

Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✦ Paola, Kansas



The Gospels record that Jesus ruined every funeral He ever attended. He stopped the funeral procession at Nain, and to the man in the coffin proclaimed, "Young man, I say to you, arise' . . . And the dead man sat up and began to speak" (Luke 7:11-17). At the funeral of Jairus' daughter, He interrupted the mourners who were wailing and crying, and proclaimed to her, "Little girl, I say to you, arise' . . . And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about" (Mark 5:35-43).

He arrived four days late for the funeral of His close friend Lazarus. But, then He announced, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, even though he dies, yet shall he live," and He stood in front of the tomb and called, "Lazarus, come out! . . . And the dead man came out." (John 11:17-45).

At Easter, we actually celebrate Jesus ruining His *own* funeral, by not even showing up! "Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, the women were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, 'Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?' But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were afraid. 'Do not be afraid,' he said. 'You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here'" (Mark 16:2-6).

"Because I live," Jesus says, "you also will live" (John 14:19). Just as Jesus raised from the dead the young man at Nain, Jairus' daughter, and Lazarus, just as He rose on Easter morn, He promises you, "My Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:40).

You are invited to commemorate the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord at our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services on April 13 and 14 at 7:00pm, and at our Easter Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday, April 16 at 7:00am. Easter Breakfast will be served in our basement Fellowship Hall following the Sunrise Service. A second Easter service will be held at the regular time of 10:00am. The order of worship at these two Easter services will be different, but with the same sermon, and both will include several hymns sung responsively with the choir and Holy Communion.

Pastor Kevin Vogts



We have again arranged for Easter Lilies to be ordered through the Church Office from Price Chopper, for \$8 each. Sign up on the counter in the church office indicating that you wish to have these plants purchased for you, and put your payment in the offering plate marked "Easter Lilies."

The deadline to sign up for ordering through the Church Office is Palm Sunday, April 9. You are also *welcome* to bring your own plants, if you wish to purchase them elsewhere or receive them as gifts. Please still sign up on the list

indicating that you will provide your own plants and drop them by the church the week before Easter Sunday. When you sign up, please indicate whom your plants are in memory or honor of, the way you want it printed in the newsletter.



*2017 Lent Vespers
Wednesdays – 7:00pm
Lenten Suppers Before Services*

Sunday, April 2
"I Will Fear No Evil"

April 5 – Lent Service VI
*"Thy Rod and Thy Staff
They Comfort Me"*

April 13 – Maundy Thursday
*"Thou Preparest a
Table Before Me"*

April 14 – Good Friday
*"And I Will Dwell
in the House of
the Lord Forever"*



Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, April 9. A special service of Holy Communion commemorating the Last Supper will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 13, at 7:00pm. Pastor Vogts' message will be "Thou Preparent a Table Before Me" based on Psalm 23:5.



Twin Valley 4-H is sponsoring the annual Easter Egg Hunt, on Saturday, April 15 (day before Easter), at 10:00am on the church grounds. All children are invited to enjoy the Easter Egg Hunt and additional fun activities!

Trinity Tribune

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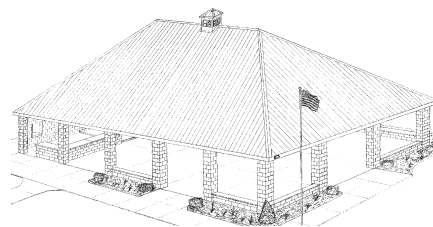
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April, 2017



On Good Friday, April 14, at 7:00pm we will have a traditional Tenebrae Service. "Tenebrae" (TEN-uh-bray) is the Latin word for "darkness" or "shadows." The Tenebrae Service is marked by a gradual extinguishing of candles and other lights, symbolizing the death of our Lord, interspersed with readings, prayers, hymns, and other musical selections related to His Passion. Our Tenebrae Service will feature seven candles, gradually extinguished as we read Christ's seven last words from the cross.

Pastor Vogts' message will conclude our sermon series "A Lenten Look at Psalm 23," with the theme "And I Will Dwell in the House of the Lord Forever" based on Psalm 23:6.

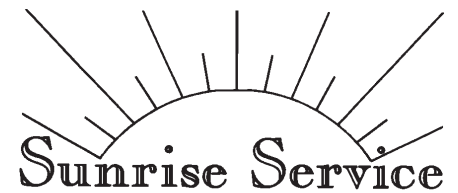
Bring your family to meditate upon our Savior's sacrifice for your salvation.



Shelter House Online Reservations

As we approach the summer months, remember that 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.



You are invited to an Easter Sunrise Service at Trinity on Easter Sunday, April 16 at 7:00am. This simple service will feature the Easter story and favorite Easter hymns.

A second Easter Service will be held at the regular time of 10:00am. The order of worship for the services will be different, but both services will feature several hymns sung responsively with the choir, Holy Communion, and the same Easter message by Pastor Vogts, "The Empty Tomb" based on Mark 16:1-8.

Easter is one of the most moving and meaningful worship opportunities of the year. Bring your family and holiday guests to celebrate the real significance of Easter.



Our thanks to the Generations group for serving a light Easter Breakfast in our basement Fellowship Hall between our services on Easter Sunday, April 16, beginning right after the Sunrise Service. All are invited to enjoy the food and fellowship!

**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 2
"I Will Fear No Evil"
Psalm 23:4

April 5 (Lent Service VI)
"Thy Rod and Thy Staff
They Comfort Me"
Psalm 23:4

April 9 (Palm Sunday)
"Behold, Your King Comes to You"
Zechariah 9:9

April 13 (Maundy Thursday)
"Thou Preparest a Table Before Me"
Psalm 23:5

April 14 (Good Friday)
"And I Will Dwell in the
House of the Lord Forever"
Psalm 23:6

April 16 (Easter Sunday)
"The Empty Tomb"
Mark 16:1-8

April 23
"Jesus Came Among Them"
John 20:19-31

April 30
"On the Road to Emmaus"
Luke 24:13-35



**Confirmation
Sunday
May 21**

Confirmation and First Communion will be held on Sunday, May 21, with the public examination on Friday, April 19 at 7:00pm. This year's confirmands are Luke Elkinton and Evan Kettler.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15, 10:00am
On Church Grounds
Sponsored by Twin Valley 4-H
All Children Invited!



Sunrise Service

Easter Sunday, April 16, 7:00am
Second Easter Service at 10:00am
Both Services Include Holy Communion
and Same Easter Message

Easter Breakfast

Easter Sunday, April 16
8:00am
Sponsored by Generations



All Invited — Everyone Welcome!



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 trinitylutheranblock@gmail.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 Rev. Kevin Vogts
- April 18 Melissa Richardson
- April 19 Katie Taylor
- April 20 Loren Herrs
- 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 Abigail Koelsch
 April 29 Erin Meyer
 April 29 Krista Kettler Munzer
 April 30 Ellen Pinneo
 April 3 Mark & Cathy Tesar (28)
 April 5 George & Pam Holtz (27)
 April 5 ... Burl & Shemene Peckman (31)
 April 13 Alan & Jeanne Hutchison (26)
 April 20 ... Max & Jennifer Boydston (32)
 April 25 ... Harold & Ann Peckman (69)
 April 26 Dan & Cathy Hieber (30)
 April 26 Kenny & Vera Kaiser (72)
 April 26 Keith & Laura Prothe (37)
 April 27 Kevin & Marla Prothe (26)
 April 28 Chris & Denna Jones (16)



Nursing Home Services April 9

You are invited to help Trinity provide brief worship services for nursing home residents at North Point and Medical Lodge on Sunday, April 9. 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!



Adult Bible Class

Our current study in Adult Bible Class is *The Lessons of the Lord*. In this study we are looking at the weekly Scripture readings used in our worship, including how this system developed, how the readings are selected, and a study of that Sunday's readings.

Everyone is invited to "start the New Year right" by joining in Adult Bible Class on Sundays at 9:00am in the Overflow to learn more about *The Lessons of the Lord* and how these selections from God's Word can bless you on your weekly walk with God!



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



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.



After Church Snacks

Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship? Beginning in May, most 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!



Voters Assembly & Church Council

The quarterly meeting of the Voters Assembly will be held following worship on Sunday, April 23. In order to prepare for this meeting the Church Council will meet on Tuesday, April 18 at 7:00pm

April 2

Rev. Duane & Elizabeth Meissner
Belize (See Story Page 6)

April 9

Rev. Matthew & Heather Ruesch
Puerto Rico

April 16

Deaconess Rachel Jaseph
Latin America

April 23

Rev. Daniel & Kathy Conrad
Mexico

April 30

Levi Karth
Peru

April 2

Jan Minden

April 9

Kathy & Emma Haley

April 16

Easter Breakfast

April 23

Schlegel Family

April 30

Meyer Family

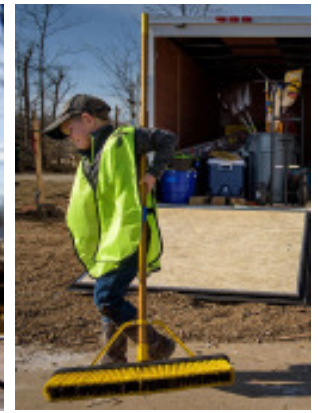


Twelve were present on March 12 to discuss upcoming event planning and shelter house grounds improvements. This year's Blocktoberfest is Saturday, September 16 from noon to 6:00pm.

We talked at length about the proposed sidewalks and parking space concrete. Paul got three bids from local contractors to compare options. We agreed to extending the sidewalk around the east side to the north side ending at the west end of the existing concrete stoop. We will have them pour two 4' x 5' pads to set the Bob Prothe benches on. Three parking spaces 10' x 18' will be added south of the existing concrete parking space for additional handicap friendly parking. Instead of a short sidewalk between the existing handicapped parking slab and the building, we decided to add an "unloading area" slab in front of the flag pole area for cars to drop off elderly visitors. This will connect the existing concrete parking space to the sidewalk. Wes Servos of Fontana was the successful bidder for the work. Hopefully the work will be finished before Easter.

In past years the kids, and those under 21, did not get a wristband when entering the Blocktoberfest event. Some kids have requested a wristband like Mom and Dad. So, this year we will hand out stickers to those under 21. If they don't want one we will put it in a jar so we can get a more accurate count on those attending. We also talked about a Blocktoberfest stamp for kids. Betty will get with Michelle to see what is available.

We decided not to order a Blocktoberfest flag. Our banners and the Christian flag are sufficient.



Volunteers from LCMS Disaster Response helped with cleanup and erected a small cross at a destroyed home on March 4 in Perryville, Missouri, which was hit by an EF4 tornado. Though LCMS Disaster Response helps people in need all across the country and around the world of all denominations—or none—in this case the aid extended was very close to "home" for the LCMS. Perryville was one of the original settlements in 1839 of the Saxon Lutheran immigrants who in 1847 formed the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, which by 1868 had reached into Kansas and the new German settlement at Block, where Trinity became one of the first LCMS churches in Kansas. Historic Immanuel Lutheran Church in Perryville was undamaged, but the homes of seven Immanuel families were a total loss. Immanuel member Amy Huber, who survived with her family in their basement, commented, "I would have never guessed that when we came upstairs we'd have no walls left in our house."

Greg is again planning on something new for crowd participation and German education during the day of Blocktoberfest. He has done a really good job the past two years teaching us all something about the German culture.

We received a check from the Trinity Youth for \$1,500 in January from their food sales and a nice thank you card. We don't know what we would do if we didn't have such wonderful young people volunteering their time and energy to help make our event a success. Thank you Trinity and First Lutheran Youth!

Susan asked us if we wanted anything changed on the food offerings. We all agreed they are doing a wonderful job, and not to change anything unless they wanted to. She said the bottle neck is always the pay station and they are trying to come up with a better way to get that done.

We discussed the upcoming Lenten supper we are serving on April 5. Linda will again head up the baking of the bierocks. We may not have brats – only hot dogs this year. We will have potato salad, green beans, chips, and desserts.

We encouraged everyone to think about applying for the Thrivent cards this year. Everyone who is a Thrivent member is allowing two \$250 money cards to be used for services and volunteering in our church and community. We like to use them for Blocktoberfest event help. But, they are great for many other uses like education, community service, and improvement projects – as long as there are volunteers involved. Ask Paul, Greg, Karen, or Gladys if you need help applying for one.

Rolland asked if we want a WELCOME sign where the event goes enter the grounds by the parking lot. We agreed it would be helpful and for him to look into it.

We will again meet sometime in May or early June. Thanks to everyone who attended our meeting.





New Pictures

You may notice two new pictures in the church. By the front door is a reproduction of an oil painting, pictured above, of Trinity's old church (1884-1959). The original painting was owned by the late Vivian Wilson, and before her passing she let it be scanned for this copy. The cost for producing and framing it was covered by the Memorial Fund.

Also, in the Overflow area is an original sketch created by Don Gaffney. Thank you to Don and Ruth for this lovely addition to beautify our church!



Shining the Pure Light of the Gospel in Belize

"Hello, Pastor!" people call out cheerfully, as Rev. Duane Meissner walks down the sandy streets of Seine Bight, a coastal village in Belize. Since arriving

in June, 2016, Meissner has become a common sight in the village, where he eats in the restaurants and stops to chat with residents on their porches. But this isn't a tropical vacation for Meissner; he is a man on a mission. As The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's first missionary to the Central American country, he has been tasked with planting the first Lutheran churches in Belize.

"At first, everyone just assumed that I was a tourist," he said. "But very few tourists come back to Seine Bight a second time. So by the second week, they realized I was someone a little different." Many tourists only experience the country's private islands and glittering resorts, but Meissner knows a much different Belize.

In Seine Bight, most of the village's 1,000 residents still live in wooden stilt houses with metal roofs. Historically, the residents have been Garifuna—descendants of Carib Indians and Africans—although the village has recently become home to a growing Hispanic population as well. Residents continue to grapple with the effects of poverty and substance abuse, even as expensive resorts spring up on either side to accommodate the growing number of tourists who flock to nearby Maya Beach and Placencia.

Meissner said there is a lack of solid Christian teaching in the area, since most local pastors have very little, if any, formal education. Sometimes what other groups have taught has actually been harmful. That's why his work is so vital. "It's important for there to be a pure light in their midst and the proclamation of the Word of God—a ministry that's there to stay, that ministers to the people's souls and also to their bodies," he said.

In 2015 the LCMS Office of International Mission called Meissner to Latin America, where he is building on the work of the Belize Mission Society, an LCMS organization that has been sending mission teams from LCMS congregations to the village since 2003.

Meissner's ministry is extremely personal. Each day as he walks through the village, he has a list of people to visit.



Rev. Duane Meissner, LCMS missionary in Belize, prays and shares the word of God with Lovina, a double amputee confined to her home.

Among his regulars are a woman whose teenage son is suffering from a severe but undiagnosed medical condition, a double amputee who is confined to her rickety home, and an older woman who lives alone. During a home visit, he may provide a devotion, lead a prayer, answer questions about Lutheranism or just sit and chat, as the individual desires. He also learns all he can about the village, its history and the needs its residents see.

One sunny day in late September, resident Ina Martinez questioned him about Lutheranism as the two ate ice cream on her porch and discussed some of the differences between the established churches in the area. "I like his company. I like the way he talks to me. I understand what he's talking about," Martinez said. "That's why I am going to go to the Lutheran church, because I find somebody there that I care for and understand."

Spaghetti Dinner & Easter Program

April 30



Everyone is invited to enjoy a Spaghetti Dinner hosted by the Trinity Youth, immediately following worship on Sunday, April 30. Freewill donations will go toward youth activities.

Following the dinner the Sunday School will present an Easter program. Come for worship—stay for the good food and fellowship!