

May  
2023

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

# May, 2023 Newsletter

## Pastor's Ponderings



"For ye shall go out with joy,  
and be led forth with peace:  
the mountains and the hills  
shall break forth before you  
into singing, and all the trees  
of the field shall clap their  
hands."

Isaiah 55:12

fineart  
america

I don't know about you but for me, this winter and so called spring has been a dark and cold one. It has gone on far too long! But the sprinklers were turned on today, there are currently April showers that I am sure will bring May flowers so this dark time may be in the rearview mirror! So you know what that also means...the summer worship schedule is about to change!

**Memorial Day (May 28) through Labor Day (Sept. 3) Worship is at 9am!**

We want you to take as much time to rest and recreate as possible! So come to worship, sing and pray, then head out with your loved ones and our beloved creation to enjoy!

In Christ, Pastor Kay

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## Christikon Clips

May 2023

*Information for our Congregations*

**There is still room to register for camp this summer!** Space remains in most youth sessions and families/adult sessions, including the **Work Weekend, May 26-29. Register for a session online [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org).**



**Special guest speakers** become part of the Christikon life this summer during sessions for adults and families. During Continuing Education Retreat (July 26 – 29) we feature **Dr. Eric Meyer. Watch for topic** details on our website for Cont Ed and Mountain Weekend. Come spend a few days of relaxation, learning, and faith growth with us. Full details can be found on our website [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org).

**We covet your prayers for Christikon's** this summer, for our summer and fulltime staff, and for all who join in the Christikon life.

**It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ—exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.**

**CHRISTIKON • 1108 24<sup>th</sup> Street West • Billings, MT 59102**  
**406 656-1969 • [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) • [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)**

## First Impressions Team # 4 Serving the Congregation – May, 2023

| Sunday                                 | May 7,<br>2023        | May 14,<br>2023 | May 21,<br>2023 | May 28,<br>2023                 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Greeters<br>(2 People)                 | Stafford Family       | Scott Wittman   | Sandy Nelson    | Echo Youngbauer                 |
| Ushers<br>(2 People)                   | Paula Voerdring       | Evans Family    | Stafford Family | Scott Wittman                   |
| Assistant Minister<br>& Lay Reader     | Echo Youngbauer       | Tanya Raile     | Richard Brown   | Linda Parko                     |
| Communion<br>Assistant's<br>(2 People) | Stafford Family       | Scott Wittman   | Bock Family     | Sandy Nelson &<br>Scott Wittman |
| Nursery                                | Marchant Family       | Maggie Kirkham  | Stinson Family  | Sandy Nelson                    |
| Coffee Hour<br>(2 families)            | Erin & Brad<br>Wagler | Scott Wittman   | Bock Family     | Sandy Nelson                    |
| Maintenance                            |                       |                 |                 |                                 |

Altar Guild: Linda Parko & Carol Begeman      Counters:

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
**Cody, WY 82414**

Pastor: Kay Wittman  
Secretary: Drew Ann Murray  
Congregation Treasurer: Jana Stafford

kaytostengard@gmail.com  
trinitylcody@gmail.com  
tlccodytreasurer@gmail.com

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Office: 307- 587-2436

**Council Members 2022**

**Council President:**

**Donna Myers**

dmyers2322@gmail.com

307-587-2322

**Council Vice-President**

**Matt Steinmetz**

herefishyfishyms@yahoo.com

307-587-3178

**Council Secretary**

**Lynette Kyle**

Netkyle30@icloud.com

307-578-8388

Kristine Juergens

kristine.juergens@gmail.com

307-250-6877

Jason Stafford

wyomingbowman@yahoo.com

Mark Skates

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307-272-8568

Brad Wagler

bewagys@gmail.com

307-899-3363

Carol Hausauer

c\_hausauer@yahoo.com

**Council & Member Committees**

**Worship**

Doug Morton  
Echo Youngbauer  
Joyce Anderson  
Larry Jones  
Matt Steinmetz

**Education**

Jason Stafford

**Stewardship**

Pam Betters  
Kristine Juergens  
Larry Jones  
Richard Brown  
Thea Farrington  
Paula Voerding  
Mark Skates

**Evangelism**

Lynette Kyle  
Vic Seefeldt  
Paula Voerding  
Jim Evans  
Thea Farrington  
Samantha Jones

**Building & Maintenance**

Brad Wagler  
Jim Evans

**Nominating**

Jason Stafford  
Mark Skates  
Judy Allshouse  
Angela Marchant

**Helping Hands**

Lynette Kyle  
Vic Seefeldt  
Paula Voerding

**2022 Synod Delegates:**

1st weekend in June

Jim & Dawn Evans

**Thrivent Advocate:**

Carol Begeman

307-587-2189

**Worship Schedule**

Sunday Worship  
Wednesday Faith Formation

10:00 am  
4:00 pm



## May 2023 Birthdays

5/4 Larry Jones  
 5/5 Mary Meyer  
 5/5 Kelly Merager  
 5/5 Kolby Smith  
 5/6 David Juergens  
 5/6 Nora Strike  
 5/7 Laura Lehmann  
 5/9 Katherine Volmer  
 5/10 Kelsey Pomajzl  
 5/11 Gordon Parko  
 5/13 Linda Parko  
 5/13 Dave Kuck  
 5/14 Wesleann Medina  
 5/15 Sue Christenson  
 5/17 Kelsey Kessler  
 5/17 Jordon Nelson  
 5/18 John Parko  
 5/18 Caleb Bock  
 5/20 Henry Jones  
 5/22 Laura Mitchell  
 5/23 Nancy Jarvis  
 5/23 Elijah Nunn  
 5/24 Echo Youngbauer  
 5/24 Brian Parko  
 5/26 Janis Wright  
 5/27 Marge Wilder  
 5/27 Ray Maple  
 5/28 Dick Geving  
 5/28 Kandy Mittlieder  
 5/29 Cordell Betters  
 5/31 Robert Kress

## Fall and Winter Worship at 10:00 am until Memorial Day Weekend 2023



Every Sunday after worship we will be having practice here at Trinity. Come join the fun! If you have any questions or would like to join please see Patty Parson.

## Trinity Lutheran Choir

## May 2023 Anniversaries

5/2 Andy & Diane Syring  
 5/14 Jasmine & Justin Betters  
 5/18 Amy & Luke Skates  
 5/24 Paula & David Kuck  
 5/29 Jerry & Tera Cowles

## Financials

|           | Weekly<br>Needed | Recv'd  | YTD<br>Needed | Recv'd<br>YTD |
|-----------|------------------|---------|---------------|---------------|
| 4/2/2023  | 4601             | 9455    | 63822         | 78400.33      |
| 4/9/2023  | 4601             | 7719.33 | 68423         | 86119.66      |
| 4/16/2023 | 4601             | 2290    | 73024         | 88409.66      |
| 4/23/2023 | 4601             | 3218    | 77625         | 91627.66      |

# Where I saw God

Baylee Stafford

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I can comfortably say that I am likely among the world's greatest procrastinators. While this title mostly applies to my life as a college student, I find that I procrastinate in other areas as well, and in these cases, where there often is no deadline, the procrastination can go on for a lifetime. I have found, though, that even the smallest step in the direction of "completion" — however that may look — creates a sort of momentum. I think this is something that can be applied to faith lives as well. Over the past couple of years, I would find myself putting off reading the Bible or going to church or even just setting aside time to talk to, and be in the presence of, God. It seemed that I always had an excuse; something always came up. This year, though, I have tried to make a point to simply take those small steps because, it seems, this is the hardest part — getting started. Instead of silencing my alarm on Sundays, I get up and brush my teeth, and by that point, I feel awake enough to get ready for 9 a.m. worship service. When I have a free moment, I'll commit to reading just one or two pages of my Bible. Before I fall asleep, I take some time to pray. While these steps appear minimal, they create momentum; I attend church fairly regularly now, I am slowly becoming more comfortable and familiar with my Bible, and I try to find small ways to strengthen my relationship to God. All of this, in turn, strengthens my faith life.

## Trinity Lutheran Church Council

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### February 2023 Meeting Minutes

Council Meeting  
August 2, 2016

### Trinity Lutheran Church Council

### Trinity Lutheran Church Council

March 14, 2023 @ 6:00pm

**\*Present:** Pastor Kay Wittman, Brad Wagler, Lynette Kyle, Matt Steinmetz, Jana Stafford, Jason Stafford, Kristine Juergens, Carol Hausauer and Melissa Kraft.

**\*Absent:** President Donna Myers and Mark Skates

Pastor Kay administered communion.

**\*Consideration and Approval of February, 2022 Minutes:** Brad Wagler made motion to approve. Lynette Kyle seconded. All council was in favor.

***\*Pastor Kay submitted the following written report for the month of March:***

### March Pastor's Report 2023

Pastoral phone calls—5; Meetings 5; Pastoral visits—1; Worship—4

Worship

--Ash Wednesday worship on Feb. 22 was well attended given that we had super icy roads and cold conditions. Lenten season Soup Supper Table Talks began March 1. Our topic this year is "Bright Shining As the Sun" based on the hymn Amazing Grace. It is the 250th anniversary of this hymn.

The part for the broken screen have been ordered and we will be able to repair it.

#### Education and Youth

--Youth Group—We continue to meet with the Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopalian youth from the area. In the fall we met at Trinity and now in the spring we meet at the Methodist church.

High school youth will be led on a mission trip June 11-17. by Richard Brown. There are 5 students signed up and we have space for 5 more.

Another youth opportunity is a summer pack trip for youth June 12-15 led by Pastor Pat at the Presbyterian church. Youth ages 12 or older. Cost is \$160.00 per participant.

--Faith Formation continues with 12 students regularly attending. I am reaching out for some help with this group; we have a large and active group of 7 boys and 5 girls, from grade 1-5. Two adults is not quite enough. Lynette Kyle volunteered to come some weeks so I will be seeking one more to be there the weeks she is not. Patty is working with the students on singing and we hope to share music with the congregation again.

--VBS—Planning for VBS with the Powell churches has begun. We will collaborate with them again this summer. Since the newest version of the Little Mermaid is coming out, the theme will be an under the sea theme, "Part of God's World!" Dates are June 12th-16th.

I am starting a long term continuing education class on facilitating change in churches. I just became aware of this class and have to catch up to be part of the next unit that begins in April. Pastors have two weeks which includes 2 Sundays of continuing education. I will be taking 2 days (March 23-24) during spring break for the class which is online. It will also require about one day a month for the foreseeable future.

Drew will be gone several hours on April 3rd & 4<sup>th</sup>. When this happened in March, it did not interrupt the functioning in the church office.

**Consideration and Approval of Feb 2023 Minutes:** Melissa Kraft submitted updated Balance Sheet, Transactions by Account, and Profit and Loss (P&L) Budget Sheets. Melissa discussed assembling an easier way to understand the budget/financial reports. The current program utilized is Quick Books. It was noted the average tithing in the beginning of the year is usually inflated and these numbers typically do not carry throughout the year.

Removal of Accounts with Pinnacle Bank: Melissa Kraft is no longer affiliated with book keeping/accounting and will be removed from the Pinnacle Bank accounts. Jana Stafford was named as book keeper and will be added to all relevant Bank accounts.

Brad Wagler made motion to approve. Carol Hausauer seconded. All council was in favor.

#### **Nominations of old/new committee member positions:**

**Donna Myers: President**

**Vice president: Matt Steinmetz**

**Education: Mark Skates and Jason Stafford**

**Evangelism: Lynette Kyle**

**Worship: Matt Steinmetz**

**Bookkeeper: Jana Stafford**

**Treasurer: Carol Hausauer**

**Stewardship: Kristine Juergens**

**Secretary: Lynette Kyle**

**Education: Jason Stafford**

**Maintenance: Brad Wagler**

**\*Education Committee Report:** Jason Stafford reported youth group is going well. They have a lot of inspirational group activities planned.

**\*Evangelism Committee Report:** Lynette Kyle reported cemetery clean- up is scheduled on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:45am at Riverside Cemetery in Cody.

**\*Maintenance Committee Report:** Brad Wagler reported he is working on incinerating old bills/and paperwork that have been previously kept in storage. He is also obtaining different bids for the church's HVAC system. The existing contract is due this July.

**\*Worship Committee Report:** Pastor Kay reported Wednesday night Lenten soup suppers are going well. Parishioners have been gathering weekly. A lot of good discussions and feedback have been discussed. The committee is currently working hard on preparing for holy week.

**\*Stewardship Committee Report:** No report at this time

**\*New Business:**

**Should unapproved minutes go into the newsletter as a draft?** Council decided that waiting to approve minutes after each council meeting provides past due information. It was agreed to have the minutes emailed to council members for corrections so the information can be distributed in a timely manner.

**Youth Breakfast to fundraise mission trip:** Richard Brown requested to hold a breakfast fundraiser in April or May for the youth mission trip. Brad Wagler made motion to approve. Jason Stafford seconded it. All council was in favor.

**Schedule council retreat or should we do shorter videos each month?** Council agreed it would be beneficial to view synod videos before each meeting in regard to effective board meetings, discussing constitution and budgets.



**Reschedule April Council meeting?** On April 11<sup>th</sup> the church will be closed. Pastor Kay will be at a Pastor's conference. Council Meeting was rescheduled for April 18, 2023 at 6:00pm.

**Memorial Garden:** Brad Wagler requested to order a plaque for his mother to be placed in the Memorial Garden cemetery. Jason Stafford approved. Matt Steinmetz seconded. All council was in favor

**Sign up for devotions and counting was finalized.**

**Old Business:**

**March counters:** Jason Stafford, Brad Wagler

**Closing Prayer:** Matt Steinmetz

**Next Meeting:** April 18, 2023 at 6:00pm

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Lutheran Church  
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Cody, WY 82414

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If you would like to be on the list to receive an e-mail of prayer requests and concerns, or if you have a prayer request for a loved one, please contact Judy Allshouse at [judyallshouse33@gmail.com](mailto:judyallshouse33@gmail.com) or call 307-899-4950

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  | <b>Kyler Stinson</b><br>I go to school at Cody Middle School. I run track, play football, and play hockey. I love the outdoors, hunting, camping, and fishing. I have 3 pets: 2 dogs and 1 cat. I hope for college maybe some sports, just something new beyond Cody. I also hope the future holds many new opportunities in my faith.   |
|  | <b>Tyler Decker</b><br>I am the daughter of Teresa Merager and Steve Decker. I enjoy playing football, skiing, hunting, and fishing. I love doing anything that is outdoors: hiking, shooting clay pigeons, playing catch, riding horses, horn hunting. I raise steers, goats, and have many dogs.   |
|  | <b>Spencer Decker</b><br>I am 13 and attend CMS. I enjoy playing basketball, football, skiing, hunting, fishing, spending time with my family, and pretty much anything outdoors. I am the brother of Ryan and Tyler Decker and the kid of Teresa Merager and Steve Decker. I raise steers and have several dogs. I hope I continue raising livestock, being outdoors, and continue my faith with God.   |
|  | <b>Ryan Decker</b><br>I am the son of Steve Decker and Teresa Merager. My favorite sports are wrestling and skiing. My favorite hobbies are FFA and hunting. I am the president of the Buffalo Bill FFA chapter this year. I love pretty much everything that involves being outside either on horses, fishing, hunting, or just playing with my brothers. I hope to be involved in agriculture or wildlife management when I graduate. I hope to have a family with kids and to have my own cattle operation. |

Meet the

**Confirmands**

