



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
 499 4th Ave. NW  
 Valley City, ND 58072  
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 Cell: (701)840-7548  
 "Love God. Love Others."

Email: trinitylutheranvc@bektel.com  
 Website: www.trinitylutheran-valleycity.org



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.

### Worship

Sundays, 10 am

### Sunday School

Oct. 19th—May 23rd  
 9-9:45 am

### Bible Study

Tuesdays: 10:30—11:30 am

### Interim Pastor:

Rev. Robert Franek  
 Email: ptlc@bektel.com

### Office Staff:

Rochelle Triebold  
 Marleen Pytlik  
 Hours: 9 am-3 pm, M-Th  
 Closed on Fridays

### Treasurer/Expenses:

Kaneia Kinney

### Offerings Secretary:

Karen Magnuson

### Custodians:

Jerry & Michelle Dahl

# Trinity "Tidings"



## Giving Hearts Day

Help someone.



Giving Hearts Day was started in 2008 by Dakota Medical Foundation and Impact Foundation as the region's first one-day virtual fundraising event. Donors can easily give on Giving Hearts Day with just a few minutes of time. Help us fuel our synod's ministries and mission to "live in love as we equip, challenge and serve God's people" by making a gift on Giving Hearts Day **on Feb. 10th**. Here's how:

**On Thursday, Feb. 10th:**

**1) Head to [www.givingheartsdays.org](http://www.givingheartsdays.org) OR**

mail donation (before 2/04) to EaND Synod, P.O. Box 2019, Fargo, ND 58107

**2) Choose Eastern N. Dakota Synod (& others)**

**3) Make your gift** All donations of \$10 or more will be matched, up to \$20,000. We are the living, breathing, heartbeat of Jesus Christ in the world today.



### Ash Wednesday and Lent Midweek Services

This year our Lenten pilgrimage to Easter's baptismal waters begins with Ash Wednesday worship at 6:30 p.m. on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. This service of holy communion includes the invitation to Lent and the imposition of ashes.

Starting on **Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> and continuing through April 6<sup>th</sup>, we will have soup and sandwich suppers served at 5:30 p.m.** and a **service of Compline at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday evening**. Compline is a meditative service of psalms, song, and prayer. This time of quiet meditation and prayer can be an oasis for the mind and body, heart and soul, in the wilderness of life as we journey from the dust of our creation to the waters of our new birth.



Retirement reception for  
**Marleen Pytlik**  
 on **Sunday, Feb. 27th**  
 after 10 a.m. Worship  
 in **Gathering Area**

**Come celebrate with Marleen on her retirement from TLC office!**



Lent often begins during the month of February. The final Sunday after Epiphany, Transfiguration Sunday, precedes, the most solemn day of the liturgical year, Ash Wednesday. And with ashen cross and the invitation to the classical disciplines of Lent: prayer, fasting, and giving alms, we begin our pilgrimage to the baptismal waters of Easter.

This year, however, Transfiguration Sunday is not until the fourth Sunday of the month and Ash Wednesday holds off until March 2<sup>nd</sup>. This gives us three Sundays to hear stories from Luke chapters five and six. In the story from chapter five we hear Luke's account of Jesus calling disciples and a miracle catch of fish that resembles the one in John 21 following the resurrection of Jesus. Then in chapter six we hear two portions from Jesus' Sermon on the Plain. The opening like Matthew's Sermon on the Mount includes a litany of blessings. However, in Luke these are followed by a litany of woes. Our second passage from chapter six includes Jesus' teaching on loving enemies, judgment, and forgiveness.

On these three Sundays we also continue reading from 1 Corinthians. During these weeks we read the earliest written account of Jesus' resurrection that we have in scripture and what it means to proclaim Christ crucified and risen. Keep in mind that Paul wrote his letters to the church in Corinth in the mid 50s while Mark, the earliest of our Gospels, was not written until 70.

These weeks give us ample opportunity to consider our call to leave our fish nets and follow Jesus. Luke tells us that after Peter, James, and John returned to shore, *they left everything and followed him*. On this new adventure, we join them, and the crowds gathered to hear Jesus teach declaring who is blessed in the reign of God and what it means to love and forgive as a follower of Christ. *Blessed are the poor, hungry, and those who weep*, Jesus says. *Love your enemies*, Jesus instructs.

As we center our lives in these stories of Jesus calling us from our fishnets to follow him and fish for people in a life of discipleship where blessings abound on the poor and hungry, we experience anew God's grace that calls us to love in entirely new ways well beyond what we thought possible before Jesus summoned us into this new life.

As I think about Jesus calling us into the life of discipleship and following his teachings, I'm also aware that this happens during *Black History Month* and my hope for this annual focus to be a renewal that continues well past the 28 days of the month and into each day of our lives.

Last year when I came home from work on February 1<sup>st</sup> there was a package at my door. It was a surprise gift from a dear friend: the book *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African American, 1619-2019*, edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain. I had read about this book and watched some book promotional interviews with Dr. Kendi so was eager to check it out when it published.

The book is divided into ten sections each covering a forty-year span of time with a different author writing a brief essay on something significant during each five-year period. Each section then concludes with a poem summarizing the themes of that era.

Eighty authors and ten poets then comprise the writing of this volume. And as Dr. Kendi explained in one of his interviews, so much of history is written from the perspective of one man. One man simply cannot tell the story of such a diverse people. The essayists in *Four Hundred Souls* represent a diverse array of professions, geography, and perspectives. I found this to be a creative way to communicate the lived stories that are our history.

I hope this soulful history helps us recognize and dismantle the white supremacy that has persisted for four hundred years too long. Jesus has summoned us to make it so.

Pr. Robert Franek



### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

We continue to meet on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. Families of our 5/6<sup>th</sup> graders will be contacted about the First Communion classes that will be taking place during Lent.

Please notify us if your child will not be attending Sunday school so that teachers are not driving into town or planning lessons for students that will not be there. You can notify us by email:

[christianedtcl@bektel.com](mailto:christianedtcl@bektel.com) or text Rebecca Westman 840-1365.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

February 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> - Sunday school will meet

February 20<sup>th</sup> - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

February 23<sup>rd</sup> - Christian Educ. mtg @ 5:30 p.m.



Thank you for all that joined us for the **Birthday Party for Jesus** on Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>. We had 3 Trinity and 6 Faith youth decorating cupcakes and playing games to celebrate Jesus.

Watch your email for an invitation to our February event!

**"Thank you!"** to all of our TLC members that supported our trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering! We look forward to growing in our faith thanks to your financial assistance. - Carson, Kellen, & Georgia



**RED WILLOW BIBLE CAMP**

Red Willow Bible Camp/ RWBC is now accepting registration for summer youth camps. To register your

child/children (Kndg.-gr. 12), go to:

[www.redwillowbiblecamp.com/summercamps](http://www.redwillowbiblecamp.com/summercamps).

*Camp scholarships are provided to TLC families through the generosity of TLC Endowment Fund. Call or email the TLC office to get the scholarship code, and attend camp for FREE!!*

Summer employment opportunities are also available to youth ages 18 years & older (camp counselors, kitchen assistant, maintenance assistant). Go to their website to check out a detailed description of summer employment opportunities or stop in the TLC office for employment descriptions. One of our very own TLC'ers, Lexi Triebold, worked last summer as a camp counselor and loved her work experience there!

### Confirmation Corner — February 2022

Confirmation class schedule for Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. TLC basement

Confirmation classes have resumed after Christmas break and students are busy taking sermon notes, doing service projects, and acolyting for Worship services.

We are going to have a **pizza party** and an **Escape Room** for those students who have done half of their sermon notes by the end of January, so the pressure is on!!

We are making an "interactive notebook" of our study of The 10 Commandments, the Apostle's Creed, and the ELCA Values— so we have lots to cover this semester!

### February Acolyte schedule:

Feb. 6th: Georgia Zaun

Feb. 13th: Jaxon Baumgartner

Feb. 20th: Collin Compson

Feb. 27th: Brenan Anderson



### February "Coffee fellowship" hosts:

Feb. 6th: Trent Johnson & Kellen Westman

Feb. 13th: Sean Buck

Feb. 20th: Zander & Collin Compson

Feb. 27th: AnnaMae Triebold

### Upcoming Events:

Wed., Feb. 2nd: **Pizza Party & Escape Room** for those who met the requirements.

**Thrill Hills Snow tubing event in Fort Ransom for youth in gr. 7-12!! Sunday, Feb. 6th; 2-4 p.m.**



Cost is \$15/youth.

Bus departs OSLC @ 1 p.m., returns by 5 p.m.

**Limited spots available!**

TLC Christian Ed cmte emailed the sign-up & waiver forms last Friday, Jan. 28th, so check your email inbox.

### Wilhelmeina Erickson Scholarships

W.E. Scholarship applications are now available to eligible college students that are active members of TLC.

To be eligible for consideration for the scholarship, students can request an application with the complete list of required criteria from the TLC office (call 845-3837 OR by email: [trinitylutheranvc@bektel.com](mailto:trinitylutheranvc@bektel.com)). Completed applications will be accepted until May 1, 2022.



**"Let all that you do be done with LOVE."**

1 Corinthians 16:14



**IN OUR THOUGHTS/PRAYERS:** *LeRoy Magnuson, Jeanne Wobbema, Marleen Pytlik, Pat Beil, Phil Krentz* (Debbie Magnuson's dad); *Kate Lehr* (Pat Beil's grandniece); **Others in need** (for courage/strength/hope; those recovering from illness/tragedies/disasters/violence); **TLC Call Cmte.; our Country & Public leaders; Casa de Fe orphanage** (Ecuador); **Our ELCA/Synod** (Presiding Bishop Eaton/Rev. Tessa Moon Leiseth); **Missionaries, Diplomats, PEACE**



**"God's Work. Our Hands."**

**December 2021 Financial:**

Beginning Balance (as of 12/01/21): \$21,371.56  
Income: \$27,041.87  
Expenses: \$13,138.67  
Ending Balance (as of 12/31/21): \$35,274.76

**January 2022 Worship Attendance**

2nd: 45      23rd: 41  
9th: 42      30th: 52  
16th: 44

**Call Committee:**

L to R: Sue Martin, Royce Kinney, Tracey Zaun, Al Adams, Kathy Hoefs, Kellen Westman, Alex Wittenberg  
(Not pictured: Emma Langemo)



**TLC Council:**

L to R: Bruce Anderson, Kim Wittenberg, Russ Larson, Linda Anderson, Diane Kracht  
(Not pictured: Rod Moore, Jennifer Jenness, Gene Langemo, Randy Ladbury)



**January 2022 Memorials**

**PEW CUSHIONS**

In memory of **Bob Fearing**  
Given by Carol Olson

In memory of **Pauline Lentz**  
Given by Woody & Rose Wendt

**WELCA**

In memory of **Jean Lang**  
Given by Frances Yokom



Please note that our church office hours are changing. **We will be closed on Fridays.** Open office hours are Monday -Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Annual Meeting Highlights from Jan. 23, 2022 (for year 2021):**

- **Sanctuary Carpet:** The carpet is here and paid for. Scott Magnuson will begin laying the new carpet in February.
- **Pew Cushions:** New pew cushions will soon be ordered.
- **Church Insulation:** We will NOT be going ahead with the insulation (for church) at this time because of the increase in cost.
- **Elections:** Our new **TLC Council members** are: Bruce Anderson, Linda Anderson, Kim Wittenberg (3 positions/3 year terms); new **Endowment member** is Nicole Olson (1 position/5 year term).
- The **Budget for 2022** was approved (please pick up a booklet on the back Sanctuary table next to sound system for a full financial report).
- **Call Committee:** consists of Tracey Zaun (chairperson), Rebecca Westman, Alex Wittenberg, Al Adams, Sue Martin, Royce Kinney, Kathy Hoefs, Kellen Westman, and Emma Langemo. Their first meeting was held on Jan. 19 with Pastor Brad Skogen (of Eastern ND Synod office). They will be installed Jan. 30 during worship.
- **Parsonage Update:** see Property report (detailed in Annual Meeting booklet)
- **Council Members:** A bylaw was changed in our TLC Constitution (bylaw C12.01.01) to read "the Congregation Council shall consist of **7 members** beginning 2023 with 2 members being elected the first year, 2 members elected the second year, and 3 members the third year and continue on from there".
- **Synod Assembly:** June 4 and 5 in Fargo. Anyone interested should contact office or president
- **Marleen Pytlik retirement** – Celebration will be held in February, following Worship.

## **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2022:**

**Council President:** Diane Kracht

**Vice Pres.:** Randy Ladbury

**Secretary:** Linda Anderson

**Other members:** Jennifer Jenness, Russ Larson, Gene Langemo, Patti Angeles, Rodney Moore, Linda Westby

### **January 11th, 2022 COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Present:** Diane Kracht, Kaneia Kinney, Linda Anderson, Gene Langemo, Linda Westby, Randy Ladbury, Jennifer Jenness, Pastor Robert

**Absent:** Rodney Moore, Russ Larson



**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Diane Kracht

**II. DEVOTION / PRAYER** – Pastor Robert

**III. CORRESPONDENCE** – Thank you from Amy, Rochelle, and Kaneia. We extended a special “thank you” to Linda Westby for her time and commitment to council.

**IV. AGENDA REVIEW / ADDITIONS** – Jennifer made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Gene, approved by Council.

**V. MINUTES of Last Meeting** – Linda W. made a motion to approve the December minutes; seconded by Jennifer, approved by Council.

**VI. TREASURER’S REPORT** – Linda W. made a motion to approve the December Treasurer’s report; seconded by Randy, approved by Council.

**VII. PASTOR’S REPORT** – Gave oral report.

### **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**1. Christian Education/Diane:** Sunday School and Confirmation classes have begun in the New Year. Discussed 1<sup>st</sup> Communion classes; Christian Ed meeting on Jan. 26 at 5:30 p.m.

**2. Endowment/Randy** – nothing to report.

**3. Global Missions/Jennifer** – nothing to report.

**4. Outreach/Diane & Gene** – nothing to report.

**5. Property/Russ & Gene** – Work continues on parsonage bathroom. Pew cushions money raised so far is \$6528. Decided to bring up at Annual Meeting what our next step is. Insulation is not financially responsible at this time, will bring up at Annual Meeting. Ordered microphone for Lectern.

**6. Stewardship/Linda A** – nothing to report.

**7. Worship-Music/Diane** – Lenten Services: Ash Wednesday (March 2nd) 6:30 p.m. (no meal); following Lenten Wednesdays are: March 9, 16, 23, 30; April 6. Soup and Sandwiches served by WELCA, beginning at 5:30 p.m.; Worship begins at 6:30 p.m.

**8. Youth/TLC Kids Club-Rodney**—Birthday Party for Jesus – 10 kids attended from Trinity and Faith Lutheran.

**9. WELCA (Women of ELCA)/Linda W** – nothing to report.

### **IX. OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Maintenance and Custodians job descriptions- signed

B. Call Committee – 9 people and first meeting January 19 with Pastor Brad Skogen

C. MSP Profile – Submitted and approved

D. Annual Meeting Agenda – Added Insulation, Pew Cushions, and Council members; 2022 Budget – approved; Council Nominations – Linda Anderson, Bruce Anderson, and Kim Wittenberg; Auditing Committee – Sue, Karen, and Rose completed.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Council Members – Propose at Annual Meeting we change by-laws to go from 9 council member to 7 members starting in 2023. We would combine Youth and Christian Ed, and Global Mission and Stewardship committees.

B. Office – Marleen has retired effective January 11, 2022. New office hours will be 9-3 Monday – Thursday. Closed on Fridays.

**Next meeting will be February 15th, 2022, at 6:30pm.**

A motion was made by Linda W. to adjourn meeting, seconded by Jennifer; approved by Council. Meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

**MEMBERS of the E.L.C.A.: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
**Trinity’s Mission: “Love God....Love Others”**