



TRINITY EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AND SCHOOL  
CROWN POINT, INDIANA

# NEWSLETTER

June, 2009

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

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

*Thank you - Dear Trinity Lutheran School and Congregation, Thank you for your outpouring of kind words and generous gifts on the occasion of my retirement from the teaching ministry. I was honored by your blessings, prayers and presence. It was both humbling and greatly appreciated. To God be the glory. Thank you.*

*In His service, Mrs. (Virginia) Ginny Masengarb*

## Trinity Fully Accredited

Rejoice with us! Give thanks to the Lord our God and sing! Trinity Lutheran School has fulfilled the requirements and is now recognized as a fully accredited school by the State of Indiana. You can go to the website <http://www.doe.in.gov/data/> and type in our school number B850. Our data page will appear along with the accreditation status. Congratulations parents, students, faculty, staff, and congregation! You all worked very hard to achieve this goal! We give God all the glory and honor for blessing this process for us!

## From Your Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

### Commissioned for Mission

One of the things we used to do in our grade school science classes was to experiment. We would think about what we wanted to do, and then try some things to see what worked and what didn't. Perhaps many of you remember Thomas Edison and the many experiments with potential light bulbs. After many failures with the bulbs, he had learned much about what didn't work. Then, one day he found one particular design that did work.

Many times we operate with a fear mentality in congregational outreach. We are hesitant to experiment because we are afraid that what we do may fail. Daniel proposed an experiment concerning the diet he, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego should eat. (Daniel 1:11-16) I am sure that much of what Paul did in his missionary outreach was an experiment, too. Some of his efforts were very successful, while others were not.

Is our fear at experimenting tempered by an awareness of other experiments that went wrong? Didn't Satan propose and experiment to Adam and Eve with terrible consequences? Didn't Aaron try an experiment with a golden calf? Didn't Pilate make a feeble attempt at an experiment to try to free Jesus from crucifixion? Yes, there are many times when experiments fail.

Failure is not necessarily a bad thing. It is a reminder that God is in charge of all that we do. It is a reminder that much of what we do in mission is new to us, and that even though we may not know the results, God will work through them.

Isn't the cross ultimately something that appeared to be a failure in God's plan? How could this terrible death accomplish anything? Jesus was dead. The disciples were devastated. They didn't have any thoughts about experimenting. They didn't have thoughts about doing anything. But when Jesus came out of the grave, the disciples were changed and became bold in new adventures.

We are encouraged to be like those disciples. As Jesus prepared to ascend to heaven, He shared some words of encouragement to be bold in their witness.

**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.**  
(Acts 1:8)

May God give us the courage to try new mission ventures, to learn from seeming failures, and to know that the greatest failure of all, the death of the Savior on the cross, was the greatest success and victory of God for our forgiveness!

*Pastor Easterday*

P.S. Thank you for all of your love and concern for us at the death of Joyce's mother and for her eye health situation. We appreciate your prayers, your concern, and your help during this time. Thanks for being there to support us!!

# The Principal Connection ...

## The Case for Christian Education

### **Objection #3 – Shouldn't my son or daughter be a witness to other students in the public school?**

Ask yourself this: Are they ready? Then give your son or daughter a little test – pick out a few of these questions:

- How do you know that God exists?
- Isn't the Bible just a story book?
- How do you know that Jesus really rose from the dead?
- What right do you have to suggest that Christianity is the only way to heaven?
- Aren't all religions valid?
- If your God is so great, why do bad things happen?

If their answers are slow to come, vague, or sound something like, "Well those things are true for me," you might want to face up to the fact that your son or daughter will probably **not** be an open witness for Jesus Christ in the secular humanistic environment of the local public school. (For more on that environment, refer back to objection #1 – *Isn't a public high school a neutral environment for my son or daughter?*)

Some Christian students with the gift of evangelism can be witnesses to others in the public schools. Their actions and relationships can be an effective witness for Jesus Christ. Yet, the majority of adolescents will be uncomfortable witnessing to others due to the simple fact that **they are untrained**. The analogies are endless:

- We don't send untrained soldiers into combat.
- We don't let untrained surgeons operate.
- We don't let pastors preach unless they go to the seminary.
- We don't send missionaries overseas until they are trained.

### **Does it seem odd that we would want to send our untrained youth into a non-Christian environment with the intent of them being effective witnesses?**

Our Divinely Called Synodically trained teachers are dedicated to training our students to be witnesses to others so that they can defend their Christian faith effectively in the open market place of ideas. The existence of God, the historical reliability of the Bible, Jesus' resurrection, and the validity of Christianity are topics that **are objectively studied**. God's Word is used **to train** student disciples at Trinity.

Our students can then, with the Holy Spirit working through them, be a witness to their non-Christian friends, and hopefully to others when they graduate from our school.

It is exciting indeed when a Trinity alum returns to tell stories of using the tools that they learned at Trinity to defend their faith and tell others about Christ. Witnessing about Jesus Christ is often a daunting task even for grown adults. **Training to be disciples for Christ is a life-long affair**. It is incumbent upon us as Christians to arm our children with the tools that they need to adequately defend their faith. It is incumbent upon us as a church to live the words of St. Peter in 1 Peter 3:15:

*"But in your hearts, set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give a reason to anyone who asks for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."*

Christian education for a couple of hours a week on Sunday isn't going to get it done. Christian elementary school education provides an opportunity to work with Christian families to train disciples to change the culture of our world for Jesus Christ. What a great opportunity we can give our children by sending them to Trinity. It is truly about winning souls for Jesus Christ.

**If you would like more information about the Christian education at Trinity Lutheran School, please call our office at 663-1586.** We are taking pre-registration for next school year. Classes are beginning to fill up! Kindergarten is completely full with a waiting list. Our Pre-School has only a few openings left.

We are delighted to proclaim that **Trinity Lutheran School is fully accredited with the State of Indiana**. This means that our school adheres to the same requirements of our public schools and in addition we share the Word of God. With National Lutheran School Accreditation and this recognition by the State of Indiana you can be assured that your students are receiving the best training possible and hearing the saving message of salvation!

**The School year ends officially on June 4.** May God bless your summer with His love and mercy as together we "trust in the Lord."

*John E. Schultz*

## From the Executive Director ...

At the June Congregational meeting, the Congregation will be asked to approve the annual operating budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. A lot of work has already been invested and work remains to be done at the time this letter is being written. Whether the budget is for a church, a family or a business, it says something about what the choices, goals and priorities the people preparing the budget have established. Any spending plan has choices. At Trinity, again this year as in previous years, I expect to see the spending plan allow sufficient spending to have a quality Lutheran Day School, to provide for our Called Professionals and contribute generously to the needs of Christians outside of our congregation.

We will also, I expect, depend on the provision of our Lord, through the generous and sacrificial tithes and offerings of our church family. In other words there will be an element of faith as we approve the budget and the year ahead. There are many needs and we depend on you to understand the financial needs of your church and help us meet them. Your involvement in the process, through your prayers, engagement and ownership of this budget is very important. After all, it is the basis of our plan for ministry in the next 12 months.

Peace and Blessings,

*Rob Gardiner*

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## Board of Communications

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The Board of Communication Services seeks to share the events and ministries of Trinity Lutheran Church and School with the greater community through available media resources and to our members. To expand on what we are attempting to do, we need help from members in the following areas:

### CHURCH ARCHIVES

There is a real need to sort through and file the historic church archives. The board needs some volunteers to take on this very important task. Should you be interested in helping us, please call Dennis Hodges at 887-1351.

### NEWSLETTER

Do you read the Trinity Lutheran Church & School newsletter? What do you like or do not like about it? The board wants to know. The board will publish a survey next month that asks these questions. Your input is very important to the way the church communicates its message and ministry through the newsletter. Thank you!

*Dennis Hodges*

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## Board of Church Properties

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It's been an interesting month, again. You know when I start out an article with that phrase, it will be interesting and/or expensive.

As we experience mechanical breakdowns or electrical problems, they can range from minor and cheap, to major and expensive. We have had both, lately.

A few weeks ago it was a bit warm in the Atrium and Music Room on a Sunday morning. I didn't think too much of it. On Monday I got a call at work telling me it was hot in the building. The cause, the compressor in the air conditioner was dead. We hurried to purchase a new compressor, rent a crane and pay contractor wages to replace the hardware. Fortunately it was fairly cool outside, so we were able to get by with outside air cooling during the equipment failure. We are expecting this repair to cost us about \$11,000.

Then, one day, I come home to phone messages telling me about the smell of burning in the church kitchen. Then another message saying it was o.k., the fire department had neutralized the electrical problem and I could check it out later. It ended up being an electrical outlet in the outside wall that was getting wet from water coming down the basement wall. Two thoughts. Where is the water coming from and what did it do to the electrical circuit? I think we have both figured out. It should not cost much to fix either.

Then with all of the rain, I started getting calls of wet areas on the inside of the bell tower walls. We think the flashing above the carport roof needed to be caulked. That work got done. The larger problem, we think, is that rain is blowing in between the large louvers and the masonry in the bell tower. The water gets into the masonry and finds its way out on the inside. We are trying to get cost estimates to wrap the wooden part of the openings with aluminum and caulk them tight. Not cheap. More details to come, when we get them. We are also looking for new light fixtures for the Narthex. This could be tricky. It is harder than picking paint colors.

I would like to make a plea for help over the summer months for our maintenance staff. Our tradition is to have them remove the furniture from all of the classrooms, clean and re-wax the floors and put everything back. They wash off the furniture, too. We are looking for able bodied help. If you need service hours or you are just able to help, please contact me, the church office or Lisa Cizmar.

*Gary Diekelmann*

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## Board of Children and Youth

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**4th of July Parade-** We are very excited to announce that Trinity will once again be represented in the Crown Point 4th of July Parade. This is a wonderful event and an incredible opportunity to share God's love with our friends and neighbors of Crown Point. This year, Trinity will be represented with a float that will showcase our various ministries and active involvement in the community. Now for the fun part. Trinity needs you to be involved in whatever way you are able, for this to accurately represent all that Trinity has to offer. "How can I help?", you may ask. Below is a list of the many and varied opportunities open to you.

**Decorators-** To help with the assembly of the float (TONS of FUN!!!)

**Walkers-** To walk along the parade route handing out giveaways to the crowd.

**Riders-** Of all ages and stages to ride on the float representing Trinity's history and our future.

**Financial Support-** Please prayerfully consider a small financial donation to help cover the cost of supplies for the float, t-shirts for participants, and the giveaways. In the past many have donated water for this event, one suggestion is to instead donate the dollar amount you would've spent on water to the cost of supplies.

**Prayer Support-** Please keep this outreach opportunity in your prayers, that not only is Trinity well represented, but more importantly that the presence of the Holy Spirit is with us and God's will may be done through us at this event.

For more information and to volunteer please contact Brenda Dean at 226-1048.

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### Congratulations 2009 Graduates

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**Crown Point High School:** Mary Ellis, Abigail Goeringer, Joshua Long, Michael Luebcke, Nicholas Martin, Liz Maxwell, Kaleigh Mueller, Kelsey Rather, Elisha Sacha, Brady Schuster, Casey Taylor, Katie Topp, Nina Underwood, Bethany Wendt, Joseph Wolter.

**Lowell High School:** Kurt Monix

**Trinity Lutheran:** Marissa Martin, Mark Sanders

**Taft Middle School:** Jacob Carey, Courtney Farrell, Amanda Pavot, Kelsey Surma

**Wheeler Middle School:** Brittany Ronning

#### **Indiana University:**

Dana Monroe, Bachelors, Business Management & International Business  
Carley Smith, Bachelors, Communications

#### **Purdue University:**

Christopher Esala, Bachelors, Industrial Technology/Industrial Distribution  
Lindsey Pavlovick, Bachelors, English Education

#### **University of Southern Indiana:**

Ashley Gora, Bachelors, Nursing,  
Kirsten Schuster, M.S. Occupational Therapy

#### **Spring Arbor University**

Michael Stinson, Bachelor of Fine Arts: Photography

### **Graduate Recognition**

We will recognize all our graduates (Kindergarten, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, high school & college) in the weekend worship services **June 6 – 8**. Special recognition for high school graduates will take place.

### **Friendship Luncheon**

Join us for good food and a good fellowship on **Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall for our annual Friendship Luncheon. Special focus on **watch Groups**, (our small group ministry), welcoming new members and Triangle Dinners. Please bring a main dish and a salad or dessert to pass.



#### **Gadget's Garage VBS**

**June 15-19**, is full of fun! Come explore Bible stories, take Bible challenges, make crafts, eat yummy snacks, play fun games, sing awesome songs, and more!

Fill out the registration form located in the atrium and return it to the front desk. Questions? Call Kerri Wilkes 690-1415 or [bwwilkes98@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bwwilkes98@sbcglobal.net) or see Bonnie Weglewksi

VBS is still in need of many volunteers. We still need teachers, aides, craft leaders, snack leaders, nursery staff, outside helpers, and many more. Please consider volunteering June 15-19, for Gadget's Garage. Call Kerri Wilkes for details or see Bonnie Weglewski.

VBS, Gadget's Garage, (Gods Always Doing Great And Exciting Things), is seeking donations for snacks this year. If you are unable to volunteer your time and would still like to help with VBS see the snack donation wish list available for sign up located at the front desk in the atrium. Any Questions, please call Kerri Wilkes or see Bonnie Weglewski.

## Parking Lot Sale

Trinity Youth Ministry will be sponsoring a parking lot sale on **Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**, the first day of the City-wide garage sale in Crown Point. We will list in the Shopper. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Can pack up & leave @ 2:00 if you want to.) There are 3 ways to participate!

#1 – Rent a stall and sell your stuff. Parking spaces rent for \$10 ea. #2 – Give stuff to the youth to sell. (We can usually arrange pick-up, too.) #3 – Come and shop on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Rain date the following day...Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Registration materials will be in the bulletins soon and at the Reception Desk.

## Youth News

### Get Excited!!!!

DCE Brandon Grelle is coming in August.....*time to get excited!*

### Youth Information Pack – Did You Get Yours?

All youth currently in grades 5 – 12 should have received a mailing containing information on the following items: (Not all youth will get all items...only those that pertain to their current grade.) **Note: In order to save postage, we distributed as many as possible on Sunday morning and through the Dayschool. If you did not receive the mailing, contact the office or DCE Wendt...after you check with your child.**

All will receive:

- ◆ A 2009-2010 Event Participation and Medical Information Form on bright yellow paper. These forms need to be filled out *every year*. The bright blue forms expire in August of 2009.
- ◆ An invitation to participate in P.I.E.R.R.E. – our puppet ministry. We are praying for 20 (or more) of you to help with the Lake Co. Fair this year! We can teach you what to do! **Training sessions** are scheduled for: Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.; Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.; Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. **Attend those you are able to! We teach you how to be a puppeteer! Practice sessions** are scheduled for: Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup> 3:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.; Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. & Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.
- ◆ An invitation to participate in 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.
- ◆ Info on an all-youth camping trip July 31 – August 2, 2009. This is for all currently in grades 5 – 12. Advance commitment by **June 7<sup>th</sup>** is required to save a spot. (After June 7<sup>th</sup>, we can only take people on a space available basis.)

Some will receive:

- ◆ Jr. High Rally information (for those entering grades 7 & 8 this fall) – September 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009. We need to register by **July 26<sup>th</sup>!** (Registration after this is possible...cost more.)
- ◆ 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. We will be meeting again June 7<sup>th</sup> @ 5:45 p.m. in the Youth Room.
- ◆ Awestruck Festival – July 17 – 19, 2009. Christian Rock Festival at Camp Lakeview in Seymour, IN – (for those currently in grades 8 – 12). Registration **deadline is June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**

### Father's Day Party

Dads & High School youth. This is the first ever, bring your dad to youth group...We'll have a devotion, sing a song or two and then do something **manly** [PLEASE READ WITH DEEP VOICE]. It'll be a great father – youth experience. (Mom's we promise not to break dad – OK?) **Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** or so....the bigger the crowd....the more **manly** [PLEASE READ WITH DEEP VOICE] we can be!

## School News

Congratulations to our Trinity Lutheran school students who were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society on May 14<sup>th</sup>. The 2009 inductees are: Chiamara Anokwute, Olivia Pillar, Andrew Schwimmer, & Alyssa Vajda.



Congratulations to Trinity member Amber Nowakowski, student at Wheeler Middle School, who was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Thanks for Recycling

With summer upon us, the eighth grade class wants to thank those of you who have contributed aluminum cans and paper for our recycling projects. They've been very successful and we'd like to remind you that we continue them throughout the summer. Please keep up the tremendous work you are doing for our fundraising as well as for our environment! After all, if those of us who believe that God created the heavens and the earth are not taking care of the Creation, who will!? Thanks again!

*Mrs. Sauerman*

## *Happy Anniversary!*

6/1	Ted & Janet Ellis, Marvin & Phyllis Hecht, Cory & Kristin Wielert
6/2	Gary & Sandra Birmingham, Steven & Cathy Morrow
6/3	Todd & Jacci Carey
6/4	Richard & Paula Stiener, Todd & Rosemarie Taylor
6/5	Don & Joyce Carnahan, Ken & Marianne Manning, Doug & Karen Cozart
6/6	Mark & Traci Goldstine
6/7	Chuck & Kimberly O'Connor, Jim & Aubrey Nelson
6/8	James & Dawn Dubbert
6/10	Phil & Anne Davis
6/11	Jim & Mary Ann Greiner, David & Joyce Easterday, Arnold & Lorraine Steuer, James & Anova Frasure, Jason & Jennifer Zona
6/12	Darrell & Shirley Klockenga
6/13	Pat & Tricia Schuster
6/14	Noel & Arlene Cross, Paul & Wanda Feder
6/15	Don & Laura Stieve
6/16	James & Claire Gagan, Gregg & Susanne Heinzman, Tom & Sandra Rosenwinkel
6/17	Christopher & Emily Damjanovic
6/18	Jeffery & Eileen Riggs, Matthew & Deidra Felder
6/19	Tim & Tina Stiener, Daniel & Gretchen Pace
6/20	Bob & Judy Duffala, Thomas & Gail McPheron, Paul & Darlene Coomer, Rich & Deb Komasiński
6/23	Elden & Stephanie Hildebrandt, Mark & Sharon Tillery
6/24	Phillip & Charlotte Morrow, Gerald & Kathleen Petrick, Grant & Lori Hult, Joshua & Nicole Hrapek
6/25	Raymond & Diana Dyba, Phillip & Karen Kaemerer, Steven & Beth Dallman, Sam & Lynn Kirby
6/27	Gregory & Kay Moor, Cole & Linda Viers, Eric & Wendy Erickson
6/28	Darrell & Florence Sergent, Tom & Laura Pavlovick
6/30	David & Julie Burkhardt

## *Happy Birthday!*

6/1	Sue Neitzel, Beth Dallman, Becky Hiestand, Karen Warner, Dawn Dubbert, Julie Orgon, Erik Gardin, Daisey Smith, Kayla Egnatz
6/2	Sandra Wilson, Steven Morrow, Colin Hecht
6/3	Rich Komasiński
6/4	Cole Viers, Linda Viers, John Lynk Sr., Richard Rainey, Choe Anderson, Amanda Jackson, Morgan Matalin, Lily Reiners
6/5	Patricia Warner, Dennis Hodges, Tom Rosenwinkel, Darlene Stauner, Phillip Gardin, Amanda Stieve, Katie Hult, Anna

	McCormick
6/6	Shirley Patterson, Thomas Tokoly, Joshua Kvachkoff
6/7	Valerie Ventura, David Guritz, Anne Davis
6/8	Brandon Stieve, Emma-Leigh Foster, Alexis Fitzsimons
6/9	Gail McPheron, Sandy Peyovich, Melanie Sapper, Benjamin McClintic
6/10	Cathy Morrow, Gerald Hoefling, Zachary Bodamer
6/11	Susan Nierman, Amber Nowakowski, Andrew Dyba
6/12	Karen Blocker, Douglas Dix, Brenda Ebert, Kristopher Keller, Derick Mundt, Laura Bridges, Avery Deedrick
6/13	Gina Kingston, Christina Kvachkoff, Nikki Merrell, Elaina Genovese
6/14	Barbara Atkinson, Stoe Duffala, A.J. Miller Jr.
6/15	Arnold Patz, Sherry Carter, Austin Cunningham, Derek Davis, Alyssa Brown
6/16	Robert Michalak, Leslie Gardiner
6/17	Lucille Vieweg, Helen Melcher, Kurt Monix, Melissa Sapper, Ruth Luebecke, Michael Stephen, Pacey Nack
6/18	June Woodke, Suzette Pryde, Robert Pavot, Alex Schwimmer
6/19	Janet Rosenwinkel, Davyd Linge
6/20	Carley Smith, Kaitlyn Orgon, Alexis Salazar
6/21	Gregg Heinzman, Timothy Stump, Sarah Cavan, Melissa Knipper, Quentin Klingberg, Charles Knipper, Andrew Bodamer
6/22	Dawn Gora, David Best, Erik Watland
6/23	Angie Jensen, Scott Kalember, Christine Parry, Aubreigh Haas
6/24	Richard Angerman, Judy Alliss
6/25	Andrea Spanburg
6/26	Crissy Alliss, Michael Pavlovick, Dylan Mowery
6/27	Steve Foulds
6/28	Phillip Kaemerer
6/29	Delores Bremer
6/30	Lois Turczi, Tabitha Hoefling, Hannah DeArmond

## *Confirmation*

On Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>, we witnessed the sharing of the faith and confirmation of 9 of our young people. We pray the Lord's continued blessings on Jacob Carey, Courtney Farrell, Kaylee Guritz, Quentin Klingberg, Amanda Pavot, Rayburn Pigg, Brittany Ronning, Kelsey Surma, & Derek Yakimow.

## *Weddings*

Blessings to Angela Holmes and Richard Miller who were married at Trinity on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

## Baptisms

Sophia Marie Knipper and Isabella Grace Knipper were received into the family of God through holy baptism on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. They are the daughters of James & Clare Knipper. Sponsors for Sophia and Isabella are Jason & Dena Edwards.

The Lord's blessings to Paul Griesse, Jr. who was baptized on May 21<sup>st</sup>. He is the son of Julie Griesse and Paul Griesse. Sponsors for P.J. are John Henson and Rebecca Bisping.

## Funerals

Michael Gutesha, was called to his eternal rest on May 8<sup>th</sup>. His memorial service was May 13<sup>th</sup>.



**Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>** for article submission to the June newsletter. Articles may be dropped off at

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

## Bible Study



**Sunday Morning Summer Education**  
All Classes Meet from 9:25 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.

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

**Jr. High Bible study** (aka Confirmation) combines those completing grades 5-7. Led by Miss Kelly McGraw. Meets in the Cafeteria, com 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**  
**Beginning Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>**

**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.

**Beginning Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**

**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.

**The Prodigal Son – A Middle Eastern Point of View**  
Led by Karol Ketcher. Meets in Room 101.

Enjoy new insights on this parable of the Lost Son from a viewpoint of the culture of Jesus' day. Discover the amazing love of God. Have you drifted from the Father's love? Do you have a friend or relative who has drifted from the Father's love? This study will speak of God's love for all – especially any who are far from God or feel far from God. Find the healing for the heart that our loving Father offers! Grow in your connection to Him!

**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 class of worldviews is going on now.

## 2009 Focus on WATCH Groups

### The Thursday Morning Men's Bible Class

This early morning group has been remarkably resilient since it was begun by Randy Reynolds and several fellow Promise Keepers about twenty years ago. Whether it is because the Schooper [the current favorite] and other breakfast selections are better than what they can get at home, the comments of Shirley, the waitress, or the ambience of the place, eight to ten or more of Trinity's finest gather every Thursday morning promptly at 6:00 am at Schoops. The only exceptions are when a Thursday falls on a holiday such as Thanksgiving or Christmas.

Once breakfast is ordered discussion quickly begins, usually led by one of the men. There are a number of leaders so that it doesn't get too much for anyone.

Currently under consideration is a study of the Old Testament, *Exploring God's Word*. 1 Corinthians has just been concluded, though studies have not only been on biblical books, but on various topics such as financial management, marriage etc., and occasionally a book. Because most of the men have to get to work, the group usually disbands by about 7:00 am, but not before some prayer time. As long as you're a man and bring a Bible, you are welcome to come. You don't have to order breakfast, but are guaranteed to leave well fed.

Any questions? Contact Rob Gardiner, 662-9487

*Pastor T.*

## Mission Connections ...

### News from the Groths

Check out the Missions Board in the Atrium for the most recent news from the Groth's about the Lord's work in Cambodia.

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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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## Baby step your way to financial independence

Imagine eating an apple in one bite...That's what saving for your long-term financial goals can feel like if you don't first break them into small, manageable steps.

The best way to achieve your financial goals is to save early and often. This gives your money more time to grow. For example, by setting aside as little as \$20 a month, your savings can add up to \$15,173.50 in 20 years.\*

In addition to saving often and early, these steps can put you on your way to achieving your long-term financial goals:

- Establish an emergency savings account of one to three months' of living expenses.
- Pay off your credit card debt.
- Set up a college savings plan.
- Open an IRA.

Completing these steps will help build your confidence and put you well on your way to achieving your long-term financial goals. And you can enjoy that apple one bite at a time.

For help reaching your financial goals, contact Carsten Falkenberg, Senior Financial Consultant, CFP®, ChFC, CLU, FIC at 219-663-8699 or [carsten.falkenberg@thrivent.com](mailto:carsten.falkenberg@thrivent.com) today, or visit [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com).

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