

Trinity News

November 2021

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Pastor: Dale Degner

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:

Advent is coming very soon, which means that Christmas is coming quite quickly. Some of you or some of the young ones in your life may even be counting down the days before Christmas already. Christmas is such a wonderful time of the year and I look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus with you.

But let's not get too far ahead of ourselves. We are going to be entering November quite soon, and there are some days in November that need to be mentioned. The last Sunday of October, actually right on October 31 this year, we will have celebrated Reformation Sunday. The next Sunday after Reformation is All Saints Sunday.

All Saints Sunday is that special time of year when we celebrate those saints in our lives that have died, those who have been baptized, and those saints who are so special in our lives today. All Saints day was once called All Martyrs day and this was celebrated usually on the Friday immediately after Easter up to about the fifth century AD. This day was usually dedicated to honoring those who were faithful and had died being faithful to God. That still holds true today: we do celebrate all those who have gone before us. But saints aren't only those who have died: they are those who are baptized members into the family of God. Infants are saints. We all have saints that are special to us. And I do NOT want you to forget another important saint – YOU! You have been made a saint through the word and waters of baptism and you have been made a part of this wonderful family of God.

The next holiday in November is Christ the King Sunday, November 21. It is the Sunday before Thanksgiving again this year and is the last Sunday of the church year. Christ the King is a day that we ask ourselves what it means that Jesus, the Christ, is our King. Jesus was nothing like any earthly King. In fact, the gospel lesson for this day has Pilate asking Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?" This happens right before Pilate hands Jesus over to be crucified. This Jesus, this crucified one, is our King. What does that mean?

At this ending time of year, I suggest to people that they read through the Gospel for the next year two or more times. Reading the specific Gospel helps set the mood for the year and discover what is so special about this Gospel. We are coming to the completion of year B, Mark: this next year is Year C and that means we will be reading usually from the Gospel of Luke. If reading through the Gospel for this year interests you, please read Luke.

Our last holiday in November is Thanksgiving. It's not a church holiday, and yet it fits in with what Christians think in a grand way. "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever." This is written many times in the Psalms. It is also a part of Communion. The pastor says in the Preface: "It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and ever-living God." We offer thanks to God for everything that we have, from the little to the big things. Giving thanks reminds us that we do not live a life of scarcity. When we give thanks for everything we have, we simply marvel at our abundance that is ours and this alone has the power to transform us into people who are content and filled with the joy of the Lord. Start counting your blessings.

Shalom
Pr. Dale

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes October 6, 2021

Grow Faith, Serve God, Love Others

Welcome by President Brian McNeill at 6:58 PM. Members present were Adam Kolander, Maureen Erdman, Diane Schuerman, Jason Anderson, Jason Heinzig, Toni Lindstrom, Robert Neuman and Jodee Erickson. Also present were Bill Hoberg and Pastor Dale Degner.

Devotions by President Brian – Object lesson on how Christians are like pumpkins. He compared how much alike they are. Each is hand selected. We are selected by God – John 15:16. Pumpkins are wiped clean and the blood of Jesus washes away our sin 2 Corinthians 5:17. He gives us a Smile Psalm 71:23 and He Shines through us Matthew 5:16 and John 1:5. Be thinking about what sins you need to release. Or what sins do we have that we need the Lord to scoop out of us? Think about how we are a vessel of light representing our Lord.

Pastors Report – Pastor Dale and Gwen are now settled into the parsonage. Pastor Dale met with the Worship and Music Committee. It was helpful to understand what was expected of him.

“Learning names of people and who they are as people of God – After one month, I am convinced that this is a wonderful place to be and that God has given me a group of loving and caring people with whom to serve. Thank you!”

Brent and TaiAnna Moe and family have become members of Trinity. At some point, All Saints Day perhaps, we can have a welcoming Sunday for them and other new members. He met with Confirmation parents and students. It was decided that confirmation class would meet on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 PM. Pastor Dale will begin calling families to introduce himself and ask one question: “If there was just one thing that would make Trinity Lutheran Church a place that you

just had to go to on a regular basis, what would that be?” Pastor Dale will be attending Theological Conference (mandatory for pastors in SWMN Synod) on October 11 and 12 and a class the morning of October 13. He has requested vacation days for December 27 through January 2.

Additions to the Agenda – Parking lot snow removal and Outreach donation.

Reports

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

Financial Secretary Pam Anderson – Motion by Jason H to approve with a second by Toni. Motion carried.

Treasurer Bill Hoberg – September income was \$11,201.97 and expenses were 12,501.40. Checking account balance as of September 30, 2021 was \$26,313.42. Motion made by Diane and a second by Maureen. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Board of Education and Youth – Sunday School is going well. We will be meeting soon to discuss the Christmas program. President Brian thanked the committee for all of the planning and working at Welcome Home/Rally Sunday.

Outreach and Community Relations (B.A.C.K. Pack Program) – The committee recommended that we give a donation to the Kelly Aeikens family for medical expenses. Motion made by Jason A to donate \$500.00 with a second by Robert. Motion carried.

Stewardship and Finance – Did not meet, but will discuss the Endowment Fund which is under new business.

Worship and Music – The committee met with Pastor Dale. The organist and Pastor Dale discussed the order of service. Laura Rear is working on an operations manual to

be used with the Pro-presenter program, camera operation, etc. for slides and videos. The two pianos have been tuned. The yearly check on the audio system will be done. Suggestions were made as to what could be done regarding offering envelopes that have not been picked up. Also, the use of Facebook and the church website to post messages welcoming everyone to church each Sunday would be a good idea. Recording of services could possibly begin again.

Discussions

Church Life – There are several events that have become tradition such as Salad Luncheon, Advent Tea, Lasagna Dinner, etc. We would like to think of new activities to involve more people. As Pastor Dale asked in the October newsletter, what would draw you to church? It was suggested that Pastor Dale ask the confirmation students for ideas. It could be something just for fun. A thought was to invite a few people to individual homes to meet Pastor Dale and just visit. Another thought would be a game night or other activity such as a bonfire. We need to keep thinking of new ideas.

Church Janitor – Karen Nelson needs to take a little time off from cleaning the church to take care of family matters. It would be helpful for any groups using the kitchen or other facilities to take home recycling and garbage during this time.

Parking Lot Snow Removal – The Razinks will no longer be doing the church parking lot snow removal. We need to find someone else who has large equipment to do this. Robert was going to see who does snow removal for the school.

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SEPTEMBER 2021 INCOME

ENVELOPE OFFERING	\$ 9,969.00
LOOSE	\$ 158.00
INTIAL`	\$.50
MISCELLANEOUS (922. Parsonage work, 52.47 Bibles)	<u>\$ 974.47</u>
SEPTEMBER INCOME	\$ 11,101.97

INCOME COMPARISON

YTD 2021 (\$1,922 parsonage work)	\$ 105,172.63
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, 920 hunger, 250 facemasks)	\$ 131,600.70

MEMORIALS/GIFTS RECEIVED

Gifts
 \$ 922 Parsonage work

SAVINGS ACCOUNT (First Security)

ALTAR FUND	\$ 1,079.91
BUILDING FUND	\$ 303.00
HANDBELLS	\$ 793.73
LANSCAPING	\$ 00.00
LIBRARY FUND	\$ 808.00
MEMORIAL FUND	\$ 2,335.08
MUSIC FUND	\$ 663.24
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 (+ 2.22)	<u>\$ 41.31</u>
BALANCE TO DATE	\$ 16,466.49

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(+ 4.16))	\$ 950.90
ENDOWMENT	<u>\$ 1,021.41</u>
TOTAL	\$ 78,682.54

P ANDERSON, F. SEC.

Income & Expense- Budget vs. Actual

January through September 2021

	Jan - Sep 21	Budget	% of Budget
Income			
Offering	97,217.95		
Transfers	4,559.07		
Other	3,495.61		
Total Income	105,272.63		
Expense			
Regular Expenses			
Payroll Expenses			
Organist	3,278.76	4,145.70	79.1%
Secretary	8,000.88	10,812.00	74.0%
Custodian	1,894.58	5,233.20	32.4%
Payroll Taxes Church	946.60	1,544.60	61.3%
Pastor	35,002.19	65,921.00	53.1%
Mileage	151.93	2,000.00	7.6%
Pension and Related	6,954.60	13,909.20	50.0%
Health Savings Account	0.00	900.00	0.0%
Pulpit Supply	1,788.04	480.00	372.5%
Continuing Education	0.00	750.00	0.0%
Payroll Expenses - Other	0.00		
Total Payroll Expenses	57,817.58	105,695.70	54.7%
Utilities			
Light & Water Parsonage	960.29	1,300.00	73.9%
Light & Water Church	3,077.81	4,500.00	68.4%
Telephone Parsonage	99.00		
Telephone Church	1,340.37	1,650.00	81.2%
Fuel Parsonage	458.42	600.00	76.4%
Fuel Church	2,122.65	4,000.00	53.1%
Garbage	233.38	700.00	33.3%
Total Utilities	8,291.92	12,750.00	65.0%
Other Expenses			
Conference Dues & Registration	465.00	1,000.00	46.5%
Mowing and Related	1,120.00	1,700.00	65.9%
Snow Removal and Related	656.25	1,750.00	37.5%
Commitment			
Radio Ministry	1,260.00	1,820.00	69.2%
Southwest Minnesota Synod	7,000.00	7,000.00	100.0%
Bible Camp	1,500.00	1,500.00	100.0%
Total Commitment	9,760.00	10,320.00	94.6%
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	5,204.71	7,000.00	74.4%
Sunday School Supplies	898.86	1,000.00	89.9%
Music	0.00	900.00	0.0%
Postage	970.00	950.00	102.1%
Maintenance	6,837.12	6,500.00	105.2%
R.O.C.K. Ministries	18.00	200.00	9.0%
Total Other Expenses	31,899.94	38,520.00	82.8%
Total Regular Expenses	98,009.44	156,965.70	62.4%
Misc Exp (Transfers)			
TEAM PROMISE	325.00		
Video System	911.43		
Healing Garden	3,036.00		
Food Shelf	1,625.00		
Missions	2,256.60		
Transfer for Flowers	103.82		
Misc	3,000.00		
Total Misc Exp (Transfers)	11,257.85		
Total Expense	109,267.29	156,965.70	69.6%
Net Income	-3,994.66	-156,965.70	2.5%

Checking Balance 9-30-2021 \$26,313.42

Members Serving in the Month of November

Usher

Darrell Davidson
Jerry Goff
Scott Huston
Charles Halverson

Assisting Deacon

Jodee Erickson

Altar Guild

Belinda Sanderson

Coffee Hour

11/07 Property & Grounds
11/14 * Taylor & Elise Duncan, Kyra Gronseth, Sara Larson, Chaden & Keala Carroll, Jack & Kadia Helgenset, Blake & Aubree lien, Alexis & Brooke Hoberg
11/21 Worship & Music Committee
11/28 Stewardship Committee
12/05 * Anna McNeill, Anthony Aekiens, Blake & Imani Brehmer, Sara Dehne, Rylee Erickson, Tyler & Logan Hadfield, Jordan Grussing, Austin & McKenna Molden

Lectors

11/07 Confirmation Student
11/14 Toni Lindstrom
11/21 Marlene Giese
11/28 Linda Lysen

Slide preparer/computer:

11/07 Shelly Mikkelson
11/14 Marlene Giese
11/21 Laura Rear
11/24
11/28 Becky Woitte

ATTENDANCE

Date	In Person	Communed
10/03	78	70
10/10	112	
10/17	103	
10/24	61	

Thank you notes

- Thank you to the church family for all their prayers during my brothers accident & death. Robert Neuman.

Women of Trinity

WELCA Thank giving offering will be November 14th. A basket will be in the narthex to place your offerings. If, you are not able to attend service, you can mail or bring to the church office and designate donation to WELCA Thank offering.

WE will also be having a WELCA meeting following Worship on the 14th.

Notes from the Library

We have completed our inventory of the church library. Listed below are books that are out and have not been returned. Please check at home.

Hearts of Fire by Gracie Burham
Heart of A Lion by Gilbert Morris
Love Takes Wing by Janette Oke
Whispers of Winter by Traci Peterson
Her Mother's Hope by Fracine Rivers
Unveiled by Fracine Rivers
Rebecca's Reward by Lauraine Snelling

We will be ordering new books soon. If you have any suggestions of books or favorite authors please let the committee know.

Judy Hoberg & Irene Heinzig

SEPTEMBER STATISTICAL CHANGE

Received:





Brent & TaiAnna Moe & Sydney & Sawyer from St. Marks, Benson

Sympathies to:

Robert Neuman and family on the death of his brother Regge Neuman. He passed away on Sunday September 26.

Weddings:

10/15-Pat Connolly & Crystal Ellison were married in Northfield, MN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1	2	3 5:30Confirmation 6:30-committee meetings 7:00-Council	4 8:30-Quilting	5	6	
7 All Saints Sunday <i>Daylight Savings ends</i> <i>Fall backwards</i> 9:00-Communion Worship 10:00-Coffee Hour 10:15-Sunday School	8	9	10 3:00-ROCK 5:30Confirmation	11 8:30-Quilting	12	13	
14 9:00-Worship- WELCA Thank offering 10:00-Coffee Hour 10:15-Sunday School	15	16	17 5:30Confirmation	18 8:30-Quilting	19	20	
21 Christ The King Sunday 9:00- Worship 10:00-Coffee Hour 10:15-Sunday School	22 December Newsletter Articles due	23	24 7:00-Thanksgiving worship	25 Happy Thanksgiving 	26	27	
28 1 st Sunday of Advent 9:00-Worship 10:00-Coffee Hour NO Sunday School	29  1 st Sunday of Advent	30 8:30-Volunteers for newsletter					<h1>November 2021</h1>

Youth Happenings

Sunday School 10:15-11:15 am

There will be NO Sunday School on November 28

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

We had a great ROCK meeting in October with 9 students attending! We studied the Good Samaritan parable, learning that we need to be good neighbors to everyone, not just the people we like. Our stewardship project for this year will be supporting 'Fostering Love', a toy and clothing closet to be used by Foster families and Adopting families. It has recently opened in Alexandria, MN. We will be collecting new and slightly used items for children 0-17. Watch the newsletter and bulletins for more information. Our November ROCK meeting will be Wednesday, November 10, 3-4:30 p.m. Contact Marlene Giese if you need a ride, 320-226-7372.

TIDES Happenings

7-12 grade Youth Group

(Together In Devotion Everyone Serves)

Council Minutes from page 2

Another suggestion was to ask various businesses who they hire to remove snow. We should have a little time to find someone.

Old Business – The repair of the stool upstairs in the parsonage and installation of new thermostats in the church has still not been done. Maureen was going to contact Craig's again. It was also discussed that we need to install outside vents for the bathroom and kitchen plumbing in the church.

New Business – Endowment Fund Distribution – The funds for 2019 and 2020 have not been distributed. A change of authorization needs to be done and new committee members appointed by the council. The committee, consisting of four members plus one council member, makes recommendations to the council. The council then makes the decisions for distribution following the bylaws of the endowment fund. Bill Hoberg and Hans Helgenset will bring the endowment fund up to date through the end of this year. The funds will be paid out after the first of the year and continue each year moving forward. Funds have been given to Global Health (which will continue to be done), Trinity Quilters, Trinity TIDES and Prairie Five. Other considerations are ELCA Hurricane Relief and ELCA Earthquake Relief. This will be tabled until the update is done.

We welcome Brent and TaiAnna Moe and family as new members of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Announcements – November newsletter articles are due October 18. The next Church Council meeting is November 3, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Adjourned by President Brian at 8:50 PM

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Jodee Erickson, Council Secretary

November Birthdays

- 1 Jill Hollingsworth
- 1 Ron Lundebrek
- 2 Holly Grussing
- 2 Jerome Hagen
- 2 Griffin Olson
- 2 Donald Plackner
- 4 Leven Peterson
- 5 Toni Lindstrom
- 6 Emma Heinzig
- 7 Ann Aeikens
- 7 Abraham Neuman
- 8 Owen Giese
- 9 Sawyer Moe
- 9 Tara Sternfels
- 9 Abbie Wilson
- 10 Diane Rodi
- 12 Jean Goff
- 12 Clyde Hoffman
- 13 Niels Unke
- 15 LeAnn Ahrndt
- 16 Janice Aeikens
- 16 Jack Helgenset
- 17 Wanda Ness
- 17 Jeff Reuss
- 21 Liam Anderson
- 21 Samantha Schoenfelder
- 22 Hanna Lindblad
- 23 Alexander Aeikens
- 24 Anne Duncan
- 24 Jodee Erickson
- 24 Cory Grussing
- 24 Larissa Overlie
- 25 Jordon Ahrndt
- 25 Stacy Erickson
- 26 Craig Lindblad
- 27 Susan Hilleren
- 27 Kelly Thole
- 28 Darrell Davidson
- 28 Paula Wilson
- 29 Nicole Neuman

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ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

