



Trinity Messenger



"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!" (Luke 2:14)

Volume 4, Issue 10

November 2007

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From the Pastors



God's House of Prayer

"And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord to serve him, to love the name of the Lord, and to worship him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations" (Isaiah 56:6-7).

Dear Brothers and Sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ,

For our pastors' letter for this month we'd like to share with you a devotion written by Rev. Harold Senkbeil, a professor at Concordia Theological Seminary.

"We seem to have forgotten what worship is all about. As someone put it, 'We work at our play, we worship our work, and we play at our worship.' It should not be so among us. We go to church because God is there; we go there to meet him and be transformed by him. The blessings come when worship becomes the highest priority. Those who serve the Lord, those who love the name of the Lord, those who worship him, yes those who keep the Sabbath holy and hold fast his covenant – these, the Lord says, he will bring to his holy mountain and give them joy in his house of prayer.

But what is a holy mountain? In our human pride and arrogance, we've lost the sense of the holy. Our world doesn't know anymore what it means to be in the presence of God. This is perhaps the greatest tragedy of our secularized age. But the most serious loss and the greatest tragedy has been the loss of the sense of holy. We don't know where God is anymore. We don't have a place set apart and separate where we meet God. We've walled God out of our world. And if, by some chance, we have a place for God in our lives, we meet him not as an awesome holy God, but as a friendly buddy – only a little above us. There's little or no sense of accountability before God's judgment seat.

When God says, 'You shall not,' the sinful heart replies, 'Well, I know a whole lot of people who do.' When God says, 'You shall not commit adultery,' the sinful heart responds, 'How can something be so wrong when it feels so right?' When God says, 'Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy,' the sinful heart responds, 'But I'm busy that day.' When God says, 'You shall not murder,' the sinful heart responds, 'Unborn babies and feeble old people don't count.' We could go on, but the point is clear. We've lost the sense of the holy, almighty, all-knowing God. The law of God becomes just another view-



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
4-K thru 8th grade

From the Pastors cont'



point, rather than the very Word of the Lord over all.

As Christians we have a different view. We go to church because it is a holy place where God is present. We find joy there, because there is joy in the presence of God. It's a deep abiding joy – joy that comes from having been in the presence of God. In his house we hear his Word and receive his sacraments. We, therefore, have the joy of sins forgiven and life restored. Joy that comes from forgiveness and eternal life is a foretaste of the glory of heaven itself. Church is a place holy with the gift of God's presence. His liturgy, worship, prayers, and praise are his gifts to his people in his Son, Jesus Christ, now and forever."

In Christ,

Rev. Timothy J. Mech
Senior Pastor



Rev. John M. Berg
Associate Pastor

The Nave and Beyond

- All Saints' Day Services are Sunday and Monday November 4th and 5th. Please pass along to all relatives and friends of those who died in the Lord this past year that we will remember in these services those now in heaven who are clothed with the saintliness of Jesus Christ.
- Thanksgiving Services are set for Wednesday November 21st at 6 pm and Thursday November 22nd at 10 am. Join us as we give thanks to God from whom all blessings flow!
- Our next Voters' Assembly Meeting is Monday night November 26th at 7:15 pm. Please plan on attending this important meeting. The main agenda item is setting the budget for Trinity's 2008 Work Program. This is a regularly scheduled Voters' meeting. All Trinity members 18 or older may become voting members at this meeting.



Pastor Berg, Pastor Mech, Mai Yang, Christopher Yang, Pastor Her

- Pastor Faiv Neng Her is a missionary –at-large to Hmong families in Sheboygan. He has been working with the Hmong families at Trinity in order to incorporate them into the life of our congregation. Christopher and Mai Yang were confirmed by Pastor Her after completing confirmation classes. They will be joining Trinity and Christopher will be working with Pastors Her, Berg and Mech in reaching out to the Hmong community in Sheboygan.
- The Strategic Planning Committee will give a report on the Trinity Survey at the November 26th Voters' Assembly Meeting.

From the Principal



Why is Trinity Lutheran School so vital to our church and community? Jesus' love is shared throughout the school day at Trinity while the children are receiving an excellent education. These children are being prepared for their present life and for their life in heaven. I know you agree: we want more families to see the need for and give value to an education that is built around the Truth.

Our theme for this year is "Trinity Lutheran School – Training in the Truth." Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." He is the Truth and His Word is Truth. Where His Word is taught, people are trained. 1 Timothy 4:6-8 states, "If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come." At Trinity we are training the children in math, science, reading, handwriting, etc. But, more importantly, we are training these children in godliness. When we work with parents to teach and correct, discipline and encourage, we are doing this so that the child's life is pleasing to God while on this earth, and so that the child will spend eternity in heaven.



We want to reach more families with the Truth of God's Word and with an excellent education. We are at an exciting time where this can happen. God's Word is always powerful and effective. We have a congregation that supports and values Christian Education. We have families who have made commitments to support of our school. We have a wonderful and dedicated teaching and support staff to carry out the Christian education process. We have the facilities to minister to children and families with Christian Love. Let's work together to share the love of Jesus with the people we are with everyday. Lets make it our mission to reach out to families who need Jesus and invite them to join our school and our church family. Then more people will receive the saving Truth, who is Jesus, and more people can be trained in godliness for this life and the life to come.

Please join us and support the mission of "Training in the Truth."

Greg Becker

Mr. Becker
Principal

Friday, November 2nd – End of 1st quarter.

Thursday, November 8th – Noon Dismissal – Parent/Teacher Conferences



Friday, November 9th – No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Saturday, November 10th – Forensics Meet, 8:30am at Lutheran High

Tuesday, November 13th – Group Pictures



**GIVE THANKS
TO GOD!**



Wednesday, November 21st – Noon Dismissal – Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, November 21st and Friday, November 22nd – No School – Thanksgiving Break



Music Notes



We are privileged to host the Sheboygan Pops Band at Trinity on Sunday, December 2 for their annual Christmas Concert. The concert begins at 1:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors to visit our church. Mark your calendar today!

Here is a list of upcoming concerts being held in the chapel at Concordia University, Mequon during the next month:

- Pops/Jazz Concert on Friday, Nov. 2 at 7:30 p.m.
- Faculty Piano and Violin Recital on Friday, Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m.
- Christ the King Concert on Sunday, Nov. 18 at 3:30 p.m.
- Steve Hohnstadt Organ Recital, Sunday, Nov. 25 at 7:00 p.m.
- Christmas at Concordia concerts on Friday, Nov. 30 and Saturday, Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Here is the upcoming music schedule at Trinity:

Nov. 4	8:00 a.m.	Faculty and Staff
	10:45 a.m.	Handbells
Nov. 11	8:00 a.m.	Trinity Singers (Gr. 6-8)
Nov. 18	8:00 a.m.	Cherub Choir (Gr. 1-2)
Nov. 22	10:00 a.m.	Mixed Choir

Previous Quiz Question: This hymn is often called "The Old Hundredth" because it is based on Psalm 100. It is one of the oldest hymns of praise in the English language. It was written by William Kethe, a Scotsman who helped produce a complete English version of the metrical Psalms. The hymn was first published in London in 1561. What hymn is this? The answer is "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" LSB 791.

New Quiz Question: This hymn was originally called "After Harvest." The words were written by Dr. Henry Alford, a noted hymnologist and Greek scholar. The hymn was written to be used at harvest festivals (called Harvest Home) in villages throughout England. During the month of September, English churches would hold a thanksgiving service in which the harvest would be displayed in church and then distributed to the needy. What hymn is this? The answer will be in next month's newsletter.



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.



September 12, 1962 - A six foot cyclone fence to be installed in front of school.

Letter of thanks to be sent to Gabes' Construction Co. for snow removal from school grounds this past winter.

November 7, 1962 - Eight Trinity School graduates presently enrolled at Synodical colleges and seminaries are receiving financial assistance.

Cost of educating one child at Trinity \$175 per year compared to \$450 per year in public school.

Mr. Rommelmann thanked the congregation for the fine church service commemorating his 40th anniversary as a teacher at Trinity (held November 4th).

January 13, 1963 - Moved to accept with thanks the kind offer of Mr. H. Carl Prange to pay the cost of hazing the Prange-Guessenhainer warehouse building located on our school playground.

March 10, 1963 - A school entertainment will be given May 17 and 18 instead of an Art-Science display.

May 8, 1963 - 12,000 sq. ft. area east of school to be blacktopped.

Advent By Candlelight



**Monday, December 4
7:00 p.m.**

Ladies, please join us for Christian fellowship, singing and prayer to help prepare our hearts for the upcoming celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

The evening will start with dessert and coffee followed by a wonderful program. We are looking for women to be a hostess or a co-hostess for the evening. The hostess brings a delicious dessert and a place setting for eight women. Don't forget the candles for your table! All of the hostess information will be provided in the hostess booklet, which will be given to you when you sign up.

Seating is limited to 160 (20 tables) so sign up early. Neighbors, friends, sisters, mothers-in-law, moms and grandmas are all welcome! On your registration form, please list the guests who will be sitting at your table. **For groups of 5 or more ladies registering together at a table, please indicate who will serve as hostess for you table.**

Don't miss this beautiful, candlelight evening, which gives honor to our King and begins our Advent Season! Watch future bulletins for registration forms.

Library



**NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK
November 12th-18th**



This is a perfect time to introduce your children to the world of books and enjoy time together. They can travel to other countries or back in time, solve a mystery or learn of God's love for us. On display will be favorites such as books on dinosaurs, Psalty's World Wide Adventures and the Kids Praise Adventure series.

Thank you to those who have donated books during the past months. This is one way for our library to grow. Another is by using library builder cards from Sonlight Books. The card is stamped for each \$10 purchased in non-sale items. The cards do not have to be completely full to be turned in. Please turn in all cards by the end of December so they can be redeemed for books before they expire January 31, 2008.

Remember: "Give thanks for books."

From the President



1. The boards are busy preparing the 2008 Work Program. The final proposal of the Work Program will be presented for approval at the November Voters' meeting.

2. The treasurer reported that we are currently running at a \$42,000 deficit for 2007 and estimates that we will finish with a \$30,000 deficit by the end of the year. Since spending is already under budget, the shortfall is from decreased revenue. I encourage all congregation members to prayerfully consider what can be done about this.

3. Two council vacancies were filled - Allan Voss is the new chairman of the Stewardship Board and Allen VanDeLoo is the new Chairman of the Social Ministry Board. We thank Allan and Allen for stepping forward to help Trinity as we go about doing God's work in our church and community.

4. Jack VanDerWeele reported on the status of the Trinity Lutheran Ministry Center. We will need about \$15,000 to finish up the scheduled work required at the TLMC. Greg Becker also reported that about \$8,000 was needed for coat racks, cabinets, etc to finish off the existing class rooms at the TLMC. Earlier in October we had received the \$50,000 grant from the Siebert Foundation. This was a grant to Trinity for the purchase and use of the TLMC, and we had met all of the requirements for the grant. The council approved \$25,000 of the grant money for the requests for funds of Jack and Greg and designated the rest of the fund for debt reduction of the TLMC.

5. Three ways you can help Trinity:

* Fill out and return the 2008 Pledge sheets.

* If you are a Thrivent member, take advantage of the Thrivent matching funds program. Thrivent will match half of up to \$600 given to Trinity Lutheran school for every Thrivent member that signs up. You don't even have to give a special donation to get the matching funds. Just fill out the paperwork and give it to Chris Melcher in the church office. She will keep track of your weekly giving, and when you have reached the \$600 mark, she will forward the paperwork on to Thrivent for the matching funds. This can be repeated every year.

* Consider the Simply Giving program. Instead of filling out an envelop every week and including cash or a check, join the Simply Giving program. This program will automatically move money from your checking or savings account on a weekly (monthly) basis to Trinity. This makes the budgeting process much simpler for Trinity. We know we will have that steady cash flow, we know when and how much money is coming in. I know from my past experience how hard it is to "catch up" with my giving when I've missed church for a week or two when traveling on business or pleasure. I always have the good intentions of making up for the missed weeks, but when I sit down to write that check it is hard to find the extra cash in the budget. Simply Giving solves this problem for me. I know that my giving will be there for Trinity whether I'm at church on Sunday, or in Latvia or Nicaragua on a mission trip or visiting family out of town.

Stewardship



LEARNING TO BE CONTENT

"I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want" (Philippians 4:11-12).

Paul had learned the secret of contentment, of being satisfied with every circumstance in which God placed him. Paul was in prison when he wrote these words. He had been at the point of death several times. If anyone could have said he was in need or want, it was Paul. He had suffered much, yet he said, *"I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances."* Like Paul, we too, can learn contentment. The secret of contentment is gratitude for what God gives.

Because many people are infatuated with things and the desire to acquire more and more, they fall victim to discontentment. There is a correlation between "having more" and "wanting more." Even though we are surrounded by material abundance, we don't believe that we have enough so we are discontent.



There are two ways you can strive to have enough. You can try to accumulate more, or you can learn to be satisfied with less. If you pursue the first way, accumulating more, you will discover more is never enough. Those who have followed that route have found that money can't buy lasting satisfaction. As hard as it is, you need to curb your desire for more by concentrating on the blessings you do have. Being satisfied with less and being willing to use what you have in God-pleasing ways are attitudes that contribute to your contentment. Those who have less and are content are better off than those who have too much and always want more. But how can you be satisfied? The answer is found in the words of Jesus: *"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well"* (Matthew 6:33).

Asaph, the Psalmist, had an intimate relationship with God Who enabled him to be content with what He had provided. *"Whom have I in Heaven but You? And earth has nothing I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever"* (Psalm 73:25-26).

Stephen Ministry



STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATE

The Stephen Ministry trainee class is on an exciting adventure of learning and doing ministry. When you read this, about half of their 50 hours of training will have been completed. Some of the topics addressed were active listening, confidentiality, assertiveness, feelings, and Christian Caring. Our five trainees, Alice Buck, Marianna Hartman, Richard Ingram, Larry Juse, and Marie Voland, have been working hard each week reading, discussing, and practicing skills. We thank God for their dedication and ask for your prayers and words of encouragement when you meet them.



Continuing education and Peer Support meetings are a way of life for our committed current Stephen Caregivers. Our pastors are teaching a Bible Study for them entitled "One Loving God: Two Hands – Saving and Caring". All Stephen Caregivers meet twice a month for a structured evening of encouragement, help, and support. Beyond that, the group is closely knit in their common care and concern for God's people. Please continue to keep them in your prayers and when you see their blue name tags, give them a word of thanks and encouragement. We all thank our pastors and congregation for this opportunity to serve!

Senior Saturday Service



SENIOR SATURDAY SERVICE will be Saturday, November 3rd at 10 am in church. Everyone is invited to attend. Call Roger Buck (458-8246) if you need transportation. There will be refreshments and fellowship in the Lounge after the service.



Love Comes Down



LOVES COME DOWN at Christmas will begin the Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 25. A tree will be placed in the Lounge with names of shut-ins and nursing home residents as well as numbers anonymously representing needy children in the community who would appreciate a gift at Christmas.

Official Acts



2007-2008 Trinity Faculty & Staff

Rev. Timothy J. Mech, Senior Pastor
 Rev. John M. Berg, Associate Pastor
 Greg Becker, Principal
 Roger Buck, Director of Human Care & Outreach
 Brian Heinlein, Director of Music
 Ken Howard, Teacher Grade Eight
 Melissa Hauch, Teacher Grade Seven
 Terry Stenklyft, Teacher Grade Six/A.D.
 Anne Wickboldt, Teacher Grade Five
 Chelsea Durk, Teacher Grade Four
 Karen Howard, Teacher Grade Three
 Carla Becker, Teacher Grade Two
 Ruth Hering, Teacher Grade One
 Lisa Menzer, Teacher Grade One
 Jeanette Foster, Teacher Kindergarten
 Kathy Kirst, Teacher 4K, Resource Teacher
 Christel Miske, German Teacher
 Tammy Schaefer, Spanish Teacher
 Marilyn LeClair, Education Assistant
 Chris Melcher, Church Office Manager
 Colleen Rindt, School Secretary
 Billy Free, Part-time Custodian
 Mark Wilkens, Part-time Custodian
 Sue Leibham, Hot Lunch Coordinator
 Mary Niesing, Before & After School Care

2007-2008 Trinity Church Council

Jeff Kelm, President
 Joe Hoem, Vice President
 Pete Leibham, Treasurer
 Sheri Griesbach, Secretary
 Jeff Jurss, Christian Day School
 Rachel Clark, Christian Education
 Jeff Maletzke, Elders
 Donna Petzold, Evangelism
 Ken Leibham, Finance
 Al Pentek, Properties
 Allen VanDeLoo, Social Ministry
 Allan Voss, Stewardship
 Laura Herrmann, Youth
 Barb Dodge, At Large
 Andy Rindt, At Large

TRANSFER IN:

Chelsea Durk Immanuel Lutheran Church, Brookfield WI
 Amy Spaeth Lamb of God, Pleasant Prairie, WI
 Michele Lorier
 Teah and Hunter St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sheboygan WI

Release:

Chad & Trisha Slate
 Blake & Garret Chetek Lutheran Church, Chetek, WI (ELCA)

FUNERALS:

Ervin Jeske died on October 8th and a funeral was held on October 12, 2007

Elmer Bauer died on October 15th and a funeral was held on October 19, 2007

BAPTISM:

Jackson Timothy Bartz, son of Timothy & Jennifer (Steinhardt) Bartz on October 28, 2007

Trinity Evangelical
 Lutheran Church
 is also a member of:

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 ★ "Preparing ★
 ★ Christian Leaders - One ★
 ★ Student At A Time" ★
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**THE SHEBOYGAN AREA LUTHERAN
 HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

Lutheran High School
 3323 University Dr.
 Sheboygan, WI 53081
 452-3323

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things." Philippians 4:8

SENIOR BREAKFAST

The **Trinity Seniors** will meet Monday, November 19th, 8:30 am at Fountain Park Family Restaurant. Carl Blom Willis, Manager of Volunteer Services at Aurora Health Center will share information about the volunteer opportunities at both Aurora Memorial Hospital and Aurora Sheboygan Clinic. Come and enjoy a morning of fellowship!

YTD (September 30, 2007) RECEIPTS: \$797,644
 YTD (September 30, 2007) EXPENDITURES: \$845,054
 Deficit (September 30, 2007): \$47,410

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

Trinity Lutheran Church
824 Wisconsin Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 686
Sheboygan, WI 53081

November 2007



Return Service Requested

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Wednesday November 21st, 6 pm

Thursday November 22nd, 10 am



Join us as we give thanks to
God from whom all blessings flow!



VOTERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING

November 26, 2007
7:15 pm

TRINITY ALL PRO DADS BREAKFAST November 13, 7:30 am Fellowship Hall

Team Captain: Rev. John Berg

The Breakfast will be the second Tuesday of every month from 7:30 - 8:30 am. All Dads, Grandpas, and their children are welcome and encouraged to attend! We will be serving pancakes and sausage, cereal, fruit, coffee and juice. Reservations required. Call 458-8246.

Free-will offering

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

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Mr. & Mrs. Robert Senkbeil

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Elenore Kaiser

If you would like to become a *Messenger* sponsor you are invited to join at the following levels:

Patron (\$500);
Sponsor (\$300);
Sustaining Sponsor (\$100);
Contributing Sponsor (\$50)

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