

# BOND



## Trinity Lutheran Church

523 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Jamestown, ND

July 2023 Vol. 20 Issue 7

**GOD  
BLESS  
AMERICA**

**In this issue you can  
read the Synod  
Assembly Snapshots  
for 2023.**



**Thanks to Chris Flann, Russ  
& Cheryl Sunderland, Bob  
Toso and Shawn Banet for  
attending as voting members  
representing Trinity. (Katie  
Banet also pictured)**

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# I'm a Lutheran



Steve Sedler

I have been a member of Faith Lutheran in Hannaford and Trinity Lutheran in Jamestown.

I work as a financial advisor.

I found my faith with the help of my parents and Sunday School as a young kid. I have found that the search never ends as you can always work on your relationship with God.

My favorite Bible story is the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. Knowing (and seeing) what he did for us is beyond belief. If you haven't watched *The Bible: The Epic Miniseries*, I couldn't recommend it enough.

I pray every evening and periodically throughout most days.

People are surprised that I have an obsession with the band, Tool, and Alice in Chains.

If I could change anything it would be the decrease in church attendance. It hurts to see church attendance appears no longer to be a priority.

I'm a Lutheran because my upbringing got me involved with the church. My parents felt it was very important to attend church and volunteer your time to assist in any way you could.

For me, music is essential to the soul. One of my biggest regrets is not continuing to play music when my guitar teacher moved away.

Serving on church and community teams opened my eyes to the importance of a group of people coming together to accomplish goals to move their organization in the right direction. The time, patience, and expertise required helps you appreciate certain people very much for what they do.

## Stepping Stones FAMILY PLAY CENTER

**Ready! Set! Get Wet!** - Session 1 - July 6, 1-2pm, Ages 3-5, \$10

Session 2 - July 6, 2:30-4pm, Ages 6-10, \$10

**Nursery Rhyme Fun** - July 10, 4:30-5:30pm, Ages 4-6, \$10

**Pout Pout Fish & Ocean Life** - July 21- 4:30-5:30 pm, Ages 4-6, \$10

**ABC!** - August 1, 2, 3 6:30-7:30pm, Ages 4-6, \$30

Contact Stepping Stones at: [Steppingstones@trinityjamestown.com](mailto:Steppingstones@trinityjamestown.com) or 701-320-8216 with any questions.

# Honoring the New and the Old in Parables



*Jesus said, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of the household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old." Matthew 13:52*

Our younger son, Oscar, is getting married in August. As Oscar and Jenna prepare for their wedding, I've been involved in lots of mother of the groom conversations. Several of those conversations have revolved around what will I wear that complements and does not clash with the members of the wedding party. One afternoon, I sat with my mother as we looked through the few pieces of jewelry she has that belonged to her mother and grandmother. I was looking for a pin or a necklace that I could wear with my dress that would have special meaning because it belonged to the great- or great-great- grandmother of our son. These pieces have far more sentimental value than monetary value, but treasures they are.

Jesus talks about "the master of the household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old." As I sat listening to my mother talk about the necklace that her grandmother wore for my mother's wedding, it was clear that my mother should wear that one. The treasure was in the story itself, held dearly in my mother's heart until an afternoon when we opened the wooden box and carefully unwrapped the tissue paper from around each piece, until the necklace and its story were shared openly.

Throughout the month of July, we open the Bible and carefully unwrap parables. Each week, a familiar treasure that has been packed away in our hearts is shared openly and reveals something old and something new about the kingdom of heaven. A mustard seed. Yeast. A pearl of great value. Wheat and weeds growing together until the harvest. Seeds sown in rocky ground or good soil. At first, we may think these parables are tarnished and worn. But on closer inspection, we discover that they can sparkle in ways that bring light to our faith. Their meaning is more than sentimental. It is a treasure of faith from generations past that comes as a gift for generations to come.

The kingdom of heaven is far too expansive to be described in just one way. God's love. God's mercy. God's welcome to ones who feel shut out or shoved aside. Each image waits to be carefully unwrapped and viewed from many different angles. When I hold up this parable and examine its contours, does it fit the same way it did the last time I looked at it? Perhaps it scratches my neck and I have to keep moving the clasp to keep my skin from being rubbed raw. Maybe it is like a bracelet that is now too loose for my wrist and I have to adjust to keep it from falling off.

Parables do not come to us as one size fits all. They ask for our attention in new and old ways so we can continue to encounter God's welcome. God's mercy. God's love in Jesus Christ.

In Peace, Pastor Kristi Weber

# Synod News

## Synod Assembly Snapshots 2023

**Worship-** Bishop Tessa preached at the opening worship service and lifted up Peter- the Rock upon which I will build my church.” She conveyed the point that Jesus tested Peter even though he denied Jesus 3 times before they day was done. Jesus is a forgiving “power.” He wants us to be the people who work together and realize they cannot independently achieve the results in ministry that they can by working together. Individual congregations that are working together can become a stronger force to serve the lord and spread the word. Lynn Krueger

**Workshops-** There were many different workshops offered as part of the Synod Assembly, including one about our Christians In Action partnership. At another workshop, Deacon Laura led an Equipped for Ministry workshop. She shared information about the process for Seminary candidates. There was a question about the difference between a Pastor and a Deacon. The Deacon is of service and deployed to assist the Pastor. There also was information on the Minister call process. Lots of people have questions about how this process works at this time. Pam Drugs

**Churchwide and Synod-** We are one church with three expressions: Congregation, Synod, National Church. The Synod and Churchwide expressions of our life together are not “out there” somewhere- they are us in all of our variety and beauty and quirks. Bishop Tessa asked in her State of the Synod address, “How’s it going?” and “Why do we have a Synod?” Part of her answer was we have a synod to help congregations do what they do, better. That includes: helping congregations and pastoral leaders serve together, providing leadership and guidance for congregations that are beginning or closing, looking out for the good order of our legal (corporate) interests, and calling together various congregations for encouragement, celebration, and a sense of the breadth of God’s work in our communities. The national expression of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was shared by the churchwide representative Rev. Lamont Wells who shared how congregations from the whole country support ELCA Disaster Response, World Hunger, Ecumenical relations, and Directors of Evangelical Mission in each Synod. Together, we are church today. Pastor Erik

**Equip Moments-** At the Synod Assembly there were three “EQUIP” moments. One of the Equip experiences was the FAITH 5. Five steps to talk with your family every day for a short or long time. I like the every night idea. The five steps are to SHARE your highs and lows of the day, READ a bible verse or story every night, TALK about how the Bible reading relates to your highs and lows, PRAY for one another’s highs and lows, BLESS one another by using your finger on their forehead. We did this together at our tables and I though this would work great with kids or adults to keep them ore grounded. The last EQUIP experience was how read the Bible with others to make it more meaningful. We read Ephesians 4:1-7,11-16. One person reads the verse and the torahs listen with their eyes closed. When done the reader asks what was one thing that stuck out to them that was good or bad and discuss. Everyone in the group gets a chance. Char Freeberg.

**Food for All Block Party-** Saturday evening of the Assembly, the synod Action and Advocacy team and Bethlehem Lutheran of Fargo hosted our evening dinner and activities in the form of a block party. Food trucks of flavors from around the world were lined up to fill out bellies with good food, and there were plenty of tables set up in the shade for conversation and conviviality. Pastor Lexy played the role of DJ and kept an energetic stream of tunes flowing across the area. The event was very family friendly. The most popular feature is a toss up between the dunking booth where folks could dunk a collection of synod staff and clergy; and the petting zoo featuring creatures from a deer to a kangaroo, and even a camel! It was ND hot, but God sent a breeze to keep us cool and the Holy Spirit to lift our spirits. Apart from fellowship, the main purpose of the evening was to raise awareness and funds for the hunger ministries in our synod and stuff the bishop’s car with food donations. The ministries set up booths to share information about their efforts, and it was delightful to hear their stories and feel their enthusiasm for reducing hunger in their areas. By the end of the evening, over \$3500 was raised and the bishop’s car was overflowing with bags of donations. This was a super successful event both in funds raised and fun times had by all.

Pastor Stephanie



# 2023 Vacation Bible School - Holy Trinity, Wholly Love!

Monday, June 19 - Friday, June 23rd Elementary age kids from Trinity Lutheran, St. John's Lutheran and Atonement Lutheran gathered with camp counselors from Red Willow Ministries to learn about the Holy Trinity! It was a week full of songs, Bible stories, skits, games, crafts, snacks, and lots of energy. With about 30 kids in attendance there was never a dull moment. At the end of the week the kids sang the songs they learned for their grown-ups. Then they blessed the counselors (Dylan, Serenity, and Sarah) and sent them back to camp. We are grateful to Atonement Lutheran for the use of their space to make this incredible week a success. All the kids had a fantastic time and learned that they are wholly loved by the Holy Trinity. We hope to have more friends join us next year!



# Christians in Action – Youth and Family Ministries



This summer the Christians in Action Partnership worked together to think about possible options for a fun Summer Worship opportunity for each congregation within the partnership. Early in the planning process we felt that each congregation should have autonomy to plan something fun that would work best in their own community. At that point we renamed ourselves, "The Summer Worship Empowerment Team". The team took a survey and identified which Sundays worked best for each individual congregation. Here are the dates:

**Sunday, July 9** at Atonement Lutheran in Jamestown

**Sunday, July 16** at Montpelier Lutheran in Montpelier

**Sunday, July 23** at Zion Lutheran in Kulm

**Sunday, July 30** at Emmanuel Lutheran in Gackle

**Sunday, August 6** at English Lutheran in Medina

**Sunday, August 13** Campfire Worship at Red Willow Ministries in Binford, ND (organized by Trinity Lutheran and St. John's Lutheran in Partnership with Red Willow Ministries.)

TBD - Christ the King in Ellendale

Each congregation will have more information available about their summer worship services. Stay tuned in August for more information about Campfire Worship at Red Willow Ministries!

Congregations participating in Christians in Action:

Atonement, Jamestown

Christ the King, Ellendale

Emmanuel, Gackle

English, Medina

Montpelier, Montpelier

St. John's, Jamestown

Trinity, Jamestown

Zion, Kulm

## Welcome Deacon Tara

Deacon Tara moved to Jamestown on June 21, 2023. Thanks to all who helped with the move: Pastor Stephanie, Brent & Ashlyn Berry, Amy, Rylee, and Grady Joseph, and members of the UJ baseball and football teams. Deacon Tara begins her work as the Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries on July 1.



## NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Special music during July for the 8:30 Service will include a solo by Nathan Steele, an anthem by Trinity Choir, Kerry and Hannah Boese playing trumpets, and organ.

Special music during July for the 10:45 Service will be provided by Celebration.

We are grateful to all those who so faithfully support the music program at Trinity.



Young at Heart will be going to Pizza Ranch for lunch on Monday, July 10.  
All seniors are welcome!

## WOMEN OF TRINITY

Once again members of Trinity have donated their time, materials, and artistic talent to create a lovely quilt for the Women of Trinity to raffle to raise funds for their benevolent projects. Using "Mum for a Mum" fabric by Benartex, Evelyn Runck designed and pieced a queen-sized 91" x 97" burgundy, yellow, and green quilt that brings you into a flower garden. It was bound and machine quilted in a leaf pattern by Emmy Opskar, assisted by Edie Wait. (Special thanks to Edie for the use of her longarm.)

Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10 and are available at the church office, in the Gathering Space between services or anytime using the "self-serve" display and at the Dakota Store. The drawing will be July 10.



Thank you to all who helped make the salad luncheon a success!! Whether you brought one of the fantastic salads or scrumptious bars or offered your service with a smile, you helped everyone in attendance to enjoy a great meal and a good time, while providing funding for the women's benevolent projects.

# Council Highlights—Monday, June 6, 2023

**Present:** Amy Joseph, Jacob Limke, Chris Flann, Mary Craft, Joni Zink, Greg Ulland, Nathan Steele, Pastor Susan Haukaas, Pastor Kristi Weber, Shawn Banet (on speaker phone)

Minutes: minutes of the May 15, 2023 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports for May 2023 will be emailed when they are received.

## ACTION ITEMS

- 1) Approve offer of employment and compensation package for Early Childhood Specialist/ Youth Ministry Assistant (ECS/YMA)
- 2) Approved agreement with partner congregations for ECS/YMA position.
- 3) Accept with regret, resignation of Ashley Gehlhar as Director of Stepping Stones and Jessie Anderson as Hostess. Approve hiring Chloe Voges-Strozzi and Celina Armknecht as Hostesses.
- 4) Appoint Music Ministries Search Team: Kristy Landenberger, Hal Weiser, Erin Klein, Nathan Steele, and Pastor Kristi Weber.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

- A) Computer purchases for new youth ministry staff, main office, and updated software for all 9 computers.
- B) Update on boiler replacement status.

Next regular Council meeting: Monday, July 17, 2023 at 7:00 pm in person

Next Executive team meeting Tuesday, July 11 at 12:30 pm on Zoom

### 2023 COUNCIL MEMBERS (Telephone)

Greg Ulland, President 701-330-2015  
Shawn Banet, Vice-President 701-739-8872  
Chris Flann, Sec. 269-6756  
Jacob Limke, Treasurer 701-212-3324

Mary Craft 252-9086	Amy Joseph 269-9344
Eric Knodel 320-9968	Mindy Skunberg 269-2805
Nathan Steele 269-2811	Joni Zink 320-1015

### COMMITTEE/TEAM CHAIRS (Telephone)

Altar Guild.....	Ardell Quigley (952-5062)
Boy Scouts.....	Aaron Motter (952-3428)
Education.....	252-2841
Fine Arts.....	252-2841
Library.....	252-2841
Memorial.....	Peg Beckman (252-1896)
Men of Trinity.....	Randy Lebahn (952-8337)
Outreach.....	Shirley Driessen (952-2519)
Parish Care.....	Ruth Urdahl (952-1733)
Property & Management.....	252-2841
Selma Alexander/Trinity Foundation.....	Bob Toso (252-5027)
Stephen Ministry.....	Wendy Thompson (251-2122)
Women of Trinity.....	Ruth Urdahl (952-1733)
Worship.....	252-2841
Youth.....	Wynn Rasmussen (252-4890)
Church Office.....	252-2841



## OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on Monday, July 4. Enjoy a safe and wonderful Independence Day!



## Financial Snapshot—Trinity's General Fund Through May 2023

Year to Date Income	\$ 149,086
Year to Date Designated Income*	<u>+\$ 13,853</u>
Year to Date Total New Income	\$ 162,339
Transfer from Savings** for Designated Expenses	<u>+\$ 32,587</u>
Year to Date Total for Expenses	\$ 195,526
Year to Date Expenses	<u>-\$ 189,225</u>
Surplus (deficit)	\$ 6,301

\*Designated income includes funds received for specific bills paid through Trinity's General Fund.

\*\*Some funds received in previous years are designated for expenses (such as repairs paid by donations to the RENEW Campaign) Your generosity throughout the year helps continue Trinity's mission and ministry.

## RENEW Campaign Update through May 2023



Your financial gifts to Trinity's RENEW Campaign support ministry.  
**THANK YOU for your generosity.**

Gifts received through May 20, 2023 support these goals:

**GENEROSITY**      donation to Eastern ND Synod      **\$20,000**

**FACILITIES OPERATION**      **\$45,000**

Repair and maintenance for aging building systems  
includes heating and cooling system repairs and electrical work

**MINISTRY SPACES** contributions toward sanctuary renovation and education wing replacement **\$89,015**

**FINANCIAL SECURITY** mortgage payments sent or in bank for payments through April 2024      **\$80,000**

principal reduction for mortgage from RENEW donations      **\$26,740**

principal reduction from Jensen and Engel Estate Gifts      **\$60,000**

**Total Distributed through May 20, 2023      \$320,755**

Contributions toward the replacement of the front steps and sidewalk have also been received.

Additional gifts received through December 31, 2023 will be used toward replacing damaged ceiling tiles, LED lighting and fixtures, replacing ONE boiler, and additional repair and maintenance expenses.

10% of gifts received will be donated to the Eastern North Dakota Synod (approximately \$20,000)

## Worship on FM radio

*If you are having trouble with the reception on 1400 AM for the radio broadcast of the 8:30 am Sunday worship, try 107.1 FM to get better reception.*

## Altar Flowers

- † 7/2/23 by Dale & Wendy Thompson in honor of grandson, Kyan
- † 7/9/23 by Deb Holmes in honor of her & John's 30th anniversary
- † 7/16/23 by Marlyn Swanson in honor of great-grandchild's July birthday
- † 7/23/23 by Judy Brueske in honor of Penny Landscoot's birthday

## Altar Candles

- † 7/2/23 by Dale & Wendy Thompson in honor of grandson, Kyan
- † 7/9/23 by Russ & Cheryl Sunderland in honor of their anniversary
- † 7/16/23 by Marlyn Swanson in honor of great-grandchild's July birthday
- † 7/23/23 by Judy Brueske in honor of LuAnn Knoke's birthday

## Radio

- † 7/2/23 by Russ & Cheryl Sunderland in honor of their anniversary
- † 7/9/23 by Jim & Connie Vagneur in memory of James D., Marjorie & David Vagneur
- † 7/16/23 by Judy Brueske in memory of Larry & Beverly Brueske
- † 7/23/23 by Merle Weatherly & Peg Beckman in memory of Myla Wescom

## June worship attendance

### In person at 8:30 a.m.

June 4 ..... 63  
June 11 ..... 47  
June 18 ..... 47  
June 25 ..... 32

### In person at 10:45 a.m.

June 4 ..... 54  
June 11 ..... 44  
June 18 ..... 40  
June 25 ..... 48

### YouTube views

#### Sunday 10:45 a.m.

June 4 ..... 55  
June 11 ..... 46  
June 18 ..... 21  
June 25 ..... 20



## Ministerial Acts



Funerals

- † 6/2/2023 Myrna Ronholm
- † 6/6/2023 Ellen Orr

**THE Bond** is published monthly by

Trinity Lutheran Church

523 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Jamestown, ND 58401


Telephone (701) 252-2841

E-mail: [connect@trinityjamestown.com](mailto:connect@trinityjamestown.com)

Web site: [www.trinityjamestown.com](http://www.trinityjamestown.com)

Kristina Weber (320-2077)..... Senior Pastor  
Susan Haukaas (320-1446)..... Associate Pastor  
Wendy Thompson ..... Pastoral Assistant  
To be named (320-8216) Director of Stepping Stones  
Lynette Berry (320-5707)..... Faith Quest Administrator  
Dick Morris..... Organist/Choir Director  
Meggen Henke..... Administrative Assistant



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:30am Worship with Communion 10:45am Worship with Communion	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed 	5 8:45am Open Play	6 1:00pm Ready! Set! Get Well - ages 3-5 2:00pm Ready! Set! Get Well - ages 6-10	7 Office Closed 8:45am Open Play	8
9 8:30am Worship 10:45am Worship	10 11:30am Young at Heart 4:30pm Nursery Rhyme Fun! 4:15pm Celebration Rehearsal	11 9:45am Staff Meeting 2:30pm Text Study	12 8:45am Open Play	13 9:30am Altar Guild 7:00pm Wine & the Word	14 Office Closed 8:45am Open Play	15
16 8:30am Worship with Communion 10:45am Worship with Communion	17 4:15pm Celebration Rehearsal 7:00pm Congregational Council	18 8:00am Men of Trinity 9:45am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Grace Circle 2:30pm Text Study	19 8:45am Open Play	20 11:00am Ave Maria	21 Office Closed 8:45am Open Play 4:30pm Pout Pout Fish & Ocean Life	22
23 8:30am Worship 10:45am Worship 1:00pm Rock of Ages	24 4:15pm Celebration Rehearsal	25 9:45am Staff Meeting 2:30pm Text Study	26 8:45am Open Play	27	28 Office Closed 8:45am Open Play	29
30 8:30am Worship 10:45am Worship	31 4:15pm Celebration Rehearsal					



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**523 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SE**  
**Jamestown, ND 58401**  
**Address Service Requested**

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Jamestown, ND

**Trinity's Purpose:**

Connect with God and with each other.

Share God's good news with all.



**Summer Worship at Trinity**

Sundays 8:30 am (radio and in person)

Sundays 10:45 am (in person and online)

Wednesday Worship will pause until September 20