



Trinity Messenger

Volume 3, Issue 3

March 2006

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From the Pastors



Got Lent?

“Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love” (Joel 2:13b).

Dear Brothers and Sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Got Lent? Most of us, when we open the door of our refrigerators, can see that we've got milk. How about when we open the door of our lives? We've got sports. We make sure that we never miss practices or games, even when they're on Sunday. We've got stuff. We've got more stuff than any generation in history. We're like the child at Christmas that plays with an expensive toy for a day and then goes on to the next "thing" he or she has got to have. Problem is, the "things" in life never "do it" for us despite the preaching of those who market them.

Got Lent? Lent is a time of special devotion and prayer. Its focus is repentance, faith, and bringing about a permanent improvement in living the Christian life. The goal is to rise with Christ at Easter and walk with Him in newness of life. In preparation, those who have "got Lent" spend the season of Lent examining their life to discover attitudes, practices, and habits that are out of line with the new life that has been born in them in Holy Baptism. It is a time of penitence, of putting out of our lives all that remains of the old life of sin or that has crept in once more.

Those who have "got Lent" seek to have the word of God dwell in them richly and are thus faithful in worship on Sundays, Wednesdays of Lent, and in their daily devotions at home. They recognize that without the help of the Holy Spirit who does His work through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, nothing will be accomplished in us.

Got Lent? Those who "got milk" show it on their lips. Those who "got Lent" show it with Christ on their lips and Christ in their lives.

In Christ,

Rev. Timothy J. Mech
Senior Pastor

Rev. Kevin R. Loughran
Associate Pastor



Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
and School
824 Wisconsin Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Church Phone: 920-458-8246
School Phone: 920-458-8248
Fax: 920-458-8267
Web site: trinitysheboygan.org

Divine Services:
Sunday at 8:00 & 10:45 am
Monday at 6:00 pm
Family Education Hour 9:30 am

Bible Classes
(throughout the week)

Trinity Lutheran School
3-K thru 8th grade

The Nave and Beyond

The Church Council of Trinity has been working diligently to fix a financial crisis that we face as a congregation. So far, over \$100,000.00 has been cut from Trinity's 2006-2007 proposed budget. This means cuts in staff and programs as well as adding tuition for school parents. The goal of the Church Council is to present to the Voters' Assembly a balanced budget. This means an additional \$50,000.00 more will need to be generated in cuts or income. Many believe further cuts in staff or a huge jump in tuition will hurt our ability to serve you and the ability of parents to send their children to school at Trinity. Here's what you can do to help:

- Be faithful in worship and prayer. Remember, the season of Lent is a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on God's word and draws from it life and hope.
- At the Voters' Assembly meeting it was calculated that if 833 people gave an additional \$60.00 above and beyond their regular offering we could balance next year's budget (\$50,000). Several people have already done this. If you would like to do this please place a check in the offering and write "Deficit" on the memo line.
- A Special Lenten Thank Offering box will be given to every member, both young and old. Please fill the box with change throughout the season of Lent and bring it to Church on Easter Sunday.
- To make use of the Thrivent GivingPlus matching program or Thrivent's automated giving program, see Chris in the church office or call 458-8246. To find out more about the Scrip program, see Colleen in the school office or call 458-8248.

For over 30 years Trinity has relied on estate gifts to offset yearly deficits. The Church Council is dedicated to changing this pattern and bringing to the Voters' Assembly a fiscally responsible budget each year so that we have a long-term solution to this problem. The enclosed brochure entitled, "What About...Christian Stewardship" is included as a reminder of what it means to be good stewards of God's gifts of time, treasure and talent. Also, please read the "Biblical Stewardship Principles" found in this newsletter and join fellow members of Trinity in being part of the solution! Let's work together as the family we are in Christ and make this happen!

Scrip Program



The Scrip program is easy and convenient. Help support Trinity Church & School by purchasing gift certificates to various stores. This won't cost you any more than you already spend on groceries, gas or prescriptions. Just purchase the gift certificates in advance for face value and the Scrip profits will be donated to Trinity. If you spent \$200 per week the average donation would be \$300 per year. Stop by the lounge on Sundays or school office to find out more.



From the Principal



Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. A person stopped by one day wondering why Trinity doesn't help in the community and why Trinity's enrollment is down. I am so happy that person brought this to my attention so I can share some of the wonderful things about our school with you.

1. Two times a year all of our middle school students and their teachers go out into the community to perform servant events. They do things from raking leaves, to painting, to washing windows, to helping residents at local nursing homes, and much more.
2. Each year our middle grades go to Sunny Ridge Nursing Home and assist with Pastor Fleischmann's Vacation Bible School. Over the course of a few days many of our students with their teachers go to Sunny Ridge and do things like sing songs, do arts and crafts, and tell stories.
3. Many times a year we have Big Friend / Little Friend activities. Quite often we make things that are delivered to residents at nursing homes to brighten up their day.
4. Student Council collects and delivers items at Christmas to those who are in need. Things such as toothpaste, soap, shampoo, treats, and other items are collected and taken to different families and people in need.
5. Each month we have a special recipient of our chapel offerings. The students bring in their offerings, and the money given gets sent to organizations like Lutheran Bible Translators, LCMS World Missions, Lutheran High School, Bethesda, and many other worthy groups.



These are just a few of the ways that Trinity Lutheran School reaches out to the community with their time, talents and treasures. I share this with you to inform you of this not to be tooting our own horn.

Regarding enrollment. Some benchmarks to look at for enrollment (keep in mind our heritage of immigrants and the outdated practice of almost all church family children attending the school):

1867 – 140 students	1912 – 308 students	1922 – 86 students
1930 – 471 students	1940 – 325 students	1950 – 290 students
1960 – 286 students	1970 – 174 students	1980 – 215 students
1990 – 213 students	1999 – 160 students	2005 – 216 students*

One can make numbers say whatever they want, but if you check the recent past (last 35 years) we are not that far off from where we were in the good old past. There was a nice jump in enrollment in the low to mid 80s, and this is what we are hoping and planning for in our future. Why are the numbers so good now considering where we were at the turn of the decade in the 70s and 80s? - program development and high quality instruction by fine teachers. The reason why we don't operate anymore like we did in 1960 is because it is not 1960 anymore. I applaud the vision and planning that the school board has done in my tenure of 6.5 years here to establish good programs and market these programs to the community to reach out to more and more families. Are we satisfied with 216 students? Absolutely not! Why not seek to get to the 300s or 400s again? With God's help and proper planning it can happen.

God works in mysterious ways, as shown by the person asking me about these two items on the day I was working on my church newsletter. He also works through each and every one of you. Through your prayers, donations, and support with everyone working together we can do great things through God who provides all and gives us strength to do it. My prayer is that we continue to plan for the future so the next principal can say that the decisions made now were helpful for him in the future.

Yours in Christ,

Principal

*History of Lutheran Schools in Sheboygan County by Marian F. Lehmann



Music Notes



Students in grades 5 to 8 at Trinity Lutheran School will be participating in the SALSA Music Festival on Monday, March 6 at St. Mark Lutheran Church. Visitors are welcome to stop by the church between 9 a.m. and noon to see the performances of the students. The students who earn the highest scores will be featured in a 2 p.m. recital on Sunday, March 19 at St. John Lutheran Church, Plymouth. In addition to singing with the Joy Choir and Trinity Singers, students are participating in over 30 other entries, including solos, duets, and small ensembles. We are blessed to have much musical talent at Trinity.

The Duneland Early Music Consort will be at Trinity on Sunday, March 26. They are an instrumental ensemble that specializes in music from the Renaissance. They will be a part of our worship for both services that day. This same day, the Kammerchor of Concordia University, Mequon, will present their annual spring concert in Concordia's chapel at 3:30 p.m.

On Sunday, April 2, we are again privileged to host the Sheboygan Pops Band in a 2 p.m. concert here at Trinity. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar, and plan to bring along a friend or two for an afternoon of wonderful music.

This Month's Quiz Question: This hymn has always been associated with the Appalachian area. Like most spirituals, it has been passed down through the generations and exists in several different versions. The melody, based on a six-tone scale, sounds minor to modern ears and has a haunting effect. Hint: You will find this American folk hymn in the Hymnal Supplement. What hymn is this? The answer will be in next month's newsletter.

The choir schedule for this month:

March 1	6:00 p.m.	Cherub, Joy Choir
March 5	8:00 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Trinity School M-Z Trinity School A-L
March 8	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Trinity Singers Handbells
March 12	8:00 a.m.	Sun. School Gr. 4-8
March 15	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Joy Choir Mixed Choir
March 19	8:00 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Faculty & Staff 3K – Grade 3
March 22	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Cherub Choir Mixed Choir
March 26	8:00 a.m.	Handbells

The complete choir schedule is available online at www.trinitysheboygan.org.

Last Month's Quiz Question: This hymn, based on Psalm 45, is believed to have been written in 1597 by Philipp Nicolai. The original seven stanzas formed an acrostic. The opening letters of the stanzas (in German) are W, E, G, U, H, Z, and W, referring to *Wilhelm Ernst, Graf und Herr zu Waldeck*, a former student of the author. While this hymn was often used at weddings early on, today it is primarily sung during the Epiphany season. What hymn is this? The answer is "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright", LW 73.

Trinity History



Much of the story of Trinity is contained in the minutes of the Voters' meetings of our congregation. The contents of these minutes are very interesting and offer an opportunity to learn of the colorful past of our beloved Trinity Church.



January 11, 1948— Church kitchen project to proceed as soon as Ladies Auxiliary and German Ladies Aid have made final arrangements. New organ motor to be installed. A report was given on the various improvements that were made this past year. Letters of thanks were sent to Mr. Ballhorn and Mr. Zabel for donation and transportation of the Christmas tree for church.

March 14, 1948— The Post War Improvement Fund to be discontinued as of March 15, 1948.

May 12, 1948— Forty minutes per day were added to our 7th and 8th grade so as to be in line with the public schools. New hours to be: mornings 8:15 to 11:45 a.m., and afternoons, 1:00 to 3:40 p.m.

June 2, 1948— The Young Peoples Societies, after a lengthy and lively discussion, were given permission to join the Walther League Society if they wish to do so.

September 8, 1948— Weekly church services for the school, preferably Wednesday mornings, were approved.

NLSW



"Developing Disciples" John 13:35
 Lutheran Schools—A Great Place To Grow
**National Lutheran
 Schools Week 2006**

March 5-11, 2006

National Lutheran Schools Week is celebrated across the world. Here are a few things happening at Trinity during the week:

- * Sunday, March 5th - Trinity School students are singing during both church services
- * Monday, March 6th - SALSA Music Festival at St. Mark's
- * Tuesday, March 7th - Assembly at Lutheran High School
- * Wednesday, March 8th - Visitors Day and lunch

If you would like to join us for visitors day, please call the school office at 458-8248. You can also find information on our website www.trinitysheboygan.org under School Information, Downloads and Forms.

Stewardship



Biblical Stewardship Principles

GOD'S STEWARDS ARE GOD'S STEWARDS. God's stewards are stewards by virtue of creation and their recreation in Holy Baptism; therefore, they belong to the Lord.

GOD'S STEWARDS ARE MANAGERS, NOT OWNERS. God's stewards have been entrusted by God with life and life's resources and given the privilege of responsibly and joyfully managing them for Him.

GOD'S STEWARDS ARE SAINTS AND SINNERS. God's stewards rejoice in and live out what God has declared them to be through the cross. At the same time His stewards recognize they are sinners who fight sin and its consequences each day.

GOD'S STEWARDS ARE UNIQUELY SINGULAR, YET PROFOUNDLY PLURAL. God's stewards recognize that their lives are not solo performances but are personal responses to God, lived out within the community of faith to benefit the whole world.

STEWARDSHIP CONT.....

GOD'S STEWARDS ARE *IN* THE WORLD, BUT NOT *OF* THE WORLD. God's stewards recognize that the Lord sets them apart from the world and by the transforming power of the Gospel sends them into the world to live out the Gospel.

GOD'S STEWARDS ARE LOVED AND LOVING. God's stewards recognize that their stewardship flows out of God's act of love for them in Christ which empowers them, in turn, to love others in acts of Christ-like love.

GOD'S STEWARDS ARE SERVED AND SERVING. God's stewards recognize that their stewardship involves a Gospel-powered style of life which is demonstrated in servanthood within all the arenas of life.

GOD'S STEWARDS LIVE WITH AN AWARENESS OF THE PRESENT AND FUTURE, OF TIME AND ETERNITY. God's stewards live intentionally in the light of God's eternal purpose while being firmly committed to His rule in the here and now.

Giving Plus 2005



**Thank you to all who have recently given to
 Thrivent's GivingPlus Program!**

 **Thrivent Financial
 for Lutherans®**

\$4,782.50 in matching funds was received
 for January 2006!

Elmer Bauer	Chuck Carlson
Ron Feld	Howard Gensch
Susan Gensch	Sheri Griesbach
Alice Herbst	Stephanie Jablonski
Kurt Jagler	Richard Jung
Sue Leibham	Tiffany Leonhard
Marion Linse	Cathi Livermore
Kathy Livermore	Armin Luehrs
Richard Matzdorf	Wanda Metscher
Charlotte Rahn	Jill Schneider
Marilyn Schulz	Tom Schwanke
Russ Scholten	Mike Slimmer
Larry Thompson	Duane Wenig
Mary Yurk	

If you are a Thrivent member and would like more information on how to be involved in this important program that financially supports our school, please contact the church office. It is an easy way to support the ministry of Trinity Lutheran School!

Senior Breakfast



March 20, 2006

Fountain Park Family Restaurant

At one time or another, some of you must have spent some time at Memorial Hospital—either as a patient or a visitor. But, are you aware of its Lutheran heritage, how it came into being and why it still exists today? During her compilation of Memorial Hospital's history, Margaret Goldmann came across interesting information that most people are not aware of today. Over the years there have been many changes and Margaret will share this with you at our next Senior Breakfast on March 20th, 8:30 am at Fountain Park Family Restaurant. Please join us for this time of fellowship and learn more about our Sheboygan community.



Ash Wednesday



The Imposition of Ashes
On Ash Wednesday

“For dust you are, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19).

Lent begins this year on March 1st with Ash Wednesday. This year we will again give the opportunity for the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. Why? The imposition of ashes is a reminder of our mortality because of sin, as well as the triumph of the cross. It also incorporates the Scriptural precedent of ashes as an external sign of repentance. After all, our mortality is a result of sin, and the only way through death to life is by the death to self and selfishness that repentance brings. In fact, the entire Christian life is a life of repentance, which is none other than a daily returning to baptism. In this way, the imposition of ashes can teach of Christ and His benefits given in baptism. Rev. Frank C. Senn captures this well:

The mark of the cross of ashes suggests a possible correlation between the historic penitential character of Ash Wednesday and the traditional Lutheran focus on the passion of Christ. The ashes are a reminder of the sentence of mortality imposed on the human race because of its disobedience of God's command and its hostility to God's law ... In the very act of allowing the ashes to be imposed on our foreheads we are embracing God's sentence on the human race and agreeing that it is just. That in itself is a sign of penitence, but there is nothing we can do to overcome the sentence and the reality of its being carried out on us one by one. Yet the ashes are imposed in the shape of the cross – the very instrument by which the Son of God took on Himself the judgment of death imposed on humanity in order to redeem us from it.

The new hymnal agenda will offer the option of the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. As a test congregation for the new hymnal this rite will be offered as an option for you this Ash Wednesday. Most of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod congregations in our area are offering it as an option as well. Please remember that while it is neither commanded nor forbidden by God, it is being offered to you as a way of proclaiming the Gospel for the strengthening your faith.

Library



*So give thanks to God for seasons past
And seasons yet to come.
Remember God is in everything;
His hand is on everyone.*

(from “Seasons Yet to Come” by Fay Mofield)

A new season has begun—Lent. A selection of books, videos, and music for this time of year is now on display. Feel free to check out any of these items.

New Arrivals:

Videos: “Love Comes Softly” and “Love's Enduring Promise” based on books by Janette Oke.

Adult Books: “Amethyst” by Lauraine Schnelling, and “The Anchor Bible Dictionary” edited by David Noll Freedman. A wonderful addition to our library, this six volume dictionary offers up-to-date, comprehensive treatment of 6,000 biblical subjects and topics. It will be non-circulating reference material to be used at church.



Prompt return of overdue material is appreciated. (Books may be kept for 30 days, videos, cassettes and CD's for 7 days.) Parents please supervise young children filling out cards, include first and last names, date.

2005-2006 Trinity Faculty & Staff

Rev. Timothy J. Mech, Senior Pastor
 Rev. Kevin R. Loughran, Associate Pastor
 Rick Schneider, Principal
 Roger Buck, Director of Human Care & Outreach
 Brian Heinlein, Director of Music, Music Teacher
 Rev. Thomas Fleischmann, Visitation Pastor
 Ken Howard, Teacher Grade Eight
 Melissa Nennig, Teacher Grade Seven
 Terry Stenklyft, Teacher Grade Six/A.D.
 Greg Becker, Teacher Grade Five/Tech. Coord.
 Katie Schafer, Teacher Grade Four
 Karen Howard, Teacher Grade Three
 Carla Becker, Teacher Grade Two
 Ruth Hering, Teacher Grade One
 Jeanette Foster, Teacher Kindergarten
 Sarah Jagler, 3K/4K Teacher
 Kathy Kirst, Resource Teacher
 Christel Miske, German Teacher
 Tammy Schaefer, Spanish Teacher
 Lisa Menzer, Part-time Teacher
 Marilyn LeClair, Education Assistant
 Chris Melcher, Church Office Manager
 Judy Schmidt, Part-time Church Secretary
 Colleen Rindt, School Secretary
 Tim Lutze, Head Custodian
 Billy Free, Part-time School Custodian
 Lori Konkel, Part-time Church Custodian
 Mary Niesing, Before & After School Care

2005-2006 Trinity Church Council

Larry Thompson, President
 Tom Yurk, Vice President
 Pete Leibham, Treasurer
 Stacy Bey er, Secretary
 Steve Risler, Christian Day School
 Tim Liv emore, Christian Education
 Jeff Maletzke, Elders
 Donna Petzold, Evangelism
 Ken Leibham, Finance
 Richard Thieme, Properties
 Carol Bukovic, Social Ministry
 Mike Mallow, Stewardship
 James Bolgert, Youth
 Nancy Fischer, At Large
 John Rodewald, At Large

Official Acts



PROFESSION OF FAITH:

Craig Rausch

TRANSFER:

Eric Feile Mt. Olive, Milwaukee

BAPTISMS:

Conner Alex Velier, son of Jennifer (Mayer) & Chad Velier

Peyton Bradley-Thomas Rommelfaenger, son of August & Kelly (Hoem) Rommelfaenger

FUNERALS:

Charles Kirkendall died on January and a funeral was held on January 26, 2006

Emma Hermann died on February 13 and a funeral was held on February 15, 2006

Floyd Jones died on February 18 and a funeral was held on February 21, 2006

Don Ladiges died on February 21 and a funeral was held on February 23, 2006

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of Trinity Lutheran Church is to glorify God and share Jesus' love through Word and Sacrament to strengthen believers and to reach unbelievers.

This newsletter is also available online at:
www.trinitysheboygan.org

YTD (January 31, 2006) RECEIPTS: \$630,015.59
YTD (January 31, 2006) EXPENDITURES: \$690,782.37
DEFICIT (January 31, 2006): \$60,766.78

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
 is also a member of:

**THE SHEBOYGAN
 AREA LUTHERAN
 HIGH SCHOOL
 ASSOCIATION**

Lutheran High School
 3323 University Dr.
 Sheboygan, WI 53081



Trinity Lutheran Church
824 Wisconsin Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081

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March 2006



Return Service Requested

March 1 – Ash Wednesday
10 a.m./6 p.m.

“Where in the World is God?”
Deuteronomy 30:14

Sun. March 5 8 a.m./10:45 a.m.

“It’s Tempting, Isn’t it?”
Mark 1:9-15

Wed. March 8 10 a.m./6 p.m.

“Loss is Gain”
Mark 8:34

Sun. March 12 8 a.m./10:45 a.m.

“Speaking Plainly”
Mark 8:27-38

Wed. March 15 10 a.m./6 p.m.

“The Light Has Come”
John 3:19-20

Sun. March 19 8 a.m./10:45 a.m.

“The Law’s Second Use”
John 2:13-22

Wed. March 22 10 a.m./6 p.m.

“A Penetrating Word”
Hebrews 4:12-13

Sun. March 26 8 a.m./10:45 a.m.

“Shedding Light on Our Deeds”
John 3:14-21

Wed. March 29 10 a.m./6 p.m.

“Bad Things and Good People”
Luke 13:1-3

Sun. April 2 8 a.m./10:45 a.m.

“The Power Broker”
Mark 10:35-45

Wed. April 5 10 a.m./6 p.m.

“Love So Amazing, So Divine”
Matthew 27:45-46

Palm Sunday, April 9

8 a.m./10:45 a.m.

“The Glory of God”
John 12:20-43

Maundy Thursday, April 13

10 a.m./6 p.m.

“A Feast of Deliverance”
Exodus 12:26-27

Good Friday, April 14 1:00 p.m.

“The Devil Defeated”
John 19:30

Good Friday, April 14 7:00 p.m.

Tenebrae Service
“The Devil Defeated”
John 19:30

The Resurrection of
Our Lord Sun. April 16

Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m.

“Where’s the Body of Jesus?”
John 20:1-18

Festival Service

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

“A Show of Hands”
Luke 24:36-49

Easter Breakfast will be
served in the Gym
7:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Weekend Divine Worship
also held
Monday’s at 6:00 p.m.

There is no Monday service
on April 17, 2006



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Other donations welcome.
Please call the church office
at 458-8246 for details.