

Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas



2018

November



Following longstanding custom, the following pastoral letter from me was included with items sealed in the 1884 cornerstone, which was reinstalled in the fireplace of our new Heritage Room to commemorate our Building Addition & Modernization Project, in an envelope addressed "To the Future!"

October 14, 2018

Dear Future Friends in Christ:

Greetings from the year 2018! As part of our celebration this year of the 150th Anniversary of Trinity Lutheran Church we undertook a major building addition and modernization of our church building, which was originally erected in 1959. Part of that addition was this Heritage Room and its fireplace. To commemorate the history of our congregation, we reused and reinstalled into the fireplace this original cornerstone from the previous church building, which served the congregation from 1884 until 1959.

In accordance with a longstanding custom in the Lutheran Church, we have placed in the niche of this cornerstone current copies of the two books that were probably originally put there back in 1884: *The Holy Bible*, and the *Book of Concord*, which contains the doctrinal statements that summarize the teachings of the Lutheran Church.

These two books within our cornerstone together symbolize the Apostle Paul's declaration: *"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief Cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit"*(Ephesians 2:19-22).



We have placed in the niche of this cornerstone the two books that were probably originally put there back in 1884: The Holy Bible and the Book of Concord.

It is in the teachings of *The Holy Bible*, as summarized in the *Book of Concord*, that we find the only solid foundation upon which a true Christian Church is built. As St. Paul also declares, *"For no one can lay any foundation other*

than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ"(1 Corinthians 3:11). It was upon this spiritual foundation that our congregation was founded in 1868, and to which by God's grace we have remained faithful for 150 years.

It is our fervent hope and prayer that, amidst all the challenges of an increasingly changing world, culture, and society, our descendants in this place will likewise remain faithful over the years and throughout the generations to come to the true teachings of our Triune God.

Sincerely in Christ,
Rev. Kevin Vogts, Pastor



150th Anniversary Celebration Success!

A big "Thank You" to all who helped in any way to make the 150th Anniversary Celebration of Trinity Lutheran Church such a success! The turnout was amazing and everything went so smoothly! It was such a thrill to have so many familiar old faces here to share our Anniversary Celebration as well as the dedication of our Building Addition & Modernization Project.

So many donated time and talents for this event from planning the event, cleaning, decorating church both inside and out, baking cookies and anniversary cake, greeters, assisting with serving lunch and cookie reception, adult and children's choir for the special music—so many contributions . . . too many to mention. We are truly blessed!

Special thanks to Mary Ann Maisch for sharing her cake baking and decorating talents with the beautiful cakes she provided for the Anniversary Lunch. Special thanks also to Brian Meyer for making the donation boxes displayed at the registration tables. These will be available to be used for any future events for which a donation box may be needed.

All these events reflected the theme of our celebration, *“Great Is God’s Faithfulness,”* based on Hebrews 13:7-8: *“Remember your leaders, who spoke the Word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”*



150th Anniversary Booklets are available on the table in the Gathering Room. They tell the fascinating story of our historic congregation and the Block community. Special thanks to Lori Schlegel for her work on this project.

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Also available are past historic booklets and other miscellaneous “swag” leftover from previous celebrations that was found in storage when we emptied the attics during our Building Addition & Modernization Project. Please help yourself and enjoy!



150th Anniversary Christmas Ornament

Beautiful pewter Christmas ornaments commemorating our congregation’s 150th Anniversary are available for sale in the Gathering Room. They are embossed on one side with the 1884 Church, and on the other side with our current church, including the latest addition. What a great Christmas gift for your whole family! Our thanks to Barb Dillenbeck for her work on this project.



Artistic Additions to Our Church

Our thanks to Kyle Minden for using his artistic skills to craft two spectacular carved wooden plaques to adorn our Building Addition & Modernization

Project. Mounted in the northwest corner of the sanctuary, in a niche that was created when a window was closed for the addition, is Martin Luther’s Seal. It serves as a beautiful testimony to our Lutheran heritage, and is inscribed as a permanent memorial to our congregation’s 150th Anniversary.

Luther created this seal for himself and described its meaning. He probably borrowed the rose symbol from a stained-glass window that he recalled—still existing—in the chapel of the monastery at Erfurt. He resided there for his first several years as a monk and spent hundreds of hours worshipping in that chapel and gazing upon that window with its very similar rose symbol.

Originally an Old Testament emblem of the Messiah, based upon passages such as Isaiah 11:1, 35:1, and Song of Songs 2:1, Luther says that in his seal the rose symbolizes the joys of heaven. The cross at the center symbolizes that preaching Christ crucified was at the center of Luther’s theology (1 Corinthians 1:23), and that the cross of Christ is the only way to attain the joys of heaven (Galatians 6:14).



Above the new north door, under the canopy of the new north wing, is a very meaningful symbol portraying the very name of our congregation: *Trinity*. The overall shape is a *trefoil* (TRAY-foil), which is the outline formed by three interlocking circles. This shape itself is traditionally representative of the Trinity and used extensively in church architecture. Within the three circles are the same symbols for the Trinity found in our altar window.

God the Father is represented by a down-stretched hand of blessing. This symbolizes God the Father's primary role as the Creator and Preserver of all things. As the Creator, *"the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground"* (Genesis 2:7). And Psalm 145:16 declares that as the Preserver, *"You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing."*

God the Son is represented by the Victorious Lamb. This symbolizes first of all Jesus' sacrifice of Himself for our salvation, like the sacrificial lambs of the Old Testament, as John the Baptist exclaims, *"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"* (John 1:29).

However, He is a *Victorious Lamb*, flying a victor's battle flag, because unlike those lambs of the old covenant He won the *final* victory for us, over sin, death, and the devil. As we sing in our liturgy: *"Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. . . For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia!"* (Revelation 5:6-13).

Finally, God the Holy Spirit is represented by a Descending Dove, as seen at the Baptism of Our Lord: *"And the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form like a dove"* (Luke 3:22).

People take for granted that the dove is a universal symbol of peace. However, this association of the dove with peace is actually a uniquely *Christian* symbol, that comes directly from the Bible. For, the Holy Spirit works faith within us to give us *"the peace of God which surpasses all understanding"* (Philippians 4:7) and *"peace and joy in the Holy Spirit"* (Romans 14:17). As Paul says in Romans 15:13: *"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."*

Kyle is also creating two logo crosses of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. One will be mounted in the peak above the west door, and the other inside the church. Thank you Kyle for all these wonderful artistic enhancements to our church!



Thank you to everyone who helped make our 10th Annual Trunk or Treat on October 28 another big success! Thanks also to Greg Windler for the photos of this event. Lots more pictures online at www.trinitycms.org/photos.

New Bible Study



In October we began a new study in Adult Bible Class, *"Put on the Full Armor of God!"* as described in Ephesians 6:10-19: *the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and sword of the Spirit.*

What is the meaning of each of these for you? How can you *"Put on the Full Armor of God!"* in your life? Join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Heritage Room!



Sermon Topics for November

November 4 (150th Anniversary)
 Rev. Lane Burgland
 and Rev. Peter Lange
 Guest Preachers

November 11
"The Widow's Mite"
 Mark 12:41-44

November 18
*"In Life, In Death,
 O Lord, Abide With Me!"*
 Daniel 12:1-3

November 22 (Thanksgiving Day)
 Rev. Roger Schepmann
 Guest Preacher

November 25
*"The Mercy of Our
 Lord Jesus Christ"*
 Jude 20-25



After Church Snacks

Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship? The last Sunday of November and all of December is still open! The sign-up sheet is on the counter in the snack serving area. Thanks to all those providing snacks for Coffee Hour!

November 4, 11, 18
 150th Anniversary Committee

November 25
 Need Volunteers



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

November 4

*Rev. Adam & Deaconess
Melissa DeGroot*

Missionaries to Immigrants
in Albuquerque, New Mexico

November 11

Rev. Stuart & Debra Freese
Burkina Faso

November 18

Natalie Howard
Dominican Republic

November 25

Rev. Michael & Jen-Yi Paul
Taiwan

*“Brothers, pray for us, that the Word
of the Lord may spread rapidly and
be honored, just as it is among you.”
(2 Thessalonians 3:1)*



In November we were originally scheduled for Nursing Home Services on November 4. However, due to our 150th Anniversary celebration that day we traded for November 25, at North Point and Medical Lodge. You are invited to help provide brief worship services that day, beginning at 1:30pm at North Point and then going to Medical Lodge for the second service.



Thanksgiving Day Service

Bring Your Family and Guests to Celebrate Thanksgiving at Trinity, Thursday, November 22, 10:00am
Rev. Roger Schepmann, Guest Preacher

All Invited — Everyone Welcome!

O Give Thanks unto the LORD, for He is Good



As is customary during the winter months, from October thru March we are having Communion twice per month, on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, with Communion this month on November 4 and 18.



The *Portals of Prayer* devotional booklet for October thru December is available in the Gathering Room, in pocket size, medium size, and large print. A great resource to help you stay close to the Lord!



You Are Invited by Rev. Kevin and Terese Vogts to a
Christmas Open House at the Parsonage

Sunday, December 16, 2:00pm–5:00pm
Bring the Whole Family – Children Welcome

All Invited – Everyone Welcome!



Bring your family and holiday guests to celebrate Thanksgiving Day at our special service on Thursday, November 22 at 10:00am. Rev. and Mrs. Vogts will be visiting her parents in South Dakota, so our guest minister at Trinity on Thanksgiving Day will be Rev. Roger Schepmann. *"O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good, for His love endures forever!"* (Psalm 136:1).



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 trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com.

- November 1 Christopher England
- November 2 Steve Debrick
- November 4 Peyton Mitchell
- November 5 Sara Prothe
- November 6 Jill Druse
- November 7 Fritz Meyer
- November 8 Erin England
- November 8 Leonard Windler
- November 9 Greg Windler
- November 9 Brad Ashley
- November 11 Lana Kettler
- November 11 Chylar Jones
- November 13 Dennis Ohlmeier
- November 13 Doris Rodewald
- November 14 Elena Smithhisler
- November 15 Frances Minter
- November 15 JoAnn Vaughn
- November 16 Sacred Davis
- November 19 Elaine Bocker
- November 19 Kreston Debrick
- November 19 Kathy Peckman
- November 20 Alexis Belsanti
- November 20 Luke Elkinton
- November 20 Randy Maisch
- November 21 Jim Prothe
- November 21 Megan Tesar



Advent-Christmas Sermon Series

December 2
1st Sunday in Advent
*"Gabriel's Surprise
for Zechariah"*
Luke 1:5-25, 57-66, 80

December 9
2nd Sunday in Advent
*"Gabriel's Surprise
for Mary"*
Luke 1:26-38

December 16
3rd Sunday in Advent
*"The Angel's Surprise
for Joseph"*
Matthew 1:18-25

December 23
4th Sunday in Advent
*Festival of Readings
and Carols*

December 24
Christmas Eve
*"Good Tidings
of Great Joy!"*
Luke 2:1-20

December 25
Christmas Day
*"A Multitude of the
Heavenly Host"*
Luke 2:8-12

December 30
First Sunday after Christmas
"Escape to Egypt"
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

January 1
New Year's Day
*"The Name the Angel
Had Given Him"*
Luke 2:21-40

- November 22 Whitney Shoemaker
- November 22 Burl Peckman
- November 22 Jason Peterson
- November 24 Lindsey Lester
- November 25 Carolyn Isenhower
- November 25 Courtney Belsanti
- November 25 Dana Hall
- November 28 Hunter Rush

- November 29 Rick Druse
- November 30 Alan Hutchison
- Nov 3 Ken & Karla Debrick (33)
- Nov 18 Darrell & Barb Brandt (48)
- Nov 20 Harry & Gay Stubbs (44)
- Nov 22 Brad & Susan Ashley (15)
- Nov 23 Vernon & Donna Prothe (65)
- Nov 29 ... Webb & Virginia Oberheide (34)
- Nov 29 Brett & Becky Stutzman (51)



Following the morning's 150th Anniversary Communion Service on November 4 we had a brief ceremony to dedicate our Building Addition & Modernization Project. Then to mark this historic occasion everyone proceeded outside for this group photo, posed in front of the addition under the cross on our new elevator tower. Our thanks to Kyle Minden for the wonderful picture. More photos from the day's events are below and online at www.trinitylcms.org/photos.

