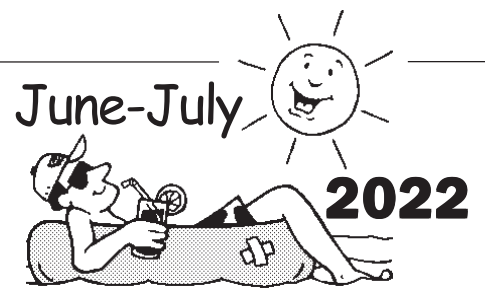


Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas



From the Pastor

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist is observed in the Church Year on June 24. This is based on the complicated method that the ancient Church used to determine that the Nativity of Our Lord would be commemorated on December 25, and the fact that the Angel Gabriel tells the Virgin Mary, when he announces to her that she will become pregnant with Jesus the Messiah: *"Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible with God"* (Luke 1:36-37). So, John and Jesus were cousins of some sort, with John born six months prior to Jesus, and thus the comparable dates of the observances of their nativities in the Church Year.

The Greek word for "relative" used by the Angel Gabriel means simply "kinswoman" and does not specify the relationship. Based on the difference in age between the young Virgin Mary and the elderly Elizabeth, it is generally assumed that Elizabeth was Mary's aunt, which would make John and Jesus "first cousins once removed." However, it is also possible Elizabeth was some other "kinswoman" of Mary, such as a much older sister, cousin, etc.

Following the Annunciation by the Angel Gabriel (Luke 1:26-38), the Virgin Mary went to visit her relative Elizabeth for six months, likely staying to help Elizabeth until after the birth of John, and indeed probably assisting like a midwife with John's birth (Luke 1:56). Again, based on the ancient Church's reckoning of Jesus' own birth on December 25, the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary is, for obvious reasons, observed in the Church Year nine months

previously, on March 25. However, due to the quirky way the Church Year gradually evolved over thousands of years, even though we are told that following the Annunciation the Virgin Mary



The Visitation of the Virgin Mary to Elizabeth is charmingly portrayed in an antependium, a parament for a pulpit or lectern, woven in Strasbourg in about 1410. The older Elizabeth is on the right with John the Baptist in her womb, and the younger Virgin Mary on the left with Jesus in her womb. John the Baptist is pictured kneeling in worship toward Jesus, who has His hand raised in blessing, depicting Elizabeth's exclamation: *"Why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy"* (Luke 1:43-44).

"hurried" to visit Elizabeth (Luke 1:39), the Visitation of the Virgin Mary to Elizabeth is not observed until May 31 or even July 2 — the latter quite illogically *after* the Church Year's observance of John's birth on June 24!

In any case, when Mary visits Elizabeth something truly extraordinary occurs:

"At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the Child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!'" (Luke 1:39-45).

Since we are told it was by a special revelation of the Holy Spirit that Elizabeth recognized Mary as the mother of our Lord and her Child as the Messiah, this can also be assumed to apply to John the Baptist, the great forerunner of the Messiah, who leapt for joy in Elizabeth's womb because of the Messiah's coming.

This Biblical event is very instructive for us. For, while yet in his mother's womb John the Baptist had faith in the Messiah, something that is only possible if he was indeed a human being, not as some think merely a mass of cells with only potential for personhood. From either a Scriptural, scientific, or secular philosophical standpoint, there is simply no basis for making the event of birth the defining gateway from mere potential humanity to full personhood.

Scientifically, we now know that from the moment of conception the entire person is already present in the very first, single cell, in the form of DNA that has a complete, unfathomably complex encoding for that unique individual. Putting it into computer terms that most of us can relate to, if not quite comprehend, just 1 gram of DNA is estimated to be equivalent to 1 billion terabytes of data!

Within weeks that detailed encoding marvelously expresses itself, as the preborn child expands to trillions of cells, growing with unmistakable, very obvious human features and functions. This includes quite quickly a human face, mouth, lips, ears, eyes, hands, and feet, and human functions such as a heartbeat and brainwaves at only five weeks — nothing like the undefined mass of cells that some claim!

Perhaps most amazingly, scientific observations and experiments have conclusively shown that for John to leap for joy in Elizabeth's womb was not quite the miracle we might think! For, experiments conducted for OSHA, to study whether the hearing of preborn children might be damaged if their mothers are in a loud work environment, have shown that children in the womb can hear outside the womb quite clearly. And many other studies and experiments have demonstrated that all preborn

children are in fact already soaking things up mentally and learning in a wide variety of ways while still in their mothers' wombs.

Although gestation to full term in the womb is best for the baby's health and development, there have been cases of babies surviving and thriving outside their mother's womb as young as 21 weeks! As The Washington Post recently reported:

"Right before Richard Scott William Hutchinson was born, his doctors delivered the news that he had 'a zero percent chance of survival,' his parents said. Richard, the world's most premature baby to survive, proved them wrong: He just turned 1. On June 5, 2020 — four months before her due date — Richard's mother, Beth Hutchinson, abruptly went into labor. She was 21 weeks and two days pregnant, meaning only about halfway to full gestation. Richard came into the world weighing less than one pound — the scale read just 340 grams. He could fit into a single palm of a hand. The delivery went smoothly, and the baby survived, but 'they didn't think he would make it very long after that,' said Beth Hutchinson. . . Richard repeatedly defied the odds . . . With each passing week, [his] condition steadily improved . . . 'He's doing really well. He's pretty much hitting all of his milestones,' said his mom. 'He's got two teeth now and a lot of personality. He's a happy, smiley baby, and he loves to laugh.'"

These scientific experiments and examples confirm what God has revealed to us in Scripture, that preborn children are by no means just potential human beings, but they too have full personhood in His sight:

"For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made, hidden in my mother's womb. When I was woven together, as if in the depths of the earth, Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to pass" (Psalm 139:13-16).

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart" (Jeremiah 1:5).

Pastor Kevin Vogts



Pastor Vogts and Terry will be on a tour of Eastern Europe, Austria, and Germany from June 29 thru July 11. The highlight of the trip will be the famous Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany. This trip was originally scheduled for 2020 to celebrate their 30th Wedding Anniversary and Pastor Vogts' 35th Ordination Anniversary, but the Passion Play performances, which since 1680 normally take place for six months every ten years on the decade, were delayed two years due to Covid.

For pastoral care during Pastor Vogts' absence you may contact Rev. Christian Schulz of First Lutheran Church (785-313-4633). Also, thanks to modern technology you may contact Pastor Vogts while he is in Europe either by calling the parsonage phone (913-849-3711) or calling or texting his cell phone (913-594-9865).



Service in the Shelter House with Late Start on July 3

None of our regular guest ministers were available on July 3 because of the holiday weekend. So we are grateful to Pastor Christian Schulz of our sister congregation First Lutheran Church for conducting our Service in the Shelter House that Sunday. However, since First

Trinity Tribune

Published Monthly by

Trinity Lutheran Church
34868 Block Road
Paola, Kansas 66071

Rev. Kevin Vogts, Pastor
Stacey Elkinton, Church Secretary

Church: 913-849-3344
Pastor's Study & Parsonage:
913-849-3711
Pastor's Cell: 913-594-9865

trinitylcms.org
facebook.com/trinitylutheranblock
pastorvogts@gmail.com
trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com
June-July, 2022

has their own service at 9:00am, *for that Sunday only our service will begin at 10:30am.* Also, due to the service being at the Shelter House and Pastor Vogts' absence, there will not be Holy Communion that Sunday.

Our guest minister on July 10 will be Rev. Paul Helmer, a retired pastor from Gardner, with the service at the normal time of 10:00am, and our schedule of Communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays will resume on July 17.



Recognition of Graduates

On June 26 the Board of Education sponsored a recognition of our recent graduates at Trinity, with a reception in their honor at Coffee Hour following worship. May God bless you in all your endeavors!

Zachary Donahue — Son of Steve & Lori Donahue — Graduated from Paola High School and is enrolled in the Lineman program at Metropolitan Community College.

Kyia Fuller — Daughter of Jeron & Kendra Fuller — Graduated from Paola High School and is enrolled at Creative Image School of Cosmetology. She hopes to one day own her own salon.

Mika Menefee — Daughter of Jeff & Autumn Menefee — Graduated from Paola High School and is enrolled at Ottawa University to study Elementary Education will be dancing with Jordan on the dance team.

Lance Elliott — Son of Justin Elliott & the late Teresa Elliott — Received a technical certificate in Harley Davidson tech from Fort Scott Community College. He is working on heavy equipment at KC Bobcat.

Kennedy McMullin — Daughter of Steve & Kristie McMullin — Received her Master's of Social Work Degree from Louisiana State University. She starts her job as a Family Support Therapist with DCCCA next week.

Jordan Menefee — Daughter of Jeff & Autumn Menefee — Received her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Ottawa University. She is now working on a Master's Degree with an emphasis in Human Resources. She will be dancing with Mika on the dance team.

Chancie Minden — Son of Kyle Minden & Pamela Peckman — Received a Bachelor's of Science in Business Degree with a focus in accounting. He is currently working on a Master's of Accountancy Degree and expects to graduate next May.

Peyton Mitchell — Son of Ryan & Tamara Mitchell — Received his Bachelor's in Business Administration Degree from Concordia University Nebraska. He is working as a logistics broker at Ryan Transportation in Overland Park.

Brooke Prothe — Daughter of Kevin & Marla Prothe — Received her Juris Doctor Degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law. She is studying for her bar exam and plans to start her own law practice.



Large Group Attends LCMS Youth Gathering

Please remember in prayer the youth and adult leaders from our congregation and First Lutheran Church who will be joining some 20,000 LCMS youth from across the nation for the LCMS National Youth Gathering in Houston from July 9-13: Gentry Blanck, Kristina Eilts,

Molly Eilts, Rain Greenlee, Branda Jenkins, Jai Jenkins, Jerek Jenkins, Alexander Kamprath, Autumn Menefee, Mika Menefee, Erin Meyer, Minna Meyer, Cate Minden, Pam Peckman, Madison Wood, Rich Wood, Sally Wood, Josie Worrell, and Maria Worrell.

Thank you all for your generous support for the Blocktoberfest Dinner and other youth fundraisers that make it possible for them to attend this event. We are blessed this year with one of the largest contingents at the National Youth Gathering from our Johnson-Miami County Circuit!

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.

June 5

Rev. Sorin-Horia & Florentina Trifa
Romania

June 12

Rev. Arthur & Deaconess
Eva Rickman
Panama

June 19

Mark & Megan Mantey
Uganda

June 26

Rev. Vance & Linda Becker
Kenya

July 3

Rev. Gerald & Heidi Paul
Cayman Islands

July 10

Deaconess Sandra Rhein
Taiwan

July 17

Courtney Zalmanoff
Dominican Republic

July 24
Dr. Martin & Marie Dicke
 Papua New Guinea

July 31
Rev. James & Deaconess
Christel Neuendorf
 Puerto Rico



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.

June 1 Kelsey Davis
 June 1 Sara Slack
 June 1 Michele Prothe
 June 1 Minna Meyer
 June 2 David Koelsch
 June 4 Arlin Prothe
 June 4 Jamey Kaiser
 June 4 Molly Eilts
 June 5 Samantha Ferrell
 June 5 Linda Prothe
 June 5 Lance Stewart
 June 6 Rhonda Kerr
 June 7 Kendra Fuller
 June 9 Kendra Woodrow
 June 9 Jordan Menefee
 June 10 Madison Wood
 June 13 Ed Reyelts
 June 13 Augustus Prothe
 June 13 Leta England
 June 14 Chris Carstens
 June 14 Ethan Debrick
 June 14 Leland Prothe
 June 14 Kathy Hall
 June 14 Kevin Prothe

June 16 Michelle Jones
 June 17 Bailey Kaiser
 June 18 Theresa Kettler
 June 19 Richard Honn
 June 19 Dale Moser
 June 19 Annabelle Ducey
 June 20 Paul Brack
 June 20 Judy Minden
 June 21 Kim House
 June 21 Jon Wendte
 June 22 Greg Brandt
 June 22 Beth Curry
 June 22 Vernon Prothe
 June 22 Jacob Vogts
 June 24 Tina Edwards
 June 25 Beth Herrs
 June 25 Rich Wood
 June 26 Kyia Fuller
 June 26 Donna Prothe
 June 26 Allison Wood
 June 27 George Holtz
 June 27 Kynda Harshman
 June 29 Devin Bruce
 June 29 Betty Cline
 June 30 Garry Block
 June 3 ... Emerson & Wilda Bunch (66)
 June 4 ... James & Rhonda Prothe (17)
 June 8 .. Quentin & Kaelah Garrison (3)
 June 8 Jeff & Jamie Ennett (20)
 June 10 Chris & Lana Kettler (44)
 June 10 Rolland & Betty Prothe (50)
 June 11 ... Bruce & Gale Nowasell (34)
 June 13 Rick & Connie Holte (24)
 June 14 Jim & Sharon Prothe (42)
 June 15 Stan & Sondra Loftiss (9)
 June 16 Mike & Susan Schmitt (5)
 June 16 .. Michael & Cindy Puckett (3)
 June 18 . David & Lorranda Baldridge (17)
 June 19 Brian & Erin Meyer (18)
 June 22 Clint & Michelle Haley (20)
 July 1 Emily Wolf
 July 3 Brandy Allen
 July 3 Molly Hermann
 July 3 Karen Windler
 July 3 Every Massey
 July 5 Joshua Bunch
 July 5 Samantha Prothe
 July 6 Ryan Morton
 July 7 Regan Boyer
 July 7 Shelly D'Amato
 July 7 Kennedy Rakoski
 July 7 Tamara Mitchell
 July 10 Wanda Stagg
 July 11 Ken Debrick
 July 11 Dennis Prothe
 July 12 Joshua Sombke
 July 12 Steve Warner

July 13 Steve Grother
 July 13 Duane Prothe
 July 13 Don Warring
 July 14 Sheryl Holtz
 July 14 Rayden Berry
 July 15 Karen Kaiser
 July 16 David Johns
 July 16 Brittannie Ritch
 July 17 Ann Davis
 July 18 Keith Prothe
 July 18 Madison Snider
 July 19 Clint Kettler
 July 19 Cathy Tesar
 July 19 Janet England
 July 19 Annabelle Ducey
 July 20 Mallory Tharp
 July 20 Norma Peckman
 July 21 Dan Hieber
 July 21 Chance Mueller
 July 23 Lillian Kettler
 July 23 Taryn Jones
 July 24 Zachary Davis
 July 24 Margo Rodewald
 July 24 Marcie Reyelts
 July 25 Shannon Fanning
 July 26 Stephanie Bivins
 July 27 Matthew Barnett
 July 27 Denna Jones
 July 27 Curtis Kettler
 July 27 Marla Prothe
 July 29 Lonnie England
 July 29 Barbara Herrs
 July 29 Cody Weaver
 July 31 Barb Dillenbeck
 July 31 Colleen Richardson
 July 1 Dannie & Elaine Stewart (50)
 July 7 .. Andrew & Brianna Chapman (10)
 July 8 Earl & Darleen Medlin (47)
 July 15 Adam & Lorri Jenson (27)
 July 18 Paul & Karen Brack (41)
 July 22 Charles & Kathy Hall (44)
 July 26 John & Kathy Gerken (53)
 July 26 David & Carol Wray (42)
 July 27 .. Phillip & Morgan Richards (20)
 July 29 Chris & Sherri Webb (33)

PORTALS of PRAYER

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



Adult Bible Class "Rabboni: Women Who Encountered Jesus"

We are most familiar with the male Disciples of Jesus recorded in the New Testament. However, the Gospels also emphasize that Jesus had many female followers, who feature prominently in the New Testament, but are sometimes overlooked.

So far in this study we have considered the Virgin Mary, Elizabeth, Anna, Mary Magdalene, and Mary and Martha. Beginning in July we will look at the Woman Healed of Flow of Blood, the Woman at the Well, the Woman with a Possessed Daughter, the Women from Galilee and Women of Jerusalem, and Salome and "The Other Mary."

All are invited and encouraged to join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Heritage Room the new study in Adult Bible Class on *Rabboni: Women Who Encountered Jesus*.



Thank you to all those hosting Coffee Hour following our worship services. The signup sheet is on the counter in the Gathering Room. Drinks are provided so you only need to bring snacks. Consider signing up to honor birthdays, wedding anniversaries, etc.



We rejoiced to celebrate the Confirmation and First Communion of Cale Elinton, James Haley, and Catherine Minden on May 15. *"I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will keep Your righteous ordinances"* (Psalm 119:106).

June 5

Susan Henry
Linda Prothe's Birthday

June 12

Sondra & Stan Loftiss

June 19

Lori Schlegel

June 26

Board of Education
Graduates Reception

July 3

Paul & Kathy Haley

July 10, 17, 24, 31

Need Volunteers

June 5 (Pentecost Sunday)

"Witnesses to the Resurrection"
Acts 2:32

June 12 (Trinity Sunday)

"The Lesson of Trinity Sunday" or
"Does It Really Make One iota
of a Difference?"
2 Thessalonians 2:15

June 19 (Father's Day)

"Children of the Heavenly Father"
Galatians 3:26-27

June 26

"The Fruit of the Spirit"
Galatians 5:22-23

July 3 (Independence Day Observance)

Rev. Christian Schulz
Guest Minister

July 10

Rev. Paul Helmer
Guest Minister

July 17

"One Thing's Needful"
Luke 10:38-42

July 24

"Don't Be Captive to the World"
Colossians 2:6-8

July 31

"Set Your Hearts
on Things Above"
Colossians 3:1-4

Sermons for June-July



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.



United in Christ

*Peyton Weatherbie
& Galen Fleming*
United in Christian Marriage
June 4, 2022

*Carrie Short
& Chancie Minden*
United in Christian Marriage
June 25, 2022

*"And the two shall become one."
Matthew 19:5*



We rejoiced to welcome over a dozen new members at our Service in the Shelter House for Ascension Sunday on May 29. Pictured left to right in the back row are Jeff Menefee, Hannah Menefee, Stan Loftiss, Devin Canada, Pastor Vogts, Kevin Erwin, Donna Erwin, William Eilts, and Karl Karrow, and in the front row Mika Menefee, Autumn Menefee, Sondra Loftiss, Jessica Erwin, and Cynthia Karrow. Welcome to the Trinity family of faith!



Blocktoberfest September 17

Ach du lieber! It's almost time for our ninth Blocktoberfest! Held on the grounds at Trinity on Saturday, September 17, from noon to 6:00pm.

This year's Blocktoberfest will again feature lots of free fun activities and delicious food. And on Sunday, September 18 we will also hold our annual "Blocktoberfest Outdoor Service" in the Shelter House at our regular worship time of 10:00am.

We look forward to another wunderbar year celebrating our German heritage—and having fun!

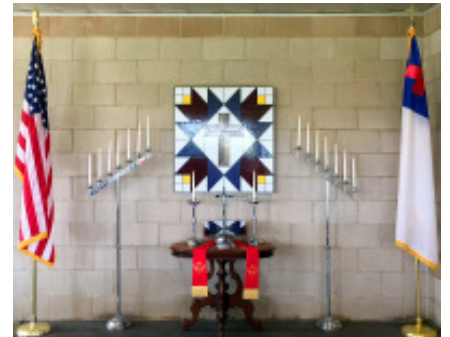


Loren Arnold Herrs
Born April 20, 1939
Entered Eternal Rest June 3, 2022

Dennis Louie Peckman
Born September 4, 1930
Entered Eternal Rest June 10, 2022

Virginia Mae Peckman
Born September 25, 1941
Entered Eternal Rest June 15, 2022

*"Blessed are the dead
who die in the Lord."
Revelation 14:13*



Service in the Shelter House at Special time on July 3

On Sunday morning, July 3, we will again have our annual Service in the Shelter House in observance of Independence Day. Because Pastor and Terry Vogts will be on a trip to the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany our guest minister that Sunday will be Rev. Christian Schulz of First Lutheran Church, Paola. However, because First has their service at 9:00am, for that Sunday only our service will begin at the special time of 10:30am.