



Tri-County Ministry News

October 2024

Lots of giving opportunities coming up

Traveling Turkey

The Stewardship Committee at Lutheran Church of McVille will again sponsor this competition within Tri-County Ministry. The food drive for our local food banks will take place November 1—24. Whichever church collects the most food by weight will be presented with the coveted traveling turkey!

Synod Endowment Funds

November 17 is designated as Synod Endowment Sunday. We in Tri-County Ministry have seen the benefits of the endowment as previous pastors were helped with their student loans. And Red Willow Bible Camp was recently awarded a Holy Innovations Grant. Several categories of endowment funds are currently active in the synod. Check out their website for more information.

Dacotah Oyate' Kids Christmas Project

St. Olaf in Devils Lake is heading up this annual project of providing Christmas gift bags for youth of the Dacotah O'yate Lutheran Church. Here is an opportunity for our churches and WELCAs and Sunday Schools. Donations are not needed at St. Olaf until December 4, but it's definitely not too early to start shopping. Gift bags will include a hat, gloves/mittens, socks, personal hygiene items, and a \$10-\$15 fun gift. If your church would like to be a part of this, please contact Theresa for more info.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

We may not have a pastor serving with us at this time, but we do have spiritual leaders who are greatly, greatly appreciated! We give thanks for Truly Trautman, Marla Larson, Marvin Gopen, Gilbert Black, Rev. Russ Pollock, and Bob Schlotman.

"Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you." (1 Thessalonians 5:12 NIV)

Special Meetings

Special congregational meetings will be held following the worship services in all six of our congregations on **Sunday, October 20**. The purpose of the meetings is to approve the Congregational Ministry Contributions to Tri-County Ministry for the 2025 budget.

The contribution for each congregation is based on active confirmed membership percentage.

Please contact your congregational representative to the TCM Council if you have questions.

You are invited to a
**“Paint Your Heart Out”
Spiritual Retreat**
led by
Deacon Michelle Walka
director of
Beloved Art and Practice

What: A creative and communal workshop that is a painting party with a reflective twist!

When: Saturday, October 12. 9:00am -Noon

Where: McVilleville Lutheran Church - 112 Vail Ave

Cost: \$40 per person.

Scholarships are available.

R.S.V.P to pjmillsbaugh@outlook.com

or call 218-521-0507 by October 1.

This retreat is hosted by McVilleville and Sundahl Lutheran Churches



The McVilleville Lutheran Church invites you to



Thursday, October 31st

5pm-7pm

WALKING TACOS WILL BE SERVED FROM 5-6:30PM

MAKE A HALLOWEEN CRAFT WITH THE KIDS!

DECORATE YOUR CAR TRUNK OR SET UP A SPACE IN THE CHURCH TO PASS OUT TREATS TO THE TRICK-OR-TREATERS!

Conference Gatherings set for November

The END Synod staff has scheduled gatherings for each of the conferences in the synod as an opportunity to spend time in fellowship and mutual learning with other members of your conference and synod staff. Share ideas, hear updates from around the synod and your conference, and talk with area faith leaders and ELCA members.

The TCM congregations are part of the Prairie Rose Conference. Our gathering will be **Saturday, November 2**, at Red Willow Bible Camp. 9:00-11:00. The Bishop and other synod staff will be present, and each congregation is asked to have two or three or four representatives in attendance.

Councils should put this on their agendas to make sure that their congregation is represented.

Tri-County Ministry Council
September 23, 2024
7:00 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church in Binford

PRESENT: Amy Olson, Myrna Hanson, Allen Hetland, Janice Johnson, Gilbert Black, Duane Feiring, Marla Larson, Truley Trautman, Marvin Goplen, Theresa Fiebiger

OPENING DEVOTIONS: Marla Larson

CALL TO ORDER: Gilbert Black

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Minutes of the August 12, 2024 meeting were approved and filed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Approved and filed

Balance on Hand August 31, 2024	General Fund Checking	\$38,822.45
	Savings Account	\$25,199.86

(Year one of three-year scholarship has been sent to seminary for Rusty Bender.)

OLD BUSINESS — None

NEW BUSINESS — 2025 TCM Budget

- Motion by Janice Johnson, seconded by Amy Olson, that Our Savior’s Congregational Ministry Contribution be based on the nine months they are open. Motion carried.
- Budget for 2025 was presented, showing expenses of \$106,480 and active confirmed membership in the TCM churches totaling 198. Motion by Janice Johnson, seconded by Amy Olson, that the budget be approved with no changes. Motion carried.
- Special congregational meetings will be held following the worship services on Sunday, October 20, to approve the Congregational Ministry Contributions.

STAFF REPORTS

- **Marvin Goplen** – Has recovered from covid and will resume preaching.
- **Truley Trautman** – Confirmation classes have begun, with 8th graders in McVile and 7th graders alternating between Binford and Hannaford.
- **Marla Larson** – Monthly visitation is almost completed for September. She presided at the graveside service for Bonnie Olsgaard at McVile. Churches are reminded to send two to four representatives to the Prairie Rose Conference meeting on November 2 at Red Willow Bible Camp. She highlighted the Synod Endowment Sunday in November and the Synod Strategic Plan.

- **Theresa Fiebiger** – Requested that churches notify her as soon as possible with dates for Christmas programs, wishes for Sundays of Advent and Christmas Eve, and whether or not they wish to have worship on December 1 (first Sunday of Advent, Thanksgiving weekend). She discussed pulpit supply and also asked for input on the Tri-County Ministry Newsletter (when and if a newsletter should be printed).

CONGREGATION REPORTS

- **Our Savior's** – Nothing special to report; dealing with mice in the church!
- **First Presbyterian** – Good attendance continues.
- **Lutheran Church of McVile** – Club 3:16 and confirmation classes have begun. Hosted a luncheon before the Bonnie Olsgaard service. “Paint Your Heart Out” on Saturday, October 12. Trunk or Treat on Halloween. Very successful concert fund raiser on September 15, with donations designated for benevolences.
- **Faith** – Sunday School has begun; Bibles have been given to the third graders. Attendance increased when Sunday School began. Still working on fund raising for building improvements.
- **Trinity** – Sunday School has begun and Bibles have been given to the third graders.
- **Grace** – Many members attended the worship at the threshing bee in New Rockford. Possibility of a confirmation class at Grace to be led by Gilbert and Jo Black.

NEXT MEETING: November 4, 2024 at 7:00 in Binford

LORD'S PRAYER

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted by
Janice Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer
Theresa Fiebiger, Recorder

An entertaining event in McVile

On Sunday afternoon, September 15, close to 80 people walked into the fall themed McVile Auditorium. There was an atmosphere of excitement and anticipation for the planned event.

The McVile Lutheran Church Women hosted a concert, silent auction and served refreshments for an enjoyable afternoon. Verna Lindvall from McVile, David and Amy Jo Paukert from Michigan and Lisa Crandall from Crary presented a delightful musical concert.



Verna played the piano with music of '70s pop, along with jazz, country, and easy listening. The audience was mesmerized as Verna played the haunting and beautiful music on the Native American flute. Amy Jo accompanied Lisa as she played several violin solos. Other entertainment included poetry read by David and a vocal duet by Amy Jo and David.



The audience had a great time as they played "Name the Movie." Verna played just enough of the theme from the movie as Amy Jo wore many hats, props and action that helped with the answer. Three movie lovers were able to name 17 out of 20 movies!

The MLCW donated 15 unique "baskets" for the silent auction. The money raised with the auction and free will donations will be used for benevolence projects. We thank everyone who attended and expressed how much they enjoyed the afternoon. The MLCW applied and received funds from the Thrivent Action Team to help with expenses.

TRI-COUNTY MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

TCM Parish Administrator

Theresa Fiebiger 676.2761
trinitybinford@mlgc.com

Preachers

Truley Trautman, SAM
Marla Larson, SAM
Gilbert Black
Marvin Goplen, SAM
Bob Schlotman
Rev. Russ Pollock

TCM CONGREGATIONS

Faith of Hannaford .. faithl@ictc.com

First Presbyterian of Cooperstown
jejohnson99@yahoo.com

Grace of Grace City

Our Savior's of Klotten &
McVile Lutheran Church.... 322-4952
lutheranchurchmcville@gmail.com

Trinity of Binford 676-2761
trinitybinford@mlgc.com

Tri-County Ministry

Box 226

Binford, ND 58416

Phone 676-2761

email: trinitybinford@mlgc.com

website: www.tricountyministry.org

Like us on Facebook!

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