

## From the Pastor's Pen

"By the sweat of your face  
you shall eat bread until you return to the ground,  
for out of it you were taken;  
you are dust, and to dust you shall return."  
— Genesis 3:19 —

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The way of Jesus is supposed to be different from the way of the world. Following Christ is meant to be counter-cultural. One of the most apparent examples of this is in our relationship with death. Our culture celebrates and promotes a sense of immortality, promising us a way to avoid death. We are constantly inundated with products, programs, medications, practices, and lifestyles claiming to keep us from aging ... helping us to cheat death. For thousands of years, people in different cultures, all over the world, have searched for the "fountain of youth," and while it may have taken on a different form, that search continues with us today.

On February 14th, we will gather for worship, and renew the rite of the imposition of ashes, a Christian ritual dating back hundreds of years. We will smear dirt on our foreheads, and remind each other that we are creatures bound by limits, saying "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." What a peculiar practice. I wonder if we have somehow forfeited just how strange it is that we begin, arguably, our most important liturgical season with this tangible symbol. While the rest of the world tells us, "Come with us and you'll live forever." we declare, "We're all nothing but dust. Here today and gone tomorrow." As the psalmist writes, "Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die. The wind blows, and we are gone—as though we had never been here. But the love of the Lord remains forever ..."

This Lent, let us acknowledge our weirdness together. Let us resist the false hopes of the world. Let us consecrate our mortality. Let us embrace the journey with Jesus to the cross; placing our hope and trust in our boundless God, whose grace, mercy, and provision is unending, whose infinite love cannot be contained.

Blessings.  
Pastor Steve



## Lent Schedule

- 2/14-** Ash Wed Soup Supper @ 5:30 pm  
Ash Wed Worship @ 6:30 pm
- 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13 & 3/20-**  
Soup Suppers @ 5:30 pm  
Midweek Worship @ 6:30 pm
- 3/17-** Communion Class (all ages) @ 3 pm
- 3/24-** Palm Sunday Worship @ 8:45 am & 11 am  
Holy Week Event @ 10-10:45 am (No SS)
- 3/28-** Maundy Thursday Worship @ 6:30 pm
- 3/29-** Good Friday Worship @ 6:30 pm
- 3/31-** Sunrise Service @ 7 am  
Brunch to follow  
Easter Worship @ 8:45 am & 11 am

# Lent



# Unapproved January Council Meeting Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
Tuesday, January 9, 2024  
7:00 p.m.

President Wade Briggs called the meeting to order.

Present: Pastor Steven Lindley, Deacon Koren Lindley, President Wade Briggs, Vice-president Tom Farrell, Secretary Nancy Sabbe

Trustees: Marie Millage, Walker Ruhd, Eric Anderson—Dana Hoff present on phone

Parish Education: Dani Ruhd, Alicia Koch, Jennifer Briggs

Deacons: Virginia Lemme, Becky Brown, Jim Iverson, Patti Weber

Absent and excused: Melody Hansen

The Council members recited Trinity's mission statement.

Devotions reminding members that we are created in God's image to be givers were presented by vice-president Tom Farrell.

An opening prayer was given by Pastor Steve.

President Wade Briggs added two items to the printed agenda: 1. Consider amending the general offering amount in the 2024 mission plan; 2. Consider amendment to the preschool salaries in the 2024 mission plan. Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Tom Farrell, seconded by Jennifer Briggs. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023, meeting as written by Jennifer Briggs. Seconded by Tom Farrell. Motion carried.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

President Wade Briggs reported that the general offering in December was \$61,824.03.

The year-to-date statistics are:

Offering	\$337,944.30
Expenses	\$438,703.92
Expenses over offering	(\$100,759.62)

## REPORTS

Pastor Steve reported

- The temporary cleaning service is working out. There has been little progress in hiring for per-

manent custodial/maintenance help.

- The high school youth lock-in went well.
- The advent book study was completed. He is looking for a Lenten book study.

Deacon Koren reported

- The kids are back after the Christmas holiday. Two more children have registered for Sunday School.

President Wade Briggs reported

- The heater in the narthex has been repaired. The ceiling in the balcony has also been fixed.
- He thanked Council members for working with him for the past year.

Vice-president Tom Farrell reported

- That he will continue to compile monthly giving comparisons for the Council.
- That \$85,143.47 of the \$100,000 that was borrowed from the parsonage fund has been repaid and is invested in CDs at First Bank & Trust. The investments are earning interest that will help offset the pastor's housing allowance.
- He thanked the council members whose terms are expiring with a reverse standing ovation.

Board of Parish Education—Jennifer Briggs reporting

- The last day of Sunday School will be May 5, 2024. The Board is looking at curriculum for 2024-2025.
- 12 high school youth participated in the lock-in January 5-6.
- High school youth tied 20+ blankets. Abby Morse received a grant from the Trinity Foundation for materials for the blankets.
- Fundraising for the National Youth Gathering will include selling walking tacos at the basketball double header against Sioux Falls Christian on January 19.
- Preschool registration is now open for Trinity members.
- The Bingo Bash is scheduled for January 28.
- Arrangements are being made for a Camp Sunday.

Board of Deacons—Becky Brown reporting

- A humidifier/dehumidifier for the new piano in the Fellowship Hall will be purchased and installed soon.

## Unapproved January Council Meeting Minutes

- The 2024 calendar with the anticipated dates for special services/events has been shared with Pastor Steve.
- Loafer schedule is complete through June 2024.
- The incoming Deacon of Service and Sacraments will shadow the current deacon in January.
- Letters have been sent to the February service group. Arrangements for Lenten soup suppers are moving forward.

### Board of Trustees—Eric Anderson reporting

- Kesteloot Excavation & Dirt Work Services is doing the snow removal. They have a map of the areas that need to be cleared. Walker Ruhd has created a procedure manual for snow removal. Pastor Steve will be the main contact.
- Marie Millage reported that Infotech will install a new firewall next month.
- Pierce Construction has completed the work on the balcony ceiling.
- The push bar on the west door is broken. Mid-states Glass will repair the door for around \$460.00–\$340.00 for parts and \$120.00 for labor. Rick Schmidt has offered to pay for the repair.

Pastor Steve led the group in a team building exercise. Members were asked to say what they want people to say about them when they die, and following that, if they were to die tomorrow, what people will actually say.

### BUSINESS

Jim Iverson, chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the committee has nominees for all open positions except vice-president.

President Wade Briggs moved to appoint Beth Delzer and Rob Thuringer to the Auditing Committee. The Constitution calls for an independent review of the finances. Seconded by Virginia Lemme. Motion carried.

Preparations for the annual meeting are being finalized. All reports need to be submitted to the office. President Wade Briggs and Vice-president Tom Farrell plan to project the agenda and reports at the meeting. President Wade Briggs will ask Danny Brown to serve as parliamentarian.

Trinity will be helping with the Madison Food Pack on Saturday, January 27, from 8:00-10:00 a.m. An

email has gone out to the congregation encouraging members to sign up to participate.

The Executive Committee brought the following recommendations regarding amending the 2024 mission statement at the Annual Meeting to the Council: 1. Changing the amount of general offering to \$350,000, and 2. Making corrections to the preschool salaries. Motion by Tom Farrell, seconded by Jennifer Briggs, that the Council recommends the amendment amending the amount of general offering to \$350,000 and amending the preschool finances to reflect accurate numbers within the 2024 mission plan. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Becky Brown, seconded by Jennifer Briggs. Motion carried.

President Wade Briggs closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Sabbe, secretary



Lenten Greetings!

Trinity Lenten Soup Suppers will start on February 14, 2024 for Ash Wednesday!

Save the dates:

February 14, 2024 - Ash Wednesday

February 21, 2024 - Lent Wednesday

February 28, 2024 - Lent Wednesday

March 6, 2024 - Lent Wednesday

March 13, 2024 - Lent Wednesday

March 20, 2024 - Lent Wednesday

Serving time will be from 5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

Join us for fellowship and the Lenten Service!

Patti Weber  
Deacon of Life & Growth

## February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>Holy Communion on the 1st &amp; 3rd Sundays</p> <p>Home Communion on the 3rd Sunday</p>		
<p>04</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00AM–1:00PM Troop 5 Pancake Feed : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>10:00AM–10:50AM Sunday School : Sunday School Rooms</li> <li>11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship w/Beckham Storm Baptism : Sanctuary</li> <li>12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	<p>05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preschool Registration Opens to Public</li> <li>7:00PM–8:00PM Scouts Meeting : Youth Room ; BSA Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall ; Women's Book Study : Fireside Room</li> </ul>	<p>06</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>5:30PM–6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18</li> </ul>
<p>11 <i>Transfiguration of Our Lord, Camp Sunday</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jingle Change</li> <li>8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>10:00AM–11:00AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>10:00AM–10:50AM Sunday School : Sunday School Rooms</li> <li>11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> <li>6:00PM–7:30PM Men's Group : Fireside Room</li> </ul>	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00PM–8:00PM Women's Book Study : Fireside Room ; BSA Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall ; Scouts Meeting : Youth Room</li> </ul>	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>5:30PM–6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18</li> </ul>
<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>10:00AM–11:00AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	<p>19 <i>Presidents' Day</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Office Closed ; No Preschool– Break</li> <li>7:00PM–8:00PM Women's Book Study : Fireside Room ; BSA Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30AM–11:00AM Mary Circle : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>5:30PM–6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18</li> <li>7:00PM–8:00PM Martha/Naomi Circle : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>
<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>10:00AM–11:00AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>10:00AM–10:50AM Sunday School : Sunday School Rooms</li> <li>11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> <li>3:00PM–5:00PM Medary Conference Assembly : Off Site</li> </ul>	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00PM–8:00PM Women's Book Study : Fireside Room ; BSA Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall ; Scouts Meeting : Youth Room</li> </ul>	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>5:30PM–6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18</li> </ul>

**2024**

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	01 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:30PM Den 2 Meeting : Youth Room ; Webelo & Bear Den Meetings : Fellowship Hall	02 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	03 • 5:00PM–6:00PM Fellowship Potluck Meal : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:00PM Saturday Worship w/Holy Communion : Fellowship Hall
07 • 5:15PM–6:00PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:30PM 6th–8th Grade Confirmation : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:00PM High School Youth Group : Youth Room	08 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:30PM Scouts Pack Meeting : Fellowship Hall	09 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study • Council Retreat : Off Site	10 • Council Retreat : Off Site
14 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> • 5:15PM–6:00PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:30PM Lenten Soup Supper : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–6:20PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room • 6:30PM–7:30PM Ash Wednesday Worship : Sanctuary	15 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:30PM Webelo & Bear Den Meetings : Fellowship Hall ; Den 2 Meeting : Youth Room • 7:00PM–8:00PM Lent Book Study : Fireside Room	16 • No Preschool–Presidents' Day Break • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	17
21 • 5:15PM–6:00PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:30PM Lenten Soup Supper : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–6:20PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room • 6:30PM–7:30PM Lenten Evening Prayer Worship : Sanctuary	22 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:30PM Den 2 Meeting : Youth Room ; Webelo & Bear Den Meetings : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:00PM Lent Book Study : Fireside Room	23 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	24
28 • 5:15PM–6:00PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:30PM Lenten Soup Supper : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–6:20PM Adult Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room ; Chancel Choir Rehearsal : Youth Room • 6:30PM–7:30PM Lenten Evening Prayer Worship : Sanctuary	29 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:30PM Den 2 Meeting : Youth Room ; Webelo & Bear Den Meetings : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:00PM Lent Book Study : Fireside Room		

## Music Ministry Contacts

Sunday School Choir (Grades 1–5)  
Stacey Riedel 605-270-1233

Cherub Choir Ages (Preschool & Kindergarten)  
Tami Christiansen 605-480-0727

Epiphany Bell Choir (high school & adults)  
Diane Plack 605-270-0691

Chancel Choir (Grades 5–8)  
Tami Christiansen 605-480-0727  
Jennifer Briggs 605-480-1870

Adult Choir  
Diane Plack 605-270-0691

Deacon for Worship & Music/Celebration Team  
Virginia Lemme 605-270-1845



We took December off and then the weather didn't cooperate in January, but our monthly men's gatherings will reconvene on February 11th at 6 pm in the Fireside Room at Trinity Lutheran Church. Bring your own dinner and join us for discussion about our faith, and how it impacts our lives. All guys are welcome to join us! If you have any questions, contact Pastor Steve.

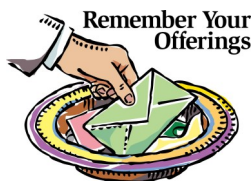
## Worship Assistant Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers to take care of the various aspects of worship. To volunteer, please contact the church office at 605-256-2771 or officemanager@tlcmadison.com. You may also use the sign-up sheet located in the narthex. Thank you.

## Membership Information

### *Is your info. up-to-date?*

Have you moved? Did you disconnect your land-line? Did you change your e-mail address? Did you get married? Did you have a baby? Did you get a divorce? Do you wonder why the church has not been connecting with you? Please notify the church office when you have an address change, e-mail change, marital status change, etc. or update the information on your Realm account.



### Financial Response as of 12/31/2023

General offering in December was \$61,824.03.

The year-to-date statistics are:

Your General Fund Offering	\$337,944.30
Expenses	<u>\$438,703.92</u>
Expenses over Offering	(\$100,759.62)

## Lenten Book Study

Another Lenten season is nearly upon us. Lent is such a critical time in the liturgical year - a time for deeper reflection, intentional prayer, and connection with God. To help facilitate this, your Trinity family will be reading a devotional book together called "A Way Other Than Our Own" by Walter Brueggemann. Beginning on Ash Wednesday (2/14), this book has a scripture reading, reflection, and prayer for each day in Lent. You may do these devotions on your own, or with family or friends, and then, in worship on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm we will devote some time to further reflection on one of the themes. And, if you are interested in more discussion, we will have a book study group on Thursday evenings (2/15-3/21) at 7 pm in the Fireside Room. Take time out of your busy schedule for spiritual growth and connection this Lent.



If you would like to join us, please complete the online form we sent via email, or let us know in the office, by 2/1. The book can be ordered on Amazon or other online book sellers for about \$11. If you would like us to order a copy for you, please let us know. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Steve.



## NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

Recent Memorials  
January 2024

**In Memory of Dot Downs**  
Mike and Connie Bickett

**In Memory of Elaine Kearin**  
Marv and Sandy Rhode

**In Memory of John Barrick**  
Bill and Diane Bruns

**In Honor of 63 years of marriage of  
Dwayne and Edith Pecks**  
Barb Pecks



Thank you Tom Farrell, Karen Giles, Jim Iverson, Ron & Bobbi Janke and Susan Williams for delivering home communion in January.

### Maintenance Supervisor Hired

The Trinity Council is excited to announce that we have hired Walker Ruhd as our new part-time maintenance supervisor! Walker brings a wide range of skills and experience to this position, and he cares deeply about the ministry of Trinity. If you get a chance, please warmly welcome Walker to our staff. As is the case with all of our staff, we ask that you please refrain from approaching Walker with any non-emergency maintenance concerns outside of his work hours. These concerns can be communicated to the office and we will pass them along. Thank you!

### “Soup”er Bowl is Feb. 11

“Soup”er Bowl Sunday is February 11th! Bring in cans of soup for the Lake County Food Pantry and place them in the bin of the your fave Superbowl Team...the Chiefs or the 49ers! Who will win the Trinity “Soup”er Bowl?



*Above: A resident of McCrossan Boys Ranch opens a Christmas shoebox from Trinity Lutheran.*

*Below: Valiant Living residents open Christmas gifts from Trinity Lutheran.*



**Come to Church  
this Sunday**



203 N. Harth Ave.  
Madison, SD 57042

**Return Service Requested**

## Financial Giving Options

- Checks can be mailed to the church.
- Credit cards can be processed in the church office.
- The church website ([www.tlcmadison.com](http://www.tlcmadison.com)) allows for one-time or recurring donations using a checking/savings account or a credit/debit card.
- The Electronic Giving option through Vanco can also be initialized by filling out an application form in the church office.
- If you should have questions with any of these options or would like to discuss which one is the best option for you, please call Alex at the church office at 605-256-2771.

### Mission of the Month

The February Mission of the Month is Madison Area Ministerial Assistance Fund. The MAMA Fund began in 2016. Churches contribute into this fund, administered by ICAP, to provide rent and utility assistance, in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the ministerial association.

*Gifts may be designated on offering envelopes to Mission of the Month Fund.*

### Food Pantry

The Lake County Food Pantry mission of the month for February is pancake mix & syrup. Diapers and baby wipes are also requested.

### Congregational Information

**Deaths:** Dorothy "Dot" Downs on January 4

**Baptisms:** Suttan Johnson on January 28

**Weddings:** none

### Pastoral Care

If you are in need of pastoral care or know someone who is, please contact Pastor Steve or the church office.

## SEE YOU IN CHURCH