

## Deacon's Discourse

*"Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all people. And day by day the Lord added to their numbers those who were being saved." ~Acts 2:46-47*

Nine years ago I was finishing up my final year of seminary at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. If you needed to find me at that time, you likely would have found me at Panera (with a bagel and coffee) writing my big paper for my diaconal ministry research project, a project that I poured my heart and soul into for three years. It was a project of love, as I researched, interviewed, and created new ministry opportunities. Its official published title is *Cross-Generational Ministry and Spiritual Formation: Bringing the Generations Together in Christ*, but it could easily have been called *God's People are Better Together*.

It was this project and paper that affirmed my call to work with not only children, but also with the communities that surround them. As I was doing research into the early church, I realized that cross-generational ministry has been around much longer than people realize. By looking at Scripture, we can see how multiple generations of families and communities met with the focus of gathering, worshiping, and learning together. Generational writer and speaker Daphne Kirk traced the origins of this model of ministry all the way back to the Old Testament: "When God set His people Israel in order, he placed each individual within a family, each family within a tribe, and each tribe within the nation. No generation was excluded, no child left out, no older person put aside. Within each tribe were the components of family, they were community."

This is why gatherings like Bingo Bash, Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship, Holy Week in an Hour, and similar opportunities for our Trinity Faith Family are so important. We are better together when we not only worship regularly together, but when we also fellowship together, play together, learn together, and pray together. This is also why we offer service projects like the Madison Food Pack and Operation Christmas Child. We are better together when we

come together with our local and greater communities too. Together we learn more, experience more, build relationships, and care for one another.

We have another community event coming up that I encourage you to prayerfully consider attending. There is an event happening at the Dakota Prairie Playhouse February 28 and March 1 called Gather25. This is an amazing opportunity for us to experience God's love and grace together. We are all being invited to worship and praise God and enter into prayer with other believers all around the world via live satellite broadcast. This event is for EVERYONE! It is the first event of its kind, and I am so excited to experience the Holy Spirit move not only here in Madison, South Dakota, but also throughout the world. The broadcast will include speakers and groups from all over the world, including the United States, singing and speaking in their native languages. Through the use of amazing technology, each site will hear the broadcast in their own language. We will be able to see and hear how God is moving in so many places around the world, and we will be able to worship together as one. Alicia Koch and Diane Bruns, along with a handful of volunteers from the Madison area, have been prayerfully planning this event and would be happy to answer any questions. You can also find more information in the narthex.

God's people truly are better together. We were made to be in community with one another for so many reasons. If you attend Bingo Bash, Gather25, or another gathering soon, take a look around. These types of gatherings have been happening in some form since the beginning of human existence. This is how we learn and grow and share God's love. This is how we care for one another and spread hope in a world that is hurting. This is how we celebrate and share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Deacon Koren

# Unapproved January Council Meeting Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Church Council meeting  
Tuesday, January 14, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

President Tom Farrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Council in reciting Trinity's mission statement.

Present: Pastor Steven Lindley, Deacon Koren Lindley, President Tom Farrell, Vice-president Kurt Christiansen, Secretary Nancy Sabbe, Walker Ruhd, Eric Anderson, Marie Millage, Dani Walker, Alicia Koch, Virginia Lemme, Patti Weber, Karen Giles, Lucas Muller

Absent and excused: Darrel Presuhn, Shelly Balogh, Melody Hansen, Stacy Thomsen

Vice-president Kurt Christiansen led a devotion about the gifts that we, like the Wise Men, bring to honor the savior, and Pastor Steven Lindley led the Council in prayer.

President Tom Farrell proposed the addition of one item of new business regarding the resignation of Stacy Thomsen to the agenda. Motion by Virginia Lemme, seconded by Eric Anderson, to approve the agenda with the additional item. Motion carried.

Motion by Kurt Christiansen, seconded by Walker Ruhd, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2024, meeting. Motion carried.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The end of the year financials look good. President Tom Farrell expressed thanks for the support of the congregation and for the efforts of the staff and Council to keep expenses in line. He also recognized the work of Walker Ruhd and the Stewardship Committee for their dedication and plan. The general offering received in December was \$75,906.33 bringing the total offering in 2024 to \$368,476.64. It was necessary to use \$12,063.09 of the Hanneman Endowment to cover expenses over income in 2024. Motion by Virginia Lemme, seconded by Lucas Muller, to acknowledge the Financial Report. Motion carried.

## REPORTS

Pastor Steven Lindley reported

- The Christmas eve services were great. He thanked Nancy Moose for leading the service on December 29, and expressed his appreciation to those who prepared and led the Christmas Day service.

- Carpets are being shampooed, and tile floors are being refinished.
- A gift has been received that will cover the cost of bulletin inserts for two years. The inserts should be available in March.
- Confirmation classes are beginning a new unit. High school youth participated in candle making in December.
- The men's fellowship is meeting in the Fellowship Hall again.
- He will be taking on a continuing education venture this year. He will be participating in a peace-making cohort through Global Immersion.

Deacon Koren Lindley reported

- Preschool, Sunday School, and confirmation classes are back in session following the Christmas break.
- She will be meeting DSU students on the campus next week.
- She received a "Sprinkles of Grace" grant. The grant is being used to create worship bags which focus on elements of the worship service providing an avenue for children to learn about and participate in the worship service.
- She is planning to use an area in the Narthex for a communication center for Sunday School parents.
- Bingo Bash is coming up on February 2.

President Tom Farrell

- Thanked the Council for its work in the past year.
- Motion by Tom Farrell, seconded by Kurt Christiansen, to thank the outgoing Council members—Walker Ruhd, Virginia Lemme, Shelly Balogh, and Melody Hansen. Motion carried.

Vice-president Kurt Christiansen

- Deferred his report to later on the agenda.
- Board of Deacons—Virginia Lemme reporting
- The Board has a revised Jingle Change schedule of recipients.
  - Home communion is going well.
  - Lucas Muller is looking for individuals who will appear in videos explaining volunteer opportunities at Trinity.
  - The Board has prepared a calendar for the coming church year.
  - Patti Weber is the incoming chair of the Board of Deacons.

Board of Trustees—Eric Anderson reporting

- Two refurbished AEDs will be purchased using grant money from the Trinity Foundation.

## Unapproved January Council Meeting Minutes

- A new window has been purchased for the Fellowship Hall.
- The Board is considering the need for security cameras.
- There was nothing new to report on the Narthex window.

Board of Parish Education—Dani Ruhd reporting

- Bingo Bash is scheduled for February 2.
- Melody Hansen will be serving on the Preschool Board.
- Stacy Thomsen has submitted her letter of resignation from the Board.
- Dani Ruhd received a grant from the Trinity Foundation to create a sensory room. It is in a Sunday School room that was not being used and is designed to be a safe, quiet spot for children.

Nominating Committee—Vice-president Kurt Christensen reporting

- With the resignation of Stacy Thomsen, the committee has an additional vacancy to fill.
- Pastor Steve noted that the vice-president's position on the Nominating Committee is not specified in the constitution.

Hanneman Tithe—Dani Ruhd reporting

- The proposed distribution will require the approval of the congregation at the annual meeting.

### OLD BUSINESS

Pastor Steve Lindley and Deacon Koren Lindley will address the Mission Plan at the annual meeting with a focus on gratitude for the support of the congregation. There are plans to record a follow-up video for those who are unable to attend the annual meeting.

The Council discussed how to encourage and recruit volunteer worship assistants. Ideas proposed included recognizing the people serving as worship assistants in the bulletin, newsletter, etc.; using the clipboard signup method; recruit a volunteer coordinator who is also a volunteer; send out time and talents survey.

Lucas Muller will speak to Kaden Krusemark about the need to recruit and train additional Livestream Technicians.

A gift from the Bargmann family has been designated toward the replacement of the windows in the education wing. As a first step, the Board of Trustees will seek estimates for this work.

Motion by President Tom Farrell, seconded by Patti Weber, to accept the resignation of Stacy Thomsen with sincere regret. Motion carried.

### TEAM BUILDING

The Council was invited to share memorable times at Trinity in 2024 while enjoying root beer floats.

Motion to adjourn by Dani Ruhd. Seconded by Deacon Koren.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Sabbe, secretary

## 2024 Financial Response

The Trinity Council brings you “good news of great joy!” In December, our Trinity family’s generosity shone through, once again. A total of \$75,906.33 was contributed to support our ministry together, bringing the total offering for 2024 to \$368,476.84. Our mission plan for the year had anticipated \$350,000 in general offering. In order to cover expenses, we projected that we would need to use \$85,138.26 of the \$202,588 transferred from the Edwin Hanneman Endowment to the Trinity Council. Because of your incredible generosity, as well as reduced spending by our staff and council, the actual amount utilized was \$12,063.09. Thank you for helping Trinity live out our mission of sharing the gospel, forming faith, and loving and serving our neighbors!

## February Coffee Hour

The February Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Family of Patience. The Family Group Leaders, Lana Johnson and Nancy Rook, will be contacting you. Your help is always appreciated ~ Thank you!

FYI – March Coffee Hours will be hosted by the Family of Kindness.



Thank you to Ron and Roberta Janke, Karen Kalvig, Jon and Mary Hunter, and Wade and Jennifer Briggs for serving Home Communion in January.

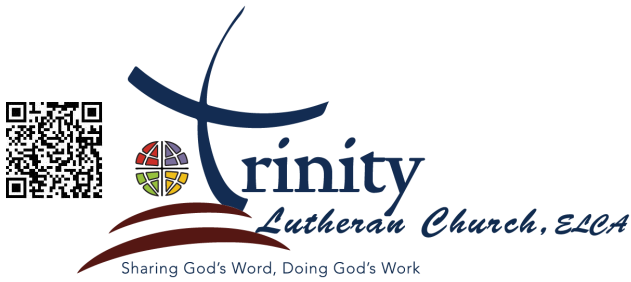


# February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Holy Communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays Home Communion on the 3rd Sunday		
02  <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–3:00PM Bingo Bash : Fellowship Hall, Kitchen</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	03  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	04  <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>• 7:00PM–8:00PM Pack 5 Committee Meeting : Fireside Room</li> </ul>
09  <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>• No Men's Group</li> </ul>	10  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6:30PM–7:30PM Scouts Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 7:30PM–8:00PM Scouts Troop 5 Meeting : Fireside Room</li> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	11  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Finance Meeting : Zoom</li> <li>• 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 6:00PM–6:45PM Board of Deacons Meeting : Fireside Room</li> <li>• No Council Meeting</li> </ul>
16  <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>• No Sunday School</li> <li>• 11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	17 <i>Presidents' Day</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office Closed</li> <li>• No Preschool</li> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	18  <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> </ul>
23  <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 w/Everson Waagmeester Baptism : 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>	24  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	25  <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> </ul>

**2025**

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			01 • 5:00PM–6:00PM Fellowship Potluck Meal : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:00PM Saturday Worship w/Holy Communion : Fellowship Hall
05 • 5:00PM–5:45PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:30PM 6th–8th Confirmation : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:00PM High School Youth Group : Youth Room	06 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:30PM Pack 5 Meeting: Blue & Gold : Fellowship Hall	07 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	08 • 7:00AM–1:00PM Council Retreat : Fellowship Hall
12 • 5:00PM–5:45PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:30PM 6th–8th Confirmation : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:00PM High School Youth Group : Youth Room	13 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:30PM Bear Den Meeting : Youth Room • 6:30PM–7:15PM Webelo Den Meeting : Fireside Room	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> • No Preschool–Presidents' Day Break • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	15
19 • 5:00PM–5:45PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:30PM 6th–8th Confirmation : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:00PM High School Youth Group : Youth Room	20 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:30PM Bear Den Meeting : Youth Room • 6:30PM–7:15PM Webelo Den Meeting : Fireside Room	21 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	22
26 • 5:00PM–5:45PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:30PM 6th–8th Confirmation : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:00PM Adult Choir Rehearsal : Fireside Room • 7:00PM–8:00PM High School Youth Group : Youth Room	27 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:15PM Webelo Den Meeting : Fireside Room • 6:30PM–7:30PM Bear Den Meeting : Youth Room	28 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	



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/checks to Mission of the Month Fund. The Jingle Change collection on February 9 also supports the Mission of the Month.*

### 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:** none  
**Baptisms:** none  
**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