

Church Newsletter
July 2021

The Parish Messenger

Mission Statement

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



Contact Information

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Georgetown

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Trinity

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River of Life

SUMMER BIBLE SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES CONTINUES IN JULY!!

Board the riverboat *Ezekiel* for a journey down the "River of Life" this summer and discover the meaning of our theme bible verse: "Everything will live where the river goes." (Ezekiel 47: 9) We will learn about the importance of water and visit important "ports" during the week to hear bible stories about water. We will also hear about communities working to restore watersheds, to protect rights to water and to ensure safe water for everyone. There will be water games, songs and other activities to have some fun while we learn!

Our journey will take place for five Tuesday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. A bag or box lunch will be provided for supper. Here is the schedule:

Tuesday, June 29 at Trinity Lutheran in McKinley, Theme: God claims

Tuesday, July 6 at Georgetown Lutheran in Balsam Lake, Theme: God protects

Tuesday, July 13, at Trinity Lutheran in McKinley, Theme: God loves, we love

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

by Pastor Diane House

We hope "River of Life" will be a fun, meaningful experience for all in our

community! Join us as we dive more deeply into the Bible stories to celebrate water and discover together how we all can be good stewards of creation.

"So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" 2 Corinthians 5: 17

As we begin to gather together again after the past year of isolation and separation, it can feel a bit like we are encountering a "new creation." Many of our old way of doing things were set aside for the sake of safety protocols. We have developed new orders of worship, new ways of receiving offering, and new ways of distributing communion. Some of these new practices work a little better than the way we had been doing things and some still feel a bit awkward.

As we move forward and are freer to experiment, I would like to continue some practices developed during the pandemic as well as get back to some of our more traditional worship practices.

In the coming months the councils have advised slowly reintroducing missing pieces of the worship service. You may have noticed that we are now reciting the Apostle's Creed on non-communion Sundays. This month we will bring back the Children's Time and maybe some sung pieces of liturgy. It might feel like "everything old has passed away...everything has become new!" But, that is not necessarily a bad thing. When things change we may find that we pay closer attention and that worship practices become more meaningful.

Let me know how you feel. Let me know what you miss and what new things help you worship. The church councils and I are working together to make sure that the way we worship glorifies God and also deepens our experience of God in our midst. However our worship on Sunday morning evolves, we can be sure that Christ is with us!

Pastor Diane



Trinity Church Council Minutes

June 8, 2021

Members present: Pastor Diane House, Steve Anderson, Robin Denver, Chris Wetzel, Debbie Wickstrom and Kathy Grenquist (Treasurer) Members Absent: Christine Anderson, Lacy Sellent

Meeting called to order by Steve Anderson

Reports:

Secretary's Report: Secretary's Report was not available

Treasurer's Report: The monthly statement for May 15 – June 15 was discussed by the council.

Income	\$4, 279.38
Expenses	<u>\$6,544.98</u>
	-\$2,265.71

Pastor's Report:

Pastor's Report was given at the joint council meeting held previously.

Endowment Fund Report:

Steve Anderson presented a pamphlet to show details about the endowment fund to be printed

and have available at the church. There will be a set-up fee for this pamphlet. Chris Wetzel made a motion to have 100 fliers printed depending on price not exceeding \$200. Robin Denver seconded it. Motion carried.

Old Business

Church projects Steve Anderson will do a walk through the church for the lights with Dustin Schell.

Change in Church Covid Policy: Council discussed the possibility of removing masks given the community situation and our congregations vaccination rates. Motion was made by Robyn Denver to make wearing masks optional and to continue social distancing. Seconded by Chris Wetzel. Motion carried. The pews will stay where they are for now and communion will remain the same. More will be discussed as the situation changes.

Garage Sale WELCA garage sale will be June 26th at 8am to noon.

Palt Dinner It was discussed to wait until fall or early spring of 2022 to have the palt dinner.

Community Carnival will be held in September. Debbie Wickstrom will accept donations of prizes for the carnival at any time.

Motion was made by Robin Denver and seconded by Chris Wetzel to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council meeting will be on Wednesday, July 14th at 6:30pm.

Minutes submitted by Debbie Wickstr

Georgetown Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

Georgetown/Trinity Joint Church Council Minutes

June 8, 2021

Meeting was held at Trinity Lutheran Church

Members present: Steve Anderson (TL President), Keith Ward (GT President), Kathy Grenquist (TL Treasurer), Robin Denver, Debbie Wickstrom, Chris Wetzel, Judy Gammel (GT Secretary), Bruce Peper, Felicia Braastad, Ryan Braastad, Stephanie Fansler, Sherry Doornink, Gretchen Frendt, Tim Frendt, Dennis Wies, Pastor Diane House. Absent: Christine Anderson (TL Secretary), Lacy Sellent, Roberta Hansen (GT Treasurer).

Devotions: Pastor Diane invited the group into the sanctuary to view "Dwelling in the Word" from John 15: 1 – 11. Pastor read the text for the group and then asked Deb to read the text again. We broke into small groups to discuss what these words mean to us and reported back to the group. A group discussion followed.

Call To Order: The meeting was called to order by Steve Anderson, Trinity President. Introductions took place.

Reports



Pastor's Report: Pastor will be attending a boundary behavioral continuing education training on June 19 which is offered every 5 years and costs \$50. Pastor has not been reporting her mileage for reimbursement during Covid but will begin to report longer trips for reimbursement. Pastor will submit a bill and each church will pay half. There was a Baptism last Sunday at Trinity and there will be one this coming Sunday at Georgetown. A large funeral will be taking place at Georgetown on Saturday, June 12 for Mary Marquart and will be limited to 75 attendees. Pastor will be taking off Sunday, July 18 and will be taking off on August 27 – 29. Wayne Kendrick will be her substitute.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Stephanie Fansler, seconded by Robin Denver, to approve the minutes of the last joint council meeting on November 17, 2020. Motion carried.

Old Business

Opening back up after Covid 19: Current status has both churches suggesting masks, using individual communion elements, having the pews spread out, but discontinuing contact tracing requirements. Discussion took place regarding the continuation of masks and going back to a more typical communion service. The consensus was to go slowly bringing back our past church service components such as singing, children's sermon, fellowship time, etc. Each Church Council will continue to discuss bringing their services back to pre-Covid status.

Joint Activities: Plans are in place for Vacation Bible School which will begin at 6:00 pm Tuesday, June 15 at Trinity and continue for four more weeks, alternating between Georgetown and Trinity. The activities will be similar to last years program and will include box lunches again. Families from Luck were invited to participate. Our churches, along with other area churches, are also participating in another family activity being planned at Georgetown for Sunday, June 27 at 5:30 pm and will include box lunches, prayer boxes, decorating rocks, planting seeds and "dirt" cake for dessert. This is a once a month activity called Bible Family Fun involving other churches in the area. Each church will plan their own dates and activities and will handle their own registration.

There was also discussion about bringing the Georgetown and Trinity congregations together this summer for a socializing experience, but no plans were made at this time.

External maintenance: The egress window work at the parsonage has been completed thanks to Glen Greener, Steve Hansen and Jeanne Johnson. Pastor mentioned that the screens on the porch have had a hard winter and may need some maintenance or replacement.

Windowsill at parsonage: We need to keep an eye on the windowsills at the parsonage for future refinishing.

Performance review: There was discussion about putting in place a performance review plan for the Pastor. Stephanie Fansler and Christine Anderson will take the lead to plan a performance review process.

Secretary: There was considerable discussion about the need to hire a church secretary and the possible responsibilities of that position. Pastor commented that during a recent funeral at Georgetown there were considerable details that needed to be done. Currently, Jamie Shaffer puts the monthly newsletter together on a volunteer basis and Jeanne Johnson has been helping distribute the newsletter to those who don't have email. Other issues include: who needs to be responsible for ordering supplies such as paper for the copy machine; does the Pastor need help on Wednesdays in the office or at other specific times; when a funeral is scheduled who can help with the details. The issue was tabled, but we would like the Pastor to tell us what she thinks she needs in the future.

Treasurers: The question was asked if everything is working handling the bills that are shared by both churches. The answer was yes. Kathy indicated that she generally makes a quarterly payment to Georgetown if necessary. In the future we will need two licenses for our separate TV productions of Sunday church services.

New Business:

Bug spraying: Trinity has been contracting with a company that sprays the church and parking lot for bugs and feels that it has been very effective. There was discussion that Georgetown could possibly benefit from bug spaying as well. Steve will look into adding Georgetown to the contract and split the billing between the two churches.

Next Joint Meeting: We will schedule our next joint Council meeting for November, 2021, date to be announced.

Adjourn:

Bruce Peper made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Robin Denver. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Judy Gammel



Love. Grow. Serve.

Georgetown Financial Report

**Georgetown Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report
May 1 - 31, 2021**

Opening Balance May 1, 2021 **\$30,336.60**

May Income

Offering	\$5,596.56
Memorial Fund	\$30.00
Garage Sale	\$4,386.45

TOTAL INCOME	\$10,013.01	\$40,349.61
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May Expenses **\$3,678.96**

Closing Balance May 31, 2021 **\$36,670.65**

Budget 2021	\$67,060.64
Needed Weekly	\$1,289.63

Offering Through May 31, 2021	\$20,665.40
Budgeted offering to date	\$28,371.86
Ahead/Behind Budget	-\$7,706.46

Offering:

2-May	\$1,560.00	
9-May	\$1,120.00	
16-May	\$1,156.56	
23-May	\$955.00	
30-May	\$805.08	\$5,596.56

Fund Balances

Youth Activities Fund	\$3,739.99	
Memorial Fund	\$2,596.69	
Blacktop Fund	\$18,702.59	
Blessing Bucket Fund	\$385.29	5/31/2021

Funds totals **\$25,424.56**

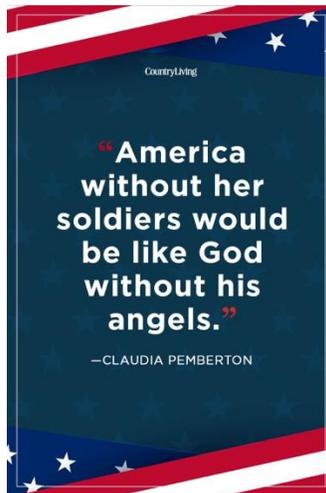
NET OPERATING FUNDS **\$11,246.09**

Itemized Categories - May 2020
5/1/2020 through 5/31/2020 (Cash Basis)

6/13/2020

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Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Tag	Clr	Amount
INCOME							13,770.00
	Miscellaneous Income						400.00
	lawn Mower						400.00
	Offering						4,870.00
	PPP Loan						8,500.00
EXPENSES							-4,410.05
	Church						-577.69
	Electric						-218.23
	Maintenance & Repair						0.00
	Propane						-247.29
	Telephone						-112.17
	Miscellaneous Expense						-7.59
	Bold Generosity Technology Grant						-7.59
	Office Expenses						-7.64
	Worship & Office Supply						-7.64
	Parsonage						-246.51
	Electric						-165.78
	Telephone						-82.73
	Pastor						-3,487.37
	Disability Benefit						-42.69
	Health Insurance						-811.80
	Home Equity						-119.00
	Life Insurance						-19.92
	Retirement						-304.49
	Salary						-1,991.76
	Social Security Tax						-198.01
	Secretary						-81.25
	salary						-81.25
OVERALL TOTAL							9,359.95



POP-UP CHURCH

BFF... Bible, Friends & Families

Sundays at 5:30

All Ages Welcome

Outdoors: SUPPER – STORIES – DRAMA
PROJECTS – GAMES – ACTIVITIES

JUNE 27 – Georgetown Lutheran

883 190th Ave, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

JULY 11 – North Valley Lutheran

1988 220TH Ave (Co G.), Centuria, WI 54824

AUGUST 8 – First Lutheran

Ballpark Field, Cushing, WI 54006

AUGUST 15 – Luck Lutheran

510 E Foster Ave, Luck, WI 54853

SEPTEMBER 12 – Faith Lutheran

305 1st Ave E, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

All Events are FREE

