

## From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Trinity Family,

As your pastor, one of the main responsibilities to which you have called me is proclaiming God's Word in worship each week. Preaching is a weighty task. It's a responsibility I take very seriously. Usually beginning on Monday or Tuesday, I pray with the assigned reading throughout the week. I meditate on the text in the car, at the grocery store, at the gym, while mowing the lawn or walking the dog. It's in the back of my mind when I'm talking on the phone or reading a book or planning Confirmation. For me, preparing to give the message is a process of continually listening for the guidance of the Spirit ... listening for what God wants us to hear ... listening for what these ancient words mean for us, in this particular time and place. I firmly believe that the gospel of Jesus Christ speaks powerfully into the messy circumstances of our lives and our world. This is an important piece of what drew great crowds to Jesus. He promised to the poor, the hurting, and the outcasts that they were loved and blessed by God. He assured them that they were not forgotten. He brought them hope. If the word of God is no longer relevant for our lives, if the gospel doesn't have anything to say to the brokenness in our world today, then we are just wasting our time, energy, and resources.

On Sunday, May 18, our gospel reading was from John 13, Jesus' command to love others. In it, Jesus says, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." The message I gave on this text spoke to what seemed to be our community's most pressing issue that week, the raids by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents in Madison. Certainly, there were varying opinions on the events that took place, but many residents were clearly shaken by them. I devoted a significant amount of time during the week to prayerful deliberation - discerning whether to speak about this, or not. Ultimately, I decided I would be neglecting my responsibilities as a public theologian in this community if I did not address what happened. My thoughts and feelings on the situation were not grounded in television, news, or social me-

dia reports, they were not based on rumors or hearsay. My interpretation was informed by what I heard and witnessed from the people in this community. This included first hand perspectives from some of our high school youth and stories shared by a trusted colleague. I observed people's pain. I heard their fear, confusion, frustration, and worry.

In the days following my message, there were some folks from our Trinity family who brought concerns about what I had said to Trinity's elected leaders, and these concerns were then passed along to me. What I recognized in personal reflection and conversation with council members and colleagues is there were points in my message that I did not make clear enough. This ambiguity led to some misinterpretation of the meaning and intent of the message. In light of this, I want to take a few moments to address these elements.

I would like to begin by making clearer a couple of the things that I definitely was not saying in my message. First, I was not excusing or condoning violations of the law. Our laws and justice system are a critical piece of what holds our democracy together. I believe anyone who disregards and offends our laws should be held accountable, without exception. We all must be held to the same standard, whether we are young or old, rich or poor, unknown or influential. No one should be above the law. Also, I was not disparaging local law enforcement and the work they do. I have a great deal of respect and appreciation for the women and men who daily make tremendous sacrifices, including at times putting themselves in harm's way, to maintain order and protect the lives of citizens.

So, what is the point I was making? I was hoping we all could consider the cost of these kinds of operations to our community - the wide-spread impact on the people of Madison; people of all different ages, socioeconomic statuses, and ethnic backgrounds, people who have lived here their whole lives and people who have been here for a short time, and whether this aligns with Jesus' command for us to love our neighbors. We are all interconnected and

*Continued on page 6*

# Unapproved May Council Meeting Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
Tuesday, May 13, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

President Kurt Christiansen called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

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

Voting members absent: Past President Tom Farrell

Nonvoting members present: none

The Council recited Trinity's mission statement.

Vice-president Virginia Lemme led a devotion about the Good Shepherd communicating that we all require guidance and leadership. We need a shepherd.

Motion by Virginia Lemme, seconded by Darrel Presuhn, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Deacon Koren Lindley, seconded by Dani Ruhd, to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2025, meeting. Motion carried.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

- The general offering in April was \$26,502.00.

Motion by Darrel Presuhn, seconded by Deacon Koren Lindley, to acknowledge the Financial Report. Motion carried.

## REPORTS

Pastor Steven Lindley reported

- The transition to summer hours and activities is ongoing.
- Walker Ruhd, maintenance manager, is working on outdoor tasks.
- The large cross in the front of the sanctuary will come down after Pentecost.
- Custodian Andrea Liddell's summer schedule is being worked out.
- He is still waiting for the bowl for the baptismal font.

- Senior Sunday went well.
- He will look at making changes for scheduling volunteers after he returns from his study trip.
- Confirmation classes have had a good year.
- The High School Youth will be meeting and possibly planning summer activities.
- The Vision Group is off to a good start.
- The Care Team is doing good work.
- His peace making cohort has one more meeting before the study trip.

Deacon Koren Lindley submitted a written report and highlighted

- There will be a simulcast retreat at Trinity at the end of September.
- The Preschool's new playground equipment has arrived.
- She recently attended an excellent theological conference.
- The theme for Vacation Bible School is "Camp Kindness--Where God's Love Shines Bright."

President Kurt Christiansen had no report.

Vice-president Virginia Lemme reported

- The piano keys needing repair will be removed and repaired from May 19 to 23.

Tami Christiansen reported for the Board of Deacons.

- The summer worship schedule begins May 25 with one service each Sunday.
- The Care Team is a really good working group.
- Jingle change collection for March=\$169.53; April=\$236.46; May=\$217.24.
- Trinity will serve the Gathering on June 16.
- Lucas Muller is moving Trinity's website to a new host—to Nucleus from Factor 360.

Darrel Presuhn reported for the Board of Trustees.

- The Board of Trustees has been notified that there will be no charge for the work done on the Narthex roof. The contractor, ARS, recommended tuck-pointing the brick by the south window.
- Walker Ruhd, maintenance manager, contacted the Board about the preschool fence. The Board recommended that the fence be repaired rather than replaced at this time.
- The elevator's fire curtains will be disabled.

# Unapproved May Council Meeting Minutes

Dani Ruhd reported for the Board of Faith Formation.

- Sunday School is done for 2024-2025. Sunday School curriculum for next year will continue to follow the lectionary.
- Preschool will be dismissed for the summer soon. They recently held a very successful fundraiser.
- Vacation Bible School will be held in mid-July.
- Planning for Miracle Treat Day is underway.

## TEAM BUILDING

In honor of President Kurt Christiansen's birthday, each council member was asked to write down what one gift he/she would give him.

## OLD BUSINESS

The search for live-stream technicians continues.

Motion by President Kurt Christiansen, seconded by Dani Ruhd, to move forward with the replacement of 66 windows in the Education Wing having secured a bid from the Window Shop, Mitchell, South Dakota, for a total cost of \$35,052.64 and having checked a reference from a previous customer who had very good things to say. The project will be paid for with donated dollars from private donations totaling \$7,475.19, and \$5,971.64 from the Narthex fund, and \$1,326.69 from the 2025 Soup Suppers. The remainder will be covered by the Cornerstone Fund. If others feel inclined to donate to the project, the Council certainly welcomes their participation. Motion carried.

Establishing a Venmo account is moving forward. The account will be limited to general offering initially.

Spring Clean-Up is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, May 31, from noon to 3:00 p.m. Volunteers may sign up on Sign-up Genius or the sign-up sheets in the Narthex. Cleaning will focus on areas including the Sanctuary, including removing the gum under the pews, the Narthex, scraping and staining the shed, and cleaning the tables in the Fellowship Hall.

The format of the monthly Financial Report to the congregation is being reviewed.

## NEW BUSINESS

Summer worship schedule begins Memorial Day weekend.

God's Work, Our Hands is scheduled for Sunday, September 14, 2025, using the same format as 2024. Further discussion was tabled until the June meeting.

The June Council meeting will be a meeting of the full Council and boards. Motion by President Kurt Christiansen, seconded by Deacon Koren Lindley, to schedule the June meeting for Tuesday, June 17, 2025. Motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Motion to adjourn made by Vice-president Virginia Lemme and seconded by Darrel Presuhn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Sabbe, secretary

## Pastor Will Be Away

Pastor Steve will be away June 3–16. Call the office if you need pastoral care during this time. Dcn. Koren's contact number is 402-840-8189.

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

## June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
01 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	02 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:00PM–8:00PM Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fireside Room</li> </ul>	03 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>
08 <i>Day of Pentecost</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> <li>• 6:00PM–7:30PM Men's Group : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	09 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>• 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>
15 <i>The Holy Trinity</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jingle Change</li> <li>• 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6:00PM–7:00PM Trinity Serves The Gathering : Off Site</li> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30AM–11:00AM Mary Circle : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Finance Meeting : Zoom</li> <li>• 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 5:30PM–7:00PM Vision Team Meeting : Fireside Room</li> <li>• 6:00PM–6:45PM Board of Deacons Meeting : Conference Room</li> <li>• 7:00PM–9:00PM Council Meeting : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>
22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship w/Koe Ebdrup Baptism : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:30PM–9:00PM Women's Bible Study : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office</li> <li>• 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall</li> </ul>
29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary</li> <li>• 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall</li> <li>• 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM</li> </ul>	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	

2025

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
04	05 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall</li></ul>	06 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study</li></ul>	07 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5:00PM–6:00PM Fellowship Potluck Meal : Fellowship Hall</li><li>• 6:00PM–7:00PM Saturday Worship w/Holy Communion : Fellowship Hall</li></ul>
11	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall</li></ul>	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study</li></ul>	14
18	19 <i>Juneteenth</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Office Closed</li><li>• 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall</li></ul>	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study</li></ul>	21
25	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall</li></ul>	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study</li></ul>	28
			Holy Communion on the 1st, 2nd & 5th Sundays Home Communion on the 2nd Sunday

## Pastor's Article

*Continued from page 1*

the ripples of a mission like this reach and disrupt the lives of everyone in the community. There were, and continue to be, ramifications that extend beyond the impact on the lives of those charged and their families. As Jesus' disciples, love for neighbor is the lens through which we must view everything. Love is the guide by which we must make every decision. Love is the measure of our very lives.

Please know that if you ever have questions or concerns about anything I have said in a message, newsletter, or other medium, you are welcome to bring those directly to me and I would be happy to talk with you. As the body of Christ gathered in this place, it is vitally important that we stay engaged, lean in, and have these kinds of hard conversations, for the sake of the ministry to which God has called us. Thank you.

God's Peace.

*Pastor Steve*



# Pentecost

June 8

You're invited to wear red  
to celebrate the day!

## June Coffee Hour



The June Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Family of Gentleness. The Family Group Leader, Linda Nighbert, will be contacting you. Your help is always appreciated. FYI - July Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Family of Self-Control.

## Collect Your Cookers

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



## Summer Worship Schedule

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

## Membership Information

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

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

## NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

Recent Memorials  
May 21, 2025

### In Memory of Eleanor Morse

Ada and Larry Jorgenson  
Mary Lingbeck  
Dan and Sharon Carlson  
Lana Johnson  
Robert and Patricia Vanhove  
Terry and Lori Schultz  
Bill and Diane Bruns  
Linda Bruns  
Peggy Hoff  
Diane and Myron Plack  
David and Marian Wheeler

### In Memory of Charles Lundholm

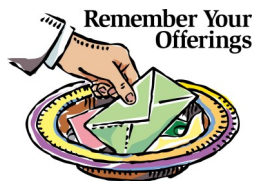
Ida Lundholm

### In Memory of Jake Farrell

Marlys Schmidt



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



## Financial Response as of 4/30/2025

The year-to-date statistics are:

General Offering (YTD)	\$127,897.09
Budgeted General Offering (YTD)	\$113,333.32
Actual over Budgeted	\$14,563.77

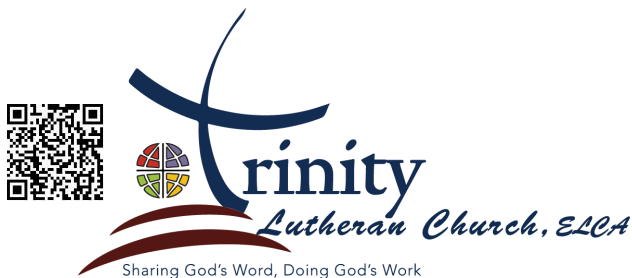


Registration for Vacation Bible School for Preschool (3 years old & potty trained) through 2nd grade (2024–25 school year) is now open! Join us at “TLC’s Camp Kindness: Where God’s Love Shines Bright!” **July 13th–16th from 6–8 p.m.!** We will spend our time together exploring how shining God’s love through acts of kindness can change the world. We will read Bible stories, sing songs, participate in service projects, and have a ton of fun during these four evenings. Registration closes June 30th or when space is filled. We will be charging a \$10 registration fee per student with a maximum fee of \$30 per family to cover the cost of snacks and supplies over the four evenings. Scholarships are available upon request...just contact Deacon Koren!

Sign up at this link <https://forms.gle/XhvS8tfLUYnoUh1o7> or fill out a hard copy registration form (located in the narthex) and return to the VBS mailbox outside the church office or send via snail mail (attn Deacon Koren) to the church office.

We are also looking for helpers to lead various stations and groups as well as help keep each evening of VBS running smoothly. If you would like to help, please contact Deacon Koren at [korenindley@gmail.com](mailto:korenindley@gmail.com) or stop by the office!

“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16



203 N. Harth Ave.  
Madison, SD 57042

**Return Service Requested**

## Financial Giving Options

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

### Mission of the Month

The June Mission of the Month is ELCA World Hunger. Nearly 1-in-10 people—733 million—in our world are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. *Gifts may be designated on offering envelopes/checks to Mission of the Month Fund. The Jingle Change collection on June 15 also supports the Mission of the Month.*

### Congregational Information

**Deaths:** none

**Baptisms:** none

**Weddings:** none

### Food Pantry

The Lake County Food Pantry mission of the month for June is toilet paper. Diapers and baby wipes are also requested.

### Pastoral Care

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

# SEE YOU IN CHURCH