

Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas



2019

October

A Note from the Minister



What Bible Version Should I Use?

When the original New International Version of the Bible was released by the conservative Christian publisher Zondervan in 1984, it quickly became the favorite for many conservative denominations, and achieved something no other English translation had since 1611: overtaking the venerable King James Version as the #1 best-selling Bible version. However, Zondervan was later taken over by News Corp, an international conglomerate best known in the United States for their Fox News subsidiary.

Though having a reputation for being politically conservative, the owners and management of News Corp are actually socially and theologically quite liberal. Consider that News Corp is now *both* the biggest publisher of Bibles in the world—also owning Thomas Nelson, publisher of the New King James Version—but at the same time one of the world's largest suppliers of pornography!

After coming under the control of News Corp, in 2011 Zondervan issued a radical “update” of the NIV. It is really a whole new translation, but still carrying the familiar New International Version name, without anything to distinguish it from the 1984 edition, such as adding “revised” to the title.

Unfortunately, this new 2011 edition of the NIV has some poor translations. Though it is still useable, it is much less suitable for conservative Christians than the 1984 NIV.

Up to that point, the 1984 NIV had for over 20 years been the primary translation used by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, and our Concordia Publishing House in publications such as Bible studies, Sunday School lessons, and *Portals of Prayer*. However, when Zondervan released the 2011 NIV they also abruptly withdrew the familiar 1984 NIV from the market—and even took the unusual step of canceling copyright permissions for the 1984 NIV.

Many of these new Bible versions are owned by conservative Christian groups, so that they will never again have to suffer the whims of a godless international conglomerate.

This caused great upheaval for conservative Christian churches, denominations, and publishers, suddenly left without the ability to purchase or continue using in publications our favored Bible version. In response, a large number of new, conservative Bible translations have recently been issued. In many cases, these new versions are owned by conservative Christian groups, so that they will never again have to suffer the whims of a godless international conglomerate.

People often ask me which Bible version they should get for themselves or give as gifts. The wonderful website www.biblegateway.com has the full text of over 50 different English translations of the Bible, many of them modern versions issued within the past decade or two.

However, if you go to a general bookstore such as Barnes and Noble, or a Christian bookstore such as Mardel, or a mass-market retailer such as Wal-Mart, there are mainly about a half-dozen versions you will commonly find for sale. Here's a brief review, listed in general order of preference, and rated from one to five stars.

English Standard Version

★★★★★

The ESV was prepared and published by a consortium of conservative organizations, publishers, and denominations, including theologians from the LCMS. This is the version found in *Lutheran Service Book*, and now used in all CPH publications. Over the past decade, CPH has gradually been issuing new editions of standard works such as the *Small Catechism* featuring the ESV in place of the 1984 NIV.

The ESV is a highly accurate, readable, modern translation. However, in some places it can be a bit “wooden” compared to the 1984 NIV, which seemed to “flow” better.

The ESV has been adopted by quite a few conservative Christians and now ranks as one of the top best-selling Bible translations. Because of this popularity it is widely available in a very large variety of editions from many publishers.

Our own CPH used it as the basis for the wonderful new *Lutheran Study Bible*. The ESV is available at all bookstores and retailers, and you can find a large number of special editions online at www.cph.org/bibles.

1984 New International Version

★★★★★

If you can find it, the original 1984 NIV is still a great Bible to have. The key is to check the copyright of any Bible labeled “New International Version.” If the copyright does not include the date 2011, you're in luck!

Because it was such a best-seller for two decades, there are lots of copies of the original 1984 NIV available at used bookstores such as Half-Price Books, thrift stores, and on Ebay. However, be sure to check the copyright!

A particular gem is the *Concordia Self-Study Bible* published by CPH. If you find a “clean” copy of that, buy it!

Evangelical Heritage Version

★★★★★

The new EHV translation was just released in July by Northwestern Publishing House, the publisher of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, a conservative sister synod of our Missouri Synod. Prepared by WELS pastors and professors as their synod’s replacement for the 1984 NIV, it is a highly accurate, readable, modern translation.

Because it was just published it is currently available mainly from www.nph.net/ehv and Amazon. The entire text can be reviewed for comparison at www.biblegateway.com.

New King James Version

★★★★★

The NKJV is meant to keep as much as possible the familiar, traditional language of the King James Version,

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while updating archaic terms such as “thee” and “thou.” It is a highly accurate, readable, modern translation, and ranks among best-selling Bible versions. This means it is widely available in a large variety of editions.

The NKJV is actually a favorite of many conservative Christians. However, conservative publishers were hesitant to adopt it as a replacement for the 1984 NIV because News Corp also bought Thomas Nelson, the publisher and copyright holder of the NKJV, and after the fiasco with the withdraw of the 1984 NIV they didn’t want to be beholden again to the whims of News Corp.

So far, however, they haven’t “updated” the NKJV, and it remains an excellent, highly recommended translation, used by many conservative Christians. It is particularly helpful for those who want a modern version, but also like the traditional style of the original King James Version.

Christian Standard Bible

★★★★★

The CSB was produced by the Southern Baptist Convention as their replacement for the 1984 NIV. It was originally called the *Holman* Christian Standard Bible, named after their denominational publisher, but they shortened the name to just Christian Standard Bible to broaden its appeal beyond their denomination.

The SBC is the largest Protestant body in North America and sales have been strong, quickly propelling the CSB into the top five best-selling Bible versions. Widely available in a large variety of editions, it is a highly accurate, readable, modern translation. Though produced by the SBC, initially for their own use, it is not biased toward their denominational views.

New Living Translation

★★★

The NLT is a very modern version—perhaps *too* modern for some, who may feel it goes too far paraphrasing the Biblical text to make it more

understandable for contemporary readers. That is why no denomination has adopted it as their primary version.

However, many people find it highly readable, and it is suitable for personal reading, study, and devotions. Though modern in its language it is generally conservative in its theological outlook. It is widely available in a variety of editions.

The main advantage is that some people who otherwise might not read the Bible may actually *read* the NLT, because of its easy-to-understand contemporary language.

2011 New International Version

★

As mentioned above, in some places the revised 2011 NIV has poor translations. However, overall it is still generally accurate and very readable.

Because it has held onto the NIV’s top spot in Bible sales, it is the version most widely available. Usually the translation a general retailer like Wal-Mart will carry is the 2011 NIV, since it is currently the #1 best-selling version.

If that’s the specific version someone wants, don’t hesitate to buy it. Or if it is received as a gift, certainly you will be blessed using it.

King James Version

★★★★★

Though it is not a modern language translation, the 1611 KJV is highly accurate—and surprisingly readable for being over 400 years old! And for many people, some beloved, familiar parts of Scripture, such as Psalm 23 and the Christmas story, just don’t sound “right” from any other version.

Despite the introduction of so many new modern versions, sales of the KJV remain strong and it still ranks among the top-selling Bible translations. The disadvantage is that some people may be put off from actually *reading* it by archaic language such as “thee” and “thou.”

You may be wondering, "What version does Pastor Vogts use in our bulletins and worship services?"

The first preliminary editions of what became the 1984 NIV were already being issued just as I began pre-seminary studies at St. John's College in Winfield in 1978. Also, the LCMS hymnal *Lutheran Worship* issued in 1982, which Trinity never had, used the 1984 NIV for all Scripture references, and for decades that was the version used for the readings, psalms, etc. on pre-printed bulletins and worship inserts, as well as all other CPH materials. So, that is what I used throughout eight years of college and seminary preparing to become a pastor, and for the first 20 years of my ministry.

***You may be wondering,
"What Bible version do we
use in our bulletins and
worship services?"***

When the fiasco with the NIV happened in 2011, I decided that since I had only about 15 years before retirement (Lord willing), I would just stubbornly stick with the 1984 NIV. I bought up lots of extra copies of various editions of the 1984 NIV while they were still available, as well as the *Small Catechism* with the 1984 NIV—I've got a big stash at home!

So, that is the version I generally still use, including in our bulletins and worship services. However, modern technology makes it simple to use other versions on occasion. I can easily compare them side-by-side in the Bible study software that I have, and sometimes find that for a particular portion I prefer another translation. Lately, I have been checking out the new Evangelical Heritage Version, which as noted above was just issued in July by a conservative Lutheran sister synod.

Because *Lutheran Service Book* and all Concordia Publishing House publications now use the English Standard Version exclusively, that is the version to which the majority of Missouri Synod congregations and pastors have switched.

Trinity's 11th Annual



Sunday, October 27, 4:00pm-6:00pm at the Shelter House

Food 🍎 Games 🎮 Pumpkin Decorating 🎃 Bouncy House

*Everyone Is Invited to Offer Trunk or Treat
from Your Car, Truck, or Other Vehicle!*
(Please Have Your Setup Completed by 3:30pm)

All Invited—Everyone Welcome!

And that will probably be the version used primarily by your next pastor. Because, for the younger pastors, it is the ESV that *they* "grew up" with, just as I did with the 1984 NIV.

No matter what version you chose, the most important thing is not only to buy a Bible and have a Bible, but to actually *read* your Bible! As Psalm 119:9-16 says (in the 1984 NIV):

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to Your Word. I seek You with all my heart; do not let me stray from Your commands. I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You. Praise be to You, O LORD; teach me Your decrees. With my lips I recount all the laws that come from Your mouth. I rejoice in following Your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. I meditate on Your precepts and consider Your ways. I delight in Your decrees; I will not neglect Your Word."

Pastor Kevin Vogts



Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship? There is a sign-up sheet on the table with the snacks. Our Generations group has generously agreed to provide and prepare the coffee and juice each week! So those signing up are only asked to provide some treat. Thanks to all those providing snacks for Coffee Hour!

October 6

Brigitte Rodewald

October 13

Twin Valley 4-H

October 20

Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner


October 27

Need Volunteers



QUARTERLY MEETING

The quarterly meeting of the Voters Assembly will be held Sunday, October 13 at 7:00pm. Included on the agenda will be election of church officers for 2020, officer reports, setting the mission budget, designating Thanksgiving and Christmas offerings, and any other business presented. In order to prepare for this meeting the Church Council will meet Tuesday, October 8 at 7:00pm."



Heritage Sunday with Church & Cemetery Rededication and Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner October 20

Everyone enjoyed so much worshipping with *The Lutheran Hymnal* of 1941 for our 150th Anniversary Sunday last year that we are going to make it an annual tradition! This year our "Heritage Sunday" will be on October 20.

We have in storage several hundred copies of *The Lutheran Hymnal* in excellent condition. We'll pass them out at the door, or if you have a copy you received for Confirmation, or perhaps you inherited from your parents or grandparents, you're welcome to bring it along!

All of the hymns and liturgy that Sunday will be from *The Lutheran Hymnal*. Since it is our first extra "third Sunday" Communion for the fall and winter, the order of service will be the familiar "Page 15."

At the end of the service we will hold a brief rite of rededication for both our church building and cemetery, giving

thanks that we were spared greater damage in the tornado, and that we were able to beautifully restore everything.

Following the worship service everyone is invited to stay and enjoy our annual Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner & Bazaar.



Sermon Topics for October

Sermons by Pastor Vogts are available in both printed and audio form on our website at www.trinitylcms.org/sermons; as podcasts in the iTunes store by searching for "Rev. Kevin Vogts"; and printed copies of that day's sermon and several of the most recent sermons are available in the Gathering Room.

October 6

*"To Rescue Us from
the Present Evil Age"*
Galatians 1:3-5

October 13

"The Greatest Hoax on Earth?"
Galatians 1:11-12

October 20 (Heritage Sunday)

*"Always Pray and
Do Not Lose Heart"*
Luke 18:1-8

October 27 (Reformation Sunday)

"The Gift of God"
Ephesians 2:8-10



You are invited to help Trinity provide brief worship services for nursing home residents at North Point and Medical Lodge on Sunday, October 6. The simple services are approximately 20 minutes in length at each home. We begin at 1:30pm at North Point and then go to Medical Lodge for the second service.



Our records of birthdays and anniversaries may not complete. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the Church Office at 913-849-3344 or email Church Secretary Stacey Elkinton at trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com.

- October 1 Mike Schmidt
- October 1 Kimala Morton
- October 1 Michele Minden
- October 2 Ashley Peckman
- October 2 Sharon Prothe
- October 4 Kyle Minden
- October 5 Mark Deering
- October 8 Megan Stutzman
- October 8 Brian Oberheide
- October 9 Kyle Garrison
- October 10 LeRoy Thoden
- October 11 Shelby Barrett
- October 11 Kegan Warring
- October 12 Ray England
- October 13 Vicky Boyer
- October 13 Aaron Mueller
- October 13 Hazel Prothe
- October 15 Pam Peckman
- October 15 Jay Warring
- October 16 Ariel Alcorn
- October 16 Erica Peckman
- October 17 Dylan Fanning
- October 17 Tony Hubbard
- October 17 Julie Kellogg
- October 18 Carter Zajic
- October 19 Betty Prothe
- October 19 Joe Stephens
- October 20 Khrystin Davis
- October 20 David Minden
- October 23 Brett Golubski
- October 23 Kaelah McMullin
- October 23 Hannah Allcorn
- October 24 Payton Bruce
- October 26 Charlie Peckman
- October 26 Dalton Russell
- October 26 Garrett Russell
- October 27 Kolby Fanning
- October 27 Lloyd Peckman
- October 27 Kayla Shappell
- October 30 Chris Kettler
- October 30 Rose Peckman
- October 30 David Prothe

October 30 Jai Jenkins
 October 31 Nina Gerken
 Oct 1 Larry & Dana Simonson (14)
 Oct 7 Scott & Nancy Golubski (30)
 Oct 17 Joe & Anisha O'Barto (21)
 Oct 17.. Darrel & Brigitte Rodewald (38)
 Oct 19 Kyle & Pam Minden (28)
 Oct 25 Mark & Diana Deering (16)
 Oct 27 Eric & Lindsey Lester (7)
 Oct 30 Les & Beth Prothe (26)
 Oct 31 Dale & Linda Prothe (42)

**2019
 Ladies
 Aid
 Quilt
 Raffle**



The beautiful quilt for the Trinity Ladies Aid 2019 Quilt Raffle is done! It is a generously sized queen, hand embroidered and pieced by the Ladies Aid, and machine quilted for extra durability. This black and white photo doesn't show the lovely colors. A full-color photo is on the bulletin board in the South Lobby, or online at www.trinitylcms.org/quilt.

Tickets are \$1 per chance to win, or six tickets for \$5. On sale from any Ladies Aid member and many other women of the congregation. Tickets will be sold until October 20 when the drawing will take place at Trinity's Annual Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner that day (need not be present to win).



Thank you from the Trinity Youth to all donated so generously for our dinner at Blocktoberfest and all who gave so much help preparing and serving everything. We were blessed with net proceeds to help fund youth activities of over \$6,000!



**New
 Cemetery
 Map**

Building on the research and work of the previous map that hung in the former nursery, a new map has been created for our cemetery, with accompanying indexes sorted by name, year, and location. Photos of the graves on the new map are mostly from the web site www.findagrave.com.

The map and indexes are on the table in the vestibule by the front door (near bell rope). Please help check this work and if you find errors or missing information report it to Pastor Vogts. Because it involves so many names, dates, and other data, it is anticipated there may be mistakes and typos and a second printing with corrections will likely be needed.

This map, or a corrected reprint, will eventually be hung on the wall at that location, since it is conveniently located adjacent to the cemetery. We are also planning to get some kind of markers at the end of each row in the cemetery identifying them as "A, B, C," etc. to aid in locating graves.



What if parts of the Bible appear to conflict with modern science or other human reason? If it was written over thousands of years by many different human authors, does the Bible contradict itself? How do we find the real meaning for those parts of the Bible that seem mysterious or hard to understand?

We're looking at these questions and more with our current study in Adult Bible Class, *Bible 101: An Introduction to Understanding the Bible*. Join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Heritage Room!

Missionaries of the Month



Each month we remember in prayer in our worship services—and you are encouraged to remember in your personal prayers—specific Missionaries of the Month from around the world, who are supported by our congregation through our mission offerings to our Synod.

October 6
Kipp & Tami Beaudoin
 Ukraine

October 13
Rev. Charles & Deborah St-Onge
 Caribbean

October 20
Michael & Nancy Jane Morizio
 Italy

October 27
Rev. James & Tina May
 Kenya

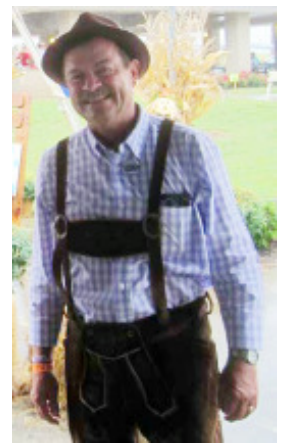


**Communion
 October 20**

As is customary during the winter months, from October thru March we are having Communion twice per month, on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, beginning with our first "third Sunday" Communion on October 20.



We had members sign up for 60 tickets to see the musical comedy "Church Basement Ladies" at The New Theater Restaurant in Overland Park on March 21, 2020! The tickets have been reserved but full payment isn't due until January 15. Please pay Pastor Vogts \$33 per ticket any time before that date. We'll make arrangements next spring for those who would like to carpool. See Pastor Vogts for any questions.



Trinity's Seventh Annual Blocktoberfest

Hundreds More Pictures Online
www.trinitycms.org/photos

