



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

# *Trinity Messenger*

## *November 2021*

### **Field Notes: Rev. C. Richards**

*<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise the words of prophets, <sup>21</sup> but test everything; hold fast to what is good; <sup>22</sup> abstain from every form of evil.*  
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22.

Thanksgiving approaches along with the end of the Church year. Harvest is nearly complete and rain has come so that we are no longer in a drought. COVID continues to be a problem but much of our daily lives have returned to a more typical rhythm. With all of this, what does thankfulness look like as a Christian?

Because – even though many of the stressors of the last 6 months are alleviating – for which I am deeply grateful – I was also deeply grateful to God in the midst of those hardships. I thanked God every time I was able to visit the nursing home, every time I was able to share the Gospel in preaching or conversation, every time I joined our youth on an event or trip. God is good – all the time! So what does gratitude look like even when things remain difficult, or when things are improving but not yet behind us?

Martin Luther often reminded his parishioners that baptism is a daily death to sin, and a daily rebirth into the life of Jesus. This has been a great comfort to me during the hard things, but also during their diminishment.

Yes – COVID continues to be a deadly foe and a frightening risk – but vaccinations are continuing, health care workers are improving in their treatment of the disease, and individuals are choosing how to live with the disease in the public. We are figuring it out. Each day as I wash my hands, I thank God for my baptism that brought the Spirit into my life, and my life into the Spirit.

Yes – there is great political division remaining in our congregation and in our communities. But each day I have a conversation of listening and care with one of God’s children, I thank God that because of my baptism – I have nothing to fear and I can freely care for others whom God loves.

Yes – the future remains murky, social media spreads misinformation and outrage, the wealthy are getting wealthier while the middle class is disappearing, the poor getting poorer. But every day as I sit down to a meal and give thanks, I remember my baptism and that God’s love has provided for me specifically and will provide for me eternally.

How about you? What might it look like for you to consider your baptism and God’s fulfillment of God’s promises to you each day? Even in the ups and downs of this life, how might your gratitude to God change your way of life with others whom God loves?

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

\*\* REMINDER: Taste of Christmas will be on Sunday, December 12th to coincide with Mission Fest.

*Do Days*

November 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.*

DATE	TIME	READER	MUSICIAN	TECH/AV	COMM. PREP.	ACOLYTE
Sun, Nov. 7th	9:30 AM	D. Dahl	K. Zenner	A. Erickson & Boys	L. Retzlaff	N/A
Sun, Nov. 14th	9:30 AM	K. Schmidgall	E. Ronsberg	R. & B. Barsness		N/A
Sun, Nov. 21st	9:30 AM	H. Rutter	K. Zenner	S. & K. Banta		W. Richards
Wed, Nov. 24th – Thanksgiving Eve	6:00 PM	J. Solvie	K. Zenner	D. Black & Boys	D. Hanse	A. Joos
Sun, Nov. 28	9:30 AM	S. Banta	<i>TBD</i>	A. Erickson & Boys	J. Brandt	L. Anderson

**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](mailto: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.*

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 11/01 Harold Kjeldahl      | 11/23 Dennis Dahl           |
| 11/01 Darren Lilienthal    | 11/23 Jaden Birr            |
| 11/01 Gregory Pieske       | 11/26 Harlan Wente          |
| 11/02 Angela Joos          | 11/26 Lindsay Graff         |
| 11/02 Adam Aaberg          | 11/28 Nicole (Gades) Harris |
| 11/08 Rebecca Soberg       | 11/29 Larry Hansen          |
| 11/08 Daniel Meyer         | 11/30 Gary Ness             |
| 11/08 Dimitri Estrada      | 11/30 Hannah Berg           |
| 11/08 Venessa Barsness     | 11/30 Lily Patton           |
| 11/09 Terryle Olson        |                             |
| 11/09 Miles Banta          |                             |
| 11/09 Harper Holzheimer    |                             |
| 11/11 Kathryn Barsness     |                             |
| 11/13 Robin Erlandson      |                             |
| 11/15 Vernett Kannegiesser |                             |
| 11/20 Alexis Joos          |                             |
| 11/20 Taylor Tollefson     |                             |
| 11/21 Jennifer Monty       |                             |

# CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Sunday, October 31, 2021

Present: Holly Rutter, Lonnie Anderson, Kathy Banta, Kayla Schmidgall, Barb Barsness, Jerry Carlson, Dena Carbert & Pastor Chris Richards

Absent: Roxane Malland

A motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Jerry to approve the Agenda. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Lonnie and seconded by Jerry to accept the Secretary's Report as seen in the Messenger. The motion passed.

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

Pastor Chris gave his report.

## Old Business:

The council reviewed and discussed our current COVID-19 procedures and decided to keep them as is.

## New Business:

The church will continue to use Heidi Logeais Snow Removal for the parking lot & sidewalks in the coming winter months.

Our church will be participating in the MAES snack collection for the month of December. More information will be sent out in the next coming month.

A motion was made by Kathy & seconded by Jerry to for an Advent devotional be sent out to all the youth families in our congregation. Barb & Pastor Chris will work on this project.

A motion was made by Dena & seconded by Barb to use some funds for Pastor Chris to get a new laptop.

## Committee Reports:

Property – The new gutters have been attached.

Education – Sunday school will continue to be during the worship & see how it goes.

Worship – There will be a "Thankful For" board posted in the narthex for the month of November.

Outreach – Discussed plans to have care packages mailed to Wyatt Mithun & his family as he recovers from a surgery & has therapy over the next. Also talked about a meal train set up for when Wyatt gets home.

- Talked about doing an online children's devotion.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 24 at 5pm (before Thanksgiving Eve service)

Respectfully submitted,

Kayla Schmidgall sitting in for Roxane Malland, Council Secretary

# OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

\*\* Pastor Chris will be gone on vacation from November 4th to November 8th. Please contact Pastor Steve Carmany from East & West Zion (507) 828-3702) if there is an emergency or leave a message for Pastor Chris at the church office.

\* If you'd like to be a part of the Trinity Prayer Email Chain (or if your email address has been changed), please let the church or Kathy Banta know. We can never have too many people praying for others!

\* Mission Fest will be on Sunday, December 12th. There will be lefse sales, silent auction & a small meal that will coincide with the Trinity Women's Taste of Christmas.

## \* Element Schedule: Youth in 6th-8th Grade

- \* Wednesday, 11/3 – 6pm @ Faith Lutheran
- \* Wednesday, 11/10 – 6pm @ First Lutheran
- \* Friday-Saturday, 11/12 & 11/13 – Element retreat to Luther Crest (see website for details & to sign up)
- \* Wednesday, 11/17 – 6pm @ First Lutheran
- \* Wednesday, 11/24 – No Element – Happy Thanksgiving!

## \* Sr. High Fusion: Youth in 9th-12th Grade

- \* Sunday, 11/7 – 6:30pm @ First Lutheran
  - \* Sunday, 11/14 – 6:30pm @ First Lutheran
  - \* Sunday, 11/21 – 6:30pm @ First Lutheran
  - \* Sunday, 11/28 – No Fusion – Happy Thanksgiving weekend!
- \*\* Please check out Fusion's website ([www.fusion-ministry.com](http://www.fusion-ministry.com)) for more information. Also follow along on Facebook (@fusion56267) and Instagram (@fusion56267).

\* Pedersen Funeral Home Gatherings Luncheon for Widows & Widowers will be Sunday, November 7th at 12pm at Southside of the Old No. 1 Bar & Grill in Morris. Please call Rose (589-3220) with any questions.

\* Open House bridal shower for Kendra Jergenson on Sunday, November 21st at Trinity from 1:30pm to 3:30pm.

\* Join us at Trinity on December 5th from 1pm-4pm for a baby shower celebrating Jasmine (Boots) and Zach Walsh's baby girl due on February 1st. Please bring a book instead of a card for new baby – it doesn't matter if it's well-loved or new, for years to come it'll be a reminder of you. Jasmine is registered at Target & Amazon.

\* 18th Annual Luther Crest Christmas Bake sale is open for orders (see included form). Place orders by Friday, Dec. 3rd. Pick-up dates are Friday, Dec. 10th from 3p-6p and Sat., Dec. 11th from 8am-Noon. Barb Barsness is also willing to deliver orders to Trinity for easier pick-up, just let her or Kayla know.

November 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 Halloween ● 9:30am Worship ● 6:30pm Sr. High Fusion	Nov 1 First Day of American Ind	2 Election Day ● 4:30pm Book & Bible St	3 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 6pm Element-Why shor	4 Pr. Chris - vacation	5	6
7 Pr. Chris - vacation Daylight Saving Time ends 2 more	8	9 ● 4:30pm Book & Bible St	10 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 6pm Element - Why shc	11 Veterans Day	12 Element, Jr. High retreat	13 ● 4pm Maanum wedding
14 ● 9:30am Worship ● 6:30pm Sr. High Fusion	15	16 ● 4:30pm Book & Bible St	17 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 10am Services at Holly ● 6pm Element - Retreat!	18	19	20
21 ● 9:30am Worship ● 1:30pm Kendra Jergen ● 6:30pm Sr. High Fusion	22	23 ● 4:30pm Book & Bible St	24 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 6pm No Element - Thar ● 6pm Thanksgiving Eve	25 Thanksgiving Day	26 Church office closed Native American Heritage	27
28 ● 9:30am Worship ● 6:30pm No Sr. High Fus	29 9am Do Days	30 ● 9am Do Days ● 4:30pm Book & Bible St	Dec 1 ● 9am Weekly Devotional ● 6pm Element - plan & p	2	3	4

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