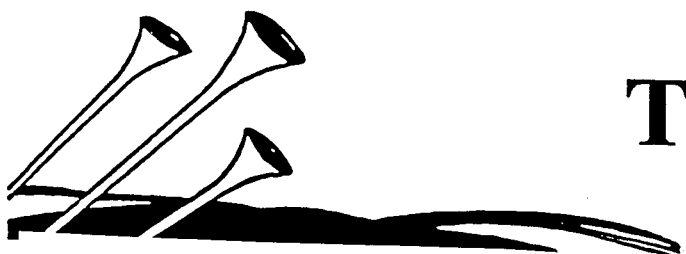


# TRUMPET

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Boxholm, Iowa



Rod Meyer, Pastoral Associate  
Annette Peterson, Church Office Secretary

Vol. XXXVIII  
No. 5

*Flowers appear on the earth;  
The season of singing has come.  
Song of Solomon 2:12*



*Joy  
Is to behold  
God in everything.  
-Julian of Norwich*

*"It was a glorious May  
morning, tingling  
with the joy of life.  
-Melvin B. Tolson*

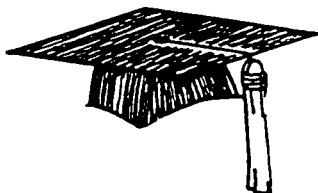
## MOTHER'S DAY May 14



*... To those who comfort  
with a mother's hand,  
we thank you.  
... To those who encourage  
with a mother's praise,  
we thank you.  
... To those who love with  
a mother's heart,  
we honor you...  
not just on Mother's Day  
...but always.*



## GRADUATION May 21 Ogden High School 2:30 p.m. "Ashley Blair"



*Two worn little shoes  
With a hole in the toe.  
And why have I saved them?  
Well, all mothers know  
There's nothing so sweet  
As a baby's worn shoe,  
And patter of little steps  
Following you.  
The feet they once held  
Have grown slender and  
Strong:  
Tonight they'll be tired  
After dancing so long.  
I guided her feet  
When she wore such as  
These...  
Dear God, may I ask...  
Won't You guide them  
Now, please?  
-Isla P. Richardson*

## MEMORIAL DAY May 29



*This Memorial Day may  
we stop long enough to  
bow our heads and pay re-  
spect to our departed loved  
ones...and especially those  
who have fallen in battle  
in distant lands while help-  
ing preserve the liberties of  
America...  
Let us take time to visit  
our various cemeteries and  
stop long enough to say  
'Thank you, Father, for the  
life that has been lived and  
for friendships that we have  
shared.'*

I saw a television news presentation about the new health craze in packaged food – “whole grain”. It seems as if every bread, cereal, & breakfast bar is labeled “whole grain” now, which would be great, if it were true. But it’s not. Manufacturers have started to add a tiniest modicum of whole grain to everything – not enough to make a difference to the general nutrition values of the product, but just enough to keep them from being taken to task for out & out lying or misrepresentation in advertising.

There are those who would contend & have contended that members of the ELCA should be good little sheep & just trust the church hierarchy & clergy to do what it should do & to tell us what we need to know. It’s what they do, you know.

Well, that’s a pile of something, but there’s probably enough left in there that we can call it “whole grain”.

The danger for our church is not the people who would raise issues & awareness for our membership, but rather those who would shout them down as being “un-Lutheran” or “unfaithful” or “uninformed” or “un-Christian” for doing so.

It’s interesting how far our denomination will go to sing the wonders of the diversity, as long as it is represented by different skin colors or languages or cultures; but how often that turns sour in their mouths when we have to speak of a diversity of opinion or doctrinal interpretations or political stance. To deny that Lutherans span the entire spectrum of opinion is just stupid – and to think or imply that congregational members should ‘dumb down’ in the name of unity should be unthinkable. But it evidently is not.

I’m not bothered at all to confess that I have any number of issues with the church at large & its more local applications: I honestly don’t know how one could not & not be in danger of being taken off of life support. I don’t take those stances because I dislike the membership or would mislead or mistreat them: entirely the opposite is true! If you love the church & its members, you will stand against injustice & untruth wherever you find it – and that includes among your peers & in the hierarchy of the church.

I didn’t think that this was anything new – I thought I was standing in a long line of tradition that included Martin Luther as he faced down the excesses of his Catholic church, & of Jesus himself, who stood against the greed & pride & ungodliness of the Pharisees in His church. Neither of them took their stances out of ego or self-service; and in doing so, they did not ‘vilify’ their fellow believers. They stood their ground out of a love of the church & a love for those who were being taken advantage of or misled by self-serving ecclesiastical autocrats. I’m okay with taking on some version of that role – I hope that our clergy & our church-wide membership is too.

The last Church-wide Assembly dealt with the sexuality study. Bishop Last seemed content with the way it was handled, & was convinced that the ELCA membership had its say. But our own history teaches us that we cannot trust that the membership’s voice will be final or even acknowledged. The voice of the church said NO to CCM in 1997, only to have it reappear & pass at the next assembly. A number of bishops did a lot of politicking before our last assembly to promote the ordination of practicing homosexuals - & I haven’t seen any evidence that they have accepted the voice of the church at large on this issue & have moved on to support it. It doesn’t take much of a crystal ball to see that we are going to see this issue raised again. This was an important issue for many, and if you as a Lutheran feel that the decision reached was the correct one according to your interpretation of the scriptures & the leading of the Spirit, you would be remiss if you did not remain vigilant in protecting that stance.

I’m not asking anybody to pick up a sign & march on Higgins Road. I’m asking you to be as faithful as you can to God & His Church – to remain as involved as you can. Listen to the voices out there, apply your faith & your knowledge, & make informed decisions.

Whenever I hear a clergy person or church administrator say or imply, “Don’t worry. You don’t have to bother with details or questions or issues. Just trust me”, it gives me the same feeling I get when a doctor tells me, “Bend over,” & for pretty much the same reason. I don’t doubt that most of those who professionally serve the church are well-meaning & faithful – and those who are will be transparent, forthcoming, & happy to answer your questions & engage your concerns.

Get informed. Stay involved. Be faithful. Don’t let your voice or the voices of others be silenced.



rod



# Women of the ELCA

**MAY BIBLE STUDY**  
"Act Boldly With Self-control"

**MAY ALTAR FLOWERS**  
Annette Peterson, Doris Peterson,  
Barbra Peterson

Wednesday, May 3, 1:00 p.m.  
2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 10, 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 17, 9:00 a.m.

Monday, May 22, 7:30 p.m.

**Worship at the Ogden Manor** – Miriam Group  
**HOPE GROUP**; Hostess: Thelma Anderson;  
Devotions: Viola Anderson; Lesson: Janet Reutter;  
Roll Call: Favorite Bible Verse  
**GENERAL MEETING**; Bible Study with Pastor  
Rod; Hostesses: Annette Peterson, Doris Peterson  
**FAITH GROUP**; Hostess: Potluck; Devotions:  
Helen Nibel; Lesson: Annette Peterson; Roll Call:  
Graduation Memory & Picture  
**MIRIAM GROUP**; Hostess: Rhonda Nelson;  
Devotions: Linda Swanson; Lesson: Dorothy  
Henrichs; Roll Call: Mother/Grandmother

April has been a busy month, especially just towards the end of the month. Nine of our ladies went to Gowrie for their Guest Day. There were quilts on display and the ladies that attended said it was very interesting. I have 13 signed up to go to Harcourt's Guest Night on April 27.

The Spring Cluster 8 Event was on April 22 at Fulton of Roelyn and 6 of our group attended. At 9:00 we were served a delicious brunch after which the meeting was held. The bishop's wife gave a slide presentation and talked about Women of Tanzania. The Western Iowa Synod have been raising funds and have started to dig wells so they would have safe water there. Also we have committed to helping this girl's school. It would take \$380 to send a girl to school for a year. This country needs help in many ways.

Remember... Garage Sale is June 3. We will be setting up on June 1 so have your items marked and in church by that date.

Also, Vacation Bible School will be here June 5-9 and I will be asking for donations of cookies. On the last day of VBS, we will have a picnic and the final program from the kids. We will be having Church Cleaning Day on June 12 so keep that in mind also.

Quilts were on display in church on Sunday, April 23, and people were given the opportunity to sponsor a quilt for \$2. This will help pay for transportation charges.

Our synod convention is June 23-24. If anyone would like to go as our delegate, please let me know.

*"When God measures a man, He puts the  
tape around the heart instead of the head."*

-Women of the ELCA President, *Gwen Scheetz*



## Church Council Minutes – April 11, 2006

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council met on April 11, 2006, with the following members in attendance: Pastor Rod, Randy Reutter, Randy Lehman, Larry Krakau, Larry Fatka, Roberta Clausen, Marie Bengtson, & Dustine Peterson.

Pastor Rod led in devotions & prayer. The secretary's report was read & approved. Larry Fatka reported March income of \$6,135.25 & expenses of \$7,675.21, leaving a balance of \$7671.77 as of April 1, 2006. Larry Krakau reported YTD income of \$13,920 as of March 31, 2006, which was approximately \$2300 more than the same time frame in 2005.

There was discussion about having Communion on Easter morning. It was decided to have communion by intinction, with Larry Krakau assisting.

It was reported that the last day of Sunday School will be April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Buying a television for church use was discussed. Due to the problem of multiple levels, it was decided to investigate buying 2 televisions: one for the Sanctuary level, & another for the Education wing. Each would be placed on a cart for ease of movement & storage, & a DVD/VCR unit could be shared between the two. Larry Krakau will investigate prices.

The Fundraising Lunch was tentatively moved from the last Sunday of April to July 9<sup>th</sup>.

It was reported that Thrivent was requesting a fundraiser at each member church for the Habitat for Humanity house being built in Boone. It was decided to have a free-will donation at both the May 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> services.

Yearbooks will go out with the May Newsletters.

Lisa (Lehman) Ebersole has requested a transfer of membership to her Trinity Lutheran Church in Jefferson.

A Clean-Up day for the church was discussed, and will be scheduled if deemed necessary.

Memorial funds were reported: \$4840.61 in savings and \$590.68 in checking, with an additional amount from the Mildred Sundell estate.

Participatory funds from Thrivent will be applied for by the TICWF Youth Group for the Sunrise Service.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rod Meyer, Secretary pro tem



**HOSPITALIZED** since the last newsletter: Jr. Sundell  
Gwen Scheetz

# BIRTH

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Adam & Lisa (Lehman) Ebersole on the birth of a son, **Gabe Riley**, on Friday, April 7, 2006 (Grandpa Lehman's birthday!). Grandparents are Randy & Denise Lehman.

**FLOWERS** in the altar area on Easter Sunday were given in memory of Waldo Bengtson by Marie & family.

**EASTER LILIES** placed.....  
-in memory of Howard & Mildred Stark & in honor of Mildred's birthday, by JoAnn Eddy & Loni Ferger.  
-in memory of Olivia, by Shorty & Doris Peterson.  
-in memory of loved ones by Marie Bengtson & family.



*...A mother's touch is as constant as her love...finding its way thru clouds of rain or showers of happiness!*

*...The Christian home is the fertile soil where Christian personalities grow.*

*...There is and always will be room for improvement in anyone. There is only one Perfection.*  
-Gerard R. Chauvin



## A Measure of Our Love & Faithfulness: (GIVING) (ATTENDANCE)

<u>Sun., April 2:</u>	\$ 665.00	.....49
	100.00 Organ Fund	
<u>Sun., April 9:</u>	\$1,167.00	.....55
	35.00 Easter	
	50.74 Sunday School	
<u>Food Pantry:</u>	18.00 & 2 bags of food	
<u>Sun., April 16:</u>	\$ 505.25	.....96
	1,185.00 Easter	
	100.00 Organ Fund	
<u>Sun., April 23:</u>	\$ 646.00	.....56
	330.00 Easter	

May 7 Communion Assistant: Dustine Peterson  
Stewards: Carl & Linda Peterson  
Head Usher for May: Paul Lundvall  
Helpers: Neil Anderson, Barry Anderson  
Altar: Norma Henrichs  
Newsletter assemblers: Gwen Scheetz; Marie Bengtson, Norma Henrichs, Annette Peterson

### LAWN MOWERS

April 29 - Ken Peterson  
May 6 - Roger Howard  
May 13 - Larry Krakau  
May 20 - Nick Lehman  
May 27 - Roy Clausen

### SMILE

"Sign from God"

Appearing on a sign outside a church near Cheveland, Ohio:

"If you've been waiting for a sign from God, this is it! Join us for worship this Sunday."

### *A Mother's Gifts*

I cannot give them gold,  
These treasures given me by God above;  
I cannot give them any gift to hold  
But that He gives to all...  
The gift of love.  
Food I can give to make their bodies strong,  
Strength for this day & for the distant year;  
A home for which when far away they'll long,  
A place of rest & freedom from all fear.  
Faith too I can bestow  
In God, in self, & in their fellowman;  
And peace that comes from Him, that One divine  
Who holds us in the hollow of His hand.  
These gifts with love bestowed,  
What more is there to give?  
A mother asks and answers  
With a life, well lived.

-Mina Lone



## Joy is Homemade

Happiness is something we create  
in our minds...

It's not something we search for  
and so seldom find...

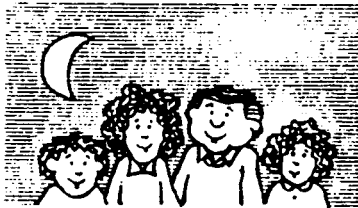
It's just waking up & beginning the day  
By counting our blessings and  
kneeling to pray...

It's giving up wishing for things  
we have not,

And making the best of whatever  
we've got...

For it's by completing what God  
gives us to do

That we find real contentment  
and happiness, too.



## I'm Special!

No one like you has been before you and no one like you shall rise again (I Kings 3:12).

In all the world there's nobody like me. Since the beginning of time, there has never been another person like me. Nobody has my smile. Nobody has my eyes, my nose, my hair, my hands, my voice. **I'M SPECIAL.**

Nobody can be found who has my handwriting. Nobody anywhere has my tastes - for food or music or art. No one sees things just as I do. In all of time there's been no one who laughs like me, no one who cries like me. And what makes me laugh and cry will never provoke identical laughter and tears from anyone else ever. No one reacts to any situation just as I would react. **I'M SPECIAL.**

I'm the only one in all creation who has my set of abilities. Oh, there will always be someone who is better at one of the things I'm good at, but no one in the universe can reach the quality of my combination of talents, ideas abilities and feelings. Like a room full of musical instruments, some may excel alone, but none can match the symphony sound when all are played together. I'm a symphony. Throughout all of eternity no one will ever look, talk, walk, think or do like me. **I'M SPECIAL.**

I'm rare. And in all rarity there is a great value. I need not attempt to imitate others. I will accept, yes, celebrate, my differences. **I'M SPECIAL.**

And I'm beginning to see that God made me special, for a very special purpose. He must have a job for me that no one else can do as well as I. Out of all the billions of applicants, only one has the right combination of what it takes. That one is me. Because....**I'M SPECIAL.**



*Every morning the sun rises  
to warm the earth...  
The rains come to water the earth.  
There is fertility in the soil,  
life in the seeds, oxygen in the  
air. The providence of God is  
about us in unbelievable abundance  
every moment!*

- Charles L. Allen

...And in green underwood and cover;  
Blossom by blossom the spring begins....

...It takes both the rain and the sunshine  
to make a rainbow.

...Came the spring with all its splendor  
All its birds and all its blossoms,  
All its flowers and leaves  
and grasses.  
-Henry W. Longfellow



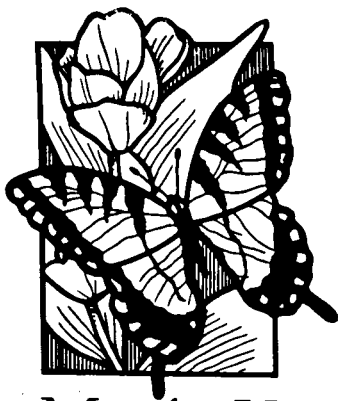
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**A CULTURAL HERITAGE FOOD FESTIVAL**  
will be held at Zion Lutheran, Gowrie,  
June 4, 7:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve  
their foods. If you are interested, call  
Cindy Youngquist at 352-3612  
Proceeds will go to Stephen Ministry and  
Fusion.

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M A Y

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

12	Mark Krakau	21	Mark Blair
14	Roberta Clausen	21	Jessica Nelson
14	Roberta Renberg	23	Sheralyn Page
16	Casey J. Peterson	23	Carrie Smith
18	Karen Fatka	26	Linda Olson
18	John Ferrari		

*Easter has come and gone and we continue our lives. Things are not always wonderful; in fact, it seems Easter has not changed things much. Our nets are often empty. Yet Christ has not left us... He is with us as He was with the disciples; through the living voice of His Gospel. Christ is present in His life-giving Word. We are not alone in the boat after Easter: Christ is with us, speaking to us in the Gospel & showing us His mercy.*

-Portals of Prayer

## ANNIVERSARY

15 Chuck & Linda Swanson

(May this word of Scripture accompany you always...)  
*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him And He will direct your paths."*

-Proverbs 3:5-6