

Trinity
Lutheran

"A New Voice"- an organ update

by William "Bill" Riemenschneider *8-31-23*

"We're voicing it," explained Emma Schneider as she and Jeremy Zimmer worked on the pipe organ at Trinity Lutheran Church in State Center. The first phase of organ work was in 2017, and the pair are back now to continue developing the organ's sound.

"The sound will be new" continued Emma, adding that "volume and tonality" will also be improved. The initial set-up was done so that new pipes could be added and Emma and Jeremy have brought 500 new pipes for the organ. 61 of the original pipes will be used once tuning improvements and updates have been accomplished. The pipes are made in England and then adapted and tuned once they are on site.

A final phase of the current work will be to

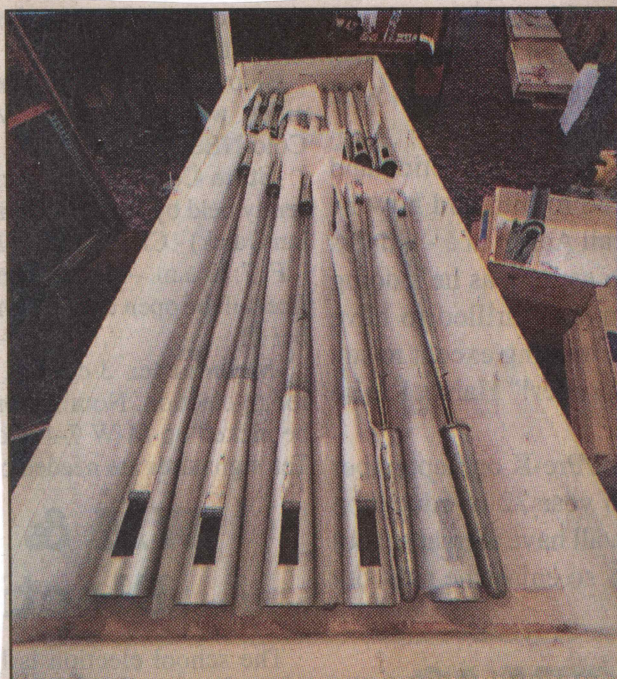
match the organ notes to a piano scale. Emma and Jeremy said that once this work is completed the organ should be tuned every spring and fall.

Jeremy said that he had his interest in organs sparked during middle school with an 8th grade class in pipe organs. Both Emma and Jeremy have college degrees in music. Emma's interest was stirred after she entered into an organ apprenticeship (after working as a vet tech!) "I never knew this kind of work existed," she said.

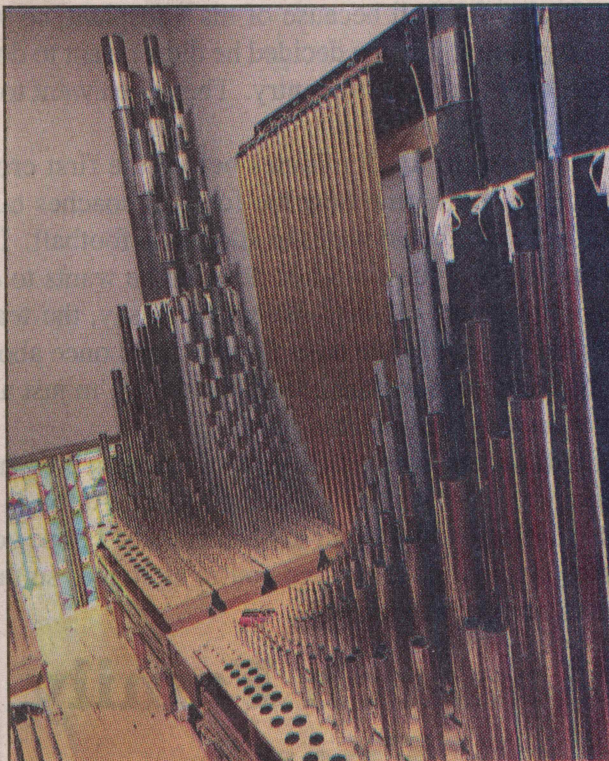
Both Emma and Jeremy work for the Berghaus Pipe Organ Company of Chicago, and plan to be at Trinity for two weeks to have their work completed and see the congregation enjoying their much improved organ.

Aug 2023

*Trinity Lutheran Church
more pipes to organ*



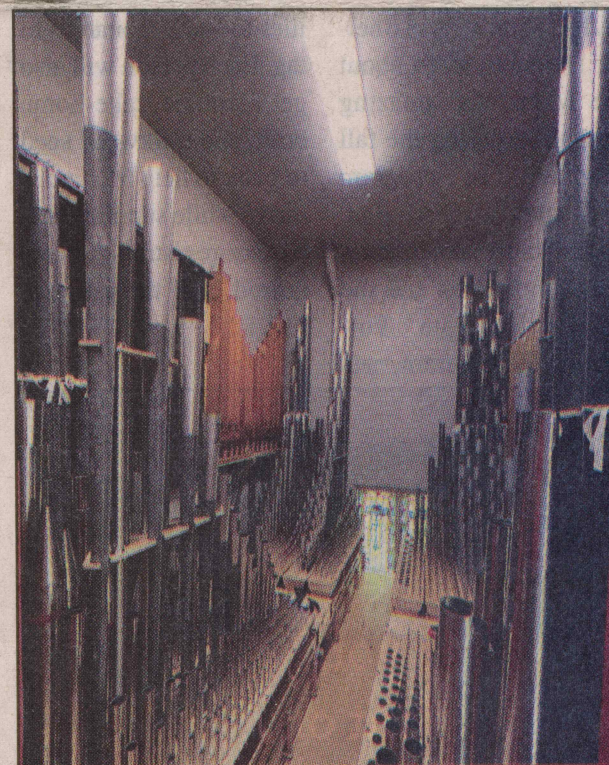
Just one of the many boxes holding the new pipes that were created in Chicago and brought to State Center to be installed at Trinity Lutheran Church.



One angle of the "pipe" room where all the newly minted pipes are being installed.



Emma Schneider of Berghaus Pipe Organ Company shows off one of the pipes and explains how it was "molded" to create a specific "tone" for the pipe organ.



Another angle of the special "pipe organ" room.

-photos by Chris Davis

Aug 2023 Trinity Lutheran Church
More pipes to organ



To My Dearest Flock,

It is an absolute honor, pleasure, and blessed privilege to have been called to serve you as your new pastor! As your pastor, I have been called and ordained by God to take care of you by faithfully performing the duties of the pastoral office as they are understood by the Holy Scriptures in accordance to the Confessions of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. What this means is that with the help of God, I have promised to instruct and raise you up in the faith through the preaching of the Word and the administration of the sacraments so that you may hear, believe, and receive Christ's promises to forgive you of your sins and strengthen you in the one true faith unto life everlasting! This Gospel centered ministry exists to serve you, so that you may receive what Jesus has won for you on the cross 2000 years ago.

You see my friends, the forgiveness of sins is the reality made possible for you by Christ's death on the cross and by His Resurrection from the dead. It's the reality that justifies you and makes you holy, sinless, and blameless before the Father. It's the reality that gives you hope in the midst of sickness, sadness, depression, despair,

and even death because it's the only reality that gives you the victory over the old evil foe and his minions of sin and death. It's the only reality that promises and gives you God's never-ending comfort, presence, help, and strength from the day of your baptism forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish for all of eternity so that you may have the peace which surpasses all human understanding!

The proclamation of this Christocentric reality is the reason why the pastoral office exists so that you may have true comfort and peace and have it abundantly without end. This is the office to which I have been called to serve you to the very best of my ability with the help of God. And it's for this very reason of why I wanted to become a pastor ten years ago. Prior to my conversion to Lutheranism, I was a Roman Catholic who feared God and I was unsure of my salvation because of my many sins. No matter what I did to make up for my sins, I could never find any peace or comfort because the good that I did was always tainted by my sin and still left me with doubt. But one weekend, I started to go to Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church in Smithfield, RI, with my

THE TRINITY REPORTER

OCTOBER 2019, VOL. I, NO. III

teaching only serves to lead people away from the Lord or is used to destroy one's existing faith.

However, as Luther teaches us, God does and wants us to use His Name properly in prayer and worship!

Firstly, we use God's Name properly when we **CALL UPON IT IN EVERY TROUBLE**. As we learned from the first commandment, God wants us to fear, love, and trust in Him above all things, and this means that we are to seek refuge in Him alone whenever we experience any kind of trouble.

Secondly, we use God's Name properly when we **PRAY** and give Him **PRAISE**. To be a praying Christian does not simply mean to pray occasionally, but to pray continually. Just as a person cannot live by only taking a breath once in a while, a Christian cannot live spiritually by praying only once in a while.

Lastly, we use God's Name properly when we **GIVE HIM THANKS**. The reason why many people fail to give thanks is because they do not know or reflect on where their many blessings come from. As Christians, we know every spiritual and material blessing we receive is from God alone. Since we know who gave us these gifts, we gladly thank Him for His gracious and generous gifts.

To be able to not only know but use God's Name for these purposes is truly a gift in and of itself! For whenever God's name is used rightly, the devil is defied and flees

from us because "He hates to hear God's name and cannot long remain when it is uttered and invoked from the heart... To defy the devil, we should always keep the holy name upon our lips so that he may not be able to harm us as he would like to do" (LC I. 71-72).

Yours In Christ,
Pastor Ricard

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you"

-Matthew 7:7

Pastor Ricard installed at Trinity Lutheran Church

2019



Pastor Robert Ricard and wife Jenna.
-Photos Lauri Brockman Photography

On July 14, the Marshalltown Circuit welcomed Pastor Robert Ricard as new pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in State Center. Pastor was both Ordained and Installed in his first congregation after graduating from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. He and his wife Jenna were welcomed

with a potluck and prayers for God's blessing on his service in our community! Rev. Dr. Matthew Rueger presided and Circuit Visitor Rev. Samuel Beltz was the liturgist. The guest preacher was Pastor Ricard's vicarage supervisor Rev. Karl Bollhagen from Hampton, IA.

St John Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Closing

by Vickie Messina

On June 28, 2020 the St. John Lutheran Church Missouri Synod located at 1956 Durham Avenue, State Center, Iowa will close its doors after 155 years. There will be a 9:00am church service led by Pastor David Klinge and a 3:00pm service led by Rev. Brian Saunders, President of Iowa District East-LCMS who will officially close and deconsecrate the building.

The church has a long and rich history. On April 17, 1865 German Immigrants organized the church which was also known as the French Grove Lutheran Church and the German Lutheran Church. They organized a school and church services were held in German at the Center School House. A piece of land was purchased later in 1865 to be the future home of St. John's. A parsonage was built on the property, and the pastors taught students there until 1880. The first confirmation was held on April 17, 1870 with 14 confirmands.

Over the years students traveled to school on foot, by horseback or buggy, on bicycles and, finally, automobiles. During the winter months, students often stayed with nearby relatives or friends in order to attend school. There was a pony barn to shelter the ponies and horses while the students were in class. Once the church was built in 1874, the students attended school in the church annex. A teacherage was also built. Students attended St. John's Parochial School for 97 years until it closed in 1962.

The first church was built at a cost of \$4,000 and was dedicated on October 18, 1874. The congregation grew, and the church was remodeled at a cost of \$10,000. It was rededicated on June 27, 1943, and the basement remodeling project was complete in 1944. On January 1, 1945, the custodian discovered a



1965.

In 1975, the church installed a North German Baroque Pipe Organ built by M.P. Moller to replace the electronic organ. The new pipe organ had 1,061 pipes! St. John's has a rich musical heritage with many talented singers, pianists, organists,

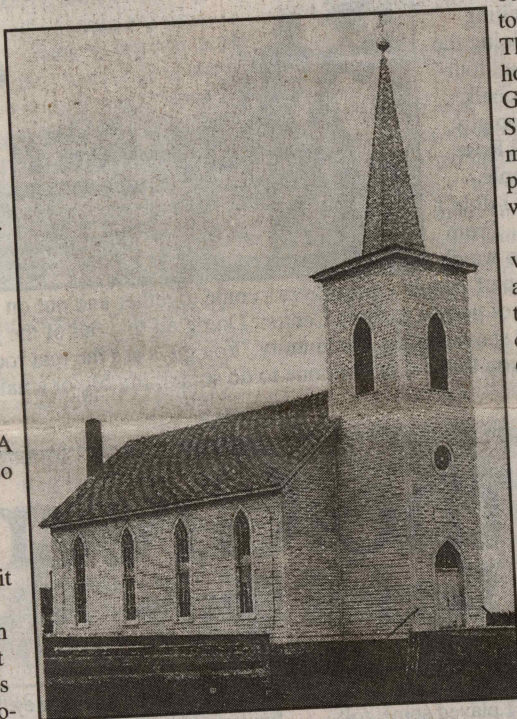
and instrumentalists during its 155 years.

We have been blessed with hardworking and faithful servants from the very beginning. So many people have contributed their time and talents over the last 155 years, including the 21 pastors who served our congregation. Members of the congregation have gone on to be pastors, teachers, missionaries, and community leaders.

In 1980, the Clemons School Building was purchased and Clemons Lutheran School was formed. St. John's has always been supportive of Christian Education and helped support CLS until it closed in May of 2014. Over the 35 years the school was open, it provided many opportunities for students, families, and staff. There were many wonderful staff members who contributed

to the success of CLS. The building now houses The Orphan Grain Train Collection Site whose ongoing mission is to help people in 69 countries worldwide.

St. John's has provided many learning and fellowship opportunities for youth including Sunday School Classes, Catechism Instruction, Vacation Bible School, Walther League, Young Saints, OAFS, Junior Choir and have provided scholarships for Camp Io-Dis-E-CA. Prayer books, Catechisms, Hymnals and Bibles were often gifted to the children who attended these programs. In 1984-1985, they built a



shelter house with electricity and running water. It was enclosed in 1994. There have been numerous service projects including the Young Saints traveling to the local nursing home to provide a Sunday Morning Service.

Trinity Lutheran Church
Construction
State Center, Iowa





Cornerstone Laying
Trinity Lutheran Church
State Center

Alva's caterpillar
holding stone with chains

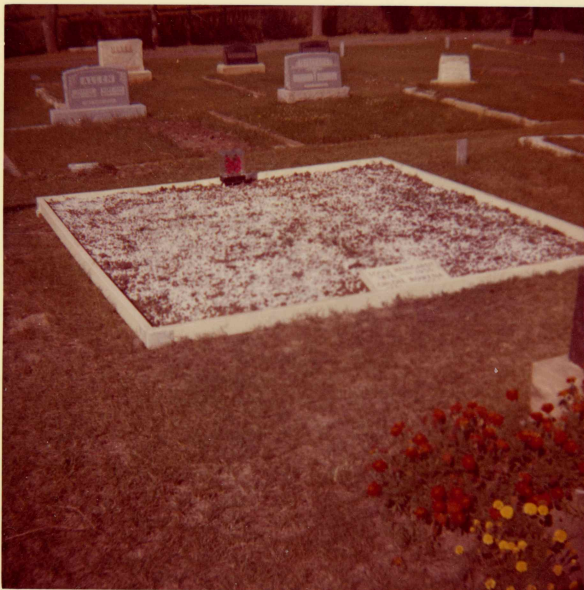




Trinity Lutheran Church
 Corner Stone Laying
 1949
 Dad's cat tractor



Trinity Lutheran Church
Cornerstone Laying
1949



Louie Reinegardt
B.
D Feb 6, 1950

Chloie Reinegardt
B Sept. 15, 1901
D Dec 22, 1962

Louie sisters
Johanna Schoppe
Laura Hennaman

SUPPLEMENT TO THE JULY 25th BULLETIN.

YOUNG PEOPLE...At our meeting tomorrow night at the Schoppe home, the banks which have been out a number of months are to be returned. Let us return them full. Our purpose is to be able to purchase a bulletin board for our Church grounds. So please, let us be generous with our gifts.

CORNER-STONE CONTENTS..For the benefit of those who may be interested, here is a list of the contents of the box in the Corner-Stone of Trinity Church.---Hymnal, Catechism, A list of the charter members of Trinity, a complete baptized, communicant, & voting membership list to date. A list of all of the officers & organizations of the congregation. Sunday School Officers & teachers. Charter & present membership of the Ladies Aid, Young People's Society & Sunday School enrollment. Constitutions of all organizations within the Church. A history of the congregation from the beginning. The President of the United States, The Governor of the state of Iowa, The Mayor of the city of State Center. The pen that signed the contract with the Kucharo Construction Co. of Des Moines. The donors of the bell. Name of Architect, Builder, Superintendant of the works, names of the present brick layers. The Year Books for 1945--1946--1947. A Lutheran Witness dated July 13 1948. A Sunday School teacher's Quarterly. A copy of Today and Just A Minute. A Marshalltown Times Republican, A Des Moines Tribune, & A State Center Enterprise all dated July 15th 1948. A Clipping which tells about the beginning of Trinity, A write-up about the installation of the present pastor, and a photograph of the present pastor. Pertinent information regarding costs connected with the construction of this edifice. Today's Bulletin for Trinity and Redeemer's Bulletin both dated July 18th 1948. A program of the Corner-Stone Laying ceremonies. A Penny given by Rogene Riese.

PUBLIC THANKS & APPRECIATION..to all who assisted in the program last Sunday. To Mrs. Cyril Germann, pianist; Ronald Wilkey, solist; W.L. Haesemeyer & K.C. Miller for movies; Robt. Miller & H.W. Riese for recording & Public Address System assistance; To all the generous contributors of the congregation; To Mr. Ervin Eggers & Mr. L.E. Wensel for special donations; To one and all, many, many thanks, and God's gracious blessings.

Next Sunday Mrs. Cyril Germann will be absent. We hope that Mrs. Germann & family will enjoy themselves a lot. Miss. Leona Eggers is kindly asked to play for us next Sunday.

LEGAL WORK...Mr. Bachman, attorney at law in Marshalltown has donated considerable work in preparing the Bonds of our congregation. This would have run into quite a figure and thus represents a goodly saving for Trinity. We are very grateful to Mr. Bachman for his kindness and wish him well in his work.

Mr. W.L. Haesemeyer, likewise has done a lot of work and made many trips in connection with this Bond Work and other matters relating to Trinity's welfare. It is appreciated very much, even though we may have neglected to say so in so many words. Trinity is rising heavenward because God has placed into our hearts and souls a love for HIS HOUSE. Look on the cover of your Bulletin and memorize the Words--I love Thy Zion Lord, The House of Thine Abode, The Church our blest Redeemer saved, With HIS own precious blood.

CORNER-STONE LAYING FOR TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (Missouri Synod)
AT STATE CENTER IOWA----JULY 18th 1948----2 P.M.

(The Pianist for this Service is Mrs. Cyril Germann)

PRELUDE.....Chopin

HYMN....A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD...Luth. Hymnal No. 262

- 1..A mighty Fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from every need, that hath us now oretaken
The old evil foe Now mean deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might, Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.
- 2..With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the Valiant One, Whom God Himself selected.
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord, And there's none other God;
He holds the field for-ever.
- 3..Tho devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill, They shall not over-pow'r us.
This world's prince may still, Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none, He's judged; the deed is done;
One little Word can fell him.

AMEN.

PASTOR....In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the
Holy Ghost...Amen.

Pastor....Reads Psalm 1.

PASTOR....Leads in Prayer.

SCRIPTURE READING...Gen. 28, 10-22

SOLO....THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION-----Ronald Wilkey

ADDRESS....By the pastor, K.J. Baumgart.

OFFERTORY....ANDANTE RELIGIOSO.

READING OF THE LIST OF THE CONTENTS OF THE CORNER-STONE BOX.

LAYING OF THE CORNER-STONE..by the Builder, Mr. W.F. Kucharo,
President of the Kucharo Construction Company, Des Moines Ia.

DEDICATION OF THE CORNER-STONE IN THE NAME OF THE TRIUNE GOD,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.----By The Rev. K.J. Baumgart

APOSTLE'S CREED.....in unison.

PRAYER....By the pastor.

LORD'S PRAYER....in unison

BENEDICTION.

DOXOLOGY....Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

JUNE 2, 1949 STATE CENTER, IOWA

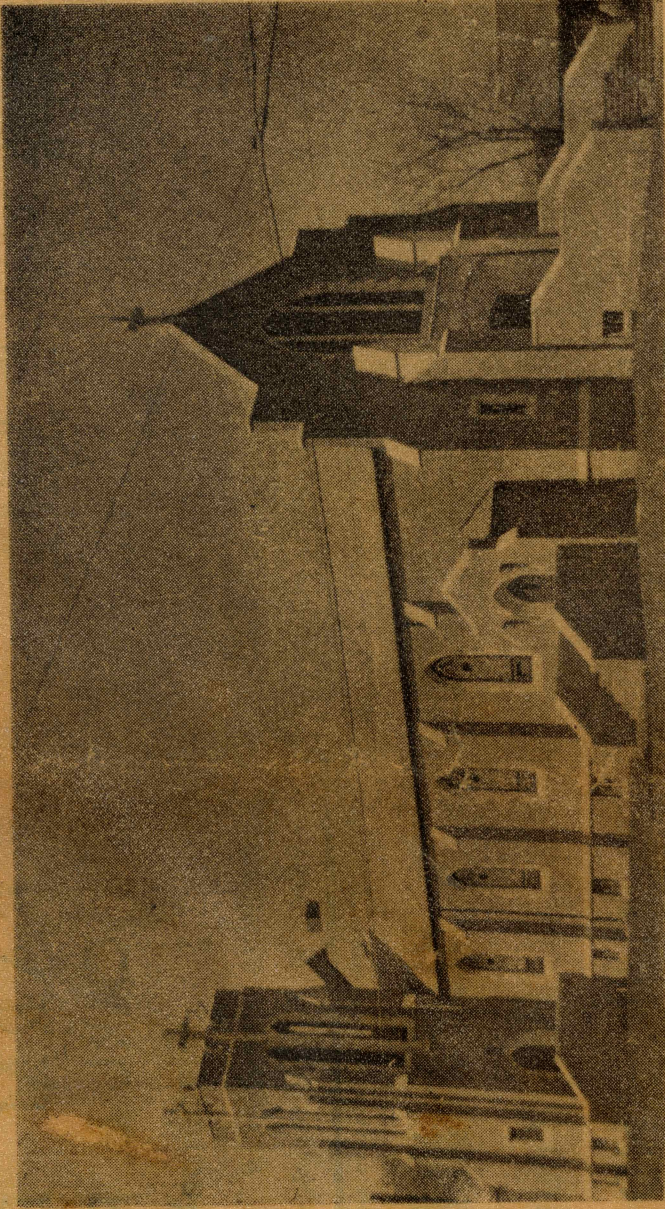
Dedicate New Trinity Church Sunday

Dedication of the new Trinity Lutheran Church in State Center will be held on Sunday, June 5, according to present plans of church officials, the Rev. Karl J. Baumgart, pastor of the church stated Wednesday.

Two services will be held during the day. The afternoon service will be held at 2:30 p.m. and will be the main dedicatory service. The Rev. Fred Iiten, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church at Davenport and formerly pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marshalltown for 15 years, will be the principal speaker at this service.

The evening service will begin at 7:30 p.m. with the Rev. Carl Hesse of Grand Mound, president of the Iowa District East of the Missouri Synod, as the guest speaker. The Rev. Baumgart will serve as liturgist at both services.

A 22 voice choir will sing at both services. The musical arrangements both in the afternoon and evening will be under the direction of Mrs. Cyril Germann, organist and choir director. The afternoon guest soloist will be Mrs. Robert Opheim of Des Moines, who will sing "Open the Gates of the Temple." The featured soloist at night will be Miss Marilyn Hartwig of State Center, who will sing "The Lord's Prayer."



This is the new Trinity Lutheran Church on Third and Cayuga streets in State Center that will be dedicated Sunday, June 5, at two special services. Construction of the edifice was started March 31, 1948, and was completed the latter part of May. The Church and furnishings cost approximately \$150,000.00.

The new church, which was constructed at a cost of approximately \$150,000, is of Gothic design. The building is 110x36 feet in size, faces the east and has a tower on the southwest corner. There are three entrances, the main entrance on the east, a southeast entrance and an office entrance in the tower.

The nave or main sanctuary has a dimension of 76x34 feet and the social room in the basement is the same size. The chancel is 19x17 feet, the vestry is 19x8 feet and the office is 19x13 feet. The nave has an open ceiling with Gothic trusses finished in oak, 33 feet above the floor. The ceiling is finished with Nu-Wood. The walls are of textured finish plaster.

The new edifice is constructed of light buff brick with stone trim. Mark Anthony and Vernon Hamm of Cedar Rapids and Dubuque are the architects and Kucharo Construction Company had the building contract. The church will seat approximately 500 persons.

The sanctuary is painted a light buff and the other rooms a light green. The floors are carpeted throughout with the exception of the entrances and the basement. The entrances have Mar-Flex floors. The social room has a colored cement floor.

The entire interior of the church is finished in oak and the altar, pulpit, lectern, baptismal font, hymn board and pews are also solid oak.

The windows in the new church are of the Gothic type and made of art glass. In the chancel is the Trinity windows showing Christ in the attitude of "Come Unto Me." The large window in the east entrance is the Good Shepherd. The windows in the nave and organ room all carry symbols in harmony with the Lutheran faith.

At the northeast corner of the new edifice is a mother's room, equipped with studio couch, pull-up chair and table, and a clothes closet and rest room adjoining.

The building is heated by two furnaces, both Lennox oil burning units. There are eight Gothic lanterns in the nave and two lanterns of the same type in the balcony. Otherwise the entire building is lighted with fluorescent lights. There is indirect lighting on the sides of the nave and flood lights in the chancel.

A new pipe organ purchased from the Kilgen Organ Company of St. Louis, Mo., at a price of \$10,000 has been installed in the church. A complete set of Super Frontals and Appendia have been secured and will be used during the changes in the church year.

The church is equipped with a complete amplifying system to all of the rooms of the building.

During the past week, the church yard has been leveled and the crushed rock has been placed along the street adjacent to the church on the east and south.

The congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church was organized April 11, 1945. Work was started on the new edifice March 31, 1948, and the corner stone was laid July 18, 1948.

W. L. Haesemeyer is chairman of the Church Council. Elders are Lorenz Getman, Cyril Germann and Marvin Eggers. Trustees are Alva Schoppe, Bert Smith and

Tony Kastner. The building committee is composed of W. F. Eggers, Edgar Riese and Ernest Eggers. W. R. Koepke is recording secretary, August Eggers is financial secretary, and Conrad Schaper is church treasurer.

The Trinity congregation has been holding services at the Methodist church since its organization.

Trinity Lutheran Church becomes handicap accessible by fall

State Center - After five years of committee research, detailed planning, and an overwhelming membership acceptance of the proposal, work is underway to create a new, larger, enclosed, step-free, entrance

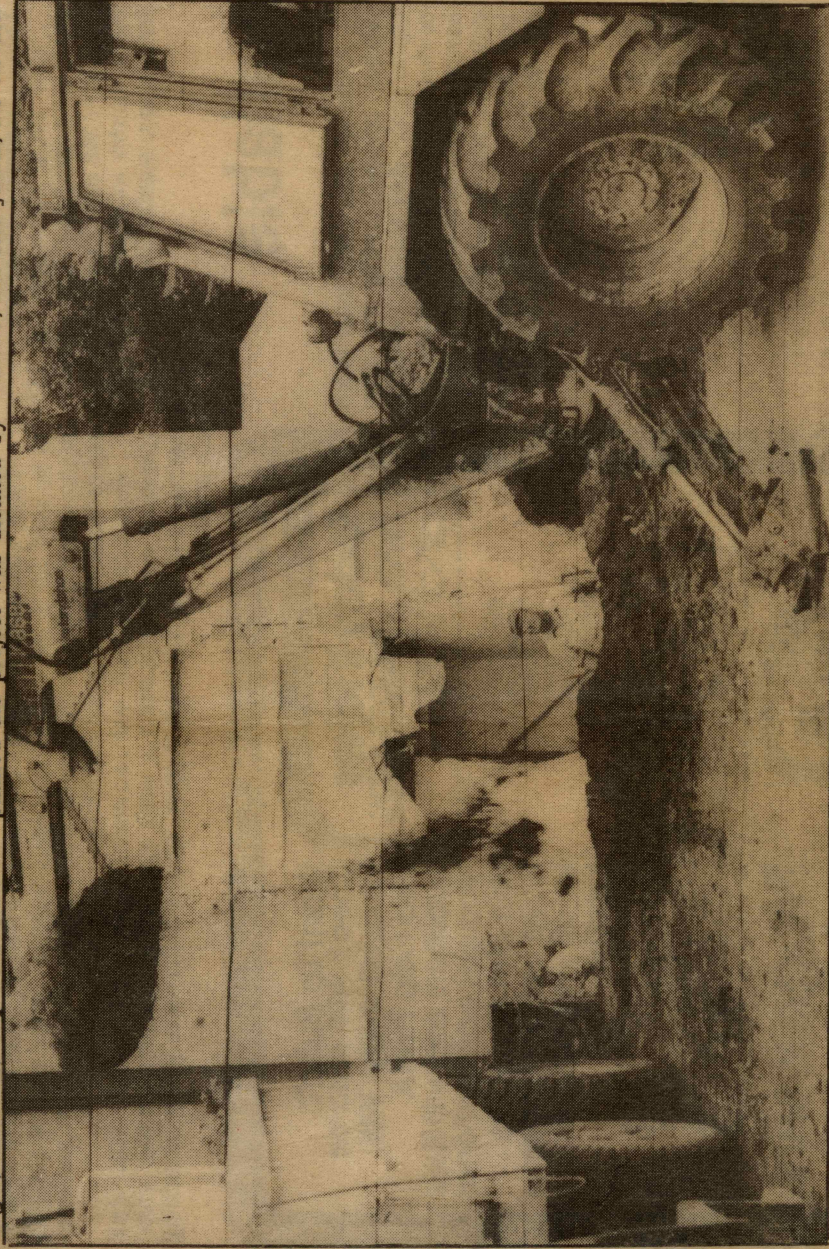
area on the south side of the church. The project will establish a ground level entry, indoor steps, an elevator, and a new restroom area.

Reverend Richard Pierson explained the project was dictated by

the increasing number of elderly and the need for repairs to the deteriorating steps and door. When choosing how to make the church accessible to people with wheelchairs, walkers, and stiff joints, the elevator

seemed best. Elevators don't hold the status of being for the "handicapped only." Many people do not want to exhibit their encumbrances in the way a wheelchair lift or automatic stairway seat might. The \$16,000 limited access Econo-Stair elevator will be 4' by 8', and carry 700 lbs. It is large enough for wheelchairs, walkers, and caskets. Currently, to reach the sanctuary, you must climb 17-20 steps on the east. When the church was built they were concerned about water problems so they built the church high, with a 12'6" stretch from the basement floor to the main floor. Many will be appreciative of the ground level entry, especially in icy weather, and when events bring large gatherings in for things like ice cream socials, weddings, and funerals, besides serving the regular congregation.

Fundraising for the project began at the 40th Anniversary in 1985 and has been increased by numerous memorial gifts. The volunteer labor by numerous members will cut costs greatly. Keith, Dean and Daryl Schoppe are donating their abilities in the construction and excavating areas, while Duane (Swede) Conkin will be in charge of the new brickwork. Bill Seeger has been serving as the general foreman, while Pastor Pierson calls himself the "sidewalk supervisor". The crew is aiming for a September completion date.



CONSTRUCTION AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Work at Trinity Lutheran Church was being completed by Daryl Schoppe (backhoe operator), Keith Schoppe (with the rod) and Bill Seeger (near the building). The lines in the photo are due to our first week in the darkroom.

at Clinton High School. The Rastrelli's daughter, Jennifer was crowned, "Miss Clinton County". Her talent for the competition was a vocal solo. The candidates were judged on their personal choice, a \$2,000 scholarship from Mt. St. Clare College, Clinton, 30% off annual tuition at Marycrest College, Davenport, a \$1,000 wardrobe allowance for the Miss Iowa Pageant next summer and many gifts from local merchants.

Moped course begins July 10

Iowa Valley Continuing Education will be offering a six-hour Moped Education course required by law for individuals under 16 years of age who want to get a moped license. Individuals must be 14 years old or within six months of reaching it. The class meets July 10, 11, 12 (#25237) from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Continuing Education Center, Room 610. The cost is \$12. The course is taught by Assistant Police Chief Chuck Doane, Marshalltown Police Department, and sponsored by Iowa Valley Continuing Education. Call IVCE to register at 752-4645 or 1-800-284-IVCE. Callers must have the individual's social security number to register them. Refer to course number 25237.

Sweatshirts available

There is a limited number of State Tournament Sweatshirts available for the low cost of \$13.50. Anyone interested in purchasing one may contact Coach Dose at 483-2616 or Chris Davis in the superintendent's office.

There are also a few letter jacket patches commemorating the boys' trip to state. Any players, managers or cheerleaders who ordered one and haven't picked them up or who didn't order one and would like one may buy one for \$7.00 and you should contact Coach Dose or Chris Davis.

Rave reviews came in following the weekend performance of "Sound of Music" by Our Town Players.

July 2, 1970:

Kelly Blensen will show Six Berkshire barrows at the National Hog Conference and show in Marion, IN.

St. John's Lutheran Church, rural State Center was the sight of a fireworks display sponsored by A.A.L.

Rose Queen Janet Jackson presented the "Rhythm 'n' Roses" Trophy to "Osage Precisionaires for winning the drum and bugle corp championship held during Rose Festival.

July 2, 1980:

Five Chinese engineers visited the Virtus Brockman farm. They were in Iowa learning to use technology their country is purchasing. They were amazed that one man could own his own machinery.

Questers Club disbanded after 25 year existence.

Bernice Honeck shared a volcanic ash sample from Mt. St. Helens eruption in Washington State near where her daughter, Trish lives.

July 4, 1980:

Plans were made in Rhodes to purchase a building from Emmet Britain to be used for a fire station/community building, at the cost of \$18,000. Melbourne Rec. Center will receive a new public address system in memorial of Vernon Lanning and Red Miller.

Report on jail break with two armed escapees still at large. Jailer Rick Gonzales was overpowered a week ago. Many questions remain unanswered as to how this could happen. County Supervisors will be examining the problem.

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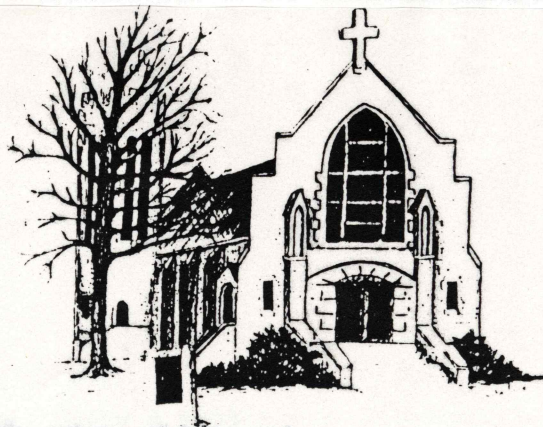
Irma Brockman, Irma Hantz, Sales Associate



Dedication Service

Trinity Lutheran Church
State Center, Iowa

January 13, 1991



The Processional Hymn: *Lift High the Cross* (LW # 311)

REFRAIN:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred Name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God. REFRAIN.
2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. REFRAIN.
3. All newborn soldiers of the crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. REFRAIN.
4. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
Raise us, and let Your cross the magnet be. REFRAIN.
5. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! REFRAIN.

A Word of Welcome

A Call to Worship (Psalm 84)

P: How lovely is your dwelling place;

C: O LORD ALMIGHTY.

P: My soul yearns, even faints for the courts of the Lord,

C: MY HEART AND MY FLESH CRY OUT FOR THE LIVING GOD.

P: Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may have her young -

C: A PLACE NEAR YOUR ALTAR, O LORD ALMIGHTY, MY KING AND MY GOD.

P: Blessed are those who dwell in your house;

C: THEY ARE EVER PRAISING YOU.

P: Blessed are those whose strength is in you,

C: WHO HAVE SET THEIR HEARTS ON PILGRIMAGE.

P: Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

C: I WOULD RATHER BE A DOORKEEPER IN THE HOUSE OF MY GOD THAN DWELL
IN THE TENTS OF THE WICKED.

P: For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor;

C: NO GOOD THING DOES HE WITHHOLD FROM THOSE WHOSE WALK IS BLAMELESS.

P: O Lord Almighty,

C: BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO TRUSTS IN YOU.

The Old Testament Reading - I Kings 8:22-30

The Epistle Reading - I Peter 2:1-9

The Choir - *Let's Just Praise the Lord!*

Trinity Lutheran Church celebrates Golden Anniversary on April 16

by Gloria D. Stewart

STATE CENTER - On Easter Sunday, April 16, 1995, Trinity Lutheran Church, 206 1st Avenue South, in State Center will combine a service of celebration and thanksgiving in observance of Holy Sunday and the church's 50th Anniversary. The public is invited to join the congregation in worship at 10:30 a.m., followed by a dinner at Noon. A special program will be held at 1:30 p.m., followed by a coffee and fellowship hour.

Trinity Lutheran Church is the youngest congregation in the West Marshall area because it got its beginning following the tragic fire that destroyed the St. John's Lutheran Church, four miles north of State Center. On Jan. 1, 1945 St. John's Church was totally destroyed by fire. The congregation met many times, trying to decide what to do next. Some voters

wanted to build on the same location, while others, especially State Center residents, wanted to construct a new church in town.

By March, it came to be that the St. John's Church congregation produced a new congregation that would build its own church in State Center; Trinity Lutheran Church. The Methodist Church kindly offered the new group temporary use of their church for worship.

The Trinity Lutheran congregation knew they faced a big undertaking, but they were ready to handle it. The group was prepared to work hard with great dedication and commitment because that is what it would take.

A search for a pastor began and Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marshalltown allowed their pastor to serve the new group as a vacancy pastor. On Sunday, April 8, 1945, the members of Trinity

Church were released from the St. John Congregation. On April 11, 1945 the Trinity Church was organized with a baptized membership of 220, communicant membership of 164, and a voting membership of 50 and held its first worship service in the Methodist Church on Sunday, April 15, 1945. Every member was present. Within weeks a Ladies Aid Society was formed, a constitution was adopted and a voters meeting was held to select a pastor to call. Pastor K. J. Baumgart accepted the call and came to serve the new congregation, being installed on June 17, 1945.

The next step was to purchase property to build a church on. For \$3,000 they bought five and a half lots from the Wilbert Carpenter Estate. A house and garage on the property were not adequate for the

See TRINITY on Pg. 7



**Trinity Lutheran Church
Celebrates 50th Anniversary**

pastor's family so a house was rented for them to live in. Dr. Biersborn then surprised the group by offering his house, which was next door to the church property, to the congregation for \$8,000.

The church property was cleared by selling the old house and the garage to be moved. Many large trees were sawed for firewood and sold. All the labor was donated by members, who were dedicated to the day a church building would be standing there.

In March 1948 the plot was surveyed and the basement digging began. The Alva Schoppe family and men of the congregation used tractors and scrapers to complete the excavation in only two days. The foundation footings were staked out and the trench was dug by members of the congregation. All of this work was donated and much more. In June, volunteers unloaded two carloads of Sioux City brick by donation.

On July 18, 1948 the cornerstone was laid. The first floor, basement and kitchen floors were completed earlier in the month with poured concrete. The striking of the cornerstone was completed by Wm. F. Eggers, chairman of the building committee; Lorenz German, chairman of the Board of Elders; and Mrs. Raymond Eggers, president of the Ladies Aid Society.

Other officers for the Trinity Church in 1945 were as follows: Fred Honeck, Conrad Schaper, Waldemar Koepke, August W. Eggers, Harold Nolte, Albert Smith and Henry Wilkey. Additional Elders were Leon Timmerman and Fred Eggers, and building committee members were Edgar Riese and Ernest Eggers.

Carl Wilkening served as the Sunday School superintendent with six teachers. Officers of the Ladies Aid included Mrs. Marvin Eggers, Mrs. Lorenz Eggers, Mrs. Harold Riese, and Mrs. Waldemar Koepke. Organists were Mrs. Clayton Myers and Mrs. Cyril German and Sunday School pianists were Mrs. Harold Riese and Miss Leona Eggers.

There were three baptisms in 1945, no marriages or confirmations and one burial.

The completed church was dedicated on June 5, 1949 at a total cost of \$102,214.38. Furnishings

totaled an additional \$37,420 and included a Kilgen pipe organ installed in a chamber, the furnace, pews, art glass windows, lights, carpet, and kitchen needs, to name a few.

Trinity Church has been served by only four pastors in 50 years. Pastor Baumgart served from 1945 to 1958; Rev. M. J. Haerther served from 1958 to 1963; and Rev. E. A. Wiedbusch 1963-1975.

Trinity's current pastor, Rev. Richard Pierson was installed on March 16, 1976 as the fourth pastor. The congregation celebrated the 40th anniversary in 1985 and gathered a special offering designated toward a handicap access for the church. The members held many different fund raisers to add to this fund; Ladies Aid Cookbook sales, ice cream socials, and turkey suppers. Many memorials and donations were also given toward this cause.

By the fall of 1990, the men and women of Trinity were ready to donate their talents and time to replacing and building a new handicap accessible entrance on the south side of the church that included an elevator. Much of the work was completed by church members, which saved a considerable amount of the cost. The project was dedicated on Jan. 13, 1991 for a total cost of \$37,000.

The congregation did not slow down, even after this major project was finished. In the summer of 1992 a new three-stall garage was built entirely by volunteer labor. Once again, it was the wide variety of talents possessed by the members of the congregation that made an idea become a reality.

The Trinity Ladies are well-known for their kuchen which is always a sell-out at their annual bake sales. The Ladies Aid is well respected for its unparalleled support to the well-being of the church. In the late 1970's the women were given the rights to be part of the voting membership by a change in the church constitution, something rather unique for a Missouri Synod Lutheran Church.

The congregation is proud to have one young woman of the church, Jeanine Hilleman, ministering through her position as a teacher in a Long Island, New York Lutheran school. It is equally proud of its elder membership. There are over seven members

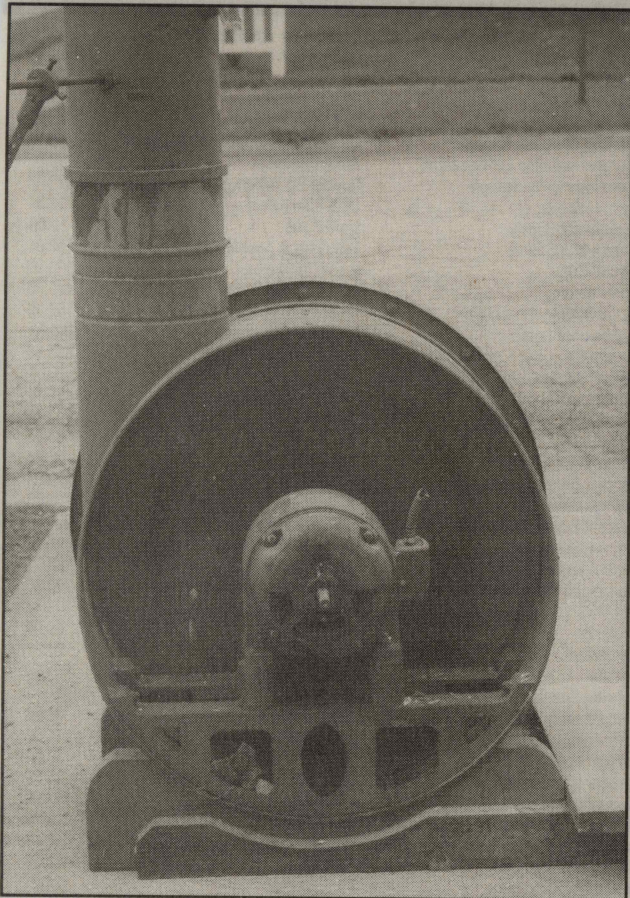
who are more than 90 years old.

Current officers of the Trinity Lutheran Church are Keith Schoppe, LaVern German, Eloise Klemme, Cheri Nason, James Lively, David McKinney, and Ron Wilkey. Elders are Greg Smith, Gary Tollefson, Virgil Klemme, Wayne Eggers, and Paul Hilleman. Ladies Aid Society officers are: Betty German, Myrna Shaffar, Bev Hartwig, and Olga Kastner. Mary Klemme is the Sunday School superintendent and there are four teachers. Steve Long is the organist/pianist for the church and Sunday School.

Throughout the 50 year history of Trinity Lutheran Church, the common thread has been the intense energy its members have committed toward the future of their congregation. They set before themselves goals, and then were willing to follow them up with the hard work required to achieve them.

Note: Information for the history of Trinity Lutheran Church was taken from an early history written by August W. Eggers, and the updated history compiled by his granddaughter, Marlys Taylor.

Trinity Lutheran Pipe Organ Refurbish Project



If you happened to see a U-Haul truck parked by the State Center Trinity Lutheran Church last week, you may have wondered what was being "hailed"? The answer to that question is the 70 year old pipe organ! Members of the congregation have elected to have their organ refurbished by Berghaus Pipe Organ Builders from Bellwood, Illinois. Four workers dismantled the pipes and wrapped/packaged them in less than three days for transporting (see photo above to the right). The "blower" (photo on the top left) was also removed from the church "organ" room that specifically housed all the organ pipes (picture bottom left shows pipes before being dismantled). Above is a picture of the organ keyboard. The refurbishing project is planned to be completed by December, 2017.

-Photos by Chris Davis & submitted

WEST MARSHALL

West Marshall Board of Education Public Hearing April 12, 2017

The West Marshall Board of Education met in special session for a public hearing on Wednesday, April 12, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. in the library in the high school building. President Rodney Honeck called the meeting to order. Members present for roll call included April Coulter, Tom Hemesath, Rodney Honeck, Shawn Meyer, Ryan Pfantz and Bob Ranson. Don Porter was absent.

Agenda: Motion by Coulter, seconded by Pfantz, to approve the agenda. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Motion to Open Public Hearing: Motion by Ranson, seconded by Meyer, to open the public hearing on the 2017-18 budget. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Presentation of the 2017-18 budget: The 2017-18 budget includes total revenues of \$12.6 million and total allowable expenditures of \$13.4, including the transfer out for the bond payments. This com-

pares to the current year expected revenue of \$12.2 million in revenues and \$11.0 million in expected expenditures. The increase in expenditures is to account for additional building projects, increased wages and benefits as well to allow enough room in the budget so that we do not overspend the budget. In addition, the budget does include the general fund buy-down and the voter approved PPEL.

Public comments: None
Motion to Close Public Hearing: Motion by Pfantz, seconded by Coulter, to close the public hearing. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

2017-18 Budget Approval: Motion by Hemesath, seconded by Coulter, to approve the 2017-18 budget. Roll call vote: Coulter, aye; Hemesath, aye; Honeck, aye; Meyer, aye; Pfantz, aye; Ranson, aye. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Edler

WEST MARSHALL

West Marshall Board of Education Regular Session April 12, 2017

The West Marshall Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, April 12, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the library in the high school building. President Rodney Honeck called the meeting to order. Members present for roll call included April Coulter, Tom Hemesath, Rodney Honeck, Shawn Meyer, Ryan Pfantz and Bob Ranson. Don Porter was absent.

Agenda: Motion by Ranson, seconded by Hemesath, to approve the agenda. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Recognition: The board recognized the following students:

•Elli Allen - National History Day State Qualifier

•Cody Butler - State FFA Extemporaneous Speaking State Qualifier

•Alex Halblom - State FCCLA STAR Event - Job Interview Gold Medal

•Megan Messina - IHMSA State Solo & Small Ensemble Contest "Best of Center"

•Kiersten Randall - Patriot's Pen Essay 2nd Place

Welcome of Visitors

•Stephen Adams, State Center, addressed the board regarding employee health insurance. He and his wife work in the district and now each have single coverage (paid by the district). He would like the board to make a change to allow each of them to apply the premium for single coverage to a family plan. If they want family coverage now they have to pay \$984.50 a month.

Consent Agenda

Recommendation by Mr. Large to approve the following consent agenda items:

•Minutes of the March 8, 2017, Regular Session

•Bills and financial reports

•Personnel changes:

-Approve hire of Casey Christensen as the new 4-8 principal

-Approve hire of Drake VanRoekel as instrumental music teacher

-Approve resignation of Libby Russell as TAG teacher

-Approve resignation of Anna Oswald as elementary teacher

-Approve resignation of Jolene Nolte as van aide

Agreement for Summer 2017: The city will be using the high school pool for swimming lessons. In addition, the school will keep the pool open after lessons for open swim. Motion by Pfantz, seconded by Coulter, to approve the city/ school pool usage agreement. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

•General Fund Usage of Tax-Levy Buy

Down 2017-18: Since the PPEL vote passed, a recommendation was made to buy-down the general fund levy using \$250,000 of general fund dollars to help offset the impact of the PPEL levy. Motion by Hemesath, seconded by Coulter, to approve the general fund levy buy-down. Ayes, 6; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Information/Discussion

•Suspension Report as of 4-10-2017

•Administrator reports - the building reports this month focus on Iowa Assessment results data:

-Elementary school: Megann Schultz presented the results for the elementary school. The cohort data (which is the same group of students last year to this year) results indicated that all grades tested in the elementary school were proficient in reading, math, and science. The 4th grade did not meet 1-year's growth as a group in any of the categories. 5th grade met 1-year's growth in reading. The cross-sectional data (which compares same grade-level student last year to same grade-level students this year, different group of students) shows that the students in 3rd and 4th grades declined, while the students in 5th grade showed increases. Mrs. deNeui reported that they have started using standards-based grading in 5th grade and are planning to begin using that in 4th grade as well, which will help address some of the issues. In addition, they are looking into new math curriculum (Bridges & Eureka). Mr. Large added that the standards-based grading helps to identify standard weaknesses, each standard will get a 'grade' so they can't be hidden or average with other grades, resulting in a better grade when a student may not understand a standard.

-Middle school: Brandi Haight presented results for the middle school. All grades in middle school were proficient in reading, math, and science as a group. The cohort data shows that 6th grade did not meet 1-year's growth in any area; 7th grade made 1-year's growth in math and science; 8th grade made 1-year's growth in

West Marshall CSD Board Bills April 12, 2017

Vendor Name	Description	Amount
Checking 1 Fund: 10 Operating Fund		
ACCO	Pool Chemicals	308.60
AEA 267	Bus Conduct Forms	96.00
American Business Phones	Emergency Audible System Repair	168.00
American Institutes For Research	ELPA Headsets	135.00
Ames Community Schools	Special Ed Tuition-1st Sem	18,428.27
Arnold Motor Supply	Oil & Fuel Filters	152.51
Arnold Motor Supply	Light Bulbs	2.60
Arnold Motor Supply	Bus Garage Supplies	132.94
BCLUW CSD	Press Training	1,190.00
Britton, Jeremy	Solo Contest Judge	175.00
Capital Sanitary Supply Co.	Cleaning Supplies	167.30
Cardmember Service	Special Ed Accomodations	1,305.83
Carolina Biological Supply Co.	Dissection Specimen	456.63
Casey's General Stores, Inc.	Fuel	76.67
Central Iowa Distributing	Vacuum Repair Parts	411.10
Central Iowa Distributing	Vacuum Parts	232.74
Chief Supply	Van Partition	664.61
Choice Supply	Batteries	25.59
Crescent Electric Supply Co	Light Bulbs	293.56
Crescent Electric Supply Co	Ballasts	264.08
Crescent Electric Supply Co	LED Wall Light	225.01
Decker Equipment	Bathroom Stall Parts	91.15
Des Moines Area Comm College	Bus Driver Training	25.00
Des Moines Stamp Mfg. Co.	Ink Stamps	232.70
East Marshall Community School	Shared Transportation Director	4,840.37
Elder, Kim	CPR Training	150.00
Fastenal	Bolts	25.20
Fastenal	Socket Sets	451.00
Frohwein Tire Division	Bus Tire	57.50
Govconnection, Inc.	Tablet & Stylus	89.95
Govconnection, Inc.	Ethernet Cards	311.04
Govconnection, Inc.	Headphones	37.50
Govconnection, Inc.	Technology Equipment	23.57
Govconnection, Inc.	Technology Equipment	169.98
Hoglund Bus Company	Stop Arm Motor	144.52
Hoglund Bus Company	U-Joint	111.49
Hoglund Bus Company	Solenoid	113.06
Hoglund Bus Company	Blower Motor	114.46
Hoglund Bus Company	Seat Foam	171.26
Hoglund Bus Company	Switches	85.49
Hoglund Bus Company	Window Latches	86.49
Hoglund Bus Company	Foods Class Supplies	8.26
Hometown Foods	Foods Class Supplies	8.61
Hometown Foods	Student Snacks	16.05
Hometown Foods	SIAC Meeting Supplies	67.03
Hoover Jazzfest	Hoover Jazz Fest Registration	145.00
Hotsy Cleaning Systems	Pressure Washer	8,080.00
Houghton Mifflin Company	Tag Forms	140.80
IASBO	Spring Conference Registration	178.00
Iowa High School Music Assn.	Solo & Ensemble Registration	132.00
Iowa High School Music Assn.	Lg Group Band Registration	110.00
Iowa High School Music Assn.	Solo & Ensemble Vocal Registration	96.00
Iowa Testing Programs	Iowa Assessments	3,283.43
Iowa Wholesale Supply	Boys Locker Room Showers	1,281.06
ISEBA	Dental Insurance Premium	321.40
ISFIS	Background Checks	90.00
Jostens	Diploma	12.69
Juncker, Danielle	Mileage Reimbursement	94.50
JW Pepper & Son, Inc.	Band Sheet Music	75.99
Keystone Laboratories, Inc.	Water Testing	12.00
Larson Printing Company	Cumulative Records Forms	374.00
Madison National Life Ins Co., Inc.	LTD Premium	35.31
Menards	Brackets For Concession Wifi Antenna	40.72
Menards	Electrical Supplies	62.55
Menards	Gas Line For Pressure Washer	29.79
Mid Iowa Enterprise	Budget, Minutes & Claims	502.83
Napa Auto Parts	Vehicle Cleaning Supplies	56.26
Napa Auto Parts	Back-Up Alarm	25.94
Parrish, Brooke	Mileage Reimbursement	337.75
Partner Communications	Telephone	945.93
Quill	Construction Paper	40.00
Quill	Sheet Protectors	79.96
Quill	Classroom Supplies	97.78
Quill	Classroom Supplies	37.27
Rankin Communication	Reprogram Clocks	255.00
Regents Of The Univ Of Minnesota	Press Website Subscriptions	210.00
Region Six Planning Commission	Special Ed Transportation	976.50
Schendel Pest Control	Pest Control	120.00
School Bus Sales Company	Mirrors	36.00
Stone Sanitation	Garbage Collection	975.36
Supplyworks	Maintenance Supplies	10.10
Supplyworks	Maintenance Supplies	151.56
Supplyworks	Cleaning Supplies	148.22

9. Finally, do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the rule of the divine Word, to walk as it becometh the Gospel of Christ, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to the Triune God, even unto death?

Answer: We do so intend, by the grace of God.

- 1 Thine forever! God of love,
Hear us from Thy throne above!
Thine forever may we be,
Here and in eternity!
- 2 Thine forever! Oh, how blest
They who find in Thee their rest!
Savior, Guardian, heavenly Friend,
Oh, defend us to the end!
- 3 Thine forever! Savior, keep
These Thy frail and trembling sheep;
Safe alone beneath Thy care,
Let us all Thy goodness share!
- 4 Thine forever! Thou, our Guide,
All our wants by Thee supplied,
All our sins by Thee forgiven, —
Lead us, Lord, from earth to heaven!

Carolyn Davis

THE SOLEMN VOW

OF

LUTHERAN CATECHUMENS

ON THE

DAY OF THEIR CONFIRMATION.

FOR PERPETUAL REMEMBRANCE.



1. Do you this day, in the presence of God and of this Christian congregation, renew and confirm the solemn covenant which at your Baptism you made with the Triune God?

Answer: We do.

2. Do you, then, renounce the devil, and all his works, and all his ways?

Answer: We do.

3. Do you believe in God the Father?

Answer: Yes, we believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

4. Do you believe in God the Son?

Answer: Yes, we believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

5. Do you believe in God the Holy Ghost?

Answer: Yes, we believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting.

[6. Do you desire to be members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church?

Answer: We do.]

7. Do you hold all the books of the Bible to be the inspired Word of God, and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Bible, as you have learned to know it from Luther's Small Catechism, to be the true and correct one?

Answer: We do.

8. Do you also, as members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, intend to continue steadfast in the confession of this Church, and suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

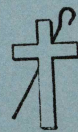
Answer: We do so intend, with the help of God.

Mr. & Mrs. A. Schoppe

Constitution

and

By-Laws



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran
Church

State Center, Iowa

*Constitution
and
By-Laws*

*Trinity Evangelical
Lutheran Church
State Center, Iowa*

Preamble

Whereas the Word of God demands that a christian congregation not only conform to the Word of God in doctrine and practice (Ps. 119, 105; Gal. 1, 6-8; II Tim. 4, 1-5), but that also all things be done decently and in order (I Cor. 14, 40), therefore, we the members of TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH of State Center, Marshall County, Iowa, set forth by this present document, signed by ourselves, the Constitution and By-Laws in accordance with which the congregational affairs, spiritual and material, shall be conducted.

Constitution

Article 1—Name

The name of this congregation shall be: TRINITY Lutheran Church of State Center, Marshall County, Iowa.

Article II—Purpose and Rights

The purpose of this congregation shall be that of a religious organization; more specifically, that of a Christian Congregation, established and maintained for the express purpose of disseminating the Gospel Truth according to the Confessional Standard of the Lutheran Church, as established in the BOOK OF CONCORD of the year 1580. This Congregation, as a corporate body, may receive, aquire, hold title to, and manage, such Real Estate and other property as it may need to accomplish said purpose and may sell or dispose of such Real Estate and other property or any part thereof; and this congregation shall have all rights and powers that are granted by the laws of the State of Iowa to religious corporations.

Article III—Confessional Standard

This congregation accepts and acknowledges all the Cannonical Books of the Old and the New Testament as the inspired Word of God, and all the Symbolical Books of the Lutheran Church contained in the Book of Concord of the year 1580 as a true and sound exposition of Christian Doctrine taken from and in full agreement with the Holy Scriptures; and in this congregation no doctrine shall be taught or tolerated which is at variance with these sym-

bois of the Lutheran Church, namely; THE THREE ECUMENENICAL CREEDS (the Apostolic, the Nicene, and the Athanasian), and Unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the same, the Smalcald Articles, Luther's Large Catechism and the Formula of Concord. According to this form of doctrine all doctrinal controversies that may arise in the congregation shall be decided and judged.

Article IV—Membership

No one can be or remain a member of this congregation, or hold office in the same, or enjoy and exercise the rights and privileges of a member, but such as:—

- A. 1—Are baptized in the name of the Triune God.
- 2—Accept the Confessional Standard given in Article III of this constitution and are familiar at least with Luther's Small Catechism and declare their acceptance thereof.
- 3—Lead a christian life and abstain from the manifest works of the flesh. (Gal. 5, 19-21)
- 4—Attend Divine Services faithfully and partake of the Lord's Supper frequently.
- 5—Submit, for the sake of love and peace, to the regulations already made, or still to be made, by this body, provided they do not conflict with the Word of God, and suffer brotherly admonition when having erred or offended.
- 6—Are not members of any secret society or other organization conflicting with the Word of God, (e.g. certain lodges).

7—Will share, according to their ability, the financial burden of the congregation and of the Church at large.

- B. Membership in this congregation may be held by all who have qualifications of membership specified in paragraph "A" of this article, it being understood, however, that only male members who are at least twenty-one years of age and who have signed the Constitution of this Congregation shall have the right to vote.
- C. When a member of this Congregation, after fruitless admonition in the various grades prescribed by the Word of God (Math. 18, 15-20), where the observance of such grades has been possible, shall have been expelled from the congregation, such person shall have forfeited all rights of a member of this Congregation and all claim upon the property of the Congregation as such, or upon any part thereof, as long as he is not again received into membership by the Congregation. The same shall apply to such members as refuse to submit to Church discipline and thus excommunicate themselves.
- D. Members moving away, and thereby severing their connection with the Congregation without obtaining a release, shall, after a period of one year, be stricken from the list of membership.

Article V—Board of Elders

The Congregation shall elect from its voting members a Board of Three (3) Elders whose duty it shall be to serve as assistants to the pastor. In addition, the pastor of the Congre-

gation shall be an exofficio member and the chairman of the Board of Elders. Elders shall be elected for a term of three (3) years, with one (1) elder retiring each year. The Elders at any time in office shall have no authority beyond that which has been conferred upon them by the Congregation, and whatever power may have been delegated to them shall at all times be liable to change or revision by the Congregation. The Board of Elders shall serve as the Stewardship Committee of the Congregation.

Article VI—Board of Trustees

The Congregation shall elect from its voting members a board of three (3) Trustees whose duty it shall be to administer the external affairs of the Congregation. Trustees shall be elected for a term of three (3) years, with one (1) trustee retiring each year.

However, the Congregation as a body shall have the supreme power in the external and internal administration and management of its own ecclesiastical and congregational affairs. No decision, enactment, or performance in behalf of the congregation or with reference to a member thereof as such shall be valid, whether it have proceeded from an individual or from a body within the Congregation, unless it shall have been enacted or performed according to a general or special power conferred by the Congregation; and whatever may have been ordered or decided by the individuals or minor bodies within the Congregation under a power conferred by the Congregation, shall always be subject to revision and final decision by the Congregation. Any enactment or decision of the voters' assembly contrary to the Word of God

(cf. Article III—Confessional Standard), shall be null and void.

Article VII—The Pastoral Office

- A. The Pastoral office in this Congregation shall be conferred upon such pastors and candidates only as:—
- 1—Unreservedly pledge and clearly demonstrate their acceptance of and adherence to the Confessional Standard contained in Article III of this constitution;
 - 2—Have been properly and rightfully called by the Congregation.
- B. A pastor can be removed from office in a rightful and christian manner only. Sufficient and urgent causes for removal are: persistent adherence to false doctrine, scandalous life, wilfull and continued neglect of official duties.

Article VIII—Hymns and Forms

In the public services of this Congregation purely Lutheran hymn books and in all ministerial acts purely Lutheran forms only shall be used.

Article IX—Christian Day School

It shall be the aim of this Congregation to establish and maintain a Christian Day School. Furthermore, it shall be the duty of such members of this Congregation as have the parental care of unconfirmed children to comit such children to the Christian Day School of the Congregation, or otherwise adequately provide for their proper Christian training.

Article X—Adjustment of Property

If at any time a separation should take place in this congregation on account of doctrine, the property of the Congregation and all benefits therewith connected shall remain with those members who shall continue to adhere to Article III of this Constitution.

Article XI—Amendments

A—Amendments to this Constitution must be submitted in writing and may be made at any regularly called meeting of the Congregation. They must be accepted by at least two-thirds majority of the voting members present and must be ratified in a subsequent meeting by at least a two-thirds majority of the voting members present.

B—Article III of this Constitution and all such other Articles or sections as pertain to doctrine and practice shall be unalterable and irrevocable.

Article XII—Meetings

The annual meeting of this Congregation shall be held in the month of January; and such other meetings shall be held as are provided for in the By-Laws.

By-Laws

Section I—Admission of New Members

Persons intending to join this Congregation as voting members shall give notice of such intention to the Pastor, together with satisfactory evidence of their qualification for membership. The names of all such applicants shall be announced at a regular meeting of the congregation; and if no protest has been entered and sustained at or before the following voters' meeting, the applicant may at such meeting be received into membership by unanimous vote of the voting members present. Before being entitled to vote, a member must sign the Constitution of the Congregation.

Section 2—Method of Calling Pastors

The election of Pastors will be conducted as follows:—

In a regularly called meeting of the Congregation candidates shall be selected by ballot. The result of such balloting shall then be announced to the Congregation in the services on two (2) consecutive Sundays on which services are conducted. If no valid protest is made, the whole Congregation has sanctioned the candidates as announced. In the following meeting of the voters the final election shall take place by ballot, and the candidate receiving the majority of all votes cast shall be considered elected by the Congregation. When a Candidate shall be called directly from one of our seminaries, the proper Synodical Board shall be requested to appoint the person to whom the Call shall then be extended.

Section 3—Meetings

The regular voter's meetings of this Congregation shall be four (4) in number during each calendar year, to be held on the second (2nd) Monday of January, April, July and October. All meetings shall be announced in the services two (2) Sundays previous to the date of the quarterly meeting. Special meetings of the voters may be called by the Church Council at any time. At any duly announced meeting, one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) of the voting members of the Congregation shall constitute a quorum. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the general guide according to which the business meetings of the Congregation shall be conducted.

It shall be the duty of every voting member to attend the Voter's meetings; by failing to attend, the member waives his right of casting his vote at such meeting. The opinions and suggestions of all communicant members shall be given due consideration at the meetings of the voting members.

The names of those members who have been absent for six (6) consecutive regular meetings of the Congregation without a valid excuse, and who have previously been notified, shall be presented in the January meeting. The Congregation may then, by majority vote, remove any one of them or all of them from voting membership and render official notice of such action to the parties concerned.

Section 4—Officers

In addition to the Board of Trustees and the Board of Elders the congregation shall elect a chairman, a secretary, a financial secretary, and a treasurer. The election shall be held at the annual meeting and the terms of office shall

be one (1) year. All officers of the Congregation can be removed from office in a rightful and christian manner only. Sufficient and urgent causes for removal are:—persistent adherence to false doctrine, scandalous life, wilful and continued neglect of, or inability to perform official duties.

Section 5—Duties of Officers

The duties of the chairman and secretary are those which usually are required of such officers.

The duties of the financial secretary are those which follow:—

1—To keep a complete record of all receipts and expenditures of the Congregation.

2—To keep the accounts of the individual contributors.

3—To authorize special expenditures when instructed to do so by the Congregation.

4—To send out quarterly statements of the accounts of the individual contributors.

5—To present the matter of finance to the congregation whenever necessary.

6—To make monthly reports to the Church Council, quarterly and annual reports to the Congregation.

The duties of the Treasurer shall be:—

1—The treasurer shall receive all funds from the Financial Secretary and shall keep an accurate account of the same. Any and all expenditures shall be made by check.

2—The Treasurer shall make monthly reports to the Church Council, and quarterly and annual reports to the Congregation.

Section 6—Finance Committee

The Finance Committee of the Congregation shall be composed of the Treasurer, the Financial Secretary, and four (4) other members, to be appointed each year by the Church Council. The duties of the Finance Committee shall be:—

1—To discuss the matter of finance whenever necessary and to offer resolutions to the Church Council.

2—To open all contribution envelopes and to see to it that the proper entries are made in the books of the Financial Secretary.

3—To see to it that at least two (2) members of the Finance Committee are present whenever contribution envelopes are opened.

4—To present in the October voter's' meeting each year, a suggested budget of expenditures of the Congregation for the following year.

Section 7—Auditing Committee

In each Annual Meeting the chairman of the Congregation shall appoint an Auditing Committee of three (3) members whose duty it shall be to audit the books of all financial officers quarterly, and to submit a written statement and signed report to the Congregation in the following Annual Meeting. Two (2) members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8—Nominating Committee

The two (2) members of the Board of Elders and the two (2) members of the Board of Trustees whose term of office does not expire in the respective year, shall, together with the Pastor, constitute the NOMINATING COMMIT-

TEE of the Congregation. It shall be the duty of this committee to present to the Congregation in the October meeting of each year a suggested slate of at least two (2) candidates for each elective office to be filled at the following Annual Meeting.

Section 9—Church Council

The Church Council shall consist of the Pastor of the Congregation, the Board of Elders, the Board of Trustees, the Chairman of the Congregation, the Secretary, the Financial Secretary, the Treasurer, and such other officers as the Congregation may elect.

The duties of the Church Council are:

1—To meet quarterly and to deliberate on matters to be presented to the Congregation in the meetings of its voting membership.

2—To investigate, discuss, and decide, whenever it is expressly requested, all such matters as could be brought before the Congregation, but which it is deemed advisable, for reasons of charity and prudence, to present to such a smaller circle, (however, appeal may at any time be made from the decision of the Church Council to that of the Congregation. It shall remain optional with a member whether or not to consult the Church Council.).

3—To obviate, to the best of their ability, public offenses, and to check them after they have been given.

4—To take the initial steps it it should happen that a pastor or teacher of the congregation give public offense in doctrine or life.

5—To keep strictly confidential all matters of a private nature discussed at the meeting.

6—To call special meetings of the Congregation in urgent cases.

7—To supervise the administration of treasuries of the Congregation in accordance with the instructions, and subject to the control of the Congregation.

8—To preserve good order in the public service.

9—To assist their pastor with their counsel in difficult ministerial cases and to further, with all the means at their disposal, the ministry of their pastor.

10—To serve as the Board of Christian Education for the Congregation.

The Chairman and Secretary of the Congregation shall act as Chairman and Secretary of the Church Council. Section 9 of these By-Laws shall be read by the Secretary in the first (1st) meeting of the Church Council following the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

Section 10—Order of Business

At every regular voter's meeting the following shall be the order of business:—

1—Opening devotion.

2—Roll call and reading of minutes.

3—Announcement of application for membership, reception of new members, and signatures to the Constitution.

4—Pastor's report.

5—Report of auditing committee.

6—Reports of officers and committees.

7—Unfinished business.

8—New business.

9—Adjournment and prayer.

Section 11—Amendments

These By-Laws can be amended only by the assenting vote of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the voting members present at any meeting of the Congregation.