

From the Pastor’s Desk:

Dear Friends in Christ,
In the coming months, our Board of Elders intends to review our church membership. There are many names on our rolls that over the years have fallen into various levels of inactivity and absence. The goal of this is not to remove anyone from the congregation, but rather to gain a better sense of who actually is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. Church membership carries with it some responsibilities. I want to share with you a letter that the first President of the LCMS, Rev. Dr. C.F.W. Walther used to share with those who joined his church.

“THE OBLIGATIONS OF CHURCH-MEMBERSHIP”

By signing our constitution, you have assumed a twofold obligation, the general obligation of a Christian and the special obligation of a voting member of our congregation.

The general obligations of a Christian you assumed already when you were baptized and confirmed, and by signing our constitution, you have merely repeated the promises previously made. Those promises consist in this, that as Lutheran Christians you will believe and confess the truth and lead a godly life.

The new obligations which you have assumed are these: -

- 1.That you will not absent yourselves from public worship, neither on Sunday nor on any festival day nor on a weekday, unless you are compelled to do so;
- 2.That you will attend every voters' meeting unless prevented by circumstances beyond your control;
- 3.That you will at all times be concerned about the welfare of the congregation and foster it in every way possible. That you will –
- Give us the benefit of your advice;

• Always vote for what you consider right;

• Contribute according to your means toward the support of church and school and of the poor in our midst.

• When voting for new pastors, teachers, elders, or other officers of the congregation, let your vote be prompted alone by your concern for the congregation's welfare;

• Gladly submit to admonition from the Word of God; when you see others sin, practice brotherly admonition instead of talking about them behind their backs; and when a case of church discipline comes up for discussion, proceed strictly according to the Word of God;

• Submit to the rules and regulations made by our congregation, see to it that others observe them, and do all that is in your power to foster harmony; In case doctrinal controversies should occur (which we ask God graciously to prevent), judge strictly according to the Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions.
4. That you will often pray for the congregation;
5. That you will patiently bear with the weak in our midst;
6. That you will join no other religious organization; especially not a secret order; that you will not send your children to the non-religious public schools;
7. Finally, that you will faithfully remain one of us unto death or until the Lord may lead you elsewhere.

If you succeed with the grace of God in carrying out these promises, your membership will prove a blessing to others; but above all you yourselves will enjoy the fruits of our vineyard. May God graciously grant it! Amen” (You can find this letter at <http://www.lutherquest.org/walther/articles/700/749.htm>)

As you can see, there are a number of responsibilities church members have, many of which boil down to presence and participation. As the Elders review our church roster, this is really the goal – presence and participation. It is only through these things that the congregation can fulfill its purpose to provide spiritual care for the members. Any feedback you might have about this review is welcomed and can be shared with the elders or with me. God bless you in this new year!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lieske



Bible Study Opportunities

- † Sunday Mornings— 10:30 am Adult & Teen Bible Study
- † Tuesday Mornings—8:00 am Men’s Morning Bible Study
- † Tuesday Afternoons— 2:00 pm Women’s Bible Study
- †

DARTBALL- Our next evening of dartball will be on Monday, January 8 at Our Redeemer in Moorhead beginning at 7:00pm. We will carpool from the Trinity parking lot at 5:45. Please let Dave Schneeberger know if you have any questions or if you are able to join.

UPCOMING MEETING- A Congregational Voters Assembly Meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2024. At this meeting the congregation will be asked to vote on allowing the Trustees to proceed with the parking lot improvement project and on securing funding for the project. This would involve borrowing funds and placing a lien on our property. For this reason we are publicizing now that such a vote is coming. Please bring any questions or concerns to Ken Heidorn.

PLEDGE CARDS-If you have not yet returned your pledge card for the parking lot improvement project please consider doing so as soon as possible. We would like to compile the info by January 15th. If you have any questions, feel free to contact a member of the Stewardship Board. Thank you

MENS BIBLE STUDY- There will be no Men’s Bible study on January 2nd. It will resume on January 9th.

SANCITY OF LIFE SUNDAY- Erin Tysver from Health Recourses will be here on January 21st to speak with us. A list of items needed will be available shortly.


Mission Trip Opportunity! 2024 LAMP Mission Trip Dates
Mark your calendars! The dates for our 15th annual LAMP Mission Trip to Norway House and Shamattawa, Manitoba have been set as follows:
***Norway House: July 20 - 28, 2024**
***Shamattawa: July 18 - 28, 2024**
Pray to the Lord of the Harvest - is He calling you?

LAMP Sunday Presentation - January 14, 2024
To kick off our 2024 season, LAMP Volunteers from last summer's mission trips to Norway House and Shamattawa will be sharing their experiences on Sunday, January 14, 2024. Come and hear how God was working through the teams as they shared His Word with the children, teens and adults in these northern indigenous communities

The ladies of Trinity Lutheran Church are invited to the Trinity Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML), Lutheran Women in Mission,, meeting on Saturday, January 27, at 9:00AM at the church. Join in the fellowship and Bible Study with other Lutheran women of Trinity and Immanuel. It is wonderful way to bond with other Lutheran women working together to carry out the mission as Christians helping others to grow in faith as we study God’s Word, fellowship together, and decide on our monetary donations. If you have any questions, please call Esther Schlicker at 218-316-2924 or talk to another LWML member.

JANUARY 2024

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|----------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Fergus Falls, MN 218-736-4869 | 1 Office Closed | 2 9:10am Chapel 2:00pm Women's Bible study 7:00pm Trustees Mtg | 3 1:00pm Lydia Circle 4:00pm Confirmation | 4 12:30pm Quilters 6:30pm Evening Circle Mtg | 5 | 6 3:00pm Epiphany Service | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 9:00am Divine Service 10:30am Adult & Teen Bible study 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Elders Meeting | 8 9:10am Chapel | 9 8:00am Men's Bible study 9:10am Chapel 2:00pm Women's Bible study | 10 1:00pm Knitters & Crocheting 4:00pm Confirmation 5:15pm Bell practice 6:00pm Choir practice | 11 12:00pm Crafters 12:30pm Quilters | 12 | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 9:00am Divine Service 10:30am Adult & Teen Bible study 10:30am Sunday School | 15 9:10am Chapel 3:30pm Human Care Board Meeting | 16 8:00am Men's Bible study 9:10am Chapel 2:00pm Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Church Council | 17 4:00pm Confirmation 5:15pm Bell practice 6:00pm Choir practice | 18 10:00am Divine Service Broen Home 12:00pm Crafters 12:30pm Quilters | 19 Newsletter Items Due | 20 8:00am Trinity Men's Network | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 9:00am Divine Service 10:30am Adult & Teen Bible study 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Monthly Congregational Potluck | 22 9:10am Chapel | 23 8:00am Men's Bible study 9:10am Chapel 2:00pm Women's Bible Study | 24 1:00pm Knitters & Crocheting 4:00pm Confirmation | 25 12:00pm Crafters 12:30pm Quilters | 26 | 27 9:00am LWML meeting | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28 9:00am Divine Service 10:30am Adult & Teen Bible study 10:30am Sunday School | 29 9:10am Chapel | 30 9:10am Chapel 2:00pm Women's Bible Study 4:00pm Confirmation | 31 4:00pm Confirmation | <div>ON-CALL PASTOR: 218-321-0993</div> <div>DECEMBER 2023</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>FEBRUARY 2024</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> | | | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

2024

Ongoing Concern: Janet Maack, David Boese, Brian Fitzner, Jeremy Elshaug, Elaine Culp, Gene True, Kim Dewey (Laura Dewey's mother-in-law), Jennifer Wood (Jerald & Tami Gerhardson's daughter), Jim Anderson (Cal & Helen Johansen's friend), Jon Jastram (Phyllis Jastram's son), Dylan Maack (Bob & Janet Maack's grandson), Robin Roberts (Austin & Elaine Culp's daughter), Doug Litrich (Melvin & Marlene Reed's son-in-law), Missy Emerich (daughter-in-law of Cal & Helen Johansen), Stephen Hauser (David Hauser's brother), Blake Johnson (Joyce Hitchcock's son-in-law), Bridget Jackson (June Knopp's granddaughter)

Expectant Mothers: Megan Anderson (Daughter of Blaine & Margie Rasmussen, Rachael Larson (Daughter of Ken & Sue Heidorn), Stephanie Schroeder (Daughter of Ken & Sue Heidorn)

Homebound: Gary Froehlich, Donna Kolle, Fern Rau, Dick Anderson, Lois Helm, Lucille Harworth, Wally Lubben, Marlys Lueders, Ron Schulz, Evelyn Rud Lorraine & Gerry Drews, Lucille Scramstad, Chuck Dale

Military: Lieutenant Colonel Dennis Gerold, U.S.A.F., Travis AFB, CA (Lori & Leon Dawkins' son-in-law), Tech Sargent Isaac Christopher, U.S.A.F., Andrews Air Force Base, Washington D.C. (Donna Christopher's grandson); MMN2, Major George Hauser, DDS U.S. Army, Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX; (David & Mary Hauser's son) Gabe Johnson, MN National Guard, (Ken & Toni Erlandson's son); Major Dinsmore, MD MN National Guard (Al & Marcie Koennicke's grandson)