

LABORS

Worship time:
9:00 a.m.
Adult Bible
Study: 10:15
a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church and Preschool
634 Alden Drive
Auburn, Nebraska 68305
(402) 274-4210
Web: <http://www.trinityaubne.net>

June 2016 - July 2016
Volume XXXI Number 3

of

LOVE



When I was riding my bike over to Kids of HIS Kingdom last week, I saw what looked like a grandpa mowing his lawn with a push mower. A little boy was following about 6-8 feet right behind him with a toy lawn mower. I'm guessing that was his grandson. This made me smile. It would have made a great picture. The little boy might have been thinking, "I want to be just like grandpa."

In seeing the little boy following the man, I thought about how Jesus wants the same for us. He wants us to follow right behind Him. Certainly, that includes trusting in Who He is as the promised Savior--that what He has done for the world at the cross and the empty tomb He has also done for us as individuals to give us forgiveness of sins and eternal salvation.

In his letter to the Ephesian Christians, the apostle Paul also encouraged them to follow Jesus. He said, *"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God... Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord."* (Ephesians 5:1-2, 8b-10, ESV).

We can be so thankful that the Holy Spirit has brought us to repentance and faith in Christ. Through that faith alone in Jesus, we receive forgiveness of sins, eternal salvation, and receive a new identity as God's own beloved children. The Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel itself and as it is connected with the water in

Holy Baptism. In doing so, the Spirit sets our feet on the path of following Jesus as our Savior. Romans 6:3-4, ESV: *"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."*

What does that walking in "newness of life" that is ours in Christ look like? We are to "walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us..." The word for love that Paul uses describes that self-giving, self-sacrificing love that Jesus showed with His innocent suffering and death on the cross. He put our needs first by dying as the perfect sacrificial substitute under the just punishment we deserve for our inherited sinfulness and for all of our sins.

We know from Holy Scripture what Jesus did in that love for us. So what does He desire that love look like in our lives? In humility, that love counts others more significant than oneself. It looks not only to its own interests but also to the interests of others. (Philippians 2:3-4) More specifically that love honors one's parents. It does no physical harm to one's neighbor but helps him or her in their times of need. It leads a sexually pure and decent life. It does not tell lies, gossip or slander others, but speaks in defense of them and puts the best construction on what they do and say. It does not scheme to take away from the neighbor her or his property or hurt his or her relationships.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

634 Alden Drive
 Auburn, Nebraska 68305
 274-4210

email – trinityaub@windstream.net
<http://www.trinityaubne.net>

Officers: EFFECTIVE JULY 1

Chairman - *Dennis Wittmann
 Secretary - *Susan Johnston
 Treasurer - *Tim Becker/
 Financial Secretary - *Jim Parrish

Board of Childhood Development:

Dennis Wittmann
 Erin Fisk
 Rochelle Collins
 Emily Crotty

Board of Education:

Amber Meyer
 Judith Ruskamp
 Sarah Bogdanoff
 Merri Johnson

Superintendent -

Merri Johnson

Board of Elders:

Tim Becker
 John Ackerman
 Troy Barker
 Eric Bohling
 Dan Buman
 Michael Zaruba

Board of Evangelism:

Stacy Zaruba
 Karen Kamtz
 Lori Parrish

Board of Stewardship:

Rich Tanderup
 Rod Penfield
 Eric Wilke

Board of Trustees:

Jerry Ruskamp
 Rick Fritz
 Gary Kamtz

Trinity Foundation:

Brian Meyer
 Melissa Buman
 Paul Hinrichs
 Gary Kamtz
 Dan Buman

Cemetery Committee:

Daryl Stutheit
 Kurt Stutheit
 _____TBD

Auxiliary Presidents:

Luth. Laymen’s League - Richard Tanderup
 LWML - Angie Becker
 Trinity Youth Group - Zachary Becker

Church Staff

Pastor - *Rev. Jonathan Rathjen
 Secretary - Laurie Clark

*Denotes Board of Directors member

Congregational Goals for 2015-2016

- 1) Promote engaging relationships and connections in the community (esp. Preschool and KOHK parents) to share the saving love of Jesus.
- 2) Promote engaging relationships and connections inside the congregation to share the saving love of Jesus.
- 3) Support Senior Youth Group Development.
- 4) Develop a multi-media/sound system upgrade plan to support the needs of the congregation. [Lead Stewardship]
- 5) Update the congregation’s website. {Board of Elders}

June 2016-July 2016

ELDERS

June	July
05 – Dan Buman	03 – John Ackerman
12 – Tim Becker	4 th of July weekend
19– Eric Bohling	10 – Troy Barker
26– Troy Barker	17 – Tim Becker
	24 – Eric Bohling
	31 – Dan Buman

ORGANISTS

Joan Wittmann	Merri Johnson Sandy Wilson Vicki Ackerman
---------------	---

PIANISTS

ALTAR CARE

June	July
Angie Becker	Merri Johnson
Lisa Rathjen	Susan Johnston

ACOLYTES

June	July
05 – Kyle Becker	03 – Kyra Becker
12 – Dariane Stutheit	4 th of July weekend
19 – Dariane Stutheit	10 – Angel Tanderup
26 – Samuel Ackerman	17 – Madison Pingel
	24 – Dariane Stutheit
	31 – Samuel Ackerman

**All BOARDS
 Meeting
 August 14, 2016
 at 10:30 a.m.**

Save the Date!



Flowers for Worship

No money was approved in the 2016 budget to purchase flowers for the sanctuary for our worship services. We would still like to have flowers in the sanctuary from time to time. To purchase 2 vases of flowers usually costs \$50-60. We know that's a lot, so if you would like to help purchase flowers, you can donate any amount at any time. People's gifts will be combined to purchase flowers as needed. If anyone has flowers that they grow, those are very welcome to be used for bouquets as well! Also, if your donation is in memory of a special occasion (anniversary, birthday, etc.), please provide information to the church office so that it can be printed in the bulletin on the date you'd like. If you have any questions, please see Pat Maddox. Thank you!



Confirmation

May 1, 2016 three of our youth, Joshua Barker, Logan Edwards, and Elaina Riley confirmed their faith in the Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – as Lutheran Christians. A number of guests joined the congregation in celebrating this special day with them and their parents and family members. We continue praying for their on-going growth in the Christian faith.



Logan Edwards, Joshua Barker, Elaina Riley, and Pastor Rathjen



KoHK CORNER

New Summer Programs

This year we are beginning a new summer program for school-aged children! This program is designed to keep the students enjoying their summer with activities such as crafts, picnics, the library, and swimming! Space is limited! If interested in enrolling your child, please contact Director Allie Graf at (402) 274-1424 or at kohkdaycare@gmail.com.

Come & See Our Growing Daycare Mission in Action!

Please come and tour Kids of HIS Kingdom (1320 20th Street) Mondays – Thursdays, 8:00 – 10:30 AM, or 2:00 – 3:30 PM. Just as a picture is worth a thousand words, you can best feel the energy of our growing daycare by experiencing it! We have added new faces to our daycare family of children, and an exciting new summer curriculum program will soon be launched. Come and see HIS Kingdom in the small faces!

KoHK Welcomes VOLUNTEERS!

Please contact Allie Graf (402-274-1424) to see if there is something you can help with involving various tasks at our daycare mission. Examples:

- ✝ Assisting staff with various childcare and activities
- ✝ preparing snacks
- ✝ Cleaning
- ✝ Occasional repairing/sewing of toys

Thank you Trinity members for your prayers for these missions of our congregation and to all who have helped the Preschool and Daycare missions of our congregation with gifts of time, talents and financial resources!



Trinity Lutheran Preschool

Our Graduates! ...



Kollins



Chloe



Ethan



Jonah



Hailey



Elijah

Six proud graduates completed Trinity Lutheran Preschool this May! We will miss these sweet faces, but share with them and their families the excitement they feel in beginning Kindergarten in a few months! Well done!

Our class for next year is already forming – if you know of family or neighbors that would like a spot, have them contact Preschool Director Kim Kieler (tlpauburn@gmail.com) to register.

Luke 18:15-17 ¹⁵Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. ¹⁶But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." ¹⁷Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."

Preschool Graduation/End of Year Program



The whole gang singing & signing the first verse of "Amazing Grace."



When I grow up I want to be a ...



The eager graduates!

**Confirmation Class
End-of-Year Picnic**



Play Ball!



Quiet Time for the ladies!



GO, Pastor!

We had approximately 30 people for the Confirmation picnic on Wednesday, May 4. Pastor grilled hot dogs & hamburgers. The families of the 5th/6th grade students brought salad, relishes, fruit & chips. The families of the 7th/8th graders brought pop & dessert. We had lots of good food and played ping pong and kickball. Thank you to everyone who participated.



**CONGRATULATIONS to
our Graduates!**

Blair Benton graduated from Nebraska City High School, and Drew Clarke and Micah Rathjen graduated from Auburn High School! Congratulations to each graduate for all their hard work and perseverance! And we give a special tribute to the parents and families of each young person, for your support and commitment to their success!

We also celebrate the graduation from college of:

- ☆ Thomas Hinrichs, from Concordia University, Nebraska who will be teaching in the middle grades at Christ Lutheran, Albuquerque, NM
- ☆ Christine Ruskamp, from Concordia University, Nebraska who will be undertaking a Graduate Assistantship at UNL, Dept. of Natural Resources, Fisheries Study
- ☆ Austin Penfield, from Hastings College with degrees in Broadcasting & Journalism
- ☆ Tyler Penfield, from Hastings College with degrees in Computer Science and Mathematics



**ICE CREAM Social
Sunday, June 12
5:00 – 7:00 PM**

Give in to your sweet-tooth cravings with delicious homemade ice cream, pies, cakes etc. Bring along a friend or neighbor to join us for the wonderful treats and great fellowship!

**Hosted by Trinity Lutheran Laymen's League
Supplemental funds by Thrivent Financial for
Lutherans,
Southeast Nebraska Chapter
Funds to be used to support the Students'
Scholarship Fund**

VBS IS COMING June 6 - 10!!



VBS 2016 is “farm-tastic!”

In Barnyard Roundup VBS, your children learn that Jesus gathers us together! They'll look into the Bible, God's Holy Word, and explore five Bible accounts where Jesus graciously gathers us together to be with Him with His abundant provision and saving protection, now and forever. Your child will experience these accounts through music, crafts, storytelling, Bible challenge, recess, and snack.




Who: Any Child who is at least 4 years old with 1 year of preschool-6th grade completed

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church
634 Alden Drive
Auburn, NE 68305
402-274-4210

When: June 6-10
9-11:30am

Please pre-register online at:
<http://www.trinityaubne.net>

Positions still needed:

-  Preschool helper
-  Kindergarten helper
-  Recess helper

If you can help with any of these, please contact Chantelle Wilke at (402) 276-2102 or email her at chantellekay95@gmail.com. Thanks!



New Sound System



Out with old...



In with the new!



We are enjoying a much sharper sound for worship with the updated equipment at the rear of the sanctuary. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow for all who have worked on and given financial gifts for this project!



Car Wash & Bake Sale, Saturday, June 4, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. These events will help build relationships and raise funds for the group going to the National Youth Gathering. The group would welcome donations of baked goods from the congregation members. Please bring them to church by Friday, June 3 at noon. The youth will be washing vehicles for a donation. If you have any questions, please contact Stacy Zaruba (srzaruba@gmail.com, or 402-274-8197), or Zachary Becker (402-274-3091).

Help Wanted: Wednesday, June 8, 6:00 – 9:00 PM, at Kids of HIS Kingdom. We will be expanding the playground at KoHK. We need help building a fence and painting a picnic table. If anyone has cordless drills or other construction tools, please bring along with you! Any questions, please contact Dennis Wittmann.

Rev. Ed and Deaconess Cherie Auger will visit Trinity Sunday, June 26. There will be a congregational potluck dinner following worship and a presentation. Watch for more details.

Sunday, July 10, Installation of Officers and Board Members during worship.

Sunday, July 10, Commissioning of National Youth Gathering Participants during worship.

Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, July 10, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM. A pancake breakfast will be held to help build caring relationships among the youth group members and to raise funds for the group going to the National Youth Gathering. Watch for more details.

JOY in Jesus... not even the rain can wash it away...



The rain eventually washed our Preschoolers' end-of-year sidewalk art away, but their decorations on the church sidewalk reflect their Joy in the Savior they are learning about!

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW!