



Trinity Trumpeter



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

5315 S 162nd St. Walton, NE 68461

www.TrinityWalton.org

Church Office: 402-782-6515

Rev. Dr. Kevin J. Kohnke, Pastor: TrinityWaltonPastor@gmail.com

Laura Hametis, Secretary: TrinityWaltonSecretary@gmail.com

Mission statement: "To make disciples of all people through a faithful ministry of Word and Sacrament."

VOLUME

November – Why go to Church Every Sunday - part two

In the winter 2019 issue of the Concordia Journal published by Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO there is an article written by former Lutheran Hour Speaker and current president of this seminary, Dr. Dale Meyer. The words are so timely for us at Trinity that I desire to share with you Dr. Dale Meyers words. Part one was in the October Trumpeter, part two is in this issue of the trumpeter, part three will be in the December Trumpeter.

Second, we go to church every Sunday (or weekend, I know) because we want to understand our lives in light of the word of Christ. "We're sinners but Jesus died for our sins" is true but not enough to make people come back. The late professor Martin Scharlemann said somewhere that a pastor's job is "to interpret reality theologically." When the baptized understand theologically what's going on "out there," they are better grounded in saving faith ("grow up to salvation,") and better equipped to share their faith during the week, as Peter says, "being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you" (1 Pt 3:15). How do the dynamics of law and gospel, the two kingdoms, the now-and-not-yet tension of faith, and the like, illustrate what we are all experiencing as we try to live as followers of Jesus in post-churched America? If sermons and Bible studies don't seize on some of what's happening "out there," then faith easily gets compartmentalized to an isolated hour of vague spirituality rather than engaging the baptized incarnationally for their vocations during the week. I am talking about public society giving us teachable moments; Jesus seized on them all the time. He used illness and demon possession to attract people to his teaching about the kingdom (Lk 4:31-44). He showed empathy for Simon's work that netted converts to his mission (Lk 5: 1-11). Gospel lesson after gospel lesson, Jesus used the stuff of daily life to teach about the kingdom of God.

1 Peter explains reality theologically by constant reference to the person and specific works of Jesus Christ. "He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God" (1:20-21). In almost every exhortation in the epistle, Peter norms Christian conduct with the person of Christ and the specific work of Jesus that informs conduct in the various vocations of his hearers. It is not uncommon for you and me to preach and teach about Christian faith and life in general ways, but what

strikes me is Peter's Christocentric directness: Your distinctive lifestyle is that of Jesus Christ. You have been born again as children of obedience. Here is how it plays out for you in your vocation as servant, as spouse, and so on.

-The third reason we go to church every week will be in the December Trumpeter.

See you church

Pastor K. Hinkle

Stewardship Minute

Can I Be Trusted with Much?

Oswald Chambers wrote, "Not every man can carry a full cup. Sudden elevation frequently leads to pride and a fall. The most exciting test of all to survive is prosperity." This quote provides a clear warning: Those who become prosperous are also very likely to become filled with pride. Pride can cause inflated egos and self-worthiness. Agur, a writer of proverbs, gave us this warning: ". . . give me neither poverty nor riches but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the Lord?' or I may become poor and steal and so dishonor the name of my God" (Proverbs 30:8-9). When our bills are paid and we have money in the bank, we may feel secure and depend only on ourselves. In speaking about the curse of success, someone once said, "Ninety-nine people out of 100 can handle adversity whereas only one out of 100 can handle prosperity." The wealth that many seek can be more of a curse than a blessing.

God blesses us with work and the ability to earn our incomes. Unfortunately, we may foolishly begin to believe that we are solely responsible for the success we've achieved. As Moses wrote, "*You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you the ability to produce wealth . . .*" (Deuteronomy 8:18). We should understand that only by God's grace are we able to have a place to call home, a savings account, and a retirement plan. God's Word is clear that we are managers, not owners. "*The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it*" (Psalm 24:1).

Even though it is difficult to pass the test with money, the Holy Spirit, working through the Word, enables us to understand that all we are and have are gifts from God. Joseph provides us a good example of stewardship. Separated from his home and family, he still trusted God and feared Him, refusing to give in to the temptations that came with the position God enabled him to fill. As second in command in Egypt, one of the most powerful kingdoms of his day, he retained his humility, realizing that he was only the manager of Egypt's resources. But he managed those resources well, working at it "*with all [his] heart, as working for the Lord, not for men*" (Colossians 3:23). Just as God empowered Joseph in his stewardship, so He does for us today, whether our resources are vast, as were Joseph's, or small.

Voter's Meeting Update:

The voter's tabled action on persons who have not communed in the past 18 months. Voter's Assembly members signed up to visit with persons on the list. Several people asked to see a copy of the second letter that was sent to those who had not communed in 18 months. That letter is on the next two pages. The first letter was printed in the September Trumpeter. Copies of all previous Trumpeter newsletters are available on the church web site. www.TrinityWalton.org



Trinity Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
5315 South 162nd St. Walton, Nebraska 68461
www.trinitywalton.org
Office: 4402-782-6515

In the Name of Jesus, our Good Shepherd,

Acts 20:28 (ESV) ***“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood.”***

It has come to our attention that the previous letter (enclosed) may have been interpreted by some as rather harsh. It was not our intention to be harsh. Sometimes parents when they see their children doing something dangerous may treat them harshly. Slapping matches or a sharp object out of their hand for example. This is because the parents love their children and recognize that the momentary discomfort of the harsh treatment is nothing compared to damage the child can do to themselves. The letter can be viewed in the same way. If we were harsh it is only because we recognize the deadly seriousness of neglecting God’s Word and Means of Grace. To neglect these things is to endanger your very soul.

People sometimes ask, "Can't I be a Christian without going to church?" We learned in confirmation that our hearts are under constant attack from the devil, the world, and our own sinful self. We all need the constant reinforcement of Christ's word and sacraments. We need the fellowship and encouragement of other Christians to keep us on the straight and narrow path and those other Christians also need yours. When we cut ourselves off from others, who can encourage us and help us to stay focused on Christ, we place ourselves in grave danger. The devil loves to try and get you to feel alone and trap you in your own guilt and anxiety. The world will tempt you with money, lust, and every pleasure. Ultimately our own selfish nature would replace Christ with ourselves and by doing so try to make our self as our own god.

We certainly don't expect people with serious medical conditions to drag themselves out of the hospital to get to church. We don't expect people in nursing homes or who are totally home bound to miss out on receiving Christ’s Body and Blood in Holy Communion. However, we need to know of these members and their personal desire to partake of the Lord’s Supper so that we might establish a plan with them.

We don't expect people to travel huge distances to attend church. However, if they have moved away, they need to let us know so that we may transfer their membership, if joining another LCMS congregation. And if we know that a member has moved out of the area we can put them in contact with another LCMS pastor and congregation that can meet their needs, in their new location.

We are not kicking people out. This implies that people are not welcome in the church. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, this is quite the reverse. We are desperately begging people to return or at very least to participate in another Christian congregation. In fact, if someone is taken off of the membership list, they are still welcome to return. As Christ said, in our Gospel lesson for Sunday, September 15, 2019: Luke 15: 4-7, “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.”:

Why are we doing this: The Bible tells us to: "Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy" Exodus 20:8 and in Hebrews 10:24-25, "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." Secondly, our church constitution tells us to. Based on the words of Scripture the constitution of Trinity clearly indicates what it means to be a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and we are to be concerned about the spiritual welfare of all members. Finally, the bible passage at the top of this letter, Acts 20:28 tells you why the letter was sent.

"The letter in August of 2019, telling me of my standing as a member came as a shock, a surprise, how can you do this to me!" Perhaps, those words indicate the person did not read the July or August Trumpeter where the Pastor's Page was about the meaning of being a member. Those newsletters were emailed or mailed to members. Some people stated they never got them, nor did they receive the August letter, they only heard about it. Perhaps, the church office did not have your most current address, a further indication of the importance that has been placed on Christ and His Church. The letter was mailed to the address we have on file for you.

Why haven't we done this earlier? Contact was made in 1996 and 1997 with members who were not communing and not participating in the life of the congregation. Some of those members received letters again in August of 2019. Many personal communications, by active members of Trinity, have taken place in the intervening years, with persons willing to visit. But you are correct, this may be the first time you have received a letter about your nonparticipation. This type of communication is a difficult thing. It is sinful human nature not to want to be called to account, and to be told that their action or lack of action is wrong. The pastor and elders know that holding members to account for their actions can elicit anger and hostility. So, it is the natural tendency of the pastor and elders as sinful human beings to avoid conflict, and just let things go as status quo. The easiest thing to do would be to do nothing! Satan likes that plan!

We have heard from at least nine recipients of the August 2019 letter. They are worshipping elsewhere or looking for a church in their new location or they are concerned. We are concerned too. Mark 13:32-33 (ESV), "But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come." We are concerned for your eternal salvation. **The letter does not replace a personal visit, but it does expedite the urgency of the situation. If you would like a visit by the pastor and an elder, or a visit with two elders then please contact us.**

In Jesus name,

Rev. Dr. Kevin J. Kohnke – Pastor of Trinity

TrinityWaltonPastor@gmail.com, Cell: 402-641-6733 Church Phone: 402-782-6515

Board of Elders:

Roger Pearson

Alan Retzlaff

Steve Cartagena

Tracy Refior

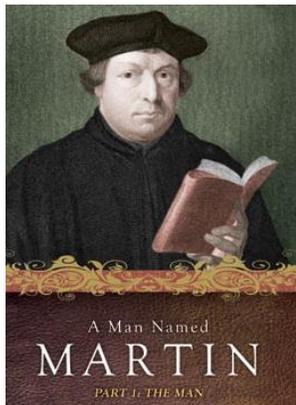
Timothy Holtzen

Hank Oetjen

Ladies Tuesday Bible study will be at the home of Rosemary Luebke, 8323 Sunridge Rd. Apt 101, Lincoln November 5!



Sunday Morning Bible Pastor Holtzen with the continuation of the Stories of the Old Testament Bible study!



Fall Bible Study: Started pm Wednesday October 2, 2019 and will end on Nov. 13th 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A Man Named Luther

Movie Night at Pastors House!

November 6th @ 6:30 PM! We will watch the black and white version of the Luther Movie. All are welcome to join in the fun!

Our Mission Dollars at Work

In November we support with our \$500 the Armed Forces Ministry of the LCMS. This ministry supports almost 200 chaplains on active duty, reserves, National Guard and Civil Air Patrol. These chaplains meet the needs of military personnel and their families. They have done this in the Civil War, World War I and II, Korean War, Vietnam War and current areas of conflict. This ministry also assists and trains congregations through project Barnabas. The goal of project Barnabas is to equip and encourage LCMS members in compassionate care and witness by training them for outreach to all military connected people (active, reserve, retired, veterans and their loved ones) at the local level. It is the only project of its kind in the US.



Visit the website for more information: <https://www.lcms.org/ministry-to-the-armed-forces>



We will also be doing the annual collection for the Military Bible sticks in November. Watch you bulletin for details. Our past donations have helped 164+ families! This doesn't include how many people received Bible sticks because of matching funds. For more information on this program visit: <https://militarybiblestick.com/> Our donations this Month will also be matched!

Sunday Circle group: Our meetings are on the first Sunday of the month after church service. New members are always welcome! They did not meet last month, so no update was given.



Ladies Aide Report: On Sunday October 6th 2019 the four remaining members: Margaret Broening, Mary Jo Colbert, Shirley Holtzen, and Deborah Rocker-Krahmer announced that there would no longer be a “Ladies Aid” Society.

It was decided that the “Ladies Aid” otherwise known as the “Funeral Ladies” was a bit out of date. Maybe that is the reason we don’t seem to have the number of members that this Church saw so many years ago.

Farwell.....

A new vision, a new name, yet still a part of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League. We present:

The Mary & Martha League

As we read in Luke 10:38-42 Mary sits at the feet of Jesus, while Martha works tirelessly. Both women are doing works by faith, and faith by works. We strive to continue to do our best. We welcome any women of faith who shares this vision. Come be a part of our future.

Their next project is part of “Days for Girls Lincoln NE, they are asking for cotton or flannel scraps or 5 inches square or bigger. Please no white fabric. Days for Girls increases access to menstrual care and education ny developing global partnerships, seeding social enterprises, mobilizing volunteers, and innovating solutions that shatter stigmas and limitations for women and girls.



Here is a list of the **shut-in members of Trinity** who are regularly seen by Pastor Kohnke. We are providing this information so you can stay in touch with them.

Gary Finke Legacy Estates 7200 VanDorn Room #308 Lincoln, NE 68506 402-488-8099	Albert Francke Tabitha Cove House Room #9 6120 S. 34th St Lincoln, NE 68516 402-488-8297	Madelyn Kuska Tabitha Grace Point Room #113 4620 Randolph Lincoln, NE 68510 402-484-9311	Norma Kemper Gateway Vista 225 N 56th St Room 410 Lincoln, NE 68504	Gilbert Luebke Pemberly Place 7655 Archer Place Room C115 Lincoln, NE 68516 Cell: 402-770-5939
--	---	--	---	---



Salvation is found in NO one else, for there is NO other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

Youth Group will be attending the Middle School Youth Gathering 2019, November 9-10, in Kearney. The money they raised from the taco bar

was used to help pay for this trip! Youth attending are Sophia May, Marin Maahs, Shannon Moerer, Ruby Oetjen, and Bailey. Chaperons are Grace Kohnke and Karla Snoozy.

All kinds of Eye Glass donations are wanted for Lincoln Century 21 Lions Club. Place them in Deb Pfeifer’s mailbox in the narthex. Soon, they will have their own mail box as well!

November Birthdays

11/1 Rev. Kevin Kohnke
11/3 Greg Pavey
11/4 Lance Maahs
11/5 Kristi Refior
11/6 John Page
11/10 Lucas Bruss, Karen Luebke, Dick Heinke
11/10 Emah Maahs, Kilee Oetjen, Waunetta Peterson
11/11 Madelyn Kuska, Moses Rocker
11/16 Greg Retzlaff
11/21 James Rodney
11/22 Rev. Merlin Holtzen
11/24 Tali Harding
11/27 Steve Haack
11/28 Willa Oetjen
11/29 Shelby Bruss



Anniversaries

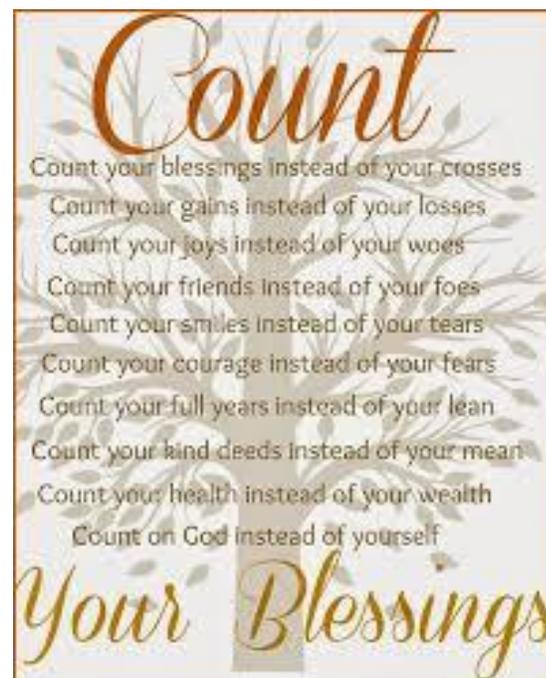
11/1/1963 Mervin & Margene Meyer
11/11/2000 Nathan & Jill Rink
11/29/1969 Rev. Merlin & Shirley Holtzen

You are invited to an Anniversary/Birthday Celebration on November 17th! Rev. Merlin & Shirley Holtzen would like your help to celebrate their 50th Anniversary and Pastors Birthday. The party will be after church and lunch will be provided.

Giving Hearts ~N~ Hands:

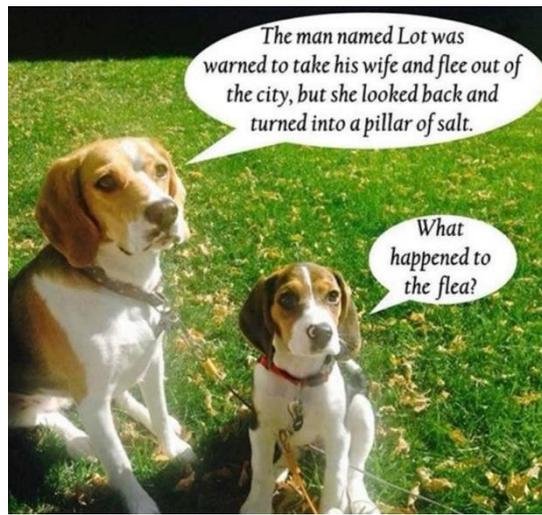
Meetings held the second Wednesday of the month @ 10:30 November 13th.

They will also hold a meeting on November 3rd, after church so those who work during the week, will be able to join!



Alberts Joke of the month!

From your Secretary!



Bible Trivia

October Answers: They Heard Voices: 1. John the Baptist (Mark 1:3) 2. Isaac (Gen 27:22) 3. Above the ark of the covenant (Numbers 7:89) 4. John (Rev. 1:10) 5. Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:19) 6. Hannah (1 Samuel 1:13) 7. The fire (Deuteronomy 5:24) 8. Samuel (1 Samuel 15:22) 9. Matthew (2:18) 10. Daniel (4:14) 11. Revelation (1:15) 12. Saul (1 Samuel 26:17 NIV) 13. Laodicea (Revelation 3:20) 14. Peter (Acts 2:14)

The Biblical Greenhouse

1. What plant sprang up miraculously to give shade to the prophet Jonah?
2. What woman used mandrakes to gain a night in bed with Jacob?
3. Who used rods of poplar, hazel, and chestnut trees to make genetic changes in his sheep?
4. What kind of tree did the weary Elijah sit under?
5. What plant had such a bitter taste that it became a symbol for sorrow and disaster?
6. What, according to the New Testament, produces the smallest seed of any plant?
7. Which book mentions the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley?
8. What mythical creature eats grass—according to the book of Job?
9. What is the only book of the bible to mention the apple tree?
10. What kind of tree did Zacchaeus climb in order to see Jesus?
11. What tree was a symbol of grace, elegance, and uprightness?
12. What kind of wood was Noah's ark made of?
13. What miraculous event was the eating of bitter herbs supposed to commemorate?
14. What unusual food was said to have resembled coriander seed?

Be the first to submit the correct answers to the church secretary and receive a prize!
Clues will be given in the Sunday bulletin sometime during the month of November.

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 All Saints Day	2 Time Change Tonight!
3 9 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10 am Divine Service 11:15am Sunday Circle 11:15 am Giving Hearts ~N~ Hands	4	5 12:45pm: Ladies Bible Study	6 Bible Class 7 p.m.	7	8	9 7:30 am Elder's Meeting District Youth Event 9 th & 10 th
10 9 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10 am Divine Service	11 Veterans Day	12	13 10:30 am Giving Hearts ~N~ Hands Bible Class 7 p.m.	14 1:30pm Mary & Martha League	15 Newsletter Deadline	16
17 9 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10 am Divine Service Mom's Food Pantry Holtzen Anniversary /Birthday 11:15	18	19	20 Bible Class 7 p.m.	21	22	23
24 9 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10 am Divine Service 11:15 Confirmation Class	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00pm	28 Thanksgiving	29	30

Acolytes, Ushers, and Altar Guild servers please send an email to Tim Holtzen as he is setting up an email reminder for those who serve. Thank you! tah@nebrwesleyan.edu

Those serving in November 2019
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Elders

3rd Roger Pearson, Tracy Refior
10th Hank Oetjen, Alan Retzlaff
17th Roger Pearson, Tim Holtzen
24th Steve Cartagena, Hank Oetjen

Altar Guild

3rd Lori Cartagena, Betty Hodtwalker
10th Deb Pavey, Denise Moerer
17th Becky Nisley, Laura Hametis
24th Lisa Kemper, Sandy Kemper

Ushers

3rd Deb Pfeifer, Josh May
10th Roland Meyer, Mark Moerer
17th Ryan Plager, Jon Page
24th Delbert Eickhoff, Nate Rink
27th Deb Rocker, Ethan Kemper

Acolytes

3rd Sophia & Grayson May
10th Emma & Madison Rink
17th Marin Maahs, Ruby Oetjen
24th Shannon Moerer, Whitney Bruce

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
5315 S. 162nd Street
Walton, NE 68461-9695