



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

Trinity Messenger

July 2021

Field Notes, by Rev. C. Richards

John 13:35 "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. "

I was untangling a knot yesterday in an extension cord. It had twisted with the pressure washer line, the garden hose running up to the unit itself and the air compressor hose nearby. About a minute into untangling this mess I was pulling, huffing, wet, angry, and I would have snapped at anyone nearby. Luckily, I was alone in the sunshine, sweating far more than necessary. Then I came back to myself. I felt embarrassed as I stood there, acting like a child who had been told "No!".

Why are things like that - untangling hoses or cords, moving a sprinkler from here to there to there again, charging a battery on something that was supposed to be charged - so frustrating? Why do we get a plan in our heads only to be suddenly frustrated by a mild problem?

I'm sure this has happened in your life. In fact, right now we are also untangling lots of knots in our families, and our shared lives. COVID continues to be a problem, but it is rapidly decreasing thanks to vaccinations, major compromises, distancing, and hard work.

Businesses are coming back to half and full capacity, our worship services at Trinity are now unmasked, school is about to let out for the summer, and families and the whole community are once again adjusting, questioning, and trying to renegotiate behavior while being caring to those who are either very opposed or very in support of their own interpretation of the pandemic.

Untangling a knot is frustrating. It seems like a waste of time. It feels like you should be doing the thing you were doing, but instead you are untangling this dumb old knot that does not want to be untangled.

I'd like to say I had an epiphany standing there in the driveway the other day, that I said to myself, "Hey, there's no hurry here. I can untangle this and coil everything nicely! Its ok if I take my time and go slow here." Had I been a little more aware of myself, that might have happened. It didn't.

But maybe this is a moment in our lives where we can be thankful that we are untangling the pandemic together. No one has it figured out. Some are having an easier transition than others. Some relationships in our lives will need care and patience. Some activities will still need modifications, and we are all tired and frustrated from the previous year(plus) of patience and modifications!

Can we extend grace to ourselves and our neighbors in the coming weeks as this transition unfolds? How might you comfort someone who is frustrated? (even if they are projecting their frustration on to you?) What might you adjust in your life for the sake of someone else, even if it isn't your preference? How will you listen to someone you disagree with and be patient, choosing to show grace and kindness rather than be right? Jesus reminds us in John 13 – the world will know that we love and follow Jesus by how we love and extend grace to one another. This is both a great comfort, and also a terrible consequence depending on our actions!

We have a great opportunity in the untangling of this knot to follow Jesus in love.

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. 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

** Personal Care Kit assembly will be June 28th, with the Deborah circle assisting.

Do Days

June 28th & 29th

Quilt making continues as an ongoing project.

Cost to send each quilt to LWR is \$2.50

+ + + WORSHIP + + +

SERVICES ARE IN-PERSON & LIVE WEBCAST UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

NOTE: We are still taking steps to add worship assistants to each week's services.

DATE	TIME	READER	MUSICIAN	TECH/AV	COMMUNION PREP.
Sun, June 6th- Outside at Doughnut Park	9:30 AM	Sarah Anderson	TLC Worship Team	T. & W. Richards	S. Finke
Sun, June 13th	9:30 AM	D. Dahl	Keni Zenner	A. Erickson	
Sun, June 20th	9:30 AM	L. Banta	TBD	J. Knorr	
Sun, June 27th – Outdoors at	9:30 AM	D. Olson	Keni Zenner	T. & W. Richards	C. Carlsen

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

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 06/01 Hayley Aaberg | 06/14 McKenna Amborn |
| 06/02 Steve Mullins | 06/16 Bryan Simon |
| 06/02 Tyler Berg | 06/16 Avery Monty |
| 06/03 Brett Edlund | 06/16 Nathan Kolden |
| 06/03 Spencer Berg | 06/17 Ann Mullins |
| 06/04 Todd Hovendick | 06/18 Karl Retzlaff |
| 06/04 Amy Richards | 06/18 Darrell Malland |
| 06/06 Michael Mithun | 06/18 Brandon Crow |
| 06/07 Ryan Gades | 06/18 Wesley Monty, Jr. |
| 06/07 Lila Richards | 06/19 Susan Berg |
| 06//08 Terry Kragero, Jr. | 06/20 Chase Meixel |
| 06/09 Jacob Boots | 06/24 Thomas Dahl |
| 06/10 Louise Engebretson | 06/24 Megan Zahradka |
| 06/10 Sarah Anderson | 06/26 Rose Thompson |
| 06/11 Gordon Alfson | 06/26 Peggy Pieske |
| 06/11 Joyce McCarroll | 06/29 Blake Okeson |
| 06/11 Lennie Solvie | 06/29 Ali Tollefson |
| 06/11 Fallon Backman | 06/30 Dianne Ronnie |
| 06/12 Ron Hansen | |
| 06/12 Craig Ronnie | |
| 06/12 Asher Huntley | |
| 06/12 Eli Dalen | |

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Trinity Lutheran Church
Meeting In-Person and via Zoom, May 18, 2021; 6:00 p.m.

April 29, 2021: By email a motion was made by Lonnie and seconded by Dena to accept the bid from the Schneider family for mowing and spraying all four cemeteries and accept the bid from Sophie Carlson to mow the church lawn for 2021. The motion passed.

Present: Lonnie Anderson, Barb Barsness, Dena Carter, Pastor Chris Richards, Holly Rutter, Jerry Carlsen, Kayla Schmidgall, Roxane Malland
Absent: Kathy Banta

Pastor Chris led us in devotions.

A motion was made by Lonnie and seconded by Barb to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Dena and seconded by Jerry to approve the Secretary's minutes as seen in the Messenger. The motion passed.

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

Pastor Chris gave his report.

A motion was made by Dena and seconded by Jerry to acquire telephone live streaming for church services for homebound and those who aren't on Facebook at a cost of \$100 a month for technology. The motion passed.

The library was moved to a Sunday School room. The new childcare room will get painted and get new flooring. Barb is looking for help on this project.

Covid-19 and masking procedures was discussed.

Getting more volunteers to help with church services was discussed.

Outdoor services will be June 6, June 27, July 25 and possibly another one.

A motion was made by Lonnie and seconded by Dena to have the church make matching funds up to \$500 each for 2021 Stevens County Area Food Drop Program and 2021 Morris Area Backpack Program. The motion passed.

Committees:

Education – Sarah Anderson and Kathy are working on Children's Church during church services.

The first Sunday was a success.

Property – Jerry is working on updating the technology desk.

Worship – there has been some talk about what to do in the fall.

Outreach – phone live stream

Next meeting: June 15 @ 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Roxane Malland, Church Council Secretary

COVID-19 UPDATE

As per the CDC recommendations at the Federal and State level, we are now allowing parishioners to be unmasked in our worship space. We will maintain reduced capacity for a little while longer, but plan to be fully open again in the near future.

If you feel more comfortable being masked in worship or while at the church, we encourage you to do so! Please feel free also to use the fellowship hall or narthex space with our live feed to gain some extra space if that is more comfortable for you or your family.

For those that choose to remain unmasked, we ask that you be supportive and kind to those who choose to wear a mask. There are many children who remain unvaccinated, and many others who are regularly in contact with those who need special care because of immune system issues and health troubles.

As John 13:35 says – *“They will know we are Christians by our love for one another!”*

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.

** 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 Sarah Anderson 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: June 8th; 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.

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 ● 9:30am Worship ● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI	31 Memorial Day	Jun 1 ● 4:30pm Book & Bible St	2 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 6pm Element: Jr. High I	3	4	5
6 ● 9:30am Worship-outdo ● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI	7	8 Pt. Chris gone	9 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 6pm Element: Jr. High I	10	11	12
13 ● 9:30am Worship ● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI	14	15 ● 4:30pm Book & Bible St	16 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 6pm Element: Jr. High I	17	18	19 Helberg/Brandt wedding Jueteenth
20 Father's Day ● 9:30am Worship ● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI	21	22 ● 4:30pm Book & Bible St	23 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 6pm Element: Jr. High I	24	25	26
27 ● 9:30am Worship ● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI	28	29 ● 4:30pm Book & Bible St	30 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 6pm Element: Jr. High I	Jul 1	2	3

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