

Trinity Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting Agenda
Sunday, January 28, 2024 in person or via Zoom
10:15 AM

Call to Order - Jim Beattie (President)

Approval of Agenda – Jim Beattie

Opening Devotions - Pastor Jeanette Bidne

Approval of Minutes - January 22, 2023 Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Report - Donna Perryman

President's Report - Jim Beattie

Committee Reports - Refer to annual meeting booklet

Pastor's Report - Written report included in booklet

Business

Introduce and approve slate of 2024 Council members, St. Luke's representative,
and Endowment Committee members

Introduction of new President

Remarks by new President - Darwin Olson

Adoption of 2024 Budget (with a motion to allow for 10% overage)

Update on Our Shared Mission Stewardship Campaign and Line of Credit loans

Adjournment

Closing Prayer - Pastor Jeanette Bidne

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

OPENING LITURGY

Son of God, Eternal Savior

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

And also with you.

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

Receive our prayer, O God.

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

Amen.

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 655

Text: Somerset C. Lowry

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710;
arr. Julius Röntgen

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**Trinity Lutheran Church
Blue Earth, MN
Annual Meeting January 28, 2024**

Church Council Slate of Officers

	<u>2023</u>	<u>Council Term Ends</u>	<u>Nominated for 2024</u>
President	Jim Beattie	Jan. 2025 (Incl Past Pres)	Darwin Olson
Vice President	Darwin Olson	Jan. 2026 (Incl Past Pres)	Josh Blair
Past President	Michele Stewart	Jan 2023	Jim Beattie
Secretary	Laurie Oelke	one year renewable term	Jody Omland
Treasurer	Terri Wells	one year renewable term	Andrew Noll
Pastor	Pr Jeanette Bidne	Pastor has an unlimited term	Pr Jeanette J Bidne
At Large	David Pirsig (2023)		2024 Peggy Olson
At Large	Peggy Olson (2024)		2025 Ann Crofton
At Large	Ann Crofton (2025)		2026 Peter Koenig
Financial Secy	Craig Wells	one year renewable	Craig Wells
(no longer Council position)			

Nominated for 2024:

Endowment Committee - Jack Heinitz and Justine Hougen
one year renewable

St. Luke's Representative - Mary Erichsrud (2019)
One year renewable (max of 12 years)

<u>Nominating Committee 2022</u>	<u>Nominating Committee 2023</u>	<u>Nominating Committee 2024</u>
Sue Olson	Laura Kokos	Karl Kampf
David Kittleson	Karl Kampf	Clair Nassen
Laura Kokos	Marnie Norman	Megan Eitzmann

Trinity Lutheran Church

Annual Meeting

January 22, 2023

The Annual Meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church was called to order at 10:20 am on Sunday, January 22, 2023 by President Michele Stewart. The meeting was held in-person in the sanctuary and by Zoom. Attendance was taken by signature on paper and by preregistration on Zoom. There was a quorum with 96 present.

The agenda was approved with a Peggy Olson/Kevin Benson motion.

Rev. Dr. Jeanette Bidne led devotions with a liturgy printed in the annual report.

The minutes from the annual meeting held on January 30, 2022 were approved with a Dave Pirsig/Terri Wells motion.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Office Administrator Donna Perryman. Donna reported that 2022 was a busy year for Trinity! Donna reported that most all accounts that had been at Wells Fargo have now been transferred to First Bank Blue Earth, due to the closing of the Blue Earth Wells Fargo in 2020. Donna also noted she will be compiling a set of detailed explanations of the accounts so that she is not the only person with the knowledge of the how and why of the accounting system, to make for a smoother transition for future retirement. The Treasurer's Report was approved with a Clair Nassen/Jim Beattie motion.

President Michele Stewart (report on page 7) noted it has been a year of blessings and challenges. She noted Trinity has been resilient and hearty in our support and dedication to our faith home and family. We have come together and made it through many challenges of covid, purchased and implemented a live stream camera system, and hired a full time education/youth coordinator. We are making strides on paying the loan for our live stream project, as well as the line of credit which has not grown in many months', thanks in part to the generous gifting by our members. Our youth program is becoming stronger than ever! Michele was honored and humbled to be Council President for 2022 and is excited to see what 2023 brings for each of us as God's children. Michele thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as President in 2022.

The committee reports were approved as written on a Gary Holmseth/Sue Olson motion.

Pastor Rev. Dr. Jeanette Bidne's noted (report on pages 8-9) a year of dramatic change for her family, with the birth of their son, Benjamin, and also the move from Vernon Center to live on her paternal grandparent's century farm. In addition her husband, Dan Foster, is now the chaplain of St. Lukes. Navigating change in our lives leads us to think about how we perceive our values especially when time and energy can sometimes be limited. Please refer to her Pastor's report for many examples of significant values for Trinity.

The slate of nominated officers was presented as follows:

President- Jim Beattie

Vice President- Darwin Olson

Past President- Michele Stewart

Secretary – Laurie Oelke

Treasurer – Andrew Noll

At Large – (2023) David Pirsig

At Large – (2024) Peggy Olson

At Large – (2025) Ann Crofton

Endowment Committee – Jack Heinitz and Justine Hougen

St Luke's Representative- Mary Erichsrud

On an Elloyce Queensland/Nate Eitzmann motion the slate of officers for Council, Endowment and St Luke's were approved.

President Michele Stewart then presented the traveling plate to our new president, Jim Beattie, along with an additional gift of a timer to remind Jim to conduct the meetings in a timely manner!

Jim Beattie thanked Michele Stewart for her leadership over the past year. He thanked those going off council and welcomed those joining council.

The 2023 budget was presented by President Jim Beattie. Jim highlighted some changes in item expenses and explained some differences in costs. Jim asked Pastor Jeanette to explain the line item increase to \$15,000 for a potential intern. We do not know exact expense of an intern, but we continue to work with the Synod office as this may be a possibility in the future. Kevin Benson made a motion to approve the 2023 budget with an allowance for 10% coverage. Teri Hanson seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned with a Michele Stewart/Andrew Noll motion .

Closing with prayer led by Pastor Jeanette Bidne.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Oelke, Secretary

Trinity Statistical Report - 2023

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR 2023:

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Brief Worship in the Gathering Space Wednesdays 6:00 – 6:20 p.m.

April 28, 2020 – in-person worship suspended due to Covid-19.

In 2021 and 2022, weekly worship videos were created and posted on Trinity's Facebook page and Trinity's website (Betrinity.com), plus shown on Bevcomm Channel 7 on Wednesdays.

In-person Sunday worship has been held since 2022.

2023 Ministry Opportunities

January 22 – Congregation Annual Meeting

February 22 – Ash Wednesday – cancelled due to blizzard conditions

March 1 – First Communion for 5th Grade students

Wednesday Lenten Series theme was “Walking with the Saints”.

March 1 – Mary Magdalene

March 8 – Brigid of Kildare

March 15 – Katie Luther

March 22 – St Luke

March 29 – Chief St Cloud

April 9 – Easter Festival Worship

May 7 – Music Sunday led by Trinity Choir and Hand Bell Choir

May 21 – High School Senior Recognition

September 10 – God's Work Our Hands Service Sunday

September 17 – Sunday School Rally Day

October 8 – Confirmation

November 5 – All Saints Sunday

November 12 and 19 – Emphasis on receiving Intent / Contribution cards

November 22 – Thanksgiving Eve

November 26 – Hanging of the Greens

December 3 – Blue Christmas

December 6 (Wednesday) – St. Nicholas

December 10 – Music Sunday led by Trinity Choir and Hand Bell Choir

December 13 (Wednesday) – St. Lucia

December 17 – Children's Christmas Program

December 24 – Christmas Eve / Sunday 9:00 – Service of Joy for all ages!

3:00 – Candlelight Worship

7:00 – Candlelight Worship

‘Off-Site’ Worship:

June 25 was scheduled for worship at Steinberg Park, but it was rained out and held in the sanctuary.

July 30 Youth-led Worship was held at the Trinity Stand / Fairgrounds.

Youth led Worship services: January 29, April 16 (Holy Humor), July 30 at the Fairgrounds, October 15. Youth assisted with or led Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services (March 8 and 9).

Lay-led Worship services (no pastor): February 5, June 4, and December 31

Council members served coffee in the back of the sanctuary on September 24, November 19 and December 17

Blue Earth Area School Peer Helpers Workshop was held September 29
Hosted Red Cross Blood Drive - October 20

COMMUNION SERVICES

Pastor Jeanette (and other ELCA clergy) led Communion worship with residents in the St. Luke's complex on the 2nd Monday of each month.

Holy Communion was distributed in the pews and at the altar rail (individually pre-packaged elements), offered on the 1st and 4th Sundays of each month.

Beginning in October, communion servers again assisted in distributing the bread and wine/juice at the altar.

MEMBERSHIP TO BE REPORTED TO ELCA, DEC. 30, 2023

Baptized = 794

Confirmed = 644

Approximate worship attendance numbers for 2023

Average attendance for Sunday worship in the sanctuary - 99

Average for Wednesday was approximately 28 during the school year (Confirmation)

Average for the St Luke's complex was 11 members, not including numerous other residents. Several members who are not residents also attend worship in the Chapel.

See on-line presence (live streamed worship) listed below

2023 ONLINE WORSHIP:

Cameras purchased and installed in September 2022 for Live Streaming of worship.

- Pre-Produced worship - 2/22/23 Ash Wednesday Blizzard
- 59 Live Streamed Worships - The Analytics with Live Stream will change and we are learning how to interpret them.
- Average Number of views was 54 (ELCA and Synod guidelines state for every view, assume 2 people are watching, so 108 people/week). (2022 Average was 30 views/60 people/worship)
- Most viewed Live Streamed worships:
 - December 10 - Lessons and Carols, Music Sunday - 113 views/226 people.
 - February 22 - Ash Wednesday Worship - 110 views/220 people.
 - This was a pre-produced worship
 - April 9 - Easter Sunday - 108 views/216 people.
 - December 17 - Children's Christmas Program - 100 views/200 people.
- All Live Streamed worships were recorded/downloaded/possibly edited and sent to BEVCOMM for viewing on Local Channel 7. Serving a Larger Congregation that we do not have analytics for.
- We had 3 interrupted YouTube live streams that needed to have the stream restarted.

BAPTISMS (3)

Isabella Lopez

Charles Mullaly

Amelia Goodrich

DECEASED/FUNERALS (10)

Gilbert W Olawsky

Marilyn A Olson

Howard (Howie) W Lange

Duane R Williams

Maurice H (Harold) Toppin

Edanelle (Eddie) Ekstrand

Violet (Vi) Evans

Thelma S Frerichs

Janice K Sohn

Gregory D (Greg) Keebaugh

Assisted by Trinity: Frances Wirth. Funeral held at Patton Funeral Home
Sharlet A Huston

MARRIAGES (0)**CONFIRMATIONS (10) - October 8, 2023**

Brooklyn Arends

Sully Dahlberg

Sidney Eitzmann

Mick Hanson

Caden Juba

Emmalee Laehn

Taryn Oswald

Aubrey Skaden

William Weerts

Traven Zierke

MEMBERS RECEIVED (0)**MEMBERS RELEASED (7)**

Jenna Schmidtke

Jaxon Lee, Jason Lee, Robi Nawrocki

Geary and Cindy Wells

Joni Klinder