



# Trinity Times

November, 2006

**Trinity Lutheran Church Mission Statement: "We are a family, united and saved by faith in Christ, dedicated to praising God and sharing His love and Word with all People."**

On Friday October 29th Trinity TEL sponsored a fall festival. Many children attended and enjoyed the activities.

The Music and Jesus Performance given at the church on October 22nd.



Below: the group who spread the wood chips on the playground. Thank you for the job well done.



Volleyball practice has started. Pictured are, front row: Katlyn Jeurissen, Megan Schmitz, Cora Moldenhauer. Middle row: Aby Meyenburg, Darian Vinkemeier, Catherine Littlepage, Kayla Krick, Back row: Coach Jodi Fahrenkamp, Chelesa Klatt, Kaitlyn Kuske, Grace Miner, Coach Shari Klatt.



Pastor Curtiss Seefeldt is working with The Lutheran Home Association. Pastor Seefeldt's wife Char is Therapeutic Recreation Assistant for the Hope Residence. They have joined our congregation. We welcome them to our family here at Trinity.

A plan was approved to ask Pastor Zeitler during our pastoral vacancy. We will pay him for his services.

### From the Pastor's Desk

by Pastor Zeitler

#### A Blessing From Heaven for the Hahms

Our 1-2nd grade teacher, Mrs. Andrea Hahm, and her husband, Nate (our stewardship chairman) were blessed with an infant daughter (Grace Marie) on October 30. We join them in thanking God for this precious gift. Our TEL (Trinity Education League) is planning a baby shower for them on Tuesday, November 21, at 7:00 p.m. In the gymnasium.

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#### Thanksgiving Service

Our Thanksgiving Festival Service will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

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#### Midweek Advent Services

The first midweek Advent Service will be held on Wednesday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m.

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#### Church Christmas Decorating

Many volunteers are needed to help decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday December 2, starting at 9:00 a.m.

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#### Birthday Breakfast for Jesus

On Saturday, December 9th, we will host our second annual *Birthday Breakfast for Jesus*. This event is for children around the ages of 3 to 7. Enjoy Breakfast, a project, songs and a skit! Please sign up in the narthex if you plan to attend with your child/grandchild. If you know someone with young children, feel free to take them an invitation (located on the writing stand in the narthex). Also, please help by signing up to donate an egg bake, supplies for volunteer your services. Thank you! If you have questions, please contact Dan Whitney at 873-3484.

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#### Youth Pies

Our Youth Group is again selling pies for Thanksgiving as a fundraiser for their rally costs and projects. You can order from youth group members, or leaders Pam Schuette (952-240-3913) or Donna Zeitler (952-873-2078). Orders must be in by Sunday, November 12. Pies will be available for pickup on Tuesday, November 21 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the church lobby. There are fifteen flavors available!!

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#### Living Nativity

Our Outreach Committee is planning for another Living Nativity scene for Christmas. It will be presented after the Children's Christmas Service on Sunday, December 17, in front of our bell tower from about 5:30 p.m. Until 9:00 p.m. Our community will be invited to the event. A meeting to plan and organize the Living Nativity is scheduled for Monday December 4, in the Choir Room. All who have ideas for the project and /or would like to help are encouraged to come to the planning meeting.

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#### From the Principal's desk... By Dan Whitney

(received to late for last months news letter)

"How is the school year going?" It's hard to say how many times I've been asked this question since school began this fall. First, the question shows interest in what is happening at Trinity School. Secondly, the intensity in which this question is asked, implies a deep concern for the ministry of our Christian day school.

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### Notes from the Church Council

- Pastoral Acts: 2 burials (Esther Schultz, Erwin Karnitz): 33 personal visits.
- The school growth plan is on schedule. Future growth will focus on communicating with families with preschool age children. We have 11 new children in grades K-5 this year.
- The synod pay schedule for substitute pastors was adopted for our own use.
- Pastor Zeitler will be moving to the church office to allow the new youth/outreach pastor to use the office in the school.
- The Properties Committee is seeking more volunteers for office cleaning. More than 50 voters were at the meeting where we voted to adopt this cost cutting method. Only 15 members have volunteered so far.
- The Outreach Committee will resurrect the Greeters program to welcome worshippers at our services.
- The Sunday School program will use the *Growing In Christ* curriculum for the rest of this year.
- Our treasurer reported that \$52,760.85 in bills are outstanding which includes the November payrolls.
- Endowment fund principal payments have not been made due to fund shortage.
- Offerings so far this fiscal year are 8,000 less than last year at this time.
- Total revenues are \$9,004 below budget for the year to date.
- Total expenses are \$6,907 below budget for the year to date, leaving a loss of 2,097 to date.
- We may need to borrow for the November payroll.
- Thrivent is dropping the non-member (associate) match as January 1.
- A committee was formed to help Brandt Vinkemeier organize an All Pro Dad's group that would meet in our facility as a community outreach project.
- A plan was approved to ask Pastor Curtiss Seefeldt to help Pastor Zeitler during our pastoral vacancy. He has joined our congregation, and we will pay him for his services.
- The quarterly meeting of the congregation was set for Sunday, December 3, at 7:00 p.m.
- The Stewardship Committee will make a recommendation for our Synod Mission Offering Commitment in time for the December quarterly meeting.

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#### Memorials

**Erwin Karnitz** - General fund - Waldo Karnitz, Arvin & Shirley Ernst, Betty Volek, Ron & LaVerne Muehlenhardt, Dick & Jan Schense, Leo & Donna Schmidt, Orville & Luella Heitkamp, Gene & Cindy Nowak, Victor & Grace Krumrey, Robert and Mavis Hillstrom.

**Elsie Haas** - General Fund- Florence Sellnow.

**Michelle Mueller Laff** - Church Piano Fund- Lola Kulow.

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A big **Thank You** to the Properties Committee for trimming all the bushes around the church grounds.

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#### A Reminder!!

The store room could use some organizing . Those who have supplies there should be sure that they are placed neatly on the shelves and remove those no longer used. Thanks!

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Our theme for the school year highlights the reason we operate our school, "From the Roots Up." This theme has been adopted by many of our area WELS schools to emphasize an important truth. Our faith and the faith of our children will grow and flourish as it is firmly rooted in the Word of God. Take a moment to visit our classrooms. In them you will notice math and reading activities, but you will also see how our children are encouraged in their faith. This past summer our enrollment seemed to follow a roller coaster pattern. We gained some and we lost some. The end result is that our enrollment is up two students over last year and stands at fifty-four. We are excited to welcome eleven new children to our school in the 1st through the 5th grades. Many of these were added to our school through the individual efforts of Trinity members. Thank you! While word-of-mouth promotion is tell most effective, BOSE (Board of School Elders) is looking to add new promotional activities during the coming year. So how is the school year going? I count my blessings every day as I come to school. We are truly blessed with a caring and dedicated staff, super volunteers, supportive and thoughtful parents, and outstanding children. Oh and one more thing...we are enjoying, our sixty-third year of nurturing children "From the Roots Up."

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**Birthday Breakfast for Jesus** by Principal Daniel Whitney  
On December 9, Trinity will once again host the "Birthday Breakfast for Jesus." The event begins at 9:00 a.m. And runs until about 11:00. The event is geared for young children up to about third grade.

Parents/Grandparents and their children enjoy an egg bake breakfast. They also will make an ornament, sing songs and watch a skit put on by our young people. Finally, we all will have a chance to sing "Happy Birthday" to baby Jesus and blow out the birthday candles. Invite a friend along as well!

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#### **Policy for Borrowing Tables and Chairs.**

Brown tables, new white tables, and padded chairs are not to be taken out of the church.

Check with Win Vathauer as to the availability of old white tables and steel chairs for use.

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#### **Maintenance Items**

A number of maintenance items have been completed recently at now cost to the congregation. The black stains on the stone of the church and sign have been sandblasted. The sign lumber and lettering has been replaced. New gutters have been installed over the small north and south doors. The concrete on the north side of the church has been repaired and the entry has been slanted to better accommodate wheelchairs. Thanks to Arvin Ernst, Louis Lieske, Robert Hillstrom, Bob Kahle and to Le Roy Chard for donating the use of his air compressor.

A big **THANK YOU** to those who worked so hard on this project, from the congregation of Trinity.

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#### **Thrivent Financial Scot County Chapter Election**

The Election of the Board of Directors will be held in the narthex on Sunday, November 5th from 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. All adult Thrivent benefit & associate members can vote.

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#### **News from Home to Home Thrift Store** by Barb Vathauer

Thanks to all the donors and our hard-working volunteers, the store is doing very well! It has been a phenomenal autumn with lots of highway traffic and many folks who are newcomers to the store.

Recruiting some more volunteers is the goal. We must in some way find some relief for those folks going above and beyond the call of duty and to replace some snowbirds. Together our efforts support very worthwhile projects on The Lutheran Home Campus! I would be happy to chat with you at length about a job you could do in the store. Here are only some of the volunteer needs:

- 1) Adopt a section of the store which you would keep tidy and supplied with new goods.
- 2) Sort donations as products come through the door.
- 3) Learn to price goods.
- 4) Operate the washer, dryer, dishwasher perhaps while helping a cashier with customers or putting away hangars.
- 5) Operate the clothing steamer (steaming is quick and easy).
- 6) Be a store helper by putting new items out and keeping order.
- 7) Become a store cashier willing to be on a schedule to open and close the store or to substitute.
- 8) Dust.
- 9) Be an early-bird or after-hour vacuum person. Team up with someone, and find out how GOOD volunteering makes you feel! The store number is 873-6901.

We at the store look forward to "Heritage Days" being celebrated in November throughout The Lutheran Home Association. "Heritage Days" is a week-long observance of the founding of The Lutheran Home by Sophie Boessling who was a member of Trinity congregation. This year we have a 108th birthday! On the days we're open (November 7-1) you are invited to stop in for special things that are happening.

The new and updated website for The Lutheran Home Association is up and running. Check it out at [www.tlha.org](http://www.tlha.org) . Next time I'll tell you about the projects that have been funded and how the Thrivent contribution and proceeds from the store sales in October helped The Lutheran Home Campus purchase Heart Start machines.

See you at the store!

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#### **New Faucets**

Have you noticed the new faucets in the kitchen? The faucets on the west side of the kitchen have been replaced. Thanks to the Ladies Aid who paid to have the old faucets replaced. When you use the new faucets you just need to turn them until the water stops running. If you turn them to tight you will ruin the seals that keep the faucets from leaking. Please be gentle with them and they will last much longer. The faucets on the north side will be taken care of at a later time. These are not used as much so we can wait to fix those.

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#### **The Lutheran Home Auxiliary**

Mark your calendars. There will be a decorating day on December 7th. That is the day volunteers come and decorate The Lutheran Home for the residence. This includes the Hope Residence, the Skilled Care and the Special Care facility. The Residence really look forward to see their home decorated for Christmas come and help if you can. Many hands make fast work.

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As an incentive, the chapter will donate \$5.00 per vote up to a maximum of \$100.00 per church to the CAP Agency Food Shelf. Volunteers are needed to fill several Board positions. If interested contact Vera Lieske @ 873-6816

**Pioneers Host Bake/Craft Sale**

Please mark your calendars! The Lutheran Boy and Girl Pioneers will be hosting their annual Bake/Craft Sale on Sunday, November 12th from 9:30 - 12:00 a.m. We are welcoming any donations from the congregation of any new craft items, canned goods, baked goods, or monetary donations for the Pioneer Programs. We are especially hoping to receive more craft items this year. Thrivent Financial will be matching all proceeds up to \$400.00. The money raised will go towards the Pine Car Derby, outings/activities, and materials used for Pioneer meetings. All donations may be brought to the church on Saturday, November 11th from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Miner @ 873-4387. Thank you for your support - Julie Miner, Fundraiser Coordinator.

**Rules of the Road**

by John C Fitts

*Think big thoughts but relish small pleasures.*

Though somewhat younger, my wife and I attend a church that caters to senior citizens. We like it because of the traditional service and very friendly elderly people. One particular is a lady in her early eighties, who cheerfully greets us at the same door every Sunday morning with a smile and kind words. We look forward to seeing Betty and giving her an occasional hug. On a Sunday when I went to church alone, Betty handed me a small piece of paper and asked me to read it when I had time. On the slip of paper she had written, "Here are some phrases to think about over an egg enjoyed from an egg cup."

*Stay loose--learn to watch snails. Make little signs that say yes. Make friends with freedom and uncertainty. Cry during movies. Swing as high as you can on a swing by moonlight. Do it for love. Take lots of naps. Give money away. Do it now. The money will follow. Believe in magic. Laugh a lot. Celebrate every gorgeous moment. Read every day. Giggle with children. Listen to those older than you are. Entertain your inner child. Get wet. Hug trees. Write more letters. Eat a soft boiled egg from an egg cup with a candle on the table. Glory.*

One Sunday we got to church and entered without a greeting. During the service it dawned on me that our friend Betty was not at her post on this morning. After the service, we went to the fellowship hall for coffee, and I asked another lady where Betty was she told me that she had been hit by a car and had been flown by helicopter to the hospital in the south of the country. She was small and frail, but not a bone had been broken. She said that Betty was mad because she had always wanted to ride on a helicopter and she couldn't remember a thing. I discovered that Betty had been moved to a rehabilitation center near my office, so I stopped in to visit for a few minutes. She was in therapy, but I finally found her sitting at a table alone. I walked over to her and saw that she was horribly bruised on the whole left side of her face and body. She smiled again

**GOD'S YELLOW PAGES**

**Finding good in every Circumstance**

2 Thessalonians ..2:16-17  
Proverbs .....16:7  
Revelations .....22:14

**Changing Your Focus**

Job .....12:9-10  
Proverbs .....31:30  
Hebrews .....12:2

**Living in Obedience**

Galatians .....6:9  
1 Kings .....8:61  
Jeremiah .....51:10

**(Promises about)**

**Seeking Positive Solutions**

Proverbs .....19:20  
Ecclesiastes .....9:1  
1 Peter .....2:9

**Laughter and Joy**

2 Chronicles .....29:30  
Jeremiah .....33:10-11  
Proverbs .....15:13  
Psalm .....144:5

**Gaining Self-Discipline**

Isaiah .....34:7  
Galatians .....5:16  
2 Timothy ... ..2:11-12

**Ladies Aid**

November Meeting will be the election of officers. The next Aid meeting will be November 9th at 7:30 p.m. November 9th Hostesses are: Donna Karnitz and Deb Malz November 19th Coffee hour Hostesses are Vivian Luedloff, Karen Bauer, and Arlene Manthe The November Standing Committee Co Chairwomen are Evonne Otto and Donna Schmidt. The rest of the Committee are:  
Muereen Kahle Jill Smith Lori Bohnsack  
Michelle Gerres Julie Nelson Michelle Kuske  
Amy Ebersviller Krista Dahlke Judy Plantz  
Barbara Vathauer Mary Kolsrud Kay (James) Carlson  
Gloria Volek Stacy Savelkoul Bev Fahey  
The December Standing Committee Co Chairman are, Erma Woestehoff and Mary Sons.

**PLEASE submit your article for the News Letter by November 26th. You can give the article to Luella Heitkamp, or put it into our mail box at church, or send by email to luellaheitkamp@unique-software.com Thank You!**

When she saw me walking over to her. I said, "Betty, do you remember that list you gave me about how to enjoy life?" She smiled again and said, "Yes I do." I said, "Well I have another thing to add to the list." She said, "What is it?" I said, "Look both ways." She broke out laughing and reached out to give me a hug.

Faith sees the invisible, believes the unbelievable and receives the impossible.

**Remember to get out and vote on Tuesday November 7th.**