

Deacon's Discourse

Theologian Frederick Buechner once said, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." In simple terms, your true vocation or calling will be somewhere that fills your soul and energizes you and accomplishes God's work in the world (even in your backyard!) through the use of your God-given skills. This will all be guided by God. I firmly believe that this does not happen just once in a lifetime. I believe that, over time, this crossing of vocation and what the world needs can and does change. As a child of God, we are learning and growing in our faith daily whether we recognize it or not, just as our God-given abilities are discovered and claimed by us over time. Similarly, the needs of the world are constantly changing. What was needed 10 or even 3 years ago has changed. What does remain the same is God and God's desire for us to be in relationship with not only God, but with each other and those beyond our community.

Over the years, I have felt the indescribable feeling of being in this space where vocation meets the world's needs...as a preschool teacher, a paraeducator, and a deacon. I find myself in this awesome sacred space once again thanks to your trust in God and where God is leading Trinity Lutheran Church. Thank you for officially inviting me on this journey with you as your called Minister of Word and Service. I am looking forward to continuing our walk together as we explore new faith formation opportunities, build relationships with each other, and each discern our vocation (not always your paid work!) and where it meets the world's needs. I look forward to seeing where God calls us and what that journey looks like. Thanks be to God...who remains the same yesterday, today, and forever!

Deacon Koren



Coming Soon to a Fellowship Hall Near You!

Greetings Trinity Lutheran Church Members! Lenten Soup Suppers will be starting Ash Wednesday, February 22,

2023. Your Family Group Service Leaders will be contacting you soon to help provide food and to work. Please consider volunteering your time and talent for this wonderful fellowship. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Patti Weber
Deacon of Life and Growth

Support Group

A recent support group has been organized for any Trinity woman who has lost her husband. The group meets on the fourth Monday of the month at Nicky's. During the winter months the meeting time is 11:00 for lunch and summer months at 5:00 for dinner. If you have questions, call Elaine Struwe at 605-270-2584 or Mary Lingbeck at 605-256-3577.



A resident of McCrossan Boys Ranch opens a shoebox gift from Trinity at their Christmas party. Thanks to all who participated. Your gifts were very much appreciated.

December Council Meeting Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church
Church Council meeting
7:00 p.m.
December 13, 2022

President Danny Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Pastor Steven Lindley, Deacon Koren Lindley, President Danny Brown, Nancy Sabbe, secretary

Deacons Jim Iverson, Virginia Lemme, Lora Ersland, Brianna Routier, Becky Brown

Trustees Dana Hoff, Corey Strom

Parish Education Kristin Morse, Valerie Wilkens, Carli Nighbert, Ann Marie Rossing

Members absent and excused: Vice president Wade Briggs, Ron Jorgensen, Tim Walburg, Walker Ruhd, Jennifer Briggs

Also present Rob Thuringer, chair of the Call Committee.

The members present recited the mission statement.

Danny Brown led the devotions.

President Danny Brown added two items to the agenda under business—a discussion of the Mission of the Month and the report of the Membership Committee. Motion by Jim Iverson, seconded by Lora Ersland, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

There were no corrections to the minutes of the November meeting, however, there was a correction to the October minutes. In the October minutes in the Deacons report, the item about the Mission of the Month should read “Nearly \$1,700 has been given...”. Motion by Ann Marie Rossing, seconded by Brianna Routier, to approve the November minutes as printed and the October minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

Rob Thuringer and Ann Marie Rossing representing the Call Committee were called on to give the report of the Call Committee. (Deacon Koren Lindley was excused while the report was discussed.) The committee recommends that Trinity call Deacon Koren Lindley as the Deacon of Faith Formation and Outreach. Deacon Koren and Pastor Steve have addressed the issue of division of responsibilities. As a Deacon of Word and Service, Deacon Koren may be called on to preach on occasion. Motion by Jim Iverson, seconded by Kristin Morse, to accept the report of the Call Committee and recommend that the call of Deacon Koren be voted on at the congregation’s annual meeting January 22, 2023. Motion carried.

President Danny Brown reported that the compensation and benefits for this position will be consistent with synod guidelines. Motion by Ann Marie Rossing, seconded by Virginia Lemme, to authorize the Executive Committee to negotiate a contract with Deacon Koren Lindley using synod guidelines for salary and benefits. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General fund offering through November is \$309,308. Approximately \$4,000 in I Am In pledges was received in November. Motion by Dana Hoff, seconded by Lora Ersland, to accept the Financial Report. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Pastor Steve submitted a written report. Good things are happening at Trinity and he is looking forward to new things.

Deacon Koren submitted a written report. She has received a grant from the Trinity Foundation for a women’s retreat in 2023. She reminded council that the children will present the worship at the 11:00 a.m. service on December 18.

President Danny Brown asked if the Nominating Committee has completed the list of candidates for the annual meeting.

Trustees—Corey Strom reported that he and Joel Brick have spoken to Daktronics about the digital sign. They may have to take the sign down to look at it. As a last resort, Daktronics may send someone to see what can be done.

Parish Education—Kristin Morse reported that Sunday School and confirmation classes are going well. They are working on

plans for outings and for mission opportunities for Trinity youth. She explained that the increase in the Preschool’s projected income for 2023 is a combination of raising tuition and the expectation that classes will be filled next year.

Deacons—Jim Iverson thanked everyone who participated in the Hanging of the Greens service. In decorating the sanctuary, it was noted that it could use a thorough dusting.

Organists/pianists for Christmas and New Year’s are:

December 20—Holden Evening Prayer—Virginia Lemme

December 24—Christmas Eve, both services—Alex Eykamp

December 25—Christmas morning—Alex Eykamp

January 1—New Year’s Day—Virginia Lemme

The 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service will be broadcast on KJAM at 7:00 p.m. Brianna Routier is working with KJAM to also broadcast the Christmas Day service.

The December 1 service at St. Dysmas was cancelled. Ann Marie Rossing will try to reschedule.

The Deacons suggested a change in the rotation for opening and closing the church and for serving lunch at the Council meetings. Deacons will serve in January followed by Parish Education in February, Officers in March, and Trustees in April.

BUSINESS

Lora Ersland reported for the Membership Committee. Based on Trinity’s constitution the committee recommends moving 283 names from active to inactive status for the coming year. During this year they may be contacted about their status and encouraged to become active once again. In addition, the committee recommends moving 678 names to the responsibility list. Motion by Danny Brown, seconded by Jim Iverson, to move names to the responsibility list. Motion carried. Lora Ersland reminded the Council that this will necessitate changes in the service groups, and that the attempt to keep contact information current must be ongoing.

Motion by Jim Iverson, seconded by Kristin Morse, that the agencies selected for the Mission of the Month 2023 remain the same as in 2022 with one exception. In July, the Mission of the Month will be Trinity Preschool. Motion carried.

President Danny Brown proposed two options for completing the 2023 mission plan. Option 1—the Executive Board be authorized to complete the work and present it to the Council at the meeting January 10. Option 2—the entire Council meets the first week in January to complete the work on the 2023 mission plan. At this time, the mission plan is expected to include 4% increases for staff wages and salaries. The salaries for Pastor Lindley and Deacon Lindley will be consistent with synod guidelines. A 3% increase for benefits is anticipated. The 2023 mission plan is expected to use savings to balance. Motion by Dana Hoff, seconded by Ann Marie Rossing, to hold a special Council meeting the first week in January to complete the mission plan. Motion failed. Motion by Jim Iverson, seconded by Virginia Lemme, to authorize the Executive Board to meet and prepare the mission plan for approval by the Council at the January 10 meeting. Motion carried.

Trinity’s contract with Katie Nelson for accounting services was reviewed. Motion by Brianna Routier, seconded by Dana Hoff to approve the contract as presented. Motion carried.

President Danny Brown suggested that the following accounts be closed and the money in them moved to the Cornerstone Account: Account 1550.30 Automobile Replacement Reserve in the amount of \$10,265.67 and Account 1550.40 Hazard Insurance Reserve in the amount of \$5,150.27. Motion by Jim Iverson, seconded by Dana Hoff, to approve this action. Motion carried.

The purchase of a CD with money in Account 1550.23 Building Capital Campaign was discussed. Action was tabled until the January Council meeting.

Pastor Steve closed the meeting with prayer.

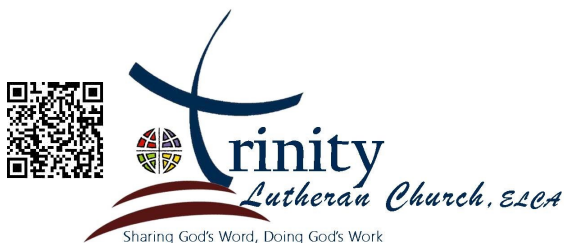
Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Sabbe, secretary

February

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 <i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> • 8:45AM - 9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary • 10:00AM - 10:45AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • No Sunday School • 10:00AM - 10:50AM Women's Bible Study : Conference Room • 11:00AM - 12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary • 12:00PM - 1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM	20 <i>President's Day</i> • Office Closed; No Preschool • 7:00PM - 8:00PM Women's Bible Study : Conference Room	21 • 9:30AM - 11:00AM Mary Circle : Fellowship Hall • 10:00AM - 11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM - 4:00PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall • 5:30PM - 6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18 • 6:30PM - 7:30PM Tiger Scouts : Youth Room • 7:00PM - 8:00PM Martha/Naomi Circle : Fellowship Hall	22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> • 4:30PM - 5:15PM Jubilent Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:15PM - 6:00PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM - 6:45PM Lenten Soup Supper : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM - 6:30PM Chapel Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room • 6:30PM - 7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal : Youth Room • 6:30PM-7:00PM Adult Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room • 7:00PM - 8:00PM Ash Wednesday Worship : Sanctuary	23 • 12:00PM - 1:00PM Help Is Here Study : Fellowship Hall • 1:00PM - 3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall	24 • 6:30AM - 7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	25
26 • 8:45AM - 9:45AM Traditional Worship w/Baptism : Sanctuary • 10:00AM - 10:50AM Sunday School : Sunday School Rooms ; Women's Bible Study : Conference Room • 10:00AM - 10:45AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • 11:00AM - 12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary • 12:00PM - 1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM • 2:00PM - 4:00PM Medary Conference Assembly : Fellowship Hall, Kitchen	27 • 5:45PM - 6:45PM Cub Scout Den Meeting : Youth Room • 7:00PM - 8:00PM Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall ; Women's Bible Study : Conference Room	28 • 10:00AM - 11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM - 4:00PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall • 5:30PM - 6:30PM LSS MRT Group : Room 18 • 6:30PM - 7:30PM Pack 5 Wolf & Bear Den Meetings : Fireside Room				



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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) 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 the Madison Area Ministerial Assistance Fund. Local churches fund this program, which is administered through ICAP to provide rental assistance or utility assistance in accordance to established guidelines.

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 and syrup. Diapers and baby wipes are also requested.

Congregational Information

Deaths: Andy Hunter on February 1

Baptisms: none

Weddings: none



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday,
February 22. Worship is at 7 p.m.
See you in church!