

# TRINITY TRUMPET NEWSLETTER

November 2020

## CONTACT US

### Trinity Lutheran Church

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### Pastor Preus

(641) 814-3292

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### 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/>

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR PREUS

516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; Translator: Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78

Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the  
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with  
3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"  
joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing  
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in  
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?  
truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.  
choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!  
Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,  
No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare  
Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall  
Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."  
To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.  
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Text and tune: Public domain

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The hymn above is our hymn of the month for November. It is known as one of the best Lutheran chorales ever written, even being given the title, King of Lutheran Chorales, with Nicolai's "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright as its Queen. And this hymn is appropriate to sing in November, since November is the close of the church year when we focus on the End Times. The text is based on the Gospel lesson for the Last Sunday in the church year (Matthew 25:1-13) with the five wise virgins and the five foolish virgins. Of course, the five wise virgins had oil in their lamps and were prepared when the bridegroom came in the middle of the night. The five foolish virgins had no oil and were unprepared. The lesson teaches us to stay awake and be prepared for the return of Christ at the end of the ages.

The return of Christ is largely ignored by most people. And those who do ponder this event often look upon it with dread. But the return of Christ is not only something we should ponder in our hearts, but something we should look forward to with great anticipation. Our Lord Jesus comes to us with redemption, to rescue us from this world of sin. Therefore, we should always be prepared, repent of our sins, be attentive to God's Word, receive the Sacrament of the Altar with repentant and thankful hearts, and pray for Jesus to come quickly with healing in his wings as he has long promised.

We should repent. To repent means to turn or to change one's mind. This means that we should be sorry for our sins, turn from them, and look to Christ for forgiveness. This is an activity of the Christian heart every day. This world and its prince the devil seek to destroy our faith and to catch us unawares. And Jesus himself will return at an hour we do not expect. So, we should avoid sinful activity that would destroy our faith in Christ and remember that we are called out of this world.

We should pray for Christ to return with joy and anticipation. We should pray, because God has promised this very thing. And we should do this with joy, because Christ's return is not a terror for us, but a great comfort. He is our Good Shepherd, our Redeemer. He comes not to deal with our sins, but to deal with us in mercy. This world is chaotic. This world is full of sin, pain, disappointment, and death. Yet, Christ Jesus promises to come and rescue us. So, we wait and pray with anticipation and joy, worshipping God now through faith in his Son knowing that we soon will worship with eyes wide open as we see our God and Savior as he is. Amen.

God bless you all and keep you safe. I am happy to visit anyone who would like a pastoral visit and to receive the Sacrament. Please keep each other in your prayers, especially those who are listed in the bulletin as having particular needs. Also, pray for our government and that God would grant us godly leaders, who will defend life and justice, so that we may worship God in peace.

In Christ,

*Pastor Preus*

## **ALTER GUILD, *Kim Ansley***

The Altar Guild met on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Pastor Preus had a devotion and prayer to open the meeting. Those present were Kim Ansley, Gail Bainbridge, Greg and Janice Wetterich and Pastor Preus.

We went over the basic supply needs that are used for the sacraments and our services. Janice volunteered to look for picture frames to refill our supply. Kim reminded everyone that the schedule for setting up communion is on the cupboard door. We are always in need of extra help.

We will be serving refreshments once a month after church and before Sunday School. Our first Sunday to serve will be November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Pastor is organizing a session for reviewing the setting up of communion. It will be held on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> after Sunday School. This will be open to all who are interested and especially the Confirmation students.

We also went over plans for the upcoming Fall and Winter holiday services. Reformation will be observed on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. All Saint's Day will be observed on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. A brief review of the instructions of setting up for the Advent and Christmas services was gone over. We discussed the possibility of replacing some of the Christmas decorations. But until we go through what we have – it was postponed till after this holiday season. A "Save the Date" sheet was reviewed. It will be placed in the bulletin and newsletter in the upcoming weeks and months.

The first Wednesday in Advent – December 2<sup>nd</sup> – we will be hosting a soup supper and decorating the church at 5 pm.

There was a discussion of possible upcoming projects – new paraments, banners or artwork. Kim Ansley will be making a funeral pall for a cremation urn. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

## DECK THE HALLS, *Kim Ansley*

Yes, it's that time of year! The Altar Guild is planning a soup supper and church decorating on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 5 pm. We will start serving soup at 5 pm and keep it hot for those who need to come a bit later. The confirmation kids can eat and help decorate till the start of Confirmation classes at 6 pm. Everyone else can keep decorating till the start of Advent service at 7:15 pm. If you want to bring a favorite treat to share, you are more than welcome to. But there will be plenty of food for all. Come. Enjoy. Start your holiday season with some fellowship.

## LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE, *McKenzie Wetterich*

No report.

**Reminder:** We (LWML) are still collecting mite money and sending it on District. The box is now on the piano by the offering plate in the back of the church. Thank you!

## THE ELDERS, *John Schildmier*

- There was a discussion on getting stands to set cups on for communion.
- Josh Graeve will attend the circuit forum on October 11, 2020.
- Reviewed and generated proposed 2021 budget (below).
- John is to determine which elders are up for re-election this year
- Next meeting to be held November 8th.

Approved 10/27/2019	2020 Budget	Spent as of 8/31/2020	2021 proposed Budget		Change
Altar Guild	\$750.00		750	Altar Guild	\$0.00
Church Electricity	\$5,500.00		\$5,700	Trustees	\$200.00
Church Gas	\$4,000.00		\$4,000	Trustees	\$0.00
Church Maintenance	\$3,000.00		\$3,000	Trustees	\$0.00
Church Missions	\$5,500.00		5500	Council	\$0.00
Church Telephone	\$1,400.00		1400	Elders	\$0.00
Cleaning	\$3,500.00		3500	Trustees	\$0.00
Education Supplies	\$650.00		550	Elders	-\$100.00
Elder's Fund	\$1,000.00		1000	Elders	\$0.00
Employer's Social Security	\$4,500.00		4650	Elders	\$150.00
Evangelism	\$600.00		500	Council	-\$100.00
Guest Pastors	\$600.00		700	Elders	\$100.00
Insurance	\$4,800.00		4950	Trustees	\$150.00
Mileage for Pastor	\$1,160.00		1150	Elders	-\$10.00
Office Supplies	\$3,200.00		2500	Elders	-\$700.00
Organists	\$7,750.00		7750	Elders	\$0.00
Parsonage Electric	\$1,800.00		\$2,500	Trustees	\$700.00
Parsonage Gas	\$1,000.00		\$1,000	Trustees	\$0.00
Parsonage Maintenance	\$400.00		\$450	Trustees	\$50.00

<b>Pastor's Benefits</b>	\$34,200.00		32000	Elders		- \$2,200.00
<b>Pastor's Cell Phone</b>	\$1,000.00		900	Elders		-\$100.00
<b>Pastor's Conferences</b>	\$850.00		850	Elders		\$0.00
<b>Pastor's Salary</b>	\$41,616.12		42864.73	Elders		\$1,248.61
<b>Portals of Prayer</b>	\$250.00		250	Council		\$0.00
<b>Postage</b>	\$200.00		300	Elders		\$100.00
<b>Property Maintenance</b>	\$800.00		800	Trustees		\$0.00
<b>Synodical Assessment</b>	\$75.00		120	Council		\$45.00
<b>Secretary</b>	\$9,102.52		9375.68	Elders		\$273.16
<b>Water &amp; Garbage</b>	\$1,800.00		2000	Trustees		\$200.00
<b>Workman's Compensation</b>	\$600.00		550	Elders		-\$50.00
TOTAL	\$141,603.64		\$141,560.41			\$43.23
Weekly Ave. to make Budget	\$2,723.15		\$2,722.32			

## **THE COUNCIL, *Mary Brown***

October 19, 2020

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

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

**Devotion/ Opening prayer:** Pastor Preus opened the meeting with a reading from 'The Laache Book of Family Prayer'.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mary Brown, the minutes from the September 14, 2020 Council meeting were reviewed. Bill made a motion to accept the minutes, John seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Karen Nitzchke

- The General Fund has a balance of \$24990.06

### **Financial Secretary Report: Bill Ansley**

2020 offerings through September 30, 2020

Budget           \$106,202.80

Offering           \$103,496.18

- \$ 2,706.62

Offering through October 18, 2020

Budget           \$114,372.25

Offering           \$112,042.00

- \$ 2,330.25

Needed each week to make budget \$2,723.15

The Lutheran Extension Fund CD which renewed on October 1st, is now drawing interest at 2.5 percent.

Mary made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented, John 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

### **Pastor's Report: Pastor Preus**

- Services:
  - Divine Services; Saturday 6 PM, Sunday 9 AM
  - Vespers; Wednesdays at 7:15 PM
- Funeral: On October 17, 2020 a Funeral was held for Renee Jones.
- Services continue to be uploaded on YouTube and shared to Facebook. Sermons are being mailed out to several members and posted online in audio and text form. Sermons are also aired every Sunday at 1 PM on KBIZ 102.7 FM and 1240AM.
- Christian Education:
- Sunday School: 10:30 AM for Ages 2yrs. and up. Adult Bible Study is finishing the series, "The Christian Difference" which reviews world religions
- Wednesday School: Grades 3-7th; 6:00 to 7:45 PM.
- Adult/Child Instruction every other Saturday at 5 PM before Divine Service.
- New Testament Greek Class every Monday and Wednesday at 8 AM. Pastor Preus has 2 high school students from the Homeschool Community.
- Iowa District East Pastor's Conference was held October 5-6. This was Pastor Preus ' last year on the Pastor's Conference Committee. He has served 3 years. This year he MC'd and led the Pericope Study for the Historical Lectionary.
- Circuit Forum: Sunday October 11th. Pastor Preus represented our congregation to vote to reelect Rev. Mike Scudder as circuit visitor. The forum took place at Faith Lutheran Church in Mount Pleasant.
- Sunday November 1: Pastor will hold demonstration for the altar guild, elders, confirmation students, and anyone else who is interested on how to set up and take down for Communion.
- Reformation Day will be observed Sunday, October 25th and All Saints Day on Sunday, November 1st.

### **Boards:**

Elder's: John Schildmier *Listed under Elders section of newsletter.*

Trustees: Steve Tanner

- Leaking sink in parsonage upstairs bathroom was replaced.
- Dead tree was removed from the parsonage front yard by John S. and Nate Gaff. (Thank You) Stump will be removed at a later date.
- Repairs have been made to the concrete on the front steps of the parsonage.
- Bill is continuing to work with boiler contractor for some needed repairs/parts replacement—which could be expensive. He then wants the Trustees to take over operations of the boiler . Thanks to Bill for all of his knowledge and diligence on the boiler for several years.
- Will be needing a new compressor for the boiler at the cost of around \$ 1000.
- The church roof has been repaired after the most recent storm/ wind damage.

### **Committees:**

Memorial: no report

Education: see Pastor's report

Sunday School: see Pastor's report

Youth Group: On September 13th, youth night was at 'Music on the Green' at Indian Hills. Sunday, October 25th, Youth Night will be a 'clinic' on learning to play disk golf at Wild Wood Park led by Mr. Bob Kramer.

LWML: No report

Confirmation: No report

Altar Guild: We will be serving refreshments once a month after church and before Sunday School. Our first Sunday will be on November 1st. Also on Nov. 1st, Pastor will be organizing a session for reviewing the setting up of communion. This will be opened to all who are interested and especially the Confirmation students. Planning and preparing for the upcoming Advent/Christmas season. Be on the lookout for the 'Save the Dates' sheet. December 2nd is the first Wednesday in Advent; we will be hosting a Soup supper. And also decorating the church at 5 PM. Kim Ansley will be making a Funeral Pall for a cremation urn. Thank you to the Altar Guild for keeping things clean and reassuring the congregation.

Swaddling Clothes: Doing well. Still in need of Volunteers to help.

### **Old Business:**

- 2021 Budget; Bill made a motion to recommend we approve the 2021 Budget and present it to the congregation. John 2nd the motion. Motion carried.
- CARES ACT funding – Update on Loan forgiveness; This has been extended to February 2021.
- Election of Officers; Nominating committee of Greg Wetterich and Scott Halgren.

**New Business:** Next meeting January 25, 2021

Without objection the meeting was adjourned. Pastor led us in the Lord's Prayer.

### **SWADDLING CLOTHES, *Theresa Preus***

The Swaddling Clothes program has been thriving at Trinity in the past year! We have had a significant increase in families that are visiting us on shopping days and we are overflowing with generous donations. There are THREE ways that we could use more help!

#### **1. Volunteer to help sort clothes**

Fall is just around the corner, and it is time to switch out seasonal clothes -- tuck away the swimsuits and t-shirts and pull out the sweaters and jackets. This is a big job. We also have a lot of donations that need to be sorted. If you are willing to help with this please let me know. We plan to have a volunteer day to tackle this big job, and we need more helpers!

#### **2. Volunteer to help on the shopping day**

We open up our space once a month for three hours to let families get what supplies they need. Lisa Matthiesen and I have been exclusively covering this and we need more help. This program is a great way to help those in need in our community and to show with our actions that we believe in the sanctity of all human life. The pro-life movement has many forms and this is one of them!

#### **3. Diaper donations**

For every family that visits us, we provide them with one small package of diapers and wipes. You can donate any size and any brand of diaper!

Note on donations: Right now we are doing great with clothing donations. If you like to shop garage sales/thrift stores and are thinking about what could be used at Swaddling Clothes I'll give you a few ideas. Big baby items (bouncy seats,

exersaucers, strollers, etc.) that are in good shape are always in need with families. As the cold weather approaches, children's winter coats and boots will also be needed.

Please let me know how you are able to help,

*Theresa Preus*

## **PRAYER REQUEST**

To add someone to the Sunday morning prayers, please call the Church office or speak to Pastor Preus on Sunday.

## **HOSPITAL VISITS**

If you or anyone you know is in the hospital and would like for Pastor to visit please let the office know. If you know the floor and room number that would be very helpful. In case of an emergency call Pastor Preus on his cell phone at (641) 814-3292.

## **LORD'S CUPBOARD**

The item we will be collecting for the month of November is canned vegetables.

## **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

This is a friendly reminder that the deadline for the September Newsletter will be Monday, November 16, 2020. Please e-mail information to McKenzie Wetterich at [kenziewetterich@gmail.com](mailto:kenziewetterich@gmail.com). If you would like to receive an e-mail version of the newsletter, just call the church office or email Linda at [trinitysecr@centurylink.net](mailto:trinitysecr@centurylink.net) with your e-mail address.



## Save The Dates!

With the end of the church year and the upcoming holidays, the Altar Guild wanted to make it easy for everyone to remember the dates and times of the upcoming special services/events. ***Save this list*** – post it on your refrigerator or bulletin board or someplace special. We would love to see all of you this coming holiday season.

Thanksgiving Divine worship: Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Decorate church & Soup Supper: Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5 pm

Advent Vespers: Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:15 pm

Advent Vespers: Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 pm

Children's Christmas Program: Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

Advent Vespers: Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 pm

Christmas Eve – Thursday, the 24<sup>th</sup>: Divine worship at 7 pm

Christmas Day – Friday, the 25<sup>th</sup>: Divine worship at 9 am

Epiphany Divine worship: Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

Un-decorating church: Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service/All Saints Day 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 11:30 s.m. Elder's Meeting 1:00 p.m. Pastor Preus' Sermon on KBIZ 1240 AM and 102.7 FM	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 6:00 p.m. Divine Service
<b>8</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 11:30 s.m. Elder's Meeting 1:00 p.m. Pastor Preus' Sermon on KBIZ 1240 AM and 102.7 FM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Pastor Preus at Circuit Meeting	<b>11</b> 6:00-7:45 p.m. Wednesday School 7:15 p.m. Vespers	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:00-12:00 p.m. Swaddling Clothes 6:00 p.m. Divine Service
<b>15</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 11:30 s.m. Elder's Meeting 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>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:00-7:45 p.m. Wednesday School 7:15 p.m. Vespers	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:00 p.m. Divine Service
<b>22</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Pastor Preus' Sermon on KBIZ 1240 AM and 102.7 FM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> No Wednesday School No Vespers 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Divine Service	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:00 p.m. Divine Service
<b>29</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Pastor Preus' Sermon on KBIZ 1240 AM and 102.7 FM	<b>30</b>					

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