



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

Trinity Messenger

September 2021

Field Notes: Rev. C. Richards

“We have met the enemy, and he is us” – Pogo, by Walt Kelly, (and Commandant Oliver Perry)

Jesus, when talking to the Pharisees in Mark, explains that nothing that goes into the body can make us unclean before God, it is what comes from our hearts that is dangerous and unclean. But in our lives this summer, and now this fall, we have been busy looking at the enemy. The enemy is many and surrounds us – maybe it is the enemy we make of liberals or conservatives in this week’s political upsets. Maybe we have made an enemy of those who are vaccinated or those who are not vaccinated against Covid 19? Maybe our enemies are refugees from Central America or Afghanistan, or maybe our enemies are our neighbors who we see succeeding while we feel left behind.

We have no problem finding enemies. But what if there is only one enemy? Us? Ourselves? Ultimately, Jesus has told us, if you are in me, and I in you, you will live forever. The Spirit is true, the flesh is weak. If this is really the case, what is it we look forward to in eternity? If we are unable to cultivate hearts of compassion and forgiveness, hearts full of trust and love for Jesus and for others, we will spend an eternity finding new enemies and new hatreds. We will become our own worst punishment as eternity piles on hurts we cannot forgive, neighbors we cannot love, and a God we cannot be near or trust.

Truly – when in 1812 Commandant Oliver Perry said to his superiors, “We have met the enemy, and he is ours.” He believed the battle to be all but won. But the parody of this line from the comic strip Pogo is far more accurate to Jesus’ appraisal of humanity. “We have met the enemy, and he is us.”

Mind you, the human heart is also the place where Joy, Love, Faith, Hope, and Compassion come from. It is not that we are broken, or incapable, rather it is that we are at great risk. This is

why God sends us the Spirit to help – sent Jesus and still sends us Jesus to take root in our hearts, and us in his.

As autumn arrives and events and schedules spin up with the winter soon to arrive, I wonder – which enemies might you rename as neighbor? With Jesus help, could you release your hatreds, your angers, forgive others or yourself for the darkness you embrace? Especially with a possible season of pandemic upon us and plenty of difficulties in our own lives – how might we trust Jesus at his word, that we are worth dying for even though we are the source of that which we fear, evil and hatred?

Christ's Peace to you this fall as you center your heart on Jesus. As you look for an enemy to rename in your heart – it is hard work – remember that this is the work that Jesus has for us – forgiving and offering grace to our neighbor, and to ourselves.

Pr. CR

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

** September 12th – General Meeting & General Offering. Let's get together and discuss how to proceed this year.

** Can You Help?

Karen Edlund has received \$250 from Thrivent and her project is buying fleece for making baby jackets for future Baby Care Kits. She has lots of fleece now and is asking for help from sewers. Please let her know if you would be willing to help. She plans to have a cutting out day and a sewing day. If you could please contact Karen at 763-248-3319. She would like to get this project started in September.

** The glacial ridge fall gathering in September has been canceled due to COVID. The school kits have been assembled (total of 51) and fabric kits will be assembled October 25th.

** We packed 186,634 meals at the Feed My Starving Children mobile packing event in Morris. That amount will feed 507 children for a year!! Thank you, Trinity, for your support on this worthwhile mission!

Do Days

September 27th &
28th

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	COMMUNION PREP.
Sun, Sept.5th	9:30 AM	B. Barsness	K. Zenner	D. Black & Boys	Denise Olson
Sun, Sept. 12th	9:30 AM	L. Anderson	K. Zenner	J. Knorr	
Sun, Sept. 19th	9:30 AM	J. Knorr	<i>TBD</i>	S. & K. Banta	
Sun, Sept. 26th	9:30 AM	S. Banta	K. Zenner	A. Erickson & Boys	Jeannie Maanum

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.

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 09/03 Jere Ettesvold | 09/21 Kyla Koob |
| 09/03 Jere Solvie | 09/21 Wyatt Mithun |
| 09/03 Ruth Schiefelbein | 09/22 Rose Larson |
| 09/03 Brooke Pugsley | 09/23 Eugene Olson |
| 09/03 Samuel Estrada | 09/25 Marjorie Alfson |
| 09/06 Desamus Estrada | 09/26 Amber Retzlaff |
| 09/07 Robert Jergenson | 09/28 Curtis Gunvalson |
| 09/10 Ashley Malland | 09/28 Alexis Carbert |
| 09/11 Reed Kannegiesser | 09/29 Adam Erickson |
| 09/13 Kellie Ashby | 09/30 Wade Maanum |
| 09/14 Lonnie Anderson | |
| 09/15 Callan Erickson | |
| 09/15 Lily Berg | |
| 09/16 Melloy Flaten | |
| 09/16 Cheryl Larson | |
| 09/16 Brooke Banta | |
| 09/16 Brock Erlandson | |
| 09/17 Kenny Veum | |
| 09/19 Nancy Flom | |
| 09/20 Leon Sloneker | |
| 09/20 Joyce Skogstad | |
| 09/20 Craig Larson | |

Back to school Prayer

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Dear heavenly Father,  
As our children  
Return to school  
We look again  
To your eternal faithfulness.  
Watch over our beloved ones.  
Let your Spirit go before them  
To prepare the way  
And open the doors  
That lead to your grace.  
Guide them away from harm.  
May your mighty Spirit defend them  
From any aggression or attack.  
Equip them with discernment  
And strength of character.  
Let them be free to live and learn  
As children of God.  
Give us, dear Lord,  
The wisdom and patience  
To know when to speak or be still  
As their parents and caretakers.  
Always remembering  
That they are yours  
From the beginning;  
Their lives a loving gift to us  
From Almighty God.  
We trust in you,  
We depend upon you.  
Care for your children,  
Oh heavenly Father.  
In Jesus name,  
Amen.

# CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, August 24, 2021

Present: Pastor Chris, Jerry Carlsen, Lonnie Anderson, Holly Rutter, Barb Barsness, Dena Carbert and Kathy Banta

Absent: Roxanne Malland & Kayla Schmidgall

Holly Rutter called the meeting to order.

Pastor Chris led the meeting with Devotions from Mark.

Dena made a motion to approve the Agenda, 2nd by Kathy, motion carried.

Barb made a motion to approve the Secretary's Minutes as printed in the messenger, 2nd by Lonnie, motion carried

Dena made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, 2nd by Lonnie, motion carried.

Pastor Chris gave his report.

## Old Business

An update on the Nursery was given with a discussion on the new floor coverage and window covering.

## New Business

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christ Child information was presented. Look for more information to be included in the upcoming Messenger.

## Board Reports

Education Committee: Children's Church will resume the Sunday after Labor Day.

Properties Committee: Work continues on the new desk for the computer equipment. Working on getting a quote for new gutters.

Worship Committee: All has been going good. Looking at getting Contemporary Services back up and running.

Outreach Committee: There have been problems with the Phone-in Church Service - working on getting this corrected. Fellowship following the church service in the basement will begin the 2nd Sunday in September. Look for a sign-up sheet in the basement to host following Sundays.

Next scheduled meeting is September 19th at 10:45am following the church service.

Closed with prayer and the Lord's Prayer. Meeting was adjourned.

--Kathy Banta

# 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.

\*\* Open house bridal shower at Trinity for Carly Maanum on Saturday, September 11th from 9:30am to 11:30am.

\*\* Celebration of Life for Joann Kannegiesser will be on Saturday, September 11th from 2pm to 4pm at Messiah Trinity Lutheran Church in Hoffman.

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

\*\* 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.

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

Sunday, September 19th - Paintball Trip – see poster on Narthex bulletin board or contact church office for flyer – sign up by Sunday, Sept. 12th

Sunday, September 26th @ 6:30pm - Small Group Kickoff at First Lutheran Church

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

\* September 15th @ 6pm - Parents and youth meeting at First Lutheran Church (At least one parent and the youth involved must attend!) You will get the complete schedule for the year and more information at this meeting

\* September 22nd @ 6-7:30pm - Element kickoff at First Lutheran Church

\* September 29th @ 6-7:30pm - Element at First Lutheran Church

\*\* Youth Ministry Needs

\* We are still in need of a male co-leader for Element. You would be working with the 6th or 8th grade boys group.

\*Also, we'd love to provide a Bible study for the parents of Sr. High Fusion and Element to be held on Wednesday nights. We would need 2 people who would be interested in leading that Bible study with the parents who are interested.

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).

\*\* Assumption Catholic Church in Morris has SeptemberFest on Sunday, September 19th, from 9am to 3pm. See poster on Narthex bulletin board for more details.

\*\* Opportunity to work with Hancock Reform Church on Samaritan's Purse Operation Christ Child shoebox – pack a shoebox with gift to send (also need \$9 mailing fee donation). Boxes will be brought to Hancock Reform during the second week of November and they will send out the following week- let Kayla (or a council member) know if you'd like to participate or for more information.

| SUN                                                | MON                   | TUE                            | WED                                                                                               | THU | FRI   | SAT |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|-----|
| 29<br>● 9:30am Worship<br>● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI | 30                    | 31<br>● 4:30pm Book & Bible St | Sep 1<br>● 9am Weekly Devotional<br>● 10am Services at Holly<br>2 more                            | 2   | 3     | 4   |
| 5<br>● 9:30am Worship<br>● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI  | 6<br><b>Labor Day</b> | 7<br>● 4:30pm Book & Bible St  | 8<br>● 9am Weekly Devotional<br>● 6pm Element: Jr. High I                                         | 9   | 10    | 11  |
| 12<br>● 9:30am Worship<br>● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI | 13                    | 14<br>● 4:30pm Book & Bible St | 15<br><b>First Day of Hispanic Herit!</b><br>● 9am Weekly Devotional<br>● 6pm Element: Jr. High I | 16  | 17    | 18  |
| 19<br>● 9:30am Worship<br>● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI | 20                    | 21<br>● 4:30pm Book & Bible St | 22<br>● 9am Weekly Devotional<br>● 6pm Element: Jr. High I                                        | 23  | 24    | 25  |
| 26<br>● 9:30am Worship<br>● 6pm Sr. High Fusion MI | 27                    | 28<br>● 4:30pm Book & Bible St | 29<br>● 9am Weekly Devotional<br>● 6pm Element: Jr. High I                                        | 30  | Oct 1 | 2   |



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