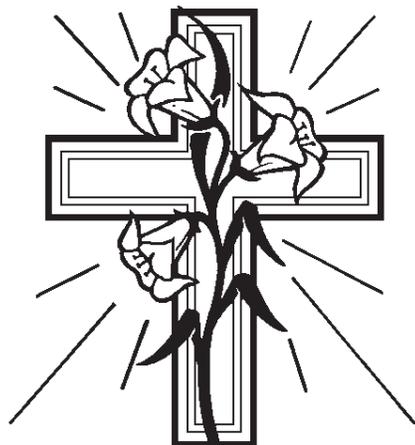


Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas

2016



Pastor's Easter Message

When I was still a seminary student and serving my vicarage internship year in New Jersey, there was a particularly hard winter and late spring thaw. The church where I was serving had repaved their parking lot the previous summer, and accidentally paved over part of a flower bed. Shortly before Easter, with icy snow still covering the ground, the flowers which had been planted in that bed came bursting up again.

It was quite a sight to see these bright spring flowers, scattered like beautiful jewels amidst the sparkling snow. Even more amazing was that they came up not only through six or more inches of snow and ice, they first penetrated at least that much frozen earth and hard black asphalt.

The traditional Easter lily and other spring flowers are a very meaningful symbol for the real significance of Easter. Just as these dormant plants break through the ground in glorious bloom, Jesus Christ rose from the tomb on Easter morn, and all who die in Christ will also rise on the Last Day to eternal life.

You probably have, and sometime in the future will once again, watch as a dear loved one's body is lowered into a grave. The lifeless body that we lay to rest is like a dormant seed, planted in the ground. The Easter lily and other spring flowers are a symbol not only of Christ's resurrection but of your hope that you and your loved ones who are asleep in Jesus will rise with him to eternal life. As the Apostle Paul says in 2 Corinthians 4:14, "We know that He who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus."

Spring Promise

Tender buds on shrub and tree

Boast of Spring's bright victory

Dormant seeds beneath earth's floor

Leap from darkness through life's door

The world has changed its winter scene

To fertile fields with glint of green,

Blossoms burst to meet the sun—

The glad awakening has begun!

Somewhere beneath Death's winter sleep

Mortals too will wake from the deep—

For Christ arose that He would bring

His promise of eternal spring!

Iris W. Bray

As you mourn departed loved ones, or contemplate your own death, take comfort in the Lord's promise, as we confess in the Creeds, of "the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting," looking forward in faith and hope to "the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come."

Pastor Kevin Vogts



Spaghetti Luncheon April 10

Everyone is invited to enjoy a Spaghetti Luncheon hosted by the Trinity Youth, immediately following worship on Sunday, April 10. Freewill donations will go toward attending the 2016 LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this July.

Come for worship—stay for the good food and fellowship!

Shelter House Bluegrass Jam April 17



Bring your lawn chairs and prepare to enjoy some good homespun bluegrass and country music at the Trinity Shelter House on Sunday, April 17 from 2:00pm to 5:00pm.

There will be plenty of amateur talent to enjoy. If you know of someone who wants to sit in and jam with the musicians bring them along. All skill levels are urged to participate! For more information contact Mike England (913-731-4825).



Voters Assembly & Church Council

The quarterly meeting of the Voters Assembly will be held following worship on Sunday, April 17. In order to prepare for this meeting the Church Council will meet on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00pm.

**Printed
Copies of
Sermons
Now
Available**



In addition to being on the church web site, printed copies of the current day's sermon and several previous sermons will now be available each week in a new small literature rack in the back of the church.

Trinity Tribune

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April, 2016*



Guest Minister April 24

Pastor and Terry Vogts will be attending parent's weekend in Ames, Iowa with a concert by their son Jacob and the Iowa Statesmen men's chorus the weekend of April 23-24. Our guest minister on April 24 will be Rev. Paul Helmer, a retired pastor from Gardner. (Pastor Roger Schepmann is currently serving a vacancy at Zion, Vassar and is unavailable.)

During Pastor Vogts' absence that weekend you may contact him on his cell phone (913-594-9864) or at the parsonage number (913-849-3711) which will be forwarded to his cell phone.



Sermon Topics for April

These are the sermon topics for April. Pastor Vogts' sermons are available in both written and audio format on our website at www.trinitylcms.org.

April 3

*"Are You a Doubting Thomas?"
John 20:19-31*

April 10

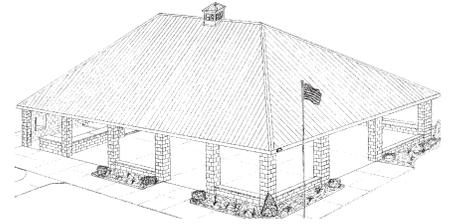
*"Peter's Three-Peat Repeat
John 21:1-19*

April 17

*"Our Good Shepherd"
John 10:22-30*

April 24

*Rev. Paul Helmer
Guest Minister*



Shelter House Online Reservations

We now have an online reservation system for the Trinity Lutheran School Memorial Shelter House. It automatically shows which dates and times are open up to two years in advance, and it is easy to make your reservations online.

Go to our church web site at www.trinitylcms.org/shelter. You will also find there the rules for Shelter House usage. If you do not have access to a computer to make your reservation, you can simply call or speak to Pastor Vogts and he will gladly make the reservation for you.



Check out Trinity's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranblock. You are invited to post information about events, comments, photos, etc. Stop by and give us a look—and a "like"!



Our thanks to everyone who helped make our Lenten suppers a big—and delicious—success! Groups hosting dinners this year were Trinity Youth, Twin Valley 4-H, Generations, and Blocktoberfest Committee.



Confirmation Sunday May 1

Confirmation and First Communion will be held on Sunday, May 1, with the public examination on Friday, April 29 at 7:00pm. This year's confirmands are Lance Elliott, Karlie McMullin, and Olivia Mitchell.



Our records of birthdays and anniversaries may not complete. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the Church Office at 849-3344 or email Church Secretary Stacey Elkinton at blocktcl@midwest-connections.com.

- April 1 Lori Schlegel
- April 1 Elaine Stewart
- April 3 Brigitte Rodewald
- April 4 Joy Hinds
- April 4 Kristina Jenkins
- April 5 Shamron Ferrell
- April 5 Tyler Hieber
- April 5 Wesley Medlen
- April 5 Joe Mueller
- April 6 Kelsey Debrick
- April 6 Dennis Johns
- April 6 Bill Koelsch
- April 8 Leslie Prothe
- April 8 Ella Durham
- April 9 Emma Haley
- April 10 Karlie McMullin
- April 11 James Fanning
- April 13 Suzanne Peckman
- April 14 Matt Oberheide
- April 14 Venita Prothe
- April 14 Layla Schlegel
- April 14 Dana Simonson
- April 15 Lois Holtz
- April 16 Erika Hall
- April 17 Gavin Kaiser
- April 17 Kevin Vogts
- April 18 Melissa Richardson
- April 19 Katie Taylor
- April 20 Loren Herrs



Thank you to all those who donated so many lovely lilies to beautify our sanctuary for Easter! Special thanks to Barb Dillenbeck for the lovely arrangement of the Lily Cross and Easter flowers.

Our thanks also to Slina Prothe, Linda Prothe, Barb Herrs, and Terry Vogts for the beautiful new Easter banners! Materials were supplied with memorial funds from Leland Prothe's mother Irene and the banners are given in her memory.

(Photo by Clint Haley)



Given By

In Memory or Honor Of

- Kevin & Denise Debrick (2) Lorene Debrick
Billee Lee
- Nina Gerken & Gayle Plummer Leland Gerken
- Mike & Linda Giager (3) Alvin Koopman, Orval & Homer Holtz
- Jacob & Allyssa Henry (3) Paul & Irene Prothe
Bob Prothe, Richard Prothe
- Dan, Cathy, Lyle, & Justin Hieber (2) Lorene Medlen
- Arlin, Venita & Aaron Prothe, Vivian Wilson LaVern Wilson
- Gladys, Jim & Sharon Prothe & Family (3) Bob Prothe, Nada Thoden
& Grandma Myrtle
- Linda Prothe
- Doris Rodewald Herman Rodewald
- Phyllis Tricket Damon & Ione Prothe
- Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts (2) Leroy & Ruth Vogts, Grandparents,
Great-Great Grandmother Katherina Windler

- April 21 Ashley Debrick
- April 22 Chloe Maisch
- April 22 Lori Richardson
- April 22 Nicholas Minden
- April 23 Eric Ritch
- April 24 Bridget Medlin
- April 26 John Gerken
- April 26 Austin Reyelts
- April 26 Tyler Reyelts
- April 29 Krista Kettler Munzer
- April 29 Abigail Koelsch

- April 30 Ellen Pinneo
- April 3 Mark & Cathy Tesar (27)
- April 5 George & Pam Holtz (26)
- April 5 ... Burl & Shemene Peckman (30)
- April 13 ... Alan & Jeanne Hutchison (25)
- April 20 .. Max & Jennifer Boydston (31)
- April 25 ... Harold & Ann Peckman (68)
- April 26 Dan & Cathy Hieber (29)
- April 26 Kenny & Vera Kaiser (71)
- April 26 Keith & Laura Prothe (36)
- April 27 Kevin & Marla Prothe (25)
- April 28 Chris & Denna Jones (15)



Each month we remember in prayer in our worship services—and you are encouraged to remember in your personal prayers—specific missionaries around the world who are supported by our congregation through our mission offerings to our Synod.

April 3

Rev. Peter Kirby
Turkey

(See Story Below)

April 10

Benjamin Helge
Czech Republic

April 17

Rev. Adam & Melanie Sorenson
Ethiopia

April 24

Rev. Brian & Amanda Gauthier
Panama



Lutheran Outreach Begins in Turkey

Lutheran Hour Ministries has recently begun work in the Republic of Turkey, reaching out in new ways in a land that first heard the Gospel during the time of Paul and was the setting for many events and epistles of the New Testament.

Situated north of Syria and Iraq and east of Greece and Bulgaria, Turkey is

part of western Asia but has close ties to both Europe and the Middle East. In the first century, the apostle Paul took the Gospel to the region, which was then called Asia, or Asia Minor. In the fourth century, one of its cities, Byzantium, was dubbed the capital of the Roman Empire by the Christian emperor Constantine. In the fifteenth century, the country was annexed by the Islamic Ottoman Empire.

Today, although Islam is one of the dominant influences in Turkish culture, the country's society also reflects a strong tradition of secularism that was born when the republic was established in the early 20th century. While 99.8 percent of Turkey's 80 million people are registered as Muslims, just 10 to 15 percent actively practice Islam. An estimated 70 to 80 percent of Turkey's people are secular, non-religious.

"Some have characterized Turkey as the world's largest unreached people group," says Rev. Peter Kirby, LHM Area Director for Europe and Central Asia—"and now is a very good time to expand outreach in Turkey, because in addition to its large unreached population, there seems to be a spiritual craving there that will help set the stage for spiritual success."

Current conditions offer the prospect for getting a good foothold early on, says Kirby. "The SAT-7 Turk satellite network and two radio networks have expressed a willingness to work with us in creating Turkish-language programming. Also, the publisher of a Christian thought magazine called *Miras* (Heritage) has presented the possibility of partnering to educate Turks about the country's Christian roots. Finally, Lutheran congregations in Turkey's three largest cities could be a great help in promoting LHM materials and connecting the ministry to people in communities.

"One key to a strong start," Kirby says, "will be finding local staff that can catch a vision for what we are trying to do. We have contracted with a member of our team in Kazakhstan to spend a year recruiting and developing a work group and helping us get up and running.

"It's reasonable to anticipate some resistance," Kirby cautions. "For example, public witness is discouraged. But considering everything we've seen, along with the power and love of our God, we're optimistic—and excited—about this new opportunity."

Watch for more exciting news about Gospel outreach in Turkey, and pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance and for the safety of believers who share the Good News wherever people need desperately to hear it.



Nursing Home Services April 17

You are invited to help Trinity provide brief worship services for nursing home residents at North Point and Medical Lodge on April 17. The simple services are approximately 20 minutes in length at each home. We begin at 1:30pm at North Point and then go to Medical Lodge for the second service.

The residents really enjoy these services, especially singing their favorite hymns. It's great to have church members there to greet the residents and sing along. We have a faithful few members who help but we could use your help too!

Our other nursing home services scheduled for 2016 are:

- ✘ May 22—Country Club Estates and Vintage Park
- ✘ June 19—North Point and Medical Lodge
- ✘ July 24—Country Club Estates and Vintage Park
- ✘ August 28—North Point and Medical Lodge
- ✘ October 2—Country Club Estates and Vintage Park
- ✘ November 6—North Point and Medical Lodge
- ✘ December 11—North Point and Medical Lodge



In Finland New Hymnals for Easter

As we joyfully sang “Jesus Christ Is Ris’n Today” on Easter, our voices joined Lutheran brothers and sisters in Finland, who were worshipping using new hymnals provided by the Lutheran Heritage Foundation.

An LHF representative preached at Trinity and gave a presentation about their work for our Mission Sunday last fall, and the Trinity Foundation gave LHF a generous contribution on behalf of the congregation.

“We need three books on the way to Heaven,” said Rev. Juhana Pohjola, dean of the Evangelical Lutheran Mission Diocese of Finland (ELMDF). “The Bible, the Catechism and a hymnal. The Biblical message and doctrinal content is expressed in hymns and liturgies. If you really want to know what a church actually teaches, sing their hymns and go through their prayers. The hymnal is the heartbeat of the Church!”

Though Finland has been officially Lutheran since the Reformation, and at one time was a very devout, conservative, Bible-believing nation, the state sponsored Lutheran denomination in Finland has become so compromised with liberalism to the point of persecuting those who faithfully hold to the teachings of the Lutheran Church. Thus, the ELMDF was formed as a refuge for those fleeing the false teachings of the state church.

“Since the official church [in Finland] has had a bad case of liberal influence [especially regarding women’s ordination and homosexuality], many good existing

hymns were being diluted in their spiritual content,” said Rev. Risto Soramies, bishop of the ELMDF. “Our hymnal was a conscious effort to gather new good hymns . . . rescue some old, classical ones and translate or even retranslate good hymns from different languages.”

Lutheran Hymns was nine years in the making. In addition to 199 hymns new to Finnish Lutherans (including “Jesus Christ Is Ris’n Today”), the hymnal includes 150 Psalms, litanies, a large prayer section, orders for confession and absolution, and more.

“All our 32 congregations and five preaching stations are using this hymnal; it has been very well received,” said Rev. Pohjola. “It has been delightful to hear that so many are using the material at family devotions as well.”

To further unite ELMDF’s congregations with one another and with the Church of believers everywhere, Bishop Soramies believes common hymnody and liturgies are essential.

“Divine Service is something that is not our creation or invention,” Bishop Soramies said. “From the very early beginnings of the Church, God’s people have participated in all its riches. We do not think that we are wiser than Christian generations before us. Liturgy is the language of the Church that all generations can understand.”

Rev. Pohjola agrees. “These hymns make it concrete that we have the same faith and same hope that our fathers and mothers have had in past generations. We rejoice with the same hymns of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!”



As they take a break for the summer—except for Confirmation Sunday—our thanks to all the choir members and accompanist Becky Stuzman for their faithful service and beautiful contributions to our worship!



Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship during 2016? Beginning in May, all Sundays for the rest of the year are still open. Consider signing up for special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries. The sign-up sheet is on the table with the snacks. Our Generations group has generously agreed to provide and prepare the coffee and juice each week, so those signing up are only asked to provide some treat. Thanks to all those providing snacks for Coffee Hour!

April 3
Linda Prothe

April 10
Schlegals

April 17
Cate Minden

April 24
Phyllis Trickett



What is the meaning of love? What are the four kinds of love found in the Bible? How does God want you to show love toward Him and toward others? Come learn the answers to these questions and more in Adult Bible Class as we study, *The Epistles of Love—1st, 2nd & 3rd John*.

John is often called the “Apostle of Love” because the word “love” occurs in his writings over 100 times—more than any other books of the Bible.

Join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Overflow as we learn about love from the Author of love with our study of *The Epistles of Love—1st, 2nd & 3rd John*.



"I'm ready for the Easter Egg Hunt."

Our thanks to Twin Valley 4-H for again sponsoring the annual Easter Egg Hunt at our church on March 26. Because of the rain it had to be held indoors, but there was still a great turnout, everyone pitched in and made the best of it, and the kids had a wonderful time! Thanks to Michelle Haley, Pam Peckman, and Anna Vogts for the pictures. More pictures are in the Photo Gallery on our church web site at www.trinitylcms.org/photos.