



Tri-County Ministry News

We exist to serve Christ in harmony with our member churches and communities.

Pastor Sherri's message

"But these (words) are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name"
— John 20:31

What does it mean to have life in Jesus' name? What would my life look like if I lived in Jesus' name?

So many times we want to separate our "regular" lives from our faith life. Or we misunderstand that our faith life is some impossible ideal where we make no mistakes and we don't get mad or "Love means never having to say you're sorry..." (Only some of you will remember that quote.)

But what if a LIVING faith is something that we carry with us in the deepest part of our being? What if a living faith is the essence of who we are and how we interact with the world? What if a living faith is not something that we pull out of our pocket for church on Sunday but something that is with us whether we are in Sunday school or playing on the playground? Could a living faith be something that is with you when you are turning a wrench or stitching a quilt? What if living faith is a part of your day while you are sitting in a church pew AND when you are in the cab of the tractor? What if living faith was a part of you while praying at meals AND while kneading the bread dough?

Faith is only real and living when it works for ALL occasions. It has to be real at funeral meals as well as birthday parties. Faith is living when it is real when one is healthy AND when one is laying in a hospital bed. You know your faith is real when conversations about "real" life are conversations about faith life.

Good and gracious, LIVING God:
Continue to make faith a part of our every-day life.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

Speaker coming to Tri-County

Benjamin Duane Hylden was a sophomore at Park River High School on April 6, 2007. It was a normal spring day on the farm that Good Friday when Ben's life was changed forever. Since that day, Ben has been encouraged to share his life story with others; he has been on local radio and has spoken to various groups as well. A book chronicling his experience came out this year — *Finding Faith in the Field*.

Ben will be speaking in Tri-County during October and November at our worship services. This will be on non-communion Sundays and the worship will be a short, simplified service, allowing more time for Ben to speak. The schedule:

October 12: 8:15 OS Kloten / 9:30 McVille

October 26: 9:45 Presbyterian / 11:15 Faith

November 9: 8:30 Grace / 9:45 OS McHenry / 11:15 Grace

Invite your friends and neighbors to join us in hearing Ben's journey.

Six-Week Adult Class



What are Spiritual Gifts? What does that have to do with ministry? . . . or the Bible? Why do I care?

Each of us was given a gift from the Holy Spirit. We are to use this gift to glorify God and to build up the body of Christ. If we have only one or two hours a week to volunteer, we want to make our time worthwhile. Spiritual Gifts is also a clue as to what God is up to in each congregation.

Please let one of your pastors know if you are interested in this class or partnering up with another congregation in order to offer the class.

How do you wait?

As you read in last month's newsletter, an Advent devotional booklet is going to be compiled in our parish. The focus of the booklet will be waiting and anticipation, since that's what Advent is all about.



What Bible verses do you read while you wait?

During October, we will be gathering your verses with reflections. In November, these verses will be organized into a devotional booklet and handed out before the first Sunday of Advent (which is November 30).

Here is an example of how one verse can mean different things to your TCM staff:

**“Be still and know that I am God.”
-Psalm 46:10.**

- ◆ **This is a reminder to stop rushing and to let God work.**
- ◆ **This verse helps us to find calm in the midst of conflict, chaos and turmoil.**

Your input for the booklet:

- ◆ **What verse(s) do you read while you wait?**
- ◆ **What does this verse mean to you?**

You may e-mail your response to Pastor Kara, or hand it to any TCM staff member. Time is needed to compile the booklets, so please have your response in by **November 1**.

Jr. High Impact Retreat



**October 10-12
(5:00 Friday—1:00 Sunday)
Grades 7-9**

Hayrides, campfire and s'mores, music, crafts, carpet ball, gaga, skits, and more!

Cost is \$99 (check with your church for payment)

Our TCM confirmation students will be attending this retreat as their October class. **All** youth in grades 7-9 are invited to attend.

More info at
www.redwillowbiblecamp.org

TCM Van Trip Saturday, October 18

Nelson County Barn Quilt Trail

Leave from Faith in Hannaford at 9:30 am, Trinity in Binford at 10:00, and Lutheran Church of McVille at 10:30.



Stop at Stump Lake, then on to Lakota for lunch and a drive through the town. From there, drive to the Michigan and Petersburg areas. Return to McVille by 4:00 or so, then drop offs at Hannaford and Binford.

Cost: \$10 for the van ride plus your cost for lunch (shopping at Elaine's House of Dreams extra!)

Pre-registration for this is required! Please contact Theresa by **Tuesday, October 14**. (see back page for phone and e-mail info)

If the van is full, others may opt to carpool.

(Go to www.michigand.com if you're wondering what in the world this article is talking about.)

October 26

is Reformation Sunday.

Red is the color of the day.

Summer mission project winding down



If you still happen to have your m&m container at home, you may still turn it in. Just hand it to one of the pastors.

A final report will be given in next month's newsletter.

Worship time alerts

Grace:

**8:30 on October 5,
then 11:15**



First Presbyterian:

**11:15 October 5;
9:45 October 12, 19, 26**

TRI-COUNTY MINISTRY STAFF

Rev. Sherri Frederikson 676-2762
(cell) 336-688-2879
PastorSherri@yahoo.com
Box 226, Binford ND 58416

Rev. Kara Wiechmann..... 322-4926
(cell) 605-770-4005
pastorkaraw@gmail.com
Box 115, McVile ND 58254

TCM Parish Administrator
Theresa Fiebiger 676-2761
trinitybinford@mlgc.com

TCM CONGREGATIONS

Faith of Hannaford 769-2387
faithl@ictc.com

First Presbyterian of Cooperstown
797-3112
jejohnson99@yahoo.com

Grace of Grace City 674-3112
kmac@daktel.com

McVile Lutheran Church.... 322-4952
mcvilleparish@gondtc.com

Our Savior's, Kloten..... 322-4952
mcvilleparish@gondtc.com

Our Savior's of McHenry.... 785-2117
trinitybinford@mlgc.com

Trinity of Binford..... 676-2761
trinitybinford@mlgc.com

Tri-County Ministry
Box 226
Binford, ND 58416
Phone 676-2761
email: trinitybinford@mlgc.com

website: www.tricountyministry.org
blog: www.tricountyministry.com
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Tri-County Ministry News is
published nine times per year:
January, February, March, April, June,
August, September, October, and
November.

Fall Meetings

Prairie Rose Conference Assembly
(formerly known as Carrington Conference)
Sunday, October 19
3:00 p.m.
American Lutheran Church in Tolna

Presbytery of the Northern Plains
Fall Presbytery Meeting
October 24-25
First Presbyterian Church in Moorhead