

Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✦ Paola, Kansas



Thou Shalt Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother

Do you know what are the three most widely celebrated holidays in the world? First is Christmas, when we remember how God became man to be our Savior; second is Easter, when we remember how our Savior Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay for our sins, and rose from the dead to bring us eternal life; and third is Mother's Day. The amazing thing about that is, we've been celebrating Christmas and Easter for some 2,000 years, but Mother's Day has been around for less than a century.

The first Mother's Day church service was held in Grafton, West Virginia on May 10, 1908. It was organized by Miss Anna M. Jarvis, often called the founder of Mother's Day. The idea actually came from her own mother, Mrs. Anna R. Jarvis. Mrs. Jarvis often said she wished someone should start a special day to honor the contributions of mothers.

After Mrs. Jarvis' death in 1905, her daughter, Miss Jarvis, began a nationwide campaign to see her mother's wish fulfilled. Miss Jarvis wrote letters, traveled the country making speeches, and spent the family fortune, all to promote the idea of Mother's Day.

In 1914, the wish of Mrs. Jarvis and the campaigning of Miss Jarvis were fulfilled when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday in May as an official national holiday honoring mothers. The second Sunday in May was selected for this new holiday because it was closest to the date of death of Miss Jarvis' own mother. And so was created the third most celebrated holiday in the world: Mother's Day.

It is really very fitting that this new holiday has already attained the kind of status we give to Christmas and Easter. For in a way, Mother's Day also is a Christian holiday. The Lord commands, "Thou shalt honor thy father and thy mother, that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth." As Martin Luther says in his explanation to this commandment, "We should fear and love God that we may not despise our parents and master, nor provoke them to anger, but give them honor, serve and obey them, and hold them in love and esteem."



The idea of Mother's Day was conceived by Mrs. Anna R. Jarvis (left). In her memory her daughter Miss Anna M. Jarvis (right) dedicated her life to making Mother's Day a national holiday.

One of the many things Miss Jarvis did to promote Mother's Day was to stand on streetcorners passing out red and white carnations. Miss Jarvis wanted the carnation to become the symbol of Mother's Day. She asked people to wear a carnation—red, if your mother is living; white, if your mother is deceased. "Honor Your Mother;" and if your mother has gone to heaven, honor her memory. "Honor Your Mother" and give thanks to God for her.

It is God who gave us our mothers, and it is God's will that you "Honor Your Mother." Remember that our Lord Jesus Christ, even as he hung dying on the cross, remembered his mother, Mary, committing her to the care of a beloved disciple. Children, like our Lord, "Honor Your Mother," by obeying her, helping her, and showing her respect and love.

Husbands and fathers, it is God who gave you the mother of your children. You will best honor her simply by being true to your wedding vows: "To have and to hold from this day forward; for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer; in sickness and in health; to love and to cherish; til death do us part." Show her affection and love, as St. Paul says in Ephesians, "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the Church and gave himself up for her."

At the first Mother's Day service in 1908, Miss Jarvis explained the four purposes of Mother's Day:

- 1) To honor our mothers;
- 2) To bring families together;
- 3) To make us better children;
- 4) To brighten the lives of good mothers.

This Mother's Day, and throughout the year, "Honor Your Mother."

Pastor Kevin Vogts

Sermon Topics for May



These are the sermon topics for May. Sermons by Pastor Vogts are available in both printed and audio form on our church web site, www.trinitylcms.org/sermons, as podcasts under "Kevin Vogts" in the iTunes store, online at www.kevinvogts.podbean.com, or at www.kevinvogts.podbean.com/mobile for mobile devices. Printed copies of the current Sunday's message and those from the past several weeks are also available in a small literature rack in back of the church.

May 7

"They Devoted Themselves"
Acts 2:42

May 14 (Mother's Day)

"The Most Important Job in the World"
Proverbs 22:6

May 21 (Confirmation Day)

"Set Your Heart Apart"
1 Peter 3:15

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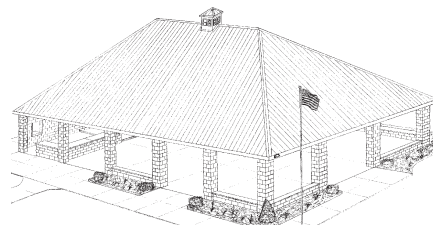
May 28
"God's Right Hand Man"
Ephesians 1:20-22



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.

"Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses" (1 Timothy 6:12).



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 make the reservation for you.

Spaghetti Dinner & Easter Program May 7



Everyone is invited to enjoy a Spaghetti Dinner hosted by the Trinity Youth, immediately following worship on Sunday, May 7. (Postponed one week from the originally scheduled April 30).

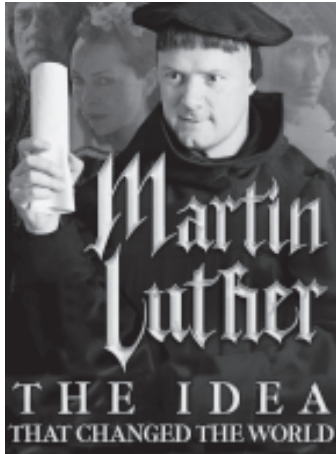
Freewill donations will go toward youth activities. Following the dinner the Sunday School will present an Easter program. Come for worship—stay for the good food and fellowship!



As they take a break for the summer, our thanks to director Janette Reinke, accompanist Becky Stuzman, and all the choir and tone chimes choir members for their faithful service and beautiful contributions to our worship!

NURSING HOME MINISTRY

You are invited to help provide brief worship services for nursing home residents at Country Club Estates and Vintage Park on Sunday, May 14. The simple services are approximately 20 minutes in length. We begin at 1:30pm at Country Club Estates and then go to Vintage Park for the second service.



New Luther Movie Screening May 30

As a gift to the world for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has released a new professionally produced theatrical movie that dramatically portrays the issues, events, and people behind the Reformation movement. Made in conjunction with PBS, *Martin Luther: The Idea That Changed the World* was filmed at authentic Reformation-era sites in Eastern Europe, and is narrated by Hugh Bonneville, star of *Downton Abbey*.

The LCMS congregations of Johnson and Miami Counties are hosting a special advance screening of this feature length film on Tuesday, May 30 at 7:30pm at the B&B Overland Park 16 Theatre (formerly Palazzo) at 135th Street & Highway 69 in Overland Park. Because this is a private screening for advance ticket holders only, the cost is \$11 and it will only be held if enough advance tickets are sold.

If you would like to reserve tickets please sign up on the counter in the Church Office. We will know by May 20th if the screening is going to be held, and you do not have to pay unless it is. If a group from Trinity does go some might like to meet for supper together before the movie. A trailer and more information about the movie is online at www.newluthermovie.com. Tickets are limited, so if you are interested in this special screening please sign up soon!



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.

May 7

Rev. Andrew & Kelsey Schlund
Mexico (See Article Below)

May 14

Georgia Witt
Kenya

May 21

Rev. John & Hannah Loum
Gambia

May 28

Rev. Steven & Martha Mahlburg
Macau



Everyone is invited to an open house graduation party for Anna Vogts on Saturday, May 13, from noon-4:00pm in Trinity's Shelter House. Anna will be graduating from the Lutheran High School of Kansas City on the following day, and in the fall she will attend Concordia University in Austin, Texas to study to be a Lutheran parochial school teacher.



Everyone is invited to come help with spring cleanup at Trinity on Saturday morning, May 13. Please bring along yard tools and other supplies. Afterward, you are invited to “come as you are” and enjoy a taco bar for lunch at the graduation open house for Anna Vogts in the Shelter House from noon-4:00pm.



Rev. Andrew and Kelsey Schlund, with their daughter Charlotte, were assigned by the Synod to serve as career missionaries in Mexico upon his seminary graduation in 2016.

Since 2016, Rev. Andrew Schlund has served as pastor of El Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd) Lutheran Church in Mexico City. As a career missionary, Schlund will likely serve this small parish for at least five years, or perhaps longer, until one of the Mexican seminarians is ready to be ordained.

"It was originally an English-speaking congregation that has been around for about 70 years," Schlund explained. "But now it has a bilingual ministry, that still tries to reach out to expats of the United States, but also has a good Spanish ministry too. They like to emphasize good doctrine and reaching out into the community to serve people and their needs."

Schlund is one of only two LCMS missionaries serving in the whole country of Mexico, which is quite a privilege and responsibility considering that the population in Mexico City alone is more than 25 million people. Together with Rev. Daniel Conrad, the other career missionary in Mexico, Schlund helps to affirm a Lutheran presence in the city, while Conrad provides assistance in sending out workers to share the Gospel. Conrad also serves as interim pastor to another local congregation in Mexico City, San Pedro (St. Peter's) Lutheran Church.

Somewhat unusually for a career missionary, there are dozens of similarities between Schlund's work in Mexico and that of a "typical" parish pastor in the United States: budgets, issues within the membership, visitation, feeding and teaching the people, and catechism classes, to name a few.

"We have a worship service every Sunday at 10:30 in a sanctuary that looks like many I have attended in the United States," Schlund explained. "Currently it takes me a couple days to complete my sermon in both English and in Spanish and so that takes up most of my time," he added. "I also have two confirmation classes, one for two adult Spanish speakers and the other for the children of expat families. I am also working on learning more Spanish, as well as preparing the service for the coming Sunday. We also have an adult confirmation class about the basics of the Lutheran faith."

Of course, not every aspect of parish life is typical for Schlund, and he still has particular challenges to overcome, just like any other missionary sent to a foreign locale—especially considering that he is still in his first year of serving as a pastor in the Lord's Church.



El Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd) Lutheran Church in Mexico City was originally established 70 years ago by expat Lutherans as an English-speaking congregation, but now has a bilingual ministry that also reaches out to Spanish-speaking natives.

"I am a pastor fresh out of the seminary, so this has made things more challenging for me," he said. "I am serving a congregation, mostly in Spanish, and I do not have the experience that most pastors have. The language barrier has made it difficult to understand what is happening. There are times when I think I know what's going on and then something happens that proves I did not understand the situation. There are just certain cultural differences that I can't put into words yet, but they certainly make life different here." Not all differences are so bad, of course. "The potlucks are more delicious here—sorry, congregations in the states!" he added. "It's hard to beat authentic Mexican food, in my opinion."



Rev. Andrew Schlund holds his daughter Charlotte while greeting worshippers at El Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd) Lutheran Church in Mexico City.

Thankfully, Schlund has found an ally in the congregation, a well-catechized parishioner named Alejandro Arevalo, who now serves the parish by leading a Bible study and assisting wherever he's needed. "Alejandro has been a key part of my adjustment to serving at Buen Pastor," Schlund said. "He also serves as my assistant during worship, and he makes the bulletins. After church, our family and several other members pile into his minivan, dubbed the 'Lutheran mobile,' and Alejandro and his family give us rides home."

"The potlucks are more delicious here—sorry, congregations in the states!"

Schlund's family—his wife, Kelsey, and toddler daughter, Charlotte—also have enjoyed the adjustment to life in Mexico City, despite the occasional challenge. "Overall, we really enjoy living in the city," Kelsey Schlund said. "There's lots of parks and delicious restaurants near where we live. Mexico City has many fascinating cultural and historic sites. Going out and exploring new places is fun for us, and it gives us many opportunities to practice our Spanish."

Apart from learning the language, the biggest challenge has been figuring out how to use public transportation," she added. "This makes simple things, like running errands, more complicated. The traffic here can be horrible, so we need to strategically plan when we're going out so we avoid the major rush hours. It's been interesting trying to adjust to life without a car. However, we have found it easier to live without it. Uber has been our best friend."



Church member Alejandro Arevalo (right) has been a great help to Schlund.

As is standard anywhere in the world, children are often better than adults at overcoming challenges and learning new ways of life. "Charlotte's adjusted well to life here," Kelsey Schlund said. "She loves walking around the city and visiting new places. She's picked up on some cultural norms, like kissing people on the cheek when they say hello and goodbye, and she's learning some Spanish words. She'll probably learn Spanish faster than we will!"

Similar to the experience of other parish pastors, the joys of the ministry—whether one is serving as a career missionary in Mexico City or in the rural American Midwest—are bountiful and always rooted in God's Word.

"One of my greatest joys is learning about the passion that the members of this church have for this congregation," Rev. Schlund said. "I would like this parish to be focused on God's Word, focused on His Sacraments, because I firmly believe that, from that, people reach out to one another, people gather other people into His Church, and we can be a place that is loving, caring, a place centered on Jesus and what He has done for us, focused on His work in the world, and gathering all nations to Himself. So I'd very much like it to be a place about the Gospel, and that's my main goal."



Bible Class on Scripture Lessons Concludes in May

During May we will conclude our study in Adult Bible Class on *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 join 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!



*Pondering
the Parables*

New Bible Class on Parables Begins in June

In June we will begin a new study in Adult Bible Class on *Pondering the Parables*. Approximately 35% of Jesus' teachings recording in the Gospels is in the form of parables. Although these parables seem simple on the surface, the messages they convey are actually very deep and central to the teachings of our faith. They also offer Jesus' followers many practical life lessons.

Join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Overflow beginning June 4 for *Pondering the Parables!*



Richard D. "Rick" Zajic
August 21, 1977 – April 15, 2017

Survived by Wife Suzanne (Peckman)
and Son Carter

*"I will dwell in the house
of the LORD forever."*
Psalm 23:6



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!

May 7
Spaghetti Luncheon

May 14
Sharon & Gladys Prothe

May 21
Cate Minden

May 28
Volunteer Needed



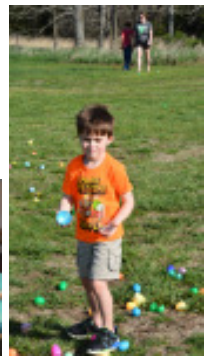
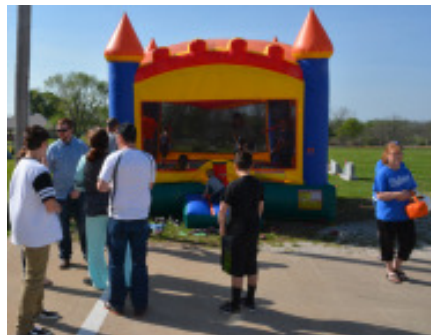
Our records of birthdays and anniversaries may not be complete. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the Church Office at 849-3344 or email Church Secretary Stacey Elkinton at trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com.

- May 1 Clint Haley
- May 1 Damon Oberheide
- May 1 Eric Prothe
- May 1 Elijah Minden
- May 2 Brad Hendrickson
- May 3 Steve McMullin
- May 4 Maysen Armstrong
- May 4 Alex Brack
- May 5 Sarah Berner
- May 5 Kameron Alpert-Munir
- May 5 Mallory Allcorn
- May 7 Henry Vaughn
- May 8 Garrett Rausch
- May 8 Chloe Rausch
- May 8 Jim Ohlmeier
- May 9 Melanie Golubski
- May 10 Bobbie Jo Debrick
- May 10 Kathy Haley
- May 10 Bobbie Kunard
- May 10 Johnny Pagels
- May 11 Denise Holtz
- May 13 Kraig Kettler
- May 13 Lucy Kettler
- May 13 Nathan Peckman
- May 13 Nicholas Peckman
- May 14 Trish Armstrong
- May 14 Miranda Ferrell
- May 14 Beth D'Amato
- May 15 Matthew Reynolds
- May 15 Kris Stubbs
- May 17 Lori Donahue
- May 17 Dean Gerken
- May 17 Sherri Webb
- May 18 Emily Kettler
- May 18 Susan Ashley
- May 19 Jackie Smith
- May 20 Paul Sombke
- May 21 David Herrs
- May 21 Barb Koelsch
- May 21 Clifford Prothe
- May 21 Leslie Rudzinski
- May 23 Andy Brack
- May 23 Jeanne Hutchison
- May 23 Amanda Maisch
- May 23 Shane Gibson
- May 25 Stephanie Debrick
- May 25 Roger Holtz
- May 25 Kristie McMullin
- May 26 Scott Gerken
- May 26 Sharon Grother
- May 28 Alyssa Holtz
- May 28 Kayla Massey
- May 28 Dale Prothe
- May 28 Rawena Shay



Thank you to all those who donated lilies to beautify our sanctuary for Easter! Thanks also to Barb Dillenbeck for arranging and caring for them.

- | <u>Given By</u> | <u>In Memory or Honor Of</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Kevin & Denise Debrick (2) | Billee Lee and Lorene Debrick |
| Mike & Linda Giager (3) | Orval Holtz, Homer Holtz and Alvin Koopman |
| Kristina Jenkins | Ross Raabe |
| Gayle Plummer & Nina Gerken | Leland Gerken |
| Arlin & Venita Prothe (2) | LaVern & Vivian Wilson and Vernele Pipes |
| Doris Rodewald | Herman Rodewald |
| Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts (2) | Leroy & Ruth Vogts, Grandparents,
Great-Great Grandmother Katherina Windler |



Our thanks to Twin Valley 4H for again sponsoring the annual Easter Egg Hunt on our church grounds on April 15. Lots more pictures are in the Photo Gallery on our church web site at www.trinitylcms.org/photos.



- May 29 Wendy Bryant
- May 29 Brandon Gibson
- May 30 Ginny Linville
- May 31 Sarah Pemberton
- May 31 Janet Koelsch
- May 31 Amanda Stubbs
- May 1 . Randy & Jennifer Rethman (19)

- May 16 Ed & Marcie Reylts (29)
- May 19 ... Mike & Linda Oberheide (38)
- May 19 ... Clifford & Donna Prothe (54)
- May 25 Lloyd & Ginny Peckman (54)
- May 25 Jeff & Pam Thompson (37)
- May 30 Stan & Gayle Plummer (36)
- May 31 John & Lori Schlegel (14)