



Church Newsletter
September 2022

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



Contact Information

Pastor Diane
715-671-8333

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

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

Birthdays/ Baptisms

Baptisms are marked with (*)

September

Jordan Sellent 9-14
Sara Sellent 9-14
Emilie Springsteen (*) 9-16
JoAnn Sellent 9-24

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

by Pastor Diane House

Then Jesus said to the Pharisees, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath." Mark 2: 27

This is the last verse in a story from Mark 2 where Jesus and his disciples were traveling and went through a grain field. They were hungry so they plucked off heads of grain to eat as a snack. This, of course, got them in trouble with the Pharisees for "working" (plucking grain) on the sabbath. You are not supposed to do any work on the sabbath.

Jesus' answers indicates that we humans usually get things turned around when judging others' actions. Instead of giving thanks to God for caring enough for us to give us a day to rest, we spend time and energy watching people's behavior and then judging the rightness or wrongness of that behavior. This seems like a waste of energy to me.

Jesus is the lord of the sabbath and we would do well to heed his words: "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath." In love and compassion for people God made the sabbath, a day to stop, rest, and thank and praise God. One very good way to do that is to make time for regular worship. We offer in person worship at Trinity at 9:00 a.m. and at Georgetown at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning. If you are unable to join us in person, these worship services are offered virtually on facebook and on youtube and you can watch them and participate when you have time to stop for a sabbath break.

We also offer regular gatherings for bible study. On Mondays, we meet at 9:30 a.m. at Georgetown and at Trinity at 7 p.m. Right now we are studying the upcoming texts for each Sunday. In the future we might study a particular book of the Bible or another book that is of interest to people. We also study together the first Wednesday of each month from September through April at WOW (Wonder of the Word). Young children study a scripture story through Godly Play with Christine Anderson and others age groups study with Pastor Diane. We enjoy a simple meal together before and a short prayer service after. This is a great way to take a sabbath break.

Starting in September there will be regular fellowship opportunities to gather and take a break together while we praise God. The last Wednesday of each month from September through April will be set aside for Fellowship and Fun! We will have other opportunities for play and praise like the Free Carnival and Car Show and the outdoor blessing of the animals service.

So, please feel free to come and take advantage of all of these sabbath opportunities. Read through each month's newsletter to see what is being offered at both churches for a time of rest, fellowship, play, prayer and praise! Invite a friend or neighbor to join you!

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Diane

Attention all Parents and Students!

Christian Education on Wednesdays for September 2022-April 2023

Are you wondering how you and your families can learn more about the Bible? Are you searching for a way to experience God's love and grace more fully? Are you hoping to deepen your relationships with the people of God? Then you may want to join in on these opportunities at Trinity and Georgetown Lutheran Churches!

Wednesday Night Christian Education Schedule for 2022-2022

September:

September 28: Confirmation Orientation at 7 p.m. at Trinity

October:

October 5: WOW at Trinity starting with a simple meal at 5:45 p.m. Godly Play and bible study starting at 6:15 p.m. ending at 7:30 p.m.

October 12: Confirmation class at Georgetown from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

October 19: Confirmation class at Trinity from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

October 26: Fellowship and fun for all ages at Georgetown from 6-7:30 p.m.

November:

November 2: WOW/Godly Play at Georgetown 5:45-7:30 p.m.

November 9: Confirmation class at Trinity from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

November 16: Confirmation class at Georgetown from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

November 23: No gathering/Happy Thanksgiving!

November 30: Fellowship and fun for all ages at Trinity from 6-7:30 p.m.

December:

December 7: Wednesday Evening with Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson and Lidix Montoya. We will have the opportunity to meet with the Bishop of our Synod and Deacon Montoya to learn more about the Neighbor to Neighbor ministry in our synod!

December 14: Confirmation class at Trinity from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

December 28: Confirmation class at Georgetown from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

January 2023

January 4: WOW/Godly play at Trinity 5:45-7:30p.m.

January 11: Confirmation at Trinity from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

January 18: Confirmation at Georgetown from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

January 25: Fellowship and fun for all ages at Georgetown from 6-7:30 p.m.

February 2023

February 1: WOW/Godly play at Georgetown from 5:45-7:30 p.m.

February 8: Confirmation class at Trinity from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

February 15: Confirmation class at Georgetown from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

February 22 is Ash Wednesday, please join us for Ash Wednesday worship TBA

February 22-March 29th is Lent and we will have worship services to attend each Wednesday.

April 6 Maundy Thursday worship TBA

April 7 Good Friday worship TBA

April 9 Easter Sunday

April 12: Confirmation class at Trinity from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

April 19: Confirmation class at Georgetown from 6:45-7:30 p.m.

April 26: Christian Education wrap up and fun night for all ages at Trinity from 5:45-7:30 p.m.

~Announcements~

Updates on Trinity's Endowment Fund

With a recent gift of \$2,000 added to a previous gift of \$1,000, both stipulated as Undesignated for the Endowment Fund, a new account was opened in the ELCA Ministry Growth Fund in July. The new fund, Undesignated Endowment Fund, is now a second fund in Trinity's Endowment Fund. As a new Fund, the first withdrawal cannot take place until 2024, according to the rules of the Ministry Growth Fund, where Trinity's Funds are invested.

In November of 2023, the Endowment Committee will recommend to the Church Council whether the withdrawal from the Undesignated Endowment Fund will be added to the withdrawal from the Endowment Fund for the benefit of Trinity and/or its members or distributed to any of the three other categories of recipients allowed in the Bylaws (the Northwest Synod of WI and its ministries; the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its ministries; or a local non-profit or charitable organization serving the McKinley area). That recommendation, when approved by the Church Council, will then go to the 2024 Annual Meeting for final approval and distribution.

Currently, Trinity is also holding Endowment money designated for "ELCA Ministries" awaiting its growth to \$2,000, the minimum needed to establish another new account.

Gifts to Trinity's Endowment Funds may be designated to the categories allowed by the Bylaws or undesignated. For more information, please speak to the Committee members: Steve Kelch, President; Wayne Kendrick, Secretary; Christine Anderson, Member; or to Pastor House.

Half-Year Report on Trinity's Endowment Fund

With the bear market conditions of the first half of 2022, Trinity's Endowment Fund declined in value from \$59,446 to \$48,871. That market decline was deepened by the first distribution of the Fund in the amount of \$2,500 at the beginning of the year. While the June 30 valuation is a significant change from the beginning of the year, it must be remembered that since the initial investment of \$40,000 in March 2020, the Fund has increased in value by 22%. (The July 2022 report shows an increase in the Fund to \$50,951.)

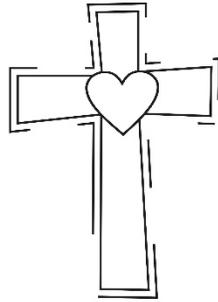
Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Kendrick

Shanty Town

Saturday, September 17, 7pm - Meet at the church. Cardboard will be provided... but can always use more duct tape. An evening snack and a light breakfast will be provided. Stop by for games or join in the campout!



Blessing of the Animals and Rally Sunday



Come join us a Georgetown Lutheran church for the kick off to Sunday School. Bring your furry, feathered, or scaly family members as well. We will be having an outdoor service after Sunday School and all Animals in attendance will be blessed.

***When:* Sunday, Sept. 11th
Sunday school at 9:15am followed by service at 10:30am
Where: Georgetown Lutheran Church
883 190th Ave. Balsam Lake, Wi**



Please have all animals leashed. All participants will be responsible for clean up of their own animals

Trinity's Fall Extravaganza

**September 17, 1-4
at Trinity Lutheran Church
in McKinley**

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This is going to be a BIG and FUN event.

Community Carnival and Car Show

Carnival will have a bounce house, balloons,
and games for ALL ages with lots of great prizes.

Also, you can bring your classic cars (1989 or older)
Original, restored or in the process of working on one
People's choice award!

Kelch's Concessions will be there offering their yummy food

All of this is free, Free, FREE!

Spread the word, bring your friends!

Trinity Church Council Minutes

June 21, 2022

Present: Kathy Grenquist, Debbie Wickstrom, Pastor Diane, Shane Beecroft, Rick Sellent, Lacy Sellent. Not Present: Mandy Rouzer, Christine Wetzel.

Debbie Wickstrom opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

Devotions and reading led by Pastor Diane.

Secretary's Report

Correction was made to the meeting date (June 21 — not June 14).

Correction was made to the May 17 Treasure's Report (TLC savings should have read \$510.76— not \$512.01).

Motion to approve made by Rick Sellent. Second by Shane Beecroft.

Secretary's Report approved.

Treasure's Report (May 15 - June 15, 2022)

Gross Profit: \$6,084.87

Expense: \$2,146.12

Net Income: \$3,938.75

TLC Savings: \$511.02

MIF: \$28,151.09

Endowment Savings

--ELCA Mission: \$1,235

--Not designated: \$1,000

--Interest: \$0.99

Motion to approve made by Debbie Wickstrom. Second by Lacy Sellent.

Treasurer's Report approved.

Youth Report

Spoke again with Steve Clay from Shell Lake to see about the Cancer Walk he was organizing for July. He has not been able to find enough volunteers to run the event and may need to move it to the fall—or cancel altogether (Luck/ Frederic has not had one the past few years either). He mentioned he could use help with registration and with getting the luminaries set up. It's possible youth could help with this/ participate if it gets up and running—or perhaps have a Trinity/ Georgetown team. He will keep in contact with Lacy Sellent.

Called about working with the soup kitchen in Rice Lake, but they are only serving through a window and so would have limited space for help. Maybe once they open a seating area again.

Checked with Luther Park to see about doing their ropes course, but they don't have many staff trained to help with it. Might be able to work something out come fall.

Looking for youth (and chaperones) to take part in a day at Wild Mountain in Taylors Falls. If we have 20+ people, the Superday Pass (which includes everything—the water

slides, go carts, alpine slides, and free fall) the cost would go from \$39 to \$29. To help make more affordable, the Youth Group account could cover half the price—bringing total down to \$15.

Pastor's Report

There are 6 kids going to Luther Park this summer—council will pay 1/3 of cost.

VBS will be held Monday, July 18 – Friday, July 22 from 5:30pm—7pm.

--VBS will be held at Georgetown Monday, Wednesday, & Friday.

--VBS will be held at Trinity Tuesday & Thursday.

--looking for volunteers to serve a simple meal at 5:30pm (serve about 30-40 people) Top half of a pine tree came down at the parsonage the morning of June 21—it did not fall on anything, but will need a chainsaw to clean up.

Funeral for Dorothea Beecroft was held June 5 at Trinity with Pastor Diane officiating.

Funeral for Jan Clark was held June 20 at Trinity with Pastor Diane officiating.

Funeral for Arnold Peer to be held at Trinity on June 27 at 11am.

God's Chosen contemporary service with worship band for a special joint service at Trinity on June 26—starting at 10am to be followed by Trinity vs Georgetown softball game and potluck. Thinking of doing an outdoor blessing of the animals service on Sunday, September 11. IRS is increasing mileage reimbursement to 62.5 cents per mile (this is up 0.4 per mile). Pastor Diane will be on vacation July 23 – August 11. Wayne Kendrick will fill in.

Old Business

- Joint council meeting will be held Thursday, September 15 at Georgetown. Supper will be at 6pm with meeting starting at 6:30pm.
- New stainless steel dishwasher has been installed in the parsonage. Cost \$793.98 (to be split with Georgetown) from Sears.
- Debbie is looking for baked goods to put in “Just Because” baskets.
- Discussed solar powered light for cross.
- Re-evaluating Sheparding Groups.
- Looking to plan an indoor/ outdoor church clean up day.

New Business

- Randy and Kristine Mattson have been accepted as new members of Trinity.
- Fire extinguishers are scheduled to be checked at the church on June 22.
- Propane tank has been checked.
- A new tax exempt form will be needed starting July 1—Debbie will mail in.
- Motion made by Rick Sellent to adjourn the meeting. Second by Shane Beecroft. Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Next council meeting: Wednesday, July 13 at 6:30pm

Respectfully,
Lacy Sellent

Trinity Church Council Minutes

July 13, 2022

Present: Kathy Grenquist, Debbie Wickstrom, Pastor Diane, Shane Beecroft, Rick Sellent, Lacy Sellent. Not Present: Mandy Rouzer, Christine Wetzel.
Debbie Wickstrom opened the meeting at 6:35pm.
Devotions and reading led by Pastor Diane.

Secretary's Report

Motion to approve made by Shane Beecroft. Second by Rick Sellent.
Secretary's Report approved.

Treasure's Report (June 15 - July 15, 2022)

Gross Profit: \$3,376.82

Expense: \$5,129.75

Net Profit: -1,752.93

TLC Savings: \$511.27

MIF: \$28,160.32

Endowment Savings

--ELCA Mission: \$1,535

--Not designated: \$3,000

--Interest: \$2.07

Correction made to Gross Profit: change from \$7,066.82 to \$3,376.82

Correction made to Net Profit: change from \$1,937.07 to -\$1,752.93

Motion to approve made by Shane Beecroft. Second by Rick Sellent.

Treasurer's Report approved.

Youth Report

Looking for youth (and chaperones) to take part in a day at Wild Mountain in Taylors Falls. If we have 20+ people, the Superday Pass (which includes everything—the water slides, go carts, alpine slides, and free fall) the cost would go from \$39 to \$29. To help make more affordable, the Youth Group account could cover half the price—bringing total down to \$15. Will need to know numbers to see if we qualify for the group discount. ,

Pastor's Report

VBS will be held Monday, July 18 – Friday, July 22 from 5:30pm—7pm.

--VBS will be held at Georgetown Monday, Wednesday, & Friday.

--VBS will be held at Trinity Tuesday & Thursday.

Outdoor blessing of the animals service & kickoff for Sunday School on Sunday, September 11.

Pastor Diane will be on vacation July 23 – August 11. Wayne Kendrick will fill in and Pastor McKayla (from Bone Lake) will be on call at: 715-207-5173.
Looking into “Song of Mark” cantata music for future services.

Old Business

- Pastor will be on vacation, so the joint council meeting has been changed from September 15 to Thursday, September 22 at Georgetown. Supper will be at 6pm with meeting starting at 6:30pm.
- Looking to plan an indoor/ outdoor church cleanup day.
- Debbie Wickstrom working with Georgetown to put together church directory.
- July – September mission giving to Hope Foundation.
- Previous mission to the Rice Lake Free Clinic—motion made by Shane Beecroft to send them \$250 from Trinity’s Mission account. Second by Rick Sellent.

New Business

- No newsletter for August.
- Carnival & car show to be held at the church on Saturday, September 17.
- Treasurer’s computer catches a bit when being closed—just something to note.
- Motion made by Shane Beecroft to adjourn the meeting. Second by Lacy Sellent. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

Next council meeting: Tuesday, August 16 at 6:30pm

Respectfully,
Lacy Sellent

Trinity Church Council Minutes

8/16/22

Present: Debbie Wickstrom, Shane Beecroft, Pastor Diane, Mandy Rouzer, Kathy Grenquist

Debbie opened the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Devotions and reading led by Pastor Diane.

Secretary's Report: Mandy read Lacy's notes. Debbie made a motion, Mandy 2nd - carried

Treasurer's Report: Someone donated \$300 to the Youth Group for Wild Mountain, since it wasn't needed, the anonymous donor said to leave it in the Youth Group fund for another time. Monthly Income: \$4610.36 \$3000 check made out of Endowment Fund Savings which comes out of TLC to write it, \$2000 was brought in from the Endowment Fund. Offering was \$5598.75.

Monthly Expense: \$ 6889.50

Net Total: \$-2279.14

TLC Checking has \$7500.68 as of August 16, 2022

TLC Savings has \$511.27

MI Fund has \$28169.86

Endowment Fund Savings - \$1502.07 of which \$1500 is for the ELCA Mission and \$0 not designated, \$2.07 interest

Kathy will write check to Free Clinic after September 1, because then they get a matching grant.

Mandy moves, Shane 2nd, approved.

Pastor's Report: We received a thank you from the ELCA for the donation to Disaster Response for the East Europe Crisis. September 11 will be a kick-off to Sunday School with an outdoor worship service and blessing of the pets. Pastor will purchase some cards for this. Pastor gave Debbie a CD on the Song of Mark. There are a few scores we don't have and might need. Will possibly talk to other churches to see if they have people that want to sing, if we need additional singers. Fall Retreat is September 25-27th. Theme is "Resilient Congregations and Resilient Leaders". Cost is between \$310 and \$450 total, to be split between the 2 churches.

Josh and Shannon Kelch wish to move their membership to St. Peter's Lutheran in Luck, WI. This was moved by Shane, 2nd by Debbie - approved.

Youth Report:

Old Business:

Sunday School - Have the first Sunday School be outside because of the blessing of the pets. Mandy to order new material because she only has a couple of lessons left in the current material.

Lighted Cross – Debbie brought some material on this, Shane will look it over and report back. It seemed inexpensive and solar powered.

Quarterly Mission for July-Sept. – HOPE Foundation - \$25 collected so far. Started to think about what our last quarterly mission should be. If you have an idea give it to a council member.

Broadcasting/Recording Service – Star Link – Shane is working on this.

COVID Update – things are going in the right direction. Will remove this from the agenda, for now. We will go back to sung liturgy, singing during communion soon.

Shepherding Groups – Debbie is working on this to see how to move forward.

Joint Activities w/GT – GT had talked about doing something this fall, but still up in the air. The Song of Mark cantata will be joint.

Church Clean-Up – working on a date for this. Debbie made up a list of what needs to be done. We seem to have a mouse issue. Deedra put some traps down. There is a leak in the storage room, that needs to be fixed. Still looking into a shed as well.

Church Directory – Debbie emailed Bruce Peper and hasn't heard back yet. Please send Debbie pictures for the directory to: Debbie.wickstrom@gmail.com

Community Carnival/Car Show – That is going to be September 17th 1-4 p.m. If you are willing and able to help please let Debbie know. If you are able to donate prizes, that would be great! Anything will do! Kids especially love snacks and pop.

Performance Evaluation – if you have your form, please give them to Debbie. Debbie and Keith Ward from GT will meet to go over this.

Reminder Joint Council Meeting moved to September 22, 2022, dinner at 6, meeting at 6:30. Other Old Business – Council pictures – will be coming soon.

New Business:

Propane Contract – between the church and parsonage approximately 2200 gallons were used last year. Synergy is going at \$2.02/gallon to prebuy all or \$2.07 to hold the price and pay \$.05/gallon down. Mandy moved to go with option two which is to put \$.05/gallon down for 1500 gallons (\$75) on the church and 1000 gallons (\$50) on the parsonage so as not to drain our checking account right now. Shane 2nd that. Approved.

Next Council Meeting September 20, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. on a Shane motion, Debbie 2nd. Approved.

Respectfully, Mandy Rouzer

Georgetown Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2022

Members Present: Stephanie Fansler, Felicia Braastad, Ryan Braastad, Judy Gammel, Bruce Peper, Nicole Norlund, Keith Ward, Dale Jensen, Roberta Hansen, Treasurer, Pastor Diane House.

Members Absent: Sherry Dornink.

The meeting was called to order by Keith Ward.

Prayer and Devotions: Pastor Diane read a devotional and prayer.

Secretary's Report: A correction was made to the minutes of the June 16, 2022 Georgetown Church Council Meeting as follows: Pastor's Report: #6. As of July 1, the IRS is raising the mileage reimbursement rate to "\$.625 per mile." A motion was made and seconded to approve the corrected minutes of the June 16, 2022 Council meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: We started the month with an opening balance of \$14,214.82. The offering for the month was \$3,672.00 which included a lower amount for the June 26th service which was a joint service held at Trinity in conjunction with a softball game. After deducting expenses for the month, the closing balance on June 30, 2022 was \$11,188.33. That results in a Net Operating Fund balance of \$2,653.82.

Pastor's Report:

1. Pastor thanked Keith for the work he has done in the parking lot to re-paint the handicapped markings and parking areas.
2. Pastor will be on vacation July 25 through August 11. Wayne Kendrick will be preaching and Pastor Mikayla Kopp from Bone Lake Lutheran Church will be on call for pastoral emergencies. Her phone number is 715-207-5173. Keith will also have her number if needed. We will not have a formal newsletter produced in August but will use email and Facebook to inform the members of upcoming activities and dates. We will need to advertise the Garage Sale and Rally Day
3. VBS will be held from July 18 – 22 from 5:30 – 7:30 p. with Monday, Wednesday and Friday being held at Georgetown and Tuesday and Thursday at Trinity. Charlotte, Judy and Gretchen have volunteered to provide the lunches at Georgetown. Gretchen will be using the donated Thrivent card to purchase plates, cups, beverages. etcetera for use during VBS.
4. On Friday, Pastor will be providing a graveside service for George's uncle in Eau Claire.
5. Pastor brought up for discussion various possibilities for Wednesday night Christian education family activities for fall including confirmation, family fun nights, movies and other activities. Further discussion will take place.
6. Pastor mentioned a CD recording of a cantata that we might want to use for a joint service with Trinity or incorporate into the Christmas Day service which is on a Sunday this year. Further discussion will take place.



Council Member Reports:

Elders: Stephanie has been communicating with people to take on the organization of the Community Meal without success.

Deacons: Nicki created a draft flyer for the upcoming outdoor Rally Day events to be held on September 11, which will include a Rally Day for the start of Sunday School and a Blessing of the Animals along with an outdoor church service.

Trustees: The dilemma of the outside light has not been solved as yet. There was discussion about an outdoor light over the side door by the kitchen. We also need to fill a hole under the gutter which has caused some dirt to be washed out by the black top back by the kitchen door.

Old Business

1. Church Directory – Debbie Wickstrom is working at Trinity to compile a Church directory and is willing to assist Georgetown in creating a joint directory including both churches, if we are interested. Bruce and Gretchen will work with Debbie to put a joint directory together with the possibility of using photos from our phone cameras.
2. Outdoor Service at Hunky Dory – The proposed service may not happen because Marvel is very busy. As an alternative we discussed a joint outdoor service with Trinity this fall taking place at Georgetown. We will discuss at our joint Council meeting in September. The Joint meeting was previously scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2022 but was changed to Thursday, September 22, 2022.
3. Bible camp payments – Andrew and Emily attended Bible camp this summer and their family will be reimbursed from the Youth Activities Fund.
4. Performance Evaluation – We discussed the outline of the Performance Evaluation and how we, as Council Members, can approach a discussion that includes the congregation, the Church Council and the Pastor. We will continue our discussion at our next Council meeting.
5. Garage sale dates – The garage sale dates will be as follows:
 - a. Thursday, August 11 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm
 - b. Friday, August 12 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
 - c. Saturday, August 13 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

We will start setting up the sale on July 25 using only the Fellowship hall. People can begin bringing their sale items to the Church as of July 25.

New Business:

1. Building Use Request – The following building requests were discussed. Motion carried to approve all requests.
 - Blood drive – Tuesday, August 23 from 12:30 to 5:30 pm
 - Blake Lake Association meeting – Saturday, August 20, (will be feeding about 60 people)
 - Shower – Sunday, July 24 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm
2. Roberta has received a new contract/proposal from Summit Fire Protection that includes a significant increase in costs to check the stove, fans and fire extinguishers. Roberta will

call and get more information as to the significant increase in costs and the specific service that they plan to provide.

3. Alcivia propane contract – We have received a propane contract from Alcivia that includes a significant increase in the cost of propane for the upcoming winter season. The Trustees will be checking with other propane providers to see if they can find a better price.

Open Discussion: Discussion took place about how other area churches are participating in the local festivals throughout our local towns and communities. Some churches are selling pies and/or baked goods, or handing out water bottles, etc. The suggestion was made that we might want to consider taking part in local festivals to advertise our Church and encourage new memberships.

Meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Judy Gammel

Next Georgetown Church Council Meeting: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 6:30 pm

Georgetown Church Council Meeting Minutes August 9, 2022

Members Present: Sherry Doornink, Stephanie Fansler, Felicia Braastad, Ryan Braastad, Judy Gammel, Nicole Norlund, Keith Ward, Roberta Hansen, Treasurer.

Members Absent: Bruce Peper, Dale Jensen, Pastor Diane House.

The meeting was called to order by Keith Ward.

Prayer and Devotions: For devotions, Keith read a prayer titled “Drinking From My Saucer”. Keith also offered a prayer prior to our meeting.

Secretary’s Report: Judy passed out copies of the minutes from the July 12, 2022 Georgetown Church Council Meeting for members to read. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report passed out by Treasurer Roberta Hansen. The offering for the month totaled \$6,036.01 for the five Sundays in the month of July. Roberta pointed out some discrepancies in the report as distributed and indicated that she would send out a revised Treasurer’s Report for the month of July, 2022.

Pastor’s Report, Calendar, and Family/Visitor Update: Due to the Pastor’s absence at the meeting only two items were mentioned: A meeting on August 20 for WELCA and a Red Cross blood drive on August 23.

Council Member Reports:

Elders: Stephanie has contacted the Polk County Tourism agency about including church information in the directory that they distribute. They indicated that space was a challenge. Sherry indicated that she has been working on the mailing list to ensure that we are including all members with accurate information.

Deacons: Nicki will update the flyer for the upcoming outdoor Rally Day events to be held on September 11. She is also working on the possibility of having a small tent available in case of inclement weather. Nicki, Judy and Bruce will meet to discuss how Sunday School might be carried out this year.

Trustees: The email from Bruce indicated he and an electrician have reviewed many of our electrical concerns and discovered a furnace fan that was functioning improperly. Their efforts may result in lower costs in the future. The dilemma of the outside light has not been solved as yet as the major issue is to access a large pole for the light. The handicap ramp has one corner busted loose and needs to be repaired. The white fence along the property line is leaning as one of the posts is broken and it also needs to be painted. A carpet seam in the Fellowship hall is loose and Roberta offered to call someone to take care of it.

Old Business

6. Performance Evaluation – We discussed some of the suggestions on the evaluation form such as are we communicating with past members and are we making an effort to check up on each other as members. The suggestion was

made to think about a ministry within the church that would provide a way to check up on each other as church members. Keith will share our discussion with the president of Trinity's Church Council to bring to our joint church council meeting on Thursday, September 22, 2022.

7. Garage sale update – We have lots of garage sale items already and things continue to be brought in. Charlotte is working on lunch for Friday which will have a free offering. On Saturday at noon we will start the process to box up the remaining items. In the past we've brought the remaining items to the thrift store in Milltown.

New Business:

1. The water in the church has been tested and has been found to have a high nitrate content. This could be due to draught conditions which causes too much nitrogen in the soil. As a result, we are using bottled water for coffee and have placed signs wherever water is available in the church to warn about the high nitrates. The water will be tested again in 1 year.
2. COVID – There have been no new developments with COVID so we will continue our current efforts.
3. Nicki's family would like to have a bench made for the church in Mick Ebert's memory and requested the approval of the Council to place it in an appropriate location in the Church. A motion was made and seconded to approve the request. Motion carried.

Open Discussion:

1. Discussion took place about our current practice of having Communion every Sunday. Some Council members have heard concerns about every Sunday being too often, making it less special. It was decided to not make any changes.
2. There was discussion about the current practice of passing the offering plate throughout the congregation. There was consensus that we should not continue to pass the offering plate, but make a point that the offering plate would remain in the back of the church for any donations. There was also discussion about the advertising and use of "Tithley" for donations and that users were charged a usage fee. That option will be removed from the Church's website.

Meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next Georgetown Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

Joint Meeting with Georgetown Council and Trinity Council will be held at Georgetown on Thursday, September 22, 2022. We will provide a light supper.
Minutes respectfully submitted by Judy Gammel

Georgetown Lutheran Church			
Treasurer's Report			
July 1 - 31, 2022			
<u>Opening Balance July 1, 2022</u>			\$11,188.33
<u>July Income</u>			
Offering	\$6,036.01		
Blessing Bucket	\$42.00		
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	\$6,078.01		\$17,266.34
<u>July Expenses</u>	\$6,230.24		
<u>Closing Balance July 31, 2022</u>			\$11,036.10
Budget for 2022	\$67,621.70		
Needed Weekly	\$1,300.42		
<u>Offering Through July 31, 2022</u>	\$34,144.01		
Budgeted offering to date	\$40,313.02		
Ahead/Behind Budget	-\$6,169.01		
<u>Offering:</u>			
	3-Aug	\$1,061.01	
	10-Aug	\$1,302.00	
	17-Aug	\$1,021.00	
	24-Aug	\$1,370.00	
	31-Aug	\$1,282.00	
<u>Fund Balances</u>			
Youth Activities Fund	\$3,787.81		
Memorial Fund	\$4,491.69		
Blessing Bucket Fund	\$297.32		7/31/22
Funds totals	\$8,576.82		
<u>NET OPERATING FUNDS</u>		<u>\$2,459.28</u>	
Savings Account - Blacktop Fund	\$42.64	(.01 interest)	\$42.65