

Deacon's Discourse

There are certain Bible stories that stay with us for a lifetime. Maybe it's the comfort of Psalm 23, the courage of David facing Goliath, the wonder of Jesus calming the storm, the birth of Jesus, or the joy of the resurrection. These stories become part of who we are—guiding us, grounding us, and reminding us of God's presence in every season.

One of the most meaningful callings we share as a church family is passing these stories on to the next generation. As we hear in Deuteronomy 6:6–9 (NRSV): *“Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”* These words remind us that faith is meant to be woven into the everyday moments of life. When children hear these stories again and again, they begin to see themselves in God's story. They learn that they are loved, known, and called. They discover that faith isn't just something we talk about—it's something we live and share.

Storytelling has always been at the heart of our faith. From generation to generation, God's people have told and retold these stories so they would not be forgotten. And now, it's our turn.

When I was ordained as a deacon in 2020 and asked to choose the readings for the service, I knew right away what I wanted. One of those readings was the story of Samuel hearing God's voice in the night.

I can still picture my Nana telling me that story when I was a young girl, using different voices for each character and bringing it to life in a way only she could. But even more than the storytelling, I remember what she told me afterward—that I was no

different than Samuel. She reminded me that I, too, would hear God's voice in some way. She told me that God had a plan for me, just as God had a plan for Samuel.

As I grew older, I came to appreciate another part of that story: Eli's role. Eli was a mentor to Samuel, helping him recognize that it was God who was calling and teaching him how to respond. Looking back, I can see just how important those mentors are.

I would not be the person I am today without the loving and faithful mentors who have walked alongside me in different seasons of life. They shared their favorite Bible stories, pieces of Scripture, and their own experiences of faith with me.

One of those mentors was my kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Ringenberg. She introduced me to Psalm 23—another reading I chose for my ordination. Through her, I learned that God is with me in both the good times and the challenging times, that God never leaves me, always provides for me, and has anointed me and called me God's own.

As we look ahead to this summer, I'm excited to share that our Vacation Bible School theme will center on some of our congregation's favorite Bible stories. But I need your help!

Trinity family and friends, in the coming weeks I'll be inviting you to share your favorite Bible stories with me. These stories will help shape our VBS experience, giving our children a chance to explore the stories that have meant so much to you.

Thank you for being part of a community that treasures God's Word and is committed to passing it on with love and care. I look forward to learning what your favorite Bible stories are!

Deacon Koren

Unapproved April Council Meeting Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2026
7:00 p.m.

Voting members present: Pastor Steven Lindley, Deacon Koren Lindley, President Virginia Lemme, Past president Kurt Christiansen, Treasurer Dick Ellis, Secretary Nancy Sabbe, Alicia Entringer—Board of Faith Formation, Karen Giles—Board of Deacons, Rob Thuringer, designee—Board of Trustees

Voting members absent: Vice-president Jeremiah Schneider, Darrel Presuhn—Board of Trustees

President Virginia Lemme called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Karen Giles gave the devotion, “Failed but not Finished” from Luke 22 which reminds believers that if God judged us by our works, no one would be saved. We are saved by grace.

Pastor Steven Lindley led the opening prayer.

The Council recited the mission statement “Belonging to, growing in, and embodying the Trinity.”

Motion by Treasurer Dick Ellis to approve the agenda with the addition of a discussion of Rally Sunday to new business. Motion seconded by Past president Kurt Christiansen. Motion carried.

Motion by Treasurer Dick Ellis, seconded by Alicia Entringer, to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026, meeting. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Dick Ellis reported that as of March 31, 2026, Trinity’s expenses are about \$5,700 greater than the income from the general offering. The general offering in the first quarter was good. It is possible that access to online giving may have had an impact on the total offering.

The two CDs from the Hannemann account held at First Bank and Trust have been renewed and the interest earned transferred to the checking account.

Motion to acknowledge the Financial Report made by Deacon Koren Lindley and seconded by Karen Giles. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Pastor Steven Lindley submitted a written report. He added that the Stewardship Committee has met. The theme selected for this year is “Journey to Generosity.” There will be sermons related to the theme in May, July, October, and November as well as a Mission Moment during the services on the fourth Sunday of each month.

Deacon Koren Lindley submitted a written report. She added that Zach, DSU student who has been attending Sunday services at Trinity, will be graduating in May.

President Virginia Lemme reported that the Volunteer Committee will meet next week. She encouraged anyone who wishes to be more involved to contact any of the committee members.

Alicia Entringer reported for the Board of Faith Formation.

- May 3 will be the final day of Sunday School and a Sundaes Sunday for the Sunday School students. The Board of Faith Formation will be serving Ice cream to the students.
- Vacation Bible School will be held July 12–15.
- Senior Sunday is Sunday, May 10, and will be celebrated with cake during coffee hour that Sunday.

Karen Giles reported for the Board of Deacons.

- Choir schedules for the spring are being finalized.
- The summer worship schedule begins May 24. There will be one service on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. The first, second, and fifth Sundays will be traditional services. The third and fourth Sundays will be a Celebration service.
- Trinity will host the Lake Area Ministerial Association’s Community Thanksgiving service on November 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
- Julie Jones is the new leader for the “Love” service group. A leader for the “Patience” service group is needed.
- The money collected at the Lenten soup suppers totaled \$1,812.00. It will be applied to the fund for replacing the floor covering in the office area.
- Tom Farrell will lead Sunday services on April 26, and Jim Iverson will lead the service on Sunday,

Unapproved April Council Meeting Minutes

May 24. Pastor Mary Sacco will lead the service on June 21.

- Jingle Change collected \$229.22 for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
- They have been in communication with individuals interested in recording the Sunday services.
- There is an open position on the Board for the Deacon of Mission and Evangelism.
- President Virginia Lemme added that Usher Training will be offered on Sunday, April 26.

Rob Thuringer reported for the Board of Trustees.

- The question of repairing or replacing the shed is on hold for now. The Trustees will consider it again later.
- There is a leak in the roof on the west end of the Education Wing. Mike Powell from Roofing & Construction Co., LLC has examined the problem.
- KolorWorks will begin replacing the flooring in the office and hallway on June 2. Volunteers will be needed to move the furniture, etc., out of that area on May 31 and June 1.
- David Ellens is looking into Trinity's insurance.
- An electrician has been contacted about replacing the lights in the sanctuary that are no longer working.
- Rob Thuringer has purchased a repair kit for the stained glass window in the sanctuary. The repair will be made when the weather permits.

TEAM BUILDING

Pastor Steven Lindley invited the Council to demonstrate the power of gratitude by writing thank you notes to people they believe are serving Trinity's mission.

OLD BUSINESS

- Flooring update: the call for volunteers needs to go out soon in a variety of formats.
- Pastor Steven Lindley announced that the Policy Review Committee met and is beginning the process of reviewing policies. The committee will meet again on May 12.

NEW BUSINESS

- Two items concerning the 2026 Mission plan were considered.
1. The Board of Trustees requested that a separate line item for Grounds Maintenance be established in the Mission Plan with money from the Utilities account.

2. The pastor's Housing Allowance is not reflected in the Mission Plan. To correct this, the Housing Allowance line will now total \$40,000.

Neither of these actions impact the bottom line. Motion by Rob Thuringer, seconded by Kurt Christiansen, to proceed with these changes. Motion carried.

- Spring Clean-up was discussed, and it was decided that a Fall Clean-up might be a better option. The Board of Trustees will be in charge.
- The front pew on the north side of the sanctuary has been moved to a Sunday School room.
- Mission Moments are scheduled for the fourth Sundays of each month. Beginning in April, Council representatives will talk about what is happening in their areas of responsibility. In April, Pastor Steven Lindley will speak. The remaining schedule is Board of Deacons in May, Board of Faith Formation in June, President Virginia Lemme in July, and the Board of Trustees in August.
- A discussion of grounds maintenance was tabled until the next meeting.
- Motion by Past president Kurt Christiansen, seconded by Treasurer Dick Ellis to approve the bid of \$3,984.12 from Roofing & Construction Co., LLC for repairing the roof on the Education Wing. Motion carried.
- The Board of Faith Formation proposed scheduling Rally Sunday on September 13. Rally Sunday will include a congregational potluck dinner after the Celebration service.
- The Window Shop has been notified about the window in the Sacristy. The Board of Trustees is waiting for a response.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Sabbe, secretary

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Holy Communion on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays Home Communion on the 3rd Sunday		
03 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewardship Day • 8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary • 9:45AM–10:45AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • 10:00AM–10:50AM Last Sunday School : Sunday School Rooms • 11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary • 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM 	04 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00PM–8:00PM Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–8:30PM Women's Bible Study : Church Office 	05 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall
10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jingle Change • 8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship w/HS Senior Blessing : Sanctuary • 9:45AM–10:45AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • 11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship w/HS Senior Blessing & Baptism : Sanctuary • 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00PM–8:30PM Women's Bible Study : Church Office • 7:00PM–8:00PM Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 12:00PM–1:00PM Finance Meeting : Zoom • 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM–9:00PM Council Meeting : Fellowship Hall
17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:45AM–9:45AM Traditional Worship : Sanctuary • 9:45AM–10:45AM Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • 11:00AM–12:00PM Celebration Worship : Sanctuary • 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor's Visitation Week • 7:00PM–8:30PM Women's Bible Study : Church Office • 7:00PM–8:00PM Troop 5 Meeting : Fellowship Hall 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor's Visitation Week • 9:30AM–11:00AM Mary Circle : Fellowship Hall • 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office
24 <i>Day of Pentecost</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor's Visitation Week • 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary • 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM 	25 <i>Memorial Day</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office Closed • 7:00PM–8:30PM Women's Bible Study : Church Office 	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:00AM–11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM–3:30PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall
31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30AM–10:30AM Summer Worship : Sanctuary • 10:30AM–11:30AM Summer Coffee Hour : Fellowship Hall • 12:00PM–1:00PM Worship Broadcast on KJAM 1390 AM 		

2026

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		01 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	02 • Stewardship Day • 5:00PM–6:00PM Fellowship Potluck Meal : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:00PM Saturday Worship w/Holy Communion & Baptism : Fellowship Hall
06 • 10:00AM–1:00PM DSU Tabling : Off Site • 5:30PM–6:15PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary • 5:30PM–6:30PM 6th–8th Grade Confirmation : Fellowship Hall	07 • Last Day of TR Preschool • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:00PM Arrow of Light & Webelo Den Meetings : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:15PM Lions & Tigers Den Meetings : Youth Room	08 • Last Day of MWF Preschool • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study • 10:30AM–11:00AM MWF A.M. Preschool Graduation Program : Sanctuary • 3:00PM–3:30PM MWF P.M. Preschool Graduation Program : Sanctuary	09
13 • 5:30PM–6:15PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary	14 <i>Ascension of Our Lord</i> • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:00PM Arrow of Light & Webelo Den Meetings : Fellowship Hall	15 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	16
20 • Pastor's Visitation Week • 5:30PM–6:15PM Epiphany Bells Rehearsal : Sanctuary	21 • Pastor's Visitation Week • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall • 6:00PM–7:00PM Arrow of Light & Webelo Den Meetings : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM–7:15PM Lions & Tigers Den Meetings : Youth Room	22 • Pastor's Visitation Week • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study	23 • Pastor's Visitation Week
27	28 • 1:00PM–3:00PM Coffee Time on Thursdays : Fellowship Hall	29 • 6:30AM–7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study • SD Synod Assembly	30 • SD Synod Assembly



Celebrate Trinity's high school seniors on Sunday, May 10! They'll receive a blessing and quilt during worship, and cake will be served during coffee hour.

*Congratulations, Graduates!
Go with God!*



Summer Worship Schedule
May 24–September 6
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Collect Your Cookers

Remember to check the kitchen for your slow cookers or containers that were brought to church for the Lenten soup suppers.



The Covenant Choir wrapped up their choir year on April 22. Best wishes for a good end of the school year and fun-filled summer!



Financial Response as of 3/31/2026

Offering is \$9,557.03 below the mission plan.
The year-to-date statistics are:

General Offering (YTD)	\$83,630.47
Total Expenses (YTD)	\$92,554.44

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

NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

Recent Memorials

In Memory of Mike Halseth

Mary Lingbeck
 Dan and Sharon Carlson
 Sharon Halseth
 Linda and Richard Nighbert
 Marlon and Kris Wiebe
 Gene and Marilyn Hexom
 Kay Johnson
 Todd and Susan Williams
 David and Marian Wheeler
 Helen Hull
 Peggy Hoff
 Lana Johnson
 Larris and Gerry Snelgrove
 Nancy and Dennis Rook

In Memory of Donna Haug

Mary Lingbeck
 Dan and Sharon Carlson
 Gene and Marilyn Hexom
 Carol and Gerald Petri
 Lana Johnson
 Nancy Gilbert
 Joyce Richter

In Memory of Gerry Verley

Marv and Sandy Rhode

Come to Church this Sunday



Thank you to Ron & Roberta Janke, Susan Williams, Wade & Jennifer Briggs, Jon & Mary Hunter, Karen Kalvig, Mark Jensen, and Roger Moose for serving Home Communion in April.

Membership Information

Is your info. up-to-date?

Have you moved? Did you disconnect your landline? 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.



South Dakota Synod
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The 2026 South Dakota Synod Assembly will be held May 29–30th at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls. Our theme this year is “Equip.” Join us as we celebrate and remember all the ways that we are **equipped** as individuals, as a Synod, and as the Body of Christ to share the Gospel of God’s love and forgiveness with the world. We’ll have reports from Synod staff and partner ministries, along with worship, a time for storytelling and resource sharing, and much more!



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) allows for one-time or recurring donations using a checking/savings account or a credit/debit card. If you would like to give online, please use this code.
- 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 May Mission of the Month is Bethel Lutheran Home. Opened in March 1962, Bethel's services today include skilled nursing, assisted living, and senior housing. Trinity is one of the eleven Lutheran churches who own and operate this social ministry organization of the ELCA. *Gifts may be designated on offering envelopes/checks to Mission of the Month Fund. The Jingle Change collection on May 10 also supports the Mission of the Month.*

Congregational Information

Deaths: David "Jim" Hanson on April 14

Baptisms: Milton Poppens on April 19

Weddings: none

Food Pantry

The Lake County Food Pantry mission of the month for May is canned soup. 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