



Church  
Newsletter  
January 2020

## The Parish Messenger

### **Mission Statement**

We are a Christian community  
rooted in God's love growing  
in Christ through reaching out  
and serving.

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY AND GEORGETOWN LUTHERAN CHURCHES

### Worship Times

#### Georgetown

Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Sept.-May

#### Trinity

Worship 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:15  
a.m. Sept.-May

TAKE A  
LEAP OF  
FAITH  
& BEGIN THIS  
WONDROUS  
NEW YEAR  
BY BELIEVING.  
Sarah Ban Breathnach

### Contact Information

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#### **Trinity**

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### W.O.W. Wednesdays!

**January Theme: Baptism**

January 8, 2020 at Trinity: Godly Play story: "Baptism"

Jan. 15 at Georgetown

Jan. 22 at Trinity

Jan. 29 at Georgetown

# PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

by Pastor Diane House

“Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went...When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.” Acts 8: 26-27a, 39-40

As I think about January, my thoughts naturally turn to our annual meetings and I find myself pondering the work of ministry. Each church will have the usual January meetings where we will read reports, fuss over budgets, and discuss what went on in 2019 and start thinking about 2020. I would like us to see the annual meeting as an opportunity to challenge each other to be bold in our witness and bold in our support of the work of ministry.

That is why my mind turned to the story of Philip and the Ethiopian Official in Acts. This story in Acts 8 is fascinating to me because of the bold actions of the Holy Spirit and Philip's brave obedience. An angel appears to Philip with a message that he is to “get up and go...” and Philip does just that!

He encounters a foreign official who is a believer in God who is searching scripture to know more and Philip uses bible study to share the good news of Jesus. This results in the official's immediate baptism. Then “the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away!” The official goes on his way rejoicing and Philip “found himself” in a new place where he takes the opportunity to continue sharing the good news of Jesus to “all the towns.”

Wow! How many of us would like to be caught up in that kind of ministry? But, I truly believe that we can be! What if we saw our annual meeting as a way to witness to the good news of all that God has been up to in our church and in our communities in 2019 instead of a time of reports and fussing over budgets? What if we changed how we looked at attendance, giving, and programs from facts to report to evidence of the Holy Spirit's direction?

As we prepare to meet together, I encourage each one of us to be out and about in God's world. Be aware and look and listen to the needs of people. Listen for the Holy Spirit's direction to get up and go to where God would have you share the good news of Jesus. Come and report what you saw and heard and help us imagine how our churches can support that ministry with all we have to offer God in thanks for all God has done for us!

Pastor Diane

## ~Announcements~

### Trinity Shepherding Groups

Joann & Rick Sellent's Group  
 Pam Avery  
 Dennis Gail Anderson  
 Jan and Ray Clark  
 Kathy and Sam Grenquist family,  
 Brenda and Tim Rouzer  
 Lacy Sellent  
 Jordan Sellent  
 Travis and Marie Sellent

### Georgetown Shepherding Groups

January-Sherry Doornink's Group  
 Robert Doornink  
 Ryan & Diana Peterson and family  
 Mick & Jean Ebert and family  
 Emily & Jeremy Jones and family  
 Andy & Geraldine Mangelsen  
 Kim & Derrick Doyle and family  
 Jody Binfet  
 Darcy & Tom Binfet  
 Nicole Norland and family  
 Jan and Britta Norlund  
 Allen & Doris Moe  
 Rochelle Zacco, Landyn, Clara June

### Trinity WELCA Update

No Trinity WELCA meeting January through April 2020.

During 2019 we served the Phyllis Erickson, Vi Carlson, Jim Briese and Irene Hanson funerals. The summer Garage Sale was profitable and helped the women supply communion and kitchen supplies. After having a wonderful Christmas luncheon at the Red Maple Eatery, the women were still able to send \$1,500 to several mission and nonprofit organizations. Thank everyone for their help. God Bless us all in the New Year.

### Help Wanted

Georgetown Treasurer Position  
 Recruitment - Effective February 1, 2020  
 Treasurer is responsible for maintaining Quicken program with income and expenses, maintain a line item budget, run reports monthly for council meeting, run reports semi-annually and annually for budget meetings and annual report, pay outstanding bills, work with Trinity treasurer on shared expense items, provide annual reports to parishers on giving, and prepare W-2/W-3 documents for IRS purposes. Anyone interested, please see Diana Peterson or Tim Frenndt.

### Youth Group Update

Friday, January 24th: Youth will meet at church at 5:30pm to travel to the Escape Room in Rice Lake. Cost is \$10. Please let Lacy know by January 8th if you plan to attend, as we have to pay in advance.

Sunday, February 9th: Meet at Trollhaugen (in Dresser, WI) at 3pm for an afternoon of tubing. Cost is \$10--all ages welcome!

## Trinity Church Council Minutes December 17, 2019

Members present: Steven Anderson, Brenda Rouzer (Treasurer), Pastor Diane House, Debbie Wickstrom, Christine Anderson, JoAnn Sellent and John Gall. Absent: Allie Snowbank  
Guests Present: Wayne Kendrick, Gurine Gall, Cynthia Halverson

Pastor led the group in prayer.  
Meeting called to order by Steve Anderson.

Endowment: Council has been working to finalize a resolution and by-laws to present to the congregation. We have carefully considered concerns and questions raised at the October 13<sup>th</sup> congregational meeting. We have been working with Cynthia Halverson, Regional Gift Planner with the ELCA Foundation. This evening we requested that Gurine Gall and Wayne Kendrick join the conversation and add their experience with church investments and stewardship of gifts given to congregations. We discussed our 4<sup>th</sup> version of potential draft documents to bring to the congregation. The topics were options for Trinity if we choose to create an endowment or not. Cynthia explained how the ELCA Pooled Trust Fund A operates, should we choose to put any money into it. The plan is to:

1. Make the 5<sup>th</sup> revisions discussed in the council meeting for a resolution and by-laws establishing an endowment fund (using part of the money given by Elsie Marklund).
2. Send revisions for approval of council via e-mail/print.
3. Send cover letter for council approval via e-mail/print.
4. Distribute cover letter, resolution and by-laws to the congregation via e-mail and mail before the Annual Meeting

We thanked our guests for attending and they were excused.

### Annual Meeting Preparation

#### 2019 Budget:

Council went through the 2019 budget and made a few changes for the 2020 operating budget. Brenda will make the changes to be included in the Annual Meeting booklet.

A motion was made to move \$500 from the 2019 Youth Encouragement Budget into the Youth Checking Account so they can access it. Christine made the motion, John seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Nominating Committee: Members whose terms are up are on the nominating committee. This is Steve Anderson, Allie Snowbank and Christine Anderson. We need 3 council members and we need a church treasurer. Many thanks to Brenda for the great work she's doing!

Reports: All reports are to be sent to Debbie by December 31, 2019 via e-mail. This includes Pastors, Presidents, Sunday School, Youth and WELCA reports as well as 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes.

Membership Update: Debbie reviewed the membership roster. We have about 98 active members, according to the by-laws a quorum is 20% of active members. This will be 20 members.

#### New Business:

- Steve Anderson has been talking with the property insurance company. We have been over-insured and will likely be receiving a small refund.
- Life touch plans to be at Trinity and Georgetown for pictures to put into a new photo directory. They will be here June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to adjourn made by Debbie Wickstrom and seconded by JoAnn Sellent. Meeting adjourned.

Next Trinity council meeting will be at Trinity on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 6:30pm.

Minutes submitted by Christine Anderson

## Georgetown Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2019

Present: Jeanne Johnson, Stacy Bergmann, Tim Frendt, Tom Levi, Charlotte Peper, Pastor Diane  
Diana Peterson, Treasurer  
Absent: Gretchen Frendt, Dennis Wiese, Teresa Vollath, Bruce Peper



The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m.

Pastor led prayer.

Secretary Report: Minutes from the November council meeting were received as written.

Treasurers Report: The end of November we were \$9,165.20 behind budget. The operating fund is at \$4,286.53. A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. It carried unanimously.

Council discussed a request that the church needs a new weed whip. Tim Frendt will discussion with Steve Hansen as maybe the cemetery association and church could split it 50/50.

Pastor Diane gave her report and calendar.

### Old Business

- Faith Lutheran Church: A tentative meeting date is Sunday, January 19. Tim Frendt, Jeanne Johnson, Bruce Peper, Pastor Diane and a representative from the synod will meet with representatives of Faith Lutheran. The congregation will learn more and have the chance to ask questions during the annual meeting on January 19.
- 2019 Benevolence: The council agreed to pay the budgeted amount of \$3,000 to benevolence.

### New Business

- 2020 Budget: Diana Peterson, treasurer, took the council through the budget line by line. The budget will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting January 19.
- Annual Meeting: The annual meeting will be held Sunday, January 19. A potluck will be held after the meeting which takes place immediately after church.
- Treasurer: Diana Peterson is stepping down at treasurer. An announcement will be placed in the newsletter with an explanation of the treasurer responsibilities and duties. Anyone interested, please see Diana Peterson or Tim Frendt.

Charlotte Peper announced that the December 19 community meal will be her last. The council will discuss the future of the community meal at the January meeting.

The next council meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

# ~January 2020~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
<b>5</b> Trinity Worship 9:00 Sun. School 10:15  Georgetown Worship 10:30 Sun. School 9:00	6	7	8 W.O.W. at Trinity Godly Play story: "Baptism" 5:45	9 Georgetown Council Meeting 6:30	10	11
<b>12</b> Trinity Worship 9:00 Sun. School 10:15  Georgetown Worship 10:30 Sun. School 9:00	13	14	15 W.O.W at Georgetown 5:45	16	17	18
<b>19</b> Trinity Worship 9:00 Sun. School 10:15  Georgetown Worship 10:30 Sun. School 9:00 Georgetown's Annual Meeting after service	20	21 Trinity Council Meeting 6:30	22 W.O.W at Trinity 5:45	23	24 Youth Group Escape Room 5:30	25
<b>26</b> Trinity Worship 9:00 Sun. School 10:15 Trinity's Annual Meeting after brief service  Georgetown Worship 10:30 Sun. School 9:00	27	28	29 W.O.W at Georgetown 5:45	30	31	