

PLATTE, SD

# Trinity Lutheran Church

# NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024

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## ***A New Twist on Platte Community Alpha***

We are gearing up for the Fall Session of Platte Community Alpha. To attract more young families, we have decided to meet at New Hope Christian Camp on Sundays from 12:30 to 2:30 PM. Our hope is that by meeting in the afternoon more couples with young children would participate. Most families like to go out for lunch following church. Since each session of Alpha starts with a home-cooked meal, you could have a free lunch for the whole family for eleven weeks. Our menu will feature kid-friendly cuisine along with meals that would appeal to the older crowd.

Our plan is to provide childcare for potty-trained children between the ages of 3 and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Kids would eat their meals together. Following lunch, they would participate in a variety of different activities. Some weeks they might watch a Christian movie or cartoon. Other weeks, they might learn Christian stories, do arts and crafts, or just play games together. The goal would be to provide fun activities while still growing them in their faith.

Adults would gather for lunch in preassigned small groups. After sharing a meal as a “table family,” all the small groups would watch a video together. These videos are typically 30 minutes in length. Following the video, each small group would go to their assigned breakout rooms to discuss the videos and to fellowship with one another. For those who have participated in Alpha, one of the most surprising things to them was how close they became to their small group family.

**Our “Alpha Sneak Peek” is scheduled for Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>.** Like all Alpha sessions, this one will begin with a meal. Please contact the Trinity office at [tlcplattesd@gmail.com](mailto:tlcplattesd@gmail.com) to let us know how many from

your family will be attending. **To ensure that we can eat promptly at 12:30 PM, please arrive at the camp by 12:15.** Because this is a chance to check us out with no obligation, there won’t be any small group assignments at this session. We will enjoy a great meal together, watch a video, and talk about what breakout sessions look like. Total duration of the Sneak Peek should be about 1 to 1-1/2 hours.

**Alpha will officially begin on Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. We ask participants to arrive by 12:15 PM.** At this session, participants will be assigned to their small group and will remain in that group throughout all sessions. Alpha sessions will not exceed two hours in length. We value your time and want you to know every session will end promptly at 2:30 PM.

**Due to Labor Day weekend, Alpha will not meet on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Beginning September 8<sup>th</sup>, Alpha will meet every Sunday through October 6<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, we will have our Alpha Retreat Weekend. Saturday’s session runs from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, while Sunday’s session runs from 8:00 AM to Noon. Breakfast and lunch will be served on Saturday, and breakfast will be served on Sunday. There will be no childcare provided for the Retreat Weekend. Please talk to a friend or family member about providing childcare for you. There is no afternoon session on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>. Our normal afternoon sessions resume on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> and will run through November 10<sup>th</sup>.**

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## Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday, June 17, 2024

**Present:** Pastor Dave, Mike Gilbertz, Donna Boysen, Tom Boltjes, Tony Schrank, Carey Hoffman, and Scott VandenBerge.

**Absent:** Jim Holter, Alisha Nachtigal, Jan DuFrain, Scott Dingus and Jason Huizenga.

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Gilbertz and Pastor Dave led with a devotion and prayer.

### **Secretary's Report:**

The secretary's report was reviewed, Donna made a motion to approve, Tom seconded it, the motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The treasurer's report was reviewed. Scott V made a motion to move \$100,000 from the General fund to a CD for up to 13 months, Tony seconded it, the motion carried.

### **Trustee's Report:**

There is water that was coming from the ceiling and inside the walls in the Nursery. There was paint pulling away from one of the walls, so discussion was had on turning an insurance claim in. Tony made a motion to file an insurance claim, Donna seconded it, the motion carried.

### **Deacon's Report:**

Visits are being done and bulletins are being sent out.

### **Pastor's Report:**

We reviewed Pastor Dave's report.

### **Old Business:**

Platte Lumber will be contacted to put the carpet in the fireside room when it comes in. Terry Antonsen will also be contacted to see when he will be able to lay the carpet on the altar.

### **New Business:**

Discussion was had on replacing the copy machine in the office. We have been spending a lot of money on toners every month. Wendy visited with John from Office Products on different options. There is a Ricoh MPC 307 (off lease) with a stand that we could get for \$1500. He would give us \$400 for the copier we have now making the balance \$1100. There would be about \$300 in savings every month on toners so the council felt it would more than pay for itself. Tony made a motion to purchase the new copier, Tom seconded the motion, the motion carried.

Scott V discussed the microphone situation with the council. He is going to try a headset with a different fit to see if that cuts down on the static.

Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Carey seconded it, motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carey Hoffman

## From the WOW Co-Presidents

*Tricia Meyerink & Marla Tegethoff*

***Happy 4th of July! A day that we celebrate freedom, faith and independence.***



Many of us, when asked about patriotism, will think of the American flag, fireworks, parades and the American soldier. Often, the idea of prayer is not linked to patriotism at all. But, I believe that the more patriotic that we become, individually and as a nation, the more we will want to pray for our country.

*Our nation was birthed out of prayer.* The Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776 was first preempted with our Founding Fathers praying during the first Continental Congress meeting on September 7th, 1774. For nearly two years, delegates prayed for a nation under God.

George Washington wrote in his diary at the time, *"Went to church and fasted all day."* John Adams wrote in his diary, *"God grant us wisdom and fortitude."* Tom Cushing, also moved by prayer, asked the Continental Congress to be opened up in prayer and his motion was passed. A nation under God was born.

Since then, we have elected both Republicans and Democrats into office, some have believed in prayer and some have not. But I believe that there is one thing that has not changed since that first Independence day, our nation needs men and women who lead our country to depend upon God. Not only that, God is depending upon you and me to not just be patriotic, but to also pray for our leaders and our country.

We are living in terroristic, troubling, and dividing times. Often times, the one thing that stands in the way of God blessing a nation is our prayers. Or I should say, the lack of our prayers...

***"I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before Me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one." Ezekiel 22:30***

## Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand June 1, 2024	\$3904.48
Dividend	\$0.32
Deposit	
Priscilla Offering (June)	\$56.00
Balance on hand June 30, 2024	\$3960.80

## Bible Study Groups

### **Martha Bible Study Group:**

meets **Wednesday**, July 10 at 7 PM  
Session 6 - A Beautiful Unbending

### **Priscilla Bible Study Group:**

meets **Thursday**, July 18 at 9:00 AM  
Studying Lesson 7  
Lesson Leader: Deb VanDerWerff  
Hostess: Donna Boysen

### **Hannah Bible Study Group:**

meets **Thursday**, July 20 at 1:30 PM  
Studying Lesson 7  
Lesson Leader: Jeanne Kott  
Hostess: Karen Dimick

## WOW Mission Project

Paper products for Helping Hands Food Pantry. Please place any toilet paper, paper towels, or napkins, etc. in the blue totes in the fellowship hall and they will be donated to the Helping Hands Food Pantry.

It doesn't really matter how we feel about the man or woman in office, what matters is whether or not we are willing to stand in the gap for our country? I am proud to be an American and I hope you are too. Today, I hope you value your right to be patriotic in a land that is free and I hope that you will exercise your freedom to pray to God that He will bless the USA. @copyright2019 laurieadams

**Patriotism and prayer;  
a Believer in Christ cannot  
have one without the other.**

July	Greeters	Ushers	Communion Servers	Cookie/Coffee Servers
7	Jay & Deb VanDerWerff	Mike Erickson & Tony Schrank	Mike Gilbertz, Alisha Nachtigal, Jason Huizenga	No Coffee – Holiday Break
14	Cody & Rebecca Qualm	Scott Dingus & Marshall Ringling	No Communion	Tammy Darling, Phyllis Daum
21	Eldon & LouAnn Qualm	Tony Schrank & Ryan Kott	Mike Gilbertz, Alisha Nachtigal, Jason Huizenga	Karen DeGroot, Jonna DeHaan
28	Jeff & Jackie Olsen	Tony Schrank & Ryan Kott	No Communion	Ramsey DeHaan, Whitney DeHaan

### This Month’s Birthdays

- |                      |   |                         |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 7/5 Logan Holter     | 7/17 Floyd Dimick*  | 7/25 Lacie Chambers     |
| 7/6 Donna Nelson     | 7/20 Chance Hermanek  | 7/25 Riley Timmerman    |
| 7/6 Tess Ringling    | 7/21 Riley Koopal   | 7/26 Kory Meyerink      |
| 7/6 Addison DeVries  | 7/21 Paxton Dyk   | 7/27 Kelly Timmerman    |
| 7/7 Asher Kott       | 7/22 Wyatt VandenHoek   | 7/28 Valerie Hildebrand |
| 7/10 Kensley Wollman | 7/23 Gladys Kuipers   | 7/29 Theo Johnson       |
| 7/13 Derek Wollman   | 7/23 Jacob Johnson  | 7/30 Terry Erickson     |
| 7/14 Vicky Pavlis    | 7/25 Bev Antonsen   | 7/30 Pearl Feiok        |
| 7/15 Sharon Rommen   | <i>*Please remember these special 80+ Birthdays with a prayer, card or phone call</i> |                         |

### Mission Offering for July – God’s Way Christian School

Our mission offering for July is designated for God’s Way Christian School in Tanzania. The school opened in January 2023, and currently has 60 students, 4 teachers, a cook, a bus driver, a secretary, and the director and founder, Paschal Bakundukize. God’s Way Christian School provides for the whole student, serving nutritious meals, supplying uniforms, shoes, and books for those who can’t afford them, teaching them the gospel, and providing them with a quality education. God’s Way offers free education, with parents contributing through volunteering and donations based on their capacity.

Under Tanzanian law, the school which currently meets in a rented facility, must soon secure their own land and own their own buildings. GWCS will build in phases. Phase 1 calls for classrooms that will accommodate their current students, a kitchen, bathrooms, and an office area. Estimated cost of Phase 1 is \$70,000. Checks may be written to TLC with GWCS in the memo. You may also give online through TeachBeyond.

**Pascal Bakundukize will be sharing with us on Sunday, July 14 updates about the school. We will be taking the mission fund offering on that Sunday also to support God’s Way Christian School.**



## No Community Independence Day Worship this Year

The Platte Ministerial has decided not to hold its annual Community Independence Day worship service. We will be having a regular service here at Trinity on Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM.



**No Community Worship Service**  
**Sunday, July 7**  
**Regular Worship here at Trinity**



## Immersion Baptisms Scheduled for Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>

I know there are some folks in our congregation who have never been baptized. To make the process easier and hopefully, more memorable, I have tentatively scheduled a time for Immersion Baptisms on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 4:00 PM. I say, "tentatively," because we can't outguess the weather. If we get a good day, and I am successful in securing a couple of men to assist me, we will go for it. I am planning on using the beach at Wheeler. If anyone knows of a better location, please let me know.



This is also a time for anyone who wishes to renew their baptismal vows to do so. No, our old baptism didn't lose its effectiveness. Our original baptism is good for life. But just as married couples renew their wedding vows to tell their spouse, "If I had it all to do over again, I would still choose you." Renewing our baptismal vows says the same thing to the Lord. Additionally, for those of us who were sprinkled, immersion baptism provides a greater understanding of what really takes place in baptism. Being plunged under the water really does feel like we've died in a way.

## A New Twist on Community Alpha

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We are limiting the number of participants to forty adults, since space becomes an issue above that number. We also request that if you are interested, that you sign up on the sheets on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall, letting us know how many adults and children will be participating from your family. There is a considerable amount of planning that goes into launching an Alpha program, please help us get off to a smooth start by signing up early.

I am looking for volunteers who are willing to serve as Alpha leaders or helpers. I am also in need of folks willing to help with childcare and in providing meals. Please sign up on the same bulletin board if you are willing to help in one of these areas.

Thanks & God Bless,

Pastor Dave





# Trinity Lutheran's Vacation Bible School



# God's Backyard BIBLE CAMP™ \* under the STARS \*

**FOR KIDS WHO COMPLETED 1/2 K THROUGH 6TH GRADE**

**AUGUST 6 - 7 - 8 | 5:00 - 7:30 PM**



**Kids learn to serve their families, friends,  
neighbors, communities and JESUS  
at God's Backyard Bible Camp!**



REGISTER  
YOUR CHILD

**Come hungry!  
Supper will be provided  
for kids and volunteers!**



BECOME A  
VOLUNTEER