



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Give, Worship, Prayer, Invite, Serve, Study, Encourage

Trinity Messenger

August 2022

Field Notes: Rev. C. Richards

Faithful Innovation

The Southwest MN synod (283 local congregations in this part of the state who work together for Jesus) asked me to be a part of a team of leaders learning new ways to be church in the midst of change and unrest back in 2018. It is called Faithful Innovation. Our Synod has been a part of trying out this Faithful Innovation program developed by the Lake and Lilly Institutes. Both Institutes are research and philanthropy funds that offer grants for research and development of leadership and innovation for service and education non-profits.

When I was invited to help out with this Lilly/Lake funded innovation project that our synod had received a grant to pursue back in 2018, I jumped at the opportunity. You all know I dearly love our Lutheran traditions and you also know I am more than happy to try new things simultaneously. Putting those two things together, I felt like it was a great opportunity. Many of you have shared your worries with me over the last 7 years. You've wondered if the church needs to change, or if the ways that we used to do things are "enough". Others of you have shared that you worry that if we change we might lose something precious of our history or traditions.

Now – three plus years later, learning this process of innovating in a way that honors our roots and tries new things at the same time, I have been asked again to help with a team that will roll out of Faithful

Innovation to our wider synod. I've been working on this and will be helping that team start a cohort of congregations in training in October of this year.

God is always doing something – often something unexpected. While our tradition of worshipping God with prayer, scripture, music, psalm, and sacrament has remained consistent for 2000 years, the places, languages, modes, and styles have all flexed with the needs of the people worshipping. Service and mission ministries have experienced similar trajectories. Various needs, similar goals. One thing that has been consistent, when we put God at the center of our work, the Spirit gets busy. But, when we put people, or organizations, or buildings, or traditions at the center of our work, things can go sideways.

The main change that Faithful Innovation trains and supports is the move from asking questions about church to instead, asking questions about God and listening carefully for answers. What is God up to in Cyrus? What is God up to at Trinity? How might we find out? I ask these sorts of questions all the time – and I will be putting a team together soon to restart our Faithful Innovation process (as COVID shut the first one down).

Sometimes the first question to ask is closer to home. What is God up to in your life? Are you finding comfort in scripture? Are you feeling closer or more distant to your faith life? Are you serving those in need, or maybe are you being served? What do you need from God right now? What do you need from your congregation?

Keep your eyes open this fall as you will be asked these questions. Spend some time in prayer and reflection – ask God for insight. I know you'll be surprised and blessed in the asking and in the receiving.

Christ's Peace – PrCR

How You Can Help!

Here are some things you can do to support the church and your neighbors this month!

1. **Call people.** Use your Trinity Directory – call your church family members and check in. **Make a Plan to call 3 families or individuals** (especially those who may be isolated) If everyone does this from the church – all will receive messages of care and hope. You could pray on the phone with one another.
2. **Give Financially:** You can support local charities like the food shelf, Luther Crest, the Red Cross, etc. Please remember to either mail or drop off contributions to the church office or give online. You can download the Vanco mobile app to do the online giving. Check it out at <https://www.vancopayments.com/egiving/church-app>.
3. **Pray:** Please keep up a prayer list of those you care for. Daily prayer is a powerful way to develop compassion, empathy, and spiritual discipline. There is no better time than now to begin praying.

TRINITY LUTHERAN WOMEN

** School kit assembly will be August 14th – Service Group 2 is helping out.

Items that are needed for each kit:

4 spiral bound notebooks

1 ruler that also has centimeter markings

We have enough pencil sharpeners

1 blunt end scissors

We have enough pencils

5 pens

1 box 24 count crayons

1 eraser (the flat kind that is 2 ½ inches)

We have enough school bags that the supplies go in

Do Days

Do Days will be
August 29th & 30th

Quilt making continues
as an ongoing project.

+ + + WORSHIP + + +

SERVICES ARE IN-PERSON & LIVE WEBCAST

We are still looking for volunteers for tech/AV and readers. Please contact the church office if you're interested.

1st Sundays of each month are Food Shelf Offering & 4th Sundays are Luther Crest Offering

DATE	TIME	READER	MUSICIAN	TECH/AV	COMM. PREP.	ACOLYTE	USHER/GREETER
August 7th – Outside at Scandia West	9:30am	J. Solvie	Worship Team	T. & W. Richards	J. Jergenson	N/A	W. & J. Maanum
August 14th	9:30am	H. Rutter	K. Zenner	R. Huebner	N/A	L. Anderson	M. & A. Barsness
August 21st	9:30am	J. Knorr	TBD	S. & K. Banta	N/A	B. Black	H. Rutter
August 28th	9:30am	D. Dahl	TBD	A. Erickson & Boys	K. Edlund	O. Huebner	S. & D. Carbert

Special Music: We would like to welcome anyone interested in sharing God's message through special music in our service to please let the office know: tlccyruskayla@gmail.com.

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BIRTHDAYS

NOTE: We are working on updating our online membership system, please let the church office know if any birthdays are incorrect or missing.

08/01 Richard Barsness
 08/01 Vicky Brandt
 08/04 Laurie Smith
 08/04 Alan Estenson
 08/05 Lisa Ness
 08/05 Dustin Retzlaff
 08/06 Daniel Osterman
 08/07 Ryan Rau
 08/07 Brecken Erickson
 08/08 Angela Jensen
 08/08 Terra Fassler
 08/08 Randy Gades
 08/08 Cole Kannegiesser
 08/08 Alexa Sellner
 08/10 Adam Schmidgall
 08/11 Judy Loehr
 08/11 Jodi Jergenson
 08/11 Brayden Ness
 08/12 Griffin Richards

08/14 Mitchell Carbert
 08/15 Leo Barsness
 08/16 Judith Rau
 08/16 Piper Richards
 08/18 Paula Amborn
 08/18 Thomas Meyer
 08/20 Scott Banta
 08/25 Betty Anderson
 08/25 Jaxon Graff
 08/26 John Thompson
 08/27 Keith Gades
 08/29 Darrin Mithun
 08/30 Audrey Mithun
 08/31 Ashlynn Rieck

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

In July, council met to finalize dates of carpet and paint work; and to organize what needed to be done prior to the renovation work getting started.

Respectfully submitted,
Kayla Schmidgall, in for Katie Erickson, Council Secretary

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!
Adam and Kayla Schmidgall are proud parents of
Jensen James born 7/18/2022

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please contact Kayla (tlccyruskayla@gmail.com or 320-795-2569) if you'd like to add any other announcements or information to the upcoming monthly newsletter.

** UPDATE: The sanctuary & narthex are currently undergoing some renovations (new carpet & paint), so worship services will be held in the basement for the month of August.

** Reminder: Kayla will be out of the office all through the month of August. The church office will be open on Tuesdays from 10am-2pm.

** Cyrus Seniors will be in Trinity church basement on Tuesday, August 2nd at 2pm.

** Pederson Funeral Home's Gatherings Sunday Luncheons for Widows & Widowers will be on Sunday, August 7th, at Noon at Old #1 Southside in Morris.

** We'll be having 1 more outdoor worship service this summer – Sunday, August 7th at Scandia West Cemetery. The Cyrus High School class of 1967 will be serving rootbeer floats and cookies and bars after the service. Bring dish to share at the potluck dinner after worship.

** FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN – The FMSC packing event at Morris Area Elementary School lunchroom on August 29,30,31, 2022. If you would like to help pack, you can call either Paulette Solvie (795-2205) or Denise Olson (795-2209).

Trinity has always been a great supporter of FMSC in both volunteering and financial support. We are very thankful for our generous church family. Our goal this year is to pack 100,000 meals at a cost of \$25,000.

The FMSC mission is Feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit.

Psalm 146:7 "He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry."

Upcoming FMSC fundraising event:

-- Sunday, July 31st rolls will be served after morning worship with all donations going to FMSC

Community Supper on Wednesday, August 3rd, 5:30 p.m. at Donut Lake Park. Food provided by the Community Club and Fire Department. Free will offering.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 ● 9:30am Worship Kayla out on maternity leave	Aug 1 K-maternity leave all mon	2 ● 2pm Cyrus Seniors-Tri	3 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 5:30pm Community SuJ	4	5	6
7 ● 9:30am Worship-Scand ● 10:30am Pot Luck dinn ● 12pm Gatherings for V	8	9	10 ● 9am Weekly Devotional	11	12	13
14 ● 9:30am Worship ● 10:30am Pack LWR Sch	15	16	17 ● 9am Weekly Devotional	18	19	20
21 ● 9:30am Worship	22	23	24 ● 9am Weekly Devotional	25	26	27
28 ● 9:30am Worship	29 Do Days ● 9am FMSC Packing Evk	30 ● 2pm FMSC Packing Evk	31 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 2pm FMSC Packing Evk	Sep 1	2	3



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