



# 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 10

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

November 2008

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## From The Pastors



### Thanksgiving

Dear Brothers and Sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ,

How many times have parents told children, "Now, don't forget to say thank you!"? Grandma gives little Junior some cookies and he starts to walk away. Mom says, "What do you say?" Junior turns around and says, "Thank you." Don't parents teach their children that saying thank you is a duty? But why would saying thank you be a duty? To answer that question, think of those children who never learned to say it. They usually grow up unthankful complainers. People who learn to say thank you also learn to depend on others and trust them. It's a duty to say thank you because by saying it we are forced to remember that someone else was good to us. The Bible teaches us that it is our duty to say thank you to God.

The priests acted this out in Old Testament times. Priests were professional "thankers." At least twice a day the priests performed a thank-you ritual. The priests also performed these rituals at every holiday with a burnt offering sacrifice. You can read about that in chapter 23 of I Chronicles. The people were also taught to offer sacrifices of thanksgiving. God received half the offering as it was burned on an altar, and the priests received the other half, as God's representatives. The people of God have always made sure that we thank God in the Divine Service.

We thank God because we believe we have a heavenly Father who generously provides for us. Christians have always believed that it is our duty to thank God for all the good things that we enjoy. God's people have always believed that the proper way to say thank you to God is to invest some of their time, skills and talent in proclaiming the good news of salvation. This usually means time and money given in the offering plate, especially money, because money buys time where you can't spend time yourself.

How about you; how thankful are you? A family sat down at the dinner table following church one Sunday. "The sermon was boring today," said the teenage son. "Yeah, could you believe how the pastor stumbled over the reading of the Scripture?" his sister chimed in. Mother said, "And the choir was terrible." Finally the father said, "Hush, you guys. Quit complaining. What did you expect for a couple of bucks?" Now, while this story illustrates how many Christians are cheap in their saying thank you with their cash, it also illustrates



**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 the Pastors, cont'



how Christians are cheap with giving of their time and talents in grateful service to Jesus. Modern Christians have forgotten that it is their duty to support the work of their church richly – even at personal sacrifice of comfort and pleasure. Too many Christians take Jesus Christ and His bride the church for granted. Too many Christians are like the husband who expects his meals to be cooked and his laundry to be washed and the house to be kept clean, but hardly gives of himself in gratitude to his wife.

Now, what kind of thankfulness will we show? As we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, ask yourself what your heavenly Father has done for you?

To help ponder that read what Martin Luther said in his explanation to the first article of the Apostle's Creed. *I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still preserves them; also clothing and shoes, meat and drink, house and home, wife and children, land animals and all that I have; that He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life; that He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil; all this He does out of fatherly, Divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; **for all this it is my duty to thank and praise serve and obey Him.** This is most certainly true.* Happy Thanksgiving!

In Christ,

Rev. John M. Berg  
Associate Pastor

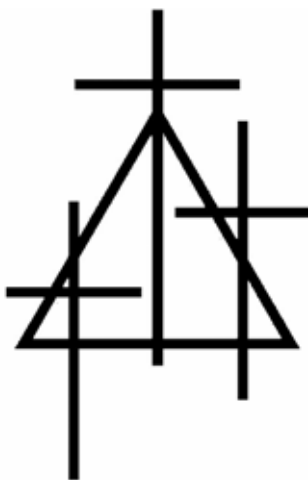
Rev. Timothy J. Mech  
Senior Pastor



### Nave and Beyond

- A New Member Class begins on Sunday November 2nd at 9:30am in the Computer room. If you know of anyone who is interested in becoming a member of Trinity let them know about this class.
- All Pro Dad's next event is an Open Gym at Trinity Monday November 10th from 7pm-8:30pm. All our welcome!
- Please be sure to mark your calendars for the LeClair Family Brunch set for Sunday November 23rd (10:30am—1pm) with the Trinity Voters' Assembly Meeting to follow at 1pm in the Trinity Gym. Let's support the LeClairs by enjoying a brunch and Trinity by getting involved in the decision making process. The agenda for the Voters' Assembly meeting includes discussing and voting on the 2009 budget for Trinity. See you there!
- Thanksgiving Services this month are Wednesday November 26th at 6pm and Thursday November 27th at 10am. Join us in giving thanks to the Lord from whom all blessings flow. The Hoem family will be home from the Seminary over Thanksgiving and Joe will be assisting with the Thanksgiving Services. See you there!

TRINITY



Lutheran  
Church and School  
Making Known the Love of Christ

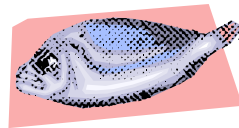
## From the Principal



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

#### Fish Fillets

As I was helping to make supper recently, I held a fish fillet in my hand. The fish had been caught this summer in a northern Wisconsin lake. As I held the fillet, I thought, "How did God bring this fish to be used by my family for a meal?" The following items contributed to bringing that fish to my table: Ken (who drove from Missouri to catch the fish), the lake (water and food source), boat (made by factory workers 50 years ago), bait, the sun (provided the heat and light energy for plant life in the lake), fishing rod, the DNR, gasoline (to transport the fish), freezer (to preserve the fish), corn meal (fish breading), electricity for my stovetop, frying pan, and on and on. The more I thought about this, I realized that I didn't have much to do with the fish meal I was about to eat. God provided this fish for my family through His working in nature and the people of this world. I am utterly dependent on Him, for "He provides me richly and daily with all that I need to support this body and life" as Luther states in his explanation of The First Article of the Apostle's Creed. "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth." God's Word clearly teaches that God created the world.



**Genesis 1:1** *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*

**John 1:1-3** *In the beginning was the Word [Jesus], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.*

In October Trinity congregation, school, students, and staff studied this portion of the Small Catechism. We had the opportunity to hear again of God's care for us through His creating and sustaining of this world. In our classrooms the teachers led the students to explore all of the gifts the Father gives for the good of their bodies, and how God protects, guards, and preserves us from danger and evil. What a blessing that our teachers and students can daily recognize God's "pure, fatherly, divine goodness and mercy" in their lives. In response, our teachers, students, and all of us will "thank Him, praise Him, serve Him, and obey Him."

*Greg Becker*

Mr. Becker

P.S. Yes, I did finally stop thinking about this long enough to prepare the delicious fish fillet. I then thanked and praised God for the fish and for His gracious provisions.

P.P.S. Please read The First Article and Luther's Explanation in the Small Catechism.

Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup> – No School/School Office Closed

Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – Forensics Meet, 8:30am at Lutheran High

Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> – Noon Dismissal – Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup> – No School – Thanksgiving Break



## Music Notes



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. 7 at 7:30 p.m.
- Christ the King Concert on Sunday, Nov. 23 at 3:30 p.m.
- Christmas at Concordia concerts on Friday, Dec. 5 and Saturday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.

### Here is the upcoming music schedule at Trinity:

Nov. 2	8:00 a.m.	Cherub Choir (Gr. 1-2)
	10:45 a.m.	Handbells
Nov. 9	8:00 a.m.	Sunday School Gr. 4-8
Nov. 16	10:45 a.m.	Trinity Singers (Gr. 6-8)
Nov. 23	8:00 a.m.	Mixed Choir
	10:45 a.m.	Faculty & Staff
Nov. 27	10:00 a.m.	Mixed Choir
Nov. 30	10:45 a.m.	Sun. School 3K - Gr. 3

**Previous Quiz Question:** This hymn was originally written in German during the latter half of the 17th century. Three different people were involved in creating this hymn. A woman involved in the Pietism Movement, Catharina von Schlegel, wrote the poetry. A century later, Jane Borthwick, a Scottish-born composer, translated the hymn into English. A Finnish composer, Jean Sibelius, composed the music for this hymn. God used three people with three different languages to create this hymn. What hymn is this? The answer is "Be Still, My Soul" LSB 752.

**New Quiz Question:** This hymn first appeared in the November, 1779 issue of the *Gospel Magazine*, edited by Augustus Toplady, author of "Rock of Ages." It was written by Edward Perronet. Although he wrote many other hymns, he published most of them anonymously. This is his only known work to survive today. This hymn is often sung to the tune "Coronation" or "Diadem" in America, while the tune "Miles Lane" is popular in Great Britain. What hymn is this? The answer will be in next month's newsletter.

## Advent by Candlelight



## "A Time of Fellowship for Women to Warm Their Hearts and Souls"

Monday, December 1, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

(Snow date-December 2, 2007)

Trinity Lutheran Gym

The designated charity is "**Project Linus.**" Project Linus makes security blankets for children hospitalized with cancer and to go with medical and work teams to destitute children in Third World Countries.

We will be collecting items to help supply these blankets: cash donation to buy supplies (payable to Project Linus); gift certificates to stores that sell fabric, batting and yarn; postage stamps; Woolite and blank thank-you notes with envelopes.

Call Donna Petzold at 458-5747  
or Chris Short at 458-6331  
with any questions.

Forms are available in the church bulletin or the church office **Note: Sign up deadline is Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Hostesses are needed!**

## Faithbook



Our second stop on the steeplechase was the Basilica of Holy Hill on October 12th. We had a warm, sunny day for twenty five youth to climb the hill and see the beautiful church and view. Unfortunately, the tower was closed for refurbishing. A hike through the woods took us past the Stations of the Cross. We ate our sack lunches on the grass as Pastor Berg taught us some facts about Catholicism and the Lutheran difference.

**The steeplechase will resume on November 9<sup>th</sup>, next stop to be determined!**

**Thrivent GivingPlus****THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE RECENTLY GIVEN TO THRIVENT'S GIVINGPLUS PROGRAM!**

As of September 1, 2008, \$39,410 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:

Amanda Buck	Brenda Dillman	Terry Holt
Sue Jurss	Susan Klokow	Hilde Limberg
Dan Maurer	Bill Najacht	Joan Najacht

**Bible Studies****Sunday Adult Bible Class in the Gym at 9:30 am**

October 26 & November 2 - "Confronting Death; A Christian Approach to the End of Life by Walter Wangering, Jr.

November 9 - "Faithful Stewardship"

November 16, 23, 30 - "The Songs of Christmas"

Teachers: Pastor Berg

**New Member Class** begins November 2

Classroom: Trinity School Computer Lab

Teacher: Pastor Mech

**Tuesday Women's' Bible Study at 1:30 pm (Speak the Truth in Love)**

Classroom: TLMC

Teacher: Laura Carriveau

**Wednesdays at 8:15 am (Book of Acts)**

Classroom: TLMC

Teacher: Pastor Berg

**Wednesdays at 9 am (Topical Bible Study)**

Classroom: TLMC

Teacher: Mr. Roger Buck

**Thursday Women's' Bible Study at 9 am (Topical)**

Classroom: TLMC

Teacher: Stephanie Jablonski, Mary Ann Miller

**Friday Women' Bible Study (Fear/Confidence)**

Classroom: TLMC

Teachers: Mrs. Marlene Fors, Mrs. Eileen Mockert

**Friday Men's' Bible Study at 7 am (Lutheran Spirituality: Community)**

Classroom: TLMC

Teacher: Pastor Mech

**From the President**

The sermon on Sunday was on the text of "Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's". I found this very interesting, as earlier in the week Debra and I had read an article in the Thrivent magazine on tithing, and we had a nice discussion on the article. I'd like to comment on some of the letters from this Thrivent article, and its relationship to the sermon text.

One letter said, "Love, rather than a tithe, is the answer to God-pleasing giving. The question remains: How deep is your love?" That is a good question. How deep was Jesus' love? Did he take 10% of your sin to the cross? Did he go 10% of the way to the cross? No, Jesus showed His love by taking all of the sin of the world all the way to the cross, even to death and separation from His Father in heaven. A tithe doesn't sound so bad in that light. Jesus said to "render unto God what is God's". How much of what you have is a blessing from God?

Another letter said, "While I do tithe on my gross salary, I think it also means giving back to others. The most valuable thing we have is our time". What a concept. Can you imagine the uproar if you were asked to "tithe" 10% of your time to God. That would be about 2 and ½ hours every day given to doing God's work, about 17 hours a week. Now there is challenge for each of us. "Render unto God", your creator, your time.

A third letter mentioned the three envelope system; the first envelope – 10% tithe, second – 10% savings, and third envelope – 80% for living expenses. How about striving for a 4 envelope system; 10 % tithe, 10% savings, 75% living expenses and 5% social ministry. God has many tasks for us; to care for our fellow man, to take care of His creation. We all have our personal preferences. Some have great passion for God's creation, man. We can serve God through our support for health issues; breast cancer research or diabetes research as examples.. Some have great passion for social ministry issues; food pantries, homeless shelters, abuse shelters, etc. Some have passion for God's gift of His creation, the world, so we support environmental projects. And some have a passion for missions and support those types of projects. But please remember, God comes first, and the rest will follow naturally.

As another letter said so elegantly "Don't worry, try tithing. God takes care of the lowly sparrow – why wouldn't He take care of His children?"

God's blessings,  
Jeff Kelm

## Poinsettia



## Poinsettia 2008

If you would like to place a poinsettia in church for the holiday season, please complete this form and submit it along with \$10.00 to the church office by Monday, December 8th.



**In Memory Of:**

Or In Honor Of:

Or For Blessings Received:

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Poinsettia pickup is January 4, 2009  
after the 10:45 am Service.**

## News &amp; Notes



**PIZZA RANCH:** Help support the Trinity 8th grade (currently 7th graders) Chicago trip, in May '10, by dining at Pizza Ranch on Wednesday, November 12. 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!

**EMMAUS MEAL:** Trinity congregation will host Emmaus Meals for the community at the Salvation Army on the following Saturdays in 2009: January 3, March 21 and September 5. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated for set-up, food preparation, serving, and clean-up. Contact Roger Buck (458-8246) if you'd like to help out.

**2009 CLOQUET, MN AND RED LAKE, ONTARIO SERVANT EVENT DATES SET:** Youth in Middle School as well as their parents are advised that the date for the 2009 Cloquet, MN servant event and VBS to the Fond du Lac Reservation will be *July 12-18*. Please plan your family vacations and other summer schedules to allow time to participate. Similarly, the dates for the 2009 Red Lake, Ontario, Servant event are *July 24 - August 1*. We will begin meeting in January, 2009.

**CAMBODIA MISSION:** Shannon (Buck) and Seth Hoepner are now on site in Battambang, Cambodia. Look for their update in this Trinity newsletter. If you would like to receive their letters by email, please notify Roger Buck or the church office to get your information added to the list.

## News &amp; Notes



**STEPHEN MINISTRY PEER SUPPORT DATES:** November 3 and 17 at 6:30 at the Ministry Center.

**HUMAN CARE COMMITTEE** will meet Wednesday, Nov. 5 to plan the upcoming Saturday Senior's Service (11/08) as well as the Love Comes Down program (providing Christmas gifts for children and home-bound people) and Advent luncheons (Dec. 3, 10, and 17).

**THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS** East Sheboygan County Chapter held its Chapter Leader Election Dinner on Sunday, October 12. The following officers were elected: President, Roger Buck; Vice President, Allan Zenger; Records Director, Janelle Mueller; Financial Director, George Dippold; Congregational Service Team Director, Tom Genz; Assistant Financial Director, Chuck Benedum.

**LECLAIR FUNDRAISER:** Marilyn LeClair has been a faithful and dedicated worker and member of Trinity. Marilyn began working at Trinity in September 1991. Marilyn is now at the Susan S. Richardson Community Hospice in Sheboygan Falls. Trinity and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans are planning a pancake and sausage brunch on Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> for the LeClair Family. Thrivent will match 50 cents per dollar up to \$2,400 (\$1,200 match). If you would like to volunteer to help on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, please contact the church or school office. If you cannot attend the brunch and would like to contribute to the LeClair Family Fundraiser, please send your donation to the church office (checks payable to Trinity) with "LeClair Fundraiser" indicated with your donation. Please keep Marilyn, Wayne, Ryan, Angie, Seth, Laura and Adam in your prayers.

## Youth Retreat



**January 23-25, 2009 At Trinity**

Registration forms are available by the youth bulletin board in the Lounge.

**This is the Feast**  
A Youth Retreat

**FEATURED SPEAKER** - Pr. Cwirla is the pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Hacienda Heights, CA, President of Higher Things

**ERIN BODE IN CONCERT** at the Weill Center

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

The popular *Stump the Pastors* returns.  
*Campout. Coffee Bar. Karaoke. And more!*

**RETREAT CHOIR**

**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  
 Christine 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  
 Donna Petzold, Human Care  
 Allan Voss, Stewardship  
 Mary Dittmar, Youth

**Transfer Out:**

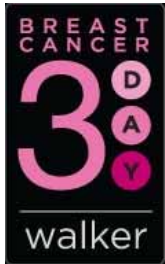
John, Kathy, Sara & Sean Schrank Bethlehem, Sheboygan WI  
 Matthew Thiel Trinity, Town Wilson

**Baptism:**

Khylee Jean Brown, daughter of Felicia Brown, was baptized on October 26, 2008

**Funerals:**

Marie Tilsner died on September 30 and a funeral was held on October 11  
 Victor Klunck died on October 4 and a funeral was held on October 8  
 Dave Bolgert died on October 7 and a funeral was held on October 11  
 Marie Rudolph died on October 23rd and a funeral was held on October 27th



**Senior Breakfast**  
**November 17, 2008**  
 8:30 am  
 Fountain Park Family  
 Restaurant

Stephanie Jablonski, Darlene Mech, Chris Melcher & AnnMarie Voss will share information and photos from their recent 3-Day 60 mile Breast Cancer walk in San Francisco, CA.

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 (September 30, 2008) RECEIPTS: \$931,652  
 YTD (September 30, 2008) EXPENDITURES: \$997,153  
 Deficit (September 30, 2008): \$65,501

**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](http://www.trinitysheboygan.org)

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

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



**Return Service Requested**

**LeClair Family Brunch**  
**Sunday, November 23,**  
**10:30 am-1 pm**  
**Trinity Gym**



Sponsored by Trinity and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

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**Trinity Voters'**  
**Assembly Meeting**  
**Sunday, November 23**  
**1 pm**  
**Trinity Gym**

Important budget information to be shared and voted on!

### Thanksgiving Services



**Wednesday, November 26**  
**6 pm**

**Thursday, November 27**  
**10 am**

\*\*\*\*\*



**All Pro Dads**  
**Monday, November 10th**  
**Open Gym night**  
**7:00-8:30 pm**

### NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

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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.