

Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas



The History of a Community

For the American Bicentennial in 1976 a book recounting the "History of the Churches of Miami County Kansas" was compiled, edited by Sister M. Charles McGrath. This is the fascinating chapter in that book about the early history of our congregation.

The history of Trinity Lutheran church is the history of Block—a Community. The Block community was settled by a group of Germans who migrated in small groups of a family or two. They sought freedom and opportunity in the United States which was not available in Europe. After landing in the States, they migrated in small groups from the eastern states to Kansas.

One large group which included the Blocks, Tinkens, and Mindens came to Miami County from Cole Camp, Missouri. Another group came from Indiana. These included the Schultz, Goodeyons, Siberts, Eberts, and Debrick families. Other early settlers included the names of Prothe, Gerken, Beckman, Grother, Dageforde, Viebrock, and von Minden.

Mike Schultz, in the last days of his life, told graphically about the coming of those first settlers to Miami County:

"Father came to Block in 1866. The next year two uncles and an aunt followed

him. Then in '68, when I was seven and one-half year old, father came back for mother and our family. Two nephews and a fellow named Joe Guy came with us. They are all dead now but some of their boys are still living.

"We rode on the train to Kansas City. The people sat in the caboose. The wagons and the household goods were loaded on the train with us. We had to unload the goods on the Missouri side and ferry across the river. We stayed four days in Kansas City with a German cobbler and then we started for Block. Paola was a small town of frame buildings and that is where we bought our supplies.



The history notes that Trinity's 1884 church had "an exquisite altar with statues and lace altar cloths." The statues from this altar are unfortunately lost, but those from the pulpit in the 1884 church are on the fireplace mantel in our Heritage Room, which also holds the altar candelabras shown above, and the hymnboard and Communion ware from the 1884 church. The lectern on the lower left is still regularly used to hold the Communion register.

"The first Block building was made of logs. It was used for both school and church. Four years later a real log church was built. It would hold about a hundred. I went to school during the winter until I was 14. We had no teacher, so the preacher did the teaching."

The first frame church was built a few years after the log one. The early church records were lost when a new parsonage was built. It is believed Nick Minden was the first to be baptized.

The frame church became old and small for the congregation and was used for a school. It was located one-half mile west of the Block store, which was at the Four Corners. The next church was erected in 1884, one-half mile south of the Four Corners. The school and parsonage were close by.

Mr. George Reifel, whose family was among the early settlers, has left us a description of the social life in the Block Community. He recalls his happy childhood. The social life of the community centered around the church and school.

He tells of the debates they would have every other week. Half of the evening was spent debating and the other half was given over to recitations and dialogues. The boys and girls both participated. One week they might debate with the Oak Grove School and the next with the Highland School.

Once in a while they put on a good square dance and had lots of fun. They had four instruments. Mr. Manuel Barricklow played first violin. He was good. He even won first place in a fiddlers' contest in Paola. Walter Barnes played second violin. Then they generally had a bass and an organ. Among the group were several good callers.

Church services at Block and instruction in the school were conducted in German or in both German and English

for many years, but by the close of World War I only English was used in the school. It was 1950 before German was discontinued in church services.

The church in use until recent times seated 400. It was completely furnished with a \$2,000 pipe organ, an exquisite altar with statues and lace altar cloths. The bell was one of the largest and most deep-toned in Miami County. Over the door of the church were the words in English, "Lutheran Trinity Church U.A.C." which translated means: "Unaltered Augsburg Confession."

South of the building is the burial ground, the most unique in Miami county, for it is one of its kind, a burial ground where there are no family plots. People are buried as they die in rows marked by stones which the family erects.

In 1912 the congregation built a new parsonage to replace the one built in 1875 at a cost of \$1937.80. In 1916 they built a new two-room school, 34 x 60 feet. Total cost of the new school was \$2463.51.

In 1924 "Christenlehrer" or Sunday School was begun for the further education of the children in the Word of God. Study for those not able to attend the parochial school was made possible by Sunday School, as well as further religious training for those past confirmation age.

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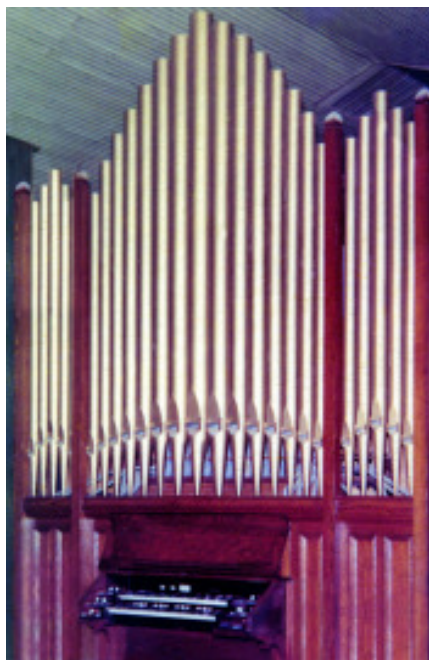
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The history also notes our ten-rank Kilgen pipe organ, which was installed in the 1884 church in 1918 at a cost of \$2,000. It was relocated to our new sanctuary in 1959 and is still in use.

Despite a long period of financial difficulty, a building fund for a new church was mentioned as early as 1942. By 1958 the congregation was ready to build. A special cornerstone laying was held May 17, 1959. The cost of the new church, completed that year, was, together with its furnishings, in excess of \$100,000. In 1961 the school was remodeled and modernized at a cost of \$12,000.

Sermons for October



Complete videos of all our services, as well as audio and printed text of the sermon only, are available on our church website at www.trinitylcms.org/sermons. Printed copies of that day's sermon and several of the most recent sermons are also available in the Gathering Room.

October 3

"We Will Serve the Lord"
Joshua 24:14-15

October 10

"The Needle and the Camel"
Mark 10:23-27

October 17 (Heritage Sunday)

"The Holiness of Christ"
Hebrews 4:15

October 24

"Get a Grip on Your Sword"
Ephesians 6:17

October 31 (Reformation Sunday)

"The Scripture Cannot Be Broken"
John 10:35



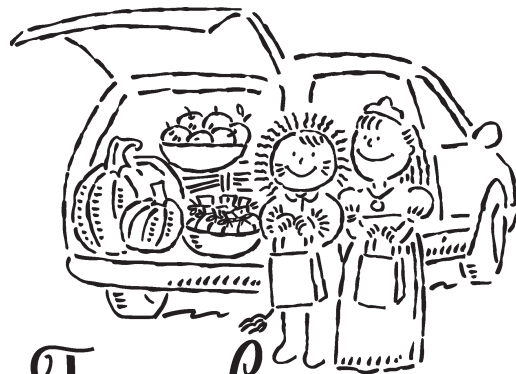
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

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 trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com.

October 1 Mike Schmidt
October 1 Kimala Morton
October 1 Michele Minden
October 2 Ashley Peckman
October 2 Sharon Prothe
October 4 Kyle Minden
October 5 Mark Deering
October 8 Megan Stutzman
October 8 Brian Oberheide
October 9 Kyle Garrison
October 10 LeRoy Thoden
October 10 Lennon Jonas
October 11 Shelby Barrett
October 11 Kegan Warring
October 12 Ray England
October 13 Vicky Boyer
October 13 Aaron Mueller
October 13 Hazel Prothe
October 15 Pam Peckman
October 15 Jay Warring
October 16 Ariel Alcorn
October 16 Erica Peckman
October 17 Dylan Fanning
October 17 Tony Hubbard
October 17 Julie Kellogg
October 18 Carter Zajic
October 19 Betty Prothe
October 19 Joe Stephens
October 20 Khrystin Davis
October 20 David Minden
October 23 Brett Golubski
October 23 Kaelah Garrison
October 23 Hannah Allcorn
October 24 Payton Bruce
October 26 Charlie Peckman

October 26 Dalton Russell
 October 26 Garrett Russell
 October 27 Kolby Fanning
 October 27 Lloyd Peckman
 October 27 Kayla Shappell
 October 30 Chris Kettler
 October 30 Rose Peckman
 October 30 David Prothe
 October 30 Jai Jenkins
 October 31 Nina Gerken
 Oct 7 Scott & Nancy Golubski (32)
 Oct 17 Joe & Anisha O'Barto (23)
 Oct 17 .. Darrel & Brigitte Rodewald (40)
 Oct 19 Kyle & Pam Minden (30)
 Oct 25 Mark & Diana Deering (18)
 Oct 27 Eric & Lindsey Lester (9)
 Oct 30 Les & Beth Prothe (28)
 Oct 31 Dale & Linda Prothe (44)

Trinity's 13th Annual



Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 31, 2:00pm-4:00pm

“Walk Thru” Event with Your Vehicles with Open Trunks
 Parked Along Path from Church Parking Lot to
 Shelter House — Ending with an “Eerie Grove”!

*Everyone Is Invited to Offer Trunk or Treat
 from Your Car, Truck, or Other Vehicle!*

(If You Don't Want to Park Your Own Vehicle Donations of Treats Are Welcome)

All Invited—Everyone Welcome!

2021 Quilt Raffle



Raffle tickets to support missions are available in the Gatherin Room for the beautiful queen-sized quilt made by the Trinity Ladies Aid. Tickets are \$1 per chance to win, or six tickets for \$5. Tickets will be sold until October 24 when the drawing will take place at Trinity's Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner (need not be present to win).

Missionaries of the Month



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 3

Joel & Krista Young
Ethiopia

October 10

Michael & Nancy Jane Morizio
Italy

October 17

Rev. Jerry & Patty Lawson
Russia

October 24

Rev. Charles & Connie Cortright
Latvia

October 31

Rev. Dale & Suzanne Kaster
Czech Republic

Bible Class on “God and Government”



Our current study in Adult Bible Class on *God and Government* looks at what the Bible says about the origins and power of the government and its relationship to the Church. You are invited to join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Heritage Room.



After Church Snacks

Could you serve snacks sometime after worship? *Many spots remain open in the coming weeks and months and thru the end of the year.* Consider signing up for special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries. There is a sign-up sheet on the counter in the Gathering Room.

QUARTERLY MEETING

The quarterly meeting of the Voters Assembly will be held Sunday, October 17 at 7:00pm. In order to prepare for this meeting the Church Council will meet Tuesday, October 12 at 7:00pm.



Heritage Sunday October 17

Everyone enjoyed so much worshipping with *The Lutheran Hymnal* of 1941 for our 150th Anniversary that we made it an annual tradition! This year our "Heritage Sunday" will be on October 17. The liturgy and hymns will all be printed in the bulletin, but we'll also have copies of *The Lutheran Hymnal* available for those who desire the familiar feel of holding a hymnal, or if you have one you received for Confirmation, or perhaps you inherited from your parents or grandparents, you're encouraged to bring it along! All hymns and liturgy that Sunday will be from *The Lutheran Hymnal*, with the order of service the familiar "Page 15."

Communion October 17



As has been customary at Trinity, beginning in October we will have Communion twice per month, on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, with our first "third Sunday" Communion on October 17.



Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner October 24

Everyone is invited to enjoy our annual Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner and Craft Bazaar, on Sunday, October 24. This delicious event is held in our Fellowship Hall immediately after worship. Volunteers will be graciously accepted for food and craft items, as well as other kitchen and table help.

PORTALS of PRAYER

The quarterly issue of the devotional booklet *Portals of Prayer* for October thru December is available at church, in standard, large print, and medium size. A great way to keep close to the Lord!



Trinity's Eighth Blocktoberfest

Hundreds More Pictures Online
www.trinitylcms.org/photos

