

From the Pastor's Pen



Rev. Robert Hansen

Dear friends in Christ at Trinity Lutheran, Suzanne and I want to thank all the members of the Trinity Lutheran through the church council for the opportunity to serve as your Interim Faith Formation Director and your Intentional Interim Pastor. We look forward with hope and expectation for the opportunities for mission and ministry together.

Some of the key tasks of interim ministry as stated in the SD Synod interim ministry manual.

1. Review the congregation's history.
2. Be in contact with the Bishop, the synod staff.
3. During the interim ministry period, a congregation can ready itself spiritually with a renewed commitment to the Gospel.
4. Be open to accept and welcome other styles of pastoral ministry.
5. Assist with the development of the congregational mission profile.
6. Carry out the responsibilities as stated in the Covenant for Interim Pastoral Ministry.

Every interim period is unique in its own way and looks back with reflection and looks forward to what the future can hold for mission and ministry. The ministry site profile has already been completed so we will not be involved with that or the call process. We will do our best to help prepare you to call a new Sr.

Pastor and be ready to embrace the future with confidence and hope. A key question is how will you adjust and adapt to the coming changes?

A TIME OF OPPORTUNITY

The interim period can indeed be a time of opportunity. Change is never easy but can provide a time for new opportunities and together

we will explore some of the new opportunities. It is essential that Trinity be an open and welcoming congregation. This is an attribute that must continue, and I hope that your outreach will emphasize—"Whoever you are, and wherever you are on your life's journey, you are welcome in our congregation."

We want to interview individuals to get an understanding of your sense of vision and purpose. We also want to hear about your expectations for ministry and life together as a Christian community. If you would like to visit with us just let us know, call, text or email.

Grace and Peace to you,
Pastor Bob & Deacon Suzanne Hansen
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Dcn. Suzanne Hansen

June 2021 Council Meeting Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
June 8, 2021
7:00 P.M.

"Sharing God's Word, Doing God's Work" was recited by all Trinity council members.

The June council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Rob Thuringer. Members absent and excused were: Jennifer Briggs, Susan Farrell-Poncelet, Dana Hoff, Joan Merager, Brianna Routier, Nancy Sabbe, Ryan Townsend, Josh Van

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With faith and guidance, Trinity Preschool set to reopen

New teacher Beth Himley will instruct



Beth Himley, left, will instruct Trinity Lutheran Preschool this fall. The school will reopen August 24 after a year of preparations led by Preschool Board Chair Stacey Riedel, right.

The countdown has begun for Trinity Lutheran Preschool.

“The first day of school is fast approaching,” said Preschool Board Chair Stacey Riedel. “It’s exciting to be welcoming little ones back into our building.”

Riedel’s excitement is shared by many in Madison. The preschool has been a staple in the community for years as a ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church. It regularly reports full or near-capacity enrollment.

But this fall’s return to learn is unlike those of years past. The school abruptly closed late last summer due to unforeseen circumstances.

In the aftermath, school and church officials worked hard to rebuild the program. This involved revamping operations, introducing new branding and hiring a new Director/Teacher, Beth Himley.

After a year without instruction, Trinity Lutheran Preschool (TLP) reopens August 24, returning to its mission of serving the community.

Time of transition

Preschool students haven’t been in the TLP classroom in nearly 18 months. Like other area schools, TLP temporarily switched to remote learning in March of 2020 in response to COVID-19.

After completing the school year online, officials spent the summer formalizing a reopening plan. Just days before welcoming students back, however, the school found itself without a teacher.

“It was a very difficult decision to cancel classes for

the school year, especially given the timing,” Riedel said. “Our community and congregation were heartbroken, but it was the only realistic option.”

Since that decision, the preschool has been in a time of transition. One early change involved welcoming new volunteers to the preschool board.

Traditionally TLP’s board supports the operations of the preschool and its mission. This includes administration of scholarships, organizing fundraising efforts and monitoring expenses and revenues.

The school’s closure, however, created new obstacles and led to additional responsibilities.

“It felt like we were starting over,” Riedel said. “We could not have anticipated the position we found ourselves in.”

Determined to reopen, board members relied on faith and each other to overcome challenges.

“We all had connections to the program and wanted desperately for it to succeed,” said Riedel. “We came together and put our trust in God that everything would work out the way it was meant to.”

New faces, new beginnings

Rather than dwell on the past, the board opted to self-evaluate.

“We believe in our program and our mission, and God gave us an opportunity to reflect, so we did,” Riedel said.

For months, the board examined and developed operational plans, policies, procedures and best practices. A new logo and brand identity was launched in June, reflected on the school’s website and new Facebook page.

Also that month the school announced the hiring of Beth Himley as director and teacher. A 2021 graduate of Dakota State University, she will enter her first year of teaching at TLP.

“Miss Beth is the answer to our prayers. She is the right person to continue Trinity Preschool’s mission of service. Our hunt for a director could not have worked out any more perfectly,” said Riedel.

Himley is originally from Brookings, SD. She and her husband, Ryan, moved to Madison five years ago. Together they live with their son, Tace, near Winfred.

“I am excited to help Trinity Preschool reopen its doors,” she said. “This position is a wonderful opportunity for me, and it’s also a special time for the school and church. I appreciate the board trusting me to return the school to its prestigious nature.”

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Preschool

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Himley promises to create a classroom where students will feel welcome and excited to learn.

"I look forward to helping kids gain life skills and explore the world around them in a safe, loving and Christian environment."

Journey is worth it

With a teacher in place, enrollment for the upcoming school year at TLP is promising. Riedel is hopeful the board's hard work in the interim will pay off.

"I am so proud of what this board has accomplished," she said. "We were determined to reopen and in a way that was better than ever. It was a huge responsibility, and it took a lot of faith."

She admits the past year wasn't easy, but the journey will have been worth it once students return to the classroom.

"I grew up in this church. Trinity has always felt like home to me, so this undertaking was near and dear to my heart," she said. "It feels great to be opening our doors. We have prayed for this day and it's nearly here!"

Preschool Registration Now Open

Trinity Lutheran Preschool is now accepting reservations for enrollment for 3-year and 4-year classes for the 2021–2022 school year. To reserve a spot, contact the board at tlpsmadisonsd@gmail.com or call 256-2771.

60s+ Dining Delivery Sign-Up

Trinity Lutheran Church is in need of volunteers to deliver ICAP's 60s+ Dining/Meals on Wheels for the month of August. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex on the weekends and in the church office during the week.

Open Forum During Coffee Hour

You are welcome to visit with Pastor Hansen about your cares and concerns for Trinity during this time of transition during Sunday morning coffee hour. This will be an ongoing event during his tenure here.

DSU Athlete Feed

Sign up to help with the DSU football and volleyball meal on Saturday, August 14 at 12 p.m. See the sign-up sheets in the narthex for needs.

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.

Coffee Hour Has Resumed

Please join us for coffee after the church service in the fellowship hall. Service groups will begin serving coffee again this fall. For the rest of the summer, we will be asking for volunteers to serve coffee. Please contact Lisa Gale to sign up for a date to serve or sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

Mission Kits

Personal Care Kit and School Kit bags are now available in the narthex. Take a bag home and fill with items on the attached list and return to the bin labeled "Mission Kits" in the narthex by Rally Sunday, September 12, 2021. Thank you for your participation!

In Memory of Alma Rames

Due to continuing Covid-19 concerns, a private family Celebration of Life for Alma Rames (3/22/1917–3/31/2020) was held recently. She and her husband, Jess (4/17/1915–9/8/2002), were faithful servants at Trinity for over 50 years. God bless their memory.

Worship Service Broadcasts

Trinity's Sunday worship services are available for livestreaming on our YouTube channel. You can locate Trinity's YouTube broadcasts at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkJnM7Q5qrov8sKctyvJ_rA. Don't forget to subscribe to the channel and click the bell to get notifications of new videos.

You may listen to the radio broadcast of Sunday worship on KJAM 1390 AM at noon (12:00 p.m.) on Sundays.

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
01 • 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	02	03 • 10:00AM – 11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM – 4:00PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM – 7:30PM Parish Education Board Meeting : Church Office
08 • 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	09	10 • 10:00AM – 11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 12:00PM – 1:00PM Finance Meeting : Zoom • 1:00PM – 4:00PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall • 5:00PM – 6:00PM Precouncil Executives' Meeting : Fellowship Hall • 6:30PM – 7:00PM Parish Education Board Meeting : Youth Room ; Deacons' Board Meeting : Fireside Room ; Trustees' Board Meeting : Fellowship Hall • 7:00PM – 9:00PM Council Meeting : Fellowship Hall
15 • 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	16	17 • 9:30AM – 11:00AM Mary Circle : Fellowship Hall • 10:00AM – 11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM – 4:00PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall
22 • 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	23	24 • 12:00AM – 11:59PM 1st Day of Preschool : Sonshine Preschool Room • 10:00AM – 11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM – 4:00PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall
29 • 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	30 • 5:00PM – 7:00PM Trinity Serves The Gathering : Off Site	31 • 10:00AM – 11:00AM Staff Meeting : Church Office • 1:00PM – 4:00PM Quilting : Fellowship Hall

2021

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
04	05	06 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30AM – 7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study 	07
11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00PM – 7:00PM Preschool Open House MWF Class : Sonshine Preschool Room 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:00PM – 7:00PM Pre-school Open House TR Class : Sonshine Preschool Room 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30AM – 7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00PM – 1:30PM DSU Athlete Feed : Fellowship Hall, Kitchen
18	19	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30AM – 7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study 	21
25	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30PM – 8:00PM Pack 5 Pack Meeting : Fellowship Hall 	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30AM – 7:30AM Men's Group Bible Study 	28

June 2021 Council Meeting Minutes Continued

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Dyke and Tim Walberg.

Danny Brown, Vice-President led the council in devotions based on Psalm 92 and closed with prayer.

President Rob Thuringer presented the agenda. Sid Gulbranson moved to approve the agenda; Danny Brown seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The council minutes from May 11, 2021 were reviewed. Jim Iverson said they need to be amended. Within the minutes of the Board of Parish Education report, were the actual minutes of the Executive Board meeting which was held. There had been a motion to recess the regular council meeting and go into an Executive Board meeting. Once that meeting adjourned, the regular council meeting was reconvened. The action of the Executive Board need to be removed from the May regular council minutes. Sid Gulbranson moved to approve the minutes as amended; Danny Brown seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Lutherans Outdoors presentation – Paul Hansen, Executive Director

Paul is located in the Sioux Falls office of LO of SD, with the office located on the Augustana University campus, in the same building as the office of the SD Synod of the ELCA.

Paul shared these points:

- It has been twenty-two months since youth were at an LO site due to COVID-19.
- Due to COVID-19, all camping activities and programs stopped, leaving only essential staff on duty. Even with a PPP grant in place, the financial hardship to the organization was huge.
- Joy Ranch has had annual operating losses since 2012. A recommendation was made to sell the ownership to a non-profit corporation based out of Watertown.
- A congregational campaign has begun to raise \$500,000 to help replace the lost income due to the total shutdown last year.
- Paul Hansen asked if the Trinity council would allow the members to participate in the campaign later this year. If the council approves the request, a Congregational Champion will be needed to lead the Trinity campaign.
- A fall campaign would need to be completed by January 31, 2022 in line with their fiscal year.

President Rob Thuringer thanked Paul for coming to the council meeting and said that the Trinity council would get back to him concerning our participation.

Financial Report: Lora Ermland moved to approve

the May 2021 report; Corey Strom seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Rev. Solveig Hendrickson; Interim Pastor

Pastor Solveig shared that since she started with us on March 24th, she has held nine funerals, does four home communions here in the sanctuary each month, had three baptisms this past Sunday with two more planned, two families have transferred into Trinity and one has transferred out in the past month.

Pastor Solveig then read her letter of resignation, effective June 27, 2021 which terminates the Interim Pastoral Ministry Appointment and Covenant dated March 24, 2021. She said "I have completed what I was able to do while I was here": She also stated that she has informed both Bishop Hagmaier and Rev. Renee Splichal Larson; Assistant to the Bishop, of her resignation.

In the Executive Board meeting prior to the council meeting, Pastor Solveig had itemized key points which she felt which lead to her resignation. She expressed that "you need to get your house in order" prior to when you call a Lead Pastor to begin serving at Trinity.

There was a lengthy discussion between the council members present and Pastor Solveig. When the discussion had concluded, President Rob Thuringer asked for a motion to approve the resignation. Sid Gulbranson moved to accept the resignation of Pastor Solveig Hendrickson as our Interim Pastor, with regret; Bridget Van Liere seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Her last Sunday will be June 27, 2021.

President's Report: Rob Thuringer

Given Pastor Solveig's resignation, he will be contacting the SD Synod Office tomorrow and visiting with Rev. Renee Splichal Larson; Associate to the Bishop, on securing an Interim Pastor. He also wants to meet with the Executive Board on the issues raised by Pastor Solveig Hendrickson. A meeting of the Executive Board was set up for Wednesday, June 16th at 5:00 pm.

He has received word that there are two potential pastors who have been in contact with the Synod Office, and if there is definite interest, a interview with the Call Committee would be set up.

Vice-President's Report: Danny Brown

It was reported that the two TVs in the narthex do not work. He offered to visit with Lisa Gale to see if she could work extra hours one behalf of the Execu-

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June 2021 Council Meeting Minutes Continued

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tive Board in addressing some of the specific items that were given to the Board by Pastor Solveig.

We need to develop a list of more individuals who could help in the taping of our worship services. They are paid \$25 per service for recording a service. It was mentioned that the last training had been held in 2020.

Trustees Report: Corey Strom

He reported that the monthly bills were paid. A new snow blower had been purchased.

Parish Education Report: Kristin Morse

There was no meeting.

Board of Deacons Report: Jim Iverson

The Deacons' only discussion was on the implementation of the new CDC guidelines regarding both the current mask requirement and the return of congregational singing.

Old Business:

President Rob Thuringer asked if there were any items of old business, and there were none.

New Business:

1. Becky Brown moved that the mask mandate be revised to the new CDC guidelines effective immediately, and that congregational singing be returned to worship; Kristin Morse seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The hymnals will be returned to the pew racks. There will be no need for cantors at the worship service(s). It was

decided to leave the Plexiglas in place until the new Pastor is called. It was also decided to leave the ropes in the pews and maintain social distancing. Future changes to the Holy Communion service will be up to the new Interim Pastor. Any funerals held in the church will continue to have any meals catered as there are no service groups at this time.

2. After further discussion, it was the consensus of the council to table further action on the proposed LO Capital Campaign.
3. Kristin Morse had talked to Robin Boldt and she is willing to help train and assist the new wedding coordinator.
4. Regarding the Faith Formation Director, Robin Hofkamp left a list of files and records for the next individual to work with. We need an Interim Faith Formation Director to help focus on VBS, Sunday School and Confirmation. This will be referred to the Executive Board.

Adjournment:

Sid Gulbranson moved to adjourn the council meeting at 9:20 pm; seconded by Corey Strom, and the meeting was closed with prayer led by Pastor Solveig Hendrickson.

The next regular council meeting is set for Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Iverson; Acting Secretary

NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

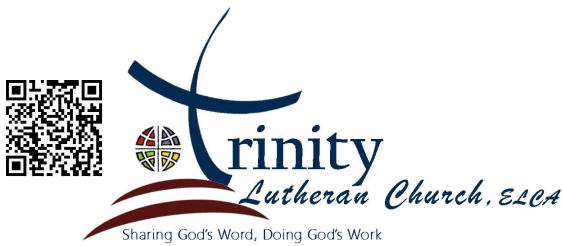
Recent Memorials as of August 3

In Memory of Don Dragseth

- Floyd and Susan Jones
- Roger and Barbara Masten
- Kay Johnson
- Marlys Schmidt
- Nancy Jensen Miller Gilbert
- Dan and Sharon Carlson
- Gerald and Carol Petri
- Marv and Sandy Rhode

In Memory of Pete Struwe

- Peggy Hoff
- Todd and Susan Williams
- Ron and Bobbi Janke
- Kay Johnson
- Elaine Struwe
- Bill and Diane Bruns
- Marlys Schmidt
- John and Kristin Morse
- David and Marian Wheeler



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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.
- The Electronic Giving option through Vanco can also be initialized by filling out an application form in the church office.
- We also have a quick and easy Give+ Mobile App option for financial giving from your portable device! Just download the app! Available for Apple and Android, it's usable with bank routing and account numbers or credit card/bank cards. This app can be used to set up long-term giving options or for a one-time use.
- 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 256-2771.

Home Communion Helpers

Thank you to Bobbi and Ron Janke for delivering home communion in July.

Mission of the Month

The August Mission of the Month is The Gathering.
Gifts may be designated on offering envelopes to Mission of the Month Fund.

Food Pantry

The Lake County Food Pantry mission of the month for August is cereal.

Congregational Information

Deaths: none

Baptisms: none

Weddings: none

Help Wanted

Trinity Lutheran Church has a job opening for a wedding coordinator. Contact the church office if interested.