



NEWSLETTER



October, 2008



Newsletter Email: newsletter@trinitycp.org

Web Page: www.trinitycp.org

Fall Family Hayride & Bonfire

The Board of Discipleship invites you to our Fall Family Hayride and Bonfire on **Saturday, October 17th, at 6:30 p.m.** at Kregel's Pumpkin Patch, 13407 Grant St., Crown Point. Hot chocolate and cider will be provided. Please bring a dozen cookies to share and a canned good donation for the Community Care Cupboard. Come join us for fun and fellowship.

From the Pastor ...

Dear Friends in Christ,

The last few months we have begun a journey focused on what makes a church missional. I discussed whether God wants us to be missional or comfortable. Last month I addressed missional congregations as knowing that the focus of ministry is community. This month, the key word is awareness. I share with you some stories to help illustrate this.

A number of years ago, our high school band was very strong and competitive. In those days, the marching band competition was a regional one that included much of northern Indiana. There was one band in particular that was always the "sweepstakes" winner in the contest: Dyer. I really didn't know anything about Dyer, other than they were good and we really wanted to beat them. Now that we live in the Chicagoland area, I know a little more about Dyer. In fact, I could even guess that some of you may have been in some of those excellent marching bands. Now I have awareness.

Awareness is significant in our faith relationship. The words of our traditional confession of sins come from a Bible passage that speaks of awareness.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

Awareness can be painful, especially when faced with the reality of sin. But awareness is crucial in our relationship with God, and ultimately with each other.

Awareness of sin creates a difficult situation in our life if left alone. The anguish of our awareness that we have

offended God brings great fear. But in God's great mercy, he has made us aware of something else about his plan. He has made us aware of Jesus as Christ has entered our world to take away the sins that we fear. He makes us aware of the death of Jesus on the cross. He makes us aware of the empty grave. He makes us aware of the promise of our day of resurrection. Awareness is a great thing when we see God's plan in all of this.

But now awareness extends to the work of the church. We have painfully become aware of some troubling disasters in our region. Floods have ravaged the area, and people have lost most of their belongings, as well as their special keepsakes and family heirlooms. The truly missional church cannot comfortably remain within the walls of the congregation. The truly missional church understands that God's work is outside our walls, especially in the community. James reminds us,

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if not accompanied by action, is dead. (James 2:14-17)

The truly missional church begins to understand that our work is with brothers and sisters in need, both from the terrible effects of floods, and especially from the terrible effects of sin.

My prayer is that as we continue to understand God's plan for us as a congregation, we will not be comfortable until we become aware of the spiritual and physical needs of our neighbors, that we may live out our faith and our church's commission to be missional for the sake of Jesus Christ!

Pastor Easterday

P.S. I am truly thankful for all the hard work done by the 140th Anniversary Task Force. The ice cream social was a great event, and all of the activities leading up to this provided a great awareness of our history leading up to this time. A special thank you to Dennis Hodges and all the faithful task force workers for reminding us, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

Worship Services- October

Oct. 4-6 21st Weekend after Pentecost

We welcome Rev. Steve Cohen to our worship services this weekend. Rev. Cohen is a Jewish Christian Missouri Synod Lutheran pastor. He will provide awareness to us on reaching Jewish family and friends with the message of Jesus. We will be receiving a door offering for Apple of His Eye Ministry at each of the services.

Bible Readings: Leviticus 23:23-32, Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-46

Oct. 11-13 22nd Weekend after Pentecost

The Apostle Paul reminds us, "Rejoice in the Lord always." That rejoicing results from our awareness of the great gift of Jesus Christ!

Bible Readings: Isaiah 25:6-9, Philippians 4:4-13, Matthew 22:1-14

Oct. 18-20 23rd Weekend after Pentecost

God knows us (awareness) and summons us by name. Then he equips us to go forth and do his work!

Bible Readings: Isaiah 45:1-7, I Thessalonians 1:1-10, Matthew 22:15-22

Oct. 25-27 Reformation Weekend

We welcome Rev. Chuck Groth, former Assistant Pastor at Trinity (1978-83). Rev. Groth now serves as a missionary in Cambodia and will be here to provide awareness of the work he is doing.

Bible Readings: Revelation 14:6-7, Romans 3:19-28, John 8:31-36

Looking Ahead

Nov. 1-3 All Saints Weekend

We will remember all the Trinity members who have departed to be with Jesus this past year.

From the Music Director ...

Concordia University Wind Symphony Coming to Trinity Crown Point

The Concordia University Wind Symphony will embark on its annual fall concert tour October 24 through October 26. The Wind Symphony is conducted by Richard Fischer, Distinguished Professor of Music and Director of Instrumental Music at Concordia University Chicago.

The ensemble will perform at Trinity Lutheran Church in Crown Point on **Sunday, October 26 at 4:30 p.m.** The Wind Symphony is the premier instrumental ensemble at Concordia University. This 55 member organization maintains an active performance schedule, having performed in schools, churches, and concert halls, in 43 state, Canada, Eastern Europe, and most recently, China, where they will return in May. The group has a commitment to the finest traditional and contemporary sacred and secular repertoire. To date, the Wind Symphony has recorded ten compact discs of sacred music.

A variety of music in many forms and styles, programmed for wide audience appeal, will make this event a pleasure for everyone. The performance will include works of Bach, Bancks, Gillingham, Hanseen, Rosauero, and Vaughan Williams. Admission is free; however, a freewill offering will be received. For additional information please contact Karol Ketcher at 219-663-1578.

Concordia University Chicago, is a distinctive, comprehensive university of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, centered in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and based in the liberal arts. Concordia University equips men and women to serve and lead with integrity, creativity competence, and compassion in a diverse, interconnected, and increasingly urbanized church and world.

Karol Ketcher

The Principal Connection ...

Trusting on Our Father

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young. Set an example for the believers in what you say and in how you live. Also set an example in how you love and in what you believe." 1 Timothy 4:12

Over the years I have heard from many parents that they are afraid the children from Trinity will never be able to adapt to the public school in high school unless they pull them out and expose them to "real life" in middle school. My question is this, "Whose power is greater, God's or man's?"

If we look at the things that our children will be exposed to we must remember that God has the ability to impact our children in positive ways regardless of the fears we carry. There will be negative influences as long as sin is in the world. God is our positive influence.

At Trinity we create confident kids who draw their security from the Lord's love. Our graduates are less inclined to act in response to other's opinions or to mimic pop culture. We encourage our children to become confident in God and His Word. This paves the way for them to act according to His will.

God is our Heavenly Father. He is the one they will need to turn to for years to come when we, as parents and teachers in their lives, are long gone. He has all the answers for the big picture but also for those here-and-now questions. We can teach our children, when in doubt, to ask the Father.

Board of Finance & Staff Management

Finance Report – October 2008

We give thanks for your generous support of God's work through Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church and School. Here are a few facts of note from our fiscal year that ended June 30.

1. Our General Fund Offerings crossed \$1,000,000 last year. This does not include the building fund, designated gifts or charities of the month.
2. Our Building Loan decreased by \$228,000 and now stands at \$358,000. This decrease was possible because of the gift that matched each dollar of General Fund Offerings increase with a \$2 donation to the Building Fund. This gift totaled \$201,000 last year. There is still time to participate this year.
3. Our payable to the Endowment Fund increased by \$75,000. We had planned for a School enrollment of 192. We opened the year with 174 and closed the year with 194. We also had some plans for 3rd Source Funding that we were unable to execute last year and we had \$10-15,000 of unplanned expenses.
4. We closed the year with \$57,775 in payables including \$27,500 to Synod.

On June 23, the congregation approved a fiscal plan for 2008-09 with operating expenditures of \$1,600,000. This plan is based on a 4% increase in offerings and a school enrollment of 194 students.

Through September 23, here is a quick snapshot of where we stand

1. Offerings are \$26,000 ahead of budget.
2. School Enrollment is 222.
3. Church Attendance is up about 60 people per Sunday compared to last year
4. All payables have been paid from last year and we are current with all bills including our Synod and District commitment this year.
5. We have funded \$85,000 in Scholarships for families attending Trinity Lutheran School

Item 5 will be the subject of much discussion in the months ahead as we will be seeking ways to continue to support families in need. The scholarships have been granted to 35 families affecting 46 enrolled children and another 15 children who we would anticipate enrolling in the coming years.

We continue to pray for a joyful response to the blessings God has given to you. We thank you for your prayers that we may be faithful stewards with the gifts that you give.

You may not be able to trust your children are ready for the world, but through a faith life grounded in our Lord Jesus Christ, our children are prepared for anything high school will throw at them. At Trinity we will teach our children to turn to the Father for guidance and answers. We can never go wrong with our Lord. He is fully trustworthy and always there.

We will be busy in October. We will celebrate our **Grandparents Day** for children in grades K-8 on **Friday, October 10, from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m.** Chapel will be at 10:45 a.m.. Look for additional details in the Trinity Weekly Announcements. What a joy to spend time with our grandparents!

Wednesday October 14 our teachers will attend an In-Service so we will have a Half Day with dismissal at 11:30 a.m. There will be NO LUNCH served this day. **School WILL NOT be in session October 23-24** due to Fall Break **and October 27-28** due to a Teacher's Conference in Indy.

October 17 we invite all our school mothers to **Muffins for Moms**, an event sponsored by the PTL. A time of fellowship with a light breakfast of muffins and beverages, held in the cafeteria to honor our moms. We are excited to get together! October 22 will be the end of our First Quarter.

We continue to have so much to be thankful for as we trust our Father to lead us. Lutheran education enables us to point our children to Him. We pray our Father in heaven would continue to bless our school.

Serving our Savior in prayer,

John E. Schultz

1 Thessalonians 5:18 ~ "In everything give thanks!"

From the Executive Director ...

October is a busy time at Trinity ·New things resulting from our 2008 Strategic Plan and Summer Financial Focus are taking shape or are under way. · School has begun and the foundation for the school year has been laid. ·Planning for 2009 has started. · Recruitment is underway for various unfilled Officer, Administrative Boards members and Tasks forces.

I share this to request:

1. Your prayers for the ministry we share, including Called Professionals, staff and elected leaders.
2. Your openness to become fully, or more fully, engaged in the life and support of Trinity. This process begins through regular Bible study, worship and active involvement as opportunities and events are announced.
3. Your work to further our desire to proclaim God's grace in a welcoming and caring environment.

Remember that you represent the name of Christ and the name of our church to those around you. I hope you are actively living out your life's purpose.

Rob Gardiner

Jim Hensley

Board of Mission & Outreach

“I don’t write many newsletters, but when I do bring your lunch”

Prior to Hurricane Gustav I called Mr. Bart Tucker who is our Biloxi contact, wished him well, and told him all of our Biloxi friends would be in our prayers. Ten days later Bart called me and told me that the Biloxi/Gulfport coastal area received winds and minor flooding.

He asked if Trinity was still coming down and how many volunteers would be with me. He then shared a story about some local chatter he heard from folks that were already back in their re-built homes. These folks are telling their friends who are still waiting on their homes to be built, to ask the construction coordinators to schedule their homes to be built when certain church groups are here from the north. The Lutheran churches with this reputation are from Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Southern Iowa, Immanuel Valparaiso & Trinity Crown Point.

Gustav caused some flooding in a few of the FEMA trailers, and Bart asked the residents of those trailers if they have had it with coastal living. The response was: if there are still church folks from the north willing to give of their time and talents, then order the materials and they will come. As of now we are scheduled for the week of November 8th, but due to volunteer availability the trip may be re-scheduled for next March. (Contact: Jim Radford)

Re-hab activity has begun in Gary, IN under the direction of Umbrella of Hope and Pastor Reeves. As of this writing, members of Trinity are evaluating the potential of remodeling a home for a single mom with six children. Students from Valparaiso University, volunteers from Redeemer Lutheran Church in Highland, and a Lutheran Church in Valparaiso are all part of the team. Soon work will begin at the church with the remodeling of the fellowship hall and a few of the old school classrooms, which will be used for a clothing/food bank and adult/youth Bible studies. (Contacts: Dennis Mills, Jim Radford, Frank Voyak)

Last July a family of three from Trinity traveled to Cloquet, Minnesota on a Mission trip to the Ojibwa Indian Reservation (Fond-du-Lac tribe). The report was that the experience of working and the fellowship were heartwarming. They are already planning to go again next year. Besides these three, there are six more members of Trinity planning to make this trip. (Contact: Lisa Cizmar)

Recently my Granddaughter and I attended the Midwestern Pow-Wow in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The music, costumes, dancing & fellowship were wonderful. The highlight was seeing the Native American People’s Choice award winning band Brule & Airo. I talked with a member of the band who is a Lakota Sioux and we discussed the possibility of a Mission/Outreach trip to Wounded Knee, South Dakota. He informed me the homes on the reservation were in need of major repairs, some more than others. Most importantly the people and especially the children do not have “the Word” in their lives. This young man summed it up perfectly, “The Lord is there, but no one is connecting them”. (Contact: Jim Radford)

The Trinity Hispanic Ministry, led by Trinity member Mrs. Laura Magaldi, has resumed the Tuesday Bible studies after a short summer break. Plans for expansion of this ministry will evolve through the churches web-site, posters, and word-of-mouth. We already have a Mexican mother who attends the Bible study and is interested in transferring her children to our school. (Contacts: Laura Magaldi, Jim Radford)

The LCMS booth at the Lake County Fair will be managed by Trinity from now on. This will be a great opportunity to blow a lot of horns, i.e. Hispanic Ministry, Umbrella of Hope, Church, School as well as other mission and outreach activities.

NOTE: DVD’s are available for your review for both Biloxi and the Ojibwa Indian Outreach.

Jim Radford

Trinity League Fall Bazaar

Trinity League **will not** be hosting the Annual Fall Bazaar/Soup Salad Luncheon this year. We are taking the year off to re-group, reorganize, and re-format. We will be back in 2009. We hope to see you then.

LOOKING AHEAD:



Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Trinity Lutheran Church will again host a FREE Community Thanksgiving Dinner on **Thursday, November 27th**. Trinity is hosting the dinner for families in need of assistance, senior citizens, and those who are alone or unable to celebrate with family or friends. Dinner will be held in Trinity’s Fellowship hall at 2 p.m. You do not have to be member of Trinity to attend. So if you know of anyone who is going to be alone, please invite them to this dinner. *Do not* spend this holiday alone.

Wiseway is having their annual FREE Butterball Turkey Giveaway. We will again be accepting Turkey Awards from Wiseway to accumulate enough awards to obtain our turkeys. If you would like to donate your Turkey Awards, please place them in the Turkey Award box on the desk in the Atrium.

We will again need volunteers to help prepare the food as well as to help set up, serve, and clean up after the meal. Volunteers may also be needed to help provide transportation for those who cannot drive themselves. Starting in early November, a volunteer list as well as a list of needs will be at the reception’s desk. More information will follow in the November newsletter. If you need further information, please contact Joyce or Dennis Mills at 661-8565.

Triangle Dinners

THANK YOU!! We have six (6) triangles – 18 couples – who have agreed to meet and share one meal a month with each other. We are so pleased that four couples have joined us who have never done this before! If you are interested in this very simple way to meet other folks from our church in a non-threatening way over a meal, please look for sign-ups for round 2 (January through March) to begin in early November.

Isn't it nice to come to church and have people greet you by name?! Isn't it nice to recognize someone and be able to call them by name?! For those of you who have been members or connected to Trinity for many years, this is a way to let others get to better know you. And for those who are presently in Christian Essentials, or who are very new to Trinity, this is a great way to get to know some people who've been around a while.

Think about joining us in Round 2 of Triangle Dinners during January, February, and March

Happy Anniversary!

10/1	Robert & Kandis Pigg
10/2	Mark & Jeannine Furukawa, John & Vicki Mowery
10/6	Mike & Brenda Dean
10/8	Troy & Dawn Stovall
10/9	Michael & Shannon Belmonte
10/11	Russ & Shirley Boettger, Gerry & Dawn Gora
10/12	Rich & Patti Wolter, Rick & Cindy Fitzsimons
10/13	Robert & Joyce McCann
10/14	Gary & DeeDee Waters, Jim & Kim Merrell, Les & Brooke Nack
10/16	Jim & Mary LaDuke, Gerry & Missy Luebcke
10/17	Daniel & DJ Ivanyo, John & Patricia Linge, Greg & Nicole Johnson, Bailey & Jennifer Kasch
10/18	Bob & Margaret Becker, Bryan & Julie Bodamer
10/19	Bob & Cathy Stinson, Robert & Amanda Maynard
10/20	Frank & Lorraine Csicsko, Don & Barbara Wigley, Hans & Hermine Enderlin, Denny & Marylin Brannock
10/21	Robert & Kris Bikoff
10/22	Ron & Darlene Reda
10/24	Roy & Audrey Wieler, Helmi & Willi Paul, Michael & Jennifer Kulak
10/25	David & Ingrid Monix
10/26	Tom & Debbie Johnstone, Lewis & Patty Sue Eliou
10/27	Dan & Judy Thomas
10/28	Bill & Sue Campbell, Wayne & Lois Turczi
10/29	Christian & Dayna Martin
10/31	Mark & Diane Jackson

Happy Birthday!

10/1	Duane Huber, Lorraine Keilman, Vince Breckenridge
10/2	Roseann Dennis, Nathan Bunde, Ryan Alliss
10/3	Richard Scheub, Ethan Wilkes
10/4	Michael Gella Jr.
10/5	Leslie Edmonds, Mary Ellis
10/6	Cindy Fitzsimons, Megan Dean
10/7	Lee Kardelis, Grant Hult, Nathan Mueller, Dominic Dennis
10/8	Eileen Zacher, Kathleen Petrick, Sharon Grelecki, Kaleigh Klingberg
10/9	Pearl Kregel, Shirley Klockenga, Lenny Jones Jr., Caleb Miller
10/10	Joan Kaiser, Millie Seebold, Charles Anderson, Lee Stephen, David Zona, David Long, Madeline Thunberg
10/11	Wilma Gose, Amy Kozlowski, EA'mon Willison, Eriana Ivasiocko
10/12	Karen Radford, Rachel Stinson, Rebecca Vajda
10/13	John Knox, Christine Genovese, Tiffany Holzhauer, Nicholas DeVries
10/14	Katy Langbehn, Pastor Kipp, Robin Biggs, Thomas Haberling, Marcie Mundt
10/15	Roy Wieler, William Banta, Jean McLean, John Linge, Felicia Schuster, Rob Gardiner
10/16	Elizabeth Klepsch, Ada Dickerson, Brittany Ronning
10/17	Fritz Rather, Larry Smith, Justin Cozart, Holly Schuster
10/18	Shirley Boettger, Cindy Schulte, Kathy Mueller, Ashley Suslowicz, Ben Kulak
10/19	Michelle Rydberg, Matt Turczi, Anna Lehman
10/20	Dorothy Taylor, Sandra Monroe, Karen Cozart, Jamie Ricci, Brady Schuster
10/21	Klaus Becker, Andrew Weglewski, Michelle Ward, Jennifer Green, Kali Manning, Donald Pozworski
10/22	Margaret Camp, Deanna Nowakowski, Mark Lutzow Jr., Andrew Foster, Kyle DeVries
10/23	Lucas Fair
10/24	Lisa Riffle, Alec Evans
10/25	Kim Dahlman, Chris Nowakowski, Alexandra Pavot, Courtney Farrell, Carly Pearson
10/26	Bob Nayder, Phillip Morrow, Frank Voyak, Dennis Schulte, Sydney Hnatusko
10/27	Fred Guenther, Kyle Snow
10/28	Sue Board
10/29	Irene Rust, Brenda Dean, Robert Maynard IV
10/30	Glen Beer, Jayne Murdoch, Beth Reiners, Scott Leslie
10/31	Marie Fasel, Fred Klepsch, Laura Lunkes, Samantha Nowakowski

Weddings

Congratulations to John Rosenwinkel and Amanda Blaylock who were married at Trinity on September 13th.

Baptisms

Dylan John Mowery received the sacrament of holy baptism on September 14th. His parents are John & Vicki Mowery. Sponsors for Dylan are Tom & Valerie Kent.

Funerals

Jerry Lee Moyer was called to be with the Lord on August 29th. His funeral was September 3rd.



Wednesday, October 22nd,

for article submission to the November newsletter. Articles may be dropped off at church or sent to newsletter@trinitycp.org.

TLS Cheeseball Fundraiser

It's time again to order those yummy cheeseballs. It's the PTL's biggest fund raiser of the year, and with the proceeds we want to put new carpet in the library and purchase a smart board for the school. The price will stay at \$5.00 again this year. We will be making them **Saturday, November 8th. Pickup time is 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All orders must be in no later than Friday, October 31st.** Please call Marv Hecht at 662-4044 if you are able to help that day. Order forms are located at the desk in the Atrium. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will provide matching funds on all sales up to \$1600.

Food Bank

Saturday, November 1st we have an opportunity to support the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana! We will travel to the Food Bank warehouse to sort food for distribution to area food pantries. Gather at Trinity at 8:07 a.m. We will be done about noon and be back by 1:00 p.m. All ages are invited (children younger than 6th grade will need to be accompanied by a parent). Good for High School service hours and Confirmation service projects. Sign up in the Atrium.

“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)**.

October 5, 2008 – Philippians 4:8

Rejoice in the Lord

by Rev. John Westra, Zion Lutheran Church, Holland, MI
Think about the facts of God's love in Jesus that you are loved, touched, cared for, and blessed.

October 12, 2008 – Psalm 92:12-15

Keeping Spiritual Sap Flowing

by Rev. Walter M. Schoedel, Lutheran Senior Services, St. Louis, MO
The 7 Up's – A Model for Living! God teaches us how to live as we travel through the various stages of life.

October 19, 2008 – I Thessalonians 1:1-10

“Chosen”

by Rev. Paul E. Shoemaker, Emanuel Lutheran Church, New Haven, IN
We give thanks to God that He has chosen us to be His very own. We give thanks to God that we are “imitators” of godly people and of the Lord. We give thanks that we can be “an example to all the believers”.

October 26, 2008 – Romans 3:19-28

Saved by Works?

By Rev. Richard M. Koehneke, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, IN
How do we obtain eternal life with God? Are we saved by works? It all depends on whose works you're talking about!

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