



THE CHURCH MOUSE



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS

1002 East 13th Street, Vinton, IA 52349-2385
319-472-5571



2026

Worship Schedule

Sunday Divine Worship
9:00 AM

Wednesday Vesper
Worship
6:30 PM

Holy Communion offered
the first Wednesday of
each month

Pastor

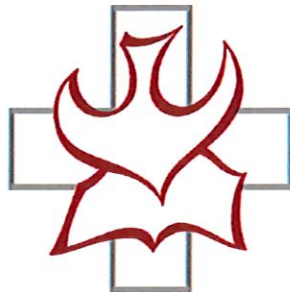
Rev Stephen Preus
Home Phone 319-472-2898

Our Staff

Nancy Hughes
Church Secretary
Lea Winsor
Housekeeper

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activities:
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Vinton](http://Trinity Lutheran Church Vinton)



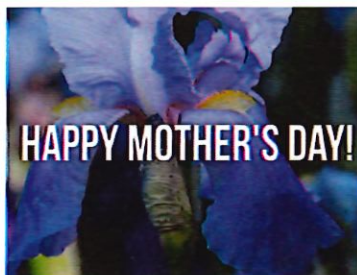
Confirmation 2026

*Max Byroade
Kinzlee Happel
John Preus
Kaylin Winsor*

The Rite of Confirmation will take place on Sunday, May 3rd during worship. We give thanks to God for Max, Kinzlee, John and Kaylin and welcome them as communicant members of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Summer Break begins this month;
last regular class will be on
Sunday, May 17th.

Join us for a Pizza party,
Popcorn, and the movie
"David"!



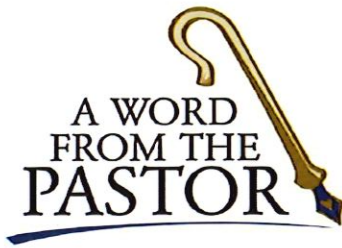
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Sunday, May 10th
We give thanks to God for
our Mothers!

MEMORIAL DAY



REMEMBERING ALL WHO SERVED
MONDAY MAY 25



What About?

There are plenty of issues that people have questions about in our churches. To address these questions, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) produced a series of 29 pamphlets called "What About?" While produced a couple of decades ago, they are just as relevant now as then. The truth is always relevant. While we might *add* a few more contemporary issues that the church is currently dealing with, we would certainly not *subtract* any of the "What About?" series. They address important topics of morality, doctrine, and practice.

Since these pamphlets are so helpful for our unity as a congregation and a church body, we have begun providing one issue in the "What About?" series per newsletter. This current month, we will consider the topic of "The Apostles' Creed." In this pamphlet, we learn about the only true God and His work for us.

While I will also supply newsletter articles from time to time, I would really like to turn your attention toward this series each month. By contemplating these topics, you will understand where our congregation and church body stand on these important biblical issues; and where *you* should joyfully stand too.

If you find a topic helpful, let me know. If you find that you disagree with a topic or are confused about a teaching or practice, let me know. I would love to discuss it with you and help you to see that the teaching of our congregation and church body is faithful to our Crucified and Risen Savior and His holy Word.

Below is the "What About?" pamphlet on "The Apostles' Creed."

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Preus





What About . . .

The Apostles' Creed

What does it mean to confess the Christian faith?

There is nothing more sure or certain in this life than the word and promise of God. With the words of the Apostles' Creed, Christians through the ages have responded to God's Word to them. With the Psalmist we pray, "O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall confess your praise" (Ps. 51:15). The word "creed" comes from the Latin word, "credo," which means, "I believe." To "confess" means to make a declaration of what one believes. When we confess the faith of the Christian church in the words of the Apostles' Creed, we are confessing our belief in who the Holy Trinity is, and what God has done for us. Each section, or article, of the Apostles' Creed speaks about the work of one of the persons of the Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Each article of the Apostles' Creed is our opportunity to speak back to God, and to each other, the mighty deeds of the Holy Trinity by which He has created us, by which He has redeemed us, and by which He keeps us in the one true faith until life eternal. This is a very important dimension of our faith and worship of God.

What do we confess about God the Father?

"I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth."

We all believe in one true God, maker of the earth and heaven. "Our Father," he would have us say; children's place to us has given. He has pledged always to feed us; body, soul, to keep, to nourish. Through all evil he will lead us, guards us well that we may flourish. He cares for us by day and night and governs all things by his might.¹

That there is a god is a truth known to all human beings simply from the very existence of all things. This is called the natural knowledge of God. There is nothing very remarkable about believing that there is a god. Only a fool says, "there is no god" (Ps. 53:1). The real issue is not that people believe in no god, but that they are tempted to believe in a god who is not the one, true God. Or, that they are tempted to put in the place of the true God, "gods" of our culture, like money, success, popularity or pleasure.

The first article of the Apostles' Creed declares that Christians believe, teach and confess that the one, true god is none other than the One who has made the heavens and the earth, and everything in them. But more than that, He is our

Father who provides and cares for us as a father cares for his beloved children.

We believe that He has made us and has given us all the good things we have in this life. This He has done purely out of the love He has for us as our Father. He not only gives us life, He also defends us, guards us, and protects us during this life, so that we will join Him in heaven for all eternity. There is nothing in us that makes us worthy of the good things God gives us. It is all from His love as a father. How glorious it is to know that the same God who created heaven and earth also created each one of us and cares for us personally.

What do we confess about God the Son?

"I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead."

We all believe in Christ, His Son, whom as Lord we are addressing, of equal Godhead, throne, and might, source of every grace and blessing. Born of Mary, virgin mother, by the power of the Spirit, made true man, our human brother through whom sonship we inherit; He, crucified for sinful men, through God's power rose to life again.

We are able to believe that God is our Father, because of what His Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, came into this world to do: to live perfectly in our place, to suffer and die to pay for the sin of the world, and then to rise victorious over humanity's most ancient and most evil enemies: sin, death and the devil.

Jesus Christ, the second person of the Holy Trinity, the Son of God from all eternity, was born of the Virgin Mary, to offer up to the Father His precious body and blood for the forgiveness of the sins of the world. Through this sacrifice, the Son of God won for us reconciliation and peace with God, a peace that had been shattered by sin, both the original sin common to all human beings and the sin that is unique to each of us.

At the Father's command, Christ came into this world to do all this for us so that we would be His very own by faith, serving Him and living for Him. Our hope is in the One who rose from the grave and now lives as our Savior for all eternity. How

What about the Apostles' Creed?

blessed we are to have been brought to the knowledge that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world and that in Him we have the full and free forgiveness of all of our sins and the promise of eternal life forever with Him in heaven.

What do we confess about the Holy Spirit?

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

We all confess the Holy Ghost, who grants comfort, grace, and power. He, with the Father and the Son, robes us for the triumph hour; keeps the Church, his own creation, in true unity of the spirit; here forgiveness and salvation come to us through Jesus' merit. The body risen, we then shall be in life with God eternally. Amen.

The Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, three persons, equal in majesty and together being of one essence, truly does love us as His own dear children. The Holy Spirit calls us into fellowship with the Trinity, by the powerful means of grace that God has given: the Word and Sacraments. With the Word and Sacraments, He keeps the entire church on earth in the one, true and saving faith.

As Luther explains in his Large Catechism, the Holy Spirit works in our life through the church because the church "is the mother that begets and bears every Christian through the Word of God. The Holy Spirit reveals and preaches that Word, and by it He illumines and kindles hearts so that they grasp and accept it, cling to it, and persevere in it." In the church, the Spirit of God is daily pouring out the forgiveness of sins in rich measure so that on the last day we will rise from dead and join all believers in Christ in eternal life. Daily we want to thank and praise God the Holy Spirit for His work in our lives.

Why do we use creeds?

Some church bodies shy away from making formal statements of faith. The Lutheran church is not hesitant to use the historic, universal (ecumenical) creeds. We use the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed and the Athanasian Creed. These three ancient creeds are how we confess the one, true faith of the Christian church and they help us to identify with all believers in Christ throughout all ages.

The historic creeds are, as our church recently stated in convention, "the cherished possession of the entire church down through the ages and are not just the expression of any one individual. The church has maintained the confession of these creeds and has even suffered martyrdom rather than deny the faith confessed in them." Therefore, the use of the historic Christian creeds is a very important part of Lutheran

worship services. Because we know that personal, individual statements of faith are oftentimes subject to imprecise and even erroneous confessions of the faith of the church, we discourage the use of informal statements of faith in the public worship of the church.

Creeds serve as a way to make sure that the church continues to believe what the Word of God teaches. The treasure of truth in the Word of God is what we wish to confess and to stand for as a church. It is based on these truths, as confessed in the Apostles' Creed, that the people of God are led to serve Him in both word and deed.

When we confess the Apostles' Creed, and the other historic creeds, we confess the faith of the Christian church. We do so with joy and confidence. With these words on our lips and in our hearts, we have the assurance that we are speaking back to God the truths He has first spoken to us. And thus, with confidence in the Lord's sure and certain Word, we say, "This is most certainly true."

1. Martin Luther, *We All Believe in One True God*, Hymn 213 in *Lutheran Worship* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1982).

— Dr. A. L. Barry
President

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 7-10, 2026

I am Jesus' Little Lamb



Please join us on Sunday, June 7 - Wednesday, June 10, for our Vacation Bible School: "I am Jesus' Little Lamb." Each day we will begin with a meal at 5:30 p.m., then have a devotion, singing, learning, games, and crafts. We hope you can make it!

****Want to help with the meals, teaching lessons, games, or crafts?
Please let Lea Winsor know if you would like to help!****

TLC Preschool

We are very pleased to announce our newest staff member. Lyndsey Davis will be joining us as our 4's preschool teacher. Lyndsey is from Vinton and has previously taught at Tilford elementary for four years. She and her husband Tanner have three boys who are 4 years, 21 months, and 4 months old. Lyndsey is excited to join us at TLC and spread the good news about Jesus our savior. You may see her around this summer if you stop in at church; Lyndsey has agreed to help clean, organize and get ready for the 2026-2027 school year.

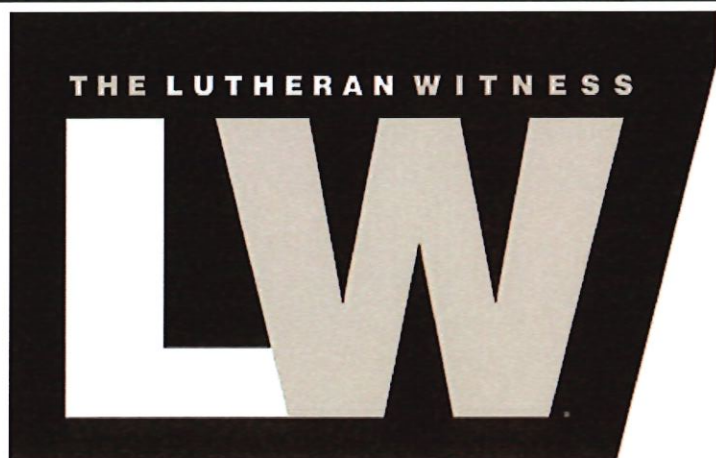
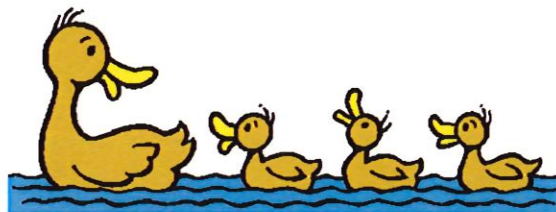
Our end of the year program will take place on Tuesday, May 19 at 6 p.m. and is followed with refreshments served in the Parish hall. It will be a shorter show this year since only one class is participating.

THANK YOU TLC staff, TLC board, volunteers and especially our church family.

We are blessed to have the support of our church family. Without your support, we wouldn't be able to have a Christian preschool. Thank you for attending fund raising projects and purchasing items from our fundraisers. Thank you to those who have contributed in any other way. We are blessed with prayers and comments from our members.

God's Blessings,

Gail Gerber
TLC Director



THE LUTHERAN WITNESS is a monthly publication you can subscribe to annually through the church. The cost is \$22.10 delivered to your home address.

Please let Nancy Hughes know and submit your payment to the church office by May 10th.



March Budget Needs: \$21,533

March Offering Income: \$20,694






March Expenses Paid: \$33,660

3/31 Year to Date Offering Income: \$59,371

3/31 YTD Budget Expenses Paid : \$72,505

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Pastor's Family Day	2
						
3 Confirmation 9:00 am Divine Service 10:20 am Sunday School / Bible Study	4	5	6 6:30 pm Divine Service	7 9:00 am NO Bible Study Meet at church to carpool to St. John Newhall for National Day of Prayer Event	8 Pastor's Family Day	9
10 9:00 am Divine Service 10:20 am Sunday School/Bible Study 4:00 pm Preschool Board Mtg.	11	12 8 am – Pastor's Conference 6:30 pm Church Council	13 6:30 pm Vespers Service	14 9:00 am Bible Study – Parish Hall	15 Pastor's Family Day	16
17 Ascension (Observed) 9:00 am Divine Service 10:20 am Sunday School Pizza Party, Movie "David"	18	19 6:00 pm Preschool Program	20 6:30 pm Vespers Service	21 9:00 am Bible Study – Parish Hall	22 Pastor's Family Day	23
24 Pentecost 9:00 am Divine Service 10:20 am Bible Study	25 Memorial Day	26	27 6:30 pm Vespers Service	28	29	30
31 Trinity 9 am Divine Service 10:20 am Bible Study						
Altar Guild Ashley Johnson Lesa Caspers			Offering Counters Becky Fisher Wendy Haefner			