



TRINITY EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AND SCHOOL  
CROWN POINT, INDIANA

# NEWSLETTER

July, 2010

Newsletter Email: [newsletter@trinitycp.org](mailto:newsletter@trinitycp.org)

Web Page: [www.trinitycp.org](http://www.trinitycp.org)

Trinity Family, Vacation Bible School 2010 has come to an end. There were over 130 children and 40 volunteers who **ZIPPED, ZAPPED and ZOOMED** through the halls of Trinity sharing their love of Jesus with one another. What an awesome site to see the smiles and hear the giggles of the children each day. I want to thank all the wonderful volunteers and those who generously donated snacks during VBS. I look forward to VBS next year and working with everyone again. Until then, **ZIP, ZAP, ZOOM**, and share the love of Jesus with everyone.

In Christ,  
Kerri Wilkes, VBS Director

## *From Your Pastor*

Dear friends in Christ,

One of the challenges we all face is that of a healthy balance. Some of you know that I like chocolate. If I only ate chocolate, I could not survive for long because a person needs a healthy balance of nutrients to live. That same healthy balance is part of church and ministry. Let me explain.

The church is called to both mission and to ministry. Jesus spoke of both when He said,

**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. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.**

The mission element is to go and make disciples of all nations. The ministry portion is teaching them to obey all that Jesus has commanded. Each part is important. There needs to be a healthy balance between the two for a congregation to be faithful in the Lord's work.

What does that look like at Trinity? Mission is done through evangelism. It is also done through our mission pledges to District, to Hispanic Ministry, to Chinese Ministry, to Japanese Ministry, to Bakery House, and to other mission groups. It is especially the focus of the Mission Outreach Task Force. The focus of this group is kingdom growth by means of a church plant. Mission is important. Jesus affirmed this when He said,

**I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.** (Luke 15:7)

There is joy for us when unbelievers become believers. There is joy when adults are baptized. There is joy when lives are changed. This is accomplished through mission.

But there is still the important work of ministry. This is the work done to develop faith. Ministry includes worship, Bible classes, small group ministry, and other various elements of the ministry here that strengthen faith and develop a life of discipleship for the new believers. It is not a healthy balance when we only work to make disciples, and then do not provide ways for them to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. In other words, there must be a healthy balance.

This healthy balance is also important to believers who worship at Trinity. A life that focuses only on worship with no thoughts about Bible study and service is not as healthy as one that worships not only on the weekend, but is also fed through the faithful study of God's Word and the work of serving our Lord with heart, soul, mind, and strength. This makes for healthy church members and healthy congregations.

I would encourage each of you to consider the healthy balance in your life. Even though it is summer, God is still to be worshiped. Even though it is summer, God's Word is to be studied. Even though it is summer, God calls us to serve Him! This is a healthy balance.

As we seek God's direction in a healthy balance of mission and ministry, may God bless you with a healthy life relationship with Jesus Christ!

*Pastor Easterday*

## Worship Services- July

During the latter part of June through the first week of August, we will be preaching a series of messages on "What is the Church?"

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|----------------|--|
| June 19-21     | The Church is clothed for action.<br>(Galatians 3:27)                                    |
| June 26-28     | The Church is forward looking.<br>(1 Kings 19:21)  |
| July 3-5       | The Church is comforted but not comfortable.<br>(Isaiah 66:12 & Luke 10:3)               |
| July 10-12     | The Church knows the power of the Law and the Lawgiver<br>(Leviticus 18:4-5, Luke 10:27) |
| July 17-19     | The Church embraces the Work of Women.<br>(Genesis 18:6, Luke 10:38-42)                  |
| July 24-26     | The Church is persistent<br>(Luke 11:1-13)   |
| July 30-Aug. 2 | The Church knows, "You can't take it with you."<br>(Luke 12:15)                          |
| Aug. 7-9       | The Church is ready at any hour.<br>(Luke 12:40)   |

## From the Executive Director ...

Have you ever noticed how heavily we utilize our church and school facilities? From Bible studies in every nook and cranny on Sunday mornings to community group meetings in the Library or Cafeteria on weekend nights, there's activities going on almost a 24/7 basis. If you ever need to open the door to a storage space, please do so carefully to avoid being buried by a potential avalanche. And never assume you can use a room for a meeting or the gym for an event without asking first or you're likely to be disappointed.

Clearly, Trinity's facilities are a real blessing to the congregation and community. But those who spend the most time here – our church and school staff – are increasingly finding a lack of space to be a frequent headache for current ministry and a potential roadblock to future growth. Therefore, the Parish Planning Council has been taking steps to evaluate the situation and hopefully develop some practical short and long-term solutions.

As a first step, we formed a Building Usage Task Force to evaluate how are facilities are currently being used and to recommend next steps based on their findings. This team toured our facilities from the basement boiler room to the rooftop, monitored room usage throughout the seven day week, and interviewed many staff members and volunteers to learn more details. Quite frankly, the Task Team was surprised to find few opportunities for simple solutions. Trinity is literally bursting at the seams. There are no extra classrooms, no unoccupied office areas, and every storage space is crammed. We're getting by for now, but we have no room for growth.

As a second step, we are now forming a Ministry and Facility Review Committee. This team will have the larger task of first getting a better understanding of Trinity's short-term and long-term ministry priorities, plans, and potential growth areas. Then the Committee will begin develop potential solutions to alleviate our space problems and their respective costs and benefits. It's way too early to speculate, but these solutions might range from extensive remodeling, to expanding current facilities, to adding a new building at our current location, to expansion at another site. Stay tuned for further information.

As we seek to "Go and make disciples", we believe that outgrowing our current facilities is a great problem to have, to solve, and to have again in the future!

*Greg Forsythe*

## From the Contemporary Worship and Youth Director. . .

Something simple this month. Please take the time now for the next two minutes to pray for our youth. Whether it be God opening their eyes at Awestruck or the National Youth Gathering or at 6:10 or just being youth, pray that God is able to use them and that they are able to know that God loves them and they have a purpose far greater than what the world tells them. Blessings on your summer!

*Brandon Grelle*

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## Board of Church Properties

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We have had a rush of activity lately and have a list of projects we hope to get done before school starts. The addition of the second Kindergarten class brought on the need to construct a wall to divide the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conf Room into a School Office and future office. Thanks to Frank Voyak, Chuck Thompson, Chuck Alliss, Carl Sapper, John Swanson and Gary Diekelmann this was done in a matter of days. We now have carpet ordered to replace the carpeting in the two Kindergarten rooms and the new Extended Care room. This should begin very soon. We are on stand-by to assist in getting the new Smart Boards installed. We still hope to get the replacement of our gym lights underway. If we can get it started, it should be done by start of school. We also plan to have the school Anderson Windows repaired while school is out.

John Swanson has volunteered to patch and paint the walls in the elevator lobby on each floor level. This should happen over the summer break. We have changed our garbage carrier from Waste Management to Allied. This will save us money on that line item.

We have received a quote from Sound Planning for a new audio system in the church and a video system. The audio estimate is approx \$68K and the video is \$25K. We will contact another vendor for a second opinion.

Of course, there are still items on our job list that we will get to as time and dollars permit.

*Gary Diekelmann*

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## Board of Communications

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Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a very active congregation and there is much to report about us to the community at large. In this regard, the Board of Communication Services continues to look for news that deserves its place in the spotlight. Please let us know about any church or school related activity either by calling Dennis Hodges at 793-3370 or email [wdh.2016@att.net](mailto:wdh.2016@att.net)

*Dennis Hodges*

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## Board of Elders

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The Elders Board report will be a little different this month. We are taking turns reporting to you about the activities of our board. I decided to ask my fellow elders some questions that would give me an idea of what a diverse group we are.

The Elders are comprised of men from many walks of life. I was somewhat surprised that of those that responded to my questionnaire, that even though the majority was born in Indiana, by far the man that was born farthest away was from the state of Washington. In addition to our birthplaces, our educations are diverse too. There are many of us who hold degrees, although many of us don't. If you count our kids up; both children and grandchildren, we could probably put at least two full football teams on the field.

One of the most interesting facts is that we have a very active group of men that have been involved with the heartbeat of Trinity. Our Board members have been involved in numerous groups and activities ranging from Church Plants to Trinity Cares to the Bakery House. Our Board has been directly involved with small group ministries, call committees, handyman ministries and countless others. Most of my fellow Board members have been on 5 or more specialized groups such as those listed above.

No, I am not writing this to tell you that we are great! There are numerous Boards with members that could have filled out my questionnaire the same way. I am reporting this to challenge you! Get active with us! By that I mean all of our various Boards and service groups. Over the years I have seen the same faces attending different meetings in different rooms, but the SAME people are there! Join us! Don't wait for an invitation. There is an area you are interested in. Ask Our Lord what you can do and then ask other people what you can do. Your age does not matter.

Someone asked me once; what test did I take to become an Elder. I was surprised, but what I answered is as true today as it was then; I prayed. The pastor at the time asked me if I was interested, and I replied that there was no greater service than being allowed to serve the Lord's Supper. I still humbly thank Our Lord for the opportunity to be His servant and when I finish I bow before HIS alter and thank Him in prayer. What is your call to serve HIM?

In addition to assisting the Pastors and Staff, our focus is on many areas including; Shut in visits and Community Outreach. One of our goals is a Church plant. One of our new goals is the support of the new STEPHEN Ministry. A Christian care giving focused on one on one listening and support. We are always looking for ways to help our worship services, we have 5 services that are offered now and are contemplating more to "feed" our growing family at Trinity. Do you know that our Ushers need help? Did you know that families are able to volunteer?

The preceding is an example of how you can be active with our church; there are many other ways to join in. So this is my version of an introduction to the Elders Board Thank you for taking the time to read it

Your servant in Christ,  
*Bob Stephen*

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## **Board of Finance & Staff Management**

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As we put the final touches to the budget for next year I would like to thank the various board chairs and their members for the input they provided to the board of finance. We feel we have a very comprehensive budget but it will require the efforts of everyone involved, to insure that all of the work that Trinity is charged with is completed.

It is not just the responsibility of those that spend the money, to be good stewards, but also those that contribute the funds to our church and school. We must remain diligent in our giving to insure that all of the

obligations that have been set forth in the budget will be carried out.

While we have in the past and continue to hold down the cost of operation at the church and school we cannot have a balanced budget by cutting cost alone. We must also ask that everyone in the congregation search their hearts and give to the very best of their ability.

We are faced with a number of situations that will require additional funding for the next budget year. While the addition of a second class for the Kindergarten is a great blessing for our school it also requires additional personnel, obligations, and money. Along with that there are a number of repairs to our facilities that need funding, and additional support staff.

We must never forget that God gives freely and generously to us and that we should feel an obligation to return to him our first fruits without hesitation. I'm sure that the additional funding will come and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for the support you will give to our efforts here at Trinity.

May God bless you,  
*Jud Salmon*

## **Mission Outreach Task Force**

Although you haven't heard much in recent weeks, this task force is still hard at work. We have been working on updating the map of where our members live. We have the map from ten years ago, and will put the old and the new side by side so you can see the changes in the last ten years. One evening we invited some of the long time members to help and they were a great help and lots of fun! Thanks for the help!

On July 11, we plan to take a driving tour of Cedar Lake to make observations about the town, its churches, its businesses, and other relevant elements that would help us with decisions about the location for the church plant. Later we will do the same thing with the area around Winfield.

We would appreciate your prayers for this work. This truly is a congregational project and reflects the mission aspect of mission and ministry. Watch soon for the maps and for other information about when other churches have been planted in Lake County. Also, please feel free to ask questions of Paul Feder, Marv Hecht, or Pastor Easterday.

## **Book Club**

Trinity's Book Club meets on the second and fourth Sundays of the month and will begin reading a new book on August 8th. The book is "The Hammer of God" by Bo Giertz. It's made up of three novelettes, each one the story of a pastor and his congregation experiencing a crisis of faith. We can learn a lot about our current culture and faith issues that can occur as Christ upholds his bride, the Church, against the wiles of Satan and the world. There's room for more readers! Contact Karol Ketcher (663-9105, 663-1586, x. 309, [ketcher@trinitycp.org](mailto:ketcher@trinitycp.org))

## School News

**Second Kindergarten Information:** We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Carole Esala has consented to teach our second Kindergarten next year. Mrs. Esala has served in the role of Kindergarten teacher for many years. Lately with only one class she has been so helpful as our Teacher's Aide. She is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, a graduate of Valparaiso University and has her Indiana Teaching License with a Kindergarten Endorsement. A more qualified teacher you will not find! We invite you to share our good news with any potential Kindergarten families you may know!

A Task Force was formed and has made some significant decisions. We will be experiencing some movement of rooms to accommodate this blessed addition. We will revert back to the room placement we had two years ago when the Kindergarten classes were side by side. This class will take over the current Extended Care room with the Extended Care moving to the current School Office. The School Office will revert back to the second floor of the Atrium addition and move back to where it had been in what is now the Conference Room, which is at the top of the stairs and just to the right through the door. You can access it via the stairs that wrap around the elevator or use the elevator to get to the second floor.

We will be making some improvements to these areas. New carpeting will be scheduled to be installed in all three of the rooms for Kindergarten and Extended Care. A wall will be built to separate the School Office and make room for another office for future use by a Business Development Director. The dry erase board will be moved into the Cafeteria South for Bible Study, Confirmation, and Faith classes. A sink will be installed in the Extended Care room for clean up purposes. What a blessing!

We will be in touch with our Kindergarten families throughout the summer to let them know what the final plans will be. We give thanks to the Lord who has brought so many families to our school. We will continue to provide our children with the highest quality education with the firm foundation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We beseech you to please continue to lift our situation up to the Lord in prayer that He would lead us and guide us in the way He would have us go.

### *Happy Anniversary!*

7/1	Gary & Paulette Urbanchock, David & Jane Long, David & Denise Herkey
7/3	Doug & Becky Bergner, Larry & Ruth Mickow
7/5	Brett & Christine Miller
7/7	David & Sue Kipp, Richard & Lisa Anderson
7/8	Matt & Tracy Franklin, Chris & Heather Boettger
7/11	Dan & Tiffany O'Day, Charlie & Jene Lintz
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 Thoele
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
7/31	Graham & Alyss Bolkema

### *Happy Birthday!*

7/1	Linda Borsits, Paulette Urbanchock, Steven Evans, Joseph Riffle, Lee Stephen III, Alexa Stefanovich
7/2	Mike Babiarz, Daniel Stinson, Ethan Knopf, Kolleen Whitaker, Haley Carlin
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, Samantha Mora, Bridget Rayonec, Owen Pace
7/7	Carl Sapper, Jacob Robinson
7/8	Cheryl Demmon, Kindrah Walker
7/9	Nathaniel Wendt, Derek Yakimow
7/10	Kimberly O'Connor, Amanda Moor, Savana Asche, Anna Coffman
7/11	Judith Wynn, Kris Bikoff, Denton McCormick, Misty Watland, Amy Engel, 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, Anna Gardiner
7/17	Donald Fronek, Monika Bengel, 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, Don 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	Jim Warner, Marilyn McConnell, Ken Manning, Lisa Engel, Andrew Magruder, Pamela Vana, Heather Boettger
7/24	Shirley Guske, Bart Rashin, Erica Myers, Meghan Mauman, Jami Pryde
7/25	Jeanne Strunk
7/26	Mary Stoltenberg, Amy Cunningham, Emily Snyder, Brooke Hiestand
7/27	Terri Parker, David Rosenwinkel, Devin Mueller

7/28	Everett Gudenschwager, Barbara Wigley, Jennifer Kulak, Caitlyn Doyle, Grant Robinson
7/29	Troy Stovall, Denise Herkey, Deidra Felder, Tyler Argullin
7/30	Chad Borner, Kevin Sparenberg
7/31	Martha Diekelmann, David Hart, Kristi Kremski

## Weddings

Emily Hubacek & Jared Snyder were joined in holy matrimony on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Brian Thomas & Christina Davis were joined in holy matrimony on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations and may God richly bless these unions.

## Baptisms

Chase Michael & Chance Thomas Bielawski, sons of Jeff & Apryl Bielawski were received into the kingdom of God through holy baptism on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Funerals

Willis "Paul" Potter was called home to be with the Lord on June 15<sup>th</sup>. His funeral was June 21<sup>st</sup>.



**Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>** for article submission to the August newsletter. Articles may be dropped off at

church or sent to [newsletter@trinitycp.org](mailto:newsletter@trinitycp.org).

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## "Worship for Shut-Ins"

This 30-minute Lutheran television program provides shut-ins and short-term hospitalized children, adults, and seniors, a weekly worship service that includes Hymns, Scripture, Creed, Sermon, Lord's Prayer, and Benediction, with opening and closing comments from our host, Don Luepke. "Worship for Shut-Ins" can be seen on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. on **Cable TV TLN (Total Living Network)**.

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## July 4, 2010 – Ephesians 6:13-20

### "Whole Armor of God"

by Chaplain Douglas DeWitt, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hamler, OH

Armor of God is timeless. No one can fight the devil alone, so prayer is also a part of a Christian's armor. No matter what situations you may find yourself in, go to the Lord in prayer.

## July 11, 2010 – Luke 10:25-37

### "Being a Neighbor"

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

Having faith in Jesus Christ means doing something to demonstrate that faith. God freely gives the gift of eternal life; we inherit it, and then we respond in faith and do something; be a neighbor to others.

## July 18, 2010 – Luke 10:38-42

### "One Thing Necessary"

by Rev. Daniel Brege, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Decatur, IN

We may get caught up in DOING all sorts of things for Jesus. Indeed this often has value. But doing things for Jesus does not take first place in God's priorities for us. God wants us first and foremost to hear the Word of Christ, and in so doing RECEIVE what we desperately need--life, love, and salvation.

## July 25, 2010 – Luke 11:1-13

### "The Perfect Prayer"

by Rev. Paul E. Shoemaker

Jesus, in response to His disciples' request, teaches them to pray. God responds to our prayers. He hears us. He knows our needs. He graciously responds.

## IN GOD'S SERVICE:

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