



Tri-County Ministry News

May — June 2022

From Deacon Tara

“And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.” After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.” —John 13:3-17

Just the other day, we heard this story as Jesus and his disciples gathered around the table for the last supper. Shortly after this meal, the next day in fact, Jesus was crucified. But then three days later, Jesus rose from the dead. This story is a reminder of how God calls us to be God’s hands and feet in the world.

I love this Maundy Thursday text because it encompasses my call as a deacon in this church. As deacons, we are called to pick up our basins and towels to wash the feet of all God’s people no matter who that might be, including the downtrodden and marginalized among us. I mean, think about it — Jesus still washed Judas’ and Peter’s feet and let them come to the table knowing full well that they would soon betray and deny him.

Service is something that I’m extremely passionate about. How can we bridge the church and the world? How can we be God’s hands and feet beyond the church’s walls? I’m excited to share soon about some service ideas I have, along with some ideas that were shared with me. But I also would love to hear your ideas too. Feel free to send me an email.

May we work to be servants who are blessed by being God’s hands and feet in the world.

Serving at the crossroads,
Deacon Tara

Parish News

Worship time experiment

A few months ago, the early worship time was moved to 9:00. It turns out that the driving time between churches is a little too tight.

Therefore, the early worship is being moved back to **8:30**. The exception is First Presbyterian in Cooperstown. Since they are now worshipping at Assisted Living, the time has to remain at 9:00.

Our summer worship schedule goes into effect in June, when Faith will worship at the creek on Wednesday evenings.

END Synod Assembly "Called to Serve" June 4 & 5 Holiday Inn, Fargo

Registration is open on the synod website. Our ELCA churches are strongly encouraged to send one or two delegates.

Confirmation Services in two congregations

Three confirmands will affirm their faith at confirmation services in May.

- At Faith, the confirmation service will be by May 8. Grady Barclay will be confirmed.
- Urben and Mason Dramstad will be confirmed at Trinity on Sunday, May 15.

God bless Grady, Mason, and Urben!

Congratulations to our high school seniors!

Our Savior's in McHenry: (Sr. Recognition was April 24)

- James Vollmer

Grace in Grace City (Sr. Recognition on May 8)

- Cayler Ellingson
- Logan Topp
- Wyatt Walker

Trinity in Binford (Sr. Recognition on May 15)

- Madison Feiring

Lutheran Church of McVile (Sr. Recognition on May 21)

- Kelland Klefstad

From Deacon Tara's bookshelf

I recently read two books that I think many of us should read: *Atlas of the Heart* by Brene Brown and *What Happened to You* by Dr. Bruce Perry and Oprah Winfrey. These books taught me so much about our brains and how they work.

Atlas of the Heart talks about many of the emotions we experience and why we experience them the way we do.

What Happened to You is a book that will aid me in how I understand and interact with people. Check out these books and let me know what you think.

Congregational News

Trinity of Binford

Some house cleaning is being done around the church and parsonage. Various items are being posted for sale on Facebook, and a rummage sale will be held on the front lawn of the church **Saturday, May 14, from 8:00 a.m. until noon.** Anyone wishing to donate items to the rummage sale may bring them to the church. Proceeds will go to the Trinity WELCA.

Lutheran Church of McVile

McVile Lutheran Church Women will host their annual Salad Supper on **Wednesday, May 18, at 6:00** at the church. The supper will be followed by a program of violin and piano music and speaker Rebecca Kjelland of Park River Bible Camp. All are invited!

Lutheran Disaster Response: how you can help

On February 24, Russian forces invaded Ukraine, launching land, sea and air attacks. Millions of people are seeking refuge in neighboring countries. Many of these Ukrainians need shelter, basic necessities and pastoral care. Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying their companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. **Your gifts designated for “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people impacted by conflict in the region.**

Donations may be given to Lutheran Disaster Response and sent to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gifts Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Write “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” on your check’s memo line. Or, go online to ELCA.org, search for Eastern Europe Crisis Response, and give electronically.

Prairie Rose WELCA Cluster Spring Gathering

**Saturday, May 7
9:00 — Noon
Red Willow Bible Camp
Dining Room
(hosted by TCM)

Noon meal (\$10)**

**Speaker: Alia Jenkins,
RWBC Program Director**

**Worship Leader: Deacon
Tara**

In-kind offering for RWBC:

- Snacks & microwave dinners for staff lounge
- Art supplies (water color paint, large spools of embroidery floss, tie dye, washable liquid tempera paint)
- Basketballs, volleyballs, gater balls
- \$ for field trips
- Water walking ball
- Water shooters

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