

Ripples of Faith 2021



Website: www.CircleofFaithParish.org



www.facebook.com/circleoffaithparish
www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranwelcome
www.facebook.com/waverlylutheran

CIRCLE OF FAITH PARISH

PO Box 328
 (204 2nd ST)
 Welcome, MN 56181



St. Peter, Ceylon, MN
 Trinity, Welcome, MN
 Waverly, Trimont, MN

Office Hours:
 M-Th 9 am - 1 pm

507-728-8259

Office e-mail:
parish@circleoffaithparish.org

Staff / Email

Anthony Christoffels –Pastor
 Stephanie Christoffels—Interim
 Lisa Wohlhuter
 Eileen Morrow

achristoffels@circleoffaithparish.org
schristoffels@circleoffaithparish.org
lwohlhuter@circleoffaithparish.org
emorrow@circleoffaithparish.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Congregational Letter	Pg. 2
Worship Schedule	Pg. 3
Articles	Pg. 3-4
Council Minutes	Pg. 5-6
St. Peter page	pg. 7
Trinity page	pg.
Waverly page	pg.
Ushers & Worship Assistants	Pg. 7
Birthdays/Anniversaries	Pg. 8
Calendar	Pg. 9

Sundays — 8:30 am St. Peter
 10:30 Trinity
 10:30 Waverly

May schedule:

- 5/4 Mary Circle WLC
- 5/5 WELCA StP
- 5/9 Confirmation WLC
Mother's Day
- 5/11 Parish Council meeting
- 5/15 Fishing Opener :-)
- 5/16 Recognize graduating Seniors @ St. Peter
Open House Reception for the Christoffels
and Pastor Eric Midthun
- 5/23 & 30 Check worship schedule for times/church
- 5/31 Memorial Day



Ascension Day 5/13



Pentecost 5/23



Trinity Sunday 5/30



Circle of Faith parish

Parish Office
204 2nd St.
PO Box 328
Welcome, MN 5611
507/728/8259
Parish@Circleoffaithparish.org



April 13, 2021

Dear Members of Circle of Faith Parish,

Nearly eight years ago, you took a chance by calling a young pastor who was coming straight from the seminary to be your first Lead Pastor. In taking that chance, you have been patient and gracious to me as I learned how to minister to a three-point parish. You have been loving and understanding, willing to try new things. You have been supportive of me and my family through the many life changes we have gone through, including the birth of two of our children and a yearlong deployment. We have created many memories in these last eight years, and I will treasure them always.

When Pastor Eric and I began serving as your pastors, Circle of Faith was very young with a foundation for the parish. Over the years, the parish has been blessed with many wonderful leaders within our congregations who have served on church council, parish council, any committee or helped in some way with worship. All of us working together have built upon the foundation to make Circle of Faith who it is today. Thank you for your partnership over the years in this ministry.

You've heard me teach and preach over the years that God calls all of us to various vocations in life. Serving Christ's church is a calling and in May 2013, the Holy Spirit called me to serve as one of your pastors. A calling that I always said I would continue to serve as long as I was called to be here. Over the last several months, the Holy Spirit has made it clear that I am called to serve somewhere else. I would have loved to continue serving you for many more years, but God has now called me to serve as pastor to the people of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Albany, MN.

It is with bittersweet emotions that I resign from my position as Lead Pastor of Circle of Faith Parish effective May 31, 2021. I will be taking two weeks of vacation at the end of May to transition and move to St. Cloud. My final Sunday will be May 16th.

I sincerely wish you all the best as you continue to do God's mission in your respective communities. Always remember that the work that you do in your congregation and throughout the parish is God's mission that you have been called to do. And the foundation that you are building upon is Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. As you move into transition within the pastoral office, I have complete confidence in the Holy Spirit and in the leadership of this entire parish, that you have wonderful opportunities ahead of you.

Again, thank you for your wonderful partnership over these last eight years. I am grateful for your support, your encouragement, and your friendship. Continue to love God and love each other. May you be a blessing to your next pastors.

In Christ,

Pastor Anthony D. Christoffels

May Worship Schedule

		First	St. Peter	Trinity	Waverly
5 th Week of Easter	Sunday, May 2 nd <i>Altar: White</i>	Worship w/Comm 9:00 AM & Online	Worship w/Comm 8:30 AM	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM & Online	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM & Online
6 th Week of Easter	Sunday, May 9 th <i>Altar: White</i>	Worship w/Comm 9:00 AM & Online	Worship 8:30 AM	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM & Online	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM & Online
7 th Week of Easter	Sunday, May 16 th <i>Altar: White</i>	Worship w/Comm ** 10:30 AM ** & Online	Worship 8:30 AM	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM & Online	Worship w/Comm ** 9:00 AM ** & Online
Week of Pentecost	Day of Pentecost Sunday, May 23 rd <i>Altar: Red</i>	Worship w/Comm 9:00 AM & Online		Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM & Online	
2 nd Week after Pentecost	Holy Trinity Sunday, May 30 th <i>Altar: White</i>		Worship w/Comm 8:30 AM		Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM & Online

Starting May 23rd, worship services will be held at only two locations each Sunday.

In-person worship services are continuing for everyone who feels comfortable attending. Wearing a mask is required to attend in-person worship. Services are live streamed through each individual congregation's Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/FirstLutheranTrimont

www.facebook.com/TrinityLutheranWelcome

www.facebook.com/WaverlyLutheran

Pastor Anthony and Pastor Stephanie Farewell



Circle of Faith Parish will be holding a joint farewell for Pastors Anthony and Stephanie Christoffels and Pastor Eric Midthun on May 16th. It will take place at Anderson Park in Trimont from 1:30-3:30pm. Please join with parish council in wishing Pastor Anthony and Pastor Stephanie and their family all the best as they move and begin in their new churches. Also, come to wish Pastor Eric continued enjoyment in his retirement.



Circle of Faith Parish Council has entered into an interim agreement with Pastor Katherine C. Rohloff. She will be starting on May 17th. Her first Sunday will be the 23rd of May.



Please be praying for God's guidance as we are in process of finding new pastors. Pray for the transition team who is preparing the ministry site profile and pray for guidance as a call committee is formed to begin interviewing prospective pastors.

Confirmation

This year, Circle of Faith has two confirmands who will be affirming their faith. Cami Clow and Teya Schmidtke from Waverly will affirm their faith on Sunday, May 9th during 10:30 am worship.



Graduating from high school is a wonderful accomplishment and we thank God for the abilities He has given to all of our students. In the month of May, we would like to honor, celebrate, and give thanks to God for our graduating seniors.

Please join us for worship at:

St. Peter Lutheran: 8:30 am
Sunday, May 16

Trinity Lutheran: 10:30 am
To be determined

Waverly Lutheran: 10:30 am
To be determined



We are excited to announce that we have a new notification service called *GroupCast*. This service will provide us with the same notification options as we have had with *Honeywell*, and so much more.

Why Change?

We have been using *Honeywell Instant Alert* for the last five years to notify members of Circle of Faith about worship services and cancellations, funerals and meeting reminders. This past fall we were notified that the *Honeywell Instant Alert* service would be discontinued as of August 2021. *GroupCast* is matching the

price we have been paying for *Honeywell*, and they have locked in that price for the next five years.

What's Next?

If you had been receiving a text message notification through our *Honeywell* system, you will soon receive an Opt-In text message from *GroupCast*.

If you want to continue receiving text messages, there is nothing that you need to do.

If you wish to stop receiving text messages, the text message you receive from *GroupCast* will have instructions on how you can Opt-Out.

If you have not been receiving phone calls or text messages about our worship services, please contact the parish office to update your contact information. We will get you added to our new notification system.

Parish Council Meeting - April 13, 2021

Present

Members: Nancy Nordstrom, Tim Peterson, Dean Sinn, Vicki Smith, Beth Mulso, Jody Franck, John Borchardt, Becky Detert, Jim Lorenz

Church Presidents: Jon Saxen, Bob Olson, Roger Matejka, Marilyn Cheever

Clergy: Pastors Anthony and Stephanie Christoffels

Marilyn called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Nancy Nordstrom, seconded by Becky Detert to approve the agenda as printed. Approved.

Pastor Anthony led devotions.

Election of Officers: President, John Borchardt; Vice President, Jody Franck; Treasurer, Nancy Nordstrom; Secretary, Becky Detert. Becky Detert motion to accept slate of officers, Beth Mulso seconded. Motion passed.

President John Borchardt assumed the position of President to continue the meeting.

A motion to approve Secretary's Report was made by Jody Franck, second by Nancy Nordstrom. Approved
A motion to approve Treasurer's Report was made by Jody Franck, second by Becky Detert. Approved.

Pastor's Report:

Pastors will be at continuing education meetings from Sat. April 17th to Thursday, April 22nd. Karen Koeder will conduct joint service at Trinity on the 18th.

- Synod Assembly registrations are due.
- Confirmation at Waverly on the 9th of May.
- Senior Recognition on Sunday ???

Old Business:

Covid guidelines were discussed.

Group Cast was discussed. Still looking for people from each congregation to help run the new system.

Four Point Parish agreement is still being discussed at the individual congregation level. Trinity Lutheran, First Lutheran, St. Peter offers no changes. Waverly will be discussing it at its upcoming council meeting. Action postponed until May meeting.

New Business:

Bev Com internet is running at Trinity, phones will be switched shortly.

May 16th is last Sunday for current pastors. Each parish will have its own service with a "come and go" reception at Anderson Park, if available, from 1:30 – 3:00 that afternoon.

Interim Pastor: Interview will be conducted with a interim candidate by Executive Committee. Tentative hire date would be 17th of May. Tim Peterson motioned, Nancy Nordstrom second. Approved.

Resignation letters were presented by Pastors Anthony and Stephanie. Motion by Nancy Nordstrom to accept with regrets, second by Jody Franck. Approved.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 11th @ 5:30 PM

Becky Detert, Secretary

St. Peter Annual meeting

The St. Peter Annual meeting was called to order by President Marilyn Cheever following the church service on March 21, 2021. Pastor Anthony led the litany prayer.

Motion by Jim Plumhoff, 2nd by Dale Leiding to accept the 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was discussed. Discussed moving savings account to investments or Endowment funds. Pastor Anthony will get more information for the council. Benevolence funds was motioned by Keith Franck and 2nd by Kathryn Detert to keep giving local.

The budget was presented and explained the difference in dollar amounts. Pastor Anthony gets his health insurance through Pastor Stephanie. The next pastor we will need to cover health insurance. Covid caused a decrease in pulpit supplies. Motion to approve the budget by Sherry Schmidt and 2nd by Annette Wenzel. Motion passed.

Pastor thanked the congregation for having him, expressed sadness for leaving. He noted that the Synod Assembly would be virtual this year. They will be electing a new bishop. I will be lived streamed for anyone who wants to watch.

Church Anniversary will be in 2022 to coincide with the all school reunion.

With Pastor Anthony leaving there will be 2 committees to hire a new Pastor. Transition committee to go over surveys and describe what Circle of Faith is looking for in a new Pastor. 2nd a Call Committee to interview pastors. Two people from each church is needed for both committees.

Honeywell is switching to Groupcast. A phone listing was handed out to the congregation to update phone list. If you need to update your phone numbers, please call the office.

Easter Sunday will be at 9 am for St. Peter. April 18th Pastor will be at Continuing Education and there will be one service at 10:30 at Trinity.

First Lutheran in Trimont is having a discussion on joining Circle of Faith. Circle of Faith will also vote per church if they accept another congregation.

Council will mook at the banners and see which ones need replacing. Anyone interested in serving council please let Marilyn know. We need a council secretary and 2 congregational members of rotate on the Parish council. Tate Leiding has agreed to fill the 3rd head usher position as Darrel Klenz has stepped down from that position. JoAnn Wink is stepping down as money counter. Barb Schmidt nominated Jordan Petschke to take her place.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Dale Leiding, 2nd by Sherry Schmidt.

Waverly Annual Mtg

March 21, 2021
7PM

Secretary Report: Minutes from the 2020 annual meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report: Report is listed on p.10 of the bulletin. Report was read. It was noted that Tithely is now in place and being monitored. Offerings per plate and per Tithely are listed separately. The Ormsby Bank made a \$100 donation. \$9,921 was received in MN CARES Grant money. Circle of Faith Parish received a COVID Credit for salaries. Motion made to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Circle of Faith Parish Report: 2020 Operating Statement was shared. Budget was reviewed by Nancy. 2021 Parish budget was shared. Motion to approve. Motion Carried.

Pastor Report: Report it listed on p.12 of the bulletin. A total of \$66,000 in grants have been received. This supplemented the declined giving amounts. Pastor shared news that he and Pastor Stephanie are accepting calls near the St. Cloud area and expressed gratitude for his years of service.

Synod Assembly will be held virtually in 2021. 2 delegates will be needed, but anyone can attend virtually. There will be a new Bishop in 2021. Pastor encouraged everyone to join in and observe the process. Motion to approve. Motion carried.

Endowment Fund: Report is on p.14 of the bulletin. There is \$8000 available for scholarships in 2021. Applications are available in the back of the Church.

Cemetery Report: \$871 in donations. Will go to Endowment when it reaches \$2000.

Nominating Committee: Those added are Kevin Shaw- Properties. Faith Formation-Laurie Sherman. Worship-Karen Helvig. Gifts and Memorials-Erwin and Rosemary and Bob Olson.

Motion for unanimous approval. Motion carried.

Old Business: Harvest Homecoming- will possibly Zoom the Sunday School class time. No in person visit from Gloria Dei.

Honeywell is being replaced by Groupcast for alerts and messages.

Roof/Steeple is still in need of repair. Bathroom and kitchen floors need replacing.

New Business: Endowment bylaws are changing and the Treasurer should be a non-voting member. See the bulletin for suggestions. Motion to accept. Motion Carried.

Pastoral Transition- Steve Cook came down from the Synod and suggested 2 committees be formed for the transition and call committees. Each Church as well as the Circle of Faith Parish will appoint 2 members to the committees. Nancy presented the Pastoral Search. First Lutheran has been joining the Parish for the last several months. There is a proposal for a 4 point Parish. The Mission Statement would remain the same. Worship schedules will alternate. A second Parish office will be added at First Lutheran. Two full time Pastors will be needed to support the Parish.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

St. Peter Ripples



Meeting - May 5 @ 1:30 pm
Hostesses: Barb & Jeannine

Lesson: Discussion on how the pandemic is affecting each of us. This coronavirus has shaken us and uprooted our lives. How are we coping?

We will resume our quilting also. We will meet May 12 & 13, 19 & 20, 26 & 27. According to information I have received, Lutheran World Relief warehouses are empty. For the first time in 27 years nothing came in and nothing went out. Donations are down 40% and there is concern there will not be enough quilts and kits to fulfill 2021 needs. We have some to deliver in May to the pick up in Albert Lea—this is what we did in 2020 and they had no collection then.

The SW Mn Synod convention in Sartell on May 1st has been cancelled.

Ceylon Community Day has been held. As we no longer have a rummage sale we have been donating money instead. Whatever you feel you can give is welcome as the WELCA treasury is low. Thank You !

Prayers for Tuesdays @ 2. 5/4-pray for our nations leaders (May 5th is National Day of Prayer). 5/11-pray for moms everywhere - young and old, day care moms, foster moms and single moms, (May 9th is Mothers Day). 5/18- Pray for all those in the military. 5/25- pray for Pastor Anthony and Pastor Stephanie that they will have a smooth transition to their new parishes. We thank them for their years of service to Circle of Faith. The 8 years went all to fast and they will be missed.

Next work duty: Group 1
May Altar Care: JoAnn Wink
Honorary birthday: JoAnn Wink 23rd.
Anniversaries: John & Charlotte Schmidtke 23rd
Scott & Vicki Smith 21st.

A daily prayer that is fitting for these times:

"Dear Lord, I will trust you in all things! I may not understand this, but I know you have a perfect plan. AMEN !"



Jeannine

St Peter

Date	Reader
May 2	Jordan Petschke
May 9	Jeff Petschke
May 16	Jeannine Rasmussen
May 23	Jordan Petschke
May 30	Jeff Petschke
June 6	Jeannine Rasmussen

Trinity

Date	Reader	Ushers
May 2	MaryAnn Frerichs	Beth and Jay Mulso
May 9	Deb Philipp	Wayne & Marty Burmeister
May 16	MaryAnn Frerichs	Laurie & tony Truesdell
May 23	Deb Philipp	John & MaryAnn Frerichs
May 30	MaryAnn Frerichs	John & Zane Borchardt
June 6	Deb Philipp	Bob Swanson Carlene Hand

Waverly

Date	Reader	Communion Assistant
May 2	Heidi Clow	Gwen Matz
May 9	Susan Rathman	Gwen Matz
May 16	Deanne Gaalswyk	Gwen Matz
May 23	LuAnn Peterson	Gwen Matz
May 30	Karen Helvig	Gwen Matz
June 6	Laurie Sherman	Susan Rathman

May Ushers	June Ushers
Steve Williamson	Bob Olson
Troy Schmidtke	Jim Sherman
Todd Rathman	Todd Rathman
Jeff Matz	Jeff Matz



MAY Birthdays & Anniversaries



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Max Nordstrom
2 MaryAnn DeBus Tim Peterson <i>Gary & Joyce Sathoff</i>	3 Lindsey Bettin	4 Donna Hand David Hartung	5 	6 Brian Burmeister Megan Gerhardt <i>Adam & Melissa Poppe</i>	7 Cody Wolter	8
9 	10 Bobbi Sandberg Taylor Saxen Morgan Wolter <i>Lon & Marilyn Oelke</i>	11 Nicole Leiding Ty Leiding Jeff Lueth	12 Marisa Bettin Jon Traetow	13 Alex Saxen <i>John & Denyse Borchardt</i>	14 Emily Bettin Jamesen Chukuske Randall Olson Adam Rasmussen	15 Marlene Burmeister Marilyn Cheever Ilsa Pomeranke Tammy Williams
16 Kari Anderson Dale Hansen MiKenna Harder	17 Sarah Justice	18 Susan Borchardt Dale Leiding Jean Schock <i>Doug & Sibyl Anderson</i>	19 Owen Hanson 	20 Sonja Haugen Dustin Lyons Kim Mosloski	21 <i>Merle & Shirley Burmeister</i> <i>Scott & Vicki Smith</i>	22 Brian Clow Katelyn Jensen Lea Silverthorn <i>John & MaryAnn Frerichs</i>
23 JoAnn Wink <i>John & Charlotte Schmidtke</i>	24 Carlene Hand Cam Peterson Joran Wolter	25 Mara Jensen Sandy Newville Darcia Schmidt	26 Jeff Armbrust Linda Bakke James Hatch	27 Levi Hansen Jane Leiding Don Nordstrom Rosalie Rademaker	28 Adrian Rasmussen <i>Ronald & Jean Schock</i>	29
30 	31 Brianna Morrow Lois Nelson <i>Craig & Carol Senne</i>					

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Parish Office hours Mon.—Thurs. 9 am - 1 pm			1 
2 8:30 am St. Peter 10:30 am Trinity 9:15 am SS (last day) 10:30 am Waverly Council meeting Communion—all	3	4  @ 2 7 pm Mary Circle WLC	5 1:30 pm WELCA St. P	6	7	8
9 8:30 am St. Peter  10:30 am Trinity Communion 10:30 am Waverly Communion/Confirmation	10	11  @2 5:30 Parish Council meeting	12 Quilting—StP	13 Quilting-StP	14	15
16 8:30 am St. Peter 10:30 am Trinity Communion **9:00 am Waverly/Comm. Farewell Open House Reception 1:30-3:30 pm Anderson Park, Trimont	17 	18  @ 2	19 Quilting—StP	20 Quilting-StP Articles due for June Ripples	21	22
23 8:30 am St. Peter 10:30 am Trinity Communion 10:30 am Waverly Communion	24	25  @ 2	26 Quilting—StP 9 am Assemble Ripples	27 Quilting-StP	28	29
30 8:30 am St. Peter 10:30 am Trinity 10:30 am Waverly Communion—all	31 Parish Office Closed  Memorial Day Remember Those Who Gave Their Lives					

Faith IS NOT KNOWING
WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS,
BUT KNOWING
who holds the future.



Circle of Faith Parish
P.O. Box 328
Welcome, MN 56181

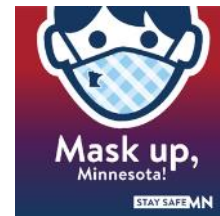
US Postage Paid
Non-Profit Organization
Permit No. 5
Welcome, MN 56181

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

If you have moved or are moving, please notify the church office so we are not charged postage expenses for Change of Address. Thank You !

FACE MASKS REQUIRED

In following Executive Order 20-81, face masks will be required for all indoor gatherings at Circle of Faith churches. This includes all worship services, meetings, and Bible studies.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Circle of Faith Parish www.facebook.com/circleoffaithparish
Trinity Lutheran www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranwelcome
Waverly Lutheran www.facebook.com/waverlylutheran

