



TRINITY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
AND SCHOOL
CROWN POINT, INDIANA

NEWSLETTER

April, 2010

Newsletter Email: newsletter@trinitycp.org

Web Page: www.trinitycp.org

Easter Breakfast

Easter Morning – Sunday, April 4th

Church Fellowship Hall – 8:00 a.m. to 8:35 a.m. &
School Cafeteria (south end) – 8:35 a.m. – 9:05 a.m.
The Faith Defenders (youth group Gr.6 to 8) will be
serving you! A Free Will Donation is requested.
Funds raised will help junior high youth attend
YouthQuake – a Jr. High Youth Gathering and other
ministry programs as we seek to grow in our
discipleship, following Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Dear Christian friends,

*I would like to thank all of you who offered up
prayers on my behalf during my recent surgery and
complications afterwards. The Lord is gracious and
good, full of mercy and kindness.*

In Christ Jesus, Marilyn Brannock

From Your Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

One of the blessings God gives us is a healthy imagination. We are able to dream of the future and make plans using that gift of imagination. A healthy imagination also helps us with seeing things that some may not see. We call this vision. This healthy imagination is a wonderful gift from God.

But as with many gifts from God, this imagination can become an unhealthy imagination. As we work on “kingdom growth through a church plant,” there are fears about what is ahead, and what we may face. I cannot help but think about a similar situation with the people of Israel. God told them it was time to leave Mt. Sinai, so the people suggested that they send spies out to see what was ahead for them. The spies came back with a report that the land was a good land. (Deuteronomy 1:25)

But an unhealthy imagination sprung up among the people. The people began to fear that they would be destroyed by the Amorites. They said,

“Where can we go? Our brothers have made us lose heart. They say, ‘The people are stronger and taller than we are; the cities are large, with walls up to the sky. We even saw the Anakites there.’”

(Deuteronomy 1:28)

God answered those fears in a very loving way. He reminded them that he was with them in all of this.

“Do not be terrified; do not be afraid of them. The Lord your God, who is going

before you, will fight for you, as he did for you in Egypt, before your very eyes, and in the desert. There you saw how the Lord your God carried you, as a father carries his son, all the way you went until you reached this place.” (Deuteronomy 1:29-31)

God does not send his people to do his will without accompanying them and protecting them. As we look to the work of kingdom growth by means of a church plant, there are interesting opportunities for an unhealthy imagination. How much will this mission plant cost the congregation? Will our pastors still be able to take care of this congregation? Will the mission plant succeed? Will strangers open their doors to our visits? With this unhealthy imagination, it would be very easy to stop everything, and pretend to be a turtle curled up in its shell.

The work of mission is not something for us to fear. Jesus gave the great commission,

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20a)

When Jesus gave this commission, He added the same encouragement as God offered the Israelites when they left Mt. Sinai. He said, **“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”** (Matthew 28:20b) We do not do this on our own. We do this with the presence of Jesus Christ going before us to prepare the way for the work He has given us.

I am grateful for the vision this congregation has for mission and outreach, and give thanks for the faithful servants who are on the Mission Outreach Task Force and the Mission Outreach Prayer Team. This is what God has called us to do, so that unbelievers may know Christ crucified for our sins, and raised for our resurrection. With Easter just around the corner, what greater message can we share with people than that of a risen Savior who has conquered death and the grave.

May God continue to give us healthy imaginations so that we may seek and do his will!!!!

Pastor Easterday

Worship Services- April

April 1 Maundy Thursday (2 & 7 p.m.)

We will join together for the precious supper the Lord has given us for strengthening our faith in Jesus. The evening service will conclude with the stripping of the Altar in preparation for Good Friday services.

April 2 Good Friday (2 & 7 p.m.)

The afternoon service focus is "The Wounds That Heal." (Isaiah 53:1-6) The evening service will be the Tenebrae Service focusing on the seven last words Jesus spoke from the cross.

April 3 Easter Vigil (6:30 p.m.)

Easter Vigil has traditionally been a time for baptisms in the early church. We remember the blessing of our baptism and the deliverance God has given us from sin, death, and the power of the devil!

April 4 Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. Sunrise service

9:00 a.m. Traditional Easter service in the church

9:15 a.m. Contemporary Easter service in the gym

10:45 a.m. Traditional Easter service in the church

8:00 a.m. Easter breakfast

We gather to proclaim the joyful cry, "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

April 5 Easter Monday (6:30 p.m.)

The joyful Easter message continues at the regular Monday service.

April 10-12 Second Weekend of Easter

This week is the beginning of a four week series on the gifts God has given us and how we are to use them. The Easter victory has blessed us with life and we humbly consider how God would have us use this life.

April 17-19 Third Weekend of Easter

God blesses us with the wonderful opportunity to worship the risen Lord Jesus. As we do, we now consider how we worship God with our treasures, especially as we acknowledge all that God has provided for our daily needs.

April 24-26 Fourth Weekend of Easter

The angels use their talents and abilities to praise the Lamb who was slain and who is now arisen. We consider how we may also use the talents and abilities God has given us for this work.

May 1-3 Fifth Weekend of Easter

Jesus declares the significance of time as He declares, "I am the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End." As we consider time, we also remember how we use talents and treasures in the time God has given us.

Pastor Easterday

From the Executive Director ...

This month, I'd like to highlight some of our plans (not all) within Trinity's three 2010 Ministry Focus areas and how you can get involved

Outreach – We have formed a Mission Outreach Task Team to explore the start-up or "planting" of a new church in our area. Experience shows this is a great way to grow God's Kingdom, as new churches tend to attract new Christians. For example, here at Trinity our Sunday worship attendance has increased significantly since we added a third (contemporary) service.

Your role? We encourage you to embrace the challenge of becoming more outreach-oriented, in whatever way personally suits you. Sharing your faith, inviting someone to church, and financially supporting our outreach missions are just a few ways for you to have impact.

Loving Relationships – We plan to restart Stephen Ministry in 2010. A Stephen minister is a lay person who trained to provide one-to-one Christian care to hurting people in and around our congregation. We also look to begin creating "Cell Groups" as a way to connect small groups of people to one another and to ministries (e.g., food pantry) and issues (e.g., parenting).

Your role? Ultimately, loving relationships are really a matter of each individual's heart, not church programs. We encourage you to embrace the challenge of becoming more relationship-oriented. Live by the Golden Rule; be more sensitive to those around you; forgive and forget; smile and say hello to people you know and don't know. For homework, please read 1st Corinthians 13:4-8a to learn how to become an even more loving person.

Financial Stability – To increase income, we seek to hire a Day School Development Director to help our school become more self-supporting (e.g., coordinate fund raising efforts, write grant requests, build a permanent endowment fund). We're also considering whether this job might include some operational management responsibilities (e.g., human resources). To control expenses, we're improving our budgeting process and extending our financial planning out five years. We're also reevaluating our Day School tuition and scholarship policies.

Your role? First of all, keep up your already excellent support: Trinity's offering income was up in 2009's tough economy. Beyond that, we encourage you to embrace the challenge of putting God first in your financial priorities. We'd love to see everyone develop a personal plan to work toward giving a 10% tithe and more to God's work.

Your ideas in any of these areas are always welcome (662-0797, gjforsythe@comcast.net). God's blessings to you in April!

Greg Forsythe

From the Contemporary Worship and Youth Director. . .

Come On Down

My Sunday was busy, long, and worthy of a full day off on Monday. So I took it. I woke up late, thought about going to the gym, and plopped in my Lazy Boy recliner chair for a late morning of television. I was just in time for television greatness, The Price Is Right. Now, understand this. I agree that the show is not the same without Bob Barker; it is not just because Drew Carey doesn't emit the same amount of zeal Bob had for neutered animals. The Price Is Right is morning television at it's finest. That fantastic hour is greatly remembered for bringing enough excitement and joy to carry a sickly-fifth-grade Southern Indiana boy through the next three hours of television desolation....Soaps. Tivo didn't come soon enough.

Mary would have pondered The Price Is Right in her heart.

Sandra Washington was told to "come on down!" as one of the first four contestants as she would spend the next 40 minutes overbidding on a pair of bicycles, failing to win on the strategic \$1.00 bid, and watching contestant after contestant hug Drew for winning anything from a television to Clorox Bleach.

It was time for the last item up for bid. The thirty-something year old woman from Carson City was \$29 shy of correctly guessing the final item up for bid, but closer than any other contestant. Tripping up the stairs in excitement, the announcer mentioned she was just in time for a new car!!!!

Just In Time.

Had she "won" a pricing game earlier, she would have not been the contestant vying for a new car. Sandra was just in time for the big one.

We think we lose out constantly. We think God doesn't hear us right away. We feel we are missing out, even when we know we worship a God who never leaves us unfulfilled. We are dumb.

We are just in time, because he was just in time. When has He ever been late, when has He ever been wrong, We has He ever been unrighteous.

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. At just the right time, Christ died for us. And everyone gets the Showcase, because the Price has been paid. Oh sinners, come on down. ...and control the pet population.

Brandon Grelle

Board of Mission & Outreach

BILOXI TRIP #5:

Another safe trip to the Gulf coast of Mississippi is finished. Because of the hard – working volunteers from Trinity the owners are very close to taking possession of their home. In February we were informed that the Mississippi Gulf coast was to receive a large sum of money to complete the task of getting

the Katrina folks back in their homes. It appears now the money may be going to New Orleans to rebuild the ninth and tenth districts. We will know by May 1, 2010 whether Camp Biloxi is going to stay open.

Rebuild and repair trips that are available if there is enough interest shown are as follows:

- Katrina relief in Mississippi at Camp Biloxi, and/or Camp Restore (LCMS) in New Orleans in November.
- I will be receiving information about the activities taking place in two (2) small towns in Kansas that were basically leveled from tornados in 2009. There is a LCMS camp operating there, but I don't have all the details as of yet.
- One doesn't have to travel far to be involved with a Mission and Outreach experience. Locally the L.A.R.R.I. folks will welcome you as well as our own Handyman Ministries. Mission and Outreach trip to the people of the First Nations are as follows:
- Fond du Lac Indian Reservation in Cloquet, Minnesota welcomes Junior and High school students to accompany their Mom, Dad or Grandparents to a week experiencing life with the Ojibwa people. Some of the students are involved with teaching VBS and crafts to the Indian children, while others are with the adults doing light work around the town.

Mission and Charity awareness information to be presented at the atrium Missions table:

- Handyman Ministry – ongoing!
- April 14th – Volunteer pictures of the Fond du Lac Reservation.
- April 11th – Trip #5 Biloxi pictures.
- April 11th – P.O.B.L.O. Ministry. *
- May 9th – Japanese Mission pictures.*
(*) = Service presentation included.

Jim Radford

2010 Focus on WATCH Groups

Quilters

This month I'm writing about a group and an activity I know nothing about. That kind of quandary has never stopped me before, but by the time I get to the end of this article some of the quilters may wish that it had.

First, the simple part. Trinity has a quilters group. They have no members, president, agenda etc. except to sew, chat and have coffee. They're an "informal group" and meet regularly during the school year on Wednesdays between 9:30 and noon in the fellowship room. An exception is the first Wednesday of every month, when no one shows up. This quirk may be due to the fact that the members are procrastinators or that they can't get themselves out of bed until the second week. They compensate for this by the fact that a number of the women actually take their work home.

When they do finally get together, they seem to have a very good time. This is probably due to the coffee break. There's "no gossiping, but a lot of fun," I'm assured. So far there are no men in the group, though it has been reported to me that they are welcome if they are "prepared to tie a few knots." This seems to indicate some ulterior motives among those present. As I said, it is difficult for me to figure out what exactly is going on.

For instance, they call themselves quilters but say they "do not quilt." They sew, layer quilts, tie knots and pack finished quilts in boxes. On the last Saturday in October all the finished quilts are taken to Valparaiso, from where they are trucked to Lutheran World Relief for distribution in third world countries. Many have gone to Africa, tsunami relief, and more recently to Haiti and Chile earthquake victims.

Pretty much everything the quilters use is donated; thread, fabric and quilt filler. Thread is what they need most. Should you want more accurate information about these good ladies, please call Gertrude Polster at 622-8317.

Pastor T

Trinity School News

Congratulation to our 2010 inductees into the National Junior Honor Society. They are: Carlie Hult (7th), daughter of Grant & Lori Hult, Owen Crum (7th), son of Kevin & Rebecca Crum, Morgan Matalin (6th), daughter of Dan & Lynn Matalin, Elizabeth Rager (6th), daughter of Jason & Kristy Rager, Megan Rainey (6th), daughter of Rich & Connie Rainey, Alexis Rayonec (6th), daughter of Mark & Kathy Rayonec, Ashley Suslowicz (6th), daughter of Wally & Jennifer Suslowicz.



LOOKING AHEAD:

ATTENTION ALL ADULTS OVER 18 **Vacation Bible School for Adults**

When: June 14 – 16 (Monday – Wednesday)

Where: Concordia Theological Seminary - Ft. Wayne.
Leader: Pastor Kipp

Trips: Ft. Wayne and Warsaw areas

R.S.V.P. Deadline is Sunday, April 25th. Money will be due by June 4th.

Cost: \$55.00 per person, includes two nights lodging in a dorm and five meals. (If there any concerns about the cost, contact Pastor Kipp for more information.)

This year, the VBS for Adults will take place on location at the Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne for three days and two nights. The schedule will include:

- 1) Two Chapel Services
- 2) Lots of fellowship and learning (Five lessons)
- 3) One day tour of churches in Ft. Wayne
- 4) One day lunch and free-time site seeing in Warsaw (additional cost for lunch)
- 5) And more . . .

There will be a sign up sheet located in the atrium at the receptionist desk.

Happy Anniversary!

4/5	Ron & Nicole Leighty
4/7	Charles & Bernice Anderson
4/8	Dennis & Ilse Lunkes, James & Susan Bova, Eric & Venissa Ivasiocko, Joe & Crissy Alliss
4/11	Gary & Kay Rasmussen, Bob & Chris Pavot
4/12	Jack & Doris Rentner
4/13	Doug & Robin Luebcke, Ron & Cathie Morris
4/15	Fred & Bobbi Kujawski, Carl & Sandy Sapper
4/17	Chuck & Judy Alliss
4/20	Dale & Cheryl Trump, Rich & Kathy Mueller, Eric & Lisa Engel, Peter & Amy Dyba
4/21	Eric & Beverly Neff, Ryan & Leslee Wiater
4/24	Rich & Connie Rainey
4/26	Dave & Amy Zimmerman
4/27	John & Linda Swanson, Shawn & Brenda Ebert
4/29	Michael & Janice Doherty

Happy Birthday!

4/1	Lois Uhter, Willi Paul, Brooke Knapp
4/2	Norma Lindzy, Jene Lintz
4/3	Les Luebcke, Carissa Totleben
4/4	Matthew Rydberg
4/5	Elaine Edwards, Daniel Angulo, Alyssa Kregel
4/6	Evelyn Fronek, Christi Oosterhoff, Katelyn Coy
4/7	Paul Dahlman, Dawn Stovall, Elizabeth & Gabriel Haberling, Olivia Stojkovich
4/8	James Bova, Jacilyn Shepard, Melissa Koedyker, Robert Pearson, Abigail Morantz
4/9	Erica Bautista
4/10	James Fuehrmeyer, Sherry Malone, Rosemary Gutesha, Lori Hult, Alex McCormick, Kyle Myers
4/11	Thomas McPheron, Scott Wilson, Kerri Wilkes, Jason Best, Ryan Knopp
4/12	Ryan Witham, Andrea Cole, John Rosenwinkel, Brayden Schopieray
4/13	Stephanie Hildebrandt, Julie Savich, Tim Holzhauer
4/14	Richard Borsits, Megan Thompson
4/15	Bryan Boettger, Jami Knopf, Kate Keller
4/16	Jim LaDuke, Linnette Ramey, Natalie Klingberg
4/17	Chuck Sauerman, Mark Vicari, Kristin Wielert, Ashlyn Stiener
4/18	DJ Ivanyo, Joshua Hrapek
4/19	Gretchen Pace, Bethany Komaskinski
4/20	Doug Cozart, Ed Klingberg Jr, Jesse Coomer, Nikkol McCord, Zofia Bielawski
4/21	Pastor Thoelke, Carol Minich, Barbara Orelup, Mary Sutcliffe, Jon Kozlowski, Austin Jackson, Kaylee Guritz
4/22	Paul Feder, Donald Obert, Tim Gardiner, Derek Vajda, Angela Woldt
4/23	Sophia Genovese
4/24	Janice Doherty, Aaron Gardiner, Miranda DeHaan, Zachary Stefanovich
4/25	Helmi Paul, Helen Sauerman, Todd Johnson, Amy Dyba, Sarah Schultz, Rachel Griffin, William Nowakowski
4/26	Harold Chubbs, Kathy O'Day, Kathy Bunde
4/27	Bud Bowman, Bill Heiser, Don Carnahan, Darlene Coomer, David Esala
4/28	Ruth Baum
4/29	Amy Coy, Joseph Pollitt, Luke Wilkes
4/30	Terry Chelap, Paul Wendt, Trevor Ivanyo

Weddings

Congratulations and God's blessings to Kelly McGraw and Lee Stephen who were married on March 20th.



Wednesday, April 21st, for article submission to the May newsletter. Articles may be dropped off at church or sent to newsletter@trinitycp.org.

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“Worship for Shut-Ins”

“Worship for Shut-Ins” can be seen on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. on **Cable TV TLN (Total Living Network)**.

* * * *

April 4, 2010 – Luke 24:1-12

“New Life!”

by Rev. Paul E. Shoemaker, Emanuel Lutheran Church, New Haven, IN

It is easy to be overwhelmed by life to the point where we struggle to find meaning and purpose. Some people conclude life is meaningless. But in Christ's resurrection we find life's true meaning.

April 11, 2010 – John 20:19-23

“Forgive One Another”

by Rev. Richard Smith, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, North Canton, OH

Jesus' resurrection doesn't just bring us forgiveness; it brings forgiveness to those who have sinned against us. When we forgive them, we find peace.

April 18, 2010 – John 21:1-14

“Business As Usual”

by Rev. Karl Frincke, Concordia Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, IN

“Business as usual” came to an end with Easter. They didn't realize it right away, but it became very apparent to them. Easter changes us too. . . surprisingly and significantly. With death defeated, life is altogether different and exciting.

April 25, 2010 – John 10:29

“God's Grip Is Great”

By Rev. James Elsner, Prince of Peace, Hudson, IN
Are you grasping for God? Going after spiritual goals can leave us empty handed and empty hearted. But, Jesus the Good Shepherd has you in His grip already!

Worry Less – Save for Emergencies More

If you own a home or a car, you'll eventually need to make an emergency repair. Avoid running up costly credit card debt by creating an emergency fund in an account you don't normally use.

Most financial professionals recommend you set aside approximately 10% of your pay before spending it on anything else, but you need to decide what amount is right for you. Saving – even if only a few dollars a month – is important.

Saving takes discipline and is about making intentional choices to *not* spend today so you can take care of yourself and family tomorrow. Plus, when an emergency occurs, you'll be prepared. If you're fortunate enough not to have an emergency, then the money will be there for other longer term family needs. The peace of mind is, well, priceless. For questions about your personal money management, contact Carsten Falkenberg, Senior Financial Consultant at 219-663-8699 or carsten.falkenberg@thrivent.com today or visit thrivent.com.

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