



## ***Marli's Challenge(s)***

For those of you that I have seen in church during Lent, you know I have been challenging folks to engage in listening to folks who hold an opposite view from your passionate stand this Lent. I have challenged folks to do this instead of curbing their food diet. I have challenged folks because Jesus left heaven to engage with us humans and to give his life as a sacrifice for our lives. I believe that was quite a challenge for Jesus, to leave heaven to come to earth, so we should be willing to listen to those that merely oppose our views. I have been clear that I have not wanted anyone to change their views, I am not saying that your passionate view should change, but I am asking that you engage someone with an opposite view. This challenge goes out to all members of our parish. This has become my sermon theme in Lent.

This next challenge is for men only! Men seem to need some prodding occasionally to start conversations with new folks or sometimes with others they already know. It has been pointed out to me that there are many men who reside in nursing homes in our parish and surrounding areas who would like to have a conversation partner of the male variety. Just because men move into nursing homes does not mean that they are all through talking with other men, perhaps like they did when they visited the cafe, the gas station, the farm store or the post office. Men do not easily enter into conversations with women about the topics that are covered at those locations. Men are able to carry on long and serious conversations about the weather, road conditions, the brand of implements or the recent crop yields with other men much more easily.

So my new challenge to the men folk of our parish is this: chose a nursing home in your area, visit the social service person in the nursing home and ask if there is an elderly man that you could visit. This sounds fairly simple and if you already know an elderly man that you would like to visit, you are one step closer to meeting this challenge.

If you need an opening to start a conversation, you can always say you have this goofy pastor at the church you attend, who thinks giving challenges to church members is a fun idea. That could start quite a few conversations. If that doesn't work you can always talk weather, road conditions, the brand of implements or the recent crop yields. How often you would visit is up to you and your new friend. It is my understanding that most nursing homes will even serve coffee when their residents have visitors.

I pray that you will either renew an old friendship or start an entirely new friendship in the near future.

Serving Jesus and challenging others,

Pastor Marli Danielson

# Holy Week & Easter schedule

## Maundy Thursday, April 9

### Services of Holy Communion

Cooperstown Trinity .....6:00  
McVile Lutheran.....7:00  
Our Savior's of McHenry .....7:30  
Faith of Hannaford .....7:30

## Good Friday, April 10

Presbyterian Breakfast.....7:00 a.m.  
Binford Trinity .....5:30  
Cooperstown Trinity .....6:00  
McVile Lutheran.....7:00  
Grace of Grace City .....7:30  
Mabel of Sutton.....7:30

## Easter Sunday, April 12

Our Savior's, Kloten .....8:15  
McVile Lutheran.....9:30  
First Presbyterian .....11:15

Grace of Grace City .....8:30  
Our Savior's, McHenry .....9:45  
Binford Trinity .....11:15  
(coffee & rolls at 10:30)

Faith of Hannaford .....7:00  
(breakfast following)  
Mabel of Sutton.....8:30  
Cooperstown Trinity .....9:45  
(breakfast at 8:00)

# Healing Service

Sunday evening, April 26

7:00 p.m.

Trinity in Cooperstown

*For all the people of our  
communities*



# First Communion Classes

Saturday, April 4

Trinity in Cooperstown

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 4

McVile Lutheran Church

10:00 a.m.

## First Communion:

- Maundy Thursday at Cooperstown Trinity and Our Savior's of McHenry
- Palm Sunday at Binford Trinity, Lutheran Church of McVile, and Grace of Grace City



# Singspiration is back!



Sunday, April 19

3:00

Zion Lutheran Brethren Church in  
Cooperstown

Musical numbers of all kinds are welcome!

Group sing along and fellowship

All are invited.

## Rogation Sunday on April 26

I always used to think that the word “rogation” had something to do with agriculture. You know, a mixture of “rotation” (as in crop rotation) and “irrigation” and “cultivation.” But no! Come to find out, the word “rogation” comes from a Latin word that means “to ask.” Traditionally it was celebrated on the fifth Sunday after Easter because the Gospel reading included the passage “Ask and ye shall receive” (John 16:24). And because of the time of year fields were being prepared and crops were being planted; so farmers often had their crops blessed by a priest.



Today, for many churches, Rogation Sunday has become a day celebrated sometime in the spring, and it's a time when we thank God for the blessings of the earth, and ask for God's blessing on the land and those who tend it. This year in the churches of Tri-County Ministry, that Sunday will be **April 26**. Our churches will share a common liturgy; but the details of the service will be different in each congregation.

We are the most fortunate of people to live in this good land, surrounded by the gracious blessings of God, aware every day of the part we all play in caring for the earth and its creatures. Let's bless the Lord, and ask for the Lord's continued blessings!

*Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them: who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. (Psalm 146:5-7)*

~ Pastor Cheri

## Bikes for the mission



One item that is needed at the Northland Rescue Mission in Grand Forks is bicycles. Men's bikes are especially needed, but women's and children's bikes are also accepted.

To help the mission meet this need, people of Tri-County Ministry are invited to bring bikes they are no longer using to the Trinity parking lot in Cooperstown on Saturday morning,

April 11. The bikes will then be loaded up and taken to Grand Forks.

## Upcoming confirmation events listed

Confirmation classes resume on Wednesday, April 22, and continue through May 13.

On, Wednesday, April 22, the 8th and 9th graders who are being confirmed at Cooperstown at Hannaford will meet at Trinity during the regular class time. (Seventh graders will not have class that day.)

On Thursday, April 23, students who are being confirmed at Binford, McHenry, and Grace City will meet at 7:00 at Trinity in Binford. Parents are also asked to attend this meeting.

Dates for the Rite of Confirmation:

- May 17 at Trinity in Cooperstown and Our Savior's in McHenry
- May 31 at Grace in Grace City and the Lutheran Church of McVile
- June 7 at Trinity in Binford
- June 14 at Faith in Hannaford

## Synod Assembly reminder

The EaND Synod Assembly will be held May 2-3 at the Alerus in Grand Forks.

Delegates from our ELCA congregations are reminded to register before **April 10**. Registration may be done by mail or through the synod website. ([www.eandsynod.org](http://www.eandsynod.org))

No registration materials are being mailed to the churches this year, so please don't forget to submit your delegate information.



## ***Carrington Cluster WELCA Spring Gathering***

**Saturday, April 18  
9:00 a.m. through noon lunch  
McVile Lutheran Church**

**Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.  
Program begins at 9:30 a.m.**

**WELLNESS OF BODY, MIND & SPIRIT  
Jeremiah 33:6**

**All Women of the ELCA are invited.  
Lunch is \$7; pay at registration**

**Devotions by Sandy Branstiter**

**“Women & Addictions”  
Pastor Ray Branstiter, Lost and Found Ministry**

**“Women’s Healthy Hearts”  
Cathy Swenson, Nelson County Health Systems**

**In-kind offering: feminine hygiene items to go to the  
Community Violence & Intervention Center in Grand Forks**

**Please notify your WELCA president by April 1 if you plan to  
attend, so that the McVile Parish WELCAs may adequately  
plan the noon luncheon.**

Some information for those of you who would like to contact our former intern pastor Fran Schmidt, or who would like to keep track of her mission work in Peru:

Her address: Rev. Fran Schmidt  
Ave. Villaran 234, Dpto. 202  
Mira Flores, Lima  
Peru

Her blog: <http://fransadventures.blogspot.com/>

## **God’s Wild Beauty of North Dakota... the contrast of 24 hours...**

The Tuesday night of the blizzard was a display of the wild beauty of North Dakota:

The mad beauty of a blizzard with the snow and wind creating artwork in the air (Reminds me of the Queen describing Hamlet: "Mad as the sea and wind when both contend which is the mightier"). Creating such a fury that it captures our watching eye and in the depths of our soul demands our respect.

Then only 24 hours later:

Watching from my office window at Faith in Hannaford, an orange-red full moon lifts itself up from the horizon and brings its full splendor over the prairie. At its zenith the light it pours down is amplified by the snow so that you could read a book by it. The peaceful solitude that now spreads over the landscape brings with it a beauty to which the heart responds with love.

The extremes of God’s creation in North Dakota; where the sky and landscape allow a grandstand view of the wilds and beauties of nature; both terrible and awe filled.

~ Pastor Jessica

## How you can help with communication in TCM

If you have a news item, calendar item, or pictures that could be used on the TCM website, please e-mail them to Theresa at [trinitybinford@mlgc.com](mailto:trinitybinford@mlgc.com).

Councils may post their meeting minutes or any announcements on the website. Please e-mail them to [trinitybinford@mlgc.com](mailto:trinitybinford@mlgc.com). (Councils are asked to submit all minutes to Theresa, even if they are not being posted on the website.)

Any changes in scheduling should also be phoned in or e-mailed to Theresa so the TCM master calendar and the web calendar can be updated.

A goal for our newsletter and website is to keep everyone current on everything happening in our congregations.

[www.tricountyministry.org](http://www.tricountyministry.org)



## Women of Faith information

**October 16-17**

### **Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul “A Grand New Day”**

\$105 per person plus transportation and hotel

The group from this area will be joining the Fargo group.

More info on WOF at

[www.womenoffaith.com/stpaul](http://www.womenoffaith.com/stpaul)

Info on tickets, bus and hotel at

[www.fargostuff.com](http://www.fargostuff.com)

Contact / registration person for this area is Deanne Hoffman.

769-2139

[dhoffman@ictc.com](mailto:dhoffman@ictc.com)

### **Spring PW Gathering**

**Saturday, April 4**

**United Presbyterian Church in Jamestown**

**Presbytery of the Northern Plains**

**Spring Presbytery Meeting**

**Friday-Saturday, April 24-25**

**United Presbyterian in Jamestown**

## Coming up at Red Willow Bible Camp

**Grades 4-6 Retreat**  
“Fruits of the Spirit”

- April 3-4

**Grades 7-9 Retreat**  
“It’s a Jungle Out There!”

- April 17-18

**Annual Meeting**

- Sunday, April 5

**Quilting Retreat**

- April 24-26

Summer brochures are out! If you didn’t get one, check at your church or go to the camp’s website.



[www.redwillowbiblecamp.org](http://www.redwillowbiblecamp.org)

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Our Savior's of McHenry...785-2117  
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Trinity of Binford .....676-2761  
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Trinity of Cooperstown.....797-3611  
trinityofcooperstown@mlgc.com

## ***Roast Beef Supper***

**Sunday, April 19  
Trinity Lutheran Church in Binford  
Serving 5:00—7:00**

**Roast beef, mashed potatoes, corn, coleslaw, rolls,  
desserts**

**Bake Sale  
Quilt Sale**

**Everyone welcome!**

**This is the annual fund raiser of the Trinity WELCA.  
Proceeds go toward Bible camp scholarships and  
benevolences.**