# Trinity Lutheran Church WORSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • SERVICE

November 2024

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings in Christ!

We begin the month of November. We are all settled into our routines for this time of year. We look forward to Thanksgiving; the harvest is either done, or very close to done.

Things slow down for a little while before the holiday rush of parties, gift giving and celebrating. We no longer have the excuses to not spend some time in Scripture. It is time for adult Bible Studies to begin. Recently, we began a Bible Study with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation students, to help them develop a relationship with Jesus, the Christ. I would like to help you in this process as well. You have heard me talk in many sermons about who we are in Jesus Christ, and how we can be free because of what He did for us. Now, I would like to give you an opportunity to experience what true freedom is.

We will begin the Bondage Breaker Bible Study in November. As of this writing, details are still being worked out. The Bondage Breaker is the second book by Reverend Doctor Neil Anderson, Founder, of Freedom in Christ Ministries, Inc. I became interested in his writings when my son was in the hospital Psychiatric ward on a 72-hour hold.



#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Faith in Service3
Minutes 4 & 5
Calendars7

The Doctors and staff were throwing around words like "Psychotic Break" and "Bipolar" and scaring the snot out of Lorna and me. I was given Neil's memoir at that time and told I should read it. A week later, I was enrolled in their schooling because I realized what this material means to those of us in the Christian faith, and how I could be used by God to help people through them.

We serve a God who wants us to be free from condemnation, free from regret, and free from the lies that Satan has us believing. This Bible Study will help you to experience what true freedom is all about. I ask all of you to join us in this study.

Even if you choose to not participate in our Bible Study, I still encourage you to spend time with our God. He wants to interact with you at all times of the day, whenever you turn to Him, whenever you want to initiate it. He is always ready and eager to spend time with you.

He loves you in ways you and I cannot even imagine, and if we let Him, He will take us places we never expected to go, for example I am now in North Dakota!

Go with God,

**Sastor Ritchie** 



Blast Supper will be November 6<sup>th</sup>.

Serving from 5:30 to 6:15

Students and Families are invited.

B.L.A.S.T. is from 6:30-7:30 for Kindergarten through 6th grade.

# **CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation class is from 6:30pm—8:00pm on Wednesday evenings.



## Women's Bible Study

The Third Tuesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. in the church fellowship hall



Pastor Ritchie is starting a Bible Study on Sunday's right after church in the education room starting November 10th.

Please bring your bibles.

The study is called The Bondage Breaker



Council Meeting Minutes Continued from page 4

•LCMC 3 days of prayer in January

- Current thinking is to have continuous prayer in the church on 1-hour rotations Pastor Ritchie will provide material to pray on
- •Volunteers for running the sound system for weddings and funerals Funeral directors are currently helping They pay \$75-100 paid for doing this Will advertise in the bulletin with the \$ amounts If no volunteers, Deacons will need to call/reach out to individuals

•Nominating committee for next year's officers Bylaws state: 2 council and 3 congregation New constitution is the same - agreement was t

New constitution is the same - agreement was that the new constitution should have working around a minimum of something lower than the current constitution. No volunteers during the meeting

•Annual meeting Set for January 19th

•Next meeting Nov 19th Devotions: Morgan

• Closing Prayer: Pastor Ritchie Respectfully submitted by Michael Simons

## DECEMBER FAITH IN SERVICE LIST

Membership of Trinity Lutheran is divided into 11 groups that each take a month to be responsible for tasks within the church. Each month we will be looking for ushers, lay readers, communion set-up, communion servers and coffee servers.

The list below is the service group scheduled for December. The coordinators for December are Ashley Kramer and Colleen Kramer. If your name is on this list, please check the calendar and see what Sunday(s) in December works best for you and call Ashley (653-5029) or Colleen(320-9404) to volunteer. If you are called, please prayerfully consider how you can help. Please say yes when called. Thank you for doing your part and participating in our worship services.

Dallas & Latricia Beckman	Jerome & Janell Hoheisel	Ginger Skadberg
Kyle & Chelsey Erdmann	David & Colleen Kramer	Jason Skadberg
Tom & Julee Erdmann	Jordan & Ashley Kramer	Tara Skadberg
Larry & Kathy Erickson	Gary & Suzie LaBelle	Mary Topp
Phyllis Gussiaas Armella Hetle Kristen Hewitt Ernie & Ann Hoffert	Alex & Amy Lies Cheryl Peterson John Ringerud Wendy & Chris Schmid	Greg & Donna Veen Neil Veen Doug & Jennifer Wede

## TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

	<u>September</u> <u>Income</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	Weekly Income a	nd Attendanc	<u>e</u>
General	\$18,271.31	\$10,869.05	Weekly Need:	\$4,938.47	
B.L.A.S.T.	\$	-	09/01/2024	2,556.00	128
Mission	\$	\$	09/08/2024	3,462.00	Well attended
Building	\$	\$ 2,819.92	09/15/2024	3,129.00	136
Total	\$18,271.31	\$13,688.97	09/22/2024	3,792.00	229
			09/29/2024	2,215.00	135
			Online giving for	\$3,655.74	

#### Budget Report for January 1, 2024–December 31, 2024

September

<u>Categories</u>	Disbursed to Date	<b>Budgeted for Year</b>	Difference for Year
Benevolence	\$1,250.00	\$3,250.00	\$ 2,000.00
Pastoral Ministry and Staff	\$138,088.76	181,400.00	\$ 43,311.24
Congregational Life	\$18,296.34	25,850.00	\$7,553.66
Building and Maintenance	\$37,288.73	46,300.00	\$ 9,011.27
Totals	\$194,923.83	\$256,800.00	\$61,876.17

# **COUNCIL MINUTES**

# Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes October 8, 2024

#### Attendees—Council Members

Nic Beach, Josh Cabler, Jeff Knutson, Kendra Beach, Jana Lesmeister, Morgan Wetzel, Kerry Smith, Pastor Ritchie, Janice Gussiaas, Michael Simons Guests: Sheryl Roundy, Vern Anderson, Kristin Simons

#### Discussion

- Nic called meeting to order and led prayer
- Janice gave devotion
- •Last meeting's minutes

•Michael made motion to accept the minutes and Kerry seconded, Motion passed

#### •Janice gave treasurers report General \$7,216.15 Mission \$7,683.30 Reserve \$13,740.59 Edward Jones account \$74,365.45

#### •Bylaws

Kristin presented updates per feedback from last council meeting. Key edits:

- •Treasure is now appointed position with 1 year term
- •Executive board cannot contain family members
- •Next step is to present it to the congregation
- •Vern pointed out that the new bylaws are designed to be nimble
- •Not intended to be day to day operations it is a legal guideline
- Policy documents cover day by day operations and can be modified by the council

Steps to share with the congregation

- Have copies available at the back of the church
- Send congregational text with link to website. Michael will help Sheryl.
- Michael to investigate if the website will provide number of views
- Will call special meeting Dec 1 to vote
- Need 30 days separation on second vote. Second vote will happen at annual meeting.
- Motion made to put forth to approve the new constitution amendments and use it as
- the version to get congregational feedback on first Morgan, seconded by Jana---Motion passed
- Pastor Ritchie read his pastor's report (see meeting packet)
- WOW Report No WOW leaders present

#### •Deacons Report - Presented by Morgan

- Deacons didn't meet this month
- Children's sermons are a WIP Deacons are trying to schedule volunteers
- Kids have been good about handling slides
- Sound board needs instructions which Morgan is still working on
- Education Report Jana read report (see meeting packet)
- Jane VanRay is looking to step down from superintendent role but hasn't specified a timeline
- Discussion around a goal to fund/hire an associate pastor directly involved in children ministries
- Troy was mentioned as a possible associate pastor he would be available in 2026

#### •Trustee Report - Josh presented

- •W/Curt Walen moving away, we are in need of someone to audit out books
- Please send suggestions to Trustees Education tables
- Board of ed has finished purchasing new tables and chairs for blast
- •90 metal chairs and 8 wood tables will be sold \$20 table and \$5 chair
- •Will put in bulletin first, remainders will be advertised on Carrington/New Rockford rummage sale group.
- Parking lot sealing is in progress

•Credit card application update—Underwriter has requested a balance sheet that lists assets and liabilities. They will allow us to retroactively create.

•We need an assessed value of church and parsonage. County office of tax equalization will be providing this. They currently don't have a accessed value because we pay no property taxes.

# OCTOBER 2024 WOMEN OF THE WORD (WOW)

# BOARD MEETING

The Women of the Word (WOW) board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on October 14, 2024 by Co-President Sheila Harrington. Those in attendance were Sheila Harrington, Julee Erdmann, Mary Struxness, Michelle Kliem and Karen Buskness. Sharie Mattson, Kristee Page, Traci Lura, Kristen Hewitt and Nikole Hoggarth were absent. Sheila Harrington shared a devotion.

**Minutes of the September meeting:** Were reviewed. One correction to the minutes was a bill to be approved that got missed in the minutes. \$59.76 to Julee Erdmann for funeral and blast expense. Michelle moved to approve the minutes and Karen seconded. All were in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Michelle presented the financial report for September 2024. The beginning balance for September was \$11,566.05 with deposits of \$760.00 and expenses of \$2,228.92. **Bills submitted and paid in September were** Dakota Dust Tex \$195.40, Leevers \$248.99, Julee Erdmann \$59.76, Dakota Paper \$59.48, Foster County Fair Board \$300.00, Lutheran Home of the Good Shepard \$500.00 and Dakota Central/turkeys \$865.29. **\*\* Note:** Total cost of turkeys was \$1115.29. Thrivent paid \$250.00. \$865.29 for Fall Supper turkeys.

**Current bills to be approved and paid in October:** Dakota Dust Tex \$81.67, Leevers \$57.79, Foster County Independent \$42.00, Prairie Inn \$225.00 and Julee Erdmann \$278.79. \*\*Michelle reported that the money counted from the Fall supper was \$7933.00 minus \$700.00 for starting cash for a final total of \$7233.00. Karen moved to approve the Treasurer's report and Julee seconded it. All were in favor.

**Vice Presidents Report:** Julee reported four coffee hours and three funerals for September. Julee also reported that the fall Supper went well with great volunteers and wonderful attendance.

Fellowship Report: No report.

**Stewardship Report:** Some discussion on the Thank Offering and where to send it this year. Julee made a motion to donate this years Thank Offering to The Backpack Program and Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

**Correspondence:** Thank you card from The Lutheran Home of the Good Shepard for donation. Letter from Devils Lake Woman's Care Center asking for a donation. After some discussion it was decided to table it for now.

### Old and Unfinished Business:

**New Business:** Sheila mentioned that Holly Zieman asked if WOW would like to purchase Poinsettias this year for The Sunshine Committee. Karen made a motion to purchase Poinsettias this year and Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting is scheduled for November 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the church library.

Submitted by Mary Struxness

# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- Kenzie Edland, Jerold Hertel, Michelle Kliem, Tom Thurlow, Matt & Jane VanRay
- 2 Bryar Beach, Brooklyn Knudson, Kari Smith, CJ Whitman
- 3 Phyllis Gussiaas, Carrie Hovdenes, Chloe Hovdenes, Ean Hovdenes, Denise Shipman, Jane VanRay, Bristol Zink
- 4 Kolly VanRay
- 5 Chelee Finch, Jerry Kollman, Wally Scheen, Cole Seaburg, Jacob Seaburg
- 6 Amanda Bickett, Roger Schlotman
- 7 Jodi Hovdenes, Ethan Johnson, Sawyer Lies, Matt Paulson
- 8 Wes Kahl, Nick Pierson, Lori Solberg
- 9 Tripp Hintz, Beth Lura
- 10 Janelle Dunwoody, Karsyn Erdmann, Sandy Trader
- 11 Ritchie Cole, Reegan Ingebretson, Andrew Rzaszutak
- 12 Barbara & Richard Nysted
- 13 Jayleigh VandeHoven
- 14 Ember Rosenau
- 15
- 16 Cory McKibben
- 17 Jo Pollert, Drew Thurlow
- 18 Jessie Fiebiger, Dustin Hinrichs
- 19 Blake Johnson, Shannon Mehring
- 20 Kalli Finch, Berty Klocke, Charlie Thompson, Tammi & Tom Thurlow, Diane & Steve Zwinger
- 21 Brenda & John Miller, Michael & Kristin Simons
- 22 Bonnie Berg, Amy Seaburg
- 23 Dianne Larson, Ty Zink
- 24 Joel Gussiaas, Grant Johnson, Marshall Rzaszutak
- 25 Colleen Kramer, Krystle Neis
  - 26 Jodi Koll
  - 27 Brian Oster, Ken Wangen, Carlen & Matthew Hone, Billie & Jeff Knudson
  - 28
  - 29 Orion Ostlie
  - 30 Mike Neis, Lindsay Ostlie, Tammi Thurlow

# NOVEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Wed		1	2
3 9:30am Worship/ Communion BLAST Students Sing Prayers by 2nd graders 10:30am Coffee Hour	<b>4</b> <b>1:00pm</b> Quilting/ Nalbinding	5	6 <b>5:00pm</b> BLAST Family Supper <b>6:30pm</b> BLAST/ Confirmation	7	8	9
10 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:45am Bible Study	<ul> <li>11</li> <li>1:00pm Quilting/ Nalbinding</li> <li>7:00pm WOW Meeting</li> </ul>	12	13 6:30pm BLAST/ Confirmation	14	15	16
17 9:30am Worship/ Communion 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:45am Bible Study	18 <b>1:00pm</b> Quilting/ Nalbinding	19 9:00am Woman's Bible Study 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	20 10:00am Service at Golden Acres 6:30pm BLAST/ Confirmation	21	22	23
24 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:45am Bible Study 7:00pm Thanksgiving Worship Service at Bethel Chapel by Pastor Ritchie	25 1:00pm Quilting/ Nalbinding	26	27 NO BLAST/ Confirmation	28 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed	29	30



#### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

#### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship Services are Sundays at 9:30 am

Listen to us Sundays at 11:20 a.m. on KDAK (1600 AM) -or-

online at www.newsdakota.com

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Pastor Office Hours: Monday - Thursday By appointment at all other times

# **BE THANKFUL**

for the difficult times. During those times, you grow. Be thankful for your limitations, Because they give you opportunities for improvement. Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character. Be thankful for you mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons. - Troy Amdahl