



Tri-County Ministry News

TRI-COUNTY
MINISTRY

May — June 2019

From Pastor Sherri

“I have seen the Lord!” These are Mary’s words on resurrection morning from the Gospel of John. I preached on John 20:1-18 on Easter, even though the bulletins were printed, the overheads ready, and the text was supposed to be from Luke. I was so taken with the holy week texts from John, that I wanted to follow the whole story through John.

Mary goes through a transformation that morning. She is disoriented, crying, and mourning the death of her dear friend. However, when Jesus calls her name, she replies, “Rabbouni!” (which means, “My teacher!”)

Here are the words from my sermon, *“‘Mary!’ Jesus says my name—and I KNOW it was him. ‘My teacher!’ I recognize Jesus. But something even more amazing happens. I recognize MYSELF! At this moment, Jesus calls me to be more than his friend. I am his disciple. We come in all ages . . . it doesn’t matter where we are born . . . or who our parents are . . . Jesus wants an encounter with you. He already knows you. But he wants you to know him and to have that personal encounter that Mary has,” ...and the disciple, Thomas, has.*

As we encounter the risen Christ, we are transformed. As our Tri-County Ministry staff, leaders and congregations continue to engage with Christ and each other, a new vision continues to emerge before us.

Jesus is raised from the dead. We have a God who brings resurrection and new life from death.

Choose Parish First — for life! ...for fun! ...for growing! ...for great food! ...for _____ (you fill in the blank). Not because we are dying. But because we live!

What gives us life? Can we move towards things that give us life? What new seeds have sprouted?

*I came that they may have **life**, and have it **abundantly**.*

-John 10:10b

Parish News

Recognition of our parish

Tri-County Ministry will be honored at the **Friends of Red Willow Dinner** on June 18th at Red Willow Bible Camp. This is an event where Red Willow Ministries recognizes those people and congregations that have been a significant supporter of the ministry over the years.



Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. with awards and recognition following in the Chapel at camp.

Please RSVP by June 11 to the Tri-County Ministry office. Let's fill a few tables with TCM members!

Our support of the camp can continue in many ways, both as congregations and as individuals. Go to the website for their wish list, or like the camp on Facebook. Check the calendar for upcoming events too—including a golf scramble in July and the quilt auction in August.

Water Is Life!

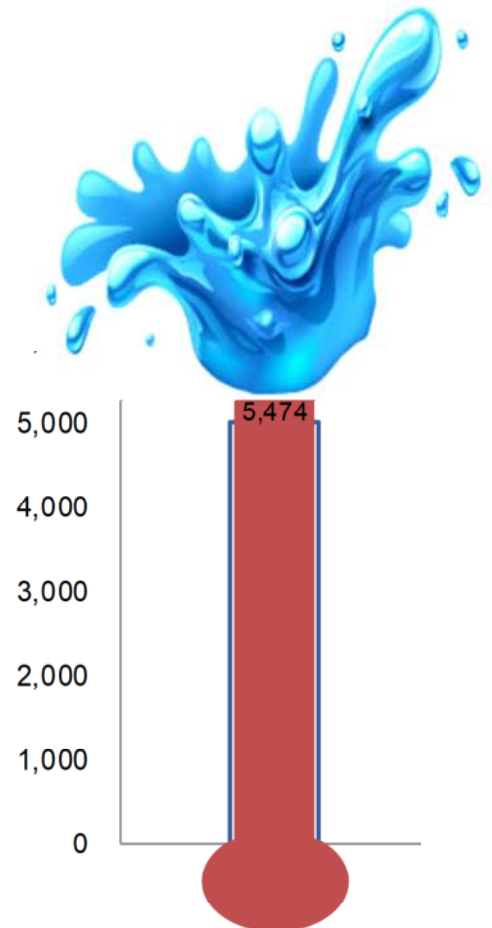
And now we can say that we are contributing to the lives of many hundreds of people who desperately need a clean water source.

Yes, we did it! In fact, we double did it! The original goal of \$2500, to fund one well, was met in the first few weeks of Lent as donors generously placed cash, checks, and lots of loose change into the water buckets each Sunday. So, the goal was doubled. The \$5000 mark was surpassed on Easter Sunday. What a perfect day to celebrate Life!

Total donations received to date are **\$5,473.94**.

The \$5000+ given by our worshippers, along with the \$2500 original challenge amount given by Lutheran Church of McVile, will be sent to World Hunger, specifically for three water wells and shares of a fourth well, all somewhere in Africa.

If you missed the opportunity to donate but still wish to give something, please contact Theresa at the TCM office in Binford asap.



Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly

Saturday-Sunday,
June 8-9
Holiday Inn, Fargo



“I in them and you in me.” (John 17:23)

Voting members and visitors all need to register by May 30.
More information on the synod website:
www.eandsynod.org

Paint Your Heart Out: Celebrating Church Together

*A Beloved Art and Practice Event Series Led by
Sister Michelle Walka*

Saturday, May 25

10am-Noon (with lunch following)

Hosted by Red Willow Bible Camp

You are invited for a fun morning for all ages, as we creatively explore the question: **“What does it mean to be church together?”** Together, we will pray and create visual expressions on 12x12 canvases. These beautiful pieces of work will then be collected and displayed as part of a special Art Exhibit and Celebration at our next Synod Assembly!

All supplies are provided. Everyone is welcome.

Come as an individual or with a group.

You do not need to consider yourself an artist to participate.

Registration is free but required. A free will offering will be collected for lunch.

To register, visit: www.eandsynod.org and click on the “Paint Your Heart Out” event banner. Find the date/location, click the link to sign up.

You can also call the camp office at 701-676-2681

For questions, email: Sister Michelle Walka at
MichelleWalkaArt@gmail.com



Red Willow Bible Camp

Clean-up Day

Saturday, May 4

9:00-4:00

Work projects for
people of all ages and
skill levels.

Lunch will be served.

RSVP by April 30th:
[office@redwillowbible
camp.org](mailto:office@redwillowbiblecamp.org) or
701-676-2681.

Rogation Sunday

May 26

In all TCM churches

*Blessing of the
earth, the seeds,
the water . . .*

Tri-County Ministry Council

Tuesday, May 21

6:30 p.m.

Trinity in Binford

Congregational Events

WORSHIP TIME ALERTS

First Presbyterian

- 9:45 May 19 & 26,
June 16 & 30;
- 11:15 May 5 & 12,
June 2, 9, & 23.

Our Savior's of Klotten

No worship service
May 26.

Trinity & Grace

May 19: Switch
times for the day.
Trinity will be at
8:30; Grace, at
11:15 for the
Confirmation
Service.

Trinity

Watch for
information on a
community
worship service on
June 23.

Faith

Wednesday
evening worship in
June

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MCVILLE

Garage Sale Fund Raiser for the Community Closet at McVilLe Lutheran Church June 1st from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm to raise funds for the Community Closet at McVilLe Lutheran Church. Donations are being accepted now for the sale. Please contact Sheila Oye at 701-367-7598 or by email at smoye32@yahoo.com to make arrangements for donations or to volunteer for the event. There will also be a free will donation luncheon and bake sale to assist in raising funds for the Community Closet.

Quilters Recognition—Sunday, June 2

Annual Church Auction fundraiser at McVilLe Lutheran Church will be October 26th. Donations are being accepted now. Please contact Sheila Oye at 701-367-7598 or by email at smoye32@yahoo.com to make arrangements for donations or to volunteer for the event. A bake sale is also planned for the evening.

TRINITY

Library Update: The Trinity WELCA purchases books for the church library every year. As new books arrive, the shelves have filled up to overflowing. The Library Committee will have books and reference material available for 'Give Away' starting April 28. Tables of books and some shelves in the library will be marked 'Give Away'. Please take a look and take home anything of interest. By June 1, the remaining books will be removed and discarded.

Brunch: Trinity will hold worship at 8:30 on Sunday, May 19. Potluck brunch will follow, with a time of honoring our two confirmands, Lauryn and Andie.

OUR SAVIOR'S OF MCHENRY

A special thank you to the guys who helped with snow removal. Thank you Evan Farnsworth, LuVerne Hoyt, Steve Edland, Darwin Topp, Jerry Tufte, and Corey Erickson.

FAITH

Case Nolan Gilbertson, son of Kory and Laura Gilbertson, was welcomed into the family of God through the Sacrament of Baptism at Faith in Hannaford on April 28. Case was born March 21, 2019, in Fargo. His baptismal sponsors were Heather & Aaron Beisch and Matt & Natalie Nelson.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

The congregation celebrated a baptism on April 7 as Rogan Bryan Lang was brought to the font. Rogan is the son of Nicholas and Shar Lang. He was born September 29, 2018, in Bismarck. Molly and Joseph Gilbert were his baptismal sponsors.

April Service Listings

GRACE—Ushers and Cleaners

May 5 — Pete & Jess Johnson Family
May 12 — Myron & Leona Kulsrud
May 19 — Jason & Kelly Otto Family
May 26 — Travis & Katie Black Family
May church cleaner — Norma Matt

June 2 — Dale & Janice Munson
June 9 — Cindy & Leon Meehan
June 16 — Kevin & Judy Black
June 23 — Mitch & Lori Ellingson
June 30 — Duane & Norma Matt
June church cleaner — Joan Anderson

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MCVILLE

Ushers

May — Mike Olson
June — Cecil Stewart

Acolytes

May — Isabelle Sateren
June — Cecil Stewart

Altar Guild

May — Ranae Oxton
June — Joanne Stein

Coffee Servers

May 5 — Virginia Creech & Tricia Nerison
May 12 — No coffee Happy Mother's Day!
May 19 — Don & Joanne Stein

May 26 — Mary MacMillan & Joyce Dahlen
June 2, 9, & 16 — Russ & Joanne Pollock
June 23 & 30 — Volunteers

Cleaning

4/ 22-5/5: Jason & Sheila Beglau
5/6-19: Rob & Linda Loe

5/20-6/2: Cecil & Julie Stewart, Peggy Johnson
6/17-30: Mary MacMillan, Rick & Gayle Haabak

OUR SAVIOR'S KLOTEN

Janitors & Ushers

May — Lowell & Carole Skjolden

June — Olen & Laurie Ophaug

Fellowship

May 5: Dick & Myrna Hanson
May 12: No coffee Happy Mother's Day

May 19: Gail & Dale Flohaug
June: Potluck coffee

Youth Events

Congratulations to our graduates!



Cord LaPlant

Brianna Grandalen

John Edland

Erin Haugen

Savannah Huso

Catherine Haugland

Senior Recognition:
May 12 at Our Savior's
in McHenry

May 19 at Faith and
Lutheran Church of
McVille

Graduations:
May 25: Midkota
May 26: Griggs County
Central, Dakota
Prairie, and Carrington

*I know what I'm doing.
I have it all planned
out - plans to take
care of you, not
abandon you, plans to
give you the future
you hope for.*

Jeremiah 29:11
The Message Bible

BLAST — Many thanks to Veronica Vollmer and Shian Hoyt for leading another year of BLAST. And thanks to Becky Goetz and Nikki Boote for their help also. BLAST concluded this school year on April 17.

CLUB 3:16 — Haley Klefstad and Megan Myers — thank you for another year of Wednesday after school! Club 3:16 will gather on May 1 to close out this school year. Stay tuned next fall!

GRACE SUNDAY SCHOOL - Sunday School 9:30 a.m. *Last day of Sunday School May 12—9:30 am*

FAITH SUNDAY SCHOOL— Sunday School ended on April 28 with a party! Games, prizes, treats, music, etc. Thank you to this year's leaders: Pat & Jill Larson, Katie Piatz, and Melissa Schneider. Faith Sunday School had 18 students this year, with most attending regularly. Highlights of the year included a kindergarten boy spelling out JESUS in Goldfish crackers before Sunday school began, making horns to sound to tumble the walls of Jericho and making headbands complete with yarn hair to have fun being strong Samson for a day. (Some kids may have left with glue in their real hair that day;)

FIRST COMMUNION — Jayden Collins celebrated her First Communion at the Maundy Thursday worship at Lutheran Church of McVille. We welcome Jayden to the table!

RITE OF CONFIRMATION: Two services are scheduled within Tri-County Ministry during May. On May 12, five students will be confirmed at Trinity in Binford: Andie Anderson and Lauryn Halvorson from Trinity, Eli Larson from Faith in Hannaford; Seth Monsebroten from Lutheran Church of McVille; and Krista Lippert from Our Savior's of Klotten. Confirmands will be recognized in their congregations on May 19.



On May 19, a confirmation service will be held at Grace in Grace City. Confirmands are: Abbi Dreher, Janae Johnson, Jacob Johnson, Josie Johnson, Kaylee Johnson, Jake Topp, Hudson Topp, Brooke Topp, and Ethan Utke.

The Lessons I Learned from Lent

By Intern Pastor Amy

It was the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. There I was sitting on my couch, watching a movie and scrolling through Facebook on my phone. My pastor friend Jodi posted that she was giving up Facebook for Lent. I was reminded of many high school students in my youth group over the years who had done the same. Good for them, I thought.



An hour later, I was again scrolling through Facebook, and my pastor friend Chris posted, “Last minute decision. I’m fasting from Facebook for Lent. See you in late April!”. And I had the thought– Good for her! And then I thought– Huh? Maybe I should do that! So, before I could talk myself out of it, I posted the same words. No more Facebook for me for six weeks.

Six weeks later, I am astounded at the lessons I learned and what things I discovered. I thought I would miss feeling connected to people, but instead I feel more connected because I connected more with people through phone and texting. I thought I might not know what was happening in the world, but I ended up finding more balanced news elsewhere. What I struggled with the most, to the point of really having to bear the struggle, was not being able to mindlessly scroll through my news feed. This actually surprised me. It was almost intolerable to watch TV commercials without grabbing my phone to mindlessly scroll. Waiting anywhere for anything was also especially difficult without being able to scroll. I was disturbed by my discomfort, and started to feel really mad about it, thinking, “Why does Mark Zuckerberg get to control my mind? NO MORE!” This new attitude gave me strength to stick with my fast for the entirety of Lent.

This morning as I shared this story with a friend on the phone, I was reflecting on what I learned and how I’ve changed. I told her of how different I feel than I did six weeks ago. I feel so much less frantic in general and more present in all situations. I am better able to concentrate on the thing I am doing, whether that’s watching TV, talking to someone, or writing a sermon. I feel more connected to and grounded in what actually matters in life.

As I was driving to work this morning, I was thinking about Faith4Life! Confirmation last night. Our theme was resurrection. Pastor Sherri shared how the resurrection, in addition to being about life after death, makes all the difference in her daily life. And I realized that what I am experiencing from my Facebook fast is **THE RESURRECTION** in my own daily life. God took my meager action, walked with me in the discomfort, and brought out of it something new, something life giving.



Resurrection sets us free from that which binds us, and as a result, new life springs forth. Jesus resurrection changes everything, and we are guaranteed that death and sin and even Facebook– all the things that separate us from God- will not have the final word.

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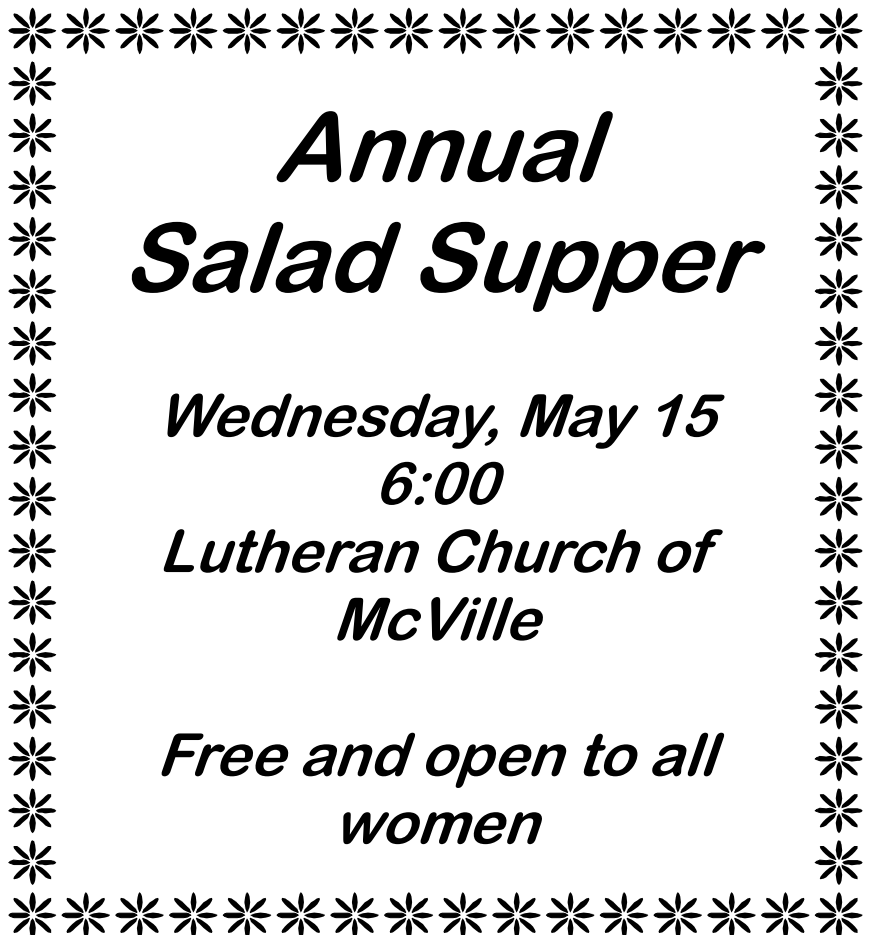
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Like us on Facebook!

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



**Annual
Salad Supper**

**Wednesday, May 15
6:00**

**Lutheran Church of
McVille**

**Free and open to all
women**