



Tri-County Ministry News

We exist to serve Christ in harmony with our member churches and communities.

NOW what do we do?

Whoa! Not so fast, pardner! That is what I heard Shar Gumke, Assistant with the Bishop of the END Synod, say at our last Tri-County Council meeting when we were all anxious to get a call committee together. (That's NOT what she said, but that's what she meant.)

When a pastor leaves, the Synod and the Presbytery both require the parish to take a good look at themselves to discern what God has in store for them, and NOT to rush into the call process. But - in the interim - what do we do?

On Shar's recommendation, Tri-County Council directed the executive committee (consisting of Marsha Scanson, Norris Olson, and Vickie Goplen) to hire an interim pastor. After a meeting, many prayers, emails and more prayers, the contract was signed.

Pastor Tedd Rieke comes to us with a gift for administration and a high recommendation from Shar. He is energetic and has had much interim experience helping parishes discern God's will for their direction. Helping Tri-County figure out how to meet our needs, as well as helping with the regular life of our congregations, are the points of the interim's part of the contract. We have confidence he will be able to fulfill his part of the contract. But – will we? Read on to see the highlights of what Tri-County members have agreed to do – in the interim.

Together the congregations and interim pastor will:

- A. Examine the history of the congregation and work through the transition dynamics that usually follow the departure of a pastor.
- B. Seek to confirm and identify current issues facing the congregation and develop ways of dealing with them.
- C. Develop a vision for the congregation's mission.

The congregations will:

- A. Commit to the Gospel by faithful participation in worship, learning, and fellowship activities.
- B. Support the ministry of the congregation through service and gifts.
- C. Accept the interim pastor, uphold him in prayer, and accord him love, respect, and good will.

So, members of Tri-County, we all need to participate, according to our gifts, in this interim time, and do our best to uphold the terms of the interim's contract.

With prayers for discernment,
Vickie Goplen, Tri-County Ministry Council VP

Lent 2018 and Holy Week

Midweek Lenten Services

March 7, 14, & 21

- ❖ 5:30 — Trinity in Binford (supper following)
- ❖ 7:00 — Lutheran Church of McVile (supper at 6:00)
- ❖ 7:00 — Faith in Hannaford

Our midweek services include the Holden Evening Prayer Service and dramas from the Lenten series “The Upper Room.” This series on Discipleship is based on the last days of Jesus’ life.

Our Lenten mission

We continue in March to collect donations for the individuals and families served by Churches United for the Homeless in the Fargo area. Donations may be brought to your church at any time through March.

- ♦ **cold medicine or cough drops**
- ♦ **diapers (sizes 5 or 6) or baby wipes**
- ♦ **new adult underwear**
- ♦ **twin size blanket**
- ♦ **deodorant**
- ♦ **infant formula**

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, March 29

- ♦ 5:30 — Our Savior’s of McHenry
- ♦ 7:00 — Faith of Hannaford
- ♦ 7:00 — Lutheran Church of McVile

Good Friday, March 30

- 7:00 a.m. — Presbyterian worship & breakfast
- 5:30 — Trinity of Binford
- 7:00 — Grace of Grace City
- 7:00 — Lutheran Church of McVile

Easter Sunday, April 1

- ❖ 7:00 — Faith of Hannaford
- ❖ 8:15 — Our Savior’s of rural Kloten
- ❖ 8:30 — Trinity of Binford
- ❖ 9:30 — Lutheran Church of McVile
- ❖ 9:45 — Our Savior’s of McHenry
- ❖ 9:45 — First Presbyterian at Assisted Living in Cooperstown
- ❖ 11:15 — Grace of Grace City

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■ ***Lord Jesus Christ, who stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross***
■ ***that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace:***
■ ***So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those***
■ ***who do not know you to t***
■ ***he knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your name. Amen.***
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First Communion Class

Saturday, March 24

Site to be announced



First Communion class is open to all youth ready to participate in the Lord's Supper; a parent/guardian needs to attend the class also. Before a site can be determined, pre-registration is needed. Please contact any TCM staff member to sign up or if you have questions.

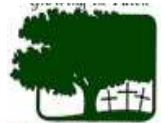
Impact Retreat

Red Willow Bible Camp

April 13-15

Grades 6-8

Cost— \$110



(check with your church or WELCA if you need financial assistance.)
Confirmation students are especially encouraged to take part in this opportunity!

Wednesday After School Groups

BLAST at Trinity in Binford and **CLUB 3:16** at McVille Lutheran continue to thrive as Sunday School on Wednesday. Each group draws community wide youth for food, music, lessons, and lots of fun. If you are wondering how you might help these programs out — each group can always use donations. Helping out with the snacks or meal, donating craft supplies, substitute teaching ...



Check with the church offices at Binford and McVille for more information and the contact people.

FCA Sports Camp

When: June 24-29 at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa

Who: 7-12th Grades Cost: \$475 (\$100 deposit)

What are Sports Camps?

Sports Camp is for athletes who want to develop their athletic skills. Outstanding instruction, skill development and intense competition prepare the camper for future athlete competition. Campers **select one sport** for the entire camp experience.

Girls' Sports: Softball, Volleyball, Basketball, Cross Country, Swimming, Tennis, and Soccer

Boys' Sports: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Soccer, and Tennis

Additional information on FCA camps can be found at <http://www.fcacamps.org>.



Staying connected

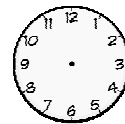
The TCM parish administrator is exploring the improvement of more electronics and less paper and postage. This would include more and better updates to the website and more Facebook usage.



For now, please like our Facebook page. And email trinitybinford@mlgc.com if you are interested in paperless communication. (Your email address will not be shared.)

This isn't a change that will be made immediately, but probably sometime this spring.

Worship time alerts



First Presbyterian

- ♦ 11:45 — March 11 & March 25
- ♦ 9:45 — March 4 and March 18

Red Willow Bible Camp Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 4

4:00 — Meeting

5:00 — Supper

Everyone welcome!

Red Willow Bible Camp Summer 2018

Creation Camp

June 24-29 and July 8-13
(entering grades 4-6)

Disciples Camp

July 29-August 3
(entering grades 7-9)

Senior High Amp! Camp

June 3-8
(entering grades 10-12)

Seekers

June 1, July 18, July 25
(entering grades K-6)

Taste of Camp

June 24-26, July 8-10
(entering grades K-3, plus a family member)

Pathfinders

June 24-26, July 8-10
(entering grades 2-3)

Advanced Holy Hoops

July 15-20
(entering grades 8-12)

Holy Hoops Junior

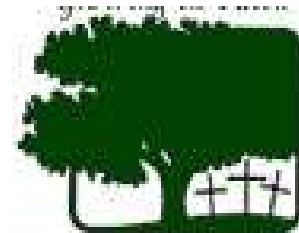
July 22-27
(entering grades 4-7)

Wilderness Week

August 5-10
(entering grades 8-12)

Discovery Camp Volunteers or Counselor in Training

Contact Megan at the camp.



Registration forms are available in the churches.
Online registration at redwillowbiblecamp.org

TRI-COUNTY MINISTRY STAFF

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Like us on Facebook!

Turkey & Ham Supper

Palm Sunday, March 25

Grace in Grace City

5:00 – 7:00