



THE BELL TOWER July 2026



Our mission is to:

Teach and share God's Word with those around us

Live in fellowship with one another and foster Christ-centered relationships

Care and grow in faith by serving God and His People

What will Heaven be like?

At one of our Bible studies this past month, we got on the topic of what heaven will be like. What a wonderful thing to try and contemplate but in reality, living in a fallen world, we can't even come close to imagining what it will truly be like. Shortly after that conversation, one of my devotions talked of this topic that was very thought provoking. I encourage you this month, to take some time and reflect just what Heaven will be like and what it will be like to dwell with God and have no more tears, or pain, or mourning, that those will have passed away. Have a blessed month.

"Last week, a loved one I have known for much of my life recently asked what I thought heaven was. I wasn't certain if he was looking for a helpful explanation or reassurance, but it makes me think about how in the world to give an appropriate answer. Saint John gets us as close as anyone with his vision of heaven, but was limited by language (the curse of Babel) and could only use words at his disposal to describe it. And what words do we have available that are adequate for something as eternal, limitless, and glorious as the presence of the God of creation? Where do we even begin to wonder about what we can't imagine?

On a trip to Venice, my wife and I visited Murano, an island with nothing but glass factories. We experienced the incredible change of sand being melted into glass, attached to a long metal tube, and the breath of a glass blower gave a blob of molten glass a shape. Chemicals could be added to give color to that glass. To me, it brought to mind the image of Genesis where God breathed life into a lump of clay and the miracle of a living being. A glass blower in Murano sparked a connection as he gradually shaped a blob of glass, pushed and twisted it with tongs as he kept breathing into the tube, and suddenly he wound up with an incredible glass horse that seemed as perfect as DaVinci's incredible statue of a horse. How can we jump from that to even imagine infinite perfection in the presence of God who created an ever-expanding universe, planets and tidal pools, wind and wave and arrived as a baby in a Bethlehem manger?

More and more I envision heaven not so much as a location (in our sense of the word) but being in the infinite, glorious, perfect presence of God in a face-to-face relationship of perfect love and peace that never ends. It will be the culmination of Jesus' earthly birth day as he surrendered the infinite glory of heaven to be confined in an earthly body. For us it will be like a prisoner exchange, where we escape what limits us to earthly imperfections to be literally blown away by the breath of God's spirit and united with pure light, unending love, indescribable joy, and a peace that lasts beyond what we can imagine.

Today I visited a gallery and saw something created by a master glass blower that I have no sense of how it could have been done, or have words to even describe it to someone else. If I multiply that by numbers greater than I can understand, and flavor it with the love of a manger and freedom of Easter, it is only the beginning of a tiny clue what is more beautiful, timeless, shapeless, glorious, and purer than anyone can imagine -- perfectly heavenly love, joy, and peace!

In Him,
Pastor Brett

July's Memory Verse

"And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.'"

Revelation 21:3-4

Worship Schedule for July

Wednesday, July 1st – 7pm with Communion

Sunday, July 5th - 9am with Communion

Sunday, June 12th - 9am – Worship

Sunday, June 19th - 9am with Communion

Sunday, June 26th - 9am outdoor Worship

Electronic Giving: Scan the QR code to give via Subsplash. The QR code will also bring you to our livestream and newsletter.



2026 Trinity Council Members

Gary Schellack, Chairman
Cody Nelson, Elder
Bob Johnk, Elder
Adam Schellack, Elder
Lance Kistner, Elder
Curt Hutchins, Elder
Derrick Grenz, Elder



Adam Hanson, Trustee
Jesse Sandry, Trustee
Rich Hayes, Trustee
Erik Hanson, Secretary
Amy Wohlwend, Treasurer

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jessica Heim
Cassie Waggoner
Kayme Torgerson

BOARD OF EVANGELISM

Lynn Johnk
Amanda Nelson
Janelle Kistner

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

Tera Orr
Nikki Grenz
Amy Rasmussen

Council Meeting Minutes

June 10th, 2026

Erik, Gary, Brett, Jesse, Kurt, Amy, Nikki, Lynn, Bob

1. Call to order - Gary
2. Opening prayer - Pastor
3. Approve agenda – Amy/Nikki. Motion passed.
4. Secretary's report – Erik Hanson. No additions. Amy/Bob. Motion passed.
5. Treasurer's report –
 - a. Amy shared report last night.
 - I) **Balance Sheet**
 - II) Capital Improvement Savings account is down to a balance of \$59 due to bathroom remodel expenses coming out of there. The bathroom cabinets, changing stations, and men's bathroom sink came out of capital improvements. Then, \$4,935 was taken from the Reserve Savings account to cover the vanity tops for the bathrooms. Bell Bank (LPL) CD came due and per motion in March, \$68,000 was pulled from the CD to be put in a high yield savings account that is more liquid in case we need funds for upcoming projects. We

just received this \$68,000 into the main account late last week, so nothing has been done with it yet as far as moving to a new account. We need some of this \$68,000 to cover operating expenses and outstanding checks as the balance in the General checking account is \$68,000 currently. New Bell Bank (LPL) CD is due on 12/10/2026. There is \$70,000 in there at a rate of 3.95%.

III) **Operating Income/Expenses**

IV) This report is run to only show operating income and expenses to accurately reflect operations without any large expenses that are covered with other funds. The other income and expenses, missions, etc. are shown in the budget to actual statement. Operating income from the offering was \$8,635 in May. Total expenses just for church operations were \$9,261. It looks like we are ahead for the month of May on the statement, however, we were short about \$625 because a lot of the interest shown on the statement was just rolled into the new CD for \$70,000 due to the March motion to remove \$68,000 and keep the rest in the CD. YTD we are still in the green as far as covering operations.

V) **Actual to Budget Remaining**

VI) This report has capital improvement income and expenses and cemetery income expenses excluded from it because those expenses have their own source of funding for them and don't get budgeted for. This shows actual expenses through May and the budget remaining for the rest of the year for each account.

VII) **Other Items:**

VIII) Thank you to those that have purchased Trinity apparel! So far, \$115 has been donated back to the Youth Gathering fund from the purchases! Reminder that 10% of all apparel sales go back to the youth gathering fund. Blankets are now available too!

IX) If you need assistance setting up online giving through SubSplash, please contact Amy Wohlwend at tlcsabin.treasurer@gmail.com or 701-212-2956.

- b. Still looking into high yield savings account options for balance of funds.
- c. 20k in hys, 20k in capital, 15k in checking, replenish reserves
- d. Kurt/Bob. Passed

6. Committee reports

- a. Elder – Bob report. Met on 6/10 (prior to meeting). Discussed pastor's report and membership. Also discussed handicap spaces in sanctuary. Trustees (Jesse) will work on this.
- b. Trustees. Met with Richard on bathroom remodel. Should be done this week (prior to VBS). Working on suggestions system (QR code) for building maintenance/repairs.
- c. Stewardship– Nikki. Nikki working on 5k planning, Randy and Brett are attending Harvest Days Meeting next week and will update group. Currently identifying sponsors, designs, etc. Harvest Days is a one day event this year (August 15 only). Other ideas from Randy – 5k, pancake feed, bouncy houses, hoping to move more of activities closer to church.
- d. Evangelism – Lynn shared report. Summer is relatively slow time for evangelism. Lynn also noted that shawl-making has surpassed goal number of shawls.
 - I) Currently, there is nothing being planned over the summer months.
 - II) Beginning this fall the plan is to have various groups do a short talk after a non-communion Sunday. The goal is to have one in the fall, winter and spring.

- III) Lynn will touch base with Heart of Clay (most likely in September) and plan a time for them to present their message to the congregation.
- e. Board of Ed (and Youth Director) – Kayme shared report via email, but was not here to share. Pastor shared that Maggie and Lynn are doing an art camp in late July. Intended for girls entering 2nd-6th grades from 9-11am.
- I) **Board of Ed**
- VBS
 - a. 6/14-6/18 6:00-8:00PM
 - b. Curriculum-Tropical Trek-Concordia Publishing House
 - c. Volunteer needs have been met.
 - d. 30 youth have been registered-planned for 50.
 - e. We had a little over 40 registered last year, we should get a few walk-in registrations to get close to this number again this year.
 - f. Very heavy in the PreK and Kindergarten registration this year. Not as many in 1st-5th Grade.
 - g. Randy will help lead the family night dinner on Thursday. Serve the same food as last year. (burgers, hotdogs, chicken nuggets, chips, watermelon)
 - h. Pastor has booked Ohana Shaved ice for Thursday night.
- II) **Youth Coordinator**
- Service Project Challenge
 - a. Parents and youth in grades 6th-12th Grade for the 25'-26' school year have been given a Service Project Challenge for the summer.
 - b. There will be a few service project opportunities in June, July, and August for them to choose to participate in.
 - c. When they have participated in 3 service projects they are qualified to join Pastor Brett and Kayme on a day trip to the Mall of America Saturday, August 22nd.
 - d. Service/Volunteer Projects Coming up in June
 - i. VBS
 - ii. Seeds of Hope
 - iii. MHD Schools Lunch Packing
- f. Budget – Discussed as part of treasurer's report.
- g. Pastors report

Pastor's Report-June 2026

Official Acts:

Baptisms:

May 23rd- Saige Noelle Mueller

June 9th- Jesse, James, and Sam Sandry

Funerals

Ardis Rosenfeldt- May 29th

Average Attendance for month- May- 75

- Confirmation finished on the 17th of May. This year we covered the Bible, the Sacraments of Confession and Baptism, and then looked at World Religions and how to defend the faith.
- I'm meeting with one of the confirmands to catch them up on missing a year of confirmation so she can be confirmed in the fall.
- Met with 3 of the youth to walk them through Lord's Supper so that they could have their first communion.

- Adult Bible Study this coming month will be on the Parables. We will look at a handful of the Parables and what they mean and how to maybe apply them to our everyday lives.
 - Attended the Pastor's Conference in May in Brainerd looking at Stewardship.
 - Will be helping out with VBS and leading openings.
 - Have planned out Summer Worship schedule- June 14th, July 26th and August 23rd will be outdoor worship.
 - Attended the Board Meeting for Lutheran Island Camp as I continue to serve on the Board. This year we have 4 youth that will be attending that have contacted me about scholarships.
 - Will continue to have Wednesday Evening Worship services the first Wednesday of the month, something came up this month that I was not able to have it.
 - Have continued with Reading with Pastor Brett on our App and reading a Psalm a day and then have some questions to reflect on the Psalm.
 - Continue with the planning committee for hosting Tanner Olsen. Will be having it at Our Redeemer and now will be looking into sponsors for the event.
 - Continue to lead chapel at ORLC Child Care once a month.
 - Will be the circuit pastoral delegate for this summer National Convention in Phoenix Arizona in July.
- I) Baptized Granddaughter on 5/23. Baptized Jesse and sons (James and Sam).
 - II) Confirmation just finished up.
 - III) Supervising Our Redeemer's vicar.
 - IV) Still on board for Lutheran Island Camp.

7. Old business

- a. Cemetery update
 - i. Corbin reached out last week, said he would be out there this week (not yet).
- b. Gift money as endowment-advisory committee follow up
 - i. The Gifted Money Committee presented an initial proposal for allocating the \$311,000 in gifted funds. Pastor suggested planning for the funds to be utilized over approximately five years, depending on need. The proposed allocation is as follows:
 1. Reserves (\$20,000): To support church operations with the intent to replenish the fund when possible.
 2. Missions (\$25,000): To support Heart of Clay, Ronald McDonald House, community lunches, etc.
 3. Capital Improvements (\$150,000): For A/C, a shed, bathroom upgrades, parking lot and roof maintenance, and ceiling repairs.
 4. Technology (\$60,000): For computers and sanctuary equipment (screens, projectors, etc.).
 5. Youth Education (\$10,000): For activities such as bowling, golfing, and other events.
 6. Music and Worship (\$10,000): General support for these programs.
 7. Evangelism Events (\$10,000): This is currently in the budget, so we should discuss if additional funding is needed here.
 8. Graduation Scholarship/Gift (\$15,000): Graduating seniors would submit an essay to the Pastor and this committee to receive a \$1,500 gift.
 9. Investment/Growth for the Future (\$11,000): Funds set aside for long-term growth.
- c.
 - i. See list. Amy wonders about re-categorizing designated amounts on balance sheet to provide clarity.
 - ii. Discussion of proposed scholarship funds and how those funds should complement or supplement existing church scholarship funds.
- d. Bids on patio
- e. \$ will come from capital improvements fund

- f. 20,000 bid and 10,000 bid on concrete, a final bid is forthcoming from another firm. Lumber is 4800. Rafter options are flat rafters (\$2300) or vaulted (\$2400). Still needs council approval.
- g. Sabin Harvest Days - already addressed.

8. New business

- a. RedHawks baseball night – Pastor considering Friday night games
- b. Sanctuary Doors - Discussion of which doors should/shouldn't be opened.

9. Other new business – None.

10. Adjourn – Amy/Nikki.

11. Closing prayer

Church Happenings

Adult Bible Study - This coming month we will continue our series on the parables. We will continue looking at some of the parables that Jesus used in His teachings. Come and join us this month and we continue to grow in His Word.

Women's Tuesday Evening Bible Study - All are welcome to attend the women's Bible study every other Tuesday. The study will start at 6:30pm and the topic will be women of the Bible. Emma Hansen will be leading the study. They will meet June 7th and 21st this month.

Golf this Summer - Join us again this month for golf. We will meet Sunday, July 12th at approximately 5:30 p.m. for nine holes of golf @ Village Green Golf Course in Moorhead. Additional golf dates at Village Green are August 9th. There will also be a monthly, weekday option at Willow Creek Golf Course just east of Barnesville where we will meet Tuesday, July 28th at 7:45 a.m. Additional dates at Willow Creek are August 25th.

At Willow Creek there will be a short devotion including donuts (BYOB) prior to teeing off. If interested in joining please provide your name and text contact information to Bruce (701-261-9734) for more details.

RedHawks Game - All are invited to join us for a RedHawks game on Friday, July 10th. Tickets for the game are \$14, if you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board or email the church by Tuesday, July 7th. Game is at 7pm. Pastor Brett will have tickets for everyone and can meet him at 6:40pm by the main gate.

Harvest Days - We are looking for volunteers to help with Harvest's Day, Saturday, August 15th. We need help with the 5K and then serving food. If you are interested, please see Pastor Brett, Randy or Karla.

Congregational Quarterly Voters Meeting—Join us following service on Sunday, July 12th for our Quarterly Voters Meeting. We will discuss some projects and plans. All are welcome to attend.

Youth Happenings

Summer Service Project Challenge for the youth!

WHO: Those who were in 6th-12th Grade for the 2025-2026 school year. (Yes, graduated Seniors can join us this summer!)

WHAT: We are challenging the Youth to participate in at least 3 service projects this summer. Those who meet the challenge will be able to attend a day trip to The Mall of America on Saturday, August 22nd with Pastor and myself!

WHEN: There will be at least 3 service project options offered in June, 3 in July, and at least 1 in August

WHERE: These service projects will involve volunteering in our community or projects around the church.

HOW: A form will come out the previous month for the following month's service project options. Please fill out this form whether or not they are able to come, there is a yes, no, or maybe option for each project.

Lutheran Island Camp- We offer a scholarship to any youth Kindergarten to High school Graduation who wants to attend camp at LIC. It's \$50 to K to 5th grade and \$100 for 6th grade to high school graduation. For those who have never been to LIC, church will pay for the whole week of classic camp which is \$475. If you go to a specialty camp, you will need to pay the difference. You can pick up a camp brochure in the narthex or go to the camp's website to see what camps they are offering this summer and dates of the camps. <https://www.islandcamp.org/>

Girls Art Camp – Join us for a free art camp for 2nd-6th Graders on July 15th, 16th, 22nd, and 23rd 9-11am. Join us for a fun-filled Art Camp where we'll get creative, make new friends, and create some amazing masterpieces! Space is limited to 20 campers per day, so be sure to register early!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScdvyTrBEIBSIOn_51EJwvcK4AVG9pkJ2YK6DtfoGn_v8N7-Q/viewform

July Celebrations

Birthdays

1st June Hanson
2nd Daxen Hansen
5th Charlie Nelson
6th Aaron Christiansen
7th Abby Odden-Lemar
9th Haleigh Krieger
10th Jessica Heim, Nevaeh Kellerman, Anthony Morgan, Jennifer Nyland
11th Laurie Moore, Abby Wardien
12th Paige Schmidt, Nikki Wardien
13th Emily Mayry, Alex Nelson
14th Regan Hutchins, Keith Zbasnik
15th Levi Wasvick
20th Julia Kellerman
22nd Lucas Lass
23rd William Oliver
24th Cody Nelson, Shaun Rezac
25th Terry Krabbenhoft
26th Carla Dickelman, Haiden Lass
27th Rebecca Hoppe
28th Avery Heim, Muriel Oliver
29th Lavonne Leach, Amy Wohlwend
31st Larry Leach



Anniversaries

6th Jerry and Ione Cook-63 years
12th Shane and Tara Nelson-29 years
14th Nick and Amanda Dablow-25 years
16th Mark and Cindy Noennig – 43 years
27th Andrew and Angie Hayes-4 years
28th Norm and Rebecca Nyland-47 years
28th Scott and Paige Schmidt-8 years

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7pm – Worship with Communion	2	3	4 Independence Day
5 9am – Worship with Communion 10:15am – Adult Bible Study	6	7 6:30pm – Women’s Bible Study	8 6:30pm – Elders Meeting 7:30pm – Council Meeting	9	10 7pm – Red Hawks Game	11
12 9am – Worship with Quarterly Voters Meeting following 10:15am – Adult Bible Study 5:30pm – Golf @ Moorhead Village Green	13	14	15 9am – Girls Art Camp	16 9am – Girls Art Camp	17	18
19 9am – Worship with Communion 10:15am - Adult Bible Study	20	21 6:30pm – Women’s Bible Study	22 9am – Girls Art Camp	23 9am – Girls Art Camp	24	25
26 9am – Outdoor Worship 10:15am –Adult Bible Study	27	28 7:45am – Golf @ Willow Creek Barnesville	29	30	31	

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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