9 Amy Stokebrand	10 Aksel Bartels Colleen Mentel	11 Chris Woerner	12
13	14	15	16 Danielle Block Dale Friesen Eugene Wollenburg	17 Carson Rahe Eldon Stokebrand Jayden Thomsen	18	19
20	21 Anna Wollenburg	22 Pam Garrison	23	24 Jackson Kirchoff Tricia Schuerman McKenzie Smith	25	26 Harry Malchow
27 Janice Buhr Braxton Karl	28 Paula Pieper Duane Wollenburg	29 Bryson Beerenstrauch Rylan Beerenstrauch	30 Galen Plihal	31		

Please keep Marge Badman, Don Wollenburg, Tina Groathouse, and Denise Michel in your prayers.

Eileen Damkroger turns 100 years young on Monday, September 30. Please help make her day special by sending her a birthday card. Her address is: Eileen Damkroger, 103 N Juniper Drive, DeWitt, NE 68341.

WELCA Election Results: Vice President - Tina Holtmeier, Secretary – Darcy Baker, Mission Growth – Sonja Workman, Mission Action – Kristi Rahe, Nominating Committee – Barb Nelson, Nancy Mahloch, Shari Pieper, Auditing Committee – Chelsea Tietjen. The nominating committee wishes to thank all the people that put their names on the ballot and for accepting the positions.

Sunday, October 6 Care-A-Lot will begin at 8:45 am with a breakfast with Care-A-Lot elders at 9:30 am.

Sunday, October 6 LifeChain 2019 will be held in Beatrice on Hwy 77/N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Friday, October 11 at 6:00 pm will be our TLC tailgate at the Tri County Football game. The signup sheet is on the entryway counter for members to bring hot dogs and buns, chili, chips, desserts and condiments. Questions contact Tim Garrison.

DeWitt Volunteer Fire Department Soup Dinner will be held Sunday, October 13 from 11:00 am -1:00 pm at the DeWitt Community Center. Serving Chili, Chicken Noodle and Vegetable Beef Soup, Sandwiches, and Desserts. Free Will Offering.

Flu Shot Clinic at the DeWitt Senior Center on Wednesday, October 23 from 9:30 -11:30 am sponsored by the Beatrice Community Hospital. The hospital will file the necessary paperwork for Medicare and insurance coverage.

Thank you to everyone who so graciously responded to our school kits for Lutheran World Relief. In September and October, we will be asking for Blankets. They accept new and like new 60"x80" blankets. They will accept fleece tied blankets, but not afghans. Thank you, Connie Scherling

Adult Choir News! Choir has started and will be singing during services at the front of the church. We encourage new voices and will be singing easy gospel type songs. Upcoming choir dates are October 13, 20, November 10, 17, December 8, 15 all at 9:00 am.

If you are anyone you know in the DeWitt community might be in need of Home Delivered meals during the winter months, please contact Bev Plihal at the Senior Center at 402-683-4325. Meals are available Monday through Friday for a suggested contribution of \$5.00 for individuals 60 and older and would be delivered by a volunteer each day.

As part of the Homestead Cluster we have been invited to be prayer partners for congregations impacted by weather related disasters this year. The Elkhorn Valley Cluster has a large number of congregations that need our prayers in over 14 communities in that area. Please help support them in your daily thoughts and prayers.

Tina Groathouse is undergoing treatments and volunteers are still needed to provide lunches for the family. There is a new signup sheet on the entryway counter and ask Lois Wattjes if you have any questions. Thanks!

"Noisy Offering" will always take place during Praise Sunday Service. Members are encouraged to bring loose coins for the children to collect and bring forward to put in the "Noisy Offering" bucket. Please consider contributing as you are able as all donations go towards VBS 2020!

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/](http://www.facebook.com/tlcdewittne/)

## Hope Circle

Hope Circle met at church on September 9, 2019, with 6 members present. Analee was hostess. Shirley opened the meeting by reading an article from a pamphlet concerning welcoming strangers in our lives. Our circle members should be sure to remember Anna this month, as she is the present Tried-and-True Treasure of our congregation. Prayers were asked for Jack Garrison's nephew, Bob Mead, and for Taylor, Helen's granddaughter, who is having problems with epilepsy at the present time. Jean gave a Treasurer's report. Shirley stated she is working on some lap robes and encouraged us to pay attention to Connie Scherling's notes in our bulletins asking for items for Lutheran World Relief. As there was no other business, the meeting was closed. Sharon led the lesson from the Gather magazine entitled "No Hard Feelings?-The Angst of Anger," based mainly on four of the Psalms. We closed with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will be on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Shirley will be hostess and Kathy will lead the Bible study. Sec./Treas. – Jean Placek

## Lutheran Men in Mission

Lutheran Men in Mission -- September 18, 2019

*Mission Statement -- "To promote Christian fellowship in our parish, community, and personal lives through word, deed, and living in accordance to God's will and upholding the constitution of Trinity Lutheran Church ELCA"*

Study 47 (page M50 red pages in middle) "Pain and Suffering"

### **"Things Can Change"**

Option 1 Beginner Topic 6: Job is restored

Job 42:7-17

Option 2 Advanced Topic 6: The pain and the hope

Romans 8:18-27

Book 2: What do you think Paul means by "the glory" to come"

Book 3: Why do we as Christians "groan?"

Book 5: What does the Holy Spirit do for us when we do not know how to pray?

Heart 2: What is the difference between the hope of a Christian and wishful thinking?

Next study: October 2, 2019

## Shalom Circle

September 16th, 2019 - Shalom Circle met with 8 members present for the September meeting and began by assembling personal care kits and school kits for Lutheran World Relief. The Children's Church bags were also sorted. A sample of the possible chairs to go with the new table were viewed as a possibility for the fellowship hall. Members were reminded to sign up for taking meals to one of our congregational members who is undergoing cancer treatments, and to pray for various members who are ill at this time. Members agreed that serving the August Warren's Table meal in Beatrice is always a positive experience. Bev will be paid for one of the boxes of scalloped potatoes served for the evening meal which provided a balanced meal for about 30 participants. The Spring Gathering will be held in our church on March 21st and some possible menus were discussed to serve approximately 100 women. The lesson and refreshments were given by Shirlye Wollenburg. The next October 21st lesson will be conducted by Connie Scherling and will be from the September Gather magazine even though the meeting will be in October. Members will also sign Halloween cards at that time as our Circle has October visitation and thus members are also encouraged to visit shut-ins. Discussion was held on questions circulating in our church relating to the ELCA synod affiliation which the church council has been discussing. Members agreed that our synod isn't perfect but does have lots to offer. Church attendance overall in rural churches is down in many areas and there are no easy answers unfortunately. Pat also asked for ideas for the upcoming advent season if anyone has suggestions that might be used. Secretary, Bev Plihal

## WELCA

WELCA Board will meet October 13 following the service

# KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS...

## SERVICEMEN

**SSG – Brock Johnson**

**Darin Bartlett**

209 W. 6<sup>th</sup>  
Knob Noster, MO 65336  
[Bartlett\\_Riley@yahoo.com](mailto: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. #225  
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