



# Trinity Messenger



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

Volume 7, Issue 1

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

January 2010

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## From the Pastors



### Making Known the Love of Christ: All Hands In

*"Let the favor of the Lord be upon us, and establish the work of our hands"*  
(Psalm 90:17a).

Dear Brothers and Sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ,



The term "epiphany" means "to make manifest" or "to make known." The word of God throughout this Epiphany Season (January 6<sup>th</sup> – February 14<sup>th</sup>) will make known that Jesus is God in the flesh and that He uses His power and authority as Lord to love and care for us. His are the hands that healed everyone they touched and that accomplished the work of our salvation as they were nailed to the cross. Now His hands are at work in the Church as He washes away our sins and feeds us with the food that endures to eternal life. Like Mary, we are favored with God's forgiveness and blessing and are also equipped to work with our hands to benefit others.

As we begin a new calendar year here at Trinity, we are seeking to get all hands into faithfully receiving the Lord's gifts of salvation every week so that the work of our hands brings glory to God and is a blessing to others.

Like many congregations, especially those with schools, we face some challenges in this New Year. It is why we pray with the psalmist, "Let the favor of the Lord be upon us, and establish the work of our hands." Here at Trinity we need your hands to work with ours in making known the love of Christ in real and genuine ways. Here's how you can help:

- Put your hands together and pray that God would bless the proclamation of the Gospel from the pulpit of our church, in the classrooms of our school, and in our outreach to others to the end that we may grow in our faith toward God, in our love for each other, and in the number of people who receive with us here at Trinity the grace of God in Jesus Christ.
- Reach out your hands to welcome friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to Trinity and invite them to join us in worship, to attend the new member class (it is on-going and you can start on any Sunday), and hand them information about Trinity Lutheran School and Lutheran High School while explaining to them the benefits of a Lutheran school education. These are really good schools!



**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'



- Use your hands to open the Bible for daily devotions (use the green sheet) and to study God's word with fellow members of Trinity in a weekly Bible study. Studies and times are listed in the bulletin and this newsletter.
- Put an offering in your hand and give it to the church based on a percentage of your income.
- Lend a hand by giving your time to help Trinity fulfill its mission and ministry. There are many ways to do this. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for these opportunities. For example, by volunteering to serve at one Brewer game your individual time for that evening will mean over \$100.00 for Trinity. Typically we make around \$800.00 an evening. There is also the benefit of getting to know a fellow member of Trinity and working together for the good of our congregation and school.
- Offer a caring hand by referring someone going through a difficult time to receive a Stephen Ministry Caregiver. This one on one caring ministry has touched the lives of many people here at Trinity. Six new Stephen Ministry Caregivers will be commissioned for service on Sunday January 3<sup>rd</sup>. To make a referral contact Roger Buck at 458-8246.
- Give a helping hand to those less fortunate by serving at the Emmaus Meal with fellow members of Trinity at the Salvation Army (7<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Avenue) from 11am -12:30pm on Saturday January 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Put a can of soup in your hand and place it on the table in the lounge with the Nativity on it anytime from January 7<sup>th</sup> – February 14<sup>th</sup>. This soup is Soup for the Sem. Both our seminaries (St. Louis and Ft. Wayne) will be here at that time for the Higher Things Retreat at Trinity and the soup will be taken by them and given to our Seminary Food Pantries.

Our prayer for God's people at Trinity this Epiphany season is that all of our hands work together to bring glory to God by loving and caring for others as God in Christ loves and cares for us. "Let the favor of the Lord be upon us, and establish the work of our hands."

In Christ,

Rev. Timothy J. Mech  
Senior Pastor

Rev. John M. Berg  
Associate Pastor



### Nave and Beyond

- Both of us want to thank you for the cards, prayers, and gifts given to us for Christmas. We also thank God for the many blessings He has bestowed on us and our families through you as members of Trinity!
- A special Voters' meeting is scheduled for Wednesday January 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Trinity Lutheran Ministry Center. There is one item on the agenda, namely, voting on the 2010 Budget for Trinity. Please plan on attending this very important meeting! Information for the meeting can be found on a table in the lounge beginning Sunday January 10<sup>th</sup>.

## From the Principal



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

#### The Fruit of the Spirit is ... Kindness. (Galatians 5:22,23)

During the 2009-2010 school year, we at Trinity Lutheran School are focusing on the fruit that is born in a Christian's life as the result of a loving Christ living within him. The fruit of the Spirit of Christ is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. We see this fruit in the lives of our children. As they continue being nourished in their faith through the hearing of God's Word at home, school, and church, their fruit will give witness to the world of the love that Jesus Christ has for all. In January, we will look specifically for kindness.

I know one person who is always kind. You could ask him day or night if he is kind. He would answer, "Yes!" He is Mr. Tom Kind. By virtue of his name, he is always "kind". Am I always kind? Are you always kind? Are Trinity students always kind? Sadly, we must answer, "No". Kindness is showing love to another person through benevolence, generosity, charity, sympathy, compassion, or tenderness. Kindness involves putting the other person's needs ahead of our own. Jesus is the perfect example of kindness. Jesus saw our great need. He saw our sins, trespasses, disobedience, and evil desires. "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus." (Ephesians 2:4-7) Kindness is embodied in Jesus.

In December we all saw or heard the stories of how the Grinch and Ebenezer Scrooge were changed from their cruel, heartless ways. Their lives were then filled with many acts of selfless kindness towards others. Those stories warm our hearts. How much more will our hearts be warmed when we see the transformation that occurs in our children and in ourselves when Jesus love changes our hearts and fills our lives with acts of kindness? Think of a time when you showed kindness to another person. Didn't that feel great? More importantly, didn't that act of kindness bring joy to the other person and make known the love of Christ to that person?

The wisemen brought their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus as He made himself known to them. What does God require us to bring? The prophet Micah gives us the answer: "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:6-8). In 2010, may we show and love kindness -- the kindness that Jesus has shown first to us.



Parents and teachers, thank you for teaching your children how to show kindness to others. Those simple acts of kindness, done without thought for self, are fruit of the Spirit of Christ.

May the kindness of Christ be yours.

*Greg Becker*

Mr. Becker, Principal

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.*

Galatians 5:22-23a

## Music Notes



**Thank you** to all instrumentalists, singers, and musicians who shared their talents in leading services this past Christmas season. Countless hours of behind-the-scenes work went into planning and preparing these services, and the dedication of all involved is greatly appreciated.

Have you made a New Year's resolution? Is it to become more involved at Trinity? Now is a great time to join the Mixed Choir and become part of the wonderful music program at Trinity. We hope to see you at our next rehearsal on Thursday, January 7 at 7:35 p.m.

Dr. John Behnke will present an organ recital at Concordia University Wisconsin on Friday, January 8 at 7:30 p.m. Adult tickets are \$7; children 17 and under are admitted free.

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

Jan. 10	8:00 a.m.	Mixed Choir
	10:45 a.m.	Joy Choir (Gr. 3-5)
Jan. 17	10:45 a.m.	5K – Grade 2
Jan. 24	8:00 a.m.	Handbells
	10:45 a.m.	Trinity Singers (Gr. 6-8)
Jan. 31	8:00 a.m.	Sunday School Gr. 4-8
	10:45 a.m.	Mixed Choir

## Library



Last call for library builder cards! Library builder cards will be redeemed between January 15-31. Thank you for saving them for our church library!

During these long, cold snowy months, the library will have a display of free family friendly movies. Pop some popcorn and make it a family movie night!



During the month of January, videos and DVDs of various Trinity Christmas services and programs will be available for check out through the library. If you would like to purchase a copy of any of the services, please contact Chris in the church office ([melcher@trinitysheboygan.org](mailto:melcher@trinitysheboygan.org) or 458-8246).



## Trinity Fourth Grade



Greetings from the Fourth Grade!

Lately, the Fourth Graders have been busy! One of the interesting projects that they have done recently have been in English, where they created commercials, complete with their own catchy jingles! They had to do some studies in persuasion to complete these. As you know, persuasion is a good tool to use in many occupations, such as sales.

Our Fourth Graders also have completed studies on biographies. They all completed a biography of their own, which included the making of scale models of whom they wrote their biography on. They also presented speeches to the class. The students did a great job selecting people who have had a great impact on our country and our lives such as Martin Luther, Marie Curie, Abraham Lincoln, Dr. Seuss, Sitting Bull, and Leonardo DaVinci. Hopefully, they were inspired to make an impact on the lives of others.

Of course, God is the center of our learning. The students of the Fourth Grade have recently had lessons on worship, how unique we are, honoring our parents and other authorities, priorities, giving thanks, and our gifts that God has blessed us with.

We also spent time working on the Children's Christmas Service. It was a wonderful evening! God's blessings to our wonderful congregation here at Trinity. We cannot thank you enough for all your support. You truly inspire us to proclaim the news of our wonderful Savior, born in Bethlehem's manger.



## Stephen Ministry



On January 3, six Stephen Ministry Caregivers will be commissioned for caring Christian ministry here at Trinity. These new Stephen Caregivers are Bruce Beyer, Kimberly Buck, Deb Davis, Elle Konetzki, Judy Mayer, and Becki Post. These lay caregivers will be providing help for people in and around our congregation who are grieving, need long-term care, experiencing losses or are going through other crisis in their lives. Please show your support and appreciation for these dedicated people by your presence and encouragement at the commissioning service and through your prayers. After the service, all of the current Stephen Caregivers, newly commissioned Stephen Caregivers, and spouses will join for fellowship and food in the Fellowship Hall.

## Parenting with And Prayer



## Patience

### "Parenting with Patience (...and Prayer!)"



A seven-week Christian parenting class to help parents create a more loving and positive home begins Monday, January 25, 2010 (6:30-8:30 p.m.) at the Trinity Lutheran Ministry Center in Sheboygan. The class will focus on using positive praise and reinforcement to encourage compliance and build self-esteem in children. Other skills taught include ignoring, time-out, sticker charts, communication, problem-solving, allowances, household chores and many others, all from a Christian perspective. Child care will be available for children 6 years old and younger. Parents unable to afford the \$70.00 per family fee may inquire about limited tuition assistance. The class is led by Dr. Darlene Mech, psychologist and pastor's wife. Please call her at Nett-Work Family Counseling for more information and to register: 451-3141.



## LWML



LWML will have it's first meeting in 2010 on Mon. Jan. 18th, 1:30 pm at the Ministry Center. Roger Buck will be giving a presentation about his position as Director of Outreach and Human Care at Trinity and also sharing information about our food pantry. \$5.25 will be collected for the LWML Quarterly. Mites will also be collected. All women of our congregation are invited to join us!



The **Young Women's Retreat held in Lake Geneva** will be Feb. 5,6 2010. It is also for the Young at heart! The theme is "Living a Chocolate Life". Contact Debra Kelm (208-0704) about registering for this event.

The **2010 LWML Convention** will be June 18 & 19 in Milwaukee. We are in need of a young women representative. Watch the bulletin for more information.

New and gently used toys and books are still being collected for our Childcare Center. They are also in need of a sandbox for outdoor play. We also need hand towels for our health kits. Thank you for your help!

## STEWARDSHIP FOR REEL



### "Soup for the Sem"



Let the Great Trinity Soup Drive begin! Have you ever seen 1000 cans of Campbell's Soup gathered in one place? Let Trinity be known as the congregation who came through and delivered 1000 cans of Campbell's Soup to the Concordia Seminary Food Banks for Seminary students and their families.

The Stewardship Committee doesn't want your money. The committee wants your soup! We're aiming for 1000 cans of Campbell's Soup to be placed at the Holy Manager Table in the Library from January 7, 2010 through February 14, 2010. 500 cans of Campbell's Soup will be delivered to the Seminary Food Pantry in St. Louis, MO and the other 500 cans of Campbell's soup will be delivered to the Seminary Food Pantry in Ft. Wayne, IN. Members are asked to bring cans of Campbell's Soup to church with them and place the cans at the Holy Manager Table.

Our goal is 1000 cans of Campbell's Soup. Can we meet this goal or even exceed 1000 cans of soup? Let us join together as a family and have some fun in reaching or exceeding this goal for our Christian Families attending the Seminaries.

## Higher Things Retreat



## February 12-14

## News & Notes



Higher Things Retreat “**I Confess**” will delve into the Scriptures, the Catechism, and the hymnal to learn the wonderful good news that Jesus has for sinners who say: “I have sinned against God.”

### FEATURED SPEAKERS

**PASTOR KUHLMAN** is the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Murdock, Nebraska. He is the Vice-President of Higher Things. Pr. Kuhlman loves youth so much that he is a substitute teacher in the Elmwood-Murdock School District and drives the bus. He also is a “Seinfeld” junkie.

**PASTOR PEPERKORN** is pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church in Kenosha, Wisconsin. He is the founding editor of Higher Things Magazine. He is the author of the book, *I Trust When Dark My Road: A Lutheran View of Depression*. He also writes zombie sermons.

### THE MOVIE: “I Confess”

Alfred Hitchcock’s film noir classic “**I Confess**” will be shown at the Stefanie H. Weill Center on Friday night. This classic movie is about a priest who refuses to give into police investigators’ questions of suspicion, due to the seal of confession, and becomes the prime suspect in a murder.

### COMEDYSPORTZ

Get ready to laugh your socks off on Saturday night as we present the hilarious improv comedy team from Milwaukee performing at the Stefanie H. Weill Center. This performance is open to the public and a portion of the proceeds will benefit LCMS World Relief and Human Care.

### RETREAT CHOIR and OTHER ACTIVITIES

Make a joyful noise and sing in the retreat choir. (Be sure to indicate your interest and voice preference on your registration form.) The popular *Stump the Pastors* returns. Camp out at Trinity Church. Hang out at “This is Most Certainly Brew” Kaffeehaus. Compete for Lutheran Idol. And more!

**LODGING** - Bring your sleeping bags, pillows, and air mattresses and make yourselves at home at Trinity. Males and females will each need separate chaperones. Showers are available. Or stay at a local hotel if “camping” is not your gig.

**COST** - for both teens and adult chaperones; \$55 per participant after 12/31. \$65 after 1/31/10. Price includes meals and snacks, onsite “campout”, ComedySportz, movie, T-shirt and speakers.

### REGISTRATION

Information and forms are available at [trinitysheboygan.org](http://trinitysheboygan.org).

**EMMAUS MEAL:** Trinity will be hosting the Emmaus Meal three times in 2010. Please note the following Saturdays so that you might be free to join us in serving the Sheboygan community meals: January 2, March 20 and September 4, 2010. Positions are available for setting up the room, serving food in the kitchen, delivering food to the tables, clearing the tables and clean up afterwards.

**PRAYER PAGER:** Trinity has access to a prayer pager, which can be retained by anyone undergoing medical treatments or working through another difficult crisis. When concerned people call the pager number, the holder of the pager is aware of their prayers and encouraged by them. Please contact Roger Buck or the church office if you would like to use this prayer pager.

**PRAYER CHAIN:** Members of Trinity may not be aware of a Prayer Chain group that pray for needs of people within and outside of our church. The church office will notify you by a telephone call with prayer requests. If you would like to be called with requests, please notify Chris Melcher in the church office to have your name added to the list.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY COMMISSIONING** for the new class of caregivers for Stephen Ministry will be Sunday morning, January 3 at both services. Please welcome Elle Konitzke, Becki Post, Debbie Davis, Judy Mayer, Bruce Beyer and Kimberly Buck to this on-going care giving ministry at Trinity.

**SENIOR BREAKFAST:** Trinity Seniors will meet for breakfast on January 18th, 8:30 am at Fountain Park Family Restaurant. A presentation will be made by Milda Zuengler, Supervision at the Aging & Disability Resource Center in Sheboygan Falls.



**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

**2009-2010 Trinity Church Council**

Jeff Kelm, President  
 Jon Dolson, Vice-President  
 Mike Mallow, Treasurer  
 Becky Dunton, Secretary  
 Joel Pape, Christian Day School  
 Karen Rach, Christian Education  
 Dennis Barrow, Elders  
 Erin Mueller, Evangelism  
 Ken Leibham, Finance  
 Al Pentek, Properties  
 Donna Petzold, Human Care  
 Charles Hess, Stewardship  
 Mary Dittmar, Youth  
 Bradd Stucky, At Large  
 Andy Rindt, At Large

**Meals**





**SENIOR  
BREAKFAST**

January 18, 2010,  
8:30 am

Fountain Park  
Family Restaurant

**Emmaus Meal**

**January 2, 2010**

**Help is needed!**  
**Contact Roger Buck or the church office**  
**at 458-8246 to sign up!**




YTD (November 30, 2009) RECEIPTS: \$1,033,333  
 YTD (November 30, 2009) EXPENDITURES: \$1,190,728  
 Deficit (November 30, 2009): \$157,395

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

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**824 Wisconsin Avenue**  
**Sheboygan, WI 53081**  
**January 2010**

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U.S. Postage Paid  
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Sheboygan, WI 53081



**Return Service Requested**

### **2010 Bible Studies at Trinity**

- Sundays at 9:30 am in the Gym— Study of Heaven and Hell
- Sundays at 9:30 am in the Computer Room—New Member Class/Member Review
- Wednesdays at 8:15 am at the TLMC—Study of the Pauline Epistles/9 am at the TLMC— Revelation
- Thursdays at 8:45 am at the TLMC— Ladies Study: Grace Upon Grace
- Fridays at 7 am at the TLMC— Men's Study: Luke/9 am at the TLMC—Ladies Study: The Heart of Jesus

## **Voters' Meeting**

**When:** Wednesday  
January 20th  
at 7 pm

**Where:** TLMC

**Agenda:** Discuss and vote on the 2010 Budget Proposal for Trinity

Please plan on attending this very important Voters' Meeting!

## **Mark Your Calendars**

Higher Things  
Retreat: I Confess  
February 12th—14th

Ash Wednesday  
February 17th

Trinity Showcase  
March 7th

### **NEWSLETTER SPONSORS**

#### **PATRONS:**

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Mr. & Mrs. Robert Senkbeil

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Louella Koeppen, First Realty Services, INC.

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.