

# Trinity News

## May 2021

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 Pastor:  
 Art Wiese  
 Secretary:  
 Pam Anderson  
 Council President  
 Brian McNeill  
 Custodians:  
 Karen Nelson

**Mission Statement**  
**Grow Faith, Serve God, Love Others**



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**“Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” - (Philippians 4:8)**

### Dear People of Trinity,

In my work on behalf of the SWMN synod as a conference minister, I have conducted a number of exit interviews. We have a conversation with pastors who are moving to a new call or retiring from ministry to review the time they have spent in a particular congregation, asking what they have accomplished together, what frustrations they might have encountered, and what still remains to be done. Until a few weeks ago, I had never done one of these as the subject of the interview. I had always been the interviewer. Now I am retiring. So it is my turn to take stock.

First of all, let me say that Trinity has been a wonderful place to do ministry. I believe I have told you that in every annual report I have written, but I should say it again. My decision to retire has nothing to do with you, the people of Trinity. I will miss you. I will miss this place. And I may even discover that I miss leading worship and preaching. But it’s time for me. Brenda and I have plans for some new adventures. And most of my classmates are already retired. The rest of us have now announced our plans to retire soon.

Doing ministry in the midst of a pandemic has not been easy, but I count it as one of our greatest accomplishments. As I spoke with my interviewer, I said, “I am a learner, and reading the book ‘Canoeing the Mountains’ by Todd Bolsinger has been a real God-send to me.” The fact that you were willing to engage with me a study of that book, I think, helped prepare us for dealing with all the unforeseen happenings of this past year. Your ability to be flexible, willingness to try new things and readiness to forgive all the mistakes we have made has helped us to experiment with new ways of doing things.

The fact that we are now doing worship on four levels instead of one is evidence of this transition. Being able to worship In-Person, on Zoom, by Facebook and via the Radio, more-or-less simultaneously is not easy, but we have been able to do it. I have heard a great deal of positive feedback in regard to this approach and I have been pleased that we have been able to make our worship accessible to so many people in these various ways. This will be a challenge to you as you move into the future. The details may change, but the experts tell us that the future of ministry will need to include a mix of traditional and online means of communication.

As to frustrations and challenges that remain, they seem not of great consequence. You have a warm, family feeling as a congregation, which can be a detriment for some, but you remain open and inviting to outsiders, and empowered by mission to doing acts of service in and for the community. Your support for the Foodshelf, the Backpack Program and T.E.A.M. Promise are all positives that counteract any dangers inherent in being too much of a “family.”

# Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes April 7, 2021

## Grow Faith, Serve God, Love Others

**Welcome** by President Brian McNeill at 7:02 PM. Members present were Jason Anderson, Adam Kolander, Toni Lindstrom, Robert Neuman, Diane Schuerman, Maureen Erdman, Jason Heinzig and Jodee Erickson. Also present were Pastor Art and Treasurer Bill Hoberg.

**Devotions** by Pastor Art from John, Chapter 20, on Easter. Jesus appeared to the disciples and said "Peace be with you". Then he breathed on them and told them "Receive the Holy Spirit".

**Pastor's Report** – Pastor Art made numerous visits by phone, computer, texts and emails plus five in-person visits. There were no hospital visits. Pastor Art held five in-person confirmations classes, led five worship services by Zoom, five posted to Facebook, four radio broadcasts, five midweek services with five posted to Facebook.

There was one baptism for Mila Grace Girard on March 7, 2021. There were no confirmations, weddings, funerals or counseling sessions. He took two days of vacation and no sick leave.

The SWMN Synod is planning an all online assembly to be held on two successive weekends (June 6 and 11, 12). Because we will be electing the first new bishop for our synod in 18 years, this will allow for the nominating and first elimination ballots to take place the first weekend, time to collect information, video speeches and plan further voting, with the final elimination ballots on the second weekend. **We need the majority of assembly voting members to register before sending out Voter ID and Election Runner information. Assembly Registration will CLOSE May 17!** Candidates will be named on May 11.

The Glacial Ridge Conference Assembly took place on Zoom on March 7 at 3:00 PM. We were represented by Byron Giese and Pas-

tor Art. All business brought before the assembly was approved. We elected a new Conference Chairperson. Byron's term as Conference Treasurer came to an end. Some positions on the ballot went unfilled.

**Additions to the Agenda** – Shout out to Don and Ruth Plackner for the Easter decorations.

**Secretary Jodee Erickson** – The March minutes were reviewed and approved by email.

**Financial Secretary Pam Anderson** – Motion by Diane to approve with second by Jason H. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Bill Hoberg** – March income was \$28,428.00 and expenses were \$19,682.98. Checking account balance as of March 31, 2021 was \$29,638.25. Motion by Maureen to approve with second by Toni. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Board of Education and Youth** – Marlene Giese volunteered to continue as ROCK leader for the coming year. Vacation Bible School is still under consideration.

**Outreach and Community Relations (B.A.C.K.)** – The committee met and recommended that \$1,000.00 be donated to the food shelf. Motion by Adam to donate \$1,000.00 to the food shelf with second by Robert. Motion carried.

**Property and Grounds** – The council met prior to the meeting to look at trees that need to be trimmed or removed around the parsonage. Jason A. received an estimate from A.L.T. Tree Service for trimming trees - \$800.00 for trees in the front yard and \$150.00 for trees in the back yard. It was suggested that we could have a work day to clean up the landscaping around the parsonage.

**Worship and Music** – The committee agreed on the purchase to upgrade the Pro-Presenter 6 to the Pro-Presenter 7 for the cost of

\$675.00. There is enough money in the Video account to cover this cost. Motion by Diane to purchase the Pro-Presenter 7 program with second by Toni. Motion carried.

Volunteers will be needed to learn the use of the equipment and for other tasks including Zoom greeters, editing of the services and downloading to Facebook. There will be training sessions held for those who volunteer. At this time, they feel that they have enough help in place for preparing of the slides. Marlene Giese will continue to schedule readers as needed for now.

It was decided that decisions made on how long to continue with Zoom services will be determined by the number of members using it as the return to in-person attendance increases. Easter services had 66 in-person and 50 on Zoom.

It will be announced that singing and responsive reading by the in-person congregation will be allowed, though masks will still be required.

**Stewardship and Finance** – Did not meet.

**Transition Team** – Survey update – There have been 49 electronic surveys completed and 1 paper survey completed at this time. Brian asked that we remind people to complete the survey. The deadline will be extended through Friday, April 9.

**Shout Outs** – Adam Kolander and Laura Rear for stepping up to learn the computer system and Don and Ruth Plackner for the addition of the beautiful butterflies to the Easter decor.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** – None

**Announcements** – May Newsletter articles are due April 18. The next council meeting is May 5, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

**Adjourned** by President Brian at 7:55 PM

**Closed with the Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jodee Erickson, Council Secretary

## MARCH 2021 INCOME

ENVELOPE OFFERING	\$ 20,843.00
LOOSE	\$ 10.00
INTIAL	\$ 5.00
THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS	\$ 2,170.00
FOODSHELF	\$ 200.00
GIFT OF GRAIN	\$ 5,000.00
GIFT	\$ 110.00
MISCELLANEOUS (Lilly's)	\$ 90.00
MARCH INCOME	<u>\$ 28,428.00</u>

### INCOME COMPARISON

YTD 2021	\$ 44,932.70
YTD 2020 (1,000.00 to Team Promise, 1,000 to WELCA, 2500 from WELCA for lighting, Bank of the West 3,500- 3,000 roofing, 500 hospital remembrance project, 3,492 team promise)	\$ 49,169.53

### MEMORIALS/GIFTS RECEIVED

Gift	
\$ 500.00	Tree & Shrub Trimming at parsonage
In Memory of Magnus (Bud) Peterson	
\$ 215.00	Memorial Fund
\$ 25.00	Video fund
In Memory of John McNeill	
\$ 125.00	Music Fund
In Memory of Norma Edman	
\$ 25.00	FoodShelf

#### SAVINGS ACCOUNT (First Security)

ALTAR FUND	\$ 1,079.91
BUILDING FUND	\$ 303.00
HANDBELLS	\$ 793.73
LANDSCAPING	\$ 2,000.00
LIBRARY FUND	\$ 808.00
MEMORIAL FUND (+20.00)	\$ 2,280.08
MUSIC FUND	\$ 542.94
PARKING LOT FUND	\$ 3,258.50
ROCK	\$ 163.00
SUNDAY SCHOOL/VBS FUND	\$ 2,809.51
TEAM PROMISE	\$ 2,604.00
VIDEO PROJECT	\$ 1,607.21
INTEREST (+ 2.17)	<u>\$ 36.81</u>
BALANCE TO DATE	\$ 18,286.69

#### SAVINGS ACCOUNT (Bank of the West)

BUILDING & GROUNDS	
Furniture	\$ 11,059.85
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	
Global	\$ 10,726.52
Local	\$ 11,423.11
EMERGENCY	\$ 21,345.59
MARKETING	\$ 3,196.59
TRANSPORTAION	\$ 14,170.56
INTEREST (\$9.48)	<u>\$ 907.14</u>
TOTAL	\$ 72,829.36

P ANDERSON, F. SEC.

\*Note another \$400 was deposited on 4/5 for the food shelf.

## Income & Expense- Budget vs. Actual

### January through March 2021

	Jan - Mar 21	Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Offering	41,978.70		
Transfers	290.00		
Other	2,764.00		
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>45,032.70</u>		
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Regular Expenses</b>			
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>			
Organist	1,748.04	4,145.70	42.2%
Secretary	2,699.26	10,812.00	24.9%
Custodian	529.56	5,233.20	10.1%
Payroll Taxes Church	334.14	1,544.60	21.6%
Pastor	16,480.26	65,921.00	25.0%
Mileage	0.00	2,000.00	0.0%
Pension and Related	3,477.30	13,909.20	25.0%
Health Savings Account	0.00	300.00	0.0%
Pulpit Supply	0.00	480.00	0.0%
Continuing Education	0.00	750.00	0.0%
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<u>25,259.58</u>	<u>105,095.70</u>	<u>24.0%</u>
<b>Utilities</b>			
Light & Water Parsonage	329.90	1,300.00	25.4%
Light & Water Church	848.24	4,500.00	18.8%
Telephone Church	410.88	1,650.00	24.9%
Fuel Parsonage	139.37	600.00	23.2%
Fuel Church	1,745.60	4,000.00	43.6%
Garbage	116.38	700.00	16.6%
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<u>3,590.37</u>	<u>12,750.00</u>	<u>28.2%</u>
<b>Other Expenses</b>			
Conference Dues & Registration	0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
Mowing and Related	0.00	1,700.00	0.0%
Snow Removal and Related	531.25	1,750.00	30.4%
<b>Commitment</b>			
Radio Ministry	630.00	1,820.00	34.6%
Southwest Minnesota Synod	7,000.00	7,000.00	100.0%
Bible Camp	1,500.00	1,500.00	100.0%
<b>Total Commitment</b>	<u>9,130.00</u>	<u>10,320.00</u>	<u>88.5%</u>
Library	0.00	300.00	0.0%
Insurance	0.00	5,700.00	0.0%
Workmans Comp Insurance	0.00	1,200.00	0.0%
Church Supplies	1,349.76	7,000.00	19.3%
Sunday School Supplies	50.83	1,000.00	5.1%
Music	0.00	900.00	0.0%
Postage	310.00	950.00	32.6%
Maintenance	2,455.74	6,500.00	37.8%
R.O.C.K. Ministries	0.00	200.00	0.0%
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<u>13,827.58</u>	<u>38,520.00</u>	<u>35.9%</u>
<b>Total Regular Expenses</b>	<u>42,677.53</u>	<u>156,365.70</u>	<u>27.3%</u>
<b>Misc Exp (Transfers)</b>			
TEAM PROMISE	325.00		
Food Shelf	1,200.00		
Missions	1,500.00		
<b>Total Misc Exp (Transfers)</b>	<u>3,025.00</u>		
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>45,702.53</u>	<u>156,365.70</u>	<u>29.2%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>-669.83</u>	<u>-156,365.70</u>	<u>0.4%</u>

Balance  $\$ 29,638.25$

## Usher for May

Ron Woitte  
Steven Petersen  
Kurt Flegel  
Jason Heinzig

## ZOOM ATTENDANCE

Date	In Person	Possible People	Communed
3/28	32	43	30
4/1	19	18	33
4/2	16	17	
4/4	60	47	68
4/11	42	30	42
4/18	21	35	34
4/25	25	23	34

## APRIL STATISTICAL CHANGE

### Birth's

3/26 Kirby Cooper born to Kevin & Deidre (Lindstrom) King

### Funerals-

4/24-Merlin Simonson

## SHOUT OUT

The Trinity Council would like to recognize members who give of their time and talents to our church. Each month we will feature one or two volunteers and/or groups of volunteers in this area of the newsletter. If there is someone you would like to recognize, please contact Toni Lindstrom in person or by email [lindstrom.toni@gmail.com](mailto:lindstrom.toni@gmail.com) and tell us what they are doing. We are not able to recognize everyone all at once, but you could be next.

This month we give a big hardy **Shout Out** to:

**Laura Rear and Adam Kolander** - Thank you for stepping up to learn and run the computer system. Your expertise in working with computers is very much appreciated.

**Ruth and Don Plackner** - Thank you for the donation of the beautiful butterfly decorations which added to the Easter lily garden, cross draping and church service slides. Butterflies are a symbol of hope and renewal and a wonderful representation of Christ's resurrection.

-Team Trinity

**Hey singers!** If you are really enjoying singing at worship services once again, please consider sitting in the balcony to enhance the recordings of our services. Maximum capacity is eight singers and masks are required. **THANK YOU!**

## Thank you notes

- Dear Trinity Family, Thank you for welcoming our Laurel Everly into the Trinity Family through baptism. Thanks to Pastor Art for officiating the baptismal rite and thanks to Brenda for recording the service. We would also like to thank the women of Trinity for the gifts and the beautiful quilt! The day of Laurel's baptism was the coldest day of the year. However, the love of family and knowing Laurel was receiving God's promise of salvation, warmed our hearts. Blessing- Ryan & Sara (Schuerman) Anderson

### Bridal Shower Honoring

Katie Stein

bride elect of Jordan Schuerman

Saturday May 1, 10 am-12pm

Trinity Lutheran Church fellowship hall

Come an go as you are comfortable.

Masks required.

The couple is registered at Target & Amazon

### Bridal Shower Honoring

Emily Hoffman

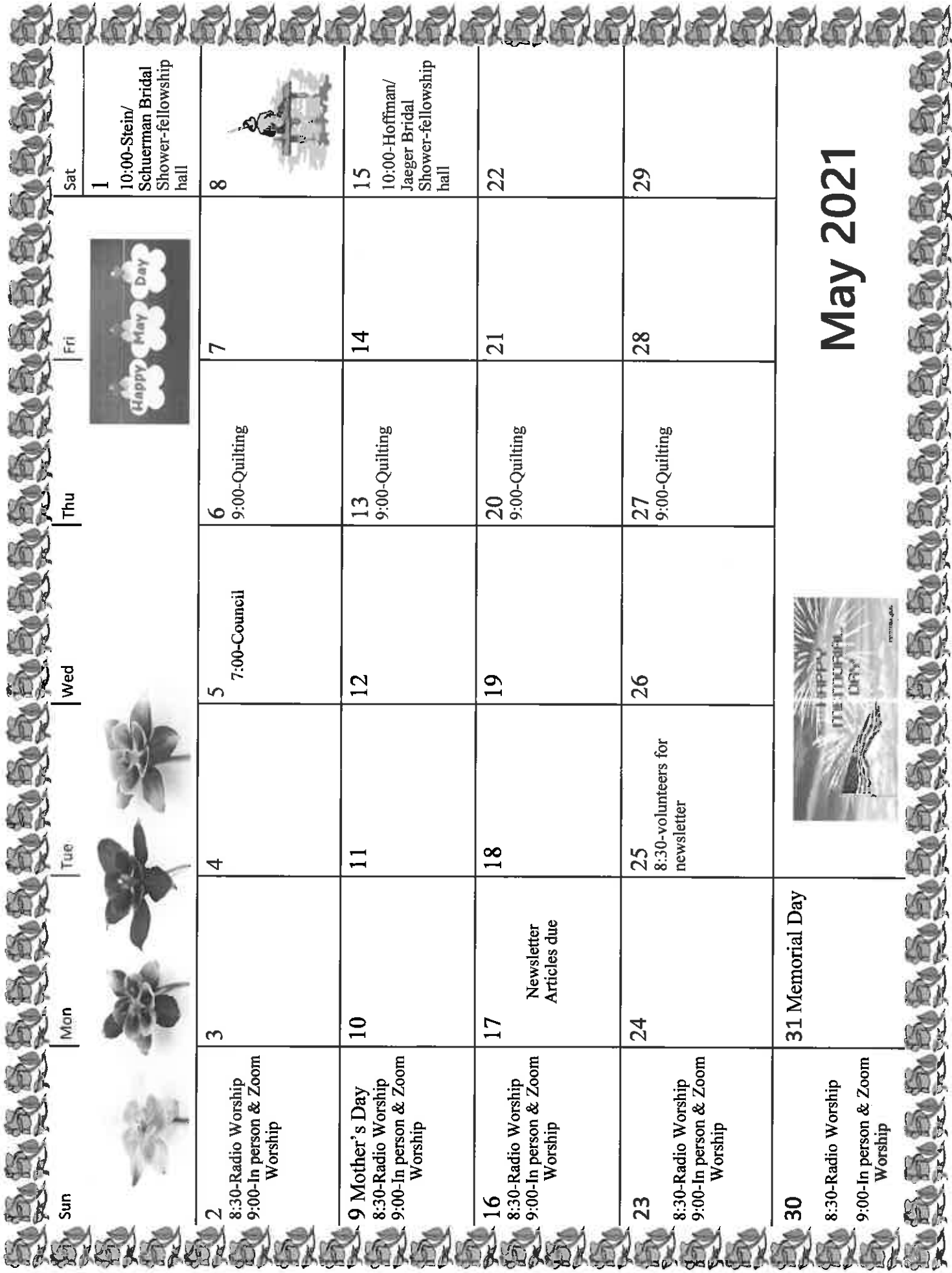
bride to be of Ryan Jaeger

Saturday, May 15th at 10am



Trinity Lutheran Church

Couple is registered at Target and would also appreciate gift cards from Home Depot.

Masks required.



Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

<p>1 10:00-Stein/ Schuerman Bridal Shower-fellowship hall</p>						
<p>2 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>3 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>4 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>5 7:00-Council</p>	<p>6 9:00-Quilting</p>	<p>7 9:00-Quilting</p>	<p>8              10:00-Hoffman/ Jaeger Bridal Shower-fellowship hall</p>
<p>9 Mother's Day 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>10 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>11 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>12 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>13 9:00-Quilting</p>	<p>14 9:00-Quilting</p>	<p>15 10:00-Hoffman/ Jaeger Bridal Shower-fellowship hall</p>
<p>16 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>17 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>18 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>19 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>20 9:00-Quilting</p>	<p>21 9:00-Quilting</p>	<p>22 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>
<p>23 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>24 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>	<p>25 8:30-volunteers for newsletter</p>	<p>26 8:30-volunteers for newsletter</p>	<p>27 9:00-Quilting</p>	<p>28 9:00-Quilting</p>	<p>29 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>
<p>30 8:30-Radio Worship 9:00-In person &amp; Zoom Worship</p>						
<p>31 Memorial Day</p>						



# May 2021

## Pastor Column continued from page 1

Occasionally you have shown a concern for wanting to do things the "right way," when I am not sure that such a way exists. How the altar is set for communion or the manner in which you ring the bells are up to you to decide. You have a distinct way of doing things, and that should not change, but you may need to teach the next pastor how you wish those things to be done.

Finally, St. Paul concludes his Letter to the Philippians with the words quoted above. They are good advice for all of us to live by. "Concentrate on the good things," I would summarize. Think about the true, honorable, pure, pleasing, commendable, excellent and worthy things that you are doing. Keep doing those things. And the rest will take care of itself. And, as St. Paul goes on, "**Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen...and the God of peace will be with you.**" – (*Philippians 4:9*)

So Peace Be with You, Pastor Art

## Narrative Lectionary Bible Readings

### Read This Week: (May 2-8)

Sunday, Council at Jerusalem, Acts 15:1-18  
Monday: The Conversion of Lydia, Acts 16:11-15  
Tuesday: Paul and Silas in Prison, Acts 16:16-40  
Wednesday: Paul Sails for Rome, Acts 27:1-12  
Thursday: The Storm at Sea, Acts 27:13-38  
Friday: The Shipwreck, Acts 27:39-28:16  
Saturday: Paul Preaches in Rome, Acts 28:23-31

### Read This Week: (May 9-15)

Sunday, Living By Faith, Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21  
Monday: Welcome to the Galatians, Galatians 1:1-12  
Tuesday: Paul Defends His Apostleship, Galatians 1:18-24  
Wednesday: Paul and the Other Apostles, Galatians 2:1-10  
Thursday: God's Promise to Abraham, Galatians 3:10-18  
Friday: The Purpose of the Law, Galatians 3:19-22  
Saturday: Paul Reprimands the Galatians, Galatians 4:8-20

### Read This Week: (May 16-22)

Sunday, One In Christ, Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29  
Monday: Hagar and Sarah, Galatians 4:21-5:1  
Tuesday: The Nature of Christian Freedom, Galatians 5:2-15  
Wednesday: Works of the Flesh, Galatians 5:16-21  
Thursday: The Fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22-26  
Friday: Bear One Another's Burdens, Galatians 6:1-10  
Saturday: Final Words and Blessing, Galatians 6:11-18

### Read This Week: (May 23-29)

Sunday, Pentecost: Fruits of the Spirit,  
Acts 2:1-4; Galatians 4:1-7 [5:16-26]  
Monday: Paul Greet the Ephesians, Ephesians 1  
Tuesday: One in Christ, Ephesians 2  
Wednesday: Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles, Ephesians 3  
Thursday: New Life in Christ, Ephesians 4  
Friday: On Being Christian, Ephesians 5  
Saturday: Put on the Armor of God, Ephesians 6

## May Birthdays

1 Amy Fahl  
1 Mike Johnson  
3 Macoy Olson  
3 Elenora Sandstrom  
4 Kira Peterson  
4 Derek Rogers  
5 Danny Erickson  
6 Scott Hoberg  
9 Bill Hoberg  
9 Kermit Overlie  
9 Jordan Schuerman  
11 Janet Hoffman  
11 Samantha Staton  
12 Natalie Mikkelson  
14 Carol Davidson  
14 Shane Grussing  
15 Imani Brehmer  
16 Jordan Erickson  
20 Nancy Goff  
22 Marla Forbord  
23 Kolby Goff  
23 Gretchen Pederson  
25 Ken Bates  
25 James Marohl  
26 Marjon Simonson  
27 Miriam Lindblad  
30 Justin Dehne  
30 Phoebe Overlie  
30 Teresa Scott  
31 Keala Carroll

## **ROCK** 4-6 grade Youth Group (Reaching Our Community Kids)

April was our final meeting for this school year. The kids decided to donate their Stewardship Jar Money to two Benson Elementary Students who are battling cancer. We talked about the song, Worthy Is My Name. We enjoyed root beer floats and lots of singing. We had a wonderful year! Thanks also to Stacy Erickson and Virgil Anderson for giving rides this year. Thank you, parents, for encouraging your kids to be in ROCK.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUESTED

## Confirmation/ Affirmation of Holy Baptism

On May 2<sup>nd</sup> we will be having a  
service of Confirmation at 9:00a.m.  
Upon completion of the required  
confirmation work:

Blake Brehmer  
Logan Hadfield  
Mason Moe

Elise Duncan  
Jack Helgenset  
Logan Schauer

will be able to participate in the service.  
Keep them in your prayers in this important  
event in their Christian Life.

