



Church Newsletter  
February 2020

## The Parish Messenger

### **Mission Statement**

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

### **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

God  
proved  
his love  
on the  
cross.

### **Contact Information**

#### **Pastor Diane**

Home: 715-822-3553  
Cell: 715-702-1240

#### **Georgetown**

PO Box 86  
Balsam Lake, WI 54810  
Office: 715-857-5580

#### **Trinity**

2502 E. Grenquist Lake Ln.  
Cumberland, WI 54829  
715-822-3001

### **W.O.W. Wednesdays!**

**February Theme:** Holy Communion

February 5, 2020 at Trinity: Godly Play story "Good Shepherd and World Communion"

Feb. 12 at Georgetown

Feb. 19 at Trinity

Feb. 26 Ash Wednesday at Georgetown

# PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

by Pastor Diane House

*"We know love by this, that he (Jesus) laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children let us love, not in word or speech, but in action." 1 John 3: 16-18*

**As I think about February**, the word that comes to mind is LOVE. Valentine's Day falls in the middle of February and we have fun remembering those we love with hearts, cards, flowers, and candy. Reminding people that they are important to us and that we appreciate their love and friendship is an excellent way to share God's love, and yet, as we worship, study, and work together in God's kingdom we also pray that our relationships be deepened. We pray that God would direct our vision outward from the church building to see who else in God's world needs our love, friendship, and service.

**Just yesterday** two ideas were mentioned to me that I am praying over and pondering as possible ways the Holy Spirit may be inspiring us to serve the larger community. First, concern for our service men and women who have returned from being deployed and suffer from PTSD was expressed. Now, I am pondering ways to encourage the church councils to consider ways we can raise awareness about this issue and to organize opportunities to listen to these service men and women to understand their experience and what would be the best way to help them feel re-incorporated into the civilian community.

**Second**, the idea for a mission trip working with local Habitat for Humanity organizations was mentioned. Now, I am pondering how to best help organize a way for our churches to work together on a Habitat for Humanity build. Both of these ideas would fulfill God's call to LOVE not only in word, but in action.

**What other ways** can we lay down our loves for one another? What other ways can we deepen our relationships with each other in the church and with others in our community?

**As always**, I welcome your thoughts and concerns as you notice the needs and longings in the communities in which you live and work. As you notice what God is up to in our world, and feel inspired by the Spirit to participate, please share your own "ponderings" as we seek to serve Jesus and glorify God is all we say and do!

Pastor Diane

## ~Announcements~

### Trinity **S**hepherding **G**roups

**Steve Anderson:** Lesa/Mickey Allen, Alison Anderson, Terry/Dona Lundmark, Debbie/Don Grover, Larry/Nancy Grover, Roy Marske, Bonnie/Jim Niemann, Roland/Cecelia Renstrom, JR/Jamie Shaffer, Barry/Debbie Wickstrom, Brian/Jamie Wickstrom, Mercedes Wickstrom

### Georgetown **S**hepherding **G**roups

**Jeanne Johnson- February**  
Charlotte Peper  
Bruce & Julie Peper  
Kirsten Klugow & Kooper  
Roger & Judy Gammel  
Jim & Marge Filkins  
Keith & Mary Ward

### Ash **W**ednesday **S**ervice

February 26 at 6:30 p.m. at Georgetown  
Join Trinity and Georgetown Lutheran Churches as we worship together for Ash Wednesday. A soup supper will be served beginning at 5:00 p.m. with the service to follow at 6:30 p.m. This service will mark the beginning of Lent as we turn our hearts back to God remembering that we are mortal and in need of grace and forgiveness. Come and hear the good news of how God keeps God's promise to redeem us with forgiveness and grace through Jesus our Savior.

### Help **W**anted

Trinity Treasurer Position Recruitment - 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 parishioners on giving, and prepare W-2/W-3 documents for IRS purposes. Anyone interested, please see Pastor Diane or Steve Anderson.

### Youth **G**roup **U**date

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

## Trinity Church Council Minutes

### January 21, 2020

**Members present:** Steven Anderson, Brenda Rouzer (Treasurer), Pastor Diane House, Debbie Wickstrom, Christine Anderson, JoAnn Sellent and John Gall. **Absent:** Allie Snowbank

Opening devotions.

Meeting called to order by Steve Anderson.

**Treasurer's Report:** The annual financial audit is taking place today during our meeting. Council went over the proposed 2020 budget and there were no changes made at this time. This will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting.

**Secretary's Report:** The voting membership is 93. This change will be made to the December 2019 minutes. Motion to approve the minutes with the amendment was made by JoAnn Sellent and Debbie Wickstrom. Minutes were accepted.

**Pastor's Report:** Updating the congregational report for the synod to accurately reflect baptized and voting membership. Adjustments will be to show 111 Baptized members and 93 Voting members. Georgetown had their annual meeting on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. Ash Wednesday worship will be at Georgetown this year. JoAnn will order Palms for Palm Sunday from Odens in Cumberland. Ruby's Pantry is seeing an increase in individuals and families with children needing the pantry's support. Pastor Diane is working with the Congregational Leadership Team to support congregations in the synod. She will be attending the 2-day Winter Theological Event Jan. 27-28.

#### Old Business:

- **Endowment:** There have been some good questions brought forward by members. Much discussion has been had about how to balance saving with spending on our wish list items. An endowment could allow us to do both, the congregation will direct how to proceed.

A few minor edits need to be made to the Continuing Resolution and the By-laws. Christine will make the changes and have the corrected versions available at the annual meeting. Each item listed in the Endowment letter to the congregation will be voted on separately at the annual meeting.

- **Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting packet is complete with all reports and proposed 2020 Budget.
- **Building Improvements:** Over the next month council will ask for quotes for air conditioning. Parsonage egress window installation has been scheduled for this summer (Chad Anderson).

#### New Business:

- Mission of the quarter is a Coat Drive (Jan-March). Next quarter will be Luther Park Bible Camp.
- The Palt dinner date and organizers will be requested at the annual meeting.
- In the process of updating the membership list, we found many families that we would like to invite to Easter Service.
- LED lights are here and ready to be installed. The electrician will schedule after syrup season.

Motion to adjourn made by Christine Anderson and seconded by John Gall. Meeting adjourned. Next Trinity council meeting will be at Trinity on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 6:30pm. Minutes submitted by Christine Anderson

## Trinity Lutheran Church Annual Meeting for 2019

January 26, 2020

Meeting was called to order and quorum established by Steve Anderson, President.

**Agenda:** Request to change the order of the meeting, by moving the Endowment Fund topic to before the Reports. Motion made by Rick Sellent, seconded by Wayne Kendrick. Amended agenda approved

**Approval of previous annual meeting minutes:** Motion to accept minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting as written was made by Wayne Kendrick, seconded by Robin Denver. Approval carried.

**Tellers:** Debbie Wickstrom and Gurine Gall were appointed tellers.

### Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund:

#### **1. Establish an Endowment Fund by adopting a Continuing Resolution.**

Christine Anderson shared edits to the Continuing Resolution to establish the Endowment fund. Steve Anderson summarized discussions had with congregation members in personal conversation and informational meetings prior to this vote.

A motion to accept the Continuing Resolution to implement the Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund was made by Norman Anderson and seconded by Liz Buchholtz. Written ballots were collected. The motion carried by 33/34 result.

#### **2. Adopt the Endowment Fund By-Laws.**

Christine Anderson shared edits to the By-Laws that guide the Endowment. Steve Anderson highlighted these elements of the By-laws.

- Current process relies on congregation to make final decisions.
- The Investment fund recommended was chosen because of its safety.

A motion that the congregation adopt the Endowment Fund By-Laws as written in today's version was made by Gurine Gall and seconded by Robin Denver. Written ballots were collected. The by-laws were adopted by 32/33 result.

#### **3. Fund the Endowment**

Steven Anderson introduced the council proposal to fund the Endowment fund with \$40,000 from Elsie Marklund's gift to the congregation and to authorize the council to use the remainder (approximately \$8,800) on items from the wish list.

Gurine Gall made a motion to approve the council proposal. Heidi Wagner seconded. Written ballots were collected. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. Elect Endowment Committee**

Steve Anderson made a call for volunteers to serve on the Endowment Committee. Their first tasks shall be to develop a Gift Policy to make options for donations clear to donors, and a "grant application" document that congregation members can complete to request where annual distributions could be given. As described in the by-laws, the committee will have four members. Three members are elected by the congregation and one is a representative from the council.

Gurine Gall, Wayne Kendrick, Steve Kelch and Bill Anderson were nominated from the floor to serve on the Endowment Committee. Norman Anderson made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Robin Denver. Written ballots were taken to fill the three spots on the Committee. Brenda Rouzer filled Gurine Gall's role as teller for this vote. The three committee members selected by the congregation were Gurine Gall, Wayne Kendrick, and Steve Kelch.

### Reports:

Motion to accept the following reports was made by Liz Buchholtz and seconded by Kathy Grenquist. Reports are approved as written.

- Presidents Report - Written
- Pastor's Report—Written
- Sunday School/VBS - Written

Youth Group -Written

WELCA–Written

**Audit Committee Report:**

The audit committee report was given by Gurine Gall. The committee was Gurine Gall, Wayne Kendrick and Judy Kelch. They reviewed three different months from the past year and were able to account for gifts received and where they went. All the records were in order. Brenda's use of Quick Books made finding records simple. Thank you to Brenda Rouzer for your work as Treasurer.

**Elections to 2019 Church Council:**

Thank you to John Gall, Debbie Wickstrom and Joann Sellent who all have one more year to serve in their terms. Thank you to Steve Anderson, Christine Anderson and Allie Snowbank for their service. Their terms are complete.

**Elder**—*responsible for worship life, fellowship and evangelistic outreach to the community*

Robin Denver was nominated for a 2-year term. Jordan Sellent moved to close nominations. Steve Kelch seconded. Robin was elected with unanimous voice vote.

**Trustee**—*responsible for managing property and financial affairs of congregation, including development of congregational program of Biblical Stewardship*

Steve Anderson was nominated for a second 2-year term. Steve Kelch moved to close nominations. Liz Buchholz seconded. Steve was elected with unanimous voice vote.

**Deacon** - *responsible for education and youth ministry of church*

Lacy Sellent and Christine Anderson were nominated for a 2-year term. Bill Anderson moved to close nominations. Jordan Sellent seconded. Written ballot was used and Chrisitne Anderson was elected for a second 2-year term.

Thank you to outgoing council member Allie Snowbank.

Next year's nominating committee will be Joann Sellent, Debbie Wickstrom and John Gall.

**Budget 2020:**

2019 income was \$63,000. The budget was set for \$72,659 however we only spent \$62,330. We were able to finish the year just about even. Some of the budgeted items that were not completed include the egress window work on the parsonage and secretary position.

- 2020 budget decreased amount for potential secretary position since this will continue to be completed by volunteer and an hourly person for the newsletter.
- 2020 budget includes items for parsonage egress window repair. This has been scheduled for summer 2020.

Motion to approve 2020 budget was made by Glen Greener and seconded by Judy Kelch. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

- Transition to LED lights will be gradual in the sanctuary since we will use up the old bulbs first.
- A small leak has been discovered in the roof. Impacting the attic storage area, this will be looked at in the spring.
- Lifetouch will be coming to take photos for a new directory on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Mission of the Month has been changed to Quarterly. Jan-Mar. focus is a Coat Drive (hats and mittens too). The focus for April-July will be Luther Park. Please continue to give council ideas.

**New Business:**

We are still looking for a treasurer. The position comes with a lap-top, Quick Books and training. We need a Coordinator for the Palt Dinner!

Other focuses for 2020:

- Continue to organize more joint activities with Georgetown.
- WOW Wednesdays are for everyone! Give it a try (5:45-7:30).
- Shepherding Groups will be re-evaluated and adjusted if needed.
- Tith.ly is an on-line giving program that Georgetown is trying out. Council will continue to explore how this is working for them. Trinity may want to implement it as well.

Motion to adjourn was made by Glenn Greener and seconded by Lacy Sellent. 2019 Annual Meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Anderson

## Trinity Lutheran Church Profit & Loss October through December 2019

	Oct - Dec 19
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Benevolence Offerings</b>	40.00
<b>Memorials</b>	25.00
<b>Mission Offerings</b>	1,700.00
<b>Special Services Income</b>	241.00
<b>Tithes/Offerings</b>	14,015.44
<b>Total Income</b>	16,021.44
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Church</b>	
<b>Electric</b>	291.13
<b>Insurance Expense</b>	2,444.16
<b>Maintenance and Improvements</b>	414.92
<b>Phone</b>	83.54
<b>Total Church</b>	3,233.75
<b>Mileage</b>	351.77
<b>Missions</b>	
<b>Charitable Contributions</b>	10.00
<b>Mission Giving</b>	1,700.00

<b>Total Missions</b>	1,710.00
<b>Parsonage</b>	
Electric-Parsonage	164.65
Insurance-Parsonage	169.42
Propane-Parsonage	-421.08
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<b>Total Parsonage</b>	-87.01
<b>Pastor</b>	
Pulpit Supply	322.40
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<b>Total Pastor</b>	322.40
<b>Pastor's Salary</b>	
Social Security	582.36
Pastor's Salary - Other	5,855.85
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<b>Total Pastor's Salary</b>	6,438.21
Portico-Benefits	3,782.58
Secretary	206.25
<b>Shared Expenses</b>	
Phone at GT	350.31
Worship and Office Supplies -GT	46.75
Shared Expenses - Other	-447.36
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<b>Total Shared Expenses</b>	-50.30
<b>Worship and Encouragement</b>	
Devotionals and Bulletin Insert	69.13
Dues and Subscriptions	290.00
The Lutheran	447.50
Youth Encouragement	1,079.40
Worship and Encouragement - Other	124.98
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<b>Total Worship and Encouragement</b>	2,011.01
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<b>Total Expense</b>	17,918.66
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<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-1,897.22
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
Other Income	
Interest	45.93
	<hr/>
<b>Total Other Income</b>	45.93
	<hr/>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	45.93
	<hr/>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-1,851.29</b>
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## Georgetown Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes January 9, 2020



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

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Pastor led prayer.

**Secretary Report:** A motion was made to approve the minutes from the December council meeting with a correction under the treasurer report that Tim Frendt will discuss with Steve Hansen if the cemetery association and church could split the cost of a new weed whip. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**Treasurers Report:** The end of December we were \$8,947.95 behind budget. The operating fund is at \$1,052.24. A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. It carried unanimously.

The council agreed to carry over \$572.29 from the Blessing Bucket to 2020.

The treasurer needs to know who and when to return building use deposits to people who use the fellowship hall. Bruce Peper will forward Molly Jepsen's address to Diana so her deposit can be returned.

Church Mutual sent a letter regarding the damage claim submitted from the July 2019 storm. Diana Peterson reported that we had 180 days from the date of loss to get repairs complete. The insurance company is holding onto \$29,052 until the repairs are complete. Diana was able to secure an extension. We have until April 2020 to complete the repairs or we will not receive the remaining \$29,052. Tim Frendt will contact the contractor to make sure we are first on his list when temperatures warm up.

Diana Peterson went through the 2020 budget. Weekly offering needed is \$1,286.13 (an increase of \$23.38 from 2019) Council agreed it was ready to present to the congregation at the annual meeting on January 19, 2020.

Pastor Diane gave her report and calendar.

### **Old Business**

- **Nominating Committee:** Jeanne Johnson, Charlotte Peper and Bruce Peper are looking for congregation members to run for council. Names will be provided to Tim Frendt to include on the annual meeting ballot.
- **Faith Lutheran Church:** The meeting on Sunday, January 19 will include a variety of other churches as well, not just Faith Lutheran. Tim Frendt, Jeanne Johnson, Bruce Peper, Pastor Diane will attend.

### New Business

- Annual Meeting: The council discussed the agenda for the annual meeting which will be held Sunday, January 19. A potluck will be held after the meeting which takes place immediately after church.
- Technology Grant: Gretchen Frenndt is working on purchasing equipment through the technology grant. The system will be portable. A report will be given to the congregation during the annual meeting. Gretchen will also give a demonstration on offering through Tithley.
- Fundraising Committee: The council is looking for people to be on a fundraising committee to plan quarterly fundraisers.
- Building Use Forms: There were no building use forms to discuss.
- Project Forms: The Red Cross blood drives will be held at Georgetown Lutheran on January 20, April 7 and August 25. The council approved the project forms.

The next council meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 20 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

# ~February 2020~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2</b> Trinity Worship 9:00 Sun. School 10:15  Georgetown Worship 10:30 Sun. School 9:00	3	4	5 W.O.W. at Trinity Godly Play story: Good Shepherd and World Communion 5:45	6	7	8
<b>9</b> Trinity Worship 9:00 Sun. School 10:15  Georgetown Worship 10:30 Sun. School 9:00	10	11	12 W.O.W at Georgetown 5:45	13	14 	15
<b>16</b> Trinity Worship 9:00 Sun. School 10:15  Georgetown Worship 10:30 Sun. School 9:00	17	18 Trinity Council Meeting 6:30	19 W.O.W at Trinity 5:45	20 Georgetown Council Meeting 6:30	21	22
<b>23</b> Trinity Worship 9:00 Sun. School 10:15 Georgetown Worship 10:30 Sun. School 9:00	24	25	26 Ash Wednesday at Georgetown Soup Supper 5:30 Worship 6:30	27	28	29