



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America



# A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

Over the past year we have continued to experience changes in the world around us. Even as our church finds ways to adapt to this changing world, we find hope in the unchanging and always present promise of God's love through Jesus Christ. We change and adapt not to conform to the world but because we believe that the gift of God's Son is for the world, and that our congregations and worshiping communities are places to gather and be sent into the world, where we will tell the story of God's love in word and deed.

The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the churchwide organization provide ways for the church to move beyond the boundaries of structures and geography and to share God's love with people in our neighborhoods, our cities, our country and beyond. We engage in this ministry knowing that our church walks by faith, trusting in God's promise in the gospel, and that we exist by and for the proclamation of this gospel word. In John 15:5, Jesus reminds us, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." We are connected by the promise that we do all through Christ and can do nothing apart from him.

God gives the Holy Spirit, who uses gospel proclamation — in preaching and sacraments, in forgiveness and in healing conversations — to create and sustain this faith. Just as we rely on God to sustain our faith, we rely on each other to sustain the ministries that offer God's love to the world. Through your generosity to each expression

of this church — your congregation, your synod and your churchwide organization — you add to our collective voice proclaiming God's love for all.

I am grateful for your generosity over this last year. My gratitude spreads far beyond your generous financial gifts. You've shared your gifts of time through countless hours of volunteering, serving and accompanying. You've shared the gifts of your voices as we've tried to discover and learn how God is calling us to be the church now and into the future. And, finally, dear church, you have shared the gift of the realness of God's love with the world around you. Be well, dear church, and stand steadfast in the promise of God's love and grace as you take that promise with you into the world.



The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

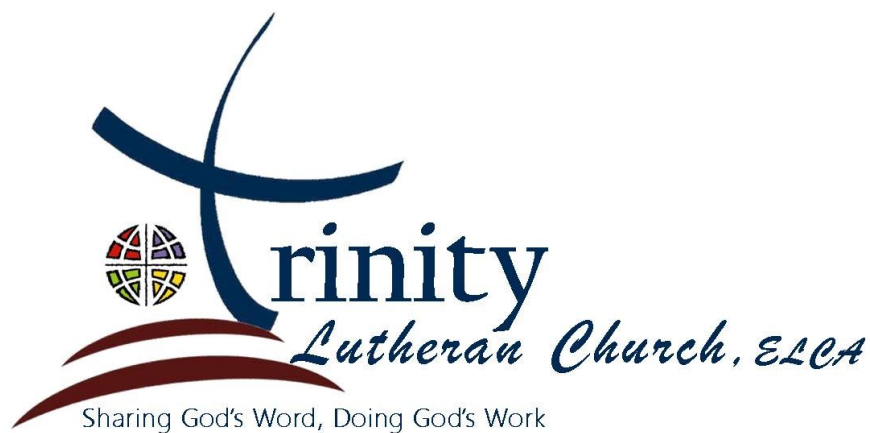
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“I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.” —John 15:5

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# Annual Report

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Madison, South Dakota  
2023



### MINISTRY STAFF

Rev. Steven Lindley, Lead Pastor  
Dcn. Koren Lindley, Deacon of Faith Formation and Outreach

### SUPPORT STAFF

Office Manager & Financial Secretary	Alex Eykamp
Custodial & Maintenance Manager	VACANT
Office Assistant	Lisa Gale
Worship and Music Ministry	Alex Eykamp

### PRESCHOOL STAFF

Head Teacher/Director	Beth Himley
Assistant Teacher	Cara Bender

### CHURCH COUNCIL

President	Wade Briggs
Vice-President	Tom Farrell
Secretary	Nancy Sabbe
Treasurer	Katie Nelson

### DEACONS

Chair	Becky Brown, '24
Worship & Music	Virginia Lemme, '25
Mission Momentum	Becky Brown, '24
Life & Growth	Patti Weber, '26
Services & Sacraments	Jim Iverson, '24
Evangelical Outreach	VACANT

### PARISH EDUCATION

Chair	Jennifer Briggs, '24
Confirmation	VACANT
Elementary Education	Dani Ruhd, '24
Youth Ministry	Jennifer Briggs, '24
Preschool & Early Childhood	Melody Hansen, '25
Continuing Education & Library	Alicia Koch, '25

### TRUSTEES

Chair	Dana Hoff, '24
Development & Planning	Dana Hoff, '24
Sanctuary Property	VACANT
Education Wing Property	Eric Anderson, '26
Stewardship	Walker Ruhd, '25
Insurance	Marie Millage, '26

### PRESCHOOL BOARD

Chair	Natae Johnson, '26
Fundraising	Anne Hall, '25
Secretary	Danielle Kearin, '24
Scholarship	Brittany Waldman, '25
Treasurer	Kirsten Thuringer, '26

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**THE 137<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**Madison, South Dakota**  
**Sunday, January 21, 2024, 12:05 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order: President Wade Briggs
- II. Adoption of Rules
  - A. Please extend courtesy to all when speaking at the microphones.
  - B. Unless otherwise determined by a majority vote of the assembly, all speeches during discussion shall be limited to two minutes.
  - C. A speaker on one side of the question shall be followed by a speaker on the other side.
- III. Approval of the Agenda
- IV. Scripture Reading and Prayer
- V. Approval of Secretary's Minutes of 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting
- VI. Reports
  - A. President, Wade Briggs
  - B. Lead Pastor, Rev. Steven Lindley
  - C. Deacon of Faith Formation and Outreach, Deacon Koren Lindley
  - D. Audit Committee
  - E. Treasurer, Katie Nelson
  - F. Financial Secretary, Alex Eykamp
  - G. Foundation Commission, Tom Farrell
  - H. Board of Trustees, Dana Hoff
  - I. Board of Deacons, Becky Brown
  - J. Board of Parish Education, Jennifer Briggs
  - K. Preschool, Beth Himley
  - L. Women of Trinity
    - 1. President, Nancy Miller
    - 2. Treasurer, Sharon Halseth
  - M. I Am IN Capital Campaign, Wade Briggs
  - N. South Dakota Synod, Letter from Bishop Constanze Hagmaier
  - O. Bethel Lutheran Home, Jeremiah Schneider
  - P. Troop 5 BSA, John Bame
- VII. Acknowledgement of the Reports
- VIII. Nominating Committee, Jim Iverson
  - 1. Further Nominations (must have consent of the nominee)
  - 2. Balloting
- IX. Presentation of the 2024 Mission Plan (Budget)
  - 1. Discussion on the 2024 Mission Plan and Information About the Edwin Hanemann Endowment
  - 2. Approval of the 2024 Mission Plan
- X. Constitution Revisions Presentation
  - 1. Discussion on the Revised Constitution and By-laws
  - 2. Approval of the Revised Constitution and By-laws
- XI. Other Business
- XII. Adjournment

**THE 136<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church, Madison, South Dakota**  
**Sunday, January 22, 2023**

President Danny Brown called the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church to order at 12:10 p.m. A quorum was present.

President Danny Brown presented the Adoption of Rules:

1. Please extend courtesy to all when speaking at the microphones.
2. Unless otherwise determined by a majority vote of the assembly, all speeches during discussion shall be limited to two minutes.
3. A speaker on one side of the question shall be followed by a speaker on the other side.

Motion by Ann Marie Rossing, seconded by Jean Mitchell, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

Pastor Steven Lindley read from Matthew 4:22–25 which introduces Jesus' ministry of healing. He reminded the congregation that we are called to be healers today.

Motion by Jennifer Briggs, seconded by Tami Christiansen, to approve the minutes of the 135<sup>th</sup> annual meeting as printed. Motion carried.

Reports:

- A. President Danny Brown submitted a written report and thanked Trinity's staff, council, and congregation for their participation and work on behalf of Trinity. He is looking forward to a bright future for Trinity Lutheran.
- B. Pastor Steven Lindley submitted a written report and thanked the congregation for the welcome and continued support he and his family have received. He is grateful for all that is done to make ministry happen at Trinity and stated that God gives Trinity everything needed to be what it is called to be.
- C. Deacon Koren Lindley submitted a written report.
- D. President Danny Brown addressed the Balance Sheet in the Treasurer's Report. There is a balance of \$132,000 in the checking account. Last year was the first year that savings were used to balance the budget. \$65,000 was transferred from savings to the general fund. Of that total, \$16,000 was expended, and the remaining \$49,000 remains in the checking account.
- E. Financial Secretary--written report
- F. Wade Briggs submitted the report of the Nominating Committee. The following have agreed to be nominated:
  - a. Board of Trustees Marie Millage (Insurance) 2026  
Eric Anderson (Education Wing Property) 2026  
Walker Ruhd (Stewardship) 2025
  - b. Board of Deacons Amber Johnson (Service and Sacraments) 2024  
Patti Weber (Life and Growth) 2026
  - c. Board of Parish Education Alicia Koch (Elementary Ed) 2026
  - d. Nominating Committee Scott Delzer 2026  
Kristin Morse 2026  
Danny Brown 2024
  - e. Bethel Delegates Jim Iverson 2024  
Cheryl Iverson 2024  
Lana Johnson 2024

Lorri May 2024

Governing Board position is open

f. Foundation Dick Ellis 2029

Susan Williams 2024

President Danny Brown called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he made a motion to accept the report of the Nominating Committee and to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate presented. Motion seconded by Jennifer Briggs. Motion by Danny Brown, seconded by Jennifer Briggs, to amend the motion to include Tom Farrell for the office of vice-president.

The motion to approve the amended motion carried. Motion by Becky Brown, seconded by Scott Delzer, to approve the ballot and elect the slate as amended. Motion carried.

G. Foundation Commission—written report

H. Board of Trustees—written report

I. Board of Deacons—written report

J. Board of Parish Education—written report

K. Women of Trinity—written report

L. I am IN campaign report given by Jennifer Briggs. The construction loan has been paid with an internal loan. As the I am IN campaign pledges continue to be paid, the loan from the Parsonage CDs is being repaid.

M. Letter from Bishop Constanze Hagmaier—written report

N. Bethel Lutheran Home—written report

O. Troop 5 BSA—written report

Motion to acknowledge reports A through O made by Karen Feige and seconded by Jean Mitchell. Motion carried.

The 2023 Mission Plan was presented by President Danny Brown. The plan anticipates \$380,000 in general offering. The highlighted items in the plan indicate which savings may be drawn on to meet the plan. If necessary, funds may be transferred from the Cornerstone Fund. Motion to approve the 2023 Mission Plan by Dick Ellis, seconded by Scott Delzer. Motion carried.

President Danny Brown explained the reasons for calling Deacon Koren Lindley as Deacon of Faith Formation and Outreach as recommended by the Call Committee. The compensation package for this position is as recommended by synod guidelines. The 2023 Mission Plan includes this compensation. Motion to approve extending a Letter of Call to Deacon Koren Lindley to serve as Minister of Word and Service as the Deacon of Faith Formation and Outreach and Definition of Compensation, Benefits, and Responsibilities of the Deacon made by Jennifer Briggs and seconded by Tom Farrell. Motion carried. The President appointed Diane Bruns, Lora Ersland, and Wade Briggs to serve as tellers for the written ballot on the call of Deacon Koren Lindley. The results were reported by President Danny Brown. The vote was unanimously in favor of extending the call to Deacon Koren Lindley.

President Danny Brown presented the gavel to incoming president Wade Briggs. President Wade Briggs thanked outgoing president Danny Brown for his service. He also recognized the contributions of Trinity's staff—Lisa Gale, Alex Eykamp and Scotty Emerson. He invited all council members, including the outgoing members, to attend a council retreat on Saturday, February 11.

Motion to adjourn by Jean Mitchell.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Sabbe, secretary



## PRESIDENT WADE BRIGGS'S REPORT

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am honored to serve as your President for 2023, I hope to highlight the accomplishments, challenges, and the overall progress of our treasured Trinity Lutheran Church over this past year. At our annual meeting in January, we extended a call to Deacon Koren to serve as Deacon of Faith Formation and Outreach.

**Worship and Spiritual Growth:** Throughout the year, our congregation continued to grow in faith and fellowship. We maintained our commitment to providing meaningful worship services, fostering a welcoming environment for all. The various worship and study programs, including Sunday services, Bible studies, and prayer groups, have played a pivotal role in nurturing the spiritual growth of our community.

**Constitution Updates:** This year we completed the work started in 2022 on the revision of Trinity's constitution and bylaws. Many thanks to the committee who worked throughout the year to complete the process of ensuring our constitution is in line with the Synod guidelines, and for the recommended changes to our church council structure.

**Outreach and Community Service:** Trinity Lutheran Church has remained actively engaged in serving the local community and beyond. Our outreach programs, such as the DSU athlete feed, Miracle treat day, meals on wheels, to name a few, have made a positive impact on the lives of those in need. We are grateful for the dedication of our volunteers and the generosity of our members in supporting these initiatives.

**Building and Facilities:** Maintenance and improvements to our church facilities have been a focus this year. We successfully completed necessary repairs and upgrades to the aging heating/cooling units on the office and preschool, ensuring a safe and comfortable environment for our office and preschool. We appreciate the ongoing support of our congregation in maintaining our beautiful church home.

**Youth and Education:** Our commitment to the youth of Trinity Lutheran Church remains strong. Sunday School, youth groups, and educational programs have provided our young members with opportunities to deepen their faith and build lasting connections within the church community. We are excited about the growth and enthusiasm within our youth programs.

**Financial Stewardship:** Managing our financial resources responsibly is crucial to sustaining the ministries of our church. Thanks to the faithful giving of our members and sound financial management, Trinity Lutheran Church has been able to meet its financial obligations, support outreach efforts, and invest in the continued growth of our community.

**Challenges and Opportunities:** While we celebrate our successes, we acknowledge that challenges are a part of our journey. The ongoing support and dedication of our congregation will be essential as we navigate these challenges and identify new opportunities for growth and service.

**Looking Ahead:** As we enter the next year, let us continue to seek God's guidance and work together to strengthen the bonds of our faith community. Trinity Lutheran Church has a rich history, and with the commitment of its members, we look forward to a future filled with continued spiritual growth, service to others, and a deepening connection with God.

In conclusion, I express my gratitude to each member of Trinity Lutheran Church for your unwavering support, dedication, and love for our church family. Together, let us embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, confident in the knowledge that we are united in Christ's love.

Blessings,  
Wade Briggs

# REV. STEVEN LINDLEY'S ANNUAL REPORT

## Overview

"Yes, the LORD has done amazing things for us! What joy!" (Psalm 126) God is so good, my friends! As we look back over the past year, there is so much about which to be grateful. The Holy Spirit is doing awesome things within and among us. God is building something amazing here at Trinity. How cool is it that God invites all of us to be a part of this? Thank you to each and every one of you for all the ways you participate in God's mission here! Thank you for sharing your gifts with this faith community and with our neighbors. You are a blessing to many!

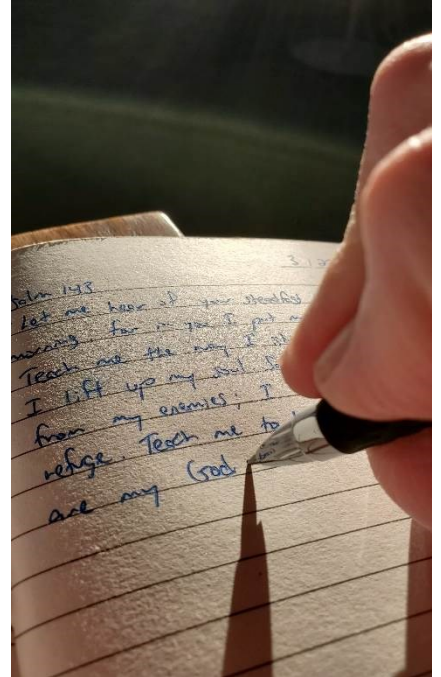
## Administration of Office and Staff

All of the ministry we are able to do here would not be possible without our wonderful office staff. They care deeply about the ministry of Trinity and the people they serve. They are committed to doing their jobs well, and are mindful to look for ways we might improve. I am thankful to be a part of such a great team.

In the past year, we have worked really hard to improve our communication – within the office, between the staff and council, and to the congregation. As a staff, we have talked about being mindful of everyone who might be impacted by a decision, so we can share that information with all those involved. News and updates are made available to the congregation through a variety of resources. We recently made some modifications to the weekly eNews to make it more reader-friendly and helpful for those who rely on that resource. There is still much work to be done in the area of communication, and this will continue to be a primary focus in 2024.

In addition, we have been making an effort to set and maintain good boundaries. As much as possible, we try to identify which tasks and duties are the responsibility of each staff person. When we are able to keep this clear and consistent it helps each of us to do our work more effectively, and keeps spirits up. We also do our best to contain office business to the working hours of our staff. We will never do this perfectly, of course, but for the sake of our staff and our ministry together, we will continue to strive to maintain healthy boundaries.

The financial deficit Trinity has faced in 2023 has presented the staff with unique challenges. We are fortunate to have office staff who are naturally frugal and resourceful. Together, we have made an effort to reduce expenses in the areas of printing, postage, paper products, and office supplies, among other things. As a staff, we are trying to do our part to conserve our financial resources for sharing the gospel, forming faith, and serving those in need.



## Preaching and Worship



In my first year as pastor at Trinity, I made a conscious effort to, mostly, observe the worship practices and traditions of this faith community. There will naturally be slight changes with different worship leaders, but we tried not to make many substantive changes. After some suggestions from, and conversations with, several mission partners and council members, we decided to make some changes to the format of both the Traditional and Celebration services, beginning in the summer. The purpose of this change was to offer two distinct styles of worship so that worshippers with Trinity have options from which to choose. In the Traditional service, we

added a cantor to lead the Kyrie and Canticle of Praise. We also began singing, rather than speaking, the Psalm. The Celebration service was modified by removing traditional liturgical pieces and written prayers, and adding in a second song of praise at the beginning of worship and spontaneous prayers.

In the fall, we administered a worship survey to gather people's opinions of the changes, and our worship life in general. Then, in December, we hosted a worship conversation to present the results of the survey and to discuss our response to what we heard. We had a good discussion at the worship conversation, and I appreciate folks devoting time to talk about our worship practices at Trinity.

The feedback we received, both through the worship survey and through other conversations, has mostly been positive. One consistent negative comment we received is that worship services were running too long. Most people want our worship services to last one hour, or less. In response, we have shortened our centering time at the beginning of worship, the message and children's message, and we have worked to tighten up transition times in worship. We have also removed the printed explanations for the scripture readings. Since making these changes, we have been able to consistently keep our worship time within an hour.

## Spiritual Formation

- *Confirmation:* We have another awesome group of 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders in Confirmation this year! In our three-year rotation, this year is the "Bible year." Deacon Koren and I decided to utilize a curriculum from Augsburg Fortress called, "Colaborate." This resource introduces the students to the holy scriptures in a fun and engaging way. The students seem to enjoy learning from this curriculum and our Confirmation guides appreciate leading from this resource.



The first half of the year has been devoted to learning about the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament). Students have learned the history of Israel's scriptures. We have talked about how God formed the Israelites and chose them to be a blessing to the world. And, we have reflected on how God has been with God's people through everything they endured – slavery, 40 years in the wilderness, corrupt kings, foreign occupation, and exile. After the Christmas break, we will dig into the New Testament and discover how God was with God's people, in a new way, in Jesus.



We have already had one planned service project for the Confirmation students – *Operation Christmas Child*, through *Samaritan's Purse*, and we plan to have a couple more group service projects throughout the year. Thank you to our awesome Confirmation guides, who faithfully give their time, energy, and passions to help our students learn and grow in their faith! We could not do what we do in Confirmation without their help.

- *High School Youth Group*: Each Wednesday, a wonderful group of high school youth makes the choice to get together to grow in their faith and build relationships with their peers. We share what is going on in our lives. We pray together. We reflect on God's Word. And, we create opportunities for joy and laughter. This group inevitably lifts my spirits and I see the light of Christ in each and every one of them.

During the summer months, we had several fun outings with this group – an outdoor movie, a service project, and a trip to Wild Water West. Then, in the fall, we took a group to Air Madness and had a fantastic time! We also had a trip to a corn maze scheduled at the end of October, but it got canceled because of SNOW.



Our two biggest concerns with the high school youth group are trying to find times for activities when the youth already have so many things going on in their lives and finding adult volunteers to help with these activities. We would gladly accept assistance from any of our adult mission partners who would like to spend time with some amazing young people. A special thank you to Jennifer Briggs for all she does for our high school youth!

- *Men's Ministry*: The men of Trinity have several opportunities to gather together and build one another up, as men of faith. The Friday morning Zoom Bible study continues to have a faithful group, committed to coming together to study God's Word and apply it to their lives. In addition, our monthly men's gathering on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month has been going for about a year now. A few months ago, The Office in downtown Madison decided they would no longer be open on Sunday evenings, so we had to try out different locations. We have not, yet, settled on a regular meeting spot. Sometime in 2024, I am hoping to take a group of men to an off-site retreat for a faith formation experience with even greater depth.
- *Lenten Book Study*: During the Lenten season, as a congregation, we read together the book *Bless the Lent We Actually Have* by Kate Bowler. We had an online discussion group, at Wednesday evening worship, Deacon Koren offered a reflection from the book, and I shared a Sunday morning message based on the theme of the book. This was a helpful resource for us to utilize to focus our Lenten journey.
- *Summer Book Study*: In the summer of 2023, a group of us read and discussed the book *Sacred Pulse* by April Fiet. In this book, Fiet offers an alternative to the frantic, exhausting way of life that most of us are living today. "The Sacred Pulse" shares wisdom and insight, as well as twelve practices to employ, to help us enter into a more life-giving rhythm of being. This was a wonderful time of discussion and reflection, over the course of eight weeks.
- *Advent Book Study*: For Advent this year, we chose to read the book *Surrender to Love* by David G. Benner. This group has had a wonderful time talking about God's unconditional love for us, sharing how we have experienced God's love in our own lives, thinking about how we might know God's love more fully. I think this book and the discussion was a great way to prepare ourselves in this Advent season.

## Pastoral Care

I am blessed to have the opportunity to provide pastoral care for the mission partners of Trinity and others in the community. It is an honor to hear your stories and to lift them up to God in prayer. Thank you for entrusting me with this role. In the past year, the number of people in need of regular pastoral care has grown dramatically. I do my very best to keep up with this without neglecting my other responsibilities in this call. A priority for 2024 will be to form, train, and empower a Care Committee to help provide pastoral care for the congregation.

## Outlook

In his book, *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*, Eugene Peterson writes, “Joy is nurtured by anticipation. If the joy-producing acts of God are characteristic of our past as God’s people, they will also be characteristic of our future as his people. There is no reason to suppose that God will arbitrarily change his way of working with us. What we have known of him, we will know of him. Just as joy builds on the past, it borrows from the future. It expects certain things to happen.” As we move into a new year of ministry together, let us do so with great expectation – trusting that God will persist in God’s faithfulness; that God will continue to bless the people of Trinity, so that we might be a blessing to others. Let us enter into this time with audacious anticipation – watching for the amazing things the Holy Spirit will do among us.



With gratitude.

*Pastor Steve*

## DEACON of FAITH FORMATION and OUTREACH ANNUAL REPORT

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” ~Lamentations 3:22-23

What a year it has been here at Trinity Lutheran Church! Looking back at the ministries that fall under the Faith Formation and Outreach umbrella, I can’t help but give thanks to God for all the opportunities given to us in 2023 as a faith community. We have a thriving Youth Ministry that encompasses those in preschool all the way through high school; and we have an amazing group of teachers, helpers, and guides to support them in their learning and faith journey. Adults have also had many opportunities to dig into their own faith formation through Bible studies and various gatherings such as fellowship hour between services and on Thursday afternoons. As a faith community, we have been able to “Share God’s Word and Do God’s Work” with others both locally and globally. From the return of Bingo Bash to Vacation Bible School to our support as a church of Days for Girls and Operation Christmas Child, we were able to share God’s love with so many inside and outside our church walls. Thanks be to God for all these opportunities!

Looking forward to a great 2024 with you!

Deacon Koren Lindley



## PAROCHIAL REPORT 2023

### BAPTIZED    CONFIRMED

ACTIVE Membership as of December 31, 2022	860	692
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Members received during 2023:

By baptism: (16 years +)	0	0
By baptism: children (15 years & younger)	6	0
By transfer from ELCA member congregations	9	5
By transfer from other Lutheran congregations	1	1
From non-Lutheran congregations	2	0
Other	0	0
<b>Total new members during 2023</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>6</b>

Members removed during 2023:

By death	13	12
By transfer to other ELCA congregations	15	12
By transfer to other Lutheran congregations	0	0
To non-Lutheran congregations	5	5
By request	0	0
<b>By inactive/out of area</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>123</b>
<b>Total removed during 2023</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>152</b>

ACTIVE Membership as of December 31, 2023	700	545
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Total number of Saturday worship service during the year	12
Total number of Sunday worship services during the year	87
Total number of weekday worship services during the year	7
Total number of services with Holy Communion	60
Total number of Wednesday eve services during Lent (7:00PM)	5

Average number in attendance each week at worship:

Saturday 6:00 PM Traditional Worship	18
Sunday 8:45 AM Traditional Worship	96
Sunday 11:00 AM Celebration Worship	105

Attendance at:

Ash Wednesday on Sunday (due to weather)	8:45AM:142 + 11:00AM:107 = 249
Maundy Thursday Service	121
Good Friday Service	91
Easter Sunrise Service	84
Affirmation of Baptism 10/29/23 8:45AM Service	138
Affirmation of Baptism 10/29/23 11AM Service	224
Christmas Eve 5PM Service	255
Christmas Eve 10PM Service	90

Sunday 8:45AM and 11:00AM services, as well as Wednesday evening Lenten services, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise, and Christmas Eve 5:00PM and 10:00PM services were livestreamed and uploaded to YouTube.

## **BAPTISMS – 2023**

February 26, 2023 – Callie Rae Olson, daughter of Aric and Brenna Olson

June 25, 2023 – Nash Michael Waagmeester, son of Dallas and Rachel Waagmeester

September 24, 2023 – Grace Maryn Hall, daughter of Daniel and Anne Hall

October 1, 2023 – Palmer Rose Brunick, daughter of Kyle and Cassaundra Brunick

October 7, 2023 – Eden Breen Jensen, daughter of Matthew and Ashley Jensen

November 12, 2023 – Coy Gregory Himley, son on Ryan and Elizabeth Himley

## **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM – RITE OF CONFIRMATION**

**October 29, 2023**

Breanna Marie Bruns

Jozelle Cole

Paislee Rae Cooney

Colton William Davis

James Robert Driscoll

Sawyer Wayne Hegg

Kenzie Brianna Kern

Brooks Orlando Leighton

Dillyn Opsahl

Madelyn Osthus

Shay Poncelet

Shelby Poncelet

Boyd Noel Pooler

Evie Sargent

Ayden Michael Vostad

Jade Wilkens

Courtney Esther Wingle

Kiara Winrow

## **DEATHS – 2023**

### **Members:**

February 1, 2023

March 4, 2023

March 16, 2023

April 4, 2023

April 21, 2023

May 5, 2023

May 5, 2023

May 21, 2023

July 29, 2023

August 28, 2023

September 6, 2023

September 26, 2023

October 24, 2023

Andrew Merrill Hunter

Kimberly Kay Kern

James Patrick Halpin

Bill Cole

Sonya J. Anderson

Sandra J. Cole

Wayne A. Wetzberger

Maria Jones

Myron H. Downs

Allen D. Olson

Roger D. Ayers

Jacqueline K. Nelson

Margaret A. Kuhl

**Non-Members:**

February 7, 2023

Bryan Plack

May 5, 2023

Merle Gulbranson

**NEW MEMBERS – 2023**

<b>September</b>	Marcus and Kristin Metivier
<b>October</b>	Wade, Kim, Preston, Quinn, and Genne Anderson from Grace Lutheran Church, ELCA, Worthington, MN
<b>December</b>	Janice Sedelmeier Kendra, Levi, and Breyleigh McKee from Christ Lutheran Church, ELCA, Hartford, SD Stacy Thomsen, Trinity Lutheran Church, ELCA, Mitchell, SD

**MEMBERS TRANSFERRED OUT – 2023**

<b>January</b>	Douglas & Cindy Nielsen to West Center Baptist Church, Madison, SD
<b>April</b>	Jacob, Heidi, Eliah, and Makenlee Christensen to Trinity Lutheran Church, ELCA, Arlington, SD
<b>May</b>	Dexter Nowstrup to West Center Baptist Church, Madison, SD
<b>August</b>	Glen & Jan Enright to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, ELCA, Minneapolis, MN
<b>October</b>	Michaela (Duff) Steffen to First Lutheran Church, ELCA, Mitchell, SD Patrick, Lori, Maggie, Molly & Madelyn Engebretson to St. John Lutheran Church, ELCA, Madison, SD
<b>November</b>	Preston Nordling to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, ELCA, Sioux Falls, SD David & Ann Marie Rossing to Hope Lutheran Church, ELCA, Walnut Creek, CA Jon & Beth Knuths to Community Church of the Verdes, Rio Verde, AZ

**WEDDINGS – 2023**

<b>April 22</b>	Brandon Shaw and Kenna Nighbert
<b>September 9</b>	Noah Hodges and Rachel Hass

## BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

##### Checking/Savings

1000.00 · FIRST BANK-CHECKING ACCT	98,332.95
1500.00 · FIRST BANK-MONEY MARKET SAVINGS	89,812.18
1600.00 · PARSONAGE FUNDS - DESIGNATED	85,143.47

Total Checking/Savings	273,288.60
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##### Other Current Assets

1700.00 · Petty Cash	100.00
1775.00 · Due from I AM IN Campaign	14,856.53

Total Other Current Assets	14,956.53
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Total Current Assets	288,245.13
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#### Fixed Assets

1800.00 · Real Estate-Church/Ed Wing	5,360,969.91
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Total Fixed Assets	5,360,969.91
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#### Other Assets

1900.00 · FOUNDATION ASSETS	787,284.13
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Total Other Assets	787,284.13
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TOTAL ASSETS	<u>6,436,499.17</u>
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### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

#### Liabilities

##### Current Liabilities

##### Accounts Payable

2000.00 · Accounts Payable	21,409.98
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Total Accounts Payable	21,409.98
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##### Credit Cards

2100.00 · FIRST BANK-Credit Cards	4,149.00
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Total Credit Cards	4,149.00
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##### Other Current Liabilities

2360.00 · Faith Formation Cont. Ed - Def.	543.71
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2375.00 · Preschool - Deferred Income	12,078.58
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2380.00 · Foundation Grants Funds	3,993.12
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2500.00 · Payroll Liabilities	3,406.56
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Total Other Current Liabilities	20,021.97
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Total Current Liabilities	45,580.95
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##### Long Term Liabilities

2800.10 · Internal Housing Allow. CD Loan	14,856.53
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Total Long Term Liabilities	14,856.53
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Total Liabilities	60,437.48
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#### Equity

3000.00 · Retained Earnings	6,439,554.07
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Net Income	(63,492.38)
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Total Equity	6,376,061.69
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>6,436,499.17</u>
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# **PROFIT & LOSS REPORT VS. ACTUAL BY CLASS** **JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 2023**

## **Trinity Lutheran Church** **Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual by Class**

	Designated January through December 2023 <sup>General</sup>				TOTAL	
	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense						
Income						
4000.00 · GENERAL FUND	253.92			337,944.30	382,770.00	(44,825.70)
4500.00 · DESIGNATED FUNDS	34,213.33	35,870.00	(1,656.67)	1,445.24	560.00	885.24
Total Income	34,467.25	35,870.00	(1,402.75)	339,389.54	383,330.00	(43,940.46)
Gross Profit	34,467.25	35,870.00	(1,402.75)	339,389.54	383,330.00	(43,940.46)
Expense						
6000.00 · BENEVOLENCE	19,873.86	33,200.00	(13,326.14)	28,438.35	26,800.00	1,638.35
6100.00 · BOARD OF DEACONS	249.99			14,235.51	20,600.00	(6,364.49)
6200.00 · BOARD OF EDUCATION	2,279.86	8,028.58	(5,748.72)	9,690.94	16,200.00	(6,509.06)
6300.00 · BOARD OF TRUSTEES	21,856.18			68,696.73	75,170.00	(6,473.27)
6400.00 · CHURCH COUNCIL	0.00			13,336.85	14,800.00	(1,463.15)
6500.00 · OTHER COMPENSATION	0.00			23,736.80	26,140.00	(2,403.20)
6600.00 · PASTORAL COMP & BENEFITS	0.00			104,819.55	111,803.00	(6,983.45)
6700.00 · PAYROLL TAXES	0.00			10,973.39	7,900.00	3,073.39
6800.00 · STAFF COMP & BENEFITS	0.00			164,775.80	172,765.28	(7,989.48)
7000.00 · PRESCHOOL	2,265.55	(3,420.00)	5,685.55	0.00		
Total Expense	46,525.44	37,808.58	8,716.86	438,703.92	472,178.28	(33,474.36)
Net Ordinary Income	(12,058.19)	(1,938.58)	(10,119.61)	(99,314.38)	(88,848.28)	(10,466.10)
Other Income/Expense						
Other Income						
4510.00 · Building Maint/Basement Reno	3,624.00			0.00		
4511.00 · I AM IN Campaign	46,785.91			0.00		
9999.00 · Balance Sheet Budgeted Items	0.00	14,028.58	(14,028.58)	107,657.73	79,158.28	28,499.45
Total Other Income	50,409.91	14,028.58	36,381.33	107,657.73	79,158.28	28,499.45
Other Expense						
9250.00 · Capital Campaign Expense	2,529.72	2,400.00	129.72	0.00		
Total Other Expense	2,529.72	2,400.00	129.72	0.00		
Net Other Income	47,880.19	11,628.58	36,251.61	107,657.73	79,158.28	28,499.45
Net Income	35,822.00	9,690.00	26,132.00	8,343.35	(9,690.00)	18,033.35



## 2023 FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

Contributor Households In 2022 Report: 265  
Contributor Households In 2023 Report: 267

2022 Count*	2023 Count*	Annually
22	49	No Contributions
16	16	\$0.01–\$50.00
15	14	\$50.01–\$100.00
43	56	\$100.01–\$500.00
46	28	\$500.01–\$1,000.00
36	32	\$1,000.01–\$1,500.00
20	18	\$1,500.01–\$2,000.00
22	18	\$2,000.01–\$3,000.00
14	11	\$3,000.01–\$4,000.00
6	9	\$4,000.01–\$5,000.00
19	14	\$5,000.01–\$10,000.00
6	2	\$10,000.01+

### **\*Includes General and I Am IN capital campaign funds**

A special thank you to the money counters who donate their time on Tuesday morning to count Trinity's offering each week – Jim Iverson, Ron Jorgensen, Marvin Olson, and Darrel Presuhn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alex Eykamp  
Financial Secretary

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

January 21, 2024

The Nominating Committee held our first meeting the last week of September and held seven more meetings to bring you these nominees to the 137th Annual Meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church. We want to thank each of these individuals who offered to serve our church in these positions:

## **Board of Deacons:**

Evangelical Outreach	Lucas Muller – '26
Mission Momentum	Jean Mitchell – '27
Sacraments and Services	Karen Giles – '27

## **Board of Parish Education:**

Confirmation	Shelly Balogh – '25
Elementary Education	Dani Ruhd – '26
Youth Ministry	Stacy Thomsen – '27

## **Board of Trustees:**

Development and Planning	Darrel Presuhn – 27
Sanctuary and Property	Curtis King – '25

## **Nominating Committee:**

Nancy Presuhn – '27

## **Vice-President:**

OPEN

## Nominating Committee:

- Danny Brown; Past-President
- Scott Delzer
- Dick Ellis
- Jim Iverson; Chair
- Kristin Morse
- Patti Weber

Pastor Steve Lindley served as our convener and advisory member of the committee.

## FOUNDATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT – 2023

The purpose of the Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation is to help fulfill the mission of Trinity in all of its activities. The duties and responsibilities of the Foundation Commission are set forth in Trinity's Constitution and the Foundation's policies and procedures, and include the following: (1) to receive and acknowledge all gifts received by Trinity that are not designated for current operations or other special fundraising efforts, (2) to invest, manage and disburse all gifts and managed funds, (3) to encourage the giving of special gifts; (4) to provide annual education about planned giving and estate planning and (5) to celebrate gifts given through recognition programs developed by the Foundation.

The Foundation Commission manages several endowment funds and uses income from these endowed funds for benevolent purposes to further Trinity's missions and ministries. In 2023, the Foundation approved the following uses of income from the endowment funds:

- **The Faith In Action Endowment Fund** is to assist many ministries within Trinity and other areas.
  - \$ 1,500 for a council retreat in February
  - \$ 2,650 for funding for Deacon Koren and Alicia Koch to attend IF Gathering Conference in Fort Worth, Texas
  - \$ 450 for the youth to make tie blankets
  - \$ 700 to purchase additional worship banners for our worship space
  - \$6,316 to help cover expenses taken from the Cornerstone Reserve fund
  - \$1,000 to Bethel Lutheran Home for purchase of dining room chairs
  - \$ 745 to Days for Girls Madison for purchase of supplies
- The **Camp Counselor Scholarship Endowment Fund** was not awarded this year due to no congregational members meeting all of the requirements set up for the endowment.
- The **Edwin Hanneman Missionary Endowment Fund**. This fund continues to provide support for missionaries working with the ELCA Division of Global Missions. The generous gift of Mr. Hanneman through his estate allows our congregation to support God's work through these missionaries. The missionaries we supported for 2023 were Pastor Stephen Deal (Costa Rica); Willie Langdji (West Africa). for a total of \$7,702.00
- The **Hazel Johnson Mission Endowment Fund**.
  - \$1,200 of Hazel Johnson Endowment Fund was awarded to Mark and Rose Jensen for their work with translations of the Bible.
  - \$1,263 for Kids Against Hunger project
- The **Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund** awarded \$1,363 to Wanda Biel who is currently studying at Wartburg Seminary and serving as a Vicar at St. John in Ramona and Oldham Lutheran.
- \$540 of income from the **Rasmussen Organ Maintenance Fund** was transferred to Trinity Lutheran Church to offset some of the expenses of maintaining our beautiful pipe organ.
- The **Ellsworth Family Building Fund Endowment** expended \$671 towards church repairs.

- The Board of Trustees and Church Council received \$2,821 of income from the **Cornerstone Endowed Fund** to their Cornerstone Fund for use for capital improvements, major repairs, equipment and any other physical needs of the facilities owned by Trinity Lutheran Church.

**Total Endowment Spending:** The total for all endowment earnings that were awarded for this year to benefit Trinity and other missions was \$28,966.

**Endowment Balances.** As end of the year statements had not been received as of the deadline for this annual report, the following endowment fund balances were under Foundation management as of September 30, 2023. The spending policy for each of the endowments were established in 2005 or at the time the endowment was received by the Foundation. The spending policy specifies that only the earnings shall be used not the principal amount. The balances have not been adjusted for the current year expenditures since they will happen in quarter 4 of 2023.

Faith in Action Endowment Fund	\$455,607
Camp Counselor Scholarship Endowment Fund	18,268
Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund	35,609
Hazel Johnson Mission Endowment Fund	59,232
Edwin Hanneman Missionary Endowment Fund	195,753
Rasmussen Organ Maintenance Fund	12,724
Cornerstone Endowed Fund	66,510
Ellsworth Worship Area Endowed Fund	<u>16,876</u>
Total	\$859,579

The Total Current Assets of the Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation as of 9/30/2023 are \$859,579. Total Current Assets as of 12/31/2022 were \$774,466.85.

Additional future assets of the Foundation include one life insurance policy and two certificates of deposit. These future assets had a market value of \$12,817.28 as of September 30, 2023.

Trinity was remembered with many memorial gifts during the year. A total of \$15,335 as of November 1, 2023 was received. The "I Am In" campaign and Campership received several gifts. If memorials are not designated by the donor for a specific project, they are distributed according to the Foundation distribution policy that gives the Cornerstone 50% of the gift, 25% to the Deacons and 25% to the Parish Education programs.

The Foundation endowment funds would not exist without the generous gifts that have come from our members. Our Legacy Leaders plaque in the Narthex recognizes those individuals (1) who have left a gift to Trinity through their estate, (2) individuals who have notified the Foundation that Trinity has been included in their estate plan, or (3) individuals who give a gift of \$1,000 or more to one of the Foundation endowment funds. We do encourage everyone to consider including Trinity in your own estate plan. Members considering a gift should consult with an attorney or financial advisor for personal financial advice.

The Foundation held their annual education event on Sunday, November 19, 2023 when Kathy McHenry of Lutheran Planned Generosity shared the message during worship and conducted a mini-session during the coffee hour. Thank you, Kathy, for sharing your gifts with Trinity.

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION COMMISSION MEMBERS 2023

Tom Farrell VP	2023*
Marc Molskness,	2024*
Tom Farrell, Treasurer and Secretary,	2025*
Jeanine Reed	2026*
Beth Delzer, President	2027*
Susan Williams	2028*
Dick Ellis	2029*

\*Term expires following the congregational meeting of the year listed.

Submitted by Tom Farrell, Secretary and Treasurer Trinity Foundation

### 2023 TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT

“SHARING GOD’S WORD, DOING GOD’S WORK”

**January 2023–** Trustees contacted the a few flooring companies in town to get bids for the kitchen floor. The tile was cracked and was becoming a hazard.

The Furnace in the preschool and office was having problems keeping the rooms warm. Trustees reached out about a new furnace that was on the roof of the office/preschool addition. We also had to get a quote for the cost of the crane to lift the unit in place.

**February 2023–** weather canceled meeting for February.

**March 2023–** New printer was received in January, a motion was made that the Preschool paid the church 60 dollars a month to help pay for the lease of the new printer plus use of paper and ink used. The accounts are billed by specific code used with the printer.

A discussion was started for a contracting screen and projector to use during services for music, prayers and reading. This would take place of bulletins, reducing paper waste.

Sid worked on getting bids for a new furnace for the preschool and offices.

**April 2023–** One quote for the heating unit was received for a new unit, trustees are waiting for one more. Eric was working on getting the 2<sup>nd</sup> quote.

Started talking about Stewardship and getting a subcommittee together to brainstorm different ideas. Walker will be the Stewardship chair of the committee.

**May 2023–**

- Walker Ruhd as a part of the Trinity stewardship activities will be leading a Financial Peace University workshop. This is a Ramsey Solutions created workshop. The workshop will run for 9 weeks and the cost will be \$80 per couple. The council will support scholarships for those who need the financial assistance. The first session will be held at 6:00 pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June in the fellowship hall.
- Eric Anderson and Sid Gilbranson have been working with Timmer supply and Amert Construction on securing bids and scheduling of a crane for the installation. Eric will be working to obtain a second bid.
- The Trinity preschool made a request that the divider in the pre-school room be removed. The consensus of the council was that this could happen.
- A discussion on some type of projection in the sanctuary was discussed.

**June 2023–** there are no notes for trustees.

**July 2023–** No report for July.



**August 2023–** We mailed out thank you notes were sent out to the people that contributed to the “I am In” campaign.

Fall clean up for the church was discussed and a date was set for August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Stewardship committee met and they decided to use the theme “Trinity “in it” Together.

Walker gave an update on the upcoming events:

Temple talk- Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, Table tents with talking point of what is stewardship, Time and Talent survey coming out in August.

Eric gave an update on HVAC system. Bid from Amert construction was accepted as the new unit will fit the old spot. Don is working with Sid to get it ready to install.

**September 2023–** Eric was working with Scotty on getting a date set to get the new heating unit installed before it got cold.

**October 2023–** Working on Mission plan for 2024. Trustee were working on the minor repair and checking into TEAMS phone system, to see if it could save some money.

Insurance for wind and terrorist attacks was discussed. It would be an additional 3256.23 a year. This was rejected by the council.

Heating unit was installed in October.

Stewardship will be doing a 30day prayer request. This will consist of a new prayer each day for different areas of our church and our community.

**November 2023–** No report was submitted. All trustees were present. Discussion was the heating unit in the entry way of the church, the pump is bad.

**December 2023–** The ceiling in the balcony is falling down, Amert thought the plaster was separating from the ceiling. 3 businesses were contacted to come look at it ( Verchow, Amert's and Brett Pierce with Pierce Construction construction). Brett returned the call. He could come right away to look at it and start the job right away. He was able to get it done before Christmas services. Custodian and Maintenance position was discussed. The decision for the position was to hire one custodian/maintenance or two separate positions.

January 1<sup>st</sup>, we had the Lake's cleaning service start as a temporary service for now.

Kesteloot construction helping with snow removal for the church until a maintenance person can be hired. If it snows over 2inches, he will come, if we need him for a funeral or wedding we can call. We also have Sam Johnson as a back up for snow removal.

Stewardship – letting the season of giving present itself.

Next meeting, we will discuss some of the programs that were found on the internet to see what best fits our needs at Trinity.

The cost of the firewall for our computer service is increasing \$25/monthly upgrade. New cost will be \$125 a month for the next 2 years.

Walker talked to Joel Brick about the digital sign that doesn't work right now and to get it working he thinks that Daktronic will have to come out to look at it which will cost \$1500. Then it will cost for repairs and taking it down and putting it up again if it can be fixed. It will be tabled until it is nicer out. Joel recommended Barger's to take it down since they have a telehandler.

Tom asked Katie how much was spent on cleaning products from Hillard, year to date (November) \$1800.

Walker did some inventory on cleaning supplies and printed off safety data sheets for future custodians.

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## 2024 MISSION PLAN

	2023 Mission Plan	2024 Mission Plan
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
Income		
4000.00 · GENERAL FUND		
4010.00 · Regular Giving		
4010.10 · General Offering	380,000.00	325,000.00
4010.20 · Sunday School		0.00
Total 4010.00 · Regular Giving	380,000.00	325,000.00
4020.00 · Earned Income		
4020.10 · Interest Income		
4020.11 · Money Market Acct Interest		175.00
4020.12 · CD Interest		3,000.00
4020.13 · General Checking	70.00	50.00
Total 4020.10 · Interest Income	70.00	3,225.00
4020.20 · Parking Lot Rent	2,700.00	2,700.00
Total 4020.00 · Earned Income	2,770.00	5,925.00
Total 4000.00 · GENERAL FUND	382,770.00	330,925.00
4500.00 · DESIGNATED FUNDS		
4520.00 · Missionary Support - Jensen	1,200.00	1,200.00
4530.00 · Benevolent Income		
4530.20 · Care Fund Income	670.00	0.00
4530.20 · World Hunger Income	22,000.00	0.00
4530.30 · Missions of Month	2,000.00	0.00
4530.60 · Kid's Worship Offering		0.00
Total 4530.00 · Benevolent Income	24,670.00	1,200.00
4540.00 · Thrivent Choice Funds	360.00	0.00
4550.00 · Miscellaneous	100.00	0.00
4560.00 · Foundation Memorial Income	10,000.00	3,500.00
4570.00 · Coffee Hour		
4570.10 · Coffee Hour Income	1,000.00	1,500.00
4570.11 · Coffee Hour Expense	(900.00)	(1,400.00)
Total 4570.00 · Coffee Hour	100.00	100.00
Total 4500.00 · DESIGNATED FUNDS	36,430.00	6,000.00
Total Income	419,200.00	336,925.00
Gross Profit	419,200.00	336,925.00
Expense		
6000.00 · BENEVOLENCE		
6010.00 · Bethel Home	1,400.00	0.00
6020.00 · Caring Fund Expense	4,000.00	500.00
6040.00 · Lutheran Outdoors	1,200.00	0.00
6060.00 · Missionary Support-Payments	1,200.00	1,200.00
6070.00 · Missions of Month	4,000.00	0.00
6075.00 · World Hunger	22,000.00	0.00
6080.00 · SD Synod	23,000.00	18,000.00
6090.00 · St Dysmas	1,200.00	0.00
6095.00 · Shoe Project Expense	2,000.00	0.00
Total 6000.00 · BENEVOLENCE	60,000.00	19,700.00

<b>6100.00 · BOARD OF DEACONS</b>		
6130.00 · Celebration Service	500.00	250.00
6140.00 · Evangelical Outreach		
6140.10 · General Outreach Expense	5,000.00	6,000.00
6140.40 · Technology	3,500.00	500.00
6140.50 · Videographer		
6140.51 · Videographer - Income		(240.00)
6140.52 · Videographer - Expense	2,400.00	2,000.00
Total 6140.50 · Videographer	2,400.00	1,760.00
Total 6140.00 · Evangelical Outreach	10,900.00	8,260.00
6150.00 · Life & Growth	800.00	1,000.00
6160.00 · Piano/Organ Maintenance		
6160.10 · Foundation Funds Organ -Income	(500.00)	
6160.20 · Maintenance Expense	4,800.00	4,800.00
Total 6160.00 · Piano/Organ Maintenance		
6170.00 · Sacraments & Services	1,300.00	800.00
6180.00 · Worship & Music Supplies	2,800.00	1,500.00
Total 6100.00 · BOARD OF DEACONS	20,600.00	16,610.00
<b>6200.00 · BOARD OF EDUCATION</b>		
6210.00 · CONFIRMATION MINISTRY		
6210.10 · Confirmation General Expense	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total 6210.00 · CONFIRMATION MINISTRY	2,000.00	
6220.10 · ADULT EDUCATION	1,000.00	1,000.00
6240.00 · ELEMENTARY EDUCATION		
6240.10 · Bibles	1,000.00	1,500.00
6240.30 · Milestone Ministry	4,000.00	0.00
6240.41 · Sunday School Books	4,000.00	3,500.00
6240.60 · Summer Ministries-VBS/Day Camp		
6240.61 · Summer Ministries Income	(1,500.00)	0.00
6240.62 · Summer Ministries Expense	3,500.00	0.00
Total 6240.60 · Summer Ministries-VBS/Day Camp	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total 6240.00 · ELEMENTARY EDUCATION	11,000.00	7,000.00
6250.00 · GENERAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	700.00	700.00
6270.00 · YOUTH MINISTRIES		
6270.10 · Campership		
6270.11 · Campership Income	(4,000.00)	(5,596.68)
6270.12 · Campership Expense	8,500.00	5,596.68
Total 6270.10 · Campership	4,500.00	0.00
6270.20 · HS/MS Youth Activities		
6270.21 · HS/MS Youth Activities Income	(3,500.00)	(1,350.28)
6270.22 · HS/MS Youth Activities Expenses	5,000.00	1,350.28
Total 6270.20 · HS/MS Youth Activities	1,500.00	0.00
6270.50 · Nat'l Youth Gathering		
6270.51 · Nat'l Youth Gathering - Income	0.00	(4,830.55)
6270.52 · Nat'l Youth Gathering - Expense	3,528.58	4,830.55
Total 6270.50 · Nat'l Youth Gathering	3,528.58	0.00
Total 6270.00 · YOUTH MINISTRIES	9,528.58	0.00
Total 6200.00 · BOARD OF EDUCATION	24,228.58	10,700.00

<b>6300.00 · BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b>		
6305.00 · All Other Trustee Expense	100.00	100.00
6310.00 · Church Fuel - NWPS	14,000.00	14,000.00
6320.10 · Minor Repairs	15,000.00	15,000.00
6330.00 · Telephone	2,400.00	2,700.00
6340.00 · Utilities	13,000.00	13,500.00
6350.00 · Equipment Replacement	2,000.00	1,500.00
6355.00 · Computer Technology	6,000.00	5,000.00
6360.00 · Ins-Property/Liab/WC	16,670.00	14,000.00
6380.00 · Janitorial Supplies	3,500.00	2,500.00
6390.00 · Stewardship	2,500.00	2,100.00
6395.00 · Foundation Funds - Cornerstone	0.00	(3,500.00)
<b>Total 6300.00 · BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b>	<b>75,170.00</b>	<b>66,900.00</b>
<b>6400.00 · CHURCH COUNCIL</b>		
6420.00 · Church Administration	2,600.00	1,500.00
6430.00 · Convention Expenses	1,200.00	1,500.00
6440.00 · Office Supp/Tidings/Bulletins	11,000.00	8,000.00
<b>Total 6400.00 · CHURCH COUNCIL</b>	<b>14,800.00</b>	<b>11,000.00</b>
<b>6500.00 · OTHER COMPENSATION</b>		
6515.00 · Music Ministry		
6515.10 · Choir Directors	2,000.00	1,000.00
6515.20 · Chapel Choir Accompanists	1,000.00	600.00
6515.30 · Sunday Organists	1,250.00	1,250.00
6515.60 · Saturday Evening Pianists	1,000.00	1,000.00
6830.00 · Organist	10,890.00	10,890.00
<b>Total 6515.00 · Music Ministry</b>	<b>16,140.00</b>	<b>14,740.00</b>
6550.00 · Treasurer	10,000.00	10,100.00
<b>Total 6500.00 · OTHER COMPENSATION</b>	<b>26,140.00</b>	<b>24,840.00</b>
<b>6600.00 · PASTORAL COMP &amp; BENEFITS</b>		
6610.00 · Pastors- Base Salary	26,873.00	48,420.00
6620.00 · Pastors- Continuing Ed	2,000.00	2,000.00
6630.00 · Pastors- Ins,Pension, Disabil	28,000.00	28,000.00
6640.00 · Pastors- Professional Expense	750.00	750.00
6650.00 · Pastors- Social Security	5,760.00	5,760.00
6660.00 · Pastors Housing Allowance	48,420.00	26,873.00
<b>Total 6600.00 · PASTORAL COMP &amp; BENEFITS</b>	<b>111,803.00</b>	<b>111,803.00</b>
<b>6700.00 · PAYROLL TAXES</b>		
6700.00 · PAYROLL TAXES	7,900.00	12,000.00
<b>Total 6700.00 · PAYROLL TAXES</b>	<b>7,900.00</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>
<b>6800.00 · STAFF COMP &amp; BENEFITS</b>		
6810.00 · Part Time Receptionist	18,898.00	18,898.00
6820.00 · Custodian		
6820.10 · Custodian Salary	30,559.00	35,360.00
6820.20 · Custodian Benefit	13,599.00	13,600.00
<b>Total 6820.00 · Custodian</b>	<b>44,158.00</b>	<b>48,960.00</b>
6850.00 · Administrative Assistant		
6850.10 · Admin Assistant Salary	34,320.00	34,320.00
6850.20 · Admin. Assistant Benefit	9,374.00	9,374.00
<b>Total 6850.00 · Administrative Assistant</b>	<b>43,694.00</b>	<b>43,694.00</b>

6880.00 · Director of Faith Formation		
6880.10 · Director Base Salary	42,300.00	42,300.00
6880.20 · Social Security Benefit	3,236.00	3,236.00
6880.30 · Ins, Pension, Disability	17,279.28	17,279.28
6880.40 · Continuing Education	0.00	2,000.00
6880.50 · Director Professional Fees	3,200.00	1,200.00
<b>Total 6880.00 · Director of Faith Formation</b>	<b>66,015.28</b>	<b>66,015.28</b>
<b>Total 6800.00 · STAFF COMP &amp; BENEFITS</b>	<b>172,765.28</b>	<b>177,567.28</b>
7000.00 · PRESCHOOL		
7001.00 · Registration	(1,500.00)	0.00
7002.00 · Tuition Income	(52,000.00)	(47,790.00)
7003.00 · Grant Income	0.00	0.00
7005.00 · Fundraising		
7005.10 · Fundraiser Income		
7005.20 · Fundraiser Expense		
<b>Total 7005.00 · Fundraising</b>	<b>(7,000.00)</b>	<b>(4,000.00)</b>
7010.00 · Preschool Payroll Expense		
7010.20 · Teacher Payroll Expense	32,455.00	30,000.00
7010.30 · Assistant Teacher Expense	17,325.00	5,184.00
<b>Total 7010.00 · Preschool Payroll Expense</b>	<b>49,780.00</b>	<b>35,184.00</b>
7020.00 · Advertising	800.00	1,000.00
7030.00 · Church Donation	300.00	0.00
7040.00 · Copier Contract	600.00	0.00
7050.00 · Scholarships	700.00	0.00
7060.00 · Substitute Teacher Expense	1,300.00	1,300.00
7070.00 · Student Gifts		400.00
7080.00 · Classroom Expenses		
7080.10 · Printing Paper	200.00	200.00
7080.20 · Office Supplies	300.00	300.00
7080.30 · Craft Supplies	1,000.00	1,000.00
7080.40 · Supplies/Equipment	1,500.00	1,500.00
<b>Total 7080.00 · Classroom Expenses</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>
7090.00 · Weekly Reader	400.00	400.00
7095.00 · Miscellaneous	200.00	200.00
<b>Total 7000.00 · PRESCHOOL</b>	<b>(3,420.00)</b>	<b>(10,306.00)</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>509,986.86</b>	<b>440,814.28</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>(90,786.86)</b>	<b>(103,889.28)</b>
<b>Transfer from Reserves</b>	<b>90,786.86</b>	
<b>Transfer from Hanneman Endowment</b>		<b>103,889.28</b>
<b>Total after transfer</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>



## **BOARD OF DEACONS REPORT**

I would like to thank each of our board members for their dedicated service, both in attending our monthly meetings and also our monthly Council meetings last year. We welcomed Patti Weber as a new deacon this year, and are grateful to Jim Iverson for filling a void for the last quarter of 2023.

Becky Brown; Chair

### **Evangelical Outreach**

Social media presence continued in 2023 as followers (both members and non-members) utilized our Facebook site, our website and YouTube accounts to contact us and worship with us. Services continued to be broadcast on the radio along with YouTube and our website each Sunday. We relied on radio and newspaper advertising to share our Easter and Christmas worship services. Thank you to Brianna Routier for her assistance each time she was called on for help in this arena. Thank you to Deacon Koren for maintaining the Facebook page that kept people in the loop regarding the happenings at Trinity.

Volunteers assisted with activities on Miracle Treat Day in July. Trinity delivered Meals on Wheels during the month of August. Thank you to the volunteers who faithfully signed up to cover five routes in the community.

Open Position, Deacon of Evangelical Outreach (2026)

### **Life and Growth**

Coffee Hour was held throughout the year with Family Service Groups providing the treats and serving. During the school year Coffee Hour was held between the two services and after the service for the summer schedule. With the new flooring installed in the Fellowship Hall kitchen in June, Coffee Hour was held in the church Narthex for that time and then continued to be served in the Narthex through October as well as serving in the Fellowship Hall. With lack of interest and participation, the coffee serving in the Narthex was discontinued at the end of October.

All Family Group Leader letters were mailed the month prior to the group serving to allow time for planning and an additional request for finding Greeters for each service was added, this was a good fit for each group, needing only Greeters one month during the year. The individual family letters were discontinued in February to eliminate added expense and postage.

February kicked off our Lenten Season with Soup Suppers beginning Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. Mother Nature had different plans with a full-blown blizzard canceling all activities for the evening. Lenten Soup Suppers continued in February and March with Confirmation students contributing cookies and bars for dessert at the meals. The Trinity cooks did not disappoint with a wide variety of different, delicious soups.

A reception was held in April during coffee hour with cake served honoring Deacon Koren for her installation. In May we honored our high school graduates on Senior Sunday celebrating with cake during the coffee hour.

As Deacon of Life and Growth, I took part in the Trinity first ever Ministry Fair in the Fellowship Hall after the service on August 27th. Each participant decorated a table, displayed important information, and shared their knowledge of their ministry with all that attended.

The Confirmands were honored on Reformation Sunday, October 29th with cake during the coffee hour between services.

Letters were sent out to new members throughout the years informing them to which Faith Family Group they were assigned.

Patti Weber, Deacon of Life and Growth (2026)

## Mission Momentum

Our worship services were again videotaped this year and we saw declining members attend Sunday services. It is our hope they were able to view our services at home. We want to thank Kaden Krusemark and Bob Gale, and others who may have filled in, for their service to Trinity in 2023.

We identified a specific mission for each month of 2023, and they were:

January -	Union Gospel Mission	July –	Trinity Lutheran Preschool
February -	Madison Area Ministerial Fund	August –	Hosting <i>The Gathering</i>
March -	Pine Ridge Reconciliation Ctr	September –	Kid's Backpack Program
April -	Church on the Street	October –	Domestic Violence Network
May -	St. Dysmas	November –	Lake County Food Pantry
June -	Center of Hope	December –	Family Connection

Each ministry was highlighted throughout the year through the bulletin announcements, weekly emails and monthly newsletters inviting our members to contribute to any program by giving a gift to Trinity designated to the Mission of the Month. Last year, \$4,000 was designated in our mission plan for these twelve ministries, which supplemented congregation contributions. Jingle Change was welcomed back in November. This joyous offering goes directly to the Mission of the Month and allows children to be included as servants in the Mission.

On August 28th, we served 227 carryout meals at The Gathering. This year we prepared the meals rather than have it catered, which helped to reduce the overall cost of this Mission.

Becky Brown, Deacon of Mission Momentum (2024)

## Sacraments and Services

Amber Johnson was elected as the Deacon of Sacraments and Services at the January annual meeting. She resigned her position in September. But in her time in the position, she purchased new home communion kits, put together the Loafer Schedule for July 2023 to June 2024, and oversaw the monthly home communion program. We want to thank Amber for her service this year. This section of the Board of Deacons focuses on three areas. They are:

### Home Communion

We have five members who receive home communion on the third Sunday each month. Our volunteers are: Tom & Joyce Farrell, Jim Iverson, Ron & Bobbie Janke, Nancy & Roger Moose, and Susan Williams. Referrals for home communion are given to the Deacon of Sacraments and Services who contacts the individual to have their permission to be on the home communion list. Each of our members is called on the second week of each month to check on their health status and see if they want communion brought to their home on the coming Sunday.

### "Loafer" Program

We have eight volunteers who take a month and bake home made bread (using a special recipe) for the Holy Communion services that will be in that month – the first Saturday evening service, and the services held on the first, third, and fifth Sunday of the month. Once the bread has been baked and prepared, the volunteer places the bread in sealed bags, dates the bags, and places them in the kitchen freezer until they are needed. We want to thank our faithful volunteers for their dedicated service! The Deacon of Sacraments and Services puts a schedule out covering the period of July – June, which also lists the worship dates when communion will be served, including special worship dates for Christmas, Lent and Easter.

### Pulpit Supply

When Pastor Steve is going to be away from a worship service (vacation, illness, etc.) he will either contact the SD Synod Office for a visitation pastor or notify the Deacon of Sacraments and Services which services he will be gone. This past year, Tom Farrell and Nancy Moose provided pulpit supply, and Jim Iverson and Becky Brown served as worship leaders.

A special thanks to Lisa Gale who lines up the ushers, lectors, and communion assistants who are needed to make our worship services possible. Thanks to each one who is faithful in serving Trinity in these areas of need when she calls for help! It takes faithful people serving in many capacities to provide for the wonderful worship services we have at Trinity.

Jim Iverson, Deacon of Sacraments and Services (November 2023 - January 2024)

## **Worship and Music**

Our first major event of the year was Lent which started in February. We had weekly Lenten services every Wednesday night using the Holden Evening Prayer. Lent culminated in Palm Sunday services which led into Holy Week with Maundy Thursday service with special emphasis on First Communion, Good Friday Watch the Lamb Cantata and Drama. We celebrated our Risen Lord with 3 Easter morning services: Sunrise 7am service led by our High School Youth followed by brunch, 8:45 Traditional Service and 11 am Celebration Service.

Our services throughout the year were blessed with special music from our vocal and bell choirs; we had 6 choirs in all. Several people supplied solos and cantored for our services as well. We are blessed with much musical talent at Trinity.

Our summer saw us moving to one service per Sunday morning, leaving our Saturday night service at the first Saturday of each month. Celebration and traditional services rotated. This schedule was in effect from Memorial weekend to Labor Day weekend.

Rally day moved us back to two services each Sunday; one traditional and one Celebration service and Sunday School and Bible studies were under way again.

The piano in the Fellowship Hall officially broke down in September and the Music Committee planned a fundraiser to purchase a "new" piano. The keys on the piano were "sold " for \$25 each. We held a piano/organ concert for the community that was very successful. We were able to feature our own Alex Eykamp at the concert and were so proud of his talent. With the generosity of our congregation and friends, we were able to purchase a refurbished Baldwin 5'8" Grand piano from Popplers Music in Sioux Falls. It was delivered December 6th. Thank you to everyone involved!

December 3rd was Advent 1 and we heralded the season with Hanging of the Greens. This involved all choirs and many families and congregational members. It was a wonderful day to be together as a church family. Special thanks to Scott and Karen Kalvig and Gene and Marilyn Hexom for the beautiful decorations.

The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ was celebrated on Christmas Eve with two beautiful candlelight services at 5 and 10 pm.

Special thanks to Pastor Steve Lindley, Deacon Koren Lindley for leading services.

Thank you to our musicians Alex Eykamp, all cantors and Celebration Team for tirelessly supplying music to us every Sunday. We appreciate you all so much, words cannot begin to express.

Lastly, I would like to give thanks to the Music Committee who met throughout the year to discuss ideas, put together a calendar, formulate plans and work with each other. You are truly amazing!!

I look forward to another year working with all of you. Kudos to my fellow Deacons for all your hard work on your respective committees and boards. You are wonderful.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Lemme, Deacon of Worship and Music (2025)

## 2023 BOARD OF EDUCATION & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES TIMELINE

**January** – Lindley Southern New Year, Kids Against Hunger Project (Madison Food Pack), Bingo Bash

**February** – Deacon Gatherings with Deacon Koren, Welcomed Alicia Koch to Board of Ed, Lent Soup Suppers ran by service groups with support of confirmation groups & guides, Midweek Worship with support of confirmation groups, Kids' Offering for school bags during Lent

**March** – Welcomed Melody Hansen to the Board of Ed, Paul Hansen from LOSD preached on Camp Sunday and spent time with the older potential campers

**April** - Sunrise Service followed by Easter Sunrise breakfast (HS Youth led and served) . Deacon Koren's Installation as Minister of Word and Service (Deacon of Faith Formation and Outreach), Trinity Lutheran Preschool Spring concerts

**May** –Confirmation Spiritual Practices Fair, Sunday School End of the Year Sundae Sunday, Donation was made to the Madison High School Baccalaureate committee for their upcoming program and blessing for the senior, Senior Sunday, Confirmation Service Project with Days for Girls-Madison, Youth Summer Celebration Event 1-Movie in the Park

**June** – Food Truck Party Vacation Bible School June, Youth Summer Celebration Event 2- Birthday Tins for the Food Pantry

**July** – Miracle Treat Day

**August** – School Supply Collection for LWR, Youth Summer Celebration Event 3-Wild Water West, Women's Ministry Retreat, Welcome Home Sunday-Ministry Fair and Sunday School Open House, Backpack Blessing during worship, Trinity Lutheran Preschool began classes, Parent/Student Meeting for Confirmation, 6th-8th Grade Confirmation began, High School Youth Pizza Party Kick-Off, Youth Gathering Commitment of 15 youth and 3 adults to attend the New Orleans Youth Gathering in 2024

**September** – Rally Sunday-Sunday School began, Installation of Sunday School teachers and Confirmation guides

**October** –Fall Youth Event-Air Madness, Confirmation Retreat for 2023 confirmands, Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation Services, Bibles given to Sunday School students (Prek, K, 3rd, and 5th graders), Handed out over 600 stickers and suckers at Madison Downtown Trick or Treat

**November** – Operation Christmas Child Boxes with Confirmation, Lefse fundraiser for National Youth Gathering

**December** – McCrossan Boys Ranch Christmas Boxes, Valiant Living Tree gifts, Operation Christmas Child Boxes (over 150!), Hanging of the Greens brunch fundraiser, Trinity Lutheran Preschool Christmas concerts, Kids' Christmas Worship

### Adult Bible Studies & Gatherings

- Congregation Lectionary Study January-May
- Congregation Lent Book Study
- Congregation Advent Book Study
- Men's Weekly Bible Study
- Men's Monthly Ministry Gatherings
- Women's Weekly Bible/Book Study
- Women's Retreat in August

## **Youth Formation by the Numbers**

- Preschool: 64 students, 2 teachers
- Sunday School: 90 students (Preschool through 5th grade), 18 teachers, 5 youth helpers
- 2023-24 Confirmation Class: 45 students, 8 guides
- 2023 Confirmands: 18 students
- High School Youth: average 20 students a week

As you can see, we had a lot of activity in 2023! We continued some well-loved activities (Bingo Bash, Lent Soup Suppers, etc.), and we tried a few new things (Welcome Home Sunday, Confirmation Retreat, Women's Retreat, etc.). We had many Bible and book studies going on at any given time, and we had outreach that ministered to our community locally as well as globally. Our Preschool through High School numbers are healthy, and these students are full of joy and love for Jesus! We are thankful for a wonderful 2023 and are excited for 2024 activities!

Respectfully submitted,  
Board of Education

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR TRINITY LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL 2023**

Trinity Lutheran Preschool is staffed by Beth Himley, who is in her third-year teaching at Trinity Lutheran Preschool. The preschool hired a new assistant teacher in January, Cara Bender.

The children who were enrolled in the January through May sessions discovered polar animals, experienced Valentine's Day with edible play dough, how to stay healthy, and dinosaurs! For the Spring fundraiser, the students sold Papa Murphy's pizza and Cold Stone Creamery ice cream. The fundraiser was very successful and well liked. The preschool had their own butterflies that the students could watch 5 butterflies metamorphosize. Students also planted their own pumpkins and created a garden by the playground. The students had their spring concert at the end of April and did a terrific job! We also had LOTS of snow days this winter. The classes' last days depended on how many days they missed due to the bad weather. Most of the classes last days were at the end of May.

School began in August with 61 children enrolled. There are 32 students in the MWF classes and 29 in the TTH classes. Miss Beth started the year out on maternity leave, but the school was blessed to have Shari Groen and Alicia Koch substitute until she came back in October.

In September, the students learned about fall and made fall leaves out of their handprints. They also enjoyed watching their pumpkins grow that they planted in the spring. In October, the classes took part in Fire Safety month. Fire Chief Randy Minnaert came to the preschool for the TTH classes and showed them the fire gear and a fire engine. The MWF classes were able to take a field trip to the Fire Station. The preschool also completed their third fundraiser with Gaylen's Gourmet Popcorn from Madison this fall. In November the students learned about the first Thanksgiving and why we celebrate Thanksgiving! In December, the children learned about their five senses and why we celebrate Christmas. The students also got to participate in a gingerbread cookie taste test. The students decorated their gingerbread man and then decided if they liked the taste of their cookie or not. The MWF classes visited First Interstate Bank and First Bank & Trust to sing Christmas carols for their parents and patrons. Both the TTH and MWF classes were able to have their Christmas concerts this year! The songs were adorable and so were their Christmas outfits!

The preschool is an outreach of the church and is under the immediate direction of the Preschool Board. The Preschool Board is under the direction of the Board of Education. The present Preschool Board members are as follows:

Chairman: Natae Johnson  
 Fundraising: Kirsten Thuringer  
 Secretary: Danielle Kearin  
 Scholarship: Brittany Waldman  
 Treasurer: Dan Hall  
 Board of Ed: Melody Hansen  
 Head Teacher/ Director: Beth Himley  
 Assistant Teacher: Cara Bender

The preschool is very thankful for the church members for their continued support and prayers for the preschool. We also are grateful for the amazing families who continue to support Trinity Lutheran Preschool.

Below is a copy of our budget. The money from our budget come from tuition and a fundraiser that the school did this fall.

Lastly, thank you to the office staff for their encouragement, help, and support with the school.

#### **Trinity Lutheran Preschool Budget 2023–2024**

**Tuition:** 29 children x \$90 per month = \$2,610  
 32 children x \$120 per month = \$3,840

This equals \$6450 per month times 9 months = \$58,050

**Budget:** The money budgeted for these line items strictly comes from annual fundraisers, grants, and donations, except salary comes from tuition.

Advertising	\$1,000
Copier Contract	\$600
Trinity Expenses for Scholarships	\$700
Don Hillan Scholarship	\$700
Sub Pay	\$1300
Student Gifts	\$400
Printing Paper	\$200
Office Supplies	\$300
Craft Supplies	\$1,000
Classroom Supplies/Equipment	\$1,500
Weekly Readers	\$400
Miscellaneous	\$200
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$8,300</b>

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Beth Himley  
 Director

## 2023 TRINITY WOMEN ANNUAL REPORT

The purpose of Trinity's women reads as follows:

"As a community of women created in the name of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world."

All women of Trinity are included in the organization. We have circles that meet monthly for Bible study and fellowship and hope that Covid does not return to prevent our meeting as it did before.

Three Gatherings are normally held by the Medary conference. One in the Spring, Fall and early winter. Also the Annual meeting is during the year usually in the summer was held this year.

The efforts of the women of Trinity are the Mission Action projects. In 2023, there were many quilts made by our quilters. Several of the quilts would have been sent to Lutheran World Relief. Many were given to the Trinity high school seniors. Indian Missions received some quilts. Moreover personal care kits and school kits were sent to LWR. Also Christmas boxes were sent to McCrossan Boys Ranch. A huge Thank You is owed to all of those who contributed funds, shopped, sewed and packed and especially Lisa Gale for the tremendous job she does purchasing items needed to make these projects successful. Monies raised by Mary circle are given monthly to local non-profit organizations plus at years end larger sums are given to local and state organizations.

Organizations receiving money were staff gift, food pantry, the gathering, Bethel Foundation and the Domestic Violence Network. Details are in the treasurers report. Also check the treasurer's report for amounts sent to each project.

Total number of quilts sent 189, total number of personal care kits sent 92, total number of school kits sent 108. Total number of items sent 289.

We will continue to meet as circles and continue our outreach mission work. I will be the contact person and Sharon Halseth will continue as circle's treasurer as will Lisa Gale with projects plus the quilters will continue their work.

It has been a pleasure serving as your coordinator for the past year. It has been a very rewarding and enlightening experience. A big thank you is owed to all of the circles, the office staff, custodian and pastors who all have been so very accommodating and helpful.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Jensen-Miller-Gilbert

## 2023 WELCA ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Total Checkbook 12/31/2022	4238.34
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Amount in General Fund 1/1/23	1681.17
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### Receipts

Circle offerings	728.01
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Funerals	1550.00
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Donation	<u>1000.00</u>
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Total Receipts	3278.01
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Total	<u>3278.01</u>
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	4959.18
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### Expenses

GMACC Staff Christmas Gifts	250.00
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The Gathering	500.00
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Food Pantry	500.00
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Domestic Violence Network	500.00
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Trinity Camperships	1000.00
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Bethel Foundation	1000.00
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Family Connection	<u>200.00</u>
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Total Expenses	3950.00
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	<u>-3950.00</u>
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Total in General Fund	1009.18
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Amount in Quilt Fund 1/1/23	2557.17
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### Expenses

Quilt supplies & postage	<u>-322.46</u>
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Total	2234.71
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	2234.71
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	<u>1009.19</u>
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Total in Checkbook 12/31/23	3243.89
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Sharon Halseth, WELCA Treasurer



## I am IN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

“.. God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7

In February of 2018, with the blessing of the congregation at the Annual Meeting, we embarked on a \$1.5 million Capital Campaign to address the estimated \$1.6 million dollar building repairs we were facing. This was an opportunity for Trinity's family and friends, near and far, to respond to God's abundant generosity by making financial commitments over the next five years.

The Trinity faithful answered the call, pledged, and gave generously. We are forever grateful for your generosity and commitment to the Capital Campaign. We have finished the 5-year campaign and 99% of the total dollar amount pledged with the addition of non-pledge & anonymous cash gifts. To date there is a balance of \$147,169 in pledges yet to receive, with \$7,730 in forgiven pledges. By the numbers – we received 244 pledges and gifts from our faith family. We had 125 fulfilled pledges + 38 gifts above their pledge; 72 non-pledge /anonymous cash gifts; and have 66 ongoing pledge payments and 7 zero-payment pledges.

I am IN Capital Campaign			
<b>Pledges</b>	191	<b>\$ 1,020,807.34</b>	
Pledge Amount received		\$ 930,711.48	
Pledge amount remaining		\$ 147,169.18	
Gifts / Memorials		\$ 79,830.97	
<b>Total received</b>		<b>\$ 1,010,542.45</b>	

At the beginning of 2022, our Mission Investment Fund (MIF) construction loan was paid off by restructurin the outstanding balance by using \$45,000 of Cornerstone savings, \$45,358.63 from the Tommerassen Estate investment, \$100,000 of Parsonage CDs, your generous principal only gifts, special offerings, memorials, and *I am IN* pledges.

The Parsonage monies were treated as an internal loan, whereby the Church would pay interest on the loan at 4% per year until paid. In 2022, we aid \$40,000 plus a \$4,000 interest payment to our internal loan. In 2023, we continued to receive pledges and gifts and were able to pay an additional \$45,143.47 to our internal loan. To date, \$85,143.47 has been repaid and is currently invested in 8 liquid CD's making 4.5% interest (split into 7 - \$10,000 and 1 \$15,143.47 CD).

Parsonage CD (internal loan 4% interest)			
Total		\$ 100,000.00	
Amount paid		\$ 85,143.47	
Remaining		\$ 14,856.53	

Parsonage Funds' Investments	
12 month liquid CD's	Current rate 4.5%
7 CDs @ \$10,000	\$ 70,000.00
1 CD @ \$15,143.47	\$ 15,143.47
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 85,143.47</b>

With your continued support and pledge contributions we anticipate being able to repay the internal loan in full in 2024.

Thanks for being a cheerful giver and sharing in the mission and ministry of Trinity.



South Dakota Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Dear South Dakota Synod,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Triune God!

On behalf of your close to 200 partners across the South Dakota Synod I come to you to say *thank you*. *Thank you* for your generosity! Your benevolence to the ministry of the South Dakota Synod doesn't just keep the lights on and pays salaries, but mainly supports ministry on the ground. Please take a look at the "2023 South Dakota Synod Ministry Celebrations" insert included in this annual report. You will notice that YOU showed up in many and various spaces. Sometimes your presence was felt close to home through a grant you may have received or a synod staff that came to visit. At other times your presence impacted ministry in other parts of the world, such as our companion partners in the Lutheran churches in Nicaragua and Cameroon. *Thank you* also for your generosity above and beyond your benevolence. Our partners in Cameroon appreciated the synod's \$52,000 gift to support putting roofs on churches. The generosity of the congregations in the synod never ceases to amaze me, and I give thanks for your continued generosity as we journey together in Christ!



While many places celebrated an abundant year of ministry, I also want to acknowledge that for other ministry sites 2023 has not been as hoped for. Our mission statement commits us to "Journeying Together in Christ" and is based on Luke 24:13–34. Two disciples are on the road post resurrection and ponder in disbelief all the things that have happened before their eyes. They were overwhelmed and didn't know what to make of it all. I have heard from many ministry sites a similar account about 2023. "Bishop, things in 2023 were not as we had expected and hoped for. What do we do now?" In Luke's story Jesus, unrecognized by them, joins them and walks alongside to listen and remind them of the promises in scripture. But it isn't until they sit down at the table, and Jesus breaks bread that their eyes are opened. They recognize who he is and that the 'holy heartburn' they had experienced along the way was a sign that their love for Jesus and the way he calls them to live has changed them forever.

How about your community of faith? Where do you hear the promises of scripture assure you that God's got a plan for you and your ministry? Where are you called to follow the 'holy heartburn' God's Spirit ignites in you as you are fed at the table of love? I pray that your annual meeting will be an experience where you can voice what you had wished for as well as lament the unmaterialized hopes. And at the same time, you can hear where God promises new life and renewed faith in your very own midst.

Your South Dakota Synod staff and partners across the church are committed to accompany you in your ministry ventures, whether it means to take small courageous steps or giant leaps of faith. We are here to journey with you in Christ. Therefore, it is with great joy and delight that I am announcing to you that we, the South Dakota Synod, are a recipient of a \$1,137,384 grant Endowment Inc. through its Thriving Congregations Initiative. Details about the grant can be accessed through the synod's website [www.sdsynod.org](http://www.sdsynod.org) as well as through the synod office. The STAR (Small Town and Rural) Table also offers two types of grants, which are only possible through the generosity of the people and congregations of the SD Synod when we gather for rural ministry fundraisers. Again, details about the grant opportunities, and how you can apply for a grant are found on the synod's website [www.sdsynod.org](http://www.sdsynod.org).

Last but not least, I would like to invite you to the 2024 Synod Assembly on May 31st and June 1st at Our Savior's in Sioux Falls, SD. We will gather under the theme of "(Re)Connect." It will be a celebration of the partnerships we share across the synod and the wider ELCA. Stay tuned for more information about the business coming before the assembly and the fun opportunities. I hope to be able to welcome you to the assembly in person, be in conversation with you and hear about ministry in your world and how you might best be accompanied as well as accompany your fellow members of the SD Synod and the ELCA.

Journeying with you in Christ,

Rev. Constanze Hagmaier  
Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA

**SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD Proposed Mission Plan**  
**02/01/2024–01/31/2025**

	<b>Adopted 2023</b>	<b>Revised 2023</b>	<b>Proposed 2024</b>
<b>Revenue</b>			
<b>Mission Support</b>			
Undesignated Mission Support	1,870,465	1,750,576	1,803,094
SD Synod Mission Support	25,000	28,675	28,675
<b>Total Mission Support-Congregations</b>	1,895,465	1,779,251	1,831,769
<b>Program Ministry Income</b>			
Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center Income	45,000	45,000	45,000
<b>Total Program Ministry Income</b>			
<b>Other Income</b>			
DEM Support Staff Income	10,000	10,000	10,000
Interest Income	10,000	10,000	10,000
SDS Travel LLC Income	5,000	5,000	5,000
Misc Income	1,000	50,000	1,000
<b>Total Other Income</b>	26,000	75,000	26,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	1,966,465	1,899,251	1,902,769
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Churchwide Ministries</b>	43%	43%	41%
Churchwide Support	804,300	752,748	739,269
<b>Region III</b>			
Region III Support	7,260	8,004	8,004
<b>South Dakota Ministries</b>			
<b>South Dakota Partnership Ministries</b>			
SD Ministries Support	10,750	12,330	11,757
Luther Seminary	74,492	69,925	71,989
Church Colleges (ELCA Pool)	6,445	6,049	6,228
Lutheran Social Services	74,492	69,925	71,989
Campus Ministry	131,356	123,302	126,942
Lutheran Outdoors	37,151	34,873	35,903
<b>South Dakota Supported Ministries</b>			
Heartland Ephphatha	6,445	6,049	6,228
Youth Ministry	3,600	9,600	7,200
Campus Ministry Capital	1,030	1,030	0
Good Samaritan Society	1	1	1
Chapel in the Hills	1	1	1
Woyatan Lutheran/Wambli Ska	19,000	19,000	19,000
Lutheran Planned Generosity	58,300	58,300	58,300
<b>Total Shared Ministries</b>	423,063	410,385	415,538

	<b>Adopted 2023</b>	<b>Revised 2023</b>	<b>Proposed 2024</b>
<b>Executive Leadership</b>			
Bishop	96,675	99,034	102,005
Assoc/Director of Ev Mission	6,375	10,533	10,849
Assoc-Mobility/Candidacy	79,909	82,132	84,596
Executive Staff Benefits	106,192	86,940	89,546
Exec Travel/Continuing Ed	34,800	36,800	36,800
<b>Program Ministries</b>			
Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center-Director	98,872	96,302	99,257
Youth Gathering Synod Coordinator	6,959	0	0
Companion Synod Coordinator	15,839	18,008	18,521
<b>Support Staff and Office</b>			
Support Staff Salaries/Benefit	167,359	171,874	176,980
Synod Office Expenses	69,264	70,681	66,791
Augustana University Occupancy Fee	27,876	30,108	30,108
<b>Synod Committees</b>			
Synod Council	3,000	6,000	5,000
Support to Ministries Committee	2,100	3,100	3,100
Candidacy Committee	2,250	7,000	6,000
Multi-Cultural Ministry Committee	1,550	1,000	1,000
Companion Synods Ministry Committee	200	200	200
Evangelical Outreach Committee	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b>Mission &amp; Outreach</b>			
Mission Congregation Start-up	4,000	4,000	4,000
Mission Strategy Table	2,000	2,000	2,000
<b>Contingency</b>	5,122	902	1,705
<b>Total South Dakota Ministries</b>	731,842	728,114	739,958
<b>Total Expenses</b>	1,966,465	1,899,251	1,902,769
<b>Net Total</b>	0	0	0

## **Bethel Lutheran Home, Inc. – 2023 Congregation Report**

Since Bethel Lutheran Home opened its doors on March 25, 1962, we have had the amazing opportunity to serve thousands of residents as an extension of your Church. You continue to bless us with good people, both by electing excellent delegates and by referring friends and family who need our services. We are so grateful for all that you do for Bethel Community!

Our 62nd annual corporation meeting is scheduled to be held on January 22, 2024, at Trinity Lutheran Church, to review the fiscal year end 2023 audited financial statement for Bethel Lutheran Home, Inc. January will now become our new Annual Meeting date due to the complexity of our audit as well as the time it takes Casey Peterson to complete the required documentation.

I want to take a few moments to thank everyone for their renewed service to Bethel and our mission in Lake County. Your generous gifts, both monetary and valuable time, have made a dramatic improvement in the lives of the Residents, staff, and our "Community". Every one of you has profoundly impacted our lives and I truly want to say "Thank You" from the Bethel Community.

### **Staffing Impact at Bethel**

Staffing remains the one of our largest challenges ending 2023 and entering 2024. Locating, hiring, and maintaining normal staffing has remained a challenge. However, by the end of 2023 we have seen a dramatic increase in applications as well as new hires which has led to a reduction in Agency staffing needs. We have had 5-6 open CNA positions since March 2021 which we have filled 50% of these openings the end of 2023 alone. CMS requires nursing facilities to maintain specific staffing levels. If the facility misses this benchmark, CMS can impose monetary penalties. To combat this, we utilize Agency staffing to fill open positions to maintain a census and provide quality care. The problem this presents is we must pay temporary staffing companies approximately 50% more than we are able to pay our full-time and part-time staff.

Decreased staffing numbers also affect the number of residents that we can effectively provide care for. Currently our census is on average 54 residents or 91% occupancy. It is important that the quality of care should not be compromised to keep Bethel full. We will increase census as staffing allows. Bethel is among the top 10% of Long -Term Care facilities in South Dakota based on census, most facilities at this time average a 75%-85% occupancy.

### **Operational Updates**

Bethel's revenue had a small decrease in revenue \$6,232,669.59 compared to \$6,632,460 in 2022. Our Profitability, Activity and Efficiency (Return on Capital Employed) ratios have all decreased due to our Agency staffing as well as current inflation rates. Of note, thanks to our South Dakota Legislature our profitability has increased in July 2023 due to the passing of the Medicaid Increase to 100% methodology. Working capital or the time to collect payments was 13.63 days in 2022 currently we are at 13.00 days in 2023.

### **Capital Improvements**

The roof over the Bethel Home needs to be replaced as was stated in the 2021 report with a cost of approximately \$300K. Bethel applied for a grant to replace the existing HVAC system with an upgraded filtration system that will be compliant with new air quality standards and was awarded \$251,912. The contract was awarded to Barger Electric with the project beginning September 2022 and this project ended in September 2023. Bethel now has a new HVAC system as well as each room now has its own "fresh air" return. We have added (4) reverse flow isolation rooms for respiratory illnesses if needed.

### **Technology Improvements**

- In 2023 we did not improve any technology assets as Bethel was in a good position. In 2023 we dramatically improve our Cyber Security posture through a grant received by DSU to assess and

mitigate Cybersecurity concerns. Thanks to a grant through DSU we implemented a new VPN, Multi-Factor Authentication software among many other safeguards to ensure our resident information is secure. This grant will allow for our system to be actively scanned and defended by local vendors in Madison as well as the State of South Dakota. These services will be paid for in the year 2023 and potentially going forward depending on continued Federal Grant Funding.

- We installed a new PA system to allow for facility wide communication as our old system is no longer functioning and not able to be repaired.
- We upgraded our Camera Security system by purchasing a new server as well as a new camera by the employee entrance. This system was over 10 years old and not able to be upgraded due to age.

### **Additional Updates for FY 2023:**

- Thanks to a very strong push in this legislative session a 24% increase and rebase for Nursing Home Medicaid reimbursement passed which equates to a 100% reimbursement based on the current model. The new reimbursement will help alleviate some of the financial burden while potentially helping with recruitment and infrastructure needs.

### **Census**

- Total Admissions in the past 12 months = 14
- Total Discharges in the past 12 months = 26
- Occupancy rate for the past 12 months = 90%
- BLH 42% Private Pay, 49% Medicaid, 8% Medicare A
- BLH had a 20% increase in the number of Medicaid patient days.
- BLH had a 4% increase in the number of Medicare patient days.
- BLH had a 21% decrease in the number of Private Pay patient days.
- Bethel Suites occupancy rate for the past 12 months = 100.00%
- Bethel Suites 66.7% Private Pay, 33.3% Medicaid

### **Rate Changes**

- BLH Private Pay Rate: \$278/day
- BLH Medicaid Rate: \$230.04/day.
- Bethel Suites Private Pay Rate: \$3750/month
- Bethel Suites Medicaid Rate = \$2,777/month
- Apartment rent: \$1272/12 apts. and \$1380/4 apts
- Twin Home Maintenance Fee: \$550/month
- Patio Home Home Rent: \$1710/4 and \$1735/2 (Bethel pays the FDN \$4,905/month to pay on the collateral real estate mortgage promissory note)

### **Star Rating**

- Bethel Lutheran Home currently has a 3-star facility rating. Five stars is the highest rating a facility can achieve. This rating is a snapshot in time of a nursing home's quality measures, which include infection rates, our ability to take care of our residents' pain levels, and quarterly staffing levels and annual survey results. In April 2019, CMS changed the criteria of its rating criteria which resulted in over 70% of nursing homes in the U.S. dropping a star rating.

### **Overview of challenges facing Bethel**

- CNA turnover rates and competition with staff agencies. Currently we pay a single Agency CNA at a significantly higher rate than our "organic" staff. This is a non-sustainable model; we are in drastic need for CNAs in Long-Term Care.
- Capital improvements – Bethel is getting older, and several updates are needed.

### **Current Board Members**

- Jackie Voelker – Colman Lutheran – President
- Pastor Karl Breddin – Pastor St. John's Lutheran – Vice - President
- Maria Feldhaus - Bethany – Secretary
- Mark Schultz – At-large member – Treasurer
- Nancy Bloker – Grace Lutheran
- Pastor Herb Wounded Head III – St Jacob's Lutheran
- Phil Hoffman – First Lutheran, Colton
- BeBe Abraham – St John Lutheran, Ramona
- Natalie Olson – Lake Madison
- Kim Callies – At-large member
- Pastor Steve Lindley – Trinity Lutheran
- Dawn Barber – St. Jacob's – Colton
- Pastor Ramona Hayes – Our Savior's Lutheran – Flandreau

### **Governing Board Vacancies in 2024**

- At-large – Vacant
- At-Large – Vacant
- Midway Lutheran – Vacant
- St. John's Lutheran - Madison - Vacant

I want to thank the outgoing Board members for their dedicated service to Bethel Lutheran Home.

***Jeremiah Schneider, Administrator***  
***Bethel Lutheran Home***

# TROOP 5 – 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

## Summary

Number of Registered Adult Leaders:

- Scoutmaster – 1
- Assistant Scoutmasters – 12
- Committee Members – 5
- Committee Chair – 1
- Charter Org Rep – 1
- Executive Officer – 1
- Number of Registered Youth – 30
- Number of Scouts who crossed over from Webelos – 4
- Number of Weekend Campouts – 6
- Summer Camp at Medicine Mt Custer SD
- Combined Community Service Hours – 383 hours

2023 Activities included:

- January – Iyataka campout Milbank SD
- February- Red Rock Klondike Shetek MN
- March- Sea Base Florida
- April- Lewis & Clark Scout Camp
- June- Canoe Trek down the Big Sioux
- July – Medicine Mt Summer Camp
- September- DSU Parade Float
- October- Izaak Walton campout
- December- Fort Sisseton State Park Campout

Troop 5 had a busy year of scouting. We were able to go on 6 weekend campouts, Summer camp in the Black Hills, and a trip to Florida Sea Base.

24 scouts and leaders embarked on a once in a lifetime trip to Florida Sea Base located in the Florida Keys last March. Scouts spent a week at the base where they all got to experience new things everyday from sailing, snorkeling, canoeing, hiking, fishing and so much more. It was truly an experience for each and every one of them.

We had two courts of Honor this year and awarded 32 rank advancement and 84 merit badges. We had 1 scout earn Eagle Scout this year.

Scouting is truly a passion. The things these kids learn, achieve and experience gaining memories they will have for the rest of their lives. I have truly enjoyed every minute of BSA. I want to thank Trinity Lutheran for giving me the opportunity to provide this great opportunity to youth. Scouting is truly the greatest program in the world.

Thank you, Trinity Lutheran Church, for your continued support of Troop 5.

John Bame  
Scoutmaster Troop 5