

# Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas

  
September  
2021

FROM  
THE  
PASTOR



## Labor Day and Christian Vocation

The history of Federal holidays in the United States dates back to 1870, when Congress established the original four Federal holidays: New Year's Day, Independence Day, Christmas Day, and Thanksgiving Day. George Washington's Birthday was added in 1879; Decoration Day (now Memorial Day) in 1888; Labor Day in 1894; Armistice Day (to mark the end of World War I, now Veterans Day) in 1938; Columbus Day in 1968; Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1983; and just this year another Federal holiday was added: "Juneteenth," celebrated on June 19 to commemorate the end of slavery in Texas on that date in 1865.

Labor Day is a uniquely American holiday, created by the American labor union movement in 1882 as a yearly tribute to the workers of our country. The first Labor Day was celebrated in New York City and the idea quickly spread. The holiday was originally observed with parades of labor union members followed by picnics and other festivities for workers and their families.

Rather than "floating" through the week like previous Federal holidays, Labor Day was the first to always be celebrated on a Monday, the first Monday in September, creating a three-day holiday weekend. This was so popular that in 1968 the Uniform Holiday Act shifted several other holidays to always fall on a Monday.

The word "holiday" is actually a contraction of "holy day" and many of our holidays—including Valentine's Day, Halloween, and even Groundhog's Day!—were originally celebrations in the Christian Church Year, but have now become completely secularized. Many people are concerned the same thing is happening to Christmas and Easter, no longer celebrating Christ's birth and resurrection, but instead all about Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. From the perspective of labor unionists, Labor Day has suffered same fate. It now has almost nothing to do with paying tribute to American workers, but simply marks the end of summer with a last, long weekend.

---

***Labor Day celebrates the concept of "vocation," Latin for a "calling," a distinctly Christian religious term and concept deeply rooted in the Scriptures.***

---

Although Labor Day began as and has always been a secular holiday, a resolution of the American Federation of Labor in 1909 made the preceding Sunday "Labor Day Sunday." This linkage is very appropriate, because Labor Day celebrates the concept of "vocation," Latin for a "calling" (related to "vocal" and "voice"). Though today used mostly in a secular way, such as "vocational technical school," "vocation" is originally a distinctly Christian religious term and concept, deeply rooted in the Scriptures.

Every Christian has, first of all, the spiritual "calling" of trusting in Christ and serving Him with your life: "I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received" (Ephesians 4:1). But, Christians are also called by God to practical, earthly vocations: "Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind

*your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody"*(1 Thessalonians 4:11-12).

Martin Luther originally became a monk because the concept of Christian vocation found in Scripture had largely been forgotten during the Dark Ages, and Luther mistakenly thought devoting himself to full-time church work was the only way to truly serve God with his life. Thankfully, the Reformation marked the end of the Dark Ages and a restoration of the three great jewels of Christian doctrine: *Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Sola Scriptura*; Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Scripture alone. And along with restoring these forgotten teachings to the Church, Luther also brought back the "fourth jewel" of the Reformation, the forgotten Scriptural concept of vocation.

Because, Luther later came to understand the Scriptural teaching that *all* honest work is truly "holy" work, a service to the Lord:

*"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving"*(Colossians 3:23-24);

*"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men"* (Ephesians 6:7).

The Christian concept of vocation also beautifully teaches that God gives people different gifts for all sorts of different service and occupations:

*"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us"* (Romans 12:4-6).

*"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good"*(1 Corinthians 12:4-7);

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms"*(1 Peter 4:10).

Finally, although we tend to limit the concept of vocation to the job we do, Christian vocation actually teaches that each of us wears many different "hats" in life, at the same time having multiple callings from God in different aspects of life.

You indeed have your work in the world, by which you earn a living for yourself and your family, using the special gifts, talents, and abilities God has given you in service to others. But, although your job is a very important service to both God and your fellow man, that is only one aspect of your vocation, your calling from God to serve Him with your life.

Even more important than your work is your family, your calling from God to serve Him as a husband, wife, parent, child, brother, sister, grandparent.

---

## Trinity Tribune

*Published Monthly by*

*Trinity Lutheran Church  
34868 Block Road  
Paola, Kansas 66071*

*Rev. Kevin Vogts, Pastor  
Stacey Elkinton, Church Secretary*

*Church: 913-849-3344  
Pastor's Study & Parsonage:  
913-849-3711*

*Pastor's Cell: 913-594-9865*

*trinitylcms.org  
facebook.com/trinitylutheranblock  
pastorvogts@gmail.com  
trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com  
September, 2021*

Luther at first mistakenly thought he would have to forsake family obligations in order to truly serve God. But, his rediscovery of the forgotten teaching of Christian vocation freed him to marry his beloved Katie and be father to their six children, because he understood that it was God calling him to carry out the vocations of husband and father within his family.

Luther also came to realize that the family unit is really the basis for civilization itself and all civil government, and that as Christians we have not only a *civic* but also a *sacred* duty to fulfill our calling as good citizens. This was such a key doctrine of the Reformation that it is enshrined in Article XVI of the Augsburg Confession, the first formal summary of Lutheran teaching:

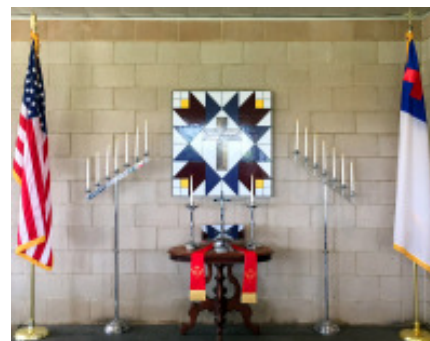
*"Condemned are those who teach that Christian perfection requires the forsaking of house and home, wife and child, and the renunciation of such activities. . . The Gospel does not overthrow civil authority, the state, marriage, and family, but requires that all these be kept as true orders of God, and that everyone, each according to his own calling, manifest Christian love and genuine good works in his station of life."*

In addition to your job, your family, and your good citizenship, Christians of course have an additional calling from God, to serve Him as loyal, active, and faithful members of His Church. As the rite for receiving new members of a congregation puts it: *"Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully . . . to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death . . . Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?"*

So, as you celebrate Labor Day, think not only of your calling from God in your job, but also your calling to serve Him in *all* your other vocations in life. As we will pray in our worship on "Labor Day Sunday":

*Lord God Almighty, You have blessed us with various and unique gifts. Grant us the grace to use them always to Your honor and glory. Look with favor upon us in our many and various callings. Give us wisdom, courage, and patience to serve in sacrificial love, strengthen us in our vocations, and grant Your continued blessing to those in retirement; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Pastor Kevin Vogts



---

## Blocktoberfest Outdoor Service & BBQ Lunch September 19

On Sunday morning, September 19, we will again have our "Blocktoberfest Outdoor Service" in the Shelter House, at our regular worship time of 10:00am.

The message will be *"God's Priceless Gift"* based on Isaiah 55:1-3. Following the service there will again be a free BBQ lunch provided for everyone by the Blocktoberfest Committee.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Our records of birthdays and anniversaries may not be 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](mailto:trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com).

Sept 1 ..... Noel Wendte  
 Sept 2 ..... Mary Ann Green  
 Sept 2 ..... Gladys Prothe  
 Sept 3 ..... Shane Honn  
 Sept 3 ..... Rebecca Hurst  
 Sept 3 ..... Ron Raines  
 Sept 4 ..... Lance Belsanti  
 Sept 4 ..... Mary Ann Maisch  
 Sept 4 ..... Dennis Peckman  
 Sept 4 ..... Steve Windler  
 Sept 4 ..... Sarah Vogts  
 Sept 5 ..... Dena Kaiser  
 Sept 6 ..... Emerson Bunch  
 Sept 6 ..... David Gatlin  
 Sept 6 ..... Les Jones  
 Sept 6 ..... Gay Stubbs  
 Sept 7 ..... Cindy Puckett  
 Sept 7 ..... Teri Minden  
 Sept 8 ..... Tore Smithhisler  
 Sept 8 ..... Lloyd Ohlmeier  
 Sept 10 ..... John Henry  
 Sept 10 ..... Evan Kettler  
 Sept 11 ..... Nickolas Davis  
 Sept 11 ..... Connie Barnett  
 Sept 12 ..... Gary Peckman  
 Sept 12 ..... Kristie Weaver  
 Sept 12 ..... Carol Wray  
 Sept 12 ..... Casey Maisch  
 Sept 12 ..... Pam Thompson  
 Sept 12 ..... Lincoln Wolf  
 Sept 13 ..... Donald Smithhisler  
 Sept 13 ..... Sally Wood  
 Sept 15 ..... Aaron Prothe  
 Sept 16 ..... Conni Holte  
 Sept 18 ..... Grant Haley  
 Sept 18 ..... Skyler Prothe  
 Sept 18 ..... Liam Simonson  
 Sept 18 ..... Josslyn Fuller  
 Sept 19 ..... Rolland Prothe  
 Sept 21 ..... Katie Lindsey  
 Sept 22 ..... Sarah Reyelts  
 Sept 22 ..... Jackson Lester  
 Sept 23 ..... Karen Brack  
 Sept 23 ..... Weston Davis  
 Sept 23 ..... Lindsey Ramsey  
 Sept 23 ..... Amanda West  
 Sept 24 ..... Dawson Bruce  
 Sept 24 ..... Kevin Debrick  
 Sept 25 ..... Jennifer Boydston  
 Sept 25 ..... Olivia Mitchell  
 Sept 25 ..... Ginny Peckman  
 Sept 27 ..... Scott Golubski  
 Sept 27 ..... Geraldine Holtz  
 Sept 27 ..... Ryan Holloman  
 Sept 27 ..... Leslie Thoden  
 Sept 28 ..... Kaiden Armstrong  
 Sept 28 ..... Margie Monthey  
 Sept 29 ..... Kathy Korsten  
 Sept 29 ..... Mary Shay

Sept 30 ..... Gale Nowasell  
 Sept 7 ..... Jason & Sacred Davis (24)  
 Sept 8 ..... Jamey & Dena Kaiser (13)  
 Sept 11 ... James & Shannon Fanning (21)  
 Sept 12 .. Dennis & Norma Peckman (66)  
 Sept 13 .... Johnny & Sharon Grother (56)  
 Sept 15 ..... Ray & Janet England (58)  
 Sept 17 .... Kerry & Carole Brandt (37)  
 Sept 18 ..... Paul & Kathy Haley (44)  
 Sept 19 ..... Randy & Helen Maisch (23)  
 Sept 21 .. Ryan & Tamara Mitchell (24)  
 Sept 25 .... Kelly & Valerie Gerken (44)  
 Sept 28 ..... Gary & Rose Peckman (35)



## 2021 Quilt Raffle

Raffle tickets to support missions are available for this beautiful quilt made by the Trinity Ladies Aid. It is a generously sized queen, hand embroidered by the ladies and machine quilted for extra durability.

Tickets are \$1 per chance to win, or six tickets for \$5. Raffle tickets can be obtained from Nancy Golubski or Greg Windler. Your help would be appreciated selling tickets, so anyone willing to help please see Nancy or Greg for extra tickets.

You may also mail a check (no cash please) made out to "Trinity Ladies Aid" to: Trinity Lutheran Church, ATTN: Quilt Raffle, 34868 Block Road, Paola, KS, 66071. Be sure to include your full contact information in case you are the winner!

Tickets will also be available at Blocktoberfest on September 18. Tickets will be sold until October when the drawing will take place at Trinity's Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner (need not be present to win).



## Sermons for September

Complete videos of all our services, as well as audio and printed text of the sermon only, are available on our church website at [www.trinitylcms.org/sermons](http://www.trinitylcms.org/sermons). Printed copies of that day's sermon and several of the most recent sermons are also available in the Gathering Room.

September 5

*"Five Favorite Old Testament Stories: David and Goliath"*  
1 Samuel 17

September 12

*"Friend or Foe?"*  
Mark 8:27-35

September 19 (Blocktoberfest)

*"God's Priceless Gift"*  
Isaiah 55:1-3

September 26

*"Love for God and Neighbor"*  
Mark 12:28-37

## 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 around the world who are supported by our congregation through our mission offerings to our Synod.

September 5

*Rev. Paul & Genevieve Nelson*  
Indonesia

September 12

*Cynthia Pine*  
Dominican Republic

September 19

*Rev. Jacob Gaugert*  
Togo

September 26

*Deaconess Kathryn Phillips*  
Dominican Republic

---

## AFTER CHURCH SNACKS

After over a year with snacks suspended due to COVID we have resumed Coffee Hour after worship each Sunday. Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship?

Consider signing up for special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries. There is a sign-up sheet for the rest of the year on the table with the snacks. Most of 2021 is still open!

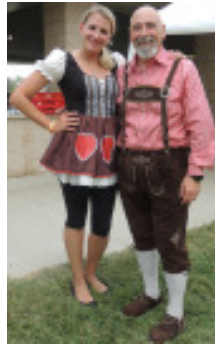
Our Generations group has generously agreed to provide and prepare the coffee and juice, so those signing up are only asked to provide some treat. Thanks to all those providing snacks for Coffee Hour!



### Bible Class on "God and Government"

Many questions came up during the past year on the power of government related to the Church, and the proper relationship between Church and State. Our current study in Adult Bible Class on *God and Government* is taking a look at many of these questions and what the Bible has to say about the origins and power of the government and its relationship to the Church.

You are invited to join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Heritage Room.



**Saturday, September 18  
Noon–6:00pm**



# Trinity's Eighth Blocktoberfest



**Blocktoberfest Outdoor Service  
Sunday, September 19, 10:00am  
In the Shelter House**

## Come Join the Blocktoberfest Fun for the Whole Family!



### Blocktoberfest Dinner Donations

*Ach du lieber!* It's time again to prepare for Blocktoberfest! The Trinity Youth will again be serving a German themed meal. We would greatly appreciate donations of apple pie/strudel or other pies and desserts to make a successful event!

We are also looking for volunteers to make German Potato Salad. There is a sign-up sheet on the counter in the Gathering Room as well as copies of the German Potato Salad recipe. *Danke dir* for your support of our Trinity Youth!

---

## Choir Is Back!

After suspending more than a year due to COVID, our Trinity Choir is starting up again! Thank you to Kathy Peckman for agreeing to return serving as our choir director! We sing for God and you!

Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings, starting on September 8 at 7:00pm. New faces—and voices—are welcome! Everyone is invited to help make a joyful noise to the Lord—come join the fun and fellowship! Contact Kathy for more information or questions.

---

## Confirmation Class Begins September 22

Our new year of Confirmation Classes for 7th & 8th Grades will begin on Wednesday, September 22 at 6:00pm in the Heritage Room. We plan to return this year to having classes weekly on Wednesday evenings from 6:00pm-7:00pm. Please contact Pastor Vogts if you have any questions.