



# NEWSLETTER



March, 2009



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

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

## Family returns piece of history:

The family of Lois Meyer has returned a piece of history back to Trinity. How so? After the death of Lois, they gave Pastor Kipp a framed piece of stain glass window. It came from the old Trinity church that was located on the corner of Grant and North streets. Soon, you will see it hanging in the Atrium for all to enjoy. The image on the stained glass is the symbol of the Lamb of God standing with the banner of victory. Its meaning is that, no longer the wounded Lamb of God, Jesus Christ is standing with the banner of victory over sin, death and Satan. This symbol is proclaiming the victorious nature of Christ's sacrifice for us.

## From Your Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

I have spent a lot of time getting ready for things these last few months. I have been preparing for my classes (more about them later), and now for a time of vacation. But how does one prepare a church to be a missional church?

Lent provides the answer to this question. The missional church is one that repents of sinful ways. Jesus said, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (Matthew 4:17) There are many significant times when we turn away from God's mission, or we simply doubt that God can accomplish his plan through us. Right now, there is doubt about finances, and this leads to hoarding of the gifts God has given us. Perhaps you remember the story of Joseph and the famine in Egypt. God used Joseph to accumulate a surplus during the good years so there would be food for the lean years. Many of us have been blessed with abundance and with surplus so we can now use it during the lean times. Yet, many times we have squandered the abundance without thoughts of God's daily provision and without thanking him for all these things.

Now is the right time to repent of our sinfulness. Now is the time to ask God for forgiveness. Now is the time to seek a change in our heart and actions. Repentance has two components. The first is contrition, the Godly sorrow we experience for our sins. The second part is faith in Jesus Christ who removes our sins completely. Lent gives us that opportunity to reflect on our sinfulness and to look to the sinless One who died for us on the cross.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday services on February 25. We will have the opportunity to receive ashes on our foreheads as a visible sign of our sinfulness, knowing that the blood of Jesus now cleanses us of these sins. As a congregation set free from sin, we now are also set free to serve.

This past weekend we heard that Jesus healed a leper by touching him. A missional church that has sought and received God's forgiveness is now protected from the things that frighten us. Like Jesus, we are sent into a world that is untouchable, and yet told to touch them with the healing message of Jesus. You have to be close to touch someone. You have to be close to be missional! Think about how God has spared you and think about those around you who need to know Jesus. Let the hope of Jesus fill you not only with love, but also with action! Go into the world and make disciples.

The theme for this year is still this:

### Commissioned for Mission

My classes are helping me become better prepared to lead this commission for mission. One of the classes I just finished was titled "Communicating Christ: Culture and Context." We looked at the impact of culture on receptivity to the Gospel of Jesus. I read some great books on New Testament era culture and society that will bring new impact to my Bible study and hopefully to my preaching. Dr. Rutt is a former missionary to South America, and he provided some significant insight into various cultures and the impact of the Gospel message of Jesus in the lives of people.

The second class was a very practical class. It was titled "Organizing the Congregation For Christian Outreach." Dr. Phil Bickel has written a number of books on outreach. He is a former missionary who burns with the desire to share Jesus. His focus is on fishing with a NET (a network of evangelistic teams) rather than just a hook. He helped us see how we should be thinking about teams when planning mission and outreach. My final project for this class is to prepare a two-year plan for NET fishing in our congregation. This will be a good roadmap for us as we move ahead in mission.

I appreciate the support of the congregation in allowing me to take these classes. They are relevant to my ministry at Trinity, and ultimately will be a blessing to our congregation and to those around us, especially those who do not know Jesus. As I give thanks for this learning, may you also give thanks for the change of heart (repentance) that God works in us as he prepares us to be missional congregation!

Pastor Easterday

## Worship Services-

Feb. 28-Mar. 2 1<sup>st</sup> Weekend in Lent

Our Lenten journey begins with a focus on the 40 days of temptation that Jesus faced for us. This is the beginning of National Lutheran Schools Week. The school children will be involved in the Sunday 8:00 and 10:45 services.

**Readings** Genesis 22:1-18, James 1:12-18, Mark 1:9-15

\*\*Mar. 4 (Midweek 2) 2 & 7 p.m.  
Saul: The King who fell from grace

Mar. 7-9 2<sup>nd</sup> Weekend in Lent

We ponder the question asked by Jesus, "Who do the people say I am?"

**Readings** Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Romans 5:1-11, Mark 8:27-38.

\*\* Mar. 11 (Midweek 3) 2 & 7 p.m.  
Solomon: The King who had everything

Mar. 14-16 3<sup>rd</sup> Weekend in Lent  
Zeal for God's house consumed Jesus in the cleansing of the temple area.

**Readings** Exodus 10:1-17, I Corinthians 1:18-31, John 2:13-22

\*\* Mar. 18 (Midweek 4) 2 & 7 p.m.  
Ahab: The King whose repentance was too little, too late

Mar. 21-23 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend in Lent  
The bronze serpent was lifted up in the wilderness and all who looked upon it were saved. The cross was later lifted up so that we might look and be saved!

**Readings** Numbers 21:4-9, Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:14-21

\*\* Mar. 25 (Midweek 5) 2 & 7 p.m.  
Zedekiah: The King who turned out the lights

Mar. 28-30 5<sup>th</sup> Weekend in Lent  
Whoever wants to be first must be a slave of all.

**Readings** Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:32-45.

\*\*Apr. 1 (Midweek 6) 2 & 7 p.m.  
Herod: The King who couldn't kill Jesus

Apr. 4-6 (Palm Sunday Weekend)  
King of Kings: A humble coronation

\*\*Apr. 9 (Maundy Thursday) 2 & 7 p.m.  
King of Kings: Condemned to die

\*\*Apr. 10 (Good Friday) 2 & 7 p.m.  
Kind of Kings: Life through death

Apr. 11 (Easter Vigil) 6:30 p.m.  
Israel: Chased by a king (Pharaoh)

Apr. 12 (Easter Sunday) 6:30, 9:00, 9:15, 10:45 a.m.  
King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

**Note: The Easter Contemporary Service will be held at 9:15 a.m. (previously publicized as 8:15) to allow people to have breakfast before worship.**

## The Principal Connection ... The Case for Christian Education

If you were to list the most important thing that you are looking for in a school, what would it be? Strong academics? Superior athletic programs? School safety? What is the one non-negotiable characteristic that your school has to have?

Let's do some simple math. The average school student attends high school for 180 days for 7 hours a day (we'll throw in an extra hour for athletics or activities.) That's 1260 hours per year. Considering that the average child will be sleeping 9 hours a night and awake 2700 hours during the course of a school year, means that approximately **47%** of his/her awake time during a school year will be spent at school. That's a big number.

The decision about Christian education really comes down to this: Spend that 47% at a school that encourages growth in Jesus Christ...Or...Spend 47% at a school that wants nothing to do with Jesus Christ and promotes a non-Christian worldview.

The truth is that Christian schools have the one thing that public schools will never have, and it is the most important educational tool ever – God's Word (the Bible). God's Word is used in our Christian schools for:

1. **Salvation** – Students will come to know Jesus as their Savior via their Christian school experience.
2. **Training** – Students will not only learn daily about God's grace, but also how to defend their Christian faith and what it means to be a Christian in today's world.
3. **Magnifying God's glory** – students will learn about how great God really is.

At Trinity Lutheran School, God's Word is found in the following places:

- Daily Religion classes
- Weekly Chapel
- Regular academic classes
- Devotions – Class, Sports Team, etc.
- In the advice of teachers and staff
- All aspects of operation

Current scientific research tells us that a child's brain is not fully developed. An undeveloped frontal lobe explains certain behavior: recklessness, emotional outbursts, poor decision making, etc. What this means for you is that our school plays a pivotal role in the development of the brain. Trinity Lutheran School will have an effect on how the brain is hard-wired.

The decision on whether or not to attend a Christian school is really the choice between developing with Jesus Christ and developing without Him. Imagine for a moment how different your child's life might be if they develop without Christ at the center of their heart and mind.

Now go back and look at what you think is the most important characteristic of the school that you will choose. Is anything more important than developing with Christ? If you would like more information about the Christian education at Trinity Lutheran School, please call our office at 663-1586. We are already taking pre-registration for next school year. Classes are beginning to fill up!

March is a busy month for us at Trinity. National Lutheran Schools Week (NLSW) is March 1-7. Don't forget to attend our Fun Fair, Spaghetti Dinner, and Silent Auction on March 6.

We will be taking ISTEP tests March 2-6. This is the writing portion of the test with another installment coming April 27-May 1. Our children have done a wonderful job on these tests.

Because Lent falls in March we will celebrate our Chapel services at 2:00 p.m. with the Trinity church members. What a joy to worship together!

The Calumet Lutheran Athletic Conference (CLAC) Volleyball tournament will be held at Trinity on March 19, beginning at 3:45 p.m. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter ends on March 20. Spring Break will be March 23-27. We will have to make up a snow day on June 4.

Congratulations to Ginny Masengarb who will be retiring at the end of this school year. We continue to give thanks for her life in Christ and her productive ministry in our midst. We wish Ginny and her husband Dave, who is also retiring, all the best!

Our prayer for all of you is that God bless and keep you during this month.

*John Schultz*

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## Board of Communications

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The Board of Communication is pleased to announce that the 10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service is being recorded for on-line listening. Log on to [www.trinitycp.org](http://www.trinitycp.org) and click the "Blue Button." The worship services can now be heard by hundreds of thousands of people around the world.

## Thoughts from the Treasurer

Since I spoke to you two weeks ago before services, it is really too soon to tell if we have stopped the downward trend in our weekly offerings. I will update you through the

bulletin and in the April newsletter. There are 3 things I would like you to consider. We have been promoting two of these heavily the past 2 months. The other is a somewhat forgotten convenience.

### **SIMPLY GIVING – ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER -**

Do you like the convenience of setting up automatic payments from your checking or savings accounts? Would you consider doing this for your offerings or your tuition payments at school? It is simple and free. How do you do it?

1. Stop by the church office to pick up a form
2. Complete the form including the date and amount of each withdrawal. You have options for weekly, monthly, on the 15<sup>th</sup> etc.
3. Return the form to the financial secretary (Judy Alliss) or the Treasurer (Jim Hensley)
4. We will verify envelop numbers and add church information and then send it in.

This program is open to all members, guests and school families at Trinity. Thanks to Thrivent for underwriting the banking costs. This program is now in its 4<sup>th</sup> year and works well.

**Giving PLUS – Matching Gifts** – This is a way to obtain matching funds for the school ministry. Remember, this does not have any negative impact on the church budget. You need to be a Thrivent member to participate.

1. Stop by the church office and get the form
2. Write a check or a series of checks for up to \$600 payable to Trinity Lutheran School
3. In the memo section or on your envelop write "GIVING PLUS". You will get credit on your giving statement.
4. Complete the form and return it to the church office through one of our three co-ordinators; Marilyn Kozlowski, Connie Rainey or Mark Reiners

Thank you to Thrivent for matching \$.50 for every dollar contributed.

**SCRIP** – For all of the details – Please see Bonnie Weglewski, our 1<sup>st</sup> grade Teacher's aide. There are over 70 businesses to choose from. Here is a summary.

1. See Bonnie for a list of participating vendors. This example uses Strack's and Speedway.
2. You buy groceries and gas every week and realize you spend \$100 doing this.
3. You can still spend \$100 and about \$5 is sent to the school every week.
4. You get a form from Bonnie and indicate you would like to buy \$50 of Strack and \$50 of Speedway Scrip
5. You write Bonnie a check for \$100 and complete the form.

6. On the following Sunday pick up your Scrip (looks like a Gift card) in the Atrium
7. Here's the good part, we get a percentage of what you spend back from SCRIP and **YOU** can designate if you want those proceeds to help a particular family with tuition/registration or go to the general scholarship fund

Five Dollars may not seem like a lot, but \$5/week over a year comes to about \$260 and if 100 people do this then we would have \$26,000 in income in one year.

*Jim Hensley*

## Board of Mission & Outreach

### ***ABLAZE* - \$5.00 for 83**

Every minute eighty three (83) people die without knowing Jesus as our Savior. Our entire church has the opportunity to spread the word of Jesus to our own community and throughout the world. Our congregational goal will be over the next five years to support *Ablaze* with \$50,000 dollars. That may seem like a large sum but when broken down over five years and throughout our membership I know it is very reachable. The distribution of five dollars to this program is as follows:

- \$2.50 or (50%) to LCMS World Mission – International\*
- \$1.00 or (20%) – National\*
- \$0.75 or (15%) Districts\*
- \$0.75 or (15%) Back to the Congregation

(\* ) Distribution of our funds by the LCMS World Mission will be shared with the congregation.

### **Native American Mission Trip:**

A second trip to the Ojibwe Indian Reservation in Cloquet, Minnesota is planned for the **week of July 12<sup>th</sup>**. This mission trip would be a blessing to the people we know as the Ojibwe, as well as the Wisconsin Chippewa. It would be an opportunity for you & your family to experience life on the reservation.

On the reservation each year new families join the Sunday school program with the baptizing of youth an ongoing event. These children, as well as the elders, look forward to our visit and know that we will touch one or two children as the visitors did last year. We, as ministers and witnesses of our faith, can plant the seeds of faith so the Holy Spirit can grow in all young people.

Accommodations are at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and Preschool and a normal day is as follows:

- 8 am Breakfast
- 8:30 Devotions
- 9 am VBS prep & Work crews depart to work sites
- Noon Lunch with VBS, and at work site

After lunch various activities take place such as swimming, site seeing & white water rafting. Several evenings after supper there are musical presentations by the people of the reservation, as well as other guests. If interested, contact Mrs. Lisa Cizmar (690-0771) for more information. She and husband Jim and their daughter, Allison were part of this adventure and spent a week on the reservation last summer. You can also contact Jim Radford (663-7509).

### **Umbrella of Hope (Gary Churches):**

Work crews will be needed soon for various church and home projects in the Gary area. I will be attending a meeting in March with the Gary Lutheran churches & the Umbrella of Hope committee to formulate a game plan. Interested parties can notify Jim Radford (663-7509), Frank Voyak (663-7285) or the Pastors.

*Jim Radford*

### **Ballroom Dancing:**

Jump, Jive and Wail, put on your Boogie Shoes and join us for a few nights of Dance Fever!!! The Discipleship board invites you to ballroom dancing **lessons provided by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rosenwinkel**. The lessons will begin **Thursday February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** in the gym. Lessons will be on Thursdays for a total of 4 weeks. Bring a partner and learn a few dances. Please RSVP to Amy Dyba by phone 226-3054 or email [adyba@comcast.net](mailto:adyba@comcast.net). Hope to see everyone there!!!!

### **Altar Guild ...**

Members of the Trinity Altar Guild will be cleaning the Chancel and Altar on **Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 a.m.** in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Please bring your own cleaning supplies. All women of the congregation are welcome. Questions? Call Bobbi Kujawski at 663-4643.

### **Biblical Garden**

*“Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of His name; make His praise glorious.” Psalm 66:1 & 2*  
God's creation shouts His name and makes His praise known. The Biblical Garden small group ministry has a threefold mission:

-to grow closer to Christ through prayer and study of His Word especially as it relates to God's gift of beauty in His creation,

-to invite, encourage, and teach others to know Christ through prayer and study of His Word especially as it relates to God's gift of beauty in His creation,

-to make the property of Trinity Lutheran Church and School a more welcoming, inviting, and missional place through God's gift of beauty in His creation.

We will be holding regular meetings for Bible Study, prayer, garden planning, and garden working on **every third Monday at 7:30 p.m.** (after worship) beginning Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. A work schedule for watering, weeding, pruning, etc. will be set up at the meeting. We welcome new and returning members. Even if you're interested but think you might need some coaching, please come!

## Youth News

Christian Artist Chris Tomlin will be at the Sears Centre Arena on **Saturday, March 28, 2009** as part of the Hello Love tour. Tickets are \$28 (parking is \$20). See the information poster on the bulleting board by the Reception Desk for more information.

Ignite Chicago is a 2-day concert event at Alexian Field in Schaumburg, IL. on **July 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009**. See the Youth Bulletin board for the current list of groups who will be appearing at this event. Before April 1<sup>st</sup>, cost is \$30 for 1 day tickets (either Saturday or Sunday) or \$50 for both. After April 1<sup>st</sup>, costs go to \$40 for a single day and \$55 for both days. We have not received any info on group tickets yet. We went last year and this was a great event! Some big name Christian artists! Watch for more information as it becomes available.

### Soup & Bread Dinners

**Every Wednesday in Lent** (except Holy Week), the youth will sponsor Soup & Bread dinners **from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall! (Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25, Apr. 1) Free-will offering from the dinners will support 26 (and counting) participants who will attend YouthQuake, a junior high youth gathering, in April. Please come for the fellowship and some good soup. Stay for Lenten worship. Want to make soup? Call Beth Reiners at 661-2353.

### 30 Hour Famine

A sad reality of sin in our world is the toll hunger, malnutrition and lack of clean water take on people, especially the children. One way to personalize this....a population around the world greater than that of the United States (approx. 500,000,000 people) may not eat at all today. If they do manage 1 meal, they have no idea when they will next eat. Here's another way....approximately every time you breathe, somewhere in the world a child dies from hunger, malnutrition or lack of simple medicines for diseases that are easily treatable. Every time you breathe. We cannot help every person. We can help some.

A group of Youth and Adults is doing something March 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>. We are participating in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. In many parts of the world referred to above \$1 keeps a child alive for a day. You can help in these ways:

- ✚ **Join us.** Registration materials are available at the Reception Desk.
- ✚ **Pray for us – and the hungry.**
- ✚ **Donate Food.** Support Community Care Cupboard with canned goods, dry goods or paper goods.
- ✚ **Donate Juice or Water for Famine participants.** Donation sheet at the Reception Desk or speak to DCE Wendt for details.
- ✚ **Donate Money to Sponsor a Famine participant.** DCE Wendt will also be glad to receive your donation.

Thanks!

### Service Opportunity

As part of the 30 Hour Famine, we will be traveling to the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana on **Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>** to sort food donations which are distributed to food banks in Lake and Porter counties. If you desire to join us (even if not doing the famine), we will gather at 8:00 a.m. to travel to the warehouse. We are normally back between noon and 1:00 p.m. A special release form for the Food Bank will need to be filled out. A parent/guardian signature is needed for all who are under 18. Forms will be at the Reception Desk by the end of February.

### YouthQuake

YouthQuake is a Junior High Youth Gathering that takes place **April 17-19, 2009**. The theme for the 2008-09 Junior High Youth Quakes is **ONE**. This event is for all youth in 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade (9<sup>th</sup> graders may attend as well). You may invite one friend if you wish! **Final registration deadline:** \$60 deposit by March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – Total cost = \$145 (\$60 deposit + \$85) We are actively fundraising to cover as much as possible of the \$85/youth. **Deposit is non-refundable once paid to Youth Encounter!** Registration materials are at the Reception Desk.

### I-Pass Transponders Needed

If you have an I-Pass we can borrow April 17-19, 2009, we need several for YouthQuake. Speak to DCE Wendt, Kelly McGraw or Lisa Cizmar if you are willing to loan us yours! Thanks!

### Easter Breakfast

The Easter Breakfast takes place from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. on **Easter Sunday morning (April 12<sup>th</sup>)**. We serve scrambled eggs, baked goods, and a variety of beverages. A great time of fellowship after the Easter Sunrise Service or before the Family Service at 9:00 a.m. or the Contemporary Easter Service at 9:15 a.m. Plan to attend! A list of needed supplies, for those who are willing to donate, will be at the Reception Desk in mid-March.



## LOOKING AHEAD:



It's that time of year; Vacation Bible School is on the way. Join our staff, **June 15<sup>th</sup>**, for **Gadget's Garage**. God's Always Doing Great, Exciting Things (**G.A.D.G.E.T.**). We are looking for leaders, aides, nursery staff, craft leaders, snack leaders, outdoor activities, decorations, plus many more. Please consider joining our staff this year and help us teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our children. Look for registration forms arriving soon. If you are able to volunteer for **Gadget's Garage**, please contact Kerri Wilkes at 219- 690-1415 or at [bwilkes98@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bwilkes98@sbcglobal.net) .

## 2009 Focus on WATCH Groups

### The Prayer Shawl Group

This month we examine another small group which lies hidden far from the limelight. It got started a couple of years ago by Carol Hubacek. If you know anything about her at all, you understand that she loves to knit and to crochet.

She tells me that though there were some rudimentary beginnings in grade school and in the girl scouts, knitting really became a part of her life when she started teaching in Chicago Heights. There Norma [Meyer] Nelson, the mother of Dr. Meyer, past speaker on the Lutheran Hour and now president of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, taught her to knit and really got her hooked, so to speak.

In recent years Carol has begun to have the time to share this hobby with others. Her group meets at church twice a month [2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays], from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. The ladies (there are no men right now) work on whatever anyone present wants to work on, beginner or advance knitter. You'll receive plenty of guidance, if you desire it, but they focus on shawls which are given away, usually to shut-ins. They call these "prayer shawls" because they pray over each shawl and for the person who will receive it.

The benefit of such a group is that your knitting does not have to be done in silence. The conversation leads to how the Lord is working in the congregation and members' lives and is focused on building each other up. Prayer is a natural outgrowth of the work and conversation of the group. Come and join them.

Pastor T.

### *Happy Anniversary!*

3/1	Ron & Barbara Atkinson, Todd & Melanie Sapper
3/3	Les & June Luebcke, Larry & Sandy Smith
3/8	Dan & Lynn Matalin
3/9	James & Eloise Bloede
3/10	Don & June Woodke
3/14	Brad & Kerri Wilkes
3/15	Bryan & Julie Boettger
3/17	Robert & Suzette Pryde
3/20	Chuck & MaryLou Thompson, John & Susan Lynk
3/25	Kevin & Amanda Rosenthal
3/26	Ray & Val Giacomini

### *Happy Birthday!*

3/1	Ron Atkinson, Richard Fitzsimons, Audrey Koedyker, Karlee Reagan
3/2	Dee Pocock, Gary Waters, Oszkar Kasch, Lauren Schwimmer
3/3	Noel Cross, Karl Dahlman, Carl Wendt, Sydney Dennis
3/4	Lorraine Steuer, Robert Szaller, Lori Olson
3/5	Theresa Vandersteeg, Ursula Andrews, Jenny Rashin

3/6	Laurel Weichert, Dawn Kalember, Christine Wendt, Marvin Hecht, Catherine Speichert, Rachel McCord
3/7	Edna Luebcke, Bethany Smith, Roger Marvel, Marilyn Brannock, Bud Hughes, Susan Lynk, Laura Bobor
3/8	John Sangkaratana, Chuck O'Connor, Lindsay Botha
3/9	Lillie Rust
3/10	Helmut Baum, Sharon De St.Jean, Lynn Kirby, Karen Sacha, Loretta Garrett, Jennifer Johnstone
3/11	Jim Cizmar, Amanda Pavot, Frank Edmonds
3/12	Ed Fraikin, Beverly Neff, Julia Thunberg, Alexia Weglewski
3/13	Pam Stadnik, Ruth Schmitz, Bruno Hnatusko, Ashley Gora
3/14	Kay Moor, Tom Parry, David Wilson, Celeste Holtzinger
3/15	Jim Radford, Robyn Froman, Jennifer Suslowicz, Melissa Mangrum
3/16	Cheryl Trump, Robert Pryde, Wendy Erickson, Brett Miller, Rebecca Guenther, Johnny Lynk Jr.
3/17	Sue Campbell, Nathanael Reynolds
3/18	Joyce Easterday, Mark Reiners, Nicole Hrapek, Angela Mora, Michele Mora
3/19	Susan Magruder, Bryce Klingberg
3/20	Linda Wirick
3/21	Harriet Blimm, Jody Szaller, Amanda Guritz, Sydney Dyba
3/22	Richard Anderson, Chris Pavot, Diane Werner, Tim Knopf, Justin Pavot
3/23	Don Woodke, Kevin Topp
3/24	Hans Enderlin, Joshua Neff, Kara Egnatz
3/25	Lois Lottes, Susan Buse
3/26	Elizabeth Schnick, Kendra Rather
3/27	Linda Watland, Denny Brannock, Missy Luebcke, Christine Dixon, Rebecca Crum, Rachel Hammond, Alyssa Guritz, Andrew Fieldhouse
3/28	Judith Thomas, Dan Torkelson, Shirley Esboldt, Gary Diekelmann, Allyson Ketcher
3/30	Jim Nelson, Janet Ellis, Jennifer Knopp, Nikki Wise, Patricia Murdoch
3/31	Jack Ronning, Clarke Spanburg, Devon Dubbert

### *New Members*

Our Trinity family was enlarged on February 15<sup>th</sup>, as we welcomed new members Megan Coulter, Lynda Smith and daughter Daisey, Diane Werner, and Clark Wise. Megan is the fiancé of Trinity member Chip Thompson. Lynda & Daisey Smith transferred from Indianapolis. Daisey is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student at Trinity. Diane Werner transferred from Hanna, Indiana. Both of her children are enrolled at Trinity. Her daughter Amanda is in kindergarten, and her son Keith is in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Clark Wise transferred from Overland Missouri, and resides in Merrillville.



**Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**, for article submission to the April newsletter. Articles may be dropped off at church or sent to [newsletter@trinitycp.org](mailto:newsletter@trinitycp.org).



Our study continues...

## Bible Study

**Sunday Morning Adult Bible study** – Many classes are going on now...please consider one of the following opportunities if you are not currently involved in a study:

### Topic of the Week series

A new DVD series began in the Gym on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Each week will feature a new topic! Topics include:

- 3/1/09 DVD Title: Sunday – *Following Jesus is the heart of it all!*
- 3/8/09 DVD Title: Kickball – *Does God still love us when we don't get what we think we need?*
- 3/15/09 DVD Title: Trees – *If heaven is where we're going, what is our time on earth all about?*
- 3/22/09 DVD Title: Rhythm – *How are we all connected through Christ?*
- 3/29/09 DVD Title: Bullhorn – *How do we share the love of Christ with an indifferent world?*
- 4/5/09 DVD Title: Lump – *How much does God love us all?*

### Beginning Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

#### The Second Table of the Law—Human Care Ministry

Led by Karol Ketcher Faculty Lounge  
Explore Luther's meanings the second table of the law (Commandments 4-10), especially the "what you should do" section. The class will discuss concrete actions that might flow out of the second table of the Law as New Testament Christians. How do we respond to God's love in Christ by caring for our neighbor? Discover practical ways to show Christ's love to people all around us.

- 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Sunday, March 1
- 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Sunday, March 8
- 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Sunday, March 15
- 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Sunday, March 22
- 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Sunday, March 29
- 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Commandments: Sunday, April 5

### Beginning Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

#### The Lutheran Difference: Justification & Sanctification

Led by Jeannine Furakawa Conference Room  
All that we have comes from the love of God. New life in Christ – being viewed as pure and holy in God's sight for Jesus' sake. New life in Christ – living out our calling day by day. A life of faith lived out of God's love and grace, not a list of 'do's' & 'don'ts'. 5 weeks.

Coming April 19<sup>th</sup> to May 10<sup>th</sup> – *Consecrated Stewards – part two!*

### Wednesday Evenings....

#### Discovering God's Vision for Your Life: You and Your Spiritual Gifts

5:30 – 6:45 p.m. Mrs. Karol Ketcher Teacher's Lounge  
How has God gifted you? Do you know that God promises to give every Christian a gift through the Holy Spirit? Engage in this interactive session to discover your gift or gifts and consider how you might use God's gift(s) and experience the joy God gives through service to Him. Feel free to bring along a bowl of soup from the Soup & Bread dinners. Missed the first week? You can still catch up!

8 sessions – Feb. 25, Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25, Apr. 1, 9, 10

**1 on 2 Discipleship Bible study** is entering its 3<sup>rd</sup> season...The concept is simple. One person, who is willing, meets weekly with 2 others, who are willing, to work through a faith-growing Bible study for a year (18 sessions). The 'one' commits to being prepared, open to sharing their personal faith journey openly and honestly, and nurturing the 'two' in discipleship of Jesus. The 'two' commit to being prepared for the lesson, open to growth as the Spirit brings that growth and commit to becoming the 'one' for two others in the following year. The goal: To grow closer to Jesus Christ in our walk of faith. It is an amazing journey full of God's amazing love. Are you interested? ***Like the Marines, we are especially looking for a few good men.*** We have 3 men who have completed the course who are looking for others to lead. See DCE Wendt.

## Mission Connections ...

### **News from the Groths**

The most recent newsletter received from Chuck & Jeanette Groth is posted on the mission bulletin board in the Atrium. The Lord is doing exciting things 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)**.

\* \* \* \*

## Has your life changed?

I see it every day. A person who has never needed financial guidance walks through my door right after a significant life event, seeking advice for important decisions. Those events include:

**Marriage.** About two-thirds of married people say they disagree with their spouse about money.

**Birth or adoption of a child.** Adjusting your budget is important. So is evaluating your need for additional disability income and life insurance coverage, as well as considering college savings plans.

**Inheritance.** Many people plan for their deaths, but often overlook the fact that they might receive a loved one's legacy.

**Retirement.** Both financially preparing for retirement and appropriately tapping one's financial assets in retirement are key needs.

Whatever life changes you've experienced, talking with a financial professional about your values, goals and needs can help secure your financial future.

To learn more, contact Carsten Falkenberg, Senior Financial Consultant at 219-663-8699 or [carsten.falkenberg@thrivent.com](mailto:carsten.falkenberg@thrivent.com), or visit [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com).

## IN GOD'S SERVICE:

**Rev. David A. Easterday**, Senior Pastor  
1615 W. 95<sup>th</sup> Ct.  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
219-662-8638

**Rev. David P. Kipp**, Associate Pastor  
920 W. South Street  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
219-662-4108

**Rev. H. Lothar Thelke**, Pastor Emeritus  
763 Trenton Street  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
219-663-6456

**Paul R. Wendt**, Director of Christian Education  
931 E. Joliet Street  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
219-662-9317

**Karol R. Ketcher**, Music Director  
316 S. Court Street  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
219-663-9105

**John E. Schultz**, Principal  
6208 W. 135<sup>th</sup> Pl.  
Cedar Lake, IN 46303  
219-390-7095