

Synodically Authorized Minister's Report

May 2019 SAM Report

- Conducted Maundy Thursday service with hand washing and communion, assisted by Kim Schudt and Good Friday Service
- Attended Stewardship Team meeting April 23rd
- Attended NW Conference Annual Spring Meeting, April 25th in Pearl City
- Attended Durand School Crisis Handbook Review Meeting April 25th
- Hospital visit before surgery
- Attended NW Conference meeting at Synod office May 8th
- Participated in Baccalaureate giving welcome and offering prayer
- Visited 2 members in Medina and one home visit
- Attended Confirmation Meeting with Wendy, Shannon, and 5 parents. We anticipate making some changes in the confirmation program per parents' requests. We are hoping to have four summer sessions for current confirmation students to review and go through on-line lessons. Parents of children going into sixth grade want to wait until the 7th grade to begin the three year confirmation program. They prefer doing the on-line lessons in class instead of at home on-line. Wendy and Shannon are putting together curriculum for a pre-confirmation class for the 6th graders, meeting every other week.
- Attended my first interim pastor's meeting May 23rd
- Along with Shannon, we have worked with our accountant LeAnn Clark to answer questions about fund balances and payments. I looked into the history of the mortgage.
- We have decided that we will send out funeral notifications from the office. We cannot get email addresses on thumb drive. Jerry Rogala was notified.
- Heidi Swanson as volunteered to be on the Call Committee. Those who have volunteered are: Maureen Witte, Karen Butler, Susie Wendel, Mike Bolen, Heidi Swanson
- **VACATION:** I will be taking a week's vacation from July 1st – 7th. We will need pulpit supply for Sunday, July 7th. If there is a DEC 4th of July Service, I will plan on assisting with that service, if needed. My grandchildren will be visiting. **It's my understanding, council is to arrange for pulpit supply – not sure who on council takes that responsibility.**

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Beksel

Parish Administrator Report

Weekly Sunday Attendance

April 7 – 55

April 14 – 70

April 21 – 97 (Easter)

April 28 – 48

After Easter Sunday I rearranged the flowers because members took home live plants.

I have taken over the responsibility of emailing our payroll company monthly and giving them the hours worked by the church's employees.

Attended a confirmation meeting with Wendy, Sharon and parents. It was a good meeting where thoughts and ideas were shared. I also lead Worship Team meetings and attend memorial team meetings.

I continue to assist our accountant LeAnn Clark and Sharon Beksel with any questions they might have.

The week before the prayer shawls were blessed I arranged them on the altar. Afterwards I removed them and put them away.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Brown

Christian Education

Vacation Bible school is going along well. We have a meeting on May 21st so I will see how the main script is coming along and also how many volunteers we still need.

On Sunday May 19th we had our final Sunday school class. I had 8 kids who attended and enjoyed the pizza party, BINGO and ice cream sundaes.

Also on May 19th Sharon, Shannon and I met with our current confirmation families and the new ones who will join us in the fall. We had a very informative discussion. The students (6th grade) that are starting in the fall will be doing a pre-confirmation style class and then start the full confirmation program in 7th grade and be confirmed in 9th grade. There are 5 students that are eligible to do that.

I have just about completed putting together the backpack ministry that I am doing this summer. The kids will receive a packet of activities in June, July and August. Sharon Beksel requested a Thrivent card for the expenses and she received one!

I continue to have regular weekly staff meetings with Sharon and Shannon. I feel we accomplish so much together, we make a great team!!!!

Your friend in Christ,
Wendy

**Worship Team Notes
(and Council Report)
May 20, 2019**

Present: Sharon Beksel, (SAM); Shannon Brown, Chair; Mary Nuss, Louise Owen
Absent: Mary Jane Koch, Choir Director

At 11:06 Shannon asked Sharon to lead us in prayer.

~~Some positive comments on Lenten Services, most enjoyed Holden Evening Service and skits presented by members. A note of appreciation to “new” people presenting the skits. Sharon said the Holden would be good for an evening or prayer service. When calling a new pastor, a possibly to include in call that perhaps evening/prayer services would be done.

~~Hand-washing during Maundy Thursday went well for the first time...just a few adjustments.

~~Sharon would like to use Assistant Ministers who would sing liturgy. Discussed other liturgy settings in the ELW. Some would like a variety of settings even learning some new ones. Ask Mary Jane if choir would learn and lead new settings. Perhaps use more Call to Worship responses. Noted would like to learn new songs.

~~Yellow prayer cards are not used as much as first introduced. Perhaps put in bulletin or *Traveler* what these cards are used for. It was noted that cards might not be used since there is an opportunity for during the Prayers of Intersession for people so say names aloud.

~~Crackling speakers...not sure reason, when or why.

~~Exploring opportunities for children participation during worship: singing, ushering, readings. VBS at DUMC this year.

~~June 9 is Pentecost Sunday. Shannon will put in announcements that people may purchase and bring in geraniums to beautify the Sanctuary. Also during service, give a blessing to Trinity’s Synod Assembly representatives.

~~Sharon wanting to have stories of how we noticed the Holy Spirit has worked or is working in our midst. She will use examples during her Pentecost Sermon.

~~July 14 is the Senior Disciple Service.

~~Put in *Traveler* and bulletin for volunteers to offer Summer Music or Prelude or Postlude music.

(Fresh Flower signup - fresh or silk.)

~~Adjourned at 12:10 p.m. Next meeting Monday, June 17, at 11 a.m.

Louise Owen
Team Recorder

**Memorial Team
(and Council Report)
Notes of May 13, 2019**

Memorial Fund as of May 6, 2019 undesignated funds totaled \$4,899.07. Designated fund, Christian Ed., remained at \$174.74.

As in paragraph 4 in the TLC Memorial Policy, the Memorial Team would be agreeable to write the Thank You notes to take the burden off of Shannon.

Discussed Registry items: decided to eliminate the 4 hymnals from the list. Mary researched the automatic door(s) possibility. Attachments are available for the current “front east” door brackets with discussion on clearances and location of the “button” for easy entry for wheelchairs and other mobile devices for approx. \$2,800. Another option: this automatic door could be located at the end of the west hallway which also has a handicap ramp and parking space.

There had been additional suggestions to the registry: a computer for the Pastor’s office, an additional fireproof safe.

**The current computer(s) may be fixed under Jürgen Gallagher’s expertise.

**Mary had information on a 17x14x26 safe at a cost of \$220 but more information is needed to determine what is to be stored in the safe. Maureen asked if items in current safe really have to be in there.

**All registry items discussed were put on hold until further information could be gathered.

Banners - Maureen and Mary had not yet reviewed the banners situation.

Paraments - Also put on hold. Right now the current paraments are ok.

Mary Nuss

Building and Grounds

Building and Grounds Team members Larry, Dale, Lyle, Brad, and I met to discuss church issues last Sunday after church. Thanks to Chuck Wiley and SAM Sharon a list of needs has been compiled which we reviewed. Many items are yearly maintenance which will be addressed once a schedule is set up.

- Met with locksmith and Sharon for lock tutorial
- Ordered and installed Reserved Parking sign for Heidi
- Oiled pump
- Checked and replaced furnace filters
- Met with Freeport Septic re: need for cleaning tank. Yes! Done.
- Put salt pellets in softener

The roof may be in disrepair. Larry is contacting a professional to look at it and give his opinion.

Don Witte

Mission and Social Concerns Team

DEC:

The Baccalaureate service for the Senior class was held on May 15 at UMC at 6:30pm. There were 18 graduates that participated this year.

July 4th service will be held at the school again at 10:00 am.

DEC will resume meetings in September.

Trinity Caring Hearts met on May 7th. Medina visits have improved. The card ministry is going well. 37 cards have been sent out by various team members since our last meeting. Names will change in May for Partners in Prayer. The team will spilt up the names remaining after the congregation has picked theirs.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Rau

TAG²

June 8th is our next event. since it's our 175th Anniversary, we will be doing posters for the July 4th parade; will be collecting items for our Blessing boxes.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Rau

Stewardship Team Report

April 23, 2019

How does God's grace move you to share your gifts?

The Stewardship Team met to discuss some of the plans for the year. As we think about pledges for 2020 we must be aware that the mortgage financing will need to be renewed in 2020. This will certainly cause the mortgage payment to increase because of increased interest rates. Currently the mortgage is scheduled to be paid off in 2038. It would seem prudent to think about a fund drive to help decrease the mortgage so that it can be paid off sooner. We also need to be cognizant of the fact that since the beginning of 2019 at least four pledges that were made for the year have been either lowered or eliminated entirely because of death or transfer from the congregation. Without new members to help make up this shortage, the budget will need to be revisited.

We discussed how the congregation is often unaware of the fragility of our income versus what we can pay out. Much of the money in our checking account is designated for various funds so just because the account has \$1000 in it all the funds may not be available to pay bills. This is because the money is designated for other funds (quilting, kitchen fund, building, mortgage, etc.) and cannot be used for general fund expenses. We discussed that we need several venues to make members aware of this. Not all members come to church to hear announcements, they don't all read the Traveler, and they don't all read emails (not everyone has computer access) that come from the church.

We need to encourage members to complete Time and Talent Sheets showing ministries they would like to become active in. We have many people who are not active in any ministry. We also need to increase the number of social activities in order to get people involved in coming to church and enjoying the fellowship of other members. While we have TMM and TAGs, this may not be enough to encourage everyone to join in fellowship. We feel this would be a way for members to become more aware of what is happening at Trinity and where needs may be. It may also encourage them to increase their giving to help make ministries happen.

Mary Nuss and Paula Rau

Trinity Mission Men

An outing to a Rockford Rivets game is being organized by Jerry Rogala.

Geoff Brown and Dale Tunak are hosting and planning the Annual Hot Dog Roast. It will be at 11:30am on July 13 at Lake Summerset's campground.

Trinity Event Planners

Meetings have been held to discuss the garage sale. The group has made some adjustments to last year's sale. This year's sale is May 31 and June 1 at Mike Bolen's house. Thank you to volunteers who are working the sale and to those who are donating items to sell. Shannon posted volunteer sign-up sheets.

Next meeting - TBA

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Brown
