

## Deacon's Discourse

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you." ~John 14:26 (NRSV)

What a gift God has given us in sending the Holy Spirit to be with us. In the gospel of John, we are reminded that God has promised to guide all God's children with the Holy Spirit, our trustworthy advocate and helper. The Holy Spirit knows God and guides us into God's truth. The Holy Spirit knows Jesus' teachings, guidance, and wisdom. We can trust in the Holy Spirit whom God has sent, and we can rest in God's peace, knowing that God is working in all things, including suffering. What a glorious gift!

As we transition out of the season of Easter, through the celebration of Pentecost and the Holy Trinity, we land in the church season of "Ordinary Time." Marked by green paraments and Scripture readings about Jesus' ministry and teachings, it is a time for us to focus in and reflect on how we live out our lives as Christians. It is a time of continued learning, growing, and connecting with God on our faith journey. One way we can do this is by becoming more aware of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives.

So how do we do this? Is it through digging into our Bibles and reading and learning and connecting to a word, a verse, or a story? Is it noticing physical feelings like butterflies in your stomach, random tears that start flowing, a striking shiver up and down your spine, or the sudden appearance of goosebumps? Is it an indescribable spiritual feeling? Is it hearing the voice of God in some way, audible or otherwise? Is it noticing something in a conversation with others that keeps coming up or seeing something in a painting or writing? Is it hearing the same word in random places, a word that brings awareness or points you in a certain direction? Is it someone coming up to you and telling you something they have observed or suddenly felt you needed to know? Yes to all of these and more! The Holy Spirit comes to us in all kinds of ways!

Looking over these possibilities, you may have noticed that some of them are very individual knowings while some of them come via another person or by somehow interacting with the world. We are guided deeper into our faithlife by listening for the Spirit and

where the Spirit may be guiding us, and this may happen individually and/or in community with others (believers and non-believers alike). Our whole world is fair game for the Spirit's movement in our lives!

I know, it can seem overwhelming. So let's take the first step together. I invite you to take a look at how you spend your day or even a week. We have 24 hours in a day, which is 168 hours a week. The Spirit is with us through ALL of them! Choose one area to focus on. For example, maybe you choose to focus on your Bible study time or your desire for a Bible study time (now is a great time to start digging into God's word!). As you are reading the Scripture, pay attention to any words that jump out or that you get hung up on. What do they mean? Can you relate them to anything going on in your life now? Pray and talk to God about it. Journal about it or do some art work around it or listen to some music. Most importantly, take time to listen for what the Spirit might be trying to tell you.

Or maybe, like me, you spend a lot of time right now outside at the ball diamond. Be aware of God's creation around you as well as the people you are around. Watch the interactions of others or the ones you are a part of. Recently, I had a conversation with another mom as our sons were playing ball. Looking back on it after I had returned home, I realized that during our conversation, the Spirit had affirmed my decision to take on a specific role in a new ministry opportunity. Earlier that day, I had been second and third and fourth guessing myself on whether I made the right decision. I was sending myself on one of those spirals of not being "good enough" or the "right person" for the role. The other mom did not know what my day had been like or that I had been stressing about this, but the Holy Spirit used her to affirm the decision and give me peace.

We are loved and cared for by such an amazing God! Not only did God send Jesus to die for us and our sins and give us eternal life, but God also gave

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# Unapproved June Council Meeting Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
Tuesday, June 17, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

President Kurt Christiansen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Voting members present: Pastor Steven Lindley, Deacon Koren Lindley, President Kurt Christiansen, Vice-president Virginia Lemme, Past president Tom Farrell, Secretary Nancy Sabbe, Dani Ruhd—Board of Faith Formation, Darrel Presuhn—Board of Trustees designee, Patti Weber—Board of Deacons

Non-voting members present: Karen Giles, Lucas Muller, Tami Christiansen, Marie Millage

Voting members absent: Eric Anderson

The Council recited Trinity's mission statement.

Vice-president Virginia Lemme's devotion examined the work of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Steven Lindley opened the meeting with prayer.

Motion by Past President Tom Farrell, seconded by Darrel Presuhn, to add a personnel item to the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Patti Weber, seconded by Dani Ruhd, to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2025, meeting. Motion carried.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The general offering in May totaled \$25,413.85.

It was necessary to use \$19,000 from the Cornerstone Reserve Fund to cover bills in May. One half of the annual insurance premium was paid. The premium has increased.

Motion by Deacon Koren Lindley, seconded by Virginia Lemme, to acknowledge the Financial Report. Motion carried.

## REPORTS

Pastor Steven Lindley

- Thanked Deacon Koren Lindley and the staff for managing the business of the church while he was gone.
- The bowl for the baptismal font is now scheduled to be ready in July.
- Two weddings are scheduled—July 26 and August 1.
- Thanked Rev. Aaron Matson and Deacon Koren Lindley for leading Sunday worship services while he was gone.
- The men's group met Sunday, June 8, 2025, with Tom Farrell leading the lesson.
- The Vision Team has met. Their next step will involve meeting with the congregation.
- His trip and cohort exceeded his expectations.

Deacon Koren Lindley submitted a written report and highlighted the following items:

- Registration and sign-up for Vacation Bible School students and volunteers is available in the Narthex and will be available online.
- Miracle Treat Day is July 31. Volunteers will be needed. The United Methodist Church will join us in providing activities for children outside Trinity.
- Many of the pots used for jingle change are old and getting rusty. Small pails were purchased as replacements for the worst of the pots.

President Kurt Christiansen deferred his report to old and new business.

Vice-president Virginia Lemme reported

- There is a list of cleaning jobs that the Spring Clean-up did not get done. The congregation will be invited to help complete this work.

Board of Faith Formation—Dani Ruhd reporting

- She and Deacon Koren Lindley are working on plans for Sunday School and Confirmation.
- The new preschool playground has been installed. An additional piece was purchased with the extra funds available.

# Unapproved June Council Meeting Minutes

## Board of Deacons—Patti Weber reporting

- Cantors and musicians to provide special music are being scheduled.
- Preparations are being made for choirs in the fall.
- Coffee letters for July have been sent.
- The loafers' schedule is being revised.
- Discussed the distance from Madison that those providing home communion may travel. In the past, they have gone as far as Howard.
- The Board of Deacons served the Gathering Meal on June 16. 210 meals were served.
- In the future, the missions of the month will be rotated.

## Board of Trustees—Darrel Presuhn reporting

- They are looking into the purchase of cameras for the exterior of the building.
- The preschool fence has put back in place.

## TEAM BUILDING

Pastor Steven Lindley posed the following question: "Have you ever had a nickname, and how did you get it?"

## OLD BUSINESS

There was nothing additional to report on the recruitment and training of livestream technicians.

69 windows for the education wing have been ordered. It will be 8–10 weeks before installation of the windows will begin.

The following new format for reporting the monthly Financial Update was proposed:

Financial Update as of May 31, 2025

Offering is \$11,644.29 above the Mission Plan projected May figure

Total income as of May 31, 2025	\$155,704.03
Total expenses as of May 31, 2025	\$177,792.91

Discussion of the proposal included a request to add the phrase 'year to date' to each line. Also discussed was whether this format is confusing and if additional information was needed. Motion by Tom Farrell, seconded by Virginia Lemme, to adopt the proposed format with the addition of the phrase 'year to date.' Motion carried.

God's Work, Our Hands will be Sunday, September 14. Pastor Steven Lindley will contact Gene Wocken-fuss at the Bethel Home about scheduling. Dani Ruhd will be the point person for this day of service. Pastor Steven Lindley, Deacon Koren Lindley, and President Kurt Christiansen will assist.

## NEW BUSINESS

A roof leak above the back door soaked the carpet in the sacristy and bell room. Maintenance manager, Walker Ruhd, patched the roof and will continue to monitor it. The Board of Trustees will be evaluating repair and/or replacement of the flat roof.

A personnel matter was discussed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 8.

Motion to adjourn by Deacon Koren Lindley. Seconded by Patti Weber. Motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Sabbe, secretary

*Serve the*  
**LORD**  
*with*  
**GLADNESS**

# July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Holy Communion on the 2nd & 3rd Sundays Home Communion on the 3rd Sunday		01 • 8:30AM–10:00AM Money Counting : Fire-side Room • 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall
06 • 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary • 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM	07	08 • 8:30AM–10:00AM Money Counting : Fire-side Room • 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 12:00PM–1:00PM Finance Meeting : Zoom • 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–6:45PM Board of Deacons Meeting : Fireside Room • 7:00PM–9:00PM Council Meeting : Fellowship Hall
13 • 8:00AM–12:00PM Jingle Change • 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary • 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM • 6:00PM–8:00PM VBS : VBS Rooms • 6:00PM–7:30PM Men's Group : Off Site	14 • 6:00PM–8:00PM VBS : VBS Rooms	15 • 8:30AM–10:00AM Money Counting : Fire-side Room • 9:30AM–11:00AM Mary Circle : Fellowship Hall • 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–8:00PM VBS : VBS Rooms
20 • 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary • 10:30AM–11:30AM Vision Team Storytelling Brunch : Fellowship Hall • 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM	21	22 • 8:30AM–10:00AM Money Counting : Fire-side Room • 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall
27 • 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary • 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM	28	29 • 8:30AM–10:00AM Money Counting : Fire-side Room • 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall

**2025**

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
02	03 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall	04 <i>Independence Day</i> • Office Closed • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	05
09	10 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall	11 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	12 • 5:00PM–6:00PM Fellowship Potluck Meal : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:00PM Satur- day Worship w/Holy Com- munion : Fellowship Hall
16 • 6:00PM–8:00PM VBS : VBS Rooms	17 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall	18 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	19
23	24 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall	25 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	26
30	31 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 5:00PM–6:00PM Ellens- Fischer Wedding Rehearsal : Sanc- tuary		

## Deacon's Article

*Continued from page 1*

us the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit plays such an important role in our lives; we just need to be aware and open to the Spirit's guidance and presence.

As a certified spiritual director, I am called to walk with others and help them become more aware of the Spirit's presence. I would be honored to spend time with you as you look for where the Spirit might be working in your life. Please consider me a resource on your journey, and know that I am always available for conversation and discernment.

Deacon Koren

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



**MIRACLE TREAT DAY**

**JULY 31, 2025**

**Activities outside at Trinity  
from 4 pm - 7 pm**

## 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.



## July Coffee Hour

The July Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Family of Self-Control. The Family Group Leader, Mary Hutchinson, will be contacting you. Your help is always appreciated. FYI – August Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Family of Love.

## Collect Your Cookers

Remember to check the kitchen for your slow cookers and containers from soup suppers and coffee hours.



## Summer Worship Schedule

The summer worship schedule began on May 25. Summer worship will be at 9:30 on Sundays. This schedule will remain in effect through August 31.

## Saturday Worship in July

Saturday worship in July will be on the 12th, rather than the 5th.

## NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

Recent Memorials  
June 23, 2025

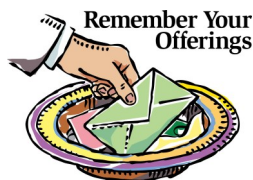
**In Memory of Dave Olsen**  
Marv and Sandy Rhode

**In Memory of Don Rieck**  
Marv and Sandy Rhode

**In Memory of Eleanor Morse**  
Dave and Carla Ewald



Thank you to Wade and Jennifer Briggs, Karen Giles, Jon and Mary Hunter, Susan Williams and Karen Kalvig for delivering Home Communion in June.



### Financial Response as of 5/31/2025

Offering is \$11,644.29 above what was projected in the 2025 Mission Plan.

The year-to-date statistics are:

Total Income (YTD)	\$155,704.03
Total Expenses (YTD)	\$174,792.91

Thank you for your generous support of Trinity's mission!

## Storytelling Brunch Sunday, July 20th

You are invited and encouraged to join your Trinity family for a time of connection and storytelling, immediately following worship on Sunday, July 20th. Trinity's Vision Team has been meeting for a couple of months now. We have been praying and listening together, learning about our history as a faith community, thinking about who God is, and discerning what that means for us as followers of Jesus. And now, we want to hear from you! A delicious brunch will be served, as we engage in a time of guided conversation and sharing stories that will help us think about those things that are most important to us and the gifts we have to offer in our mutual ministry. Mission partners of all ages are of course welcome to participate, but we will also have youth available to watch young children, if that would be beneficial for families. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Steve. We are looking forward to this time of great food, conversation, and community with you all!

## Spring Clean-Up Day Follow-Up

Thank you again to everyone who helped with the spring clean-up day in May! There are some projects/areas that did not get addressed. If you are willing to donate some time to help complete these tasks, please contact the office. There will be a list of tasks and cleaning supplies available for those who can help. Thank you!

Do you remember what these acronyms stand for?

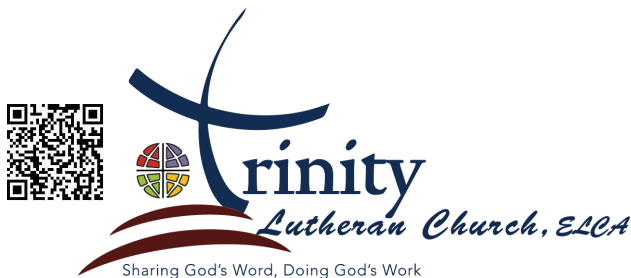
**W.W.J.D.** What Would Jesus Do?

**B.I.B.L.E.** Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth

**G.R.A.C.E.** God's Reward (or Riches) At Christ's Expense

**P.U.S.H.** Pray Until Something Happens

**F.R.O.G.** Fully Rely On God



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 July Mission of the Month is St. Dysmas Lutheran Church. Led by Rev. Jeff Backer, St. Dysmas offers worship in the penitentiary, with an evening service each week. One inmate told pastor "I received justice for what I had done; what I need is mercy."

*Gifts may be designated on offering envelopes/checks to Mission of the Month Fund. The Jingle Change collection on July 13 also supports the Mission of the Month.*

### Congregational Information

**Deaths:** none

**Baptisms:** Koe Ebdrup on June 22

**Weddings:** none

### Food Pantry

The Lake County Food Pantry mission of the month for July is shampoo. Diapers and baby wipes are also requested.

### 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