



Trinity Messenger



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

Volume 6, Issue 10

"Making Known the Love of Christ"

November 2009

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From the Pastors



Stewardship for Reel: God at Work through You, His Saints

Jesus said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe the Gospel...Come follow Me and I will make you fishers of men" (Mark 1:15,17).

Dear Brothers and Sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ,



A game warden observed a fisherman who always had a large number of fish as he returned from fishing even when other fishermen complained that the fish weren't biting. So the warden asked to go with this fisherman to see how he did it. They went to an isolated lagoon and dropping anchor the fisherman reached into his tackle box withdrew a stick of dynamite and lit the fuse. The warden was dumbfounded as the fisherman tossed the dynamite into the water. It exploded causing dead and stunned fish to float to the surface. Calmly, the fisherman took out the net and began to scoop up the fish. The warden was beside himself and said, "That's illegal!" As the warden railed on the fisherman took out another stick of dynamite, lit

the fuse and put it in the warden's hand saying, "Are you going to talk or are you going to fish?" When the disciples were called to be fishers of men they were not given a rod, reel and bait. They were given the dynamite of the Gospel and it's net to bring people under the love and care of Jesus Christ. In and through God's word we die to sin and rise to new life in Christ. We are given the saintliness of Christ so that we can live with Him and each other throughout eternity in heaven. We are given the dynamite of the Gospel so that others gather with us around the throne of God.

You have seen the fisherman above on the step of the narthex and in the fellowship hall throughout this past summer and fall. Who is he? He is Jesus, but he is also you in Christ, you who have had the Gospel placed into the tackle box of your life. It blows away your sin, death, and hell, and nets you into the aquarium of the paradise of God. It does the same for others through you as His word has its way in your life. Put another way, the Gospel sends us reeling with the genuine love of God. That's Stewardship for Reel!

There are some, even in the church, who unfortunately fish with something other than the Lord's words. Let's call these folks bait fishermen. They seek to meet the needs of fish by researching their habits, diet, and preferences. Fly fishermen, for example, make the bait look and act just like a rainbow trout's favorite food. They tailor the bait to suit the wants and needs of the fish. In the church this is done when we pander to people's perceived needs. We do this when we use the sonar of surveys to locate fish and then give them what they want. We're looking for a certain kind of fish (the rich) and throw back those we don't want (the poor). We reel them in and then mount them on a wall like a trophy. This is **not** the Gospel! This is not the way Jesus fishes, nor does He call His disciples to this way of fishing.



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 6:30 pm
Family Education Hour 9:30 am

Bible Classes
(throughout the week)

Trinity Lutheran School
3-K thru 8th grade

From the Pastors, cont'



The disciples were called by God to go fishing with His words. This is net fishing. By the way, this is the only kind of fishing going on in the Scriptures. Net fishing is universal (catholic), inclusive, indiscriminate. Nets gobble up everything – good fish, bad fish, old shoes, etc. The net of Jesus' death and resurrection hauls everything in because He wants all people to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth. He will sort it all out on Judgment Day. In the meantime, the dynamite and net of the Gospel is to be thrown into the sea of all nations.

Four years ago we here at Trinity were sent reeling when the dynamite of the Gospel led to spending millions of dollars to purchase and refurbish the Trinity Lutheran Ministry Center. It was done to net the little children into the love and care of Jesus Christ. Many were stunned by such a bold action and we looked dead in the water of debt with seemingly no way out except bankruptcy. The Gospel was underestimated because many failed to realize that God doesn't play by the rules of a fallen world. It seems a bit unfair, doesn't it, to fish not with bait, but with the dynamite of the Gospel! The Gospel has sent the debt reeling and netted 20 little children into the 3K program of Trinity Lutheran Church and School after only being open for one year. **On Sunday, November 8th, we will burn the mortgage on the Trinity Lutheran Ministry Center in the Divine Service and will celebrate the Gospel bringing little children to Jesus.**

This does not mean we are without debt or that we are out of room. In fact, we are once again facing a large operating deficit and we have plenty of room for more children of God. So what do we do? Well, for starters that's not the first question. The first question is this, "What will Jesus do? The answer is that He will do what He always does. He will provide more than we could ever want or need. He will take out another stick of the dynamite of His Gospel, light the fuse, and hand it to you. Now, are you going to talk or are you going to fish?

In Christ,

Rev. Timothy J. Mech
Senior Pastor

Rev. John M. Berg
Associate Pastor



The Nave and Beyond

- On Sunday November 1st and Sunday November 8th we will be rejoicing in the Offering of the Saints past and present. On November 1st you are invited to pick up your gift card from the lounge. Please look for your name on an envelope and take it home with you. During that week prayerfully consider your gift to the Lord and His church at Trinity. Please bring your completed gift card back to church on Sunday November 8th. There is an envelope for every member of Trinity. Parents, your children will also fill one out in school. For parents with children not in the school, please help them fill it out. We will rejoice in the offering of the saints both past and present!
- Board of Elders meeting Wednesday November 4th at 7pm at the TLMC.
- Church Council meeting Wednesday November 11th at 7pm at the TLMC.
- Voters' Assembly Meeting Wednesday November 18th at 7pm at the TLMC. The main agenda item for this meeting will be to discuss a Trinity's proposed work program (budget) for 2010. You may pick up the entire agenda for the meeting and the minutes from the last voters' meeting in the lounge.
- Thanksgiving Services are set for Wednesday November 25th at 6:30 pm and Thursday November 26th at 10 am. Join us as we give thanks to the Lord for all His blessings both for this life and for the life to come!

From the Principal



Trinity Lutheran School – Making Known the Love of Christ Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit

The fruit of the Spirit is ... Peace. (Galatians 5:22,23)

Who doesn't want peace? Oh, there are some people who enjoy "stirring things up" to cause dissension and fighting, but most people want peace. Most people would like to rid the world of war, hostilities, fighting, antagonism, violence, strife, dissension, annoyance, distraction, and anxiety. Miss America desires world peace. Men and women are awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Young people have joined the Peace Corps. We take vacations to get some peace. Some are urged to make peace offerings to another so that their fightings will cease. Police attempt to keep the peace. These are all attempts by man to create peace on earth. As wonderful as these efforts are, true peace only comes to earth in Jesus.



Sin creates separation between us and God. Sin separates us from each other. As long as we have life and breath, sin will continue to cause separation. Yet, Jesus came to bring peace between God and man and between us humans. The angel at the right announces "Peace on Earth" at the birth of Jesus. Jesus brings forgiveness which creates peace between God and us and with each other. His loving, atoning sacrifice brings true peace.

The children of Trinity Lutheran School learn of Jesus' love and experience His peace that comes through forgiveness. They then share that same love, peace and forgiveness in their lives. They are bearing the fruit of peace.

Here are some Bible passages which teach us and our students about the peace that comes through Jesus.

- "**Peace** I leave with you; my **peace** I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." John 14:27
- "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have **peace**. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." John 16:33
- On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "**Peace** be with you." John 20:19
- Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1
- And the **peace** of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7
- "Blessed are the **peacemakers**, for they shall be called sons of God." Mt 5:9
- May grace and **peace** be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. 2 Peter 1:2

Please continue your faithful and generous support of Trinity Lutheran School.

Greg Becker

Mr. Greg Becker
Principal



Music Notes



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

- Pops/Jazz Concert on Friday, Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m.
- Christ the King Concert on Sunday, Nov. 22 at 3:30 p.m.
- Christmas at Concordia concerts on Friday, Dec. 4 and Saturday, Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Here is the upcoming music schedule at Trinity:

Nov. 1	8:00 a.m.	Mixed Choir
	10:45 a.m.	Joy Choir
Nov. 8	8:00 a.m.	Sunday School Gr. 4-8
	10:45 a.m.	Handbells
Nov. 15	8:00 a.m.	Sunday School 3K-Gr. 3
Nov. 22	8:00 a.m.	Mixed Choir
	10:45 a.m.	Trinity Singers
Nov. 26	10:00 a.m.	Mixed Choir
Nov. 29	8:00 a.m.	Joy Choir

The complete choir schedule for the entire year can be downloaded on our website at:

www.trinitysheboygan.org/pdf/choirschedule.pdf.

VALPO ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD



One of our members, Shirley Honold, received national recognition for her outstanding service to Valparaiso University (VU) on Sunday, October 11, 2009 at the Valparaiso University Chapel service. Shirley received her bachelor's degree in accounting from VU and has been an active supporter of her alma mater for many decades. In 1970, she began her involvement in the VU Guild in the local chapter as well as holding offices at the national level. She is untiring, faithful, and committed to the university in recruitment, public relations, and fundraising. Pecans, VU Bean Soup, Fireside Coffee, anyone?

Also, she is the mother of two Valpo grads who are also servants of the university. Shirley has been involved in many activities, too numerous to mention, at Trinity and Lutheran High. If you know Shirley, you know that if given a task, it will be very well done. She truly is a Christian servant in everything she does. There is no one who deserves this honor more!

CONGRATULATIONS, SHIRLEY!!!

Trinity Second Grade



November is here! Fall is definitely here! The second graders have been very busy this fall. They have been busy:

- writing to their Florida pen pals,
- writing many stories for a special book,
- singing for Grandparents' Day and That's Amore',
- making pod casts with their 7th grade buddies,
- making a classroom quilt with their grandparents,
- making habitat dioramas,
- watching the ant farm and the fire belly toads in the classroom,
- going to Henschel's Trout Farm and Indian Museum with their 7th grade buddies,
- acting out Martin Luther's life in the classroom, and
- making Luther's seal with beans and rice, too.

This time of year it is a time to reflect and be thankful. The second graders are very thankful for all God gives them during this fall season, as well as the entire year. Some of the many things they are thankful for are food, house, parents, family, Trinity school, sun, but most of all **Jesus!** God's richest blessings to all! Happy Autumn!!! ☺



Love Comes Down



The 2009 campaign will begin on Sunday, November 29 and continue for three weeks. Trinity members who would like to purchase and share Christmas gifts with children from families with financial difficulties this year are asked to pick up a card in the lounge. This card notes the child's gender, age and possibly sizes. Please bring the gifts back to the church office by December 15. Names of home-bound Trinity members and residents of nursing homes are also available. Please plan to deliver gifts directly to the elderly.

Library



Grandparents'



Day at Trinity



Check it out!

Many new items have arrived in our Library!

Adult books:

"Dad in Training", "Wise One", "Only the River Runs Free", "Luther's Works"

Children's books:

The Spoon in the Stone", "Field of Beans", "Thank You for Thanksgiving"

DVD:

Veggie Tales "Minnesota Cuke and the Search for Noah's Umbrella"

CD:

"In the Garden", "Gospel Bible Songs", "God Helps Me" - praise songs for little ones

"Give Thanks for Books!"



Stephen Ministry



EQUIPPING THE SAINTS - - Stephen Ministry Training Class

In Ephesians 4, Paul talks about pastors and other leaders as gifts God has given the church "to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." Stephen Ministry has given us an organized way to equip those gifted for caring ministry so that they can build up the body of Christ by providing Christian care and support to those experiencing a difficult time.

Our training class is about 8 weeks into their 50 hour course to become caregivers. They are working hard amidst all their other responsibilities because they want to serve others here at Trinity and the community. We ask you to pray for Bruce Beyer, Kim Buck, Deb Davis, Elle Konetzki, Judy Mayer, and Becky Post. Pray for their focus, their learning, their growth in their faith journey, and the balance of their time. This is one of our strong missions here at Trinity and we ask for your continued support.

Thank you! Lois Heronemus, Stephen Ministry Leader.



New Study Bible



A New Bible for Christ's Church: The Lutheran Study Bible

It should come as no surprise to anyone that I love books. Step into my office and you might as well be stepping into a library. But there is no doubt some books are more important than others. The chief of these is God's Word, the Bible. And we are blessed to have a new study Bible available for us through Concordia Publishing House. The Lutheran Study Bible is hot off the presses and promises to be an incredible resource for Christians who desire to learn more about Christ Jesus and His mercy toward us.

But do we need another bible? Isn't the one that I've used since I was in confirmation good enough. It isn't a competition, and God's Word is powerful and effective, regardless of the context or print edition or whatever other format it may be found in. Some of you grew up with the King James Version of the bible. I grew up with the American edition (The Beck Bible) that I received in 3rd grade. In the LC-MS the Concordia Self-Study Bible (NIV translation) has been a popular edition for 25 years. Many of you probably have a copy of this study bible, and it includes lots of wonderful resources.

The NEW Lutheran Study Bible is different in several important ways. Here are a few of them that come to mind:

1. The translation it uses is The English Standard Version (**ESV**). This is the translation that our church body has unofficially adopted as the norm. It is used in Lutheran Service Book, our hymnal, which we use in worship on Sunday mornings. It is the translation that is used for all of the publications of the LC-MS. Martin Luther wrote this about consistency of texts in the Catechism, and it certainly holds true for God's Word as well: "In the first place, let the preacher above all be careful to avoid many versions or various texts and forms of the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Sacraments, and such. He should choose one form to which he holds and teaches all the time, year after year. For young and simple people must be taught by uniform, settled texts and forms. Otherwise they become confused easily when the teacher today teaches them one way, and in a year some other way, as if he wished to make improvements. For then all effort and labor that has been spent in teaching is lost."

My hope and plan is that the ESV will be the last translation that I regularly use in my ministry. I expect it to be the norm in the LCMS for a generation or more.

2. The introductions and study notes are thoroughly Lutheran. Concordia Publishing House spent years preparing

the introductions, notes, and review process for TLSB. The editors come from nearly every conservative Lutheran church body in the world, including the Wisconsin Synod, the Lutheran Church – Canada, Europe, Africa, and more. The majority of the editors are LCMS, and it went through a thorough doctrinal review process before coming to us. These study notes and introductions incorporate the Small Catechism, writings of Luther and other theologians, and a wealth of information both historical and theological for the student of the Scriptures.

3. It includes many of the resources we often use in prayer, worship and catechesis. These include especially the Small Catechism, but also many prayers, an emphasis on Law & Gospel, and generally holding up the doctrine of the forgiveness of sins above all else.

4. It is available in lots of different formats. From the \$35 standard hardback edition, larger print editions, various kinds of leather and bonded leather editions, there are more than enough options to go around.

5. It has artwork! These include scenes drawn by Julius Schnoff von Carlsfeld, and were originally available in the 1860 Luther bible published in Leipzig.

6. It includes the lectionaries (reading cycles) in use in our churches. This is very helpful for preparation to go to church. You can always lookup and find what the readings for the upcoming Sunday are and work through them in preparation.

7. Over a hundred charts and over thirty maps. It is tremendously helpful to be able to put flesh and blood on the stories of the bible. Maps help us to realize that these are actual events that took place here on earth. They give context to the world of the bible. In the same way, there are many aspects of God's Word that are hard for us to grasp and understand without some teaching. While a study bible is not a replacement for the Ministry of the Word in the Christian congregation, it can serve as a helpful basis for the student of God's Word.

These are just a few of the great things about The Lutheran Study Bible. I'm sure that as I use it for study and prayer over the weeks and months and years to come, that I will learn a lot. I look forward to learning more of God's Word with you, as we study what He has given us in His Son, Jesus.

In Christ,

Pastor John M. Berg

2009-2010 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.
 Jill Meador, 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
 Lisa Menzer, Teacher Kindergarten
 Kathy Gruben, Teacher 3K & 4K
 Kim Roethel, 3K Aid
 Amy Janke, Early Childhood Care Director
 Christel Miske, German Teacher
 Carri Gabrielse, Spanish Teacher
 Christine Melcher, Church Office Manager
 Colleen Rindt, School Secretary
 Bruce Beyer, Part-time Custodian
 Billy Free, Part-time Custodian
 Sue Leibham, Hot Lunch Coordinator
 Mary Niesing, Before & After School Care

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 Donna Petzold, Human Care
 Charles Hess, Stewardship
 Mary Dittmar, Youth
 Bradd Stucky, At Large
 Andy Rindt, At Large



Advent by Candlelight

Monday, November 30th

7:00 pm



Watch the bulletin for sign-up and charity information



SENIOR BREAKFAST

November 16, 2009
8:30 am

Fountain Park Family Restaurant

YTD (September 30, 2009) RECEIPTS: \$828,385
 YTD (September 30, 2009) EXPENDITURES: \$986,849
 Deficit (September 30, 2009): \$158,465

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

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 1 Peter 2:9

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
November 2009

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Return Service Requested

Voters' Assembly Meeting
Wednesday, November 18th
7 pm at the TLMC

Agenda Items:

- Deficit Issue
- 2010 Proposed Budget
- New Gymnasium Study Report
- Board and Ministry Area Reports



Thanksgiving Services

Wednesday, November 25th
At 6:30 pm

Thursday, November 26th
10:00 am



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***Sponsor* (\$300);**
***Sustaining Sponsor* (\$100);**
***Contributing Sponsor* (\$50)**

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