

# TRINITY TRUMPET NEWSLETTER

MAY 2021

## CONTACT US

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Pastor Cell: (641) 814-3292

Pastor Email: [jamespreus@gmail.com](mailto:jamespreus@gmail.com)

Regular Office Hours:

Tues-Thurs: 10 AM-3 PM

Pastor is normally in the office Monday through Thursday and parts of Saturday, but is often out on visits. You can drop in and see him or make an appointment ahead of time.

Social Media: Like us on Facebook at  
<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityOttumwa>

## Message from Pastor

May 2021

Dear members of Trinity Lutheran Church,

May 23<sup>rd</sup> is Pentecost, the day Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to his disciples, so that they preached the mighty works of God in many languages. May 23<sup>rd</sup> is also Confirmation Sunday, when one of our Confirmand's,, **Joel Hallgren** will be confirmed. He will be examined during the Adult Bible Study on Sunday May 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM. Please keep Joel in your prayers along with all our youth, that they would continue in the true saving faith.

Confirmation is not a Sacrament like Baptism or the Lord's Supper. Confirmation is a human tradition used by the church for many centuries. The purpose of confirmation is for the Christian, who has been instructed in the basics of the Christian faith, to confess the faith of his Baptism. And of course, it is important that Christians be examined before they receive the body and blood of the Lord in the Sacrament, lest they take it to their own judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). And of course, receiving the Lord's Supper in faith is an immense blessing of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Confirmation is an opportunity to confess the Christian faith publicly. Christians should not be ashamed to confess their faith in Christ. Scripture writes, "but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make

a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,” (1 Peter 3:15). We are not confirmed in order to graduate. We are confirmed to confess our faith publicly to the Church. We should continue to make this confession throughout our lives until we enter into heaven. For it is by this confession that we will be saved! (Romans 10:10) Therefore, let us review the questions that will be asked of Joel on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and remember that we have all made this same confession to God in the presence of His Church.

### Profession of Faith

**P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

**R** *Yes, I do.*

**P** Do you renounce the devil?

**R** *Yes, I renounce him.*

**P** Do you renounce all his works?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you renounce all his ways?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**R** *Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.*

**P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

**R** *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.*

**P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**R** *Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.*

**P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

**C** **Amen.**

These questions and answers are as important for us to remember now as they were when we first confessed them. We have renounced the devil. We have confessed our faith in the one and only Triune God, whom we confess every day in the Apostles' Creed and every Sunday in the Nicene Creed. We have promised to remain faithful to the faith as it was taught is in the Small Catechism, which means we should continue to read and learn it, attend Bible study, and grow in knowledge of God's Word. We have promised to faithfully hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper, which means we should go to church every week and not let the devil, whom we have renounced, and the world, to which we are strangers, drag us away from listening and being fed by Jesus. We have promised even unto death that we will continue to live as Christians, to flee wickedness and false teaching and to keep the confession of this Church, because it is the confession of Holy Scripture. These promises are even more important than wedding vows. These promises are our pledge of fidelity to our Savior Jesus Christ.

I heartily invite you all to come and witness Joel's confirmation this Pentecost Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. And I encourage you to remember that these same questions have been asked of you. Repent where you have failed to keep them. Thank God for his grace for where you have kept them. And pray that God would keep you and Joel faithful to His Church until you inherit eternal life. God grant this to us all. Amen.

Yours in Christ,

**Pastor Preus**

**Vacation Bible School** will run from Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup> through Thursday June 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Children ages 2- through 12-years-old are invited. Youth older than 12 are encouraged to volunteer and help. Our theme this year is *I Am Jesus Little Lamb*. Please let Pastor Preus know if you would like to Volunteer.

**Note: Starting in July, Newsletters will only be mailed to those members who are not able to attend church in person. If you would like to have the newsletter emailed or mailed to you, please contact the church office. Otherwise, you can pick them up in the narthex when they are printed.**

### **Note from Financial Secretary**

If you are a member of Thrivent through having a life insurance, Investment or other options here is some information for you. They used to notify you once a year that you could choose how to direct Thrivent choices dollars that your account has earned. They no longer notify you but your choice dollars are still there. So, if you contact them one of the choices that you can direct your dollars to is our church, Trinity Lutheran Church. If we receive those funds, we will contact you as to how you would like the money directed to the different funds that we have. If not to us please direct them to your choice of places so they do not go to waste. Please consider this.

**Bill Ansley, Financial Secretary**

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**

MARCH 22, 2021

**Open Meeting:** **President Josh Graeve** opened the meeting at 6PM.

**Attendees:** Pastor Preus, Anna Lundgren, Josh Graeve, Bill Ansley, John Schildmier, Mary Brown, and Lance Newland joined via the phone.

**Devotion/ Opening Prayer:** Pastor Preus opened the meeting with the reading for Monday, Lent 5 from the Lenten Devotions on Holy Baptism.

**Approval of minutes:** Mary Brown; The minutes from the February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting were reviewed. John made a motion to accept the minutes and Bill 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Anna Lundgren; Karen has been helping Anna get used to the Accounting program that is used for the treasurer. Everything looks good and all bills are paid. The balance in the general fund as of March 25, 2021 is \$52,808.38.

**Financial Secretary Report:** Bill Ansley;

Offering through February 28, 2021

Budget	\$24,500.88
Offering	<u>\$37,931.00</u>
Over	\$13,430.00 Budget per week, \$2,722.32

Offering through March 21, 2021

Budget	\$32,667.84
Offering	<u>\$46,655.00</u>
Over	\$13,987.16

Memorial Donations as of 3/21/21

- Altar Guild Fund \$400.00
- Boettcher Memorial \$2595.00
- Rabbass Memorial \$100.00
- Flower Fund \$120.00

- Radio Broadcast Fund                   \$1200.00
- Sunday School Fund                    \$121.00

Total Donations in 2021                   \$51,191.00

Mary made a motion to approve the Financial Reports as presented, Anna 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.  
Motion carried.

**Pastor's Report: Pastor Preus**

- Services: Midweek Lenten Series on the Means of Grace; every Wednesday from February 24 to March 24.

Holy Week: Extra services will be Maundy Thursday Divine Service, April 1 at 7 PM. Good Friday Service, April 2 at 7 PM, and Easter Vigil Divine Service, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 PM. Easter Sunday Service will be at the regular 9 AM time.

- Baptisms: Braylee Cordray was baptized on March 7<sup>th</sup>. There will likely be a few Baptisms this spring summer as a number of members are expecting.
- Funeral: Willy Boettcher's funeral was on March 6<sup>th</sup>. His interment was March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Visits: Vista Woods is now permitting visitors, so Pastor is now visiting his parishioners there in person. Before he was only permitted at end of life situations.
- Education:
  - Confirmation: there are about half a dozen children in Wednesday School, one of which will be confirmed on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Pastor is teaching a confirmation class every other Saturday night for 2 adults and 1 child.
  - Sunday Bible Class is on Romans.
  - Sunday School opening has been expanded to get the children more involved in the Divine Service.
  - Sunday School Children have sung for 2 Sundays so far. They will sing 'A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth' during the Good Friday Service on Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Radio: Pastor continues to record his sermons on the radio. These are broadcasted on Ottumwa Radio, as well as radio stations in Minnesota and North Dakota.

**Boards:**

**Elder's: John Schildmier**

- John is continuing to try and get an audio specialist to come to the church and give some advice on the best plan for getting a microphone.
- Discussed having a summer Vicar, though it's probably too late for this year. This would allow Pastor to participate in the education of future pastors. We could adopt a seminary student (either elders or the congregation). Single vs. family could dictate the cost of living and where they could stay, a single guy may easily stay with someone from the congregation for the

summer. The Elders agree sponsoring is a good idea, they will work to get some details gathered to sponsor a student during the fall semester.

- Elders are responsible for filling the candles with oil. We should make sure we keep a somewhat regular schedule of filling them, so there aren't issues with them running out from one month to the next. Perhaps the first week and a middle week of each month to top off.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2021

**Trustees: Nate Gaf;** Mowers are serviced and ready to go.

**Committees:**

**Memorial:**

**Education:**

**Sunday School:**

**Confirmation: Youth Group:**

**LWML:** Soup supper went well. Our next meeting will be March 31 at Bubba Q's.

**Altar Guild:** Ordered Reformation Banners, and are getting some other new banners. The Altar Guild serves snacks the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month between Church and Sunday School, and we hear they are very good.

**Swaddling Clothes:** 10 families have been served. Continue to need volunteers.

**Old Business:**

**Boiler:** We have gotten 3 estimates from 3 different businesses. They are listed below.

Cunningham's of Oskaloosa	\$82,000.00 this is for 2 boilers
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Heldreth of Des Moines	\$45,000.00
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Capital Boiler Works, Des Moines	\$39,700.00
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There was some discussion and we will table this to the next meeting.

**Donation to Derecho Churches:** This has been sent and we have received a Thank You from 1 of the churches which is posted on the bulletin board.

**New Business:** Josh has renewed the Non Profit tax status for the church. Next meeting will be held May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted by; **Mary E. Brown, Church Council Secretary**

## May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
<b>Communion Elder: Chris Matthiesen</b>						<b>1</b> 6:00 p.m. Divine Service
<b>2</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service 10:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Pastor Preus' Sermon on KBIZ 1240 AM and 102.7 FM 3:00-5:00 p.m. Youth Service Event	<b>3</b> IDE Spring Pastors' Conference	<b>4</b> IDE Spring Pastors' Conference	<b>5</b> 6:00-7:45 p.m. Wednesday School 7:15 p.m. Vespers	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:00-12:00 p.m. Swaddling Clothes 6:00 p.m. Divine Service
<b>9</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service 10:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Elders' Meeting 1:00 p.m. Pastor Preus' Sermon on KBIZ 1240 AM and 102.7 FM	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Pastor Preus at Circuit Meeting	<b>12</b> 6:00-7:45 p.m. Wednesday School 7:15 p.m. Vespers	<b>13</b> <b>Ascension Day</b> (Observed Saturday and Sunday)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:00 p.m. Divine Service/Ascension Day (Observed)
<b>16</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service/Ascension Day (Observed) 10:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Examination of Confirmands 1:00 p.m. Pastor Preus' Sermon on KBIZ 1240 AM and 102.7 FM 5:00-7:00 p.m. Youth Fun Night	<b>17</b> 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:00-7:45 p.m. Last Day of Wednesday School 7:15 p.m. Vespers	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 6:00 p.m. Divine Service
<b>23</b> 9:00 a.m. Confirmation/Divine Service/Pentecost 10:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Last Day of Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Pastor Preus' Sermon on KBIZ 1240 AM and 102.7 FM	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:00 p.m. Divine Service
<b>30</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service 10:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Pastor Preus' Sermon on KBIZ 1240 AM and 102.7 FM	<b>31</b>					

