

# Trinity News

## September

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Pastor:

Dale Degne

Secretary:

Pam Anderson

Council President

Brian McNeill

Custodians:

Karen Nelson

## Mission

### Statement

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



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Dear Members and Friends of Trinity Lutheran Church:

Greetings to you. I am excited about doing ministry with you beginning Rally Sunday, September 12!

I will be moving into the Trinity parsonage on September 10, along with my wife, Gwen, and our 11-year-old lab/border collie, Benji. I am not speaking for Benji here, but I do know that Gwen and I are looking forward to meeting all of you.

Gwen and I grew up in the Hector area and lived there until I was ordained in 2010. We have two adult children, Rebekah and Timothy. Bekah and her husband Benn recently settled in Park Rapids with their 5-year-old son Isaac, after living in Oslo, Norway, for two years. Tim and Sarah live on our family's farm site near Hector, MN. They have twin girls, Cora and Emma, who are 3 years old.

I am a graduate of Luther Seminary in St. Paul and Concordia College in Moorhead, where I majored in music and minored in German. I worked for Hutchinson Technology for 17 years and then taught middle school band for a few years before attending seminary. I also played in a country/rock band for many years. Gwen majored in English and music ed. at Concordia. She has taught in both public and private schools. We have both taught private music lessons most of our adult lives. We enjoy making music, reading, canoeing, exploring the North Shore of Lake Superior, and spoiling our grandchildren.

Church has always been an important part of our lives. Gwen started playing organ when she was 15. We met at church. After we got married, we were part of the children's ministry and music ministry of the church. We love worship and planning worship services. I started seminary in 2004, graduated and was ordained in 2010, and have been a Minister of Word and Sacrament ever since.

Pastors often have diverse and unique interests. I am incredibly interested in indigenous culture, specifically that of the Dakota/Lakota people. I am actively studying the religion, culture, music, and language of the Lakota people. I am also learning about the use of medicinal plants by the Anishinaabe and Lakota. Now you know one of your new pastor's quirks.

Please stop in the office to say "Hi" or feel free to call us. We're looking forward to meeting you. Give us a little grace with names. We'll try hard to learn them, but it may take a while.

Be well. Take care of yourselves.

Peace.

Pr. Dale

# Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes August 4, 2021

## *Grow Faith, Serve God, Love Others*

**Welcome** by President Brian McNeill at 7:00 PM. Members present were Adam Kolander, Diane Schuerman, Toni Lindstrom, Jason Anderson, Jason Heinzig, Maureen Erdman, Robert Neuman and Jodee Erickson. Also present were Bill Hoberg, Byron Giese and Laura Hulterstrum.

**Devotions** by President Brian - A prayer for our congregation.

**Pastor's Report** – No pastor's report.

**Additions to the agenda** – None  
**Reports**

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

**Financial Secretary Pam Anderson** – Motion by Toni to approve with second by Adam. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Bill Hoberg** – July income was \$6,888.54 and expenses were \$4,041.50. Checking account balance as of July 31, 2021 was \$24,919.79. Motion made by Diane to approve with second by Maureen. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports**

**Call Committee** – Byron and Laura reported there are no available pastors on the Synod list. They asked that if anyone knows of a pastor who may be available, please share that name with a member of the call committee.

**Board of Education and Youth** – Rally Day will be on September 12. The theme for Rally Day will be "Rally Day – Welcome Home!" Our plan is to have a fun-filled event to celebrate the beginning of our Sunday School year and a party for all ages to energize our whole congregation for a new year. We are planning to have an inflatable, yard games, popcorn, cotton candy and an ice cream truck. We will be serving grilled hotdogs, chips, coffee and lemonade for lunch. We

plan to send out letters to the congregation announcing this special event. Watch the newsletter and bulletins for more details. Time will be from 10:00 – noon, with the meal starting approximately 11:15 AM.

Sunday School format and curriculum – Jamie Moe will be returning as Sunday School superintendent. She reached out to churches in nearby towns for information and ideas about how they conduct SS and VBS. The information was helpful. We will continue with our 4-week rotational style of lessons. Jamie will look for curriculum materials and recruit teachers. We need four teachers for two younger age groups and a teacher for grades 7-9.

**Outreach and Community Relations (B.A.C.K. pack program)** – The program has received donations to help sustain it. Shelf stable meals have been packed for Seniors, also. The volunteers love what they are doing.

**Property and Grounds** – Items to be discussed under Old Business.

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

**Worship and Music** – Choirs - Nathan Pederson is not able to direct Bell Choir; Shelly Mikkelson will be directing Senior Choir; Kelly Michaelson – we will be checking to see if she will be able to direct the Youth Choir. Concern was expressed whether we would need to wear masks again. Members working with making slides wanted to let the council know that they like the Pro-Presenter 7 program that was purchased for their use. No recording of services will be done for now. Licensing must be shown on every slide used. There was a discussion on promoting events at church, whether it could be on the church Facebook page, website or other media. They liked the weekly announce-

ments on the screen. Those need to be on Google and then switch to Pro-Presenter for the rest of the slides.

### **Discussions**

**Communion** – Communion will be on Sunday, August 15, with Toni and Brian assisting. It will be offered at the rail in the traditional manner or there will be the option of using the prepackaged communion kit.

**Shared Google Documents** – Trinity Shared Folder – Brian explained how information that he has compiled could be shared with council members to keep us up to date.

**COVID Guidelines & Mask recommendations** – We need to keep going as we are, but listen to any CDC guidelines that may come in the future. Members will have the option of wearing a mask and using hand sanitizer if they wish.

**Parsonage Prep** – Walls in the living room will need painting. All walls in the other rooms look good. Screens on the front living room window need to be replaced. Carpets need cleaning on the first floor. Kitchen looks good. In the basement, cleaning needs to be done and the washer and dryer should be replaced. The dehumidifier should be turned on. Upstairs looks good. Overall, cleaning the parsonage should be done and most windows need coverings. The garage needs to be cleaned as well as removing some items that have been stored there. Screen room on the back of the garage needs cleaning.

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## JULY 2021 INCOME

ENVELOPE OFFERING	\$ 5,922.00
LOOSE	\$ 116.00
INTIAL	\$ 1.00
MISCELLANEOUS (Rebekah Circle 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade bibles)	\$ 92.94
BANK OF THE WEST	<u>\$ 756.60</u>
JULY INCOME	\$ 6,888.54

## INCOME COMPARISON

YTD 2021	\$ 83,516.03
YTD 2020 (4,492.00 to Team Promise, 1,000 to WELCA, 2,500 from WELCA for lighting, 3,000 Roofing, 500, Hospital remembrance, 2997.00 Thrivent, 20,800 Loan/grant, 200 rent)	\$ 116,429.50

## MEMORIALS/GIFTS RECEIVED

In Memory of Richard Teske  
\$ 70.00 Music Fund

### 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	\$ 2,335.08
MUSIC FUND (+ 70.00)	\$ 612.94
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	<u>\$ 39.09</u>
BALANCE TO DATE	\$ 18,413.97

### SAVINGS ACCOUNT (Bank of the West)

BUILDING & GROUNDS	
Large	\$ 1,702.36
Furniture	\$ 11,740.79
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	
Global	\$ 11,407.46
Local	\$ 11,444.53
EMERGENCY	\$ 22,026.53
MARKETING	\$ 3,537.06
TRANSPORTAION	\$ 14,851.50
INTEREST (+ 6.53)	\$ 940.05
ENDOWMENT	\$ 1,021.41
LOCAL CHARITY (-756.60)	<u>\$ 000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 78,671.69

P ANDERSON, F. SEC.

## Income & Expense- Budget vs. Actual January through July 2021

	Jan - Jul 21	Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Offering	77,518.45		
Transfers	2,506.60		
Other	3,490.98		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>83,516.03</b>		
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Regular Expenses</b>			
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>			
Organist	2,704.74	4,145.70	65.2%
Secretary	6,134.22	10,812.00	56.7%
Custodian	1,280.28	5,233.20	24.5%
Payroll Taxes Church	728.22	1,544.60	47.1%
Pastor	32,960.52	65,921.00	50.0%
Mileage	151.93	2,000.00	7.6%
Pension and Related	6,954.60	13,909.20	50.0%
Health Savings Account	0.00	700.00	0.0%
Pulpit Supply	939.72	480.00	195.8%
Continuing Education	0.00	750.00	0.0%
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>51,854.23</b>	<b>105,495.70</b>	<b>49.2%</b>
<b>Utilities</b>			
Light & Water Parsonage	756.43	1,300.00	58.2%
Light & Water Church	2,370.61	4,500.00	52.7%
Telephone Church	961.72	1,650.00	58.3%
Fuel Parsonage	330.42	600.00	55.1%
Fuel Church	2,100.01	4,000.00	52.5%
Garbage	233.38	700.00	33.3%
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>6,752.57</b>	<b>12,750.00</b>	<b>53.0%</b>
<b>Other Expenses</b>			
Conference Dues & Registration	465.00	1,000.00	46.5%
Mowing and Related	400.00	1,700.00	23.5%
Snow Removal and Related	656.25	1,750.00	37.5%
<b>Commitment</b>			
Radio Ministry	1,225.00	1,820.00	67.3%
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>	<b>9,725.00</b>	<b>10,320.00</b>	<b>94.2%</b>
Library	0.00	300.00	0.0%
Insurance	5,970.00	5,700.00	104.7%
Workmans Comp Insurance	0.00	1,200.00	0.0%
Church Supplies	3,169.94	7,000.00	45.3%
Sunday School Supplies	205.36	1,000.00	20.5%
Music	0.00	900.00	0.0%
Postage	420.00	950.00	44.2%
Maintenance	4,046.12	6,500.00	62.2%
R.O.C.K. Ministries	18.00	200.00	9.0%
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>25,075.67</b>	<b>38,520.00</b>	<b>65.1%</b>
<b>Total Regular Expenses</b>	<b>83,682.47</b>	<b>156,765.70</b>	<b>53.4%</b>
<b>Misc Exp (Transfers)</b>			
TEAM PROMISE	325.00		
Video System	911.43		
Food Shelf	1,625.00		
Missions	2,256.60		
Transfer for Flowers	103.82		
<b>Total Misc Exp (Transfers)</b>	<b>5,221.85</b>		
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>88,904.32</b>	<b>156,765.70</b>	<b>56.7%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-5,388.29</b>	<b>-156,765.70</b>	<b>3.4%</b>

Checking Balance 7-31-2021 \$24,919.79

# Members Serving in the Month of September

## Usher

Mike Johnson  
Brian McNeill  
Roger Lindahl  
Chuck Erickson

## Altar Guild

Janet Hoffman  
Shelly Hoffman

## Coffee Hour

9/05 -  
9/12 - Rally Sunday  
9/18 - \* Kermit & Phoebe Overlie, Zoe & Dugan Halvorson, Mason Moe, Gavin Olson, Logan & Addison Schauer, Haden Thole, Isaac & Emily Wilson & Dylan Wrobleski  
9/26 - \* Anna McNeill, Anthony Aekiens, Blke & Imani Brehmer, Sara Dehne, Rylee Erickson, Tyler & Logan Hadfield, Jordan Grussing, Austin & McKenna Molden  
10/03 - Stewardship & Finance

## Lectors

9/05 Stef Overlie  
9/12 Brock Duncan  
9/19 Becky Huston  
9/26

## Slide preparer:

9/05 Shelly Mikkelson  
9/12 Marlene Giese  
9/19 Laura Rear  
9/26 Becky Woitte

## Computer operator:

9/05  
9/12  
9/19  
9/26

## Assisting Deacon

Diane Schuerman

## ATTENDANCE

Date	In Person	Communed
8/01	38	
8/08	44	
8/15	61	58
8/22	39	

## Interim Pastor Dale Degner starts September 12<sup>th</sup>!

We are excited to announce that Pastor Dale Degner will be our interim pastor starting September 12<sup>th</sup>! Make plans to welcome Pastor Dale on September 12<sup>th</sup>!

## JULY STATISTICAL CHANGE

### Births

7/31 Granger Wayne. McCleary, son of Nick & Brianna (Schuerman) McCleary .

## Thank you notes

- **Thank You!** to the quilters for all you did for my Birthday Party. It was so special and nice to see everyone. God Blessings, Marilyn Mills
- **A big thank you** to all who helped move our quilting supplies to Pilgrims parsonage. Trinity Quilters
- **Thank You!!** - Would like to thank everyone who have been working hard to prepare for the arrival of Pastor Dale at the parsonage. Would like to thank Darrell and Carol Davidson, Bob and Maureen Erdman, Jodee Erickson, Marlys Boone, Rose DuHoux, also thank you to those who moved the quilters: Darrell and Carol Davidson, Byron and Marlene Giese, Bob and Maureen Erdman, Diane Schuerman, Carolyn Rear, Marjon Simonson, Pat Hagen, and David & Rochelle Pederson And anyone else who have helped that we might have missed. THANK YOU all!



# September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00-Council	2	3	4
5 9:00-Worship 10:00-Coffee hour	6 Labor Day  Office closed	7	8	9 9:00-quilting	10	11
12 RALLY SUNDAY 9:00-Worship 10:00-Coffee hour 10:00-Rally Sunday Celebration 10:30-WELCA 6:30-TIDES	13	14 11:00-1:30-Salad Luncheon	15 -Confirmation	16 9:00-quilting	17	18
19 9:00-Worship 10:00-Coffee hour 10:15-Sunday School	20 October Newsletter Articles due	21	22 -Confirmation	23 9:00-quilting	24	25
26 9:00-Worship 10:00-Coffee hour 10:15-Sunday School	27	28 8:30-Volunteers for newsletter	29 -Confirmation	30 9:00-quilting		

# Trinity Lutheran Church's Welcome Home Celebration!

Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-12:00

"For where two or three gather together in My name,  
there am I with them." ~ Matthew 18:20

**Ages 0-99 welcome!**

**Invite your neighbors or grandchildren.**

**Please join us for games, food and  
fun outside on the church lawn.**



**Curb Side Treats for all!**



**Hot dogs, chips, lemonade,  
popcorn, cotton candy provided.**

**Yard games to play**



**Castle Bouncy House**

**Please bring a lawn chair.**

## Women of Trinity

The Trinity WELCA held their meeting Sunday morning, Feb. 16 of 2020.

Called to order by Cindy Steffen, and Janet Hoffman, co-chairs.

The secretary's report was approved by Rose DuHoux and seconded by Lois Torgerson.

The treasurer's report was approved by Janet Hoffman and seconded by Jodee Erickson.

### Old Business:

\*Thanks to Unit One for serving the John Connolly funeral (and the extra people who stayed to help); to Work Unit Two for serving the Donna Harder funeral and Work Unit Three for serving the Linda Huffman funeral.

### New Business:

\*Lasagna Meal – Work Unit four is assigned to work plus bring bars OR donate \$10 per person. All other WELCA Work Unit members are asked to donate \$10 for this WELCA fundraiser.

\*Planning is for 100 people and we'll have 12 pans of lasagna (serves 144).

Brenda Wiese has the ingredients (thanks to Thrivent for \$250 grant).

Kathy Tweten will get the French bread (6-8 loaves) and Rose DuHoux will buy the aluminum foil. Garlic bread will be heated in roasters. Cindy Steffen will pick up the coleslaw and dressing. Friday morning the sauce will be prepared at church with lasagna assembled in the afternoon. Kim Schuerman was asked to help with decorating (Friday afternoon) in spring themes (since Deb Connolly is out of town.) Peg Cameron and Jill Hollingsworth handled the posters and Peg placed ads in the Extra and the Monitor-News. Quilts will also be for sale. Sunday morning at 8 a.m. the tables will be set and ready for the dinner.

Other New Business: Jodee Erickson mentioned the youth will serve the first three soup suppers; other suppers are not yet sponsored. WELCA declined to participate.

Motion by Becky Woitte to donate money to Krista Connolly, who has been hospitalized since soon after her father's fu-

neral at Trinity. Brenda Wiese made a motion to donate \$500, which was seconded by Lois Torgerson.

Next meeting is Sunday morning, March 15 following worship.

Rose DuHoux made a motion to dismiss and Janet Hoffman seconded.

Respectfully, Peg Cameron, Secretary (and Janet Hoffman, co-chairperson)

Sunday July 11, 2021 the Women of Trinity WELCA met.

Janet Hoffman and Julie Anderson, co-chairs, presided.

(Peg Cameron to submit last secretary report before COVID to co chairs via Email.

### Old News:

A thank you was issued for WELCA's help at Pastor Art's retirement party at church.

Treasurer's Report: \$3,118.29 in checking \$3,095.45 in savings

### New:

Marlys and Toni, salad luncheon co-chairs, had questions about whether we'll have the luncheon this year.

### Suggestions included:

Hand sanitizer at beginning and end of line, Sneeze guard, \$8 per plate with Sept. 14 date from 11-1:30 p.m., Monday evening before will be preparation night.

Julie Anderson will get hard boiled eggs.

Peg Cameron will do ads with Rose DuHoux advice. Work Units 3 & 4 will be asked to work, Suggested salads: Swedish rice (Lois Murray recipe), broccoli grape salad, potato salad, taco salad, mac tuna, vegetable plate, devilled eggs, oreo desert salad. It was decided we'd have no crackers this year, but will order smaller bread sticks from the bakery.

Marlys and Toni will have their salad committee meeting to get the ball rolling.

**Other news:** Carolyn Rear and Jean Goff will start nominating calls for the next WELCA officers.

Quilters are getting quilts ready for the Orphan Train.

Respectfully, Peg Cameron, secretary of WELCA



## Quilting

Quilting will resume on September 9th. At the Pilgrim Congregational parsonage. It will be open at 9am. Bring your own treats. Please use the back door.





# Youth Happenings

**Sunday School 10:15-11:15 am**

Rally Sunday September 12 following 9am Worship

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

ROCK will be starting in October! Students in grades 4-5-6 are WELCOME!  
See you soon. Marlene Giese

## TIDES Happenings

**7-12 grade Youth Group**

**(Together In Devotion Everyone Serves)**

TIDES church youth group for youth in 7th through 12th will be meeting at the church on Sunday, September 12th at 6:30 pm. We will be talking about a variety of things, such as Mission Trip in 2022, electing a new treasurer, and some fun and games.

See you September 12th at 6:30 p.m. Coffee hour serving begins September 19. List and instructions have/will be mailed out soon.

## Council Minutes from page 2

### Old Business

Tree removal bid decision - Bids were received on removal of ash tree, maple tree and birch stump with no clean up. Motion made by Jason H to accept the bid of Mitch Koosman with a second by Maureen. Motion carried. Gutters on church and parsonage – Wait with gutters on church to see how the metal roof handles the rain water and make a decision at that time. Gutters on metal roof could be damaged if too much snow and ice slide down. We will not need leaf guards on the parsonage gutters since the two large trees will be taken down.

### New Business

Interim Pastor Decision – Pastor Dale Degner was interviewed by council members on July 26. Brian followed up with the references provided. The financial package was discussed. Pastor Dale and his wife would also like to live in the parsonage. After conversation, a motion was made by Jason H to approve Pastor Dale Degner as Interim Pastor with a compensation package totaling \$75,000 (including salary and benefits) per year with a

second by Robert. Motion carried. Brian will make the offer and discuss moving expenses with a start date of possibly September 5. Further discussion on readying the parsonage - It was discussed where to move the quilting supplies currently at the parsonage. Maureen will talk to Lois. Maureen volunteered to meet Pastor Dale and Gwen at the parsonage one day soon to discuss what color to paint the living room walls. The washer and dryer will be replaced. Robert will remove the old set. Maureen and Diane will look into purchasing replacements locally. Maureen will call Captain Clean to schedule the main floor carpet cleaning.

**Updates** – There were no updates.

**Announcements** – September newsletter articles are due August 19.

The Next Church Council meeting is September 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM

**Adjourned** by President Brian at 8:20 PM

**Closed with the Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully submitted,

Jodee Erickson, Council Secretary



## September Birthdays

- 2 Linda Lysen
- 3 Sheri Gades
- 3 Brian McNeill
- 4 Julie Iverson
- 7 Maureen Erdman
- 7 Rosie Huston
- 8 Brett Ruppe
- 11 Logan Flegel
- 11 Rod Hoffman
- 12 Pat Connolly
- 15 James Huston
- 16 Sheldon ahrndt
- 16 Steven Sanders
- 17 J. Oliver Hovde
- 18 Kelly Lindblad
- 18 Haden Thole
- 19 Robyn Dehne
- 19 Amanda Halvorson
- 19 Rick Hoffman
- 22 Page Moe
- 23 Sam Grussing
- 23 Julie Larson
- 23 Ron Woitte
- 25 Olivia Ascheman
- 26 Austin Molden
- 27 Mark Erickson
- 27 Laura Hulterstrum
- 27 Allison Payne
- 28 Lillian Gunderson
- 29 Ryan Aust
- 30 Krista Hoberg
- 30 Lisa Slaughter

# SALAD LUNCHEON BUFFET



Tuesday, September 14, 2021  
Serving 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Cost: \$8.00



Enjoy a variety of  
salads,  
deviled eggs  
+  
Breads sticks



Take outs available  
Men are welcome

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Fellowship Hall  
700 Nevada Ave,  
Benson