

From Pastor Jason's Desk:

Fall is my favorite time of the year; I love the colors and the crisp feel of the air. I took this photo last year about this time outside of Columbia SD.



You just read that I love fall, it is at this time of year that I begin to take an inventory of my life and the year that is in its last stages. I wonder if you and I would let go of the idea that we are in control of our lives and let God lead us through the various seasons, would we live a life with less stress?

I try with each fall, to slow down my life and my schedule, to set aside some time to be alone in nature. For me, this is a time to spend with God. A sabbath time to just listen to the wind in the trees, to hear the crunch of the leaves under foot, and to reflect on all of the things that God has done in my life. I think about the relationships I have with various people. Some of these people I am still in contact with today and others were only in my life for a season. God placed them there so that I could get the help I needed or so I could help them through a season in their lives.

Sometimes as I walk in nature in the fall memories of my childhood begin to replay in my mind. Cool crisp autumn days gone by. Fall, the season of beautiful color and cool breezes makes me thankful for God and his presence in my life, but also for the people that are in my life now and the ones that were and are no longer here on this earth. They were a part of a season, a time in my life that has passed, a time where I hopefully learned something from the people and that season. Something that I now need to pass onto the next generation.

No matter what season we find ourselves in we need to seek out those opportunities to come along side someone and walk with them in their season. Maybe it is to walk with someone in a difficult season. Maybe it is to be with someone to help them see what it means to be a Christian, even when it is a difficult thing to do. Maybe we are there in a time and a season of celebration. No matter what season we are called into someone's life we need to know that God has placed us there for times such as this. God needs us to be the breeze that causes change. God needs us to be the bright orange and red leaves in someone's life to bring hope and peace in a time of turmoil. Maybe we are called into someone's life towards the last season of their life, God is counting on us to be the voice of peace and calmness to remind someone that it is ok to go and be with God.

Friends, I hope you will take time to enjoy whatever season of life you are in, to look for those that need us in their season, and to enjoy the season for whatever it brings; the sights, smells and refreshing breeze that can refresh us and keep us going in the storms of our lives.

Enjoy your fall, friends, after all it only comes once a year.

Until Next Time,
Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Jason

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Inside this issue

Page 2: Admin/Finance Minutes

Page 3: Trustee/Admin/Finance
Missions Update

Page 4: Halloweenie
Home Party

Page 5: Trinity United Women in
Faith

Page 6: Member Care
Advent Study
Dear Darby

Page 7: Special Music
Praise Team
Birthday & Anniv.
Pastor's Contact Info.
Worship Help
Sermon Series
Hymn Dingers

Page 8: Bible Study
Sunday School
Poem
Church Directory
GreifShare

Page 9: Church Calendar



Administrative Council/Finance Meeting
Thursday, August 31, 2023

The Trinity United Methodist Church Administrative Council meeting was held on Thursday, August 31, 2023, CMC, 5:30 p.m. Members present: Pastor Jason Christensen, Sue Holloway, Bob McNeill, Cindy McNeill, Jim Wolff, Cheryl Wolff, and Lynn Larsen.

In the absence of Gary Linn at the meeting Sue Holloway called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Cindy McNeill moved/Bob McNeill seconded to **approve the July 20, 2023 minutes** with a couple of changes. Sue Holloway asked to add the word “hopefully” 1,000 Christmas cards will be sent to Adopt-A-Platoon. The other change is the greenery fundraiser will be done by the high school Student Council and not the Honor Society. **Motion carried.**

There were no changes to the agenda.

Jim Wolff reviewed the Financial Report with the Council. Cindy McNeill moved/ Bob McNeill seconded to **approve the Financial Report** as presented. **Motion carried.** Jim was happy to report again that over all our investments have grown and our member giving to the church is up.

Bob McNeill, Trustees Chair, reported to the Council the trustees will be doing a walkthrough in the parsonage. The sprinkler system is running great. There will be no Memory Garden. They will be painting new stripes in the parking lot. The fall maintenance schedule will be done in late September.

Pastor Jason reported to the council he will be officiating the memorial service for Norma Cooper and a luncheon will be held in the CMC after the service. He is in the process of finalizing sermons and events for Advent for the rest of the year.

Sue Holloway noted 820 Christmas cards were sent out to Adopt-A-Platoon last year and is hoping we can reach our goal of 1,000 cards to send out to the troops this year. Meals on Wheels will begin September 25th. We are still in need of a couple more teams. The Halloweenie event needs assistance to help with this event on October 31st. Donations for this event of candy, small gifts or food will be much appreciated. The South Dakota Home Party and Craft show is Saturday, November 4th. Theo Rogers and Teah Pray have offered to be Sunday School teachers beginning in September.

Cindy McNeill, Staff Pastor Parish chair, informed the Council her committee will begin evaluating the staff and will meet with each one individually. They will start thinking about salaries for the staff for 2024.

Sue reported Women in Faith will be going back to their regular monthly meetings on September 7th.

Pastor Jason reported he has been very busy with his studies and homework. He gave an update on youth stating that all the churches in the northern Hills are in the same boat we are in of not having many young people who attend youth programs. These churches decided to hold regional gatherings for the youth. Cindy Specht will be working with the two girls from our church who want to participate in a youth group.

Jim Wolff reported he will send out the Building Usage Agreement again. This agenda item was tabled until the September council meeting.

Sue gave an update on Biker Breakfast stating it was a successful outreach to our returning and new friends. The bikers attending the rally this year was down so our attendance was also down. We served 618 meals not counting all the workers. Gross income from the meals was \$5,532. She is still waiting for the bill from Lynn’s Dakota Mart and once we receive that bill from them we will know what our net profit was for this year’s Biker Breakfast.

Pastor Jason informed the Church Youth Community (CYC) is an outreach program for youth to participate with adult Christians within the community by doing various volunteer projects or services in the community. There will be 3-4 different programs that will be held through the course of the year. On September 23rd youth will be collecting trash along the highway. After the students are finished picking up trash a spaghetti community dinner will be held with the youth interacting with adult Christians. On Veteran’s Day, November 11, there will be a Veteran’s Celebration gathering. Veterans who are members of the VFW or American Legion will visit with youth to tell them about their experiences they had while serving in the military.

The next Administrative Council meeting will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2023, 5:30 p.m., CMC.
Pastor Jason closed the meeting in prayer. Lynn Larsen, Recording Secretary

Trustee, Finance, and Administrative Council will meet on the evening of Thursday, September 28th, so there are no minutes to report at the time of the printing of the October Newsletter.

Missions Ministry

Meals On Wheels: Our next delivery week is October 30-November 3. This is a busy week for our church family. If you can help during this week, it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Sue: 605-920-7788.

Adopt-A-Platoon: Please look at the pictures and letters that are hanging on the fellowship room's pillar that acts as a bulletin board on all 4 sides. You'll see that we are making a difference. We will put our Thanksgiving cards together on Thursday, October 5 at 10:30. It usually takes about 1 ½ hours. A light lunch will be served between the time we finish and the beginning of the United Women of Faith meeting that starts at 12:30.

So far 243 Christmas Cards have been put in a box waiting until November before mailing. We need more cards if the goal of 1000 is to be met. Please go through your drawers to donate cards with envelopes ASAP. Wonderful ladies have already been taking bundles of cards and work on them at their leisure. There are only 2 bundles left so we need more. The service project for the November 11, (Veterans Day) CYC event is working on Christmas cards for Adopt-A-Platoon.

Biker Breakfast: Final Report:

Income	Expenses
Meals: 8036.00	Lynn's Order: \$2698.57
Gary Linn 11.00	Lynn's Charge: 61.19
Pantry: 170.00	Coffee: 279.50
Misc. 11.00	MS Mail: 31.19
Totals: 6005.00	3070.45
Net Income: \$2934.55	

Halloweenie: Ghosts, goblins and princesses will haunt the CMC on October 31st between 5-7pm. There will be games, crafts and free walking tacos. Please bring your kids, grandkids or friends to this event. It has grown since the first year and is enjoyed by many. It is not unusual for kids to come at 5 and don't leave until we close!!

SD Largest Home Party: Please put November 4th on your calendar. The actual income for "Send Hope" comes from the table fees and bake sale but if we want the vendors to return, we need to support them. The donations from the soup luncheon will benefit the mission of the United Women of Faith. This event is a good way to make your holiday easier. The party will be in the CMC with shopping hours 10-3 and the lunch is served 11-1.

CYC: Church, Youth Community: This is a new program that was developed to make TUMC more visible and involved with the community. We have two goals. First there is a need to provide projects for our students to perform that will fulfill their required hours of service. Secondly, we want to bring people together for a free meal and passively introduce them to us. That is what was hopefully accomplished on September 23rd since I am writing this article before the event. The next event is planned for Saturday, November 11th, Veterans Day. The service project will be between 3-5 in the CMC where they will help with the Christmas cards. The meal of a chicken casserole will be served between 5-6:30. The American Legion will start the meal with their Honor Guard presentation of the flags. Later, our Bell Choir will play a few patriotic songs in order to encourage singing and an interest in the attendees to join the choir. The Legion will end the event with a presentation on the meaning of each fold of the flag during the Retiring of the Colors. Two other events will be planned for after the New Year. If you are interested in planning and implementation of the events, please contact Gary Lynn, Pastor Jason, Cindy McNeill or Sue Holloway.

12th Annual South Dakota's Largest Home Party

Saturday, November 4

10:00 am—3:00 pm

Christian Ministry Center

7 South Main Street, Lead

20+ vendors of high quality crafts and catalog sales representatives plus a bake sale.

Serving Lunch 11 am - 1pm
Soup & Dessert
Free Will Donation



Proceeds for this United Methodist Fundraiser will benefit "Send Hope" for sick children in Honduras.



HALLOWEEN EVENT



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PRESENTS

A Safe Halloween Event

Families with children ages 0 to 12
are welcome to join us!

Tuesday, October 31, 2023
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Trinity United Methodist Church's
Christian Ministry Center
(7 South Main Street)

With: Free Walking Tacos,
Crafts & Games,
Door Prizes and more!





United
Women
in Faith

TRINITY UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH Meeting: October 5th at 12:30



United
Women
in Faith

Sue Holloway will be our hostess for the October meeting. Sharon Narem will bring the Thank Offering program. The World Thank Offering is a way for members of United Women in Faith to show gratitude for God's blessings and find creative ways to raise funds to improve the lives of women, children, and youth. Some women drop a coin in a box each day to give thanks for their daily blessings, while others add coins and dollars on special occasions in their lives. A one-time gift on the annual program date is also welcome.

Preceding the meeting we will be working on Adopt a Platoon cards as usual. Come at 10:30 to help with that if you can.

Several events that Trinity United Women in Faith participate in, or sponsor will be planned at the October meeting. As the United Women in Faith website says: "We show up and we get things done."

On October 15, TUWF will again be participating in the Dakotas Conference Prayer Vigil. The specific topic for prayer on that day is Safety from Gun Violence. Our time to pray is 1:45 to 2:30 pm. However, if you are otherwise occupied during those minutes, find another time.

Do you know?

- In 2020, firearm-related injuries became the leading cause of injuries and deaths for children and teens ages 1-19.
- Firearms are used in 46.8% of suicides among children and teens under the age of 18.
- The majority of individuals who carried out a K-12 mass shooting obtained the firearms used in the shooting from a family member.
- Keeping firearms and ammunition locked has been associated with a lower risk of firearm injuries for children and teens in homes where guns are stored.

Listen to [Faith Talks: Ending Gun Violence | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](#) and read a message from the previous CEO of UWF, Harriet Jane Olsen, June 3, 2022. Find the entire article at www.uwfaith.org (search gun violence)

"Dear friends: Despite the joy of so many of us being together at Assembly, these past several weeks have been filled with lament and sorrow. I seldom write to you directly about steps for action, but it feels to me like now might be the time to make an exception.

We have lost children and adults and family members to gun violence in recent weeks in mass shootings in Uvalde, Texas; Buffalo, New York; and most recently in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Of course, these precious individuals are not the first. Despite a long litany of mass shootings and the **[nearly 19,384 individual shooting deaths](#)** that occur across the country annually, our nation seems unable to generate the resolve to make a substantive response.

You can find the church's position against the proliferation of violence, [Gun Violence Prevention • GBCS \(umcjustice.org\)](#) Please let your voice be heard. We urgently need action on this, but we do not need to take just any action. We must insist that our leaders take action that is based on proven results. Together, we can do more."

Our "More" for October 15 is to learn what we can and spend time in prayer.

Bonnie Brooking, TUWF President; Joyce Darling, TUWF Secretary



**Please remember our homebound members
by sending them a greeting card**



Doris Adamson
52 Dunlap Ave.
Deadwood, SD 57732

Orrin Aldrich
921 Addie
Lead, SD 57754

Betty Bender
122 Wall St.
Lead, SD 57754

Evelyn Berstch
Edgewood Vista
540 Falcon Crest Drive, Apt 135B
Spearfish, SD 57783

Peggy Cleveland
Friendly Horizons
7200 Freedom Dr., Rm 108
Summerset, SD 57718

Jean Dyer
Edgewood Vista
540 Falcon Crest Dr, Apt. 159
Spearfish, SD 57783

Chuck and Winnie Ferris
312 Main Street
Deadwood, SD 57731

MILITARY:
Private Fredericksen, Jeremiah

Barbara Harvey
c/o Lynn Simmons
13916 Clydesdale Road
Rapid City, SD 57702

Judy Hink
Avantara Arrowhead
2500 Arrowhead Drive
Rapid City, SD 57702

Lima Company
School Infantry (West)
Box 555061
Camp Pendleton, CA 920255-5101

Advent Study

**Pastor Jason will be offering
an advent class called Almost
Christmas: A Wesleyan
Advent Experience.**

**The study will be held on
Wednesday evenings,
Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13, & 20
at 6:00 p.m. in the CMC.**



**If you would like to attend the class and purchase
the book (cost is \$5.00) please contact the office.**

**In this book a group of authors break down the
barriers that prevent us from experiencing an
“altogether” love, hope, joy, and peace in Christ
in our lives and in the world around us. They
demonstrate the promises God offers to us that
makes those longings a reality, inviting us to
claim those promises for ourselves this Advent
and celebrate an altogether Christmas.**

Dear Darby,
Thank you for coming to worship every
Sunday with us. And thanks for bringing Lil
along last week. We always enjoy hearing
about your week. Pastor Jason has good
advice for you about whatever has been
troubling you, or about what has made you
happy. You know, if everyone brought along
a friend to church, I think we'd have twice as
many people to worship together! You are a
good example for us all.
Love, Your Friends at TUMC



GOT MUSIC?

Are you looking to provide special music during worship service? We would enjoy hearing you sing, playing your instruments, sharing your musical talents, please contact the office.

Are you wanting to help with worship through song? Come practice with the praise team on Sundays at 8:00 am

I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. Psalms 104:33

Contact Information for
Pastor Jason Christensen
Cell Phone: 605-490-2601
E-mail: broncopastor4@gmail.com

Pastor Jason will be holding coffee hours at Lotus Up on Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. Please stop by for a visit.

He will honor the Sabbath on Fridays.

Worship Help Needed

It takes a village to have the church services go smoothly! We all have talents we can use to help make that happen, as an usher, praise team singer, furnishing flowers, media or fellowship provider. Please prayerfully consider helping. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church or you can call the office (584-1328) to volunteer. You can also sign-up online at leadtumc.com (under the worship tab).

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Oct. 5-John Hauge
Oct. 6-Barb Stott
Oct. 6-Terry Weisenberg
Oct. 7-Jacqueline Pearson
Oct. 10-William Pearson
Oct. 12-Lenyx Thorp
Oct. 13-Eli Heisinger
Oct. 16-Winifred Ferris
Oct. 20-Cameon Jacobson Wefso
Oct. 29-Cheryl Wolff

Anniversaries:

Oct. 2-Jeff & Trudi Nelson
Oct. 22-Gary & Marlene Todd
Oct. 25-Wayne & Lee Ann Paananen

SERMON SERIES:

PARABLE STORIES WITH PURPOSE
10/01 Parable of the Shrewd Manager

A PATH TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH-
SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES
10/08- A Path to Spiritual Growth-
Introduction
10/15- A Path to Spiritual Growth-
Mediation
10/22- A Path to Spiritual Growth-
Prayer
10/29- A Path to Spiritual Growth-
Study

Hymn Dinger Handbell Choir

The handbell choir will practice on October 3, 10 and 17. They will play during worship service on Sunday, October 22nd.





Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets throughout the year. This study is held on Saturday mornings at 7:30 am in the CMC. This is a dedicated group of men that welcome anyone who wants to attend. For information, contact the office or Syd DeVries at 510-910-3594.

Women's Coffee Break Bible Study will be meeting on Thursdays at 9:30 am in the CMC. They start with coffee, goodies and prayer, followed by the Bible Study which typically lasts about an hour. This is where they read passages of the Bible together and answer, discuss, share responses to the lesson questions. They end the meeting with prayer and prayer requests. All are welcome to join in this great time of study and conversation. Any questions can be directed to Shelli DeVries at 209-480-9974.

Church Directory Update & Request

The new church directory is ready to go to print and we expect to have them by late October.

Everyone who had their picture taken will receive a complimentary directory. We would like to provide directories in the pews and office. To do that, we will need to order an additional 60 directories at \$20 each. *We appreciate any donation you are willing to give to help offset the costs of purchasing the directories.*

GriefShare:

A GriefShare support group will meet at Saint Patrick's Church on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. This is a non-denominational group and all are welcome to attend. For information contact the office or Darlene Burns at 605-722-2087.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



All children are welcome to participate in Sunday School. The curriculum is based on the stories of Jesus. If you are interested in helping with our sweet young children, please contact the office at 584-1328.

Between meetings I started folding Thanksgiving cards and Lyman Toews and Diane Mathisrud joined me. Lyman spoke of the benefits of ChatGPT that he used to improve his engineering reports. After we finished, Lyman imported the words Thanksgiving cards for the deployed to create a poem and below is what ChatGPT put together in five minutes. I thought the sentiment was appropriate to include with this newsletter. — Sue Holloway

In a quiet room, hands gently hold the pen,
To craft Thanksgiving cards for brave servicemen.
Their duty takes them far from home's embrace,
But in these folded wishes, love finds its place

Each card a token of gratitude and cheer,
A heartfelt message to those we hold dear.
With every crease, a piece of love we send,
To honor their service, our hearts on the mend.

In distant lands, they stand tall and true,
Guarding our freedoms, skies so blue.
Yet in these cards, a reminder they'll find,
That in our thoughts, they're always in kind.

Families gather 'round tables so grand,
While they, in the field, protect our land.
But these cards, a bridge across the divide,
Bringing warmth and love, on this day of pride.

Folded with care, with a thankful refrain,
For the servicemen, we'll never be the same.
This Thanksgiving, let us all unite,
In honoring heroes, our guiding light.

So let these cards fly, on wings of grace,
To reach those who serve in a distant place.
In folded words, our gratitude does soar,
For deployed servicemen, we deeply adore.

Trinity United
Methodist Church

111 S. Main St.
7 S. Main St.—Office
Lead, SD 57754

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Trinity United Methodist Church

111 S. Main St., Lead, SD 57754

7 S. Main St. - Office

605-584-1328

Trinity United Methodist Church is a welcoming congregation where God can be found in worship, music, and fellowship. Children always welcome.

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING AT 9 AM.

