

TRI-COUNTY MINISTRY STAFF

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



Tri-County Ministry News

November 2022

From Deacon Tara

“On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.” -Luke 17:11-19

Just the other day, we heard this story in worship. I’ve been thinking a lot about this story and the practice of gratitude. We aren’t always good at giving thanks; yet in November, we have a day set aside to give thanks. But we shouldn’t wait until that holiday to give thanks and be grateful for the many blessings in our lives.

Yes, there are times in our lives when it’s extremely difficult to give thanks. I don’t have to look back on my life to see that. I’m sure the same is true for you too. I think that’s the point of this story: we need to be more like the Samaritan man who sees his own healing and returns to Jesus to say “Thank You!” This Thank You is especially hard during times of deep loss and sorrow. But Jesus provides us what we need at all times and promises to never leave us or forsake us.

So, do me a favor. In the midst of your sorrows and joys, what can you give thanks for? Today? This week? This month? This year? Take the time to implement a ritual of naming your own gratitude and blessings. I’ll start by saying I am so incredibly thankful for all of you!

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” -1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Deacon Tara

Parish News

Pounds for the Pantry

Lutheran Church of McVille is sponsoring their annual food drive for our food pantries. Bring your donations — non-perishable food items and paper projects — to your church November 1 -- 20.

The church whose donations weigh the most will win the traveling trophy.

Red Willow Ministries Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 12
1:00 p.m.
(Lunch served at noon)
Red Willow Bible Camp

RSVP by November 1
(call Beth at the camp)

Each congregation is asked to send at least one delegate.

All Saints' Day Remembrance

We remember our members and friends whose funerals have been held in TCM churches during the past 12 months:

Richard Harding
Dorothy Raaen
Bill Rickford
Walter Hoyt
Arvid Ophaug
Jerry Olson
Myrna Aasand
Lorrain Burgum
Bruce Berg
Delores Hoyt
Donald Larson
Mylerna Hoyt

Our congregations will remember them as well as other members of our churches and communities during the November 6 worship services.

Special Congregational Meetings

Special meetings will follow the worship services in our congregations on Sunday, November 6. The purpose of the meetings will be to approve the 2023 Congregational Ministry Contributions to Tri-County Ministry.

The TCM Council is recommending congregation contributions based on percentage of active confirmed membership in Tri-County Ministry. For example, if a congregation has 10% of the active confirmed membership, it will pay 10% of the total congregational contributions.

Congregational News

Faith of Hannaford

The annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be served following the worship on **November 20**. And the Pony Express will also wrap up on that day.

Ushers November 6 — Linda Cross and Diane Haugen; November 13 — Dan Larsons; November 20—Russel Nelsons.

Lutheran Church of McVille

McVille Lutheran Church Women are hosting a Vendor Fair and Luncheon on **Saturday, November 5**, at the McVille Auditorium. The Vendor Fair will run from 10 am – 4 pm. A lunch plate of B-B-Q sandwiches, beans, and chips will be served 11:00 – 1:00. Adults \$10; ages 12 and under \$5; and preschool free. Hunters are welcome! To-go boxes will be available. There will also be a bake sale, raffles on an afghan throw and a set of embroidered dishtowels, and door prizes throughout the day. The afghan throw is on display at Berg Insurance in McVille. Tickets may be purchased from any McVille Lutheran Church member or at Berg Insurance. Come and enjoy a delicious lunch and do some shopping!

Third grade Bibles will be presented to Kinleigh Klefstad, Nash Advem, and Elise Arneson during a November worship service. Club 3:16 has begun; contact Haley at 701.270.2621 if you need to register or for information.

MLCW will lead the worship on **November 20** with a thank offering service.

Our Savior's of McHenry

At a special congregational meeting on October 16, the congregation voted to disband. The Our Savior's Council will now be working toward Holy Closure. Deacon Erin Power, Director of Evangelical Mission from the END Synod, will be facilitating a discussion following the November 20 worship service. Discussion will include the legacy of Our Savior's.

The annual All Saints' Day remembrance will be held during the service on November 6. Our Savior's will recognize members and friends of the McHenry community.

The funeral service for Mylerna Hoyt was held at Our Savior's on October 25. Mylerna passed October 17 in Cooperstown. Blessed be her memory.

Trinity of Binford

On Sunday, October 2, Oscar Alexander Jenkins and Maxwell Hawthorne Jenkins were welcomed into the family of God through the Sacrament of Baptism. They are the sons of Alia and Jeff Jenkins. Oscar was born April 10, 2019; his sponsors were BryAnn Church and Karl Hendrickson; Maxwell was born September 6, 2022; Marissa and Bjorn Anderson were his sponsors.

Trinity WELCA will lead the worship service and thank offering on Sunday, November 13.

Our next newsletter will cover the months of December and January.

Please get all news and dates to Theresa by November 15.

Lutheran in Grand Forks as part of the Eastern ND Synod's Church Together Sunday. Wednesday Bible study has begun in McVile. Baptisms at Trinity, presentation of Bibles to third graders, and blessing of the backpacks in most churches.

Theresa – Lay-led services have been taking place in our churches; the website asermonforeverysunday.com is being used. The TCM Worship Committee will be meeting to choose an Advent theme; reverse Advent calendar will be the special project in TCM. Churches are given the option of having Christmas Eve / Christmas Day worship. No worship on Sunday, January 1, 2023.

CONGREGATION REPORTS

Our Savior's of Kloten – Nothing to report

Lutheran Church of McVile – Attendance seems to be improving; congregation is very pleased with our lay preachers. Six members attended the Prairie Rose Conference gathering in Tolna on October 15. Club 3:16 is beginning. MLCW is sponsoring a vendor fall and noon meal on November 5.

Our Savior's of McHenry – Funeral for Delores Hoyt was held. Annual All Saints' Day remembrance will be held November 6.

Faith – 125th anniversary will be celebrated June 25, 2023. Annual turkey dinner will follow worship on November 20. God's Work Our Hands donations were made to the Griggs County Central hot lunch program for those needing assistance. Funeral for Don Larson was held.

Trinity – Dinner was served for God's Work Our Hands with donations sent to Great Plains Food Bank. Two baptisms have been held. Sunday School has begun. Lay-led services have been well received.

First Presbyterian – Decision will be made regarding roof repair. Worship continues at Assisted Living, with nursing home residents also attending.

Grace – Nothing to report

NEXT MEETING: Date to be determined; special meeting may be called if necessary

LORD'S PRAYER

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted by
Laurie Erickson, Secretary
Theresa Fiebiger, Recorder

Tri-County Ministry Council October 17, 2022 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Binford

PRESENT: Rob Loe, Olen Ophaug (on the phone), Allen Hetland, Janice Johnson, Gilbert Black, Laurie Erickson, Bob Delfs, Deacon Tara Ulrich, Theresa Fiebiger

CALL TO ORDER: Gilbert Black

OPENING DEVOTIONS: Deacon Tara

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of the August 11, 2022 meeting were approved and filed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Approved and filed

Balance on Hand September 30, 2022	General Fund Checking	\$101,201.78
	Parsonage Fund Savings	\$12,479.63
	Special Funds Savings	\$8,239.11

OLD BUSINESS

Our Savior's in McHenry: A letter was submitted to the TCM Council and Congregations stating that Our Savior's would be withdrawing from Tri-County Ministry on December 31, 2022. In a special congregational meeting on October 16, 2022, the congregation voted to disband at the end of the year.

2023 Budget: Motion by Bob Delfs to move forward with congregational votes to approve the 2023 Tri-County Ministry Congregational Ministry Contributions as presented by the Executive Committee. Motion seconded by Allen Hetland and carried. Special congregational meetings will be held November 6, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS

TCM Fund Options: Motion by Bob Delfs, seconded by Janice Johnson, to move \$50,000 from the General Fund into Certificates of Deposit, and authorizing Janice Johnson and Theresa Fiebiger to purchase CDs after checking the interest rates; \$25,000 into six-month CD and \$25,000 into one year CD. Motion carried.

Motion by Allen Hetland, seconded by Rob Loe, to suspend the December 2022 contributions from the seven TCM congregations into Tri-County Ministry. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Deacon Tara – Funerals have been held at Our Savior's and McHenry and at Faith in Hannaford. Confirmation classes have begun – 7th grade in McVile, and 8th grade rotating between Binford and Hannaford. She attended the Fall Leadership Conference at Fair Hills in September. She is working on the grief pillow project. On October 9, she preached at Sharon