# C:\Users\Trinity Office\Desktop\Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church MN_files\KUFAHL-PETER-112.jpg**Pastor Kufahl …. Continue on page 3**

**Office number: (507)-427-2451**

**May 2015 Vol. 5, Issue 106**

# **Pastor Perkins** **…Continue on page 3**

“All authority… has been given me. Therefore, go...” Matthew 28:19

In every language, there are many ways to say something. There are choices in how to convey a particular message. There are also different ways of understanding words, depending on what we call ‘context’. Getting back to my opening quote from Jesus, the Lord told his disciples to “Go”.

In our language, ‘go’ can mean many things. To name a few, ‘go’ can mean to move, be in motion, become (as specified, continue (as in a given state), act (as specified), be known, reach, and so forth.

This is of course a perfect lead-in to the question, “What is Jesus’ intent, then?” πορευθέντες, he says. Ya’ll go out.

Move. Get this (gospel) moving.

Get this (gospel) in motion.

Reach.

This month our emphasis is fittingly on Evangelism. Jesus’ words above emphasize evangelism. This is seldom questioned. But to whom is Jesus sending this message?

Just missionaries and pastors?

Just members of the Evangelism Committee?

Of course not.

***Important Dates:***

* **May 1**

Lock-in

* **May 10**

Senior Breakfast

* **May 10**

God Squad

**• May 1, 8, 15, 22**

Prayer time

**• May 14**

Church Council

* **May 17-21**

Vacation Bible School

**• May 20**

Women’s Bible study

***Individual Highlights:***

**Church Council**

**Updates**

**Youth info**

**Devotions**

**Bd/Stewardship**

**Calendar**



In the 1980 film *The Blues Brothers*, ex-con musicians Jake and Elwood Blues set off on a musical journey to legally raise funds to save their former orphanage from foreclosure. The brothers’ idea of getting their old band back together came to them as they saw “the light” during a very energetic gospel church service (non-LCMS). By this “light,” the brothers believed that their mission to save the orphanage was now a “Mission from God.”

My buddies and I have always enjoyed that movie. We enjoyed it so much that every now and then, we would dress up as Jake and Elwood just to see what sort of reactions we would get from people around town. Most had no clue. Others looked at us like we were idiots. But for those that knew the movie, it was great to witness the smiles, cheers, high-fives, and engage in dialogue from the film. Our portrayal of Jake and Elwood Blues created a bond with complete strangers over a common enjoyment of a film.

While Jake and Elwood’s “mission from God” was one of cinematic lore, the Church on earth continues to benefit from the mission that was bestowed upon the apostles by Christ Jesus prior to His ascension into heaven.



# **Athea Witt 5/11/2008**

**Keeley Classen 5/6/2012**

## May Anniversaries

**Mr. & Mrs. Charles Coners, 7th**

**Mr. & Mrs. Norman Nelson, 12th**

**Mr. & Mrs. Craig Faber, 14th**

**Mr. & Mrs. Kevien Schroeder, 26th**

**Mr. & Mrs. Mark Kispert, 27th**

**Mr & Mrs. Walter Oeltjenbruns, 29th**

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**Memorials given**:

**Jean Oeltjenbruns ~ $625**

**Oscar Nelson ~ $50**

**Vi Derksen ~$10**

**Released:**

**Emily Mulder from Trinity Lutheran, April 3rd, 2015**

**Funeral:**

**Viola Derksen at Trinity Lutheran, April 18th, 2015**



## Updates

***You should at all times remember them in your prayers, put them in mind of their baptism, and as much as in your lives, lend them your counsel and aid.***

## May Baptism

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## …. continue Pastor Kufahl

Jesus’ commissioning of the eleven to “*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the mane of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.*” (Matt. 28:19-20) has been blessed by the work of the Holy Spirit from one generation to the next. From this commissioning, through baptism and the Word, we have come to know who Jesus is and by faith trust in His promises. By the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, we have seen to it that our children have been baptized and brought up in the faith.

How much have you appreciated the work of Jesus and the mission that was extended to His disciples? Are you brave enough to take it out into the world? You may not go out dressed to look like Jesus (although many say that is why pastors wear the robes they do on Sunday mornings), but do you live your public life reflecting His teachings and imitating His example? It is easy not to do as many in our world have no clue in regards to what the Scriptures have to say, and heaven forbid we don’t want to embarrass ourselves or come off looking like idiots compared to the mentality of this day and age. Not only that, but how easy it is for us to fail at emulating Christ to the letter! As sinners, who are we to imitate Christ?

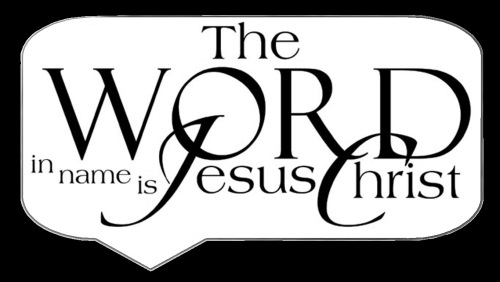
On our own we are not brave enough. We can’t be. Yet He who commissioned the eleven, also gave them His promise: “*And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age*.” (Matt. 28:20). Through His Word which creates faith and His sacraments that grant forgiveness and strength, we have a companion that is with us every step of the way in order that we can reflect His light into an ever increasing dark world. You are NEVER alone.

Without my best friend James, I could have never dressed up like Elwood Blues. Without Christ, I could never desire to emulate Him or even share Him, and neither can you. But you belong to Jesus. He died and rose for you so that one day, on the day He returns to call His children home, we will be like Him: sinless. And He desires all of His children to be there.

On May 14, the church recognizes our Savior’s commissioning of His disciples and His ascension into heaven. Therefore, I encourage you to take time out of your day, and give thanks to God for His commissioning of those disciples and the Baptism and Word that has come to you. And if I see you walking around in your bathrobe with sandals and a fake beard, I’ll be there to give you a high-five.

He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.

**Matthew 28:6**



We all share this privilege, free of guilt or discomfort. God hasn’t called us each to travel the world, evangelizing. My intent here is neither to accuse nor to pressure. As they say, knowing is half the battle. Seeing (and understanding) is believing (and acting). Know that Christ has given us this commission. See that each of us has something to share.

Your Evangelism Committee has been working to help everyone think about their own salvation. Thinking about God’s place in their lives. Our baptismal birthday is something well remembered. Christ’s authority granted to us is a calling we do well to take seriously. This we know. This we believe.

In May, we will have two opportunities to think intentionally about how we might be blessed to share in God’s will for His world. Kara Schumann will be here on Evangelism Sunday, May 10 for City Vision. That tremendous ministry has been on my heart for a long time. Later, on May 31, a friend of Pastor Kufahl’s has

agreed to spend time here and share stories of His work in Afghanistan. We look forward to both of these dates with great anticipation.

By our prayers and financial gifts we can support God’s work. This we know. Our Lord empower us to also consider His place in our lives and the chances we have day to day to share in His work.

Our God richly bless you throughout May.

## …continue Pastor Perkins

## From Board of Stewardship “What’s the Worry”

Jesus knows our nature. He knows we’re prone to worry. Perhaps that’s why He warned, *“Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?”* (Matthew 6:25-27)

In spite of these words of both admonition and assurance, Christians still tend to worry. Sometimes worry about the ability to provide for our families takes over our lives to such an extent that it guides our thoughts and actions. We put off giving to the Lord through our church – “temporarily,” we say – until we feel secure in our financial situations. Life, as you know, seems to throw one crisis after another at us, and, often, that financial security never comes.

We have the same worry when it comes to serving. We complain that we just don’t have time. We work long hours, and then we have commitments to our families. How can we go to meetings or make meals for a family whose mom is sick?

Later, we tell God and even ourselves. Later, when the college tuitions are paid and the kids are out of the house. Then we’ll have time and money. But then, after all that hard work, don’t I deserve to get away and take a nice, long cruise?

We reap what we sow, we read in 2 Corinthians 9:6. What are you sowing? Proverbs 11:18 reads, *“He who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward.”* Matthew6:19-21 recordsJesus’ words, *“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on Earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where you treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

Is it forgetfulness of God’s promises or lack of faith that keeps us stuck in this pattern of giving all for our physical, temporal lives instead of storing up treasures in Heaven. Take God at His Word: give generously, serve without reward, take time to help others, and watch Him satisfy your every need.

**HELP------**

**Tech-Help**

Looking for someone to learn to digitally rip services down and upload them to the website. Contact Pastor Kufahl if you are interested.

**Host Homes Needed**

We are still in need of host homes for Captive Free the evenings of May 16 & 17. Contact the church office if you are able.

**Needed at Trinity:**

Paper towel, Kleenex, Plastic silverware, Paper plates, Paper cups, white copy paper, AA batteries… Thanks!

Egg roll time is coming soon and we need your help!

The CCOC has been busy planning for the POW WOW egg roll stand. We have set aside the last weekend in May (29th starting at 5 p.m. and 30th starting at 9 a.m.) for preparing the egg rolls.

This year we will be looking to the church council, boards and committees for their help in getting this Outreach project accomplished. CCOC will be meeting with each of you to get a commitment for your help with the following: making the egg rolls, getting freezer space for storing the egg rolls, setting up and taking down the egg roll stand, hauling supplies to the stand and for working shifts in the stand during POW WOW. This is a big undertaking and we need participation from all our church members in carrying it out.

## Egg roll time …

## Church Council **…next meeting will be May 14, 2015**

**Council Members present**: Russ & Joanne Karschnik, Laurel Leet, Dave Watkins, Jim Wolff, Diane Coners, Pastor Kufahl, and Pastor Perkins

**Absent**: Mark Hanson, Deb Kremmin, John Carrison, Lee Erickson, and Board of Finance Representative.

**Excused**: Jason Jepson

The March 19, 2015 council meeting minutes were read and approved. The treasurers’ report was presented by Pastor Kufahl: Checking balance: $5,500.00. Donations made to debt retirement of $1,100.00 bring the line of Credit balance to $27,900.00. Outstanding bill: $13,320.00, a portion of that will be paid on May 1st.

**BOARD REPORTS:**

ELDERS – On June 17th Dave Anderson and Roger Walck’s concert ministry is scheduled at the Wednesday evening service.

TRUSTEES – Jim Wolff reported that the upstairs toilet is still leaking and all the repairs have not worked. Looking into purchasing a new one. Flashing on the roof came loose due to high winds, it has been repaired. All the furnace filters have been replaced. Light in narthex by elevator not always working. Bob Blom is looking into it.

FINANCE – Laurel Leet reported that the amount received for offerings the past weeks has increased. Also included in the bulletin along with the checkbook balance for the past week, is the amount needed to deposit to meet the weeks budget, and the line of credit balance.

MEMORIALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE – Laurel Leet reported that the wedding candelabras have arrived and though memorials and special offerings designated they will be paid off when the bill is received.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Pastor Kufahl reported VBS will be held May 17th-21st. Meal assignments have been handed out, reminder to all the boards to check what and what day they serve. Captive Free will perform for opening of VBS. There is a need for host families for two guys and three girls for May 16th and 17th. Also in need of actors, stage hands, and techs to help with VBS. If you are interested contact the church office. Senior recognition and breakfast is May 10th.

YOUTH MINISTRY – Pastor Kufahl reported that the confirmation banquet is in the evening on Sunday April 19th. JLYF lock-in is Friday May 1st at Lake Crystal. We are in need of adults to assist, if interested contact Pastor Kufahl.

EVANGELISM – Pastor Perkins reported that guest are encouraged to come to the monthly meetings so they can see what the board does and when the time comes to elect new board members, may feel more comfortable in running for the position. Coffee time for May will be May 10th. Kara Schumann from City Vision will be our guest.

STEWARDSHIP – Diane Coners reported they finished May birthday cards. Karen Ahlbrecht took a lot of cards home so they are ahead of the program right now. They are looking into ways to promote giving our 1st fruits not leftovers. They discussed direct deposit giving. They are looking into ways to get the stewardship committee energized so that the congregation can be energized. Discussed a way to involve the youth of our congregation in the new stewardship program. They could assist in giving the minutemen messages. They also encourage guests to come to the monthly meetings so that they can see what they do as a board. The new stewardship program should begin in October, and they want to promote stewardship through newsletter articles, bulletin inserts, devotions, midweek thoughts by mail or email, bible studies, and so many more ways.

CROSS CULTURAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Pastor Perkins highlighted points from Cheryl Hiebert’s written report. They are responsible for the Thursday, May 21st VBS meal. It was suggested by the Board of Christian Education that they serve egg rolls and Crab Rangoon. Pow Wow is June 12th – 16th egg rolls will be made will be made Friday, May 29th starting at 5 pm. and Saturday, May 30th starting at 9 am. The sign-up sheets for helping make egg rolls and for working at the booth during Pow-Wow will be taken to all the board monthly meetings starting in May, requesting the members to sign up to help.

CARE COMMITTEE –

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE –

FISHERS OF MEN –

PASTOR KUFAHL – There will be 5 students confirmed on Sunday, April 26th. He along with Jacob Karschnik, and Brenda Meyer attended a disaster response class. Watch for more information on how the congregation can prepare/help in response to a disaster. He spoke with the Endowment Committee on helping to pay Pastor Perkins salary. They will present options at the voter meeting on May 3rd. The Easter Sunday sermon is on the church’s website. If you would like to listen to it go the <http://trinitymtnlake.360unite.com> There is a free informational seminar on Advance Funeral Planning, at Trinity on Thursday, April 30th at 2 pm. Sponsored by ML Insurance Services, Mitch Schroeder. He watched a documentary on Scientology with the youth and is looking into doing a Sunday morning bible study on it.

PASTOR PERKINS- Is looking into studying books written by Authors he met at the Best Practice conference in Phoenix. He was invited to preach at his vicarage church in Missouri for the church’s anniversary on Aug. 16th. He is looking into beginning a family, growth/enrichment program. Watch for more details. Membership classes are going well.

**OLD BUSINESS :**

Nominating Committee will meet on Thursday, April 23rd to finalize the ballot for elections at the voters meeting May 3rd. Please prayerfully consider accepting a nomination for a board if you are called.

**NEW BUSINESS :**

Loop System: Pastor Kufahl has been in contact with SIM Sound Systems to get an estimate on the cost of putting in this Loop System, which people with hearing aids can connect too so they are better able to hear with less feedback.

Pow-Wow: A sign-up sheet will be brought to each board to encourage them to sign up for times to help make egg rolls and/or work in the booth during Pow-Wow.

**Voters meeting agenda: Information on the church daycare; Election of new board members; Information on building a shed to house the new snow blower/mower as a memorial project; Should Endowment funds be used to pay part of salaries, a congregational vote is needed for this; Information on the financial issues the church is facing; and Rejuvenating the Fishers of Men Committee.**

**Our Website Has Changed!**

***P.O. Box 503,***

***1418 second Avenue, Mountain Lake, MN 56159***

**office: (507)-427-2451 fax: (507)-427-2611**

[**trinityrev2@frontiernet.net**](mailto:trinityrev2@frontiernet.net)

[**pbenmin@outlook.com**](mailto:pbenmin@outlook.com)

[**trinitysecretary@frontiernet.net**](mailto:trinitysecretary@frontiernet.net)

Due to difficulties with our previous website, we have transitioned over to a new website that corresponds with our current church software. The new website is built for you, the members of Trinity with access to the church calendar, directory, church board members, and more. We are currently working on adding more and more to the website, so please keep in mind it is a work in progress. You can check it out at: [**www.trinitymtnlake.360unite.com**](http://www.trinitymtnlake.360unite.com). You can also learn more about what the website has to offer by going to: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=rioyOLrgQsw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rioyOLrgQsw) or scan the code below with your QR Reader on your smart phone or tablet.

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**We’re on the Web!**

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