



Tri-County Ministry News

July — August 2021

From Deacon Tara

I love living in a part of the world where we experience all four seasons. My favorite things about summer are being able to spend time at the lake, reading a book outside or going swimming with friends and family. Summer is a time for all of us to slow down and be reminded of the words we hear in Scripture: *“Be still and know that I am God.”*

We can experience God in

The stillness of the lake...

The stillness of the sunsetting and rising...

The stillness we find on a boat ride...

And most importantly, the stillness that reminds us that God sits with us and reminds us also that God will never leave us or forsake us.

This past week, my sister and I went on our annual sisters’ trip. On that trip, I found so many moments of stillness. I found myself on my phone less. I was able to read a book and truly escape into the storyline of that book. There is pure gift in being able to find those moments of stillness.

My hope and prayer is that you can find moments of stillness during these summer months. During those moments of stillness, may you hear these words from Scripture whispered in your ear: *“Be still and know that I am God!”*

Deacon Tara

Tri-County Ministry Annual Parish Worship

Sunday, August 8

10:30 a.m.

Red Willow Bible Camp Chapel

(coffee hour at 10:00)

Tri-County Ministry Council
May 25, 2021
7:00 p.m. at Trinity in Binford

PRESENT: Richard Hanson, Rob Loe, Linda Loe, Dan Larson, Allen Hetland, Angie Olson, Janice Johnson, Lori Ellingson, Laurie Erickson, Lyle Black, Bob Delfs, Deacon Tara Ulrich, Theresa Fiebiger

ABSENT: Gilbert Black, Olen Ophaug

CALL TO ORDER: Linda Loe

DEVOTIONS: Deacon Tara

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Approved and filed

TREASURER’S REPORT: Approved and filed

Balances of Hand 4.30.21	General Fund	77,884.13
	Parsonage Fund	13,325.87
	Special Funds	3,944.77

OLD BUSINESS

Ministry Site Profile: Revisions were made following the April TCM Council meeting. MSP was then sent to Shar Gumke for review; she made several suggestions for improvements to the document. Motion by Dan Larson, seconded by Bob Delfs, that the Ministry Site Profile be approved with the recommended revisions. Motion carried. Linda and Theresa will rewrite the narratives and then submit it to Shar for final approval before it is submitted to the END Synod office.

Call Committee: Six of the congregations have representatives to the Call Committee to date. Shar Gumke serves as Call Process Administrator as part of her END Synod position. Consensus of council to ask Pastor Amy Kippen to be the Reference Recommendation.

Constitution Updates: The six ELCA congregations are at different stages of the updates; reminder that updates will be approved at the churches’ 2022 annual meetings.

The TCM Agreement will be updated before the end of this year to include language on the call process, hiring of Word and Service clergy, and council personnel/size of council. Consensus of council to have the Executive Committee work on the TCM Agreement.

Linda reminded the council representatives that the final letter of intent to withdraw from Tri-County Ministry would need to be sent to her by July 1, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

TCM Council meeting schedule: Consensus of the council to move the meeting night to Thursdays to accommodate everyone’s schedule.

STAFF REPORTS

Deacon Tara: Confirmation services have been held at Grace City, Faith, and Lutheran Church of McVile. Trinity's confirmation service will be June 6. Several baptisms have been scheduled. McVile's Wednesday morning Bible study has concluded and will begin in the fall. Burials have been scheduled or held at Our Savior's Kloten and the Norway cemetery south of McVile. Outdoor services will be held in Hannaford in every week in June, and once in McVile in June.

Theresa: Thanked the council for the gift certificate. Alternative worship times have greatly eased the scheduling. No worship services in any of the TCM churches on Sunday, July 4.

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS

Faith: June worship services are Wednesday evenings at the CAB park in Hannaford. No worship on Memorial Day weekend.

First Presbyterian: Church is opened completely, just not passing the peace during worship. Assisted Living still not open for worship. Coffee hour is planned for the Sundays that Deacon Tara leads worship at their church.

Our Savior's of Kloten: Worship attendance has been very good, with as many as 15 at a service. Deacon Tara officiated at a burial on May 22.

Grace: The confirmation/senior recognition service was very well attended. No worship on Memorial Day weekend; will have a Saturday evening worship on June 5.

Our Savior's of McHenry: Open to 50% for funerals. Looking for volunteers to mow and also for the church cleaning day. Constitution revision will be worked on later this summer.

Lutheran Church of McVile: Planning worship in the park on June 13, with a picnic following. Bible study has ended until this fall. Community worship service is being planned for the weekend of McVile Days.

Trinity of Binford: Senior Recognition was held. Trinity will host the community Memorial Day program. Baptisms are scheduled for May 29. Betty Stabenow has resigned from the Tri-County Ministry Council as she is moving.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, July 22 (only if needed); Thursday, August 26, 7:00 at Trinity

CLOSING PRAYER: Ecumenical Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by
Lori Ellingson, Secretary
Theresa Fiebiger, Recorder

Congregational News

Faith of Hannaford

Worship services move back to Sunday mornings beginning in July. But CAB will still be our sanctuary! Services are at 10:30 a.m. at the creek, weather permitting.

Art Eslinger passed away June 21 in Valley City. The funeral was scheduled for June 30 at Faith.

Lutheran Church of McVile

The annual McVile Days worship service will be Sunday, July 18, at 9:30 in the city park.

Save the date! Club 3:16 will be having VBS on **August 2-4** from 6pm-8pm. Our last evening (Aug 4) we will be part of the evening church services. More information will be mailed out to families in July. Questions can be directed to Haley Klefstad 701.270.2621 or haley.klefstad@k12.nd.us

Two baptisms have been held at our church recently.

Atlas Daniel Arneson, son of Dan and Chanda Arneson, was baptized on May 22. Atlas was born April 29, 202. His baptismal sponsor was Krystal Ripplinger.

On June 2, Crew Charles Corwin was baptized. Crew is the son of Lindsey and Tanner Corwin. He was born October 8, 2016. Dan and Chanda Arneson were his baptismal sponsors. We welcome these two children into the family of God.

In August, we go to our annual month of Wednesday evening worship. Those services will all be at 7:00 p.m. Watch for updates in your bulletin announcements or on the Facebook page.

Our Savior's of McHenry

On June 10th, a group of gals worked together to give the inside of the McHenry church a good cleaning. Thank you Susie, Laurie, Cindy, Sue, and Missy.

Trinity of Binford

May 29 was a day of five baptisms at Trinity!

Avarie Barclay, Lucas Amundson, and Jacob Barclay are the children of Brandon Barclay and Nancy Amundson.

Baptismal sponsors were Darcie Knudsen, Cameron & Katie Barclay, and Katelyn Romaninsky.

Chloe Barclay and Noah Barclay are the children of Brandon Barclay and Mariah Reynolds. Their sponsors were Cameron & Katie Barclay, Darcie & Clint Knudson, and Alex DuPreez.

Wyatt Hoyt and Jacob Barclay affirmed their faith during the confirmation service on June 6.

July brings worship in the park back to our schedule. Services will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Binford Park for each of the four Wednesday evenings. We'll worship at the church in case of inclement weather.

TRI-COUNTY MINISTRY STAFF

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harmony with our member
churches and communities.**