



**TRINITY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
AND SCHOOL**
CROWN POINT, INDIANA

NEWSLETTER

July, 2009

Newsletter Email: newsletter@trinitycp.org

Web Page: www.trinitycp.org

Trinity Family,

I would like to send thanks to all who helped make Gadget's Garage (VBS) a success this year. We had an average of 140 students daily, exploring the word of God. What an awesome site to see the smiles and hear the giggles of the children having a good time and sharing God's word with one another. I would like to thank all the teachers/helpers, craft leaders/helpers, nursery, snack leader/helpers, outside activity leader/helpers, story tellers & registration crew. VBS could not happen without these wonderful people volunteering their time. I also send many thanks to all who donated snacks for our snack wish list. The children really enjoyed all the yummy snacks that we were able to provide with your help. I look forward to working with everyone next year and sharing God's word with the children who attend. Again, I cannot say thank you enough. Thank you!

God's Blessing, Kerri Wilkes VBS Director

From Your Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

Commissioned for Mission

When I was working as an engineer, our production control staff would periodically check on our progress on a new part. They were working to secure materials and to determine a date to ship the product. Engineers many times are not quite satisfied until the product is perfect. So there would come a day when a deadline for producing parts came near and the production control manager would tell us, "It's time to fire the engineer and make parts!"

Many times we spend too much time trying to get things perfect and achieve paralysis by analysis. We get nothing done because we spend so much time on planning that there is no performance. Planning is important, especially in a large congregation, but there are times when it is time to fire the planner and start making disciples.

The missional church is therefore about performance. All of the planning we do is for the goal of doing something. Three summers ago Joyce and I went to Panama for a mission trip. When I got home, I did some reading about Panama and uncovered a wonderful quote. John Stevens said this to Frank Maltby:

You won't get fired if you do something, you will if you don't do anything. Do something if it's wrong, for you can correct that, but there is no way to correct nothing. (*The Path Between The Seas*, p. 469)

I give thanks for the great boldness that I see in many areas of our congregation. But there is more to be done, especially in mission. The missional church understands that there are times when mission is performance even when we aren't always quite sure how things will work out.

In one of my classes, I prepared a plan for the next 2-3 years for mission and outreach. One of the first steps is alignment among ministry team members and leaders, so that we are generally heading in the same direction. One of the next steps which I will be working to accomplish is to gather a task force of pre-school parents and other interested congregational members to develop and implement ways to better connect with unchurched pre-school families. Hopefully some of the learning in this area will help us with other school families who do not have a church home. I don't have the answers. Only God has the answers. But as we come together, it is my hope that we understand that it is time to do something, for God cannot help us learn if we do nothing.

Another important step for us as a congregation this Fall will be a focus on prayer. The Ministry Team is working on a plan of 40 days of prayer. Prayer is the beginning of all that we do. Without this foundation, all other work we do is like building on sand. I hope you will look forward to this as we move to action in God's kingdom.

I look forward to soon having Brandon Grelle with us as our Director of Contemporary Worship and Youth Ministry. Brandon will be installed on August 9. I also give thanks for our new first grade teacher (Jene Bertels) and give thanks for the faithful service of Ginny Masengarb as she retires from ministry here to return to her home in Michigan. I also give thanks for the many years of faithful service that Kathy Ickstadt has given to our Trinity family. We pray that God will bless her in this transition and that God will then provide a new teacher in a timely manner in preparation for the upcoming school year. Please continue to pray for the work of the Day School Board as they work with Mr. Schultz in the call process.

Now that summer has come upon us, please vacation carefully and joyfully. If you are away on the weekend, take the opportunity to visit another Lutheran Church where you are vacationing. I also encourage you to remember that God does not take vacations, and that he is here with us each week in worship. Don't extend your vacation into your worship life! We have much work to do for our Lord and His church!!!

Pastor Easterday

From the Executive Director ...

Since my last report for the January congregational meeting, work by our called professionals, administrative boards and Parish Planning Council has been underway to accomplish our 2009 work plan. While we continue to hold those in site, we begin again to plan for the future. The budget presented is an example because it reflects our current situation but also causes us to take steps for our future.

From a planning position, we continue to seek relief from financial stress in our existing ministries and open up new opportunities for ministry. We need to grow all areas of revenue while relying first of all on God's provision, mainly through the tithes and offerings of mature Christians who are living by faith and responding to God's gift of salvation in Jesus Christ.

But that will not be enough for the vision that we have for Trinity and therefore approval has been granted to form a team to explore and make a recommendation for congregational action on a new position which we are describing as a Day School Development Director. We see this as having the potential, along with other financial action, to enable us to adequately fund both our Day School and a growing, expanding ministry.

Work has also been done to better coordinate the funding programs that are not found under the category of tithes and offering or tuition and other fees for service. We frequently call this category "third sources" funding. Thank you to Jim Hensley and all the other key leaders that have gathered together for this purpose to further our ministry.

I want to make note of changes to our roster of called professionals. We welcome Brandon Grelle and Jene Bertels. We also add to the called roster, Brenda Dean, who has been a blessing to our congregation for years but now adds a new and special role as a called servant.

Please be praying for the need to now find a replacement for Kathy Ickstadt, who has accepted a call to Immanuel in Valparaiso after many years of faithful service at Trinity. Also be praying that Trinity would be alive, active and inviting as we share the Good News of our new life in Jesus Christ.

In His name,

Rob Gardiner

Board of Church Properties

I was recently asked if this board spends a lot of time on our budget. The answer is no. We have a history of setting our budget amounts where we think they can be. Then we step back and manage our way through the fiscal year. We have budget amounts for repairs and maintenance, snow removal, utilities, insurance, etc. Some of those are fairly predictable. Some are not. Snow removal is always a favorite. How

much will it snow next year? Sometimes NIPSCO can surprise us. Sometimes we get a reduction in our contract amount. That is a nice surprise. Insurance can be fairly steady, until that industry decides to have a price increase.

The big dollar amount goes to repairs and maintenance. That can be a real roll of the dice. This year we had a compressor replacement in the Atrium unit. That alone is almost half of our repair budget. So, we do what we have to. We had some other HVAC upgrades/repairs. They are never cheap. Sometimes we come in at budget, sometimes we go over.

In all of that, we still have minor repairs, janitorial supplies that take up a good part of the budget, too.

In all of this it becomes evident how important volunteer help and donations can be to keeping up with the repair and maintenance of this complex. In the past year we have had many volunteer hours of mowing, landscaping, snow shoveling, painting, carpet work, downspout rearrangements and minor electrical. All of this helps. All of this prevents us from having to call a contractor and pay to have the work done.

We are developing plans to do some more painting in the Atrium and school building. We have some exterior painting and staining to do. We have a long list of minor repairs in the school that we will try to work into the normal routine. There is always something that can be done. As always, if you have the time and the heart for this kind of work, we can probably find something for you to do. As far as the painting is concerned, we can have one of our famous 'Painting Parties' or if you wish you can take on a smaller painting job and do it on your own. Either way, we are making things better. Let me know if you are interested.

Gary Diekelmann

LWML

The LWML account at Citizen's Bank will be closed in mid-July. The balance of \$126.28 will be sent to the District Financial Secretary. This action is necessary to avoid banking charges that would eventually consume the balance. Shirley Lotz and Lois Lottes will be removed as signatures on the account.

Youth News

Get Excited!!!!

Are you ready for DCE Brandon Grelle? He is coming in August.....*time to get excited!*

Have you filled out your 2009-2010 Event Participation and Medical Information Form on bright yellow paper? (It was mailed to your house or handed to you @ Trinity school.) These forms need to be filled out *every year*. The bright blue forms expire in August of 2009.

Puppeteers are needed – Confirmation service ministry & High School service hours
We are praying for 20 (or more) of you to help with the Lake Co. Fair this year!

Training sessions are scheduled for: Thursday, July 2nd 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.; Saturday July 11th 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. **Attend one for basic training!**
Practice sessions to learn the music are scheduled for: Sunday, July 26th 3:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.; Tuesday, August 4th 3:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. & Thursday, August 6th 3:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.
You may volunteer for 1 day, 2 days, 3 days or more! Time to enjoy the fair too!

Participants are needed for W.A.S.J.I.K. – our drama ministry. We are restarting this! If we have the interest, we will target a performance at the Lake County Fair service in August.

All-youth camping trip July 31 – August 2.
 For all currently in grades 5 – 12.
 \$10 deposit is needed **ASAP**. After July 12th, it will be on a space available basis.

Indiana District Jr. High Rally information (for those entering grades 7 & 8 this fall) – September 19th & 20th. We need to register by **July 26th**! (Registration after this is possible...cost more.)
 Forms were distributed. Do not delay.

National Youth Gathering information (for those entering grades 9 – 12 this fall) – July 17-21, 2010 & 2 or 3 days on either side of those dates. Watch for our summer meeting schedule in weekly bulletins.

Awestruck Festival – July 17 – 19, 2009. Christian Rock Festival at Camp Lakeview in Seymour, IN – (for those currently in grades 8 – 12). To participate call Camp Lakeview @ 812-342-4815.

Happy Birthday!

7/1	Linda Borsits, Michelle Sangkaratana, Steven Evans, Joseph Riffle, Lee Stephen III, Alexa Stefanovich
7/2	Gray McClintic, Daniel Stinson, Ethan Knopf, Kolleen Whitaker
7/3	Sharon Dix, Marina Klepsch, Vicki Mowery, Amy Zimmerman, Angela Miller
7/4	Kirsten Schuster, Emily Rowland
7/5	Julie Boettger, Mark Schoenbeck, Andrew Rinkovsky, Michelle Birmingham, Tasha Curley
7/6	Billie Evans, Connie Snow, Lori Guritz, Kathy Rayonec, Daniel Kvachkoff, Samantha Mora, Bridget Rayonec, Owen Pace
7/7	Carl Sapper, Asya Wright
7/8	Cheryl Demmon, Kindrah Walker
7/9	Nathaniel Wendt, Derek Yakimow
7/10	Kimberly O'Connor, Amanda Moor, Savana Asche
7/11	Judith Wynn, Kris Bikoff, Misty Watland, Amy Engel, Ethan Kvachkoff, Emily Gardiner, Lillian Stadnik
7/12	Kathleen Scheub, Larry Nimetz, Darren Klockenga, Kate Gardiner, Alec Matalin
7/13	Anne Luebcke, Brenda Fiegle, Marge Brauer, Laura Vajda, Chris Boettger, Emily Campbell
7/14	Patricia Zimmerman, Corey Swanson
7/15	Lillian Feder, Dorothy Russel, Dennis Lunkes, Kaitlyn McClintic, Anna Gardiner
7/16	Melissa Sacha
7/17	Donald Fronek, Monika Benge, Laurie Hamilton, Christina Fieldhouse, Kara Whitaker
7/18	Eric Neff, Chelsea Viers, Edward Culver
7/19	Robert Bunde, Kent Gardin, Karin Becker, Roland Brauer III, Kameron Dixon
7/20	Dorothy Shreve, Donna Bartnik, Shyanna Moyer
7/21	Dorothy Teer, Donald Biester, Amanda McClanahan, Melissa Borner, Cyril Duffala, Catherine Fanno
7/22	Elaine Einsele, Charles Kerr, Lynda Smith, Jacob Carey, Mark Goldstine, Jacob Patchin
7/23	James Warner, Marilyn McConnell, Ken Manning, Lisa Engel, Andrew Magruder
7/24	Bart Rashin, Erica Myers, Meghan Mauman, Jami Pryde
7/25	Jeanne Strunk
7/26	Mary Stoltenberg, Amy Cunningham, Adam Miller, Emily Hubacek, Brooke Hiestand
7/27	Terri Parker, David Rosenwinkel, Devin Mueller
7/28	Everett Gudenschwager, Barbara Wigley, Jennifer Kulak
7/29	Troy Stovall, Denise Herkey, Deidra Felder, Tyler Argullin, Morgan Olson
7/30	Chad Borner
7/31	Martha Diekelmann, David Hart

Happy Anniversary!

7/1	Gary & Paulette Urbanchock, David & Jane Long, David & Denise Herkey
7/3	Doug & Becky Bergner
7/5	Brett & Christine Miller
7/7	David & Sue Kipp, Richard & Lisa Anderson
7/8	Matt & Tracy Franklin
7/11	Ken & Rhonda Pape
7/12	Myles & Diane Horst
7/14	Dan & Felicia Schuster, Joe & Donna Witham
7/16	John & Nancy Mauman
7/17	Timothy & Deborah Malott
7/18	Jerry & Terri Schoonover
7/21	Robert & Pamela Castner, Fred & Mary Klepsch, Bill & Christine Good, Fred & Christi Oosterhoff
7/22	Charles & Susan Kerr
7/23	Michael & Terry Chelap
7/24	Lothar & Traude Thaelke
7/26	Everett & Marilyn Gudenschwager, Bud & Marilyn Bowman
7/27	Ed & Christine Dixon
7/28	Ken & Sue Board, Greg & Sandy Peyovich
7/29	Bernard & Barbara Orelup
7/30	Garry & Laura Vajda

Weddings

Blessings to Laura Bobor & Brian Newhouser who were married on June 18th, and Heidi Hammond & Ryan Dulla who were married on June 20th.

Baptisms

Kam Kristopher Stash was received into the family of God through holy baptism on May 24th. He is the son of Donald & Angela Stash II. Sponsors for Kam are Anna Johns and Brian Bolli.

The Lord's blessings to Brayden Jaymes Schopieray, who was baptized on June 20th. He is the son of Jill & Jaymes Schopieray. Sponsors for Brayden are Stephanie Baughman and Arjay Schopieray.

Funerals

Several members and friends of Trinity were called to their eternal rest during this past month.

Alicia Byrns died May 20th. Her funeral was May 23rd. Donald Saager died May 30th. His funeral was May 31st. Margaret Murray died May 31st. Her funeral was June 4th.

JohnBoe died June 1st. His funeral was June 4th. Paul Coomer died June 1st. His memorial service was June 14th. James Nelson died June 18th. His funeral was June 22nd.



Wednesday, July 22nd
for article submission to the August Newsletter. Articles may be dropped off at church or sent to

newsletter@trinitycp.org.

Bible Study



Sunday Morning Summer Education going on now
All Classes Meet from 9:25 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.
Enjoy God's grace this summer....Come when you are here!

Summer Sunday School begins Sunday, June 7th for all children age 3 through those completing 4th grade. Join the fun! Check weekly bulletin for locations.

Confirmation does continue this summer....

Jr. High Bible study (aka Confirmation) combines those completing grades 5-7. LED BY Miss Kelly McGraw. Meets in the Cafeteria, come to enjoy...A More Relaxed Experience! Get to Know Others & Jesus! Topics Related to Daily Living! The Only Memory Work is to Learn Other People's Names!

High School Bible study is for those completing grades 8-12. Led by Les & Brooke Nack. Meets in the Youth Room.

Adult Bible Study
Began Sunday, May 31st

Christian Essentials Led by Pastor Easterday.
Meets in the Library.

A look at the essence of the Christian faith with special emphasis on what we believe as Lutherans and why we believe it. A great course to explore the Christian faith. A wonderful way to review what we believe as Lutheran Christians. This course is the one which leads to membership.

11 sessions: 5/31, 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, 6/28, 7/12, 7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9, 8/16

Acts 2:12b (What Does This Mean?) Led by Pastor Kipp. Meets in the Fellowship Hall.

An opportunity to explore questions that class members have. Explore a variety of issues raised by class members from a biblical perspective. The issues the class raises becomes the topic in future weeks! Check the Sunday morning notes for the current topic One place to take those burning curiosities.

Began Sunday, June 7th

Five Languages of Love Led by Jeanne Strunk.
Meets in Room 102.

Each person perceives love in one of five ways and expects others to show them love according to their primary love language. The 5 are: Words of Affirmation, Gifts, Acts of Service, Meaningful Touch, or Time Together. Often we give love based on our primary love language. Just as often, those we seek to demonstrate love to have a different primary love language. Can you catch the results?

Miscommunication and misunderstanding. Learn how to effectively show love to others in your life and to help others understand how you best receive love.

Christian View of Culture Led by DCE Wendt.
Meets in the Gym.

How does our culture strike you these days? What might the Scriptures say to some of the current cultural ideas? Topics will include such things as a Biblical Worldview, a Christian response to cultural decay, and how to pray for the struggles of this time. Real life examples of how the clash of worldviews is going on now.

Romans Led by Jeannine Furukawa.
Meets in the Conference room.

Explore this defense of the Christian faith. Walk with the apostle Paul as he systematically speaks of the wealth of God's grace in Christ. Encounter a realistic view of who we are as both sinful people and the very saints of God.

2009 Focus on WATCH Groups

The KHKO

Just looking at those letters, you get the thought that this group cannot be up to any good. A K to begin, and a KO to finish. When we find out that they usually meet in the basement, far from prying eyes, our suspicions are aroused even further. It comes as a shock to learn that Paul Wendt (certainly a man with a serious turn of mind and whom we would normally find to be a man of great dependability and responsibility) is mixed up with this group.

Yet all is not as it may seem. Yes, there are teenagers in KHKO, as we suspected, but the worst thing they do is occasionally get into a rousing game of pool. Most of the time they are to be found discussing questions which are relevant to their lives. In fact, KHKO is simply an abbreviation of their basic purpose – *Knowing Him – Knowing Others*.

They meet on the second and fourth Sundays of the month between 6:30 and 8:30 in the evening. Anywhere between 5-15 people attend, and friends are welcome. The topics vary and are most often generated by questions from the participants.

So, if you want to get out of homework some Sunday night, KHKO is a good excuse – at least as good an excuse as I can come up with.

Pastor T.

Bakery House Garage Sale will be held in the gymnasium of Trinity Lutheran Church on **July 16, 17, and 18**. We will be open from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. Saturday hours are 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, so that Contemporary Worship can set up in the gym at 1:00 p.m. **We will begin to set up the tables on Monday, July 13**. We ask that you bring your donations between 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of that week. If possible, please stay to help set up. If you are unable to bring your donations to the gym, please call us and we will pick up your items. Please do not leave items on the outside of the church building. This will be our last sale of the season. We need your support, prayers, physical help and donations. Questions/or pick-up: Elaine Edwards - 374-7382, Marianne Manning - 663-3504, Sandra Wilson 662-9133

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