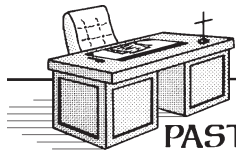


# Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✦ Paola, Kansas

april  
2015



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

This article by me was included in the "Voices of Faith" feature in *The Kansas City Star* on March 28. For this feature I am assigned a question, generally submitted to the newspaper by a reader, to which I am to respond. It is very challenging to formulate a meaningful answer in the allotted 250 words!

The question this time was:

*What is the best scripture to use when confronted by nonbelievers?*

Working as an archaeologist in the Middle East, a local man who showed unusual interest in our work and hung about camp asked to share a taxi with me into the city. We knew he was really a secret police agent assigned to watch us—and the taxi ride just a ruse for a surreptitious interrogation.

Most on the dig were seminary students like me. The excavation's agreement with the government forbid evangelization, but we were allowed to answer questions.

Jostling down a desert track in an ancient taxi, he quickly turned the conversation to religion. "There's really no difference between our faiths," he asserted. "Both say God is great, but we are sinners deserving damnation."

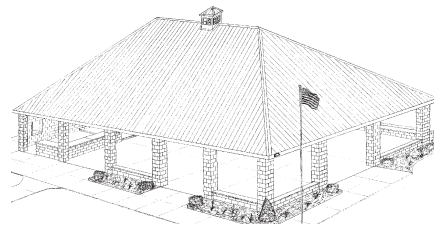
I realized the taxi ride was indeed a ruse, but not to interrogate me. He was a sincere seeker, wanting to ask about the faith, but had to be careful in a culture where converting can be a death sentence. The driver was his trusted friend, also listening with keen interest to learn from me about this forbidden faith.

Thinking of Romans 6:23, I agreed that "*the wages of sin is death.*" The difference is, Christianity doesn't stop with that message of condemnation, but like the remainder of that verse goes on with the Good News of God's compassion: "*But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*"

This verse encapsulates the two-part message all humans need to hear, including those already Christians. Both the bad news of our sin, shattering self-righteousness, and then the Good News of our salvation through Jesus Christ.

The question posed above envisions a *confrontation* between believers and nonbelievers, but really what we need instead is a *conversation*, like we had in the taxi that day. As Paul says in Ephesians 4:15, "*Speaking the truth in love.*"

Pastor Kevin Vogts



## Shelter House Construction Begins

The special Voters Assembly on March 1 approved construction of the Trinity Lutheran School Memorial Shelter House. Work has begun and we hope to have the project completed this summer!

Plans are on display in the cry room. Anyone who is willing to serve on the committee to overview the building and landscaping please notify congregational chairman Greg Windler.



Our thanks to everyone who helped make our Lenten suppers a big—and delicious—success! Groups hosting dinners included Twin Valley 4H, Trinity Youth, Block Walkers Relay for Life, Blocktoberfest Committee, Generations, and Ladies Aid.



## New Bible Class "These Are a Few of Our Favorite Hymns" Begins April 12

We will conclude our current study of Holy Week, *The Week That Changed the World*, in Adult Bible Class on Palm Sunday, March 29. There will be no class on Easter Sunday, April 5 due to the Easter Breakfast.

On April 12 we will begin a new study, *These Are a Few of Our Favorite Hymns*, looking at the background and meaning of—and singing!—beloved hymns. Join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Overflow beginning April 12 to get a deeper appreciation for your favorite hymns!



## QUARTERLY MEETING

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

## April Acolytes

April 5 ..... Luke Elkinton  
 April 12 ..... Olivia Mitchell  
 April 19 ..... Evan Kettler  
 April 29 ..... Lance Elliott

## YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

All youth are invited to join in each week our new Youth Bible Study, led by our new Youth Director, Janette Reinke, during the Sunday School hour from 9:00am-10:00am in the Youth Room (upstairs behind the Choir Loft).

## Trinity Tribune

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 April, 2015*



## Nursing Home Services April 26

You are invited to help Trinity provide brief worship services for nursing home residents at North Point and Medical Lodge on April 26. 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!



Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship? Several Sundays in April an most of the second half of 2015 remains open. Consider signing up for special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries.

There is a sign-up sheet 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. Thank you to all those providing snacks for Coffee Hour!

April 5  
 Easter Breakfast

April 12  
 Vogts

April 19  
 Need Volunteers

April 26  
 Need Volunteers



A special service of Holy Communion commemorating the Last Supper will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 2, at 7:00pm. Pastor Vogts' message will be "Given and Shed for You" based on 1 Corinthians 11:23-25.



On Good Friday, April 3, 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 be "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" based on Isaiah 53:14.

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



Our thanks to the Generations group for serving a light Easter Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall between our services on Easter Sunday, April 5, beginning at 8:00am. All are invited to enjoy the food and fellowship!



## Easter Dinner and Program April 12

Everyone is invited to enjoy a dinner and Easter program put on by our Sunday School and Youth following the worship service on Sunday, April 12.

## SUNRISE SERVICE

You are invited to an Easter Sunrise Service at Trinity on Easter Sunday, April 5 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 9:15am. Both services will feature Holy Communion and the same Easter message by Pastor Vogts, "Three Ruined Funerals and a No-Show" 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.



Thank you to all who again gave a large number of lilies to beautify our sanctuary for Easter. A complete list including who they are in memory or honor of will appear in the May newsletter.

## Easter Egg Hunt

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



## Sunrise Service

Easter Sunday, April 5, 7:00am  
Second Easter Service at 10:00am  
Both Services Include Holy Communion  
and Same Easter Message

## Easter Breakfast

Easter Sunday, April 5  
8:00am  
Sponsored by Generations



*All Invited — Everyone Welcome!*



We list birthdays and anniversaries in the newsletter each month and the bulletin each week. However, our records 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 blocktlc@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 ..... 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 ..... Krista Kettler Munzer
- April 29 ..... Abigail Koelsch
- April 30 ..... Ellen Pinneo
- April 3 ..... Mark & Cathy Tesar  
(26 Years)
- April 5 ..... George & Pam Holtz  
(25 Years)
- April 5 ..... Burl & Shemene Peckman  
(29 Years)
- April 13 ..... Alan & Jeanne Hutchison  
(24 Years)
- April 20 ..... Max & Jennifer Boydston  
(30 Years)
- April 25 ..... Harold & Ann Peckman  
(67 Years)
- April 26 ..... Dan & Cathy Hieber  
(28 Years)
- April 26 ..... Kenny & Vera Kaiser  
(70 Years)
- April 26 ..... Keith & Laura Prothe  
(35 Years)
- April 27 ..... Kevin & Marla Prothe  
(24 Years)
- April 28 ..... Chris & Denna Jones  
(14 Years)



At the 2013 national convention of our denomination, the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, an ambitious resolution was passed calling for the Synod to double its number of missionaries. LCMS President Rev. Matthew Harrison recently wrote, *“I’m delighted to*

*announce that we are closing in on doubling the number of missionaries! The international moment unfolding worldwide before us as the LCMS is truly astounding!”*

Our congregation helps support these missionaries sent out by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod through our mission contributions. 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 in this way by our congregation.

All of the missionaries listed below are among those newly sent out.

April 5  
*Rev. Daniel & Joan Jastram*  
Japan

April 12  
*Julie McManus*  
Kenya

April 19  
*Rev. Adam & Christine Lehman*  
Spain

April 26  
*David & Barbara Bush*  
Macau



### **Sermon Topics for April**

These are the Sunday sermon topics for April. Pastor Vogts’ sermons are available in both written and audio format on our website at [www.trinitylcms.org](http://www.trinitylcms.org).

April 5  
*“Three Ruined Funerals  
and a No-Show”*  
Mark 16:1-8

April 12  
*“The Disciples Were Overjoyed  
When They Saw the Lord”*  
John 20:20

April 19  
*“No Other Name Under Heaven”*  
Acts 4:12

April 26  
*“The Abundant Life”*  
John 10:1-10



*Henry “Hank” Thoden*  
Entered Eternal Rest  
February 9, 2015

*Theodore “Ted” Gerken*  
Entered Eternal Rest  
March 6, 2015

*Raymond “Ray” Stagg*  
Entered Eternal Rest  
March 14, 2015

*Robert “Bob” Prothe*  
Entered Eternal Rest  
March 24, 2015

*“Come unto Me, all you who  
are weary and heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.”*  
Matthew 11:28

### **Portals of Prayer**



The new quarterly issue of the devotional booklet *Portals of Prayer* for April thru June is available in the small literature holder in back of the church. Copies are available in standard size, large print, and a new “digest” size (same size as *Reader’s Digest*). A great way to keep close to the Lord!