

# Trinity Lutheran Church 

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## Call Committee Chairs:

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Call Committee
Members
Jerry Dykstra
Lee Hanten
Dee Rasmussen
Mary Ringling
Tony Schrank


Welcome to the Trinity Lutheran Church Congregational Profile! We invite you to view this document featuring our church and look forward to any questions or feedback you may have.


Trinity Lutheran Church is a wonderful combination of many of God's blessings. We have a rich history that we honor, yet we continually try to stretch ourselves in new ways to serve. Our congregation is a mix of elderly and families with a long history at Trinity along with many young families new to the church and community. Trinity has many traditions that it holds dear, but we aren't afraid to try something new. We have grown through the years and had been led by the same pastor for the last 17 years. We are currently reevaluating many aspects of our church as we forge into a new chapter at Trinity. Despite some uncertainty, we are faithful and trusting of God's plan for His church. We know that He will lead us and we are dedicated to following His Word and Spirit.


## BUILDING UP One Another

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

## REACHING OUT With Jesus' Love and the Good News

## Matthew 28:19,20

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

## Vision Statement

Trinity Lutheran believes Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior. We believe we are all sinners and are in need of God's grace. We believe that God is needed in all aspects of life. We believe in God's Word and Scripture as the basis of our faith and that we are all disciples of Jesus Christ. We believe in the power of prayer and worshiping the Lord Jesus Christ. We also believe that all ages, young and old should be ministered to follow and devote our lives to serve the Lord.

## Welcome to Platte, South Dakota



Trinity Lutheran is located in Platte, SD, which is in the southeast corner of the state. Platte is approximately 120 miles west of Sioux Falls, SD and maintains a population of 1230 . We are a community rich in agriculture, along with a healthy Main Street featuring many businesses. Hunting, fishing and camping are abundant due to our close proximity of only 13 miles to the Missouri River. Please check out our website featuring our town: www.plattesd.org

Platte Features:

- Healthy business environment www.platteareachamber.com
- Excellent school system www.platte-geddes.k12.sd.us
- Platte Health Center, featuring Clinic, Hospital and Long Term Care Center
- Close to Missouri River for activities including camping, boating, fishing and hunting
- Well-kept and beautiful golf course
- Restored and functioning movie theater
- Newly constructed swimming pool
- Recently updated airport
- Wellness Center
- Public Library
- Home of two community parks
- Supports nine churches that work together as Platte Ministerial Association



## History

Trinity Lutheran was formed when three country churches (ALC) - Stavanger Lutheran (11 miles north of Platte), West Trinity (11 miles west of Platte) and Tabor Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Platte merged in 1970 to form Trinity Lutheran Church. The newly created church in Platte (at the Tabor Lutheran site) remained there until 2000. In the late 1990's fundraising and searching for a new site began. Property was purchased from the Christian Reformed Church after destruction of their old church. Architectural plans were designed by Zion Architects and the general contractor was Mission Builders. The new facility had roughly 11,000 square feet. On December 10, 2000 a dedication service was held for the newly constructed church. The church continued to grow immensely and suddenly there was a need for more space. In 2008, the Mission Builders returned to build onto the south end. The addition included more Sunday school rooms, a fireside fellowship room, a council room, and a basement for youth activities. Until this point in time, Trinity had been affiliated with ELCA. In 2010, the congregation voted to leave ELCA and join LCMC. The Church also owns a parsonage 2 blocks from the church.


West Trinity Lutheran Church 1891-1970


Stavanger Lutheran Church 1902-1970


## Worship

## Sunday Worship

Trinity has a multi-generational service every Sunday morning at 9:30am. We have a nice balance of traditional and contemporary services featuring both traditional hymns as well as praise and worship music. This balance is facilitated and maintained by the Worship Committee. We have a baby grand piano, a fairly new organ, a keyboard and drum set. Our services are also easy to follow along with due to two overhead projection screens. During the school year we also have Youth Sundays where the Elementary, Junior High and High School youth facilitate the service by ushering, lecturing, doing the children's sermon, and singing special music. The first Sunday of the each month we celebrate Holy Communion. We have about 180 families on our church roster, with a weekly average attendance of 120 people. Services are recorded and televised later on our local cable station.


## Advent \& Christmas

Advent is marked with a special candle lighting at the beginning of the service each week. The elementary students put on a Christmas Program the Sunday evening before Christmas; this is a favorite event for many. It tells the Christmas story in a clever but yet meaningful way. Christmas Eve is celebrated with our traditional Candlelight Service at 10pm. The high school youth are the main participants in this reflective service that always concludes with Silent Night being sung as the candles are lit by all. Christmas Morning is celebrated with a 9:30am worship service.

## Lenten \& Easter Services

Trinity participates in the community Lenten Services facilitated by the Platte Ministerial Association. Each Sunday evening during Lent a different church hosts the Lenten Service and fellowship time. On Easter morning we have a sunrise service at 6:30am followed by a brunch and the usual 9:30am service.


## Christian Education

## Baptism

For many at Trinity the Christian journey begins with Baptism where we are saved through the washing of rebirth and renewed by the Holy Spirit that we may become heirs of eternal life. As a congregation we vow at the time of each baptism to uplift and guide any baptized member in our congregation.

## Sunday School



The mural on the alter portrays Jesus surrounded by children with the verse from Mark 10:14 - "Let the children come unto me". Children's sermon is a very important part of our worship service. We have a very alive and active Sunday school program that serves around 100 students. Educational programs are administered by the Board of Education with the help of many volunteers. Sunday school runs from September to May. All children from preschool to high school are welcome to attend at 10:45am. It starts with music and then rolls into the classroom portion where David C. Cook curriculum is currently being used. In the Fall, we install and pray over the teachers followed balloon release outside to kick off the new year. This is followed by a Family picnic and games after the service.

"Let the
children come unto me"

Mark 10:14

## First Bible \& First Communion Class

First Bible classes are held with the $3^{\text {rd }}$ graders, conducted by the pastor. Children are taught the books of the Bible and how to look up scriptures. This 5 week course ends with the Bibles being presented to each student during the church service. We had 10 students receive Bibles in 2018.
TLC $5^{\text {th }}$ graders also meet with the pastor to learn and understand the meaning of Communion. The students generally celebrate their First Communion in the Spring. In 2018, 4 students received Holy Communion for the first time.


## Confirmation Class

At Trinity, Confirmation class is a two year program that students complete in the $7^{\text {th }}$ and $8^{\text {th }}$ grade. The class has historically been taught by the Pastor using Luther's Small Catechism book. One year is memory work and the other year is dedicated to interpretation of the Lutheran faith. Sermon notes are expected of the students during the 2 year period. The students are confirmed annually in May. In 2018, 4 students became confirmed members of Trinity Lutheran Church.

## Vacation Bible School

Trinity has always been faithful about offering a VBS every summer. It is offered to not only TLC youth but to any youth in the community. It is generally a 4 day format with a short concluding program on the last day. In the past, every third year we invite the NeSoDak counselors down to conduct the VBS in hopes to encourage youth to consider going to church camp. Our church promotes and supports many youth to attend summer camps. This past summer we had 18 students attend Bible Camp.


## Youth Group

Our community is blessed with a very unique situation for youth group. In 2001, some members of our community formed a community youth group that meets every Wednesday night. All youth in the community are welcome to attend. Youth group activities are available at all age levels. Awana is offered for younger elementary students and is held at Calvary Baptist church. Junior High Youth Group is conducted at First Reformed Church and the Senior High Youth Group is held here at Trinity. Some evenings supper is provided, followed by praise and worship time, a sermon and small group time. Retreats and special events are often available to students. Many of the adults at Trinity volunteer their time and talents and serve as mentors to these youth group programs.

## Teens Encountering Christ (TEC)

Teens Encountering Christ is held at Trinity twice a year. Missouri Valley TEC is a weekend where students participate in small groups, listen to speakers and grow deeply in their faith. It is hosted here, but youth from many surrounding towns also attend. TEC is a fun-filled, spiritually enriching and exciting weekend that is open to teens of all faiths whom are in high school. A TEC weekend provides an opportunity to truly experience the amazing love that Christ has for all of us. At TEC, students will learn that, although they may have many struggles in life, they never have to face them alone. Students become part of a community of loving and supportive people who will help them remain true to themselves and grow in their faith life. Faith, Friends, Fun, and Food.


## Women's \& Men's Bible Study

Trinity has three different woman's groups that meet for Bible study once a month. Hannah, Priscilla and the newest group called Martha. All of these groups do other service projects as well. The Men's Bible study meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month where they usually focus on a different book of the Bible.


## Organizations

## Women of the Word

WOW's mission statement is: " Working together to fulfill Christ's great commission to go and make disciples of all nations". WOW is instrumental in conducting many church functions such as:

1) Funds and organizes supplies and utensils for kitchen
2) Organizes morning fellowship coffee/cookie time
3) Organizes Birthday party at Nursing Home as well as July Ice Cream Social
4) Organizes Harvest Soup Supper
5) Organizes greeters
6) Oversees decorating church and Flowers
7) Organizes church cleaning
8) Oversees church library
9) Organizes Angel Tree
10) Makes and presents quilts to High School Seniors
11) Organized alter paraments and banners
12) Organizes and delivers donations to Center of Hope
13) Donating quilts, purses, fleece blankets to several missions
14) Financially supports many mission projects

WOW consists of the following groups:
Hannah - 6 members, currently studying Parables
Priscilla - 28 members, currently studying Parables
Martha - 40 members, currently studying "Touched by the Masters Hand". This group also does a meal ministry to those in need in the community and sends Christmas Care Packages to TLC college students.


## Platte Ministerial Association

This group is comprised of the church leader of each church in the Platte community. They conduct a community worship service at Thanksgiving and $4^{\text {th }}$ of July. The offering they collect goes toward the fuel barrel fund (helps those that can't pay heating bill) and other mission projects. This group of pastors from each church meets regularly and is a testament to the harmony of believers in the Platte community.

## Missions

Trinity Lutheran believes strongly in the calling of giving to missions. A portion of our yearly offering and a monthly special offering is allocated to the Mission fund. The Mission Board has the responsibility of making recommendations of which local, national and global missions will be funded.

## Mazahua Valley Mission

MVM is a sister church that we have partnered with, they receive a portion of our annual general offering. In addition to the financial support, a group of community members (young and old) make a yearly trip down to the mission in Mexico to help construction of a new church as well as conduct a vacation bible school for the children in the mission project.


## Church Staff

## Secretary:

Wendy Wollman, part time position

## Custodians:

George \& Nancy Miller, part time position

## Organists/Musicians:

May Lou Stanforth
Donna Nelson
Jackie Olsen
Alison Dykstra
Laura Vanden Berge
Nicki Nelson

Church Council consists of:
Past President: Kevin Severson
Current President - Lee Hanten
Vice President - Jerry Dykstra


Secretary - Connie Kirsch
Treasurer - Toby Qualm
Deacons - LeRoy Severson, Shirley Johnson, Tana Huizenga
Trustees - Todd Strand, Brad DeVries, Spencer DeHaan


