



Tri-County Ministry News

TRI-COUNTY
MINISTRY

March 2019

From Pastor Sherri

“It is our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ...”

These are the words that are sung by the pastor during our communion worship. It is a prayer to God. We give thanks for God’s creative power, God’s care, and God’s faithfulness to us. We also give thanks to God for the blessings of the day. In this sung prayer, we remember God’s act of salvation through Jesus’ birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, and promised return, as well as Jesus’ originating the sacrament for his disciples. We also call on the Holy Spirit to draw worshipers into the presence of the risen Lord, nourish them in the body and blood of Christ, unite them with Christ in the communion of the saints both now and over all time and send the worshipers in mission to the world. Whew! That is a BIG prayer!

I have had an earworm in my head for the last few days. It is the sung words to this prayer.

We sometimes reduce worship to our own preferences. Our own favorite hymns; our own favorite music; our own desire for variety; or some other preference or worship style. But what if we came just to worship God? Worship is our duty and our joy! Why would we not want *everyone* to experience this worship?

As Christians, we have been so afraid of alienating people that we have lowered our expectations for living a faithful life. As Presbyterians and Lutherans, we also have been a part of this movement. To be an “active” member in many churches means that you have been to worship and communed with us once per year. Really?!?

What if we took another tack? What if we raised our expectations instead? Would some not change their behavior? Sure. But SOME will rise to the occasion. Some will experience the joy that God cares for and is faithful to us. Others will experience God’s power in this world and in their lives! Isn’t that what we are about as followers of Jesus? We worship, share the body and blood of Christ, read scripture, pray, gather, bless each other, and then go out in mission to bless others with this love of Christ. Yes, it is our duty AND our joy.

“Go, therefore, and make disciples...baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” -Matthew 28:19-20

Lent: Forty Days of Healing and Restoration

by Intern Amy

The church season of Lent (the 6 weeks leading up to Easter) is an important time in the yearly rhythm of the Christian life. It is, as Pastor Sherri says that Lent and Easter are “The Super Bowl of church”! It is the time when we as Christians really lean into our faith, through intentional practice and prayer. It is the time of the year that we “double down” on our faith, committing to church attendance twice weekly, and committing to daily spiritual practices. Many people choose to give something up for the season of Lent, and many people choose to add a spiritual practice into their daily routine. Whether adding or eliminating, these intentional practices help us to deepen our awareness of Jesus, who on the cross gave up his life and in doing so added hope and joy to our lives.

We are excited about Lent in Tri-County, and have been busy planning. Congregations will be hosting one another on Ash Wednesday and the following five Lenten Wednesday eve services. Holy week services (Maundy Thursday and Good Friday) will also be shared with our neighboring congregations.

Our midweek Lent theme this year is prayer. We will be using Holden Evening Prayer Service as our worship liturgy. If you’ve experienced Holden Evening Prayer, you already know what a blessing it is. If this will be your first time, you are sure to find it meaningful and beautiful. Each week during worship there will be a time for “candle prayer”. Think of it like Christmas Eve, holding candles while we sing Silent Night, only for an extended time; time to be drawn into God’s presence through the flame, and time to dwell in prayer. It will be holy time indeed, for people of all ages and stages.

After worship (on all Wednesdays EXCEPT Ash Wednesday), we will gather for supper. It will of course mean yummy food and fun fellowship, and this year we will also add the FAITH5 steps. Together around the supper table, with all generations of our faith family included, we will:

- SHARE: our highs and lows
- READ: a passage from the Bible
- TALK: about the Bible passage
- PRAY: together
- BLESS: one another



Plan to join us for all the Lent worship services, as we live out our calling to be church together. Plan to double down on your faith life during these forty days, and find healing and restoration in the process. Plan to journey with Jesus to Jerusalem, the journey that will lead us to Easter, the "Super Bowl" of the Christian year!

This year's Lenten challenge

It is the hope of Tri-County Ministry to raise enough money during Lent to purchase a water well. Please consider making a donation to help raise these funds.

Buckets will be passed around during the offering time in each church Sundays, March 10—April 21.



Simple water well - \$2500

The lack of access to clean water is one of the biggest challenges to overcoming poverty. It's also one of the most powerful opportunities to create change. With a simple well, or spring box, **as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.** Communities are healthier. People spend less money on medical expenses and more on food and education. And instead of spending hours each day gathering water for the family, women and children have time for work and school. Talk about a future filled with hope!

March Service Listings

Grace Ushers

3/3 Dale & Janice Munson
3/10 Cindy & Leon Meehan
3/17 Kevin & Judy Black
3/24 Mitch & Lori Ellingson
3/ 31 Duane & Norma Matt
Church cleaning — Cindy Meehan

3/17: Les & Kristi Berdal
3/24: Edroy & Beth Monsebroten
3/31: Marian Hendrickson & Mary Wall

Cleaning:

Feb 25-Mar 10: Clayton & Kathy Ward, Diane Rohde
Mar 11-24: David & Stephanie Sateren
Mar 25-Apr 7: Randy & Debbie Trostad, Curt & LeeAnn Loe

McVille Lutheran

Usher: Jim Monsebroten
Acolyte: Seth Monsebroten
Coffee:
3/3: Dean & Norma Trost
3/10: Haley Klefstad & Doug Trostad

Lenten

Wednesdays

Binford/McHenry/Grace City

Ash Wednesday, March 6

5:30 at McHenry

March 13

6:00 at McHenry

March 20 & 27

6:00 at Grace

April 3 & 10

6:00 at Trinity

Faith/Presbyterian

Ash Wednesday

7:00 at Faith

March 13 & 20

6:00 at Faith

March 27,

April 3 & 10

6:00 at Presbyterian

McVille/Kloten

Ash Wednesday

7:00 at McVille

March 13—April 10

6:00 at McVille

The Wednesday

services at all

churches March 13

through April 10

include supper after

the Holden Evening

Prayer.

Congregational Events

Celebrate National Quilting Day

Saturday, March 16, is National Quilting Day. Lutheran World Relief especially celebrates the quilters in congregations across the country who put their faith into action. Hundreds of thousands of quilts each year help our neighbors around the world who are struggling with displacement, poverty, illness, natural disaster or conflict.

Within the Tri-County Ministry area, quilts are given to shelters, hospitals and nursing homes, Bible camp, babies and graduating seniors, as well as Lutheran World Relief.

Thank you, quilters, for your hard work and dedication!

(P.S. Quilters would gladly accept donations of thread.)

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MCVILLE

- **Help Put Hunger in a Vortex!** Please help fight hunger by donating coins to our local food pantries. 1 in 13 People in North Dakota struggles with hunger. 1 in 11 children in North Dakota struggles with hunger
- McVille Lutheran will be hosting a free movie matinee, "The Passion of the Christ", on Sunday, March 24th at 2:00 pm. The movie, produced in 2005 and directed by Mel Gibson, depicts the events leading up to and including the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. It is very moving, especially given that it will be shown during the season of Lent. However, the torture and crucifixion is very graphic. Anyone ages 18 and over is welcome to attend. Popcorn and pop will be served. Please come and join us for an afternoon of fellowship!
- McVille Lutheran Church is sponsoring a "**Shamrock Tree**" at Wangler Foods Grocery in McVille. Pick a shamrock and on the back will be a candy treat for you and a request for one or two small items to be purchased for the Caring Closet or a local pantry. Your gifts may be left in a box in the grocery store or in the entry of the church. Thanks for helping spread the "Love, Faith, Hope and Luck" of the shamrock to area people in need.



TRINITY

- Potluck dinner follows the 11:15 worship service on Sunday, March 10. Our Savior's council members will be guests.
- Fifth Sunday noisy offering on March 31

FATIH

- A special offering was received on Sunday, February 24, for Lutheran Social Services in celebration of the 100th anniversary of LSS.

TCM Council Highlights February 19

Election of officers and committee assignments;
Mutual Ministry—meetings still being held at McVille,
Kloten, and Grace City;
New (used) photocopier purchased for TCM use;
Revision of TCM By-laws to provide descriptions of
committees;
2019 meeting schedule (May 21, September 24,
November 19);
Presentation of Lent schedule;
Funding for Lay Worship Leaders continuing education.

Councils/Session 2019

Faith: Dan Larson, Bob Brown, Jason Grover, Mary Grover,
Becky Muncy.

First Presbyterian: Bev Campbell, Dennis Jungels, Bob
Campbell, Paul Motter, Angie Olson, Kathy Larson

Grace: Gilbert Black, Jason Otto, Katie Black, John Gisi, Jo
Black, Janine Gisi, Kathy McCracken, Mitch Ellingson, Travis
Black, Pete Johnson

Lutheran Church of McVille: Sheila Beglau, Haley Klefstad,
Norma Trost, Teresa Rorvig, Corrina Olson

Our Savior's of Kloten: Dale Nelson, Gail Flohaug, Dick
Hanson, JoAnne Brennan (this list is not complete)

Our Savior's McHenry: Jason Vollmer, Annola Black, De
Frederick, Jerry Tufte, Sue Bakko, Richard Harding

Trinity: Marvin Goplen, Bob Delfs, Cheryl Rickford, Theresa
Fiebiger, Duane Feiring, Gary Delfs

Tri-County Ministry Council: President — Vickie Goplen; Vice-
President & Finance Committee — Connie Eslinger; Sheila
Beglau, Secretary & Events Committee; Denny Goetz, Treasurer
and Finance Committee;
Finance Committee — Paul Motter, Becky Muncy, Bob Delfs,
Lyle Black
Technology Committee — Linda Loe, Dale Nelson
Events Committee — Myrna Hanson/Richard Hanson, Jess
Carlson, Lori Ellingson, Missy Erickson

Save the date

Marriage Matters

Overnight retreat

November 1 –2

Red Willow Bible Camp

Led by “On Bended
Knee”, Pam Hulstrand

Registration form is
available from Theresa
at the TCM office.

Tri-County

Ministry Council

Retreat

Saturday, March 9

9:00 — 3:00

Trinity in Cooperstown

**Noon meal will be
served (Intern Amy will
cook!)**



Youth Events

March this on your calendar:

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Camp

When: June 23-28
Who: Boys and girls in grades 7-12
Where: Luther College
Decorah, Iowa
Cost: \$550 (\$150 deposit)
More details will be available in the



BLAST — 3:15 Wednesdays at Trinity in Binford

CLUB 3:16 — 3:30 first and third Wednesdays at Lutheran Church of McVille.

GRACE SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 Sunday mornings in March

FAITH SUNDAY SCHOOL— 10:00 Sunday mornings

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Saturday, March 23

9:00 — Noon

Site to be determined, depending on participants

Pre-registration is needed! Please talk to Pastor Sherri, Intern Amy, or Theresa.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Sherri.

Class is open to all youth ready to participate in the Lord's Supper. Parents/guardians also attend the class.



Faith4Life! Binford will not be held during Lent. Confirmation students will attend and assist with Wednesday Lenten services.

Time to sign up for Red Willow Bible Camp!

- **Creation Camp:** June 23-28, July 7-12, July 28-August 2 (entering grades 4-6)
- **Disciples Camp:** July 14-19, July 38-August 2 (entering grades 7-9)
- **Senior High AMP! Camp:** July 14-19 (entering grades 10-12) Seekers Days: May 31 & July 24 (entering grades K-6)
- **Taste of Camp:** June 5-7, June 23-254 (entering grades K-2, plus a family member)
- **Pathfinders:** June 5-7, June 23-25 (entering grades 2-3)
- **Holy Hoops:** July 21-26 (entering grades 4-9)
- **Wilderness Week:** August 4-9 (entering grades 8-12)
- **Counselors in Training (Cit) Week:** June 2-7 (entering grades 10-12)



Intern Amy's Corner —

Keep the Wave Alive

I love my home, North Dakota
One reason today is my fav'
We've great people, weather, culture
But legendary is the North Dakota wave!

You know what I speak of, don'tcha?
Two raised fingers with hand on the wheel
It's friendly and understated
The way North Dakotans like to feel.

As the oncoming vehicle approaches
We must decide what we will do
Will we wave first or second?
The timing is so crucial too.

For if we are not attentive
Or we wait just half second too long
We feel frantic to complete it
Before the car is passed and gone!

Perhaps you are not a waver.
I get that. It sometimes seems strange
But today I offer an idea
A thought, a suggested small change.

You know how at church we venture
(It's a bit of a hullabaloo)
We rise and move from our places
To offer "Peace be with you!"

What if we combined these two blessings
Passing peace with the ND wave
Something new with the old gold standard
Let's call it the "ND Peace Wave"!

It's so simple that anyone can do it.
Allow your two fingers to sort of recline

Just put a bit of distance between them
And they form into the peace sign!

Now, there's one more piece to this new
thing.

Perhaps it's the most important part.
As you offer the peace sign to others
You must also offer your heart.

Inside your mind you must wish them
Every good thing from above.
Through the words, "Peace be with you!"
They'll be wrapped up in God's great love.

So next time you're on your way
somewhere,
To work or just a nice Sunday drive
Perhaps you could see it as your chance
To keep the ND wave alive!



TRI-COUNTY MINISTRY STAFF

Rev. Sherri Frederikson

(cell) 336.688.2879

PastorSherri@yahoo.com

Box 44

Binford ND 58416

Intern Pastor Amy Kippen

(cell) 701.799.6181

akippen001@luthersem.edu

351 Bridge Ave.

Hannaford, ND 58448

TCM Parish Administrator

Theresa Fiebiger 676.2761

trinitybinford@mlgc.com

TCM CONGREGATIONS

Faith of Hannaford 769-2387

faithl@ictc.com

First Presbyterian of Cooperstown

jejohnson99@yahoo.com

Grace of Grace City

kmac@daktel.com

Our Savior's of Kloten &

McVile Lutheran Church.... 322-4952

lutheranchurchmcville@gmail.com

Our Savior's of McHenry.... 785-2117

trinitybinford@mlgc.com

Trinity of Binford..... 676-2761

trinitybinford@mlgc.com

Tri-County Ministry

Box 226

Binford, ND 58416

Phone 676-2761

email: trinitybinford@mlgc.com

website: www.tricountyministry.org

Like us on Facebook!

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