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Contact

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* OFFICE HOURS *

St. Paul's, Tuesdays, 9-11:30 a.m.
Trinity, Wednesdays, 9-11:30 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

109 W State St., Plankinton SD 57368
www.stpaulplankinton.com
605-942-7364

EldersCurt Guindon
Mike Tuschen

President Rodney Weber

LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

304 S Johnston St., White Lake SD 57383
www.trinitywhitelake.com
facebook.com/trinitywhitelake
605-249-2333

Elders David Bogenhagen
Ben Bogenhagen
Scott Meier

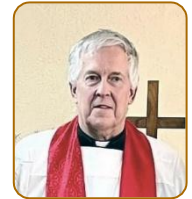
President Dan Guericke

LWML Presidents Diana Kieffer
Hope Circle
Brianna Bogenhagen
Ruth Circle



St. Paul's Lutheran Church and
Trinity Lutheran Church are
members of the South Dakota
District of The Lutheran
Church—Missouri Synod.

GROW IN THE GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE OF JESUS



Dear Members of Trinity and St. Paul's,

The hymns in our hymnal explain the Gospel of Christ so clearly. We learn so much about heaven, death, and God's judgment to come. The hymn, "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus" speaks of a grave that works as a gate. The grave that shuts us in, shall but prove the gate to heaven. Jesus here with You I die, there to live with You on high." It is amazing that something so sad, so final, can be turned into something so wonderful, so eternal. That is what Jesus did to the grave. *All who believe in Him and are faithful unto death will receive the crown of life that will last forever in fullness of joy forevermore* (Psalm 16:11).

At a funeral when the lid is closed, it separates us from our loved ones, but on the day of Jesus' return, it will be opened and the body of the believer will be changed into a glorious body and reunited with the spirit to live with God forever in the glory of heaven. I Corinthians 15 tells us about the resurrection from the dead on the last day. Beginning at v. 52, Paul writes, *in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* Believers on that day will see Jesus face to face with all sins forgiven.

We need to be sure to be ready for Jesus' return in repentance and faith that we are not lost with the world and be forever condemned to hell. We have so many opportunities to do as Paul said to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus. Matthew 24:42 says, *Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.*

Pastor McKillop

JUNE 2026

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Serving the Lord during June 2026

Trinity

Elder Ben Bogenhagen

Ushers John Geyer
Ron Steffen

Acolyte Blake Bogenhagen

Altar Barb Gilbertz

St. Paul's

Elder Curt Guindon

Ushers Lennis Titze
Howard Weischedel

Acolyte Blake Everson

Altar Sharon Boyd

Greeters June 7 Sharon Boyd

June 14 Kieth & Cathy Albrecht

June 21 Stan & Marlene Johnson

June 28 Howard & Sharon Weischedel

Scripture Readings for Sundays in May

June 7 Second Sunday Pentecost ... Hosea 5:15–6:6; Romans 4:13–25; Matthew 9:9–13

June 14 Third Sunday Pentecost Exodus 19:2–8; Romans 5:6–15; Matthew 9:35–10:8

June 21 Fourth Sunday Pentecost Jeremiah 20:7–13; Romans 6:12–23; Matthew 10:5a, 21–33

June 28 Fifth Sunday Pentecost Jeremiah 29:5–9; Romans 7:1–13; Matthew 10:34–42

LWML South Dakota District Convention

The 64th Convention of the Lutheran Women in Mission of the South Dakota District will be held June 5–6, 2026, at the Best Western Hotel and Convention Center in Rapid City, South Dakota. Participants will gather under the theme “Confidence in His Grace”.



Special guest speakers are Eden Keefe, LWML President as the LWML Representative; Rev. Albert Sutton, LCMS SD District Missionary for the people of the Pine Ridge Reservation as the Keynote Speaker; and Rev. Billy Newell, Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD as the Bible study leader.

Newsletter

The **July newsletter** will be available on/after June 28, 2026. Please submit news/articles to the parish secretary at trinitywlsd@gmail.com by Tuesday, June 23, 2026. If you would prefer an emailed digital newsletter instead of a printed copy, please contact Nancy at the same email address. *Thank you!*



MAIN STREET LIVING JUNE 2026

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired.
www.mainstreetliving.com

Broadcast on KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1

June 7, 2026

10 a.m. "No Place to Hide" A pastor, who has to face the death of his wife, cannot find comfort.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Thomas Christopher pastor at Trinity Lutheran, Spencer, SD and St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Alexandria, SD, presents a message titled "In This Is Love". The sermon is based on 1 John 4:10-21.

June 14, 2026

10 a.m. "Dead End" Because of frustration with his life, a man turns to drinking and another woman.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Matthew Wurm, pastor at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Brookings, SD, presents a message titled "Pray to the Lord of the Harvest". The sermon is based on Matthew 9: 37-38.

June 21, 2026

10 a.m. "The Main Event" A boxer who is hit by a car becomes embittered until he meets a cheerful 8-year old girl.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Samuel Thole, pastor at Peace Lutheran Church in Brookings, SD, presents a message titled "The Blessing of Encouragement". The sermon is based on Matthew 10:5a, 21-33.

June 28, 2026

9 a.m. "The Prisoners" An elderly woman is attacked and terrorized by a teenage gang.

9:30 a.m. Rev. Jacob Bobby, pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Yankton, SD, presents a message titled "A Sword of Division". The sermon is based on Matthew 10:34-36.



June 2026

Florence Meier (99), TR	June 2
Deb Haak, SP	June 2
<i>Curt & Kathy Guindon, SP</i>	June 2
Joshua Doering, TR	June 3
Jill Rolfsmeier, TR	June 6
<i>Scott & Kim Meier, TR</i>	June 6
Madison Meier, TR	June 7
Victoria Lehman, SP	June 8
Melissa Swindell, TR	June 9
Natia DeGeest, SP	June 12
William Doering, TR	June 12
Rodney Weber, SP	June 14
<i>Erin & Don Thomas, SP</i>	June 17
Sharon Weischedel, SP	June 20
Scott Meier, TR	June 20
Rowan Byrd, TR	June 20
Aurora Steichen, TR	June 22
<i>Chris & Kristin Heismeyer, SP</i>	June 24
Turner Rose, TR	June 27
<i>Jeff & Alice Johnson, TR</i>	June 27
Alex Barto, TR	June 29
<i>Dale & Vicki Gerlach, SP</i>	June 30
<i>Stan & Marlene Johnson, SP</i>	June 30



WORD FROM THE CENTER



Only Living Water Can Satisfy This Thirst!

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.”
(John 7:37).

I don't know about you, but I need to get back in shape. It seems like that is getting harder and harder every year. But caring for both the body and the soul matters, for your sake and for the sake of those whom you love. Too often, those of us who are believers fail to realize why. God wants us to take care of our bodies, not so that we can look killer on the beach or buff at the club. No, he wants us to prepare our bodies, as well as our hearts and minds, so that we have the strength, endurance, and clarity needed for the life we get to live in His Name for others. He wants you on His victorious team, to be “in the game” as it were. He wants you “in the race of faith” so that you can experience the joy of receiving and sharing His love with others by the power of the Holy Spirit until the final “buzzer sounds!” So, get ready!

How do we do that? In the area of physical health, we should eat properly and make sure we are getting enough rest. We should stretch before and after working out. We should be disciplined about this too. But in the midst of all that, there is one thing that we dare not overlook. What is it? It's making sure that our body is well hydrated before, during, and after exercising. In fact, drinking water is essential to life, period. I remember a buddy of mine at Concordia University, Irvine. He was committed to being in shape, so much so that he always carried around a two-liter bottle of water. I'd ask him, “Cedric, what's with the ridiculously large bottle of water?” He would be quick to answer, “Greg, got to stay hydrated. Got to be ready for whatever comes.” I'd laugh. But I needed to realize, then as now, just how vital water is for the preparation, effort, and endurance that's needed to live life for all its worth.

Today, Jesus is telling us that we need an even more significant kind of “water.” In fact, when it comes to real, soul-quenching thirst, He says only His Spirit-filled, living water can satisfy, and He's offering that living water in the power of the Holy

Spirit to all who will receive it as a gift (see John 7:39; 16:12-15). Jesus is talking about being satiated with the spiritual blessings that come from HIM ALONE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. He said it pretty clearly in today's verse: “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.” Wow! Knowing well the necessity of physical water in the parched lands of the Middle East, Jesus boldly asserts that our souls need what He provides even more. Then He offers the very waters of eternal life, given to us by the life-giving Holy Spirit, as a gift.

So, where do you find yourself today? If you are physically parched, drink up! There's nothing like cold, refreshing H₂O. But if you are spiritually and emotionally parched, come to the Spirit-filled words of Jesus (John 6:63). They are the very water of life for your eternal satiation and salvation. The mission of Jesus was to enter our sinful world and our brokenness in order to take on our pain. He entered the aridness of the desert of our sin and rebellion, and endured thirst on the cross (John 19:28) in order to give us living water to drink. His living water empowers our new life with Him and satiates our thirst for God's righteousness, justice, and peace. He knows all about that kind of thirst, but, more importantly, He freely offers the Spirit-filled water that can quench it — faith in Him as your Savior.

So, whatever you might be facing at the moment, if you are “parched” emotionally or spiritually, or even at the end of your rope, it's time to realize that there is “soul-satiating water” for you in Jesus. **He provides a Spirit-filled message of grace, love, and life that will quench your ultimate thirst. Drink up daily!** God bless.

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, in a world that concerns itself with physical health and well-being, give us the wisdom to look to You for the good news of Your Gospel, Your very Spirit-filled Word, that satisfies our hearts and souls, both now and forever. AMEN

Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz

The Benefit of a Pastoral Vacancy

By Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher, President, SD District

It has happened recently, or it will happen again in your congregation. Your pastor has accepted a Divine Call to serve in another congregation. When the news is announced, a mourning process begins. Your shepherd has celebrated with you as he said, “In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” and poured water over the head of that little one whom you love. He has preached Christ crucified and resurrected to you. He has pronounced forgiveness to you. He has served you a holy and precious meal of Christ’s body and blood, in, with, and under the bread and wine for the strengthening of your faith and the forgiveness of your sins. He has been your shepherd and walked with you through the valley of the shadow of death. He has prayed for you, and you for him.

There is no doubt you will miss this shepherd who has cared for you.

Now things will change in your congregation. There will be a new face preaching from the pulpit and visiting the shut-in Saints. Depending on the availability of pastors in your area, it might not be the same face each week. You may well be asking, “How can any of this be beneficial to the life of a congregation and the care of the Saints whom God has redeemed?”

In the time when you and your congregation do not have a full-time shepherd, or even the same shepherd each week, keep in mind that the promises of God are still the same. **The gifts of God are still given and received.** The forgiveness that Jesus accomplished and has given to you is still pronounced to you. God and His promises do not change when a different pastor delivers them.

When a congregation does not have a full-time, permanent pastor shepherding the flock, it becomes necessary to consider some foundational questions and gives the congregation an opportunity for faithful reflection. This is where the



Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher,
President,
SD District

benefit begins. During a pastoral vacancy, it is good for a congregation to consider a few questions concerning pastoral ministry in the congregation and community.

Question one: Have we expected our pastor to carry responsibilities that God’s people are also able to fulfill?

Pastors are, by nature, servants. They want to help. Because of this, it is easy for a congregation to expect the new pastor to take on a particular task simply because the previous pastor did it.

The early church faced this same challenge in the book of Acts:

“And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, ‘It is not right that we should give up preaching the Word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the Word’”

(Acts 6:2–4).

The pastoral office has very specific responsibilities that only the man in that office is given the authority to carry out. Dear Saints, remember that ministry in the church and outside the church is centered in these things, but these are not the only works of ministry. There are countless ways God’s people can serve the church and the community.

Question two: How are we serving the people around us?

It is also beneficial to look at the church’s life in the community. What is our congregation’s outreach? What needs exist among our neighbors that we can help meet?

Our churches change, our lives change, and our communities change as well. There might be great opportunities to “love your neighbor” that did not exist the last time you evaluated your service in the community.

There is benefit in a pastoral vacancy because it encourages us to evaluate the mission and ministry of the church, both internally and externally.

Dear Saints, God be with you as you wait for your next shepherd to bring you God’s precious gifts. I am praying for you. For all of you who are sharing your pastor with another parish, be patient. I pray for you also. God knows whom He is preparing to shepherd His people and when that time will come. The question for all of us is this: How can we faithfully serve so that more people may hear the hope and promises we have in Jesus Christ?

Questioning, so Christ’s ministry can bring hope and healing.

President Sturzenbecher



"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)

The writer of Hebrews paints a breathtaking picture of our High Priest, Jesus Christ.

Unlike the imperfect priests of the Old Testament who had to offer sacrifices for their own sins first, Jesus is the sinless Son of God who has passed through the heavens and sympathizes with our weaknesses. He was tempted in every way we are, yet without sin. Because of His finished work, the invitation now stands; we can approach God's throne boldly.

Notice the contrast. In the Old Covenant, the high priest could enter the Most Holy Place only once a year, with fear and trembling, and only after elaborate preparations. One wrong move and he could die. But now, because Jesus has torn the veil through His own blood, the throne that once represented judgment has become a throne of grace.

Grace is not something we earn. It is unmerited favor poured out freely through Christ. Mercy is the compassionate withholding of the punishment we rightly deserve. At this throne, we don't receive what our sins merit – condemnation and wrath. Instead, we receive what we desperately need: forgiveness, cleansing, and strength.



Rev. Dr. Brian Mosemann
LWML District Counselor

The phrase "with confidence" (or "boldly") is revolutionary. It means we can come without hesitation, without groveling in shame, and without fear of rejection. This confidence is not based on our performance, our spiritual maturity, or how "good" we've been this week. It rests entirely on the finished work of Jesus and His current intercession for us.

This invitation is especially sweet "in time of need." When temptation presses hard, when grief feels crushing, when decisions overwhelm us, when we've failed again – that is precisely when we are called to run to the throne. Not after we clean ourselves up. Not once we feel worthy. Right now, in our weakness and failure, Jesus invites us to come. We confess our sins honestly, rest again on Christ's blood, and receive mercy and grace through His word of forgiveness.

Too often we hesitate. We feel distant because of guilt, or we try to handle our struggles in our own strength. But Hebrews 4:16 is a standing invitation. The door is never closed. The welcome is never withdrawn.

Today, whatever your need is – whether it's forgiveness for a fresh failure, wisdom for a difficult situation, or endurance for a long trial – draw near. Come with confidence. The King on the throne is not a harsh judge waiting to strike you down; He is your sympathetic High Priest who understands your struggle and delights to give you mercy and grace.

CALL INFORMATION

PENDING CALLS

The following are prayerfully considering calls:

Rev. Jacob Smith, St. Paul, Aberdeen, to South Shore Trinity, White Bear Lake, Minn., May 10.

Rev. Jordon Andreasen, Office of International Missions, serving in Romania, to St. Peter, Wentworth, May 4.

Rev. Seth Kaiser, Trinity, Bay City, Mich., to Mt. Olive, Watertown, April 26.

DECLINED

Rev. Jens Jensen, Redeemer, Armour, to Faith/Stanton, NE; St. John's/Pilger, NE; and First Trinity/Altona, NE, May 13.

Rev. Jordon Andreasen, Office of International Missions, serving in Romania, to Mt. Calvary, Huron, May 7.

Rev. Michael Miller, Bethlehem, Lebanon, OR, to Mt. Calvary, Brookings, April 27.

Rev. Steve Andrews, Jr., St. Matthews, Lee's Summit, MO, to Peace, Rapid City, April 25.

VACANCIES

- South Dakota District Office, Assistant to the President
- Trinity, Blunt/Immanuel, Harrold, Holy Cross, Onida
- Mt. Calvary, Brookings (associate pastor)
- St. Peter, Wentworth
- Divine Shepherd, Black Hawk (senior pastor)
- St. Paul, Plankinton/Trinity, White Lake
- Mt. Calvary, Huron
- Peace, Rapid City
- Emanuel, Sisseton/Zion, Waubay
- Emmaus, Tripp/Zion, Delmont
- Mt. Olive, Watertown
- Trinity, Corona/Our Savior, Wilmont
- St. John, Revillo/Bethlehem, Milbank
- First, Wall/Emmanuel, Creighton
- Concordia, Cresbard/Immanuel, Wecota
- Faith, Pierre



JUNE 2026



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5 LWML South Dakota District Convention Rapid City, SD	6 Confidence in His Grace Hebrews 4:16
7 Second Sunday Pentecost Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Third Sunday Pentecost Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Fourth Sunday Pentecost Father's Day Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Fift Sunday Pentecost Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's	29	30				