

PLATTE, SD

# Trinity Lutheran Church

# NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024

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## Checking Your Spiritual Pulse

***“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>22</sup> On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ <sup>23</sup> And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’*** Matthew 7:21-23

I cannot imagine a more depressing message to receive than to hear Jesus say, ***“I never knew you, depart from me.”*** Unfortunately, that is the message awaiting many “Christians” who equate knowing Christ with simply going to church or teaching Sunday School or serving on the Church Council.

I am particularly aware of this passage because I’m sure it’s what I would have heard had I died before accepting Christ at 39+ years of age. If you would have asked me prior to that time, if I believed that Jesus died on the cross for my sins, I would have said, “Yes,” in a heartbeat. If you would have asked me if I believed He was raised to new life on the third day, again, I would have answered without hesitation, “Yes.” I mentally agreed with what scripture said about Jesus, yet it had little or no impact on how I lived my life.

The moment I invited Jesus into my life, I knew without a doubt that God loved me, and I loved Him. I knew that I was forgiven, and that heaven awaited me. I knew the Holy Spirit lived within me and would empower me to walk out the life to which Christ had called me. I knew that God had a purpose for my life and my life suddenly became more fulfilling and exciting. After years of hearing that God talked to us, I

began to “hear” Him talk to me in various and sundry ways.

Inviting Christ to be Lord of my life also opened my eyes to my wickedness and depravity. Under the bright light of Christ’s gaze, I saw the darkness within me and understood my desperate need for a Savior. I became convicted that I not only needed to refrain from doing evil, but that it was high time I began to do the good deeds for which Christ had created me. The presence of Christ in my life and in my heart transformed me, and the lifelong work of sanctification began.

I didn’t write this article to make people feel bad. I wrote this article to lead people to a place of introspection and self-examination. I want people to embrace living faith in Jesus Christ, not rely on the ritual of dead religion. I don’t want anyone to hear Jesus say, ***“I never knew you, depart from me.”*** I want you to **know** you are in good standing with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Toward that end, I invite you to answer the following questions to take your “spiritual pulse:”

- Do you know God loves you and do you love Him?
- Do you know and feel that you are completely forgiven?
- Are you confident in your salvation, and sure that heaven awaits you, not because of your goodness and perfection, but because of Christ’s?
- Are you constantly aware that the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the grave is inside you?
- Have you invited the Holy Spirit to have His way in your life so you can walk out the life to which Jesus called you?

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## Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday, July 15, 2024

**Present:** Pastor Dave, Donna Boysen, Tony Schrank, Carey Hoffman, Alisha Nachtigal, Scott VandenBerge, Jan DuFrain and Scott Dingus.

**Absent:** Jim Holter, Jason Huizenga, Tom Boltjes and Mike Gilbertz.

The meeting was called to order by Scott VandenBerge and Pastor Dave led with a devotion and prayer.

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

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

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

The treasurer's report was reviewed. Alisha reported \$100,000 was moved into a 5-month CD with 5% interest. Carey made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Jan seconded it, the motion carried.

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

Tony reported that an adjustor looked at the flashing on the roof and concluded that it was installed incorrectly. A claim will be sent to our insurance company.

The carpet for the altar will be in this week. Terry can lay the carpet the last week in July; however, it was decided to wait until the Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> wedding and VBS is over to install.

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

Visits are being done and bulletins are being sent out.

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

We reviewed Pastor Dave's report.

### **Old Business:**

The new earpiece for the microphone seems to be working great.

### **New Business:**

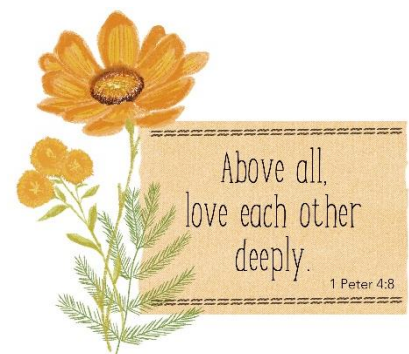
There was no new business.

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

We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carey Hoffman



## From the WOW Co-Presidents

*Tricia Meyerink & Marla Tegethoff*

Vacations are an opportunity to unwind, relax, and explore new horizons. But it's good to remember that our Christian faith is not something we want to leave behind when we go on a trip. In fact, vacation can be an excellent time to strengthen and deepen our spiritual connection.

*How can we keep our faith strong while on vacation?*

**Begin with Prayer:** Before embarking on a trip, take a few moments to pray and seek God's guidance and protection, asking for His presence throughout your journey.

**Carry Your Bible and Devotionals:** Spend time meditating on God's Word, seeking His wisdom and guidance, and remaining connected to the teachings of Jesus even when you're away.

**Do Some Church Tourism:** Attending a local church service allows you to connect with fellow believers and experience the diversity of the Christian community.

**Connect with Meaningful Conversations:** Our actions and words can reflect our faith, so let them shine as a testament to God's love and grace.

**Embrace the Beauty of Creation:** Take time to marvel at the wonders of God's creation. Allow the beauty of nature to remind you of His greatness and creativity.

**Set Aside Quiet Time:** Find a peaceful spot, such as a park, a balcony, or a cozy corner, where you can spend time alone with God.

**Practice Acts of Kindness:** Whether it's assisting someone in need, offering a listening ear, or showing generosity, let your actions demonstrate the love of Christ.

Vacations can be transforming experiences for Christians with intentionality and a desire to grow in faith. By adding prayer, Bible study, fellowship, and acts of kindness into your vacation, you can nurture your relationship with God and strengthen your faith.

## Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand July 1, 2024		\$3960.80
Dividend		\$0.32
Deposit		\$299.00
Hannah Offering (June)	\$60.00	
Hannah Mission fund	\$239.00	
Deposit		\$145.00
Priscilla Offering (July)	\$70.00	
Hannah Offering (July)	\$75.00	
Disbursement		
Goodwill Quilting		\$1000.00
Balance on hand July 31, 2024		\$3405.12



## Bible Study Groups

### Martha Bible Study Group:

meets Wednesday, August 7 at 7:30 PM  
Session 6 - A Beautiful Unbending

### Priscilla Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, August 15 at 9:00 AM  
Studying Lesson 8  
Lesson Leader: Gladys Kuipers  
Hostess: Bonnie Ringling

### Hannah Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, August 15 at 1:30 PM  
Studying Lesson 8  
Lesson Leader: Caroline Butler  
Hostess: Vera Osness

## 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.

Remember, faith knows no boundaries, and, wherever you may roam, you can carry the light of Christ within you. *-By Liz Kirkland*

Aug	Greeters	Ushers	Communion Servers	Cookie/Coffee Servers
4	Kevin & Susan Nelson	Mike Gilbertz & Jeff Engebretson	Jim Holter, Jan DuFrain, & Carey Hoffman	Rhonda Engebretson & Pearl Feiok
11	Gary & Paula Nelson	Mike Gilbertz & Jeff Engebretson	No Communion	Jodene Foxley & Diane Gilbertz
18	Chris & Nicki Nelson	Jerry Dykstra & Morries Rommen	Jim Holter, Jan DuFrain, & Carey Hoffman	Julie Gustad & Donna Hanten
25	Andrew & Alisha Nachtigal	Jerry Dykstra & Morries Rommen	No Communion	Amanda Hermanek & Valerie Hildebrand

## This Month's Birthdays

8/1	Lee DeHaan	8/9	Madison Dummer	8/22	Amelia Meyerink	8/28	Raegan Kooopal
8/1	Chad Johnson	8/12	Morries Rommen*	8/22	Kory Standy	8/29	Joel Bailey
8/3	Wanda Johnson	8/13	Coby Johnson	8/23	Ella Schrank	8/30	Holden Suits
8/4	Carla Weiser	8/14	Dawn Konstanz	8/23	Kevin Severson	8/30	Casey Holter
8/4	Connie Kirsch	8/16	Marsha Cutler	8/25	Bud Bakken*	8/31	Bria Severson
8/5	Addy Boltjes	8/18	John Rasmussen	8/25	Darrel Hildebrand	8/31	Casey Holter
8/5	Jye Bailey	8/18	Lisa Johnson	8/26	Braelyn Qualm		
8/8	Jonna DeHaan	8/23	Raelyn Severson				

*\*Please remember these special 80+ Birthdays with a prayer, card or phone call*

## August Mission of the Month

Our August Mission of the month is designated for Lifeline Children's Services, a ministry which does incredible work in the areas of adoption, pregnancy ministry, family restoration, global orphan care, and education and counseling.

In 2023, Lifeline Children's Services:

- Served 688 women through their Pregnancy Counseling Services.
- Trained and licensed 56 new families to be Foster Parents.
- Found homes for 131 children through International Adoption and for 85 children through Domestic Adoption.
- Positively impacted 17,637 children through initiatives with Global Orphan Care.
- Provided 2,993 counseling sessions through their licensed therapists.
- Trained 18 churches to utilize Lifeline's Church-Based Programs.

Please give generously to support this ministry that is making such a difference in the lives of so many children. The offering will be taken Sunday Aug 18th. Please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church.

## Sunday School begins Sunday, September 8

**Sunday School begins Sunday, September 8 at 10:45-11:45 am.** We would like to thank those of you who offered your time last year to teach one of our Sunday School classes. It is again to prepare for another year. We have found that co-teaching seems to work well and would like to continue with that. However, that does require 2 teachers per grade level (Preschool thru 6th Grade & High School) If you find yourself hesitating to volunteer because committing to every Sunday can be difficult, co-teaching does allow you more flexibility throughout the year! ***If you feel the Lord is calling you to teach this year, please contact the Board of Ed. Carla Lantz, Karis DuFrain or Dan Daum.*** Thank you for helping our youth grow in their faith & walk with God!

## Platte Community Alpha

*is starting soon!*



### FREE CHILDCARE PROVIDED

for potty trained 3 year old  
through 5th grade  
kid friendly meals  
with faith centered activities

### ALPHA SNEAK PEAK

Sunday | August 11

#### LOCATION

Trinity Lutheran Church  
500 S Penn Ave, Platte, SD

- 12:15 PM Arrive
- 12:30 PM Lunch served
- Video to follow

### ALPHA BEGINS

Sunday | August 25

#### LOCATION

New Hope Christian Camp  
36705 279th St, Platte, SD

- 12:15 PM Arrive
- 12:30 PM Lunch served
- Video to follow

## What is Alpha?

Alpha is an 11-week course on the basics of Christianity. Participants are placed in small groups for the duration of the course, where they form amazing long-term friendships. Whether you are a seeker or a long-time follower of Christ, you will find your faith growing.

Every session begins with a delicious meal shared with your small group, followed by a video, and a discussion with your small group. Total time for Alpha is 2 hours.

Although 11 weeks seems like a long time, guests are always sad when the course ends. Give it a try. **You won't be sorry!**

## Checking Your Spiritual Pulse

- Are you aware of your sinfulness and your desperate need for a Savior?
- Have you not only refrained from doing evil, but also begun to do the good deeds for which God created you?
- Has your love for Christ led you to a place of obedience in which you seek to do what He commands?
- Can you "hear" God speak to you and know that you can trust what you are "hearing?"
- Has your relationship with Jesus given you a new sense of purpose and meaning in your life?

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- Are you hiding the truth of scripture in your heart and mind so you can defeat the enemy's lies and deceptions and walk in the truth?

So, how's your "spiritual pulse?" Is your heart beating in rhythm with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, or is it aligned with the world? Ask yourself these hard questions, so when you meet Jesus, you will hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant," and not, "***I never knew you, depart from me.***"

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!**



**Come hungry!**

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



REGISTER  
YOUR CHILD



BECOME A  
VOLUNTEER

**Donations of Ground Beef Needed!  
Sign up on bulletin board**



**AUGUST 2024**

**RSVP to:**

Tom (605-824-8370)  
Jackie (605-680-1060)  
Amy (605-682-8924)

The PCSM board along with Paul, thank the communities of Platte, Geddes and the surrounding area for their faithful support.

PLATTE COMMUNITY  
**STUDENT MINISTRY**

# ANNUAL MEETING

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN PAUL, THE HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH MENTORS AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP**



**GODS COUNTRY CAMPGROUND**

35398 SD Hwy 44, Platte

**5:30 GATHER**

**6:00 MEAL**

**MUSIC & FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW**