

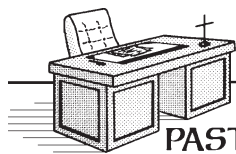
Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas



2016

OCTOBER



FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK

Jesus' Healing Miracles Give Us Hope

"The people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying His hands on each one, He healed them." (Luke 4:40)

The many healing miracles of Jesus recorded in the Gospels may lead us to wonder: "Why doesn't God work that way today?"

Scripture tells us that Jesus' miracles had a specific purpose, to prove He was the Messiah, the divine Son of God. *"The miracles I do in My Father's name speak for Me . . . even though you do not believe Me, believe the miracles, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I am in the Father"* (John 10:25, 38).

Matthew 8:16-17 reports: *"Many who were demon-possessed were brought to Him, and He drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah [53:4]: 'He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases.'"*

Numerous Old Testament passages similarly prophesied that when the Messiah came He would perform great healing miracles, and this was the number one sign that the people of His day were looking for in anyone claiming to be the promised Messiah. So, that was the primary purpose of Jesus' healing miracles, as Peter explains in Acts 2:22: *"Jesus of Nazareth was a Man accredited by God to you, by miracles, wonders, and signs, which God did among you through Him."*

But, the question remains, "Why doesn't God work that way today?" Actually, He does! As a physician once said to me, "Any doctor can tell you of dozens of cases where the healing was unexpected and unexplained. We call it spontaneous remission. Another word would be a miracle."

Indeed, *Reader's Digest* reported that in a survey by the American Academy of Family Physicians, 99% of doctors said they thought religious beliefs could contribute to healing, and 63% said they believed God had intervened to improve their *own* medical conditions. The article also noted: "A survey of 5,286 Californians found that church members have lower death rates than non-members—regardless of risk factors such as smoking, drinking, obesity and inactivity. Those with a religious commitment had fewer symptoms or had better health outcomes in seven out of eight cancer studies, four out of five blood-pressure studies, four out of six heart-disease studies, and four out of five general health studies" ("Faith is Powerful Medicine," *Reader's Digest*, October, 1999).



This 1661 woodcut showing Jesus healing the sick and lame is from the Altenburg Edition of Luther's Works.

However, Jesus also affirms that the sick need a doctor (Luke 5:31), and it seems that Luke, who was himself a doctor, traveled with the Apostle Paul as his personal physician (Colossians 4:14). Even when healing comes through what seem to be human efforts, it is actually God who is granting the skill, wisdom, and ability to the medical personnel, and it is He who gives their efforts healing power, as Psalm 103:3 says: *"He forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases."* Therefore, faithful Christians who truly believe in and trust God's healing power nevertheless do not shun doctors and medical help, but receive them with thanksgiving as gracious gifts of God.

We often jump to the conclusion that sickness and other afflictions we suffer are a punishment from God. Psalm 103:10 sets us straight: *"He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities."* For all who trust in Christ, sickness and other afflictions are never a punishment from God. God simply doesn't work that way. Even the Apostle Paul apparently had some serious, persistent illness (Galatians 4:13), which he calls *"a thorn in my flesh"* (2 Corinthians 12:7)—and surely he was not being punished by God! Rather than a punishment, even sickness and other afflictions are somehow part of God's plan to work together all things—even what seem to be bad things—for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28).

Even if sickness should end in physical death, Jesus promises: *"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in Me, even though they die, yet will they live"* (John 11:25). Ultimately, your sick body will be raised up, restored to life, reunited with your soul, and completely healed forever of all diseases, as Paul says in Philippians 3:21: *"He will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body."*

Even if you don't beat your sickness in this life, Jesus will beat if for you in eternal life. For, in heaven, *"There will be no more death, or mourning, or crying, or pain, for the old order of things has passed away"* (Revelation 21:4).

Jesus' healing miracles give you hope. Hope that He is the Messiah, the divine Son of God, your Savior. Hope that in Him your sins are all forgiven. Hope that as a child of God your loving heavenly Father is never punishing you when you suffer sickness or other afflictions. Hope that God still shows His healing power. Hope that He is working all things together for your good. Hope that, through faith in Christ, even though you die, yet you will live forever.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13).

Pastor Kevin Vogts



The quarterly meeting of the Voters Assembly will be held Sunday, October 23 at 7:00pm. Included on the agenda

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October, 2016*



Trinity's Annual

Chicken Noodle & Chili Dinner and Bazaar

Sunday, October 23, 11:00am

All Invited—Everyone Welcome!

Come Enjoy the Fun, Food, and Fellowship!

will be election of church officers for 2017. In order to prepare for this meeting the Church Council will meet Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00pm.



Mission Sunday & Thanksgiving Potluck November 20

We will observe Mission Sunday during our morning service on Sunday, November 20. Our guest preacher will be Rev. Dr. Patrick Dennis Mason. From 1984-1997 he served as a Missouri Synod missionary in Africa, in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria, having great success even though it was a dangerous time of much unrest and civil war.

During those years he also earned his doctorate degree in missions. Returning to the United States due to health reasons, from 1998-2011 he

served as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Ulysses, Kansas, where he now lives in retirement.

Following the service we will celebrate Thanksgiving a few days early with a "Thanksgiving Potluck." Everyone asked to bring favorite Thanksgiving dishes to share. At the end of the dinner Rev. Mason will give a presentation about his mission work in Africa.

COMMUNION SUNDAYS

Beginning in October and continuing thru March we will again have extra services of Holy Communion, normally on both the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. This provides an extra opportunity to receive the Sacrament for those who may not be able to attend worship on the first Sunday of the month due to inclement weather during the more stormy months.

Due to Pastor Vogts' absence on the 1st Sunday in October, and since there happen to be five Sundays in October this year, Communion for October only is shifted this year to the 2nd & 4th Sundays, October 9 & 23.



On September 25 we rejoiced to welcome Ryan and Brianna Hoden into membership at Trinity.

Ryan is originally from Council Bluffs, Iowa and joins by Transfer of Membership from Timothy Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs. Brianna is originally from Chester, Nebraska and joins by Transfer of Membership from St. John Lutheran Church in Chester.

The Hodens were married in 2015 and live in Drexel, Missouri. Ryan attended Dana College, Blair, Nebraska and teaches physical education and coaches football, basketball, and track in the Drexel schools.

Brianna attended Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska, graduated as a Registered Nurse from Nebraska Methodist College, Omaha, and recently received her Doctorate in Nursing Practice from Creighton University, Omaha. She works at Healient Cardiology in Leawood and is an instructor in nursing at Mid-America Nazarene University.

Trinity's 8th Annual



Sunday, October 30, 4:00pm-6:00pm in Church Parking Lot

Food 🎃 Games 🎃 Pumpkin Decorating 🎃 Bouncy House

Everyone Is Invited to Offer Trunk or Treat from Your Car, Truck, or Other Vehicle!
(Please Have Your Setup Completed by 3:30pm)

All Invited—Everyone Welcome!

The Hodens and their two cats are at home at 201 DJ Circle, P.O. Box 176, Drexel, MO, 64742; Ryan: 712 310-4308, coachhoden@yahoo.com; Brianna: 402-309-0479, brianna.dutton@cune.org. *Welcome to the Trinity family of faith!*

longer readings for each day, and in the back of each issue a wonderful collection of prayers for each day of the week and special needs and occasions. A great way to keep close to the Lord!



Portals of Prayer

The new issue of *Portals of Prayer* for October thru December is available in the small literature rack (on the end table) in back of the church.

To make reading easier, in addition to the standard "pocket" size we also have copies available in a medium "digest" size (same size as *Reader's Digest*), and a large-print size.

You will be blessed by the brief daily devotions and short daily Bible readings prayers. There are also suggested



Thank you from the Trinity Youth to all donated so generously for our dinner at Blocktoberfest and all who gave so much help preparing and serving everything. We again were blessed with net proceeds to help fund youth activities of approximately \$5,000—nearly \$1,000 more than last year!

The Great Divide A Christian Introduction to the Muslim Religion

New Bible Class on Islam & Christianity Begins November 6

We hear constantly in the news about Islam. But, what is it really all about?

On Sunday, November 6 we will begin a new study in Adult Bible Class, comparing and contrasting Islam with Christianity and helping give us a better understanding of the religion of Islam, its origins, history, and adherents today.

The Great Divide: A Christian Introduction to the Muslim Religion will include video presentations by Dr. Alvin Schmidt, who is an LCMS pastor and professor emeritus of sociology at Illinois College, and a recognized authority on the relationship between Islam and Christianity. Sessions include:

Muhammed and the Koran
Jesus in the Koran
The Five Pillars of Islam
Islam: A Religion of Peace?

This study will help us appreciate the grace we experience in Jesus Christ, in contrast not only to the political terror wrought in the name of Islam, but also the inner, spiritual terror experienced by many Muslims themselves.

During October we will conclude our present study in Adult Bible Class on *The Epistles of Love—1st, 2nd & 3rd John*. Everyone is invited to join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Overflow!



For Rally Day on September 25 the children gave a wonderful presentation and received Bibles and Catechisms. Check the Photo Gallery on our church web site at www.trinitylcms.org/photos for a complete album of Rally Day pictures.

After Church Snacks

Thank you to all those providing snacks for Coffee Hour! Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship during the remainder of 2016? Most Sundays are open thru the end of the year.

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. Consider signing up for special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries.

October 2
Gladys Prothe & Sharon Prothe

October 9
Gayle Plummer

October 16
Jan Minden

October 23
Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner

October 30
Golubski



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.

October 2
Sarah Harms
Czech Republic

October 9
Rev. Christopher & Deaconess Elizabeth Ahlman
Germany

October 16
Jana Inglehart
Dominican Republic

October 23
Rev. David & Joyce Erber
Ghana

October 30
Rev. Frederick Reinhardt
Kenya

Birthdays &

Anniversaries

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 913-849-3344 or email Church Secretary Stacey Elkinton at blocktlc@midwest-connections.com.

- 1 Kimala Morton
- 1 Michele Minden
- 2 Ashley Peckman
- 2 Sharon Prothe
- 4 Kyle Minden
- 5 Mark Deering
- 8 Megan Stutzman
- 8 Brian Oberheide
- 9 Kyle Garrison
- 10 LeRoy Thoden
- 11 Shelby Barrett
- 11 Kegan Warring
- 13 Vicky Boyer
- 13 Aaron Mueller
- 13 Hazel Prothe
- 15 Pam Peckman
- 15 Jay Warring
- 16 Ariel Alcorn
- 16 Erica Jones
- 17 Dylan Fanning
- 17 Tony Hubbard
- 17 Julie Kellogg
- 18 Carter Zajic
- 19 Betty Prothe
- 19 Joe Stephens
- 19 Ray England
- 20 Khrystin Davis
- 20 David Minden
- 23 Brett Golubski



Singing the Faith
**Fall Sermon Series
 on Favorite Hymns**

This fall we are having an occasional sermon series looking at the history and meaning of some favorite hymns. These hymns not only uplift and comfort us, they also beautifully teach us the faith. The stories behind these hymns are also very inspiring. Come and enjoy learning more about these favorite hymns!

September 25
"Amazing Grace"
 1 Timothy 1:12-17

October 9
"Rock of Ages"
 Exodus 33:18-23

October 16
"How Great Thou Art"
 Psalm 145:3-6

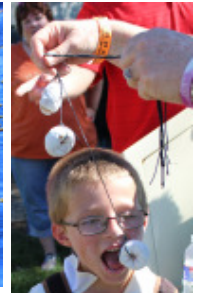
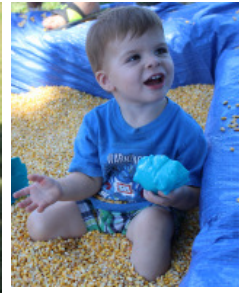
November 24–Thanksgiving Day
"Now Thank We All Our God"
 1 Thessalonians 5:18

October 23
*"O Sacred Head,
 Now Wounded"*
 Isaiah 53:4

October 30–Reformation Sunday
"A Mighty Fortress"
 Psalm 46

November 13
"Abide with Me"
 Luke 24:29

- 23 Kaelah McMullin
- 23 Hannah Allcorn
- 24 Payton Bruce
- 26 Charlie Peckman
- 26 Dalton Russell
- 26 Garrett Russell
- 27 Kolby Fanning
- 27 Lloyd Peckman
- 27 Kayla Shappell
- 30 Chris Kettler
- 30 Rose Peckman
- 30 David Prothe
- 30 Jai Jenkins
- 31 Nina Gerken
- 1 Larry & Dana Simonson (11)
- 7 Scott & Nancy Golubski (27)
- 17 Joe & Anisha O'Barto (18)
- 17 Darrel & Brigitte Rodewald (35)
- 19 Kyle & Pam Minden (25)
- 25 Mark & Diana Deering (13)
- 27 Eric & Lindsey Lester (4)
- 30 Les & Beth Prothe (23)
- 31 Dale & Linda Prothe (39)



Our 2016 Blocktoberfest was the biggest and best ever! Thank you to Paul Haley and all the Blocktoberfest Committee and everyone who helped. Over 250 pictures are online in our church Photo Gallery at www.trinitylcms.org/photos.

