



# Trinity Messenger



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

Volume 5, Issue 8

**"Making Known the Love of Christ"**

September 2008

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## From Pastor Berg



### What Do You Want Most for Your Children?

Dear Friends in Christ,

The responsibilities of parenting are great and almost too numerous to number. It is a 24 hour a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year job. It is the hardest work that anyone will ever have to do in this world.

Those of you who are parents can relate to what I am saying. Our family life in the Berg household is not much different than yours. I understand the pressures of family and the weight of responsibility that rests upon your shoulders. It is enormous! You are in my prayers every week, that God would give you the grace and strength to be faithful fathers and mothers for your children.

Have you ever been asked, "What do you want most for your children?" It is a very important question and deserves serious thought. I can tell you that more than anything else, I want my children to be Christians. I want them to grow up with a fervent and deep faith in Christ Jesus as their Lord and Savior. I want them to know the certainty of the forgiveness of sins for Jesus' sake. I want them to know how to love their husbands and wives and children when they grow up and how to pass on the Christian faith to their children, how to live in their earthly vocations not for their own self-centered benefit, but for the benefit of others. I want them to know how to pray and how to confess their faith to others; I want them to know how to forgive those who have sinned against them; and I want them to know the joy of suffering under the crosses of this life with patience and confidence in the grace of God. More than anything else, I want my children to be Christians.

I believe that all of our parents at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church and School want the same thing for their children, but sometimes the hustle and bustle of life rarely gives us the opportunity to actually ask the question and then seriously ponder the answer. If it is true that we want our children to be Christians, then what does that require of us as parents? In the long list of activities that our family has each week the most important thing is being in the Word of God, praying as a family and coming to the Divine Service to receive Christ's body and blood as often as possible. If we want our children to be Christians, to grow up knowing their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to grow up as faithful God-fearing citizens who love others more than they love themselves, then they need to hear and receive the Word of God and partake of the Sacrament of the Altar as often as possible.

The biggest regret of my life as a Christian husband and father, is how undisciplined and sporadic our family prayer and devotional time has been at home.



**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](http://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

## From Pastor Berg, cont'



The spirit has been willing, but, all too often, the flesh has been weak. Perhaps you have had some of the same frustrations. Maybe you can gain a small bit of comfort from the fact that your pastors and their families struggle in this area, too. We all struggle against the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh to give our children what they need the most: the Word of God. This is why God ordains there be Christian congregations, Divine Services, and public catechesis. These gifts of God ensure that the Word of God and the call to repentance and faith is constantly available to baptized Christians.

This year we are going to provide a new tool to assist our families in their devotions. ***"The Congregation at Prayer"*** (the green sheet) will be provided every week in the bulletin to give us Scripture readings, Catechism meditations, and hymns to hear, pray, and sing at home.

***"The Congregation at Prayer"*** (the green sheet) will be there each week to remind us what the most important thing is in our lives; our faith in Christ and the Word of God that creates and sustains it. Where faith in Christ is established and nourished by the Word of God, it bears fruit in our lives through loving service to others. I am also grateful that Trinity Lutheran School and Sheboygan Lutheran High School are there to assist my wife and me as Christian parents in teaching the faith to our children. It truly is an investment for eternity.

If you are like me, you love to hear people say nice things about your children. Each one of our children is a gift from God. They each have their own unique personalities, talents and interests. I don't care so much if someone says, "Your daughter did such a wonderful job in the school play." That's nice, but it is not the most important thing. What I like to hear most is, "Your son is compassionate, polite, he works hard and he cares about others." These are kind things that grow out of the faith and life that is nurtured by the Gospel of that Savior who cared more about others than Himself, and who laid down His life on the cross for the salvation of the whole world. The Gospel creates faith in Jesus, and faith born of the Gospel manifests itself in a life of goodness and selfless love for others.

I thank God for giving to my wife and me each one of our children. We are blessed! I want nothing more for them than that they be Christians. Please join me this Fall in bringing your children to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church and School to hear the Word of God and to receive His body and blood in the Lord's Supper. It is an investment that has eternal benefits!

In Christ,

Rev. John M. Berg  
Associate Pastor



### Nave and Beyond

- Thank-you to all who have had your picture taken for the church directory. If you have not set an appointment yet, please do so ASAP!!!
- Selected sermons can now be seen on video by going to our Trinity website and clicking on the line "listen to sermons." The flashing blue lights indicate those sermons that are on video in addition to audio. A few of these sermons were viewed by camera men from NBC Studios while at the Olympics in China. What a great tool to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world!

- Sunday School and Bible Classes begin anew in September. Please check out the insert to this newsletter for information on the studies, times, and classrooms. Please join us in studying God's word!!! Childcare is available in the Luther Room for the Sunday Adult Bible Study.
- The next Voters' Assembly Meeting is set for Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup> at Noon in the Gym. Lunch will be served and childcare will be available. Please join the decision making process at Trinity!
- All Pro Dad/Moms Breakfast is set for Tuesday morning, September 16th, 7:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for breakfast and a brief program!
- New Member Welcome Sunday September 14th at the 10:45 am Service.

## From the Principal



### Trinity Lutheran School – Making Known the Love of Christ

#### Back to School

What comes to mind for students when they hear these words? Eagerness, dread, anxiety, or excitement? What are parents and teachers thinking? Eagerness, dread, anxiety, or excitement? As I mentioned last month, Martin Luther (theologian, husband, pastor, father, and professor) once said, **“For the sake of the church we must have and maintain Christian schools.”** Whatever the thoughts we have as school begins this fall, Dr. Luther's words show us the vital importance of Trinity Lutheran School. Wherever God's Word is shared, the love of Christ is being made known.

As the staff of Trinity prepared for this school year, we studied 1 John. Take some time to read these 5 chapters. John was likely a relative of Jesus, as well as a disciple of Jesus. He was as an eyewitness to the life and love of Jesus. John is called, “the disciple whom Jesus loved.” John was at the foot of the cross at Jesus' death, saw Jesus on the day of His resurrection, and witnessed Jesus' ascension into heaven. John was led by the Holy Spirit to tell of Jesus and His love in these books: John, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> John, and Revelation. John says, “We proclaim **to you** what we have seen and heard, so that **you** also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.” (1 John 1:3) These words are **for you and the students in our school!** He wants **you** to know Jesus Christ! He wants **you** to be in fellowship with all believers in Jesus!

As we head back to school, know that the staff of Trinity is excited to **Make Known the Love of Christ** everyday. The children of our school, whether they are new to our school or experienced, need to be continually fed the life giving Word of God. You also need that Word. The life that it gives is eternal life. John says, “I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:13) As Jesus' love transforms our lives on earth and prepares us for life forever in heaven, we will gladly make known Christ's love to the world.

As we head **back to school**, may we bring glory to God. May He guide us as we continue **Making Known the Love of Christ** to our students.

*Greg Becker*

Greg Becker

P.S. Please read 1 John today!



## Music Notes



Our new music season is off to an exciting start. A **6-foot Yamaha grand piano** has been purchased for the music room. This high-quality piano will better meet the needs of our choirs and daily school music classes. The piano was completely paid for through gifts and memorials to Trinity's music program. Thank you to everyone who made purchasing this instrument possible.



A **fourth octave of handbells** has been ordered from Schulmerich Bells and will be arriving later this Fall. This will add another twelve bells to Trinity's Handbell Choir and allows more people to participate in the ensemble. No budget money is spent on handbells. All music and equipment is funded by donations from the members and friends of Trinity. Thank you to everyone who supports our Handbell Choir and made the purchase of the new bells possible.

Everyone is invited to sing with the Mixed Choir in this our 146<sup>th</sup> consecutive choir season. The first rehearsal will be Thursday, September 4 at 7:35 p.m. in the music room. Trinity's Handbell Choir begins its seventh consecutive season of ringing on Thursday, September 4 at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in playing handbells, please contact Brian Heinlein.

The Kammerchor of Concordia University, Mequon, will be joining us for worship at Trinity on Sunday, October 12. Their director, Dr. Kenneth Kosche, will be retiring from teaching at the end of this year, having first arrived at Concordia in 1978. We are very fortunate they accepted our invitation to sing at Trinity in this last year under the direction of Dr. Kosche. Kammerchor has sung around the world and across the United States during its 30-year history. Both Pastor Berg and Mr. Heinlein were members of the choir. Invite your friends and neighbors to worship on October 12 for this special day.

### Here is the upcoming music schedule:

Sept. 14	8:00 a.m.	Mixed Choir
	10:45 a.m.	Joy Choir (Gr. 3-5)
Sept. 21	10:45 a.m.	Trinity Singers (Gr. 6-8)
Sept. 28	8:00 a.m.	Handbells
	10:45 a.m.	Cherub Choir (Gr. 1-2)

**Previous Quiz Question:** This "patriotic" hymn was written jointly by two Unitarian clergymen who were life-long friends. They were both from Massachusetts, were both born in the same year, 1813, and both graduated from Harvard the same year, 1832. It is believed that this hymn was either translated from German or was based on

a German poem. The hymn first appeared in Lowell Mason's *Carmina Sacra* in 1841. What hymn is this? The answer is "God Bless Our Native Land" LSB 965.

**New Quiz Question:** This ninth century hymn includes references to the appearance of the Holy Spirit as tongues of fire at Pentecost. The hymn also refers to the seven gifts of the Spirit mentioned in Romans 12. Two different melodies for this hymn are included in our hymnal. What hymn is this? The answer will be in next month's newsletter.

## Faithbook



### Welcome to Faithbook!

Faithbook is a Trinity utility that makes known the love of Christ to middle and high school students. (Formerly known as Trinity Youth Group)

Trinity middle school and high school students can connect with each other and delve into the Word with Pastor Berg every month on the second Sunday starting September 14<sup>th</sup> at the Ministry Center.

Grades 6-8 will meet together first, starting at 4 pm for general hanging out and gaming. Pastor Berg will conduct Bible study from 4:30 to 5:15 pm.

High school and middle school students will come together at 5:15 pm for evening prayer with a meal to follow.

At 5:30 Pastor Berg will conduct Bible study for grades 9-12. General hanging out and gaming will take place at 6:30 until 7:00.

*"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."* Hebrews 10:25

Watch for details about our youth retreat in January 2009!



### PIZZA RANCH

Help support the Trinity 8th grade Chicago trip, in May '09, by dining at Pizza Ranch on **Wednesday, September 24**. 10% of all sales and all tips go directly to the class to help support the cost of the trip. Be sure to plan ahead and order Scrip to use that night. Hope to see you there!!

## Thrivent GivingPlus



### THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE RECENTLY GIVEN TO THRIVENT'S GIVINGPLUS PROGRAM!

As of July 31, 2008, \$30,285 has been received in matching funds from Thrivent. If you are a Thrivent member and have not yet participated in GivingPlus and would like information, please contact the church or school office (458-8246 or 458-8248). Thank you to:

John Ballhorn	William Jens	Frances Keller
Joanne Kluzinske	Victor Knop	Janelle Mueller
Ron Mueller	Dan Rohde	Jane Schmelter

## News & Notes



**Senior's Saturday Service:** The first fall Saturday Service for Seniors will be held on Saturday, September 27, at 10 a.m. in church. Please contact Roger Buck if you need transportation. A time of refreshments and fellowship will follow in the lounge after the service.



**Stephen Ministry Peer Support Dates:** Because of the Labor Day Holiday, Stephen Ministry Peer Support will meet on September 8 and 22 at 6:30 at the Ministry Center. Please bring #2 manual to the meeting and review pages 537-545.



**Emmaus Meal:** Trinity congregation will host an Emmaus Meal for the community on Saturday, September 6, at the Salvation Army building, 7<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Avenue. Volunteers are needed to set up the hall beginning at 9 am, with other workers to serve the meal 11:00 am – 12:30 pm, and others to clean up after the end of the meal. Please contact Roger Buck at church (458-8246) if you would like to help.

**New Member Reception:** There will be a "Meet and Greet" in conjunction with the New Member Reception on September 14, 2008

**LWML** will begin this year with their first meeting on Monday, September 15, 1:30 pm at the Ministry Center. They will continue assembling Health Kits and plan for the upcoming Fall Rally to be held at Trinity on October 9<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to the Rally and welcome to enjoy dessert and coffee followed by a Bible study led by Pastor Steele. The Health Kits generously donated by Trinity members will also be dedicated. Our large mite boxes will be set out on LWML Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>; the mites collected will be used for shipping of the health kits. Pick up a small mite box to start collecting pocket change. God does mighty things with our mites. **Join us on September 15<sup>th</sup> and be a part of the LWML mission.**

## From the President



In the last year Trinity has had great success with running some special projects. In January we hosted a "Higher Things" retreat for teens that was a great success. Another is planned for January of 2009. In May we had a very successful Trinity Showcase and in June we held a church picnic in conjunction with the professional bike races held in downtown Sheboygan. Trinity members do a fantastic job of stepping up and doing what needs doing.

The last few years, we have had problems filling open board positions on the various church boards. People aren't quite as interested in attending monthly meetings. Many churches in the LCMS are following a new model of running their church. Church boards are being dropped, and the Church Council is set up to serve more as a "Board of Directors". The Church Council works to "set goals" and "plan activities to meet those goals." The success of Higher Things, Trinity Showcase, and the Trinity Picnic are good examples of how Trinity is already doing these types of things.

The Church Council and Executive Board are currently looking at changing the model that we use in operating Trinity. We will be presenting this new model to the Voter's Meeting to be held on September 21<sup>st</sup> for consideration. The Church Constitution would not have to be changed, but the Church By-laws do need to be changed to work under this new model. The changes to the bylaws required are currently being researched. To change the bylaws we would have to present the changes at two consecutive regular Voter's Meetings.

What would these changes entail? We would drop most of the current church boards. The current chairmen of the boards would serve on the church council as representatives of those areas. This would save on numerous board meetings and save the time of trying to convince (beg, plead, blackmail) people to serve on the boards. The Church Council would do a lot of the goal setting, and planning of activities. We would be asking the congregation to work on these activities just as we have in the past. Trinity has been very good at having its congregation members volunteer to work at various activities. So very little will change from the standpoint of getting the work done, but there would be fewer meetings to attend. We will look into more ways to let people know what "activities" we will need help with, more ways to let you know what volunteer opportunities exist, and more ways to sign up for those activities.

Some boards would continue to function. The Board of Elders would still exist and function as usual. The oversight they need to provide to the Pastors, the congregation and the running of the church services would require a functioning Board of Elders. For the same reason, the Board of Christian Day School would continue to operate. They provide oversight to the school staff and the operations of the school.

This is a lot to consider. If you have questions on this concept, please feel free to contact me. And please attend the scheduled Voter's Meetings as these ideas are presented and discussed.

God's Blessings  
Jeff Kelm

## Back to School Shopping



### School Supplies Needed

Trinity Lutheran School keeps school supplies on hand for use throughout the school year. Our supply is getting extremely low. Please consider taking advantage of the great back-to-school deals at area stores and help us stock up for the school year. Needed are:



Pocket folders  
Glue Bottles (school glue)  
Glue Sticks  
Pencils

Washable Markers  
Colored Pencils  
Scissors  
Masking Tape  
Clear Packaging Tape



## Name Tags



**NEW**

**NEW**

**NEW**

*"Trinity is growing and changing so, I just don't know many people anymore." When I switched to the 10:45 service, it was like a new congregation." Today, I greeted a new person and learned he had been a member for 10 years."*



Have you ever said something like this? We have good news. **NAME TAGS are coming to Trinity!!** Each member may order his/her nametag when arriving for the picture directory session. Please remit \$4.00 for each nametag at this time. Children may order, too, if they wish. When you receive your nametag, keep it with you. For your convenience, you may wish to keep it in your car and create a habit of always wearing it when you enter church. It will have a magnet backing and won't damage your clothing.

If you miss a picture directory session, call Dick or Lois Heronemus, 451-4656 and we'll order one for you.

**LET'S GET TO KNOW ONE  
ANOTHER BETTER – BY NAME!**

Dick and Lois Heronemus

## Library



"School day, school days

Dear old golden rule days!

READING and 'riting an 'rithmetic

Taught to the tune

Of a hickory stick..."

Summer vacations are memories; school, Sunday School and bible studies begin this month. Stop by the library and select a book to supplement your bible study or pick out a book to read for pleasure.

### Check out the new items!

**Adult:** "Beyond Tuesday Morning" and "A Time to Embrace" by Karen Kingsbury  
"Among the Tulips" by Cheryl Wolverton  
"Sunset with God" by W. B. Freeman  
Concepts

### Get a jump on the Christmas season!

**Children:** "Tomies Little Christmas Pageant"  
"My Christmas Stocking"  
"The Fourth Wise Man"

**Video:** "The Nativity Story"

Thanks to everyone who has donated items, money and library builder cards to our library.

**"It is the season for books!"**

## Confirmation Secret Prayer Pal



We are beginning our second year of the Confirmation Secret Prayer Pal Program this September for the 2008-2009 Confirmands. This program is designed to provide spiritual and emotional support for our 8th grade Confirmands. This will be done through prayer, notes, and other small reminders. They will be aware that they are being thought of by a member of the congregation as they learn what it means to be a member of the body of Christ and the Lutheran Church. We are looking for a sponsor (s) for each of the 8th graders. It was a great success last year.

Your prayer pal (Confirmand) should be contacted at least once a month. This may be done through a card, note or small gift.

This program begins at the end of September and goes through May. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Jablonski (467-1540).

Official Acts



2008-2009 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.
Barbara Paape, Teacher Grade Five
Chelsea Sagissor, Teacher Grade Four
Karen Howard, Teacher Grade Three
Carla Becker, Teacher Grade Two
Ruth Hering, Teacher Grade One
Kathy Kirst, Teacher Grade one, Resource
Lisa Menzer, Teacher Kindergarten
Kathy Gruben, Teacher 3K & 4K
Amy Janke, Pre-School Director
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
Sue Leibham, Hot Lunch Coordinator
Mary Niesing, Before & After School Care

2008-2009 Trinity Church Council

Jeff Kelm, President
Jon Dolson, Vice-President
Pete Leibham, Treasurer
Sheri Griesbach, Secretary
Jeff Jurss, Christian Day School
Rachel Clark, Christian Education
Dennis Barrow, Elders
Erin Mueller, Evangelism
Ken Leibham, Finance
Al Pentek, Properties
Human Care
Allan Voss, Stewardship
Mary Dittmar, Youth

Transfer In:

Joel & Delinah Howard Immanuel Lutheran, Belvidere, IL
Melissa, Megan, Jessica & Rebekah
Faith and Grace Pape - from St. Paul's, Falls

Profession of Faith:

Joel, Kathryn, and James Pape

Transfers Out:

Jim, Kathy, Peter, Mary, Anne Bolgert St. Paul, Sheboygan Falls
Caron DeKarske Faith Lutheran, Parrish Florida
John, Karla, Jaidyn, Everett, Athena, Anders Poth St. John, Plymouth
Bill, Kathy, Emily Schmidt - Bethany, Naperville, Illinois
Sarah Zellmer Hales Corner
Robert & Jeanette Foster St. John, Portage WI

Release:

Rachel Sommersberger

Baptisms:

Maxwell Valleskey was baptized on August 10
Emiliano Niesing was baptized on August 18
Marcus Davis was baptized on August 25

Funerals:

Elizabeth Knoener died on August 19 and a funeral was held August 23.
Frieda Hasenstein died on August 21 and a funeral was held August 25.
William Hagemeier died on August 21 and a funeral was held on August 26.

Senior Breakfast
September 15, 2008
8:30 am
Fountain Park Family
Restaurant

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
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

YTD (July 31, 2008) RECEIPTS: \$666,537
YTD (July 31, 2008) EXPENDITURES: 804.683
Deficit (July 31, 2008): \$138,146

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS:
Vision: Making Known the Love of Christ
Mission: Trinity is dedicated to the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ within and through its church and school.

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

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**824 Wisconsin Avenue**  
**Sheboygan, WI 53081**  
**September 2008**



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Sheboygan, WI 53081

**Return Service Requested**



Have you had your family picture taken? Trinity's next picture directory dates:

**September 17-20, 2008**

Sign up on line at Trinity's website,  
or by calling the church office at  
(458-8246).

### **Voters' Assembly Meeting**

**September 21, 2008**  
**12:15 pm**

**Light Lunch & Childcare provided**



### **Trinity Lutheran Church And School Golf Outing**

**Saturday September 20th, 2008**  
**8 am—Noon**

**Call the church office (458-8246)**  
**to register.**

## **NEWSLETTER SPONSORS**

### **PATRONS:**

Dr. Dave K. Bolgert, D.D.S.  
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Hake  
The Rindt Family Trust  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Senkbeil

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Mrs. Marianne Voss/Quality Metal Polishing Co.  
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Mr. Jon Dolson/M&I Bank/M&I Wealth Management

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.