



Tri-County Ministry News

February 2023

From Deacon Tara

“Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.” —1 Corinthians 13:4-8

February is soon upon us which means Valentine’s Day, or as I often jestingly have called it: “Single Awareness Day.” It’s almost impossible not to remember one’s singleness on this holiday. But I’ve come to realize that Valentine’s Day is so much more than celebrating the love of couples . . . it’s about celebrating all the love in the world.

God places people into our lives as a reminder of how worthy of unconditional love we all are. This was painstakingly obvious recently as a deacon colleague and friend lost her husband of five years to cancer. Not only does he leave behind his beautiful wife, but his twin one year old boys as well. Yet the love that has surrounded this family has been immensely palpable. On my friend’s Facebook post, hundreds of comments reminded her that that they are not alone. And this is just one example. I’m sure each of us can think of a time when we too were buoyed by the love and prayers of others. I also can’t help but be reminded of these words from 1 Corinthians 13: *“(Love) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.”*



And that’s the truth . . . love never ends! In fact, God loved us so much that God sent God’s one and only son into the world for each and every one of us. *“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.” —John 3:16-17*

This love is a love that is never ending. It is a love that we are lucky enough to experience in this world. It is a love that embodies the words found in 1 Corinthians 13. So whether single, married, etc, spend this Valentine’s Day telling those you love how much you love them!

Parish News

Our 2023 Lent Project: Project Ignite Light

Just down the road, in the former North Central school building between Dazey and Rogers, is the home of **Project Ignite Light**.

Project Ignite Light provides children with important personal items when they're examined by their local Child Advocacy Center or entering foster care because of physical and sexual abuse, neglect, and human trafficking.

The items given to the children are very specific, and because of that, our Lent project this year will be a cash campaign to fill Project Ignite Light's Walmart cart. Our goal is **\$1750**. This campaign will begin on Ash Wednesday and continue through Easter Sunday, giving everyone an opportunity to donate.

Along with the cash donations we'll be making tied blankets. Watch for more info on this as it is organized.

Lent 2023: "Amazing Grace"

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the writing of "Amazing Grace," this worship series for Lent by theologian Michael Hoy ties the words of the beloved song to our lives today as Christ's disciples. Those in the Bible who experienced the amazing grace of God help us each week to realize that though we once were lost in sin, we now have been found by Jesus, and though we once were blind to God's mercy, we now can see his love at work in us through our Savior's death and resurrection.

Ash Wednesday Service of Holy Communion, February 22:

We'll focus on David (Psalm 51:1). We find comfort that King David confessed his sins to God and received amazing grace in God's forgiveness and a connection to Jesus, the Savior.

The Ash Wednesday worship schedule:

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

During the five Wednesday evening services in March, we'll hear about Isaiah of Babylon, the Prodigal Son, the Blind Man, the Woman at the Well, and Paul.

A limited number of Lenten devotional booklets will be available in our churches: "Amazing Grace" and "How Sweet the Sound."

Giving Hearts Day is February 9

Congregational News

Faith of Hannaford

Oakley Eugene Cofell was received into the family of God through the Sacrament of Baptism on December 30. Oakley is the son of Cassandra (Hook) and Tanner Cofell. He was born July 14, 2022 in Grand Forks. Sponsors are Allison & Monte Loughman.

Lutheran Church of McVile

The Annual Meeting of Lutheran Church of McVile was held January 22. The elected church council for 2023 is: President-Norris Olson; V.P. -Kelli Schmitt; Secretary-Linda Loe; Treasurer-Teresa Rorvig; Council members-Ranae Oxton and Gayle Anderson.

Lenten Soup Suppers will begin on Ash Wednesday. Supper at 6:00 p.m. and worship at 7:00 p.m.

Club 3:16 will meet on February 12.

Funeral services for Bud Loe were held January 4. He died December 29 in McVile. The funeral for Gerald Stutrud was held Saturday, January 28. He passed away January 21 in McVile. Blessed be the memories of Bud and Gerald.

Trinity of Binford

The memorial service for Mike Sundquist was held at Trinity on December 10. He passed away in Fargo on November 25. Blessed be his memory.

Kellen Arv Vincent was baptized at Trinity on December 12. He is the son of Callie Harding. Kellen was born July 31, 2021 in Fargo. Baptismal sponsors were Tyrel Harding and Harle Andel. We welcome Kellen to the family of God.

The Trinity Annual Meeting was held on January 15. Council members for 2023 are Marvin Goplen, Kayla Feiring, Shian Hoyt, Bob & Becky Delfs, and Theresa Fiebiger.

A sign-up sheet for serving Lenten suppers will be available. Suppers will begin March 1.

February 12 is **Souper Bowl Sunday**. Bring your loose change/cash and vote for your favorite Super Bowl team. Proceeds will be sent to the Griggs County Bread of Life Food Pantry.

Grief Pillow project

Grief pillows are being made within our parish to be gifted to children who have lost a loved one. The book *Tear Soup* is also given.

So far, pillows have been made at McVile and at Faith.

If you or a group in your church would like to tie a pillow or two, please contact Deacon Tara. She will get the materials and instructions to you.



Fleece, pillow forms, and books have been purchased with Thrivent cards.

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harmony with our member
churches and communities.**