



THE BELL TOWER May 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

Where is our Hope found?

Last month, I had the privilege of leading the Bible Study at the LWML Spring rally in Fergus Falls. The topic for the rally was hope, so that was what the study was on. We talked about how the world and us at times puts our hope in things or people. We maybe put it in our job, or money, or family, or things we own. But as we all know, those things wear out, don't last, and we also can't take those things with us. The only thing that we can truly hope in and that lasts is in Christ. I had them look at a number of Bible passages that dealt with hope and what those passages said about hope. I will share them with you and then talk a little on them.

1 Timothy 4:10- "For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe."

1 Peter 1:3- "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"

Romans 15:13- "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

Psalms 62:5-6- "For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken."

Lamentations 3:24-25- "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him."

Jeremiah 29:11- "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

As you read through those passages, many things stick out about hope. One of them was that we have a living God and living hope. Not something that is going to pass away or fade away but one that is living. A God who is living, who gave us life, and then gives us a hope that is living. When our faith is in the resurrection and that since Christ has raised from the dead, we too will live. It is that joy and peace that can only come from that hope, nothing in this world can give us the same joy and peace that our living God can. This is why we put our hope in Him, our rock and our salvation. As we have seen through God's story, He is constant, He is always there for His people. His plan is perfect if we stay with Him. As we talked in the study, that is the hard part, staying with Him, as we know we live in a fallen world and things don't always go as we hope they would. Satan does his best to try and distract us, to tell us where is your God now in all this trouble. I shared how my hope for Megan was not for her to get pregnant as she begins her college career, to get married. It was a struggle at times to see what His plan is for her, because it certainly wasn't my plan. But that is why I hold onto that passage from Jeremiah, that God knows her plan and plans for welfare and a future and hope.

So as you go about this month, place your hope in our living God. Trust that He is with you always and will never leave you and has promised that one day, you will be with Him in paradise where the things of this fallen world will no longer exist, and we will see Him face to face! Have a blessed month.

In Him,
Pastor Brett

May's Memory Verse

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice."

Philippians 4:4

Worship Schedule for May

Sunday, May 3rd 9am with Communion

Wednesday, May 6th 7pm with Communion

Sunday, May 10th 9am

Sunday, May 17th 9am

Sunday, May 24th 9am with Communion

Sunday, May 31st 9am

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

Trinity Lutheran Church Sabin, MN Council Meeting April 15, 2026

Erik Hanson, Brett Hartwig, Bob Johnk, Janelle Kistner, Amy Rasmussen, Gary Schellack, Kayme Torgerson, Amy Wohlwend

1. Call to order – Gary Schellack
2. Opening prayer – Pastor Hartwig
3. Approve agenda – Motion by Amy Wohlwend to approve agenda. Seconded by Bob Johnk. Motion passed.
4. Secretary's report – Erik Hanson. Motion by Amy Wohlwend to approve March minutes with no revisions. Seconded by Janelle Kistner. Motion passed.
5. Treasurer's report – Submitted by Amy Wohlwend.
 - a. The Capital Improvement Savings account balance is down to \$2,439 due to new projector and equipment expenses. \$7,600 of these expenses were taken from the capital savings account and approximately \$2,800 was taken from the Reserve Savings account to cover the remaining costs.
 - b. The Bell Bank (LPL) CD is coming due in May.

- i. The council discussed funds needed for upcoming summer projects, such as air conditioner replacement.
 - ii. Motion by Bob Johnk to place half of funds in Bell Bank CD (\$68,000) into a high-yield savings account for greater liquidity in upcoming months. Seconded by Amy Wohlwend. Motion passed.
 - c. Operating income from offering and interest was \$9,069.64 in March. Total expenses for church operations were \$16,366.17.
 6. Committee reports
 - a. Elder – Report by Bob Johnk.
 - i. Elders met on April 15th.
 - b. Trustee – Report by Gary Shellack.
 - i. Gary shared that Maggie Hanson and Dick Klug have been coordinating bathroom counter and cabinet work.
 - c. Stewardship – Submitted by Amy Rasmussen.
 - i. After the April 12th service, Lynn Johnk presented various volunteer opportunities, including greeting, serving fellowship, reading scripture, and assisting with committees and Sunday School.
 - ii. On March 18th, Lynn Johnk and Amy Rasmussen met with Faye Schellack, Lone Cook, and Lila Krebs to review the membership list and assist Elders with updating the church directory.
 - iii. In March, Lynn Johnk and Amy Rasmussen visited a shut-in member.
 - iv. New Member bags and May Day baskets are currently being assembled.
 - d. Evangelism – Submitted by Lynn Johnk.
 - i. The "pocket cross" engraving event with youth and adults was a success. Leonard Cook (Hope Lutheran Men's Ministry) gave a testimony after the service and expressed interest in returning next year.
 - ii. Youth will assist the committee by handing out May Day baskets containing scripture items to the Sabin community.
 - iii. The committee continues to focus on developing relationships outside the church building as a vital step in evangelizing.
 - e. Board of Education – Submitted by Kayme Torgerson.
 - i. The Sunday School offering goal for Seeds of Hope in Dilworth is \$1,000; over half has been collected.
 - ii. The Last Day of Sunday School Celebration is planned for May 17th (10:15–11:15 AM) featuring an ice cream sundae bar and outdoor activities.
 - iii. Youth Sunday is May 10th. There will be a Noisy Offering, but no other activities due to Mother's Day.
 - iv. Senior Sunday is scheduled for May 24th.
 - v. Vacation Bible School ("Tropical Trek") is June 14–18 from 6:00–8:00 PM. Registration emails will be sent this week, with Facebook advertising and volunteer recruitment starting in May.
 - f. Budget – No report.
 - g. Pastor's report – Submitted by Pastor Brett Hartwig.
 - i. No official acts to report.
 - ii. Average attendance for March was 66. Average attendance for Lent midweek was 45. Holy Week attendance increased from last year: Maundy Thursday (26), Good Friday (63), and Easter (139).
 - iii. Confirmation is going well; the unit on world religions is complete, and the next unit covers sharing faith and apologetics.
 - iv. Adult Bible Study will begin a new series titled "Who is Jesus."
 - v. The "Reading with Pastor Brett" program continues with daily Psalm readings and reflections.
 - vi. Planning continues for hosting Tanner Olsen at Our Redeemer; the committee is now looking for event sponsors.
 - vii. Pastor will serve as the circuit pastoral delegate for the National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, this July.
 - viii. Pastor continues to lead monthly chapel at ORLC Child Care.

7. Old business
 - a. Lynn Johnk is sending slides to Pastor to improve app utilization.
8. New business
 - a. The church is searching for a replacement for Del Lass, who will be ending duties in May. The Elders have an interim plan.
 - b. The council discussed the necessity of replacing the lawnmower. Motion by Bob Johnk to approve purchase of new mower. Seconded by Amy Wohlwend. Motion passed.
 - c. Dick Klug, Joe Moore, and Randy Schellack are leading the planning for an outdoor shelter area near the kitchen.
 - d. Pastor is brainstorming summer events for congregation and community such as golf, crafts, and outdoor services.
 - e. The quarterly voters meeting is April 19th.
 - f. The next council meeting is scheduled for May 13th.
9. Adjourn meeting – Motion by Amy Wohlwend to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Bob Johnk. Motion passed.
10. Closing prayer – The Lord’s Prayer

Church Happenings

New Adult Bible Study - Join Bruce and Lynn as they continue their new Bible Study during the Bible Study hour. All are welcome to attend as they study the book of Mark! They are meeting in the classroom downstairs by the youth room.

Wednesday Evening Services - We will be continuing our first Wednesday of each month Midweek service. Our service for May will be Wednesday, May 6th at 7pm. We will continue offering communion. Join us as we continue to grow in His Word and worship Him for who He is.

Women’s Tuesday Evening Bible Study - All are welcome to attend the women’s Bible study be every other Tuesday following. The study will start at 6:30 and the topic will be women of the Bible. Emma Hansen will be leading the study. They will meet April 12th and 26th this month.

Men’s Morning Fellowship and Devotion - Join us on Friday morning, May 22nd as we continue our Men’s Morning Fellowship and Devotion. We will meet at 6:30 am here at the church for doughnuts and coffee and a short devotion and fellowship and be done by 7:00am. You are welcome to stay longer if you are available. Come and enjoy some fellowship and time with God.

Memorial Day Prayer service at the cemetery - Join us following service on May 24th for our annual Memorial Day prayer service at the cemetery. We will remember all that God has provided for us and all those who have fought for our freedom here in America. The Legion will also have their annual presentation at our cemetery on Monday the 25th sometime between 9 and 10am.

Reading with Pastor Brett on our App! - We have started up Reading with Pastor Brett on our App. We have been reading through the book of Psalms by reading one Psalm a day, Monday through Friday. Each day we will read the Psalm and then there will be a few questions for you to ponder or meditate on from what you read. Join us as we continue to grow through His Word.

Trinity Apparel - We now have Trinity apparel to purchase with our new logo and mission statement. There are sample shirts in the narthex. You can order by clicking on the link here or going to our website- www.tlcsabin.com and clicking on the Trinity Lutheran Sabin Apparel link on the top of the welcome page. Please visit <https://www.jotform.com/form/260256989798179> to place an order. There are also order forms available in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please see Amy Wohlwend or email pourandpressdesigns@gmail.com

Youth Happenings

VBS - Mark your calendars! VBS Tropical Trek will be Sunday, June 14th-Thursday, June 18th. For more information, register or volunteer please visit www.tlcsabin.com/vbs

Youth Event—PreK-5th Grade—No Event due to Mother's Day.

Youth Event—6th-12th Grade—No Event due to Mother's Day.

Noisy Offering – Will be on Sunday, May 10th.

Last day of Sunday School celebration - May 17th during the Sunday School hour. We will celebrate with ice-cream sundaes and outdoor activities!

Sr Hangout - will be Sunday May 24th from 6:00-7:30pm

Grace Lutheran School

- Thank you to every person who volunteered, ate, or donated to Pasta with a Purpose Spaghetti Dinner this year. We served just under 600 people and raised \$14,500 for some much-needed equipment for assemblies and presentations. If you would like to purchase sauce, a few remain for \$10 per quart. Drop by the school anytime between 7:30 am and 4 pm.
- Mr. Brett Ludwig was recently called to be assistant principal at Grace Lutheran School. We have received his response, and he has declined the call. This is, of course, not the response we were hoping for, but we trust in God's good timing as the school continues to plan for future leadership.
- We would also like to cordially invite you to a Retirement Open House for Mrs. Carolyn Worrall on Tuesday, May 26 from 3:30-5:30 pm to celebrate her 20-year career at Grace Lutheran School and the many young lives shaped by her patience, dedication, and genuine care. The open house is at the school, and we ask that you spread the word to former families, students and other friends of the school so we can give Carolyn a proper send-off. Refreshments provided.

May Celebrations

Birthdays

2nd Ethan Grenz

4th Steve Ingebretsen

5th Loren Poehls

6th Allen Liedberg, Elias Orr

9th Avery Bednar, Kayme Torgerson

10th DJ Gardner

11th Chris Rasmussen

12th Dean Dickelman, Andrew Hayes, Randy McFarland, Polly Schellack

13th Derrick Grenz, Carol Lass

14th Berkley Wasvick

15th Jody Suedel

16th Gauge Nygaard, Jim Schwartz

17th Debra Wagner, Mark Noennig

18th Mariah Kellerman, Karen Symonds

20th Erik Hanson, Nathan Lague

21st Jessica Krabbenhoft

22nd Andon Christianson-Tamez

23rd Jaelyn Wohlwend, Monty Waggoner

24th Penny Schellack

25th Deb Lohse

26th Jenisia Christianson-Tamez

27th Pastor Brett Hartwig

28th Camilla Escobar, Randy Schmidt, Lane Weiss

29th Arliss Thomas

30th Cole Martin, Sara Skatvold, Kieran Hayes



Happy Anniversary

1st David and Angie Dufault - 16 years

1st Randy and Lisa McFarland - 28 years

2nd Darryl and Tammy Johnk - 39 years

3rd Aaron and Jolene Kellerman - 29 years

13th Ruben and Tara Zapata - 26 years

16th Adam and Alita Hanson - 11 years

18th William and Muriel Oliver - 58 years

20th Monty and Cassandra Waggoner-20 years

27th Chad and Sheila Byram - 31 years

28th Tom and Paula Dobmeier - 38 year

28th Alex and Lindsey Nelson - 10 years



May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1		1	2
3 9am – Worship with Communion 10:15am – Sunday School/Adult Bible Study	4	5	6 7pm – Midweek Worship	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day 9am – Worship with noisy offering 10:15am – Sunday School/Adult Bible Study	11	12 6:30pm – Women's Bible Study	13	14	15	16
17 9am – Worship & Senior Recognition 10:15am – Last day of Sunday School celebration 10:15am - Adult Bible Study	18	19	20 7:30pm – Council Meeting	21	22 6:30am - Men's Morning Fellowship and Devotion	23
24 9am – Worship with Communion 10:15am – Memorial Day Prayer Service @ Cemetery	25 Memorial Day	26 6:30pm – Women's Bible Study	27	28	29	30
31 9am – Worship 10:15am - Adult Bible Study						

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Pastor Brett Hartwig 218-790-8431
Paige Schmidt, Office Manager 218-789-7259

