



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

Trinity Messenger

July 2021

Field Notes – July 2021

Rev. C Richards

I wonder what Jesus thinks of our pace of living? I have been thinking about this as July rolls in – in some ways, a month of slowness – the Church is inevitably quieter, folks are out and about with youth sports games and tournaments, families are vacationing or stay-cationing, projects are getting done, and farmers are spraying and worrying.

This summer especially the question of pace seems loud in our local conversations. Many businesses have help-wanted signs posted. Amidst the continuing hike out of the depths of the pandemic many workers in the service and food industry are questioning the long hours for low pay. Many of you have told me about new arrangements in your own work with time to work from home or remotely, others have decided to cut back or stay with a different arrangement. It seems the pandemic has taught many of you to prize your time in a new way.

Our time and our attention are incredibly valuable in modern culture. But this would have been an alien thought in Israel and the Roman Empire of Jesus' time. In fact, time wasn't even time in their culture in the same way we think of it. There were no minutes to be measured and nothing to measure them with. The calendar was somewhat accurate – seasons and equinoxes/solstices were very accurately known. But beyond that – being late was a matter of morning or afternoon, or even with travel, a matter of days or weeks. Our current notions of day, minute, hour, time in general are utterly different.

With the quiet time at the church, I have spent more time reflecting and reading, more time visiting and returning to the nursing homes. What have you done as things have opened and summer has arrived? Are you spending time with God? Is God a part of your day, week, month?

How? Does time with God feel “unproductive” or “lazy”? When you are with friends and family, do you consider that time “luxurious” or “unproductive”? Why is our family time valued over God time or why do we even consider them somehow different?

This month I encourage you to slow down and consider where God is present, and how your time and attention might flow at a pace that allows for relationship with God, family, friend, neighbor, and stranger. If our attention is only selfishly focused on our own needs or we operate at a pace that demands constant movement and effort we will have little to give others, and nothing left to receive what God has to offer us.

Christ’s peace this summer! Rest in God’s love and the opportunities God gives to serve!

- 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. Also – please remember to either mail in or drop off contributions (in the wood box in the narthex) or the best solution – giving online: you can go to: tlccyrus.com
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

** July 13th – Salad Supper at 6:00pm

Food & Serving

Ruth & Elizabeth circles

Program & Decorations

Deborah circle

Clean Up

Mary & Martha circles

Do Days

July 26th & 27th

Quilt making continues
as an ongoing project.

+ + + WORSHIP + + +
SERVICES ARE IN-PERSON & LIVE WEBCAST

DATE	TIME	READER	MUSICIAN	TECH/AV	COMMUNION PREP.
Sun, July 4th	9:30 AM	J. Maanum	TBD	S. & K. Banta	R. Osterman & R. Larson
Sun, July 11th	9:30 AM	H. Rutter	A. Van Zee	D. Black	
Sun, July 18th	9:30 AM	K. Schmidgall	A. Van Zee	R. & B. Barsness	
Sun, July 25th – outside at Scandia East	9:30 AM	H. Black	A. Van Zee	A. Erickson	B. Wente

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: tleevruskavla@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.

07/04 Gary Payne	07/18 Carter Brandt	07/30 Michael Simon
07/05 Phyllis Bright	07/21 Lorna Driggins	07/31 Carol Jenniges
07/05 Dennis Lindor	07/21 Andrew Banta	
07/05 Savannah Holzheimer	07/21 Evan Hoddinott	
07/08 Daniel Thompson	07/21 Sophy Steffens	
07/08 Braeden Amborn	07/22 Joyce Ettesvold	
07/12 Keith Asmus	07/22 Robert Meyer	
07/12 Tristan Larson	07/23 Patricia Carbert	
07/12 Sophia Banta	07/24 Rose Osterman	
07/13 Kristine Hansen	07/24 LuAnn Gades	
07/13 Ashley Wink	07/26 Linda Engebretson	
07/13 Brett Anderson	07/25 Corey Carbert	
07/14 DeAnna Hawkinson	07/26 Jon Hesse	
07/14 Kiarra Steinhoffer	07/26 Karen Jergenson	
07/15 Jamie Koob	07/27 Lois Ness	
07/16 Karen Edlund	07/27 Kathy Payne	
07/16 Michael Bruland	07/27 Kaylee Brandt	
07/17 Dennis Solvie	07/29 London VanLuik	
07/17 Marlys Solvie	07/30 Katie Erickson	

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Trinity Lutheran Church
Church Council Minutes
Tuesday, June 15, 2021, 6pm

Present: Holly Rutter, Lonnie Anderson, Barb Barsness, Dena Carter, Pastor Chris Richards, Kathy Banta, and Kayla Schmidgall

Absent: Jerry Carlsen and Roxane Malland

Holly called meeting to order shortly after 6pm.

Pastor Chris led us in devotions from the 38th chapter of Job.

Kathy made an addition to the agenda to discuss some COVID updates. A motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Barb to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Lonnie and seconded by Dena to approve the Secretary's minutes as sent out via email and as seen in the Messenger. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Lonnie and seconded by Barb to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed.

Pastor Chris gave his report.

Old Business

- COVID-19 procedures were updated for ropes removed from pews & opening up basement for fellowship hour. We will still follow Fed. & CDC guidelines.
- Volunteers to help with ushering & greeting for church services will be scheduled starting in September.

New Business

- Special offerings will be brought back into services. The First Sunday of each month will be Food Shelf offering and the Fourth Sunday will be Luther Crest offering. Offering plates will continue to be on table in narthex and not passed around. Signs will specify which plate is for a special offering & which is for general offering.

Committees

Education – Children's Church hour (during regular worship hour) will continue to be ongoing. Kathy said it's going well.

- Trinity will be partnering with Faith for a week of VBS in July. Volunteers are needed so please contact Kathy Banta or Jenny Huntley.

Property – No new report. Work is continuing on getting a new technology desk for the sanctuary.

Worship – Committee will meet in the Fall to start thinking about the worship songs/services now that COVID restrictions are beginning to wind down.

Outreach – Phone live stream system will be ordered by Pr. Chris in June.

- A few food/grocery & gas cards have been given out.

- A sympathy card was sent to Larinda Jantz (the neighbor behind the church) on the loss of her husband; she stopped by and thanked our church for showing such thoughtfulness.

Next meeting: Council will be taking a break from meeting July and will resume in August.

Respectfully submitted,

Kayla Schmidgall (filling-in for Roxane Malland, Church Council Secretary)

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.

** COVID-19 vaccine clinic will be at Cyrus Community Center on Thursday, July 1st and Thursday, July 29th, from 1-4pm.

** Gatherings Luncheon for Widows & Widowers will be Sunday, July 11th at 12pm at Southside of the Old No. Bar & Grill in Morris. Please call Rose (589-3220) to reserve a spot.

** Luther Crest will not be providing a VBS program, so we will be teaming up with Faith in Morris to have one. The theme this year is Rocky Railway! Registration is at www.myvbs.org/FaithLutheran and the dates are July 26, 2021 – July 30, 2021. If your church is interested in being a part of this VBS program or you'd like to help volunteer, please let Jenny Huntley know or call the church office.

** 2021 Food Distribution will be at the Morris Area High School south parking and registration will begin at 3pm. Dates are as follows: July 13th; and August 10th. For more information on the distribution or to donate funds, please see poster on narthex bulletin board or email: FoodDropStevensCoMN@gmail.com.

** Feed My Starving Children mobile packing event will again be held this year at the end of August. To raise the funds needed to get the semi and the rice, etc. the West Central Area Churches are hosting a concert on July 16th at 7:00pm. The Ernie Haase Signature Sound quartet will be at the Morris Area Concert Hall. The tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online. A free will donation supper will take place prior to the beginning of the concert; the Beef and Pork Producers will be providing the meat. We hope that you all will show your support for this worthy mission by attending both events. If anyone needs a free ticket for the concert or a ride, call 320-795-2478.

Thank you, Trinity family!

- Denise, Paulette and Linda

** West Central Minnesota Communities Actions has organized 2 programs:

* Ready Ride- a transportation program for adults 65+

* Chore & Homemaking Services program for adults 65+

Call 218-685-7008 for more information.

** "Save the Date" – Monday, August 9th – 20th Annual Luther Crest Golf Scramble – more details to follow.

** Element program has need for some men and women who would be interested in co-leading a small group of 8-12 girls or boys in 6th-8th grade. Our current needs are as follows:

- 1 woman for the 6th grade girls group

- 1 man for the 6th grade boys group

- 1 or 2 men for the 8th grade boys group

We would also need a few men and women who would be willing to be a replacement if a leader cannot make it. (We believe that 2 adult leaders per group is proper and safe for both adults and youth alike). Please contact Heather Black (320-349-0103 or heatherblack.fusion@gmail.com) if interested or would like more information!

Today < > July 2021

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27 ● 9:30am Worship-Cyrus	28 ● 9:30am Worship-Cyrus	29 ● 9am Weekly Devotional	30 ● 9am Weekly Devotional	Jul 1	2	3
4 Independence Day ● 9:30am Worship-Food	5 Independence Day observ	6 ● 9am Weekly Devotional	7 ● 9am Weekly Devotional	8	9	10
11 Pr. Chris gone on youth trip ● 9:30am Worship	12	13	14 ● 9am Weekly Devotional	15	16	17
18 ● 9:30am Worship	19	20	21 Pr. Chris @ MLH in Starbu ● 9am Weekly Devotional	22	23	24
25 ● 9:30am LutherCrest off ● 9:30am Outdoor Worsh	26	27	28 ● 9am Weekly Devotional	29	30	31

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