



Trinity Times

April, 2008

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."

Palm Sunday, April 16, 2008. Paster Zeitler and Pastor John Meyer entering the church waving palms.



Display from the Science fair.



The 2008 New Ulm Tournament 2nd place winner.



Coach, Mike Klatt, Team: Walker Hetzel, Brian Krick, Jonah Kuske, Kayla Krick, Andrew Carlson, Megan Schmitz, Chelsea Klatt, Abby Meyenburg, Darrin Wolters, Cory Herrmann, & Devin Schmidt. Congratulations on your fine season.

Pine Car Derby. March 30, 2008



From the Pastors Desk!

By Pastor John Zeitler

Sifted By Satan's Sieve

The Theme of our Spring Minnesota District Pastors' Conference in Marshall after Easter was "The Struggling Shepherd." It was a good topic, a paper written and presented by Pastor Michael Berg from Wood Lake. The devotions, papers and discussion centered on the hardships we all must face as we seek to serve our Savior faithfully. It is the shepherds (pastors, missionaries, etc.) and leaders that have often taken the brunt of the suffering and persecution in the history of Christ's church. Jesus said it would come. The world hated him. They would hate his followers also. It would all be taken care of in the end, but in the process, it would also serve to strengthen and grow his church and it's members.

One "struggling" shepherd especially was discussed one morning of the conference. His name was Paul Gerhardt, a faithful Lutheran pastor who served around 1650 in the area known today as Germany. The epitaph on his gravestone reads "Atheologian sifted in Satan's Sieve." He lived 70 years and they were difficult years. He lost both his parents before he was out of his teenage years. His schooling was "stricter than any modern American would tolerate." Four of his five children and his wife preceded him in death. He had to care for his sickly son and sister-in-law after his wife passed away. He lost a prestigious position as deacon at a famous church in Berlin because he dared to speak up and stand up against false teaching. His last congregation mistreated him. He lived during the famous 30 Years War during which he, his family and his members constantly witnessed violence, greed, rape, looting and plague. Towns and churches lost more than half their populations. Whole families were destroyed and death was everywhere. In these surrounding Paul served faithfully as husband, father and pastor.

We might wonder how we would fare in such conditions today. We thank God we do not experience even a small fraction of what Gerhardt experienced. We probably spend much time grumbling about lesser things in our lives.

Yet we today reap many of the benefits of this "struggling shepherd" who was "sifted in Satan's sieve". Gerhardt wrote some of the most beautiful and well known hymns in our hymnal today. He is the author of hymns like *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded, Awake My Heart With Gladness, If God Himself Be For Me, Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadows, Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me*, and many, many more. Our hymnal includes 18 of the 139 hymns which he wrote.

Pastor Berg writes, "From the ashes of towns burned by the Swedish army we hear poetry that lifts spirits. From the tears of a father burying his own children we hear words about God's love. From the loneliness of a parentless student we hear songs of God's comfort. From the darkness of war we see the light of the Son give hope. If it were not for the many trials and tribulations of Gerhardt's life, we may have never known his name and his hymns may never existed"

God will bring blessing even through our suffering, Whether it be for standing up for the truth, enduring the ailments of a frail sinful body and mind, or simply struggling to survive in a world that is rushing to its inevitable end. We pray for relief, sometimes God grants it here, but he will definitely grant it hereafter. In the meantime we take comfort in the sure word promises of our God

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Church Council News March 18, 2008

The council reviewed the pastoral report. Pastor Zeitler talked about women's roles in the congregation, Bible classes, WELS school workshop, staff minister intern, and the e-mail list. Pastor Meyer will probably be on vacation on June 6th - 19th. Our Teachers have been trained in using an AED that was provided to school.

The treasurer reported a negative variance of \$1,216 in revenues to date. Expense showed a variance of \$31,279 under budget to date. A gain of \$20,453 was reported for the eight month period. Cash on hand at this date is \$17,250. We should be able to fund the next payroll and pay the bills without borrowing.

The council will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. (Except April, it will be on the 22nd or 4th Tuesday due to conflicts of schedules.)

The formation of a Finance Committee has been approved. This committee would review and interpret the financials for the council and congregation. A job description was presented. We will need about 4-5 members for the committee. The chairman will seek to appoint qualified people to the committee. The budget committee is hashing out the time table for budget development for 08-09. The School Board has their budget ready.

May quarterly Voters' Meeting will be June 1st at 10:30 a.m. Motion carried.

The council discussed the staff minister intern program from MLC and sharing it with the Lutheran Home. There was motion to seek an application for the intern, and it carried. Second Harvest Heartland wants to partner with us as a food distribution hub. Chairman Malz volunteered to look into this as he has experience with them.

The Properties Committee has approved the replacement of our fax machine.

Warm up with the Word

My Brother's Keeper

Led by Pastor Zietler on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the gym during coffee hour.

By Grace Alone

Led by Pastor Ed Fredrich (TLH) at the Faith Apartments Community Room, corner of Elk and Prairie Streets, Mon. at 7:00 p.m.

Women's Morning Retreat

Led by Kristin Werner at her home (844 Daniel Drive), Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. (873-2049).

Angels

Led by Kathy Fredrich on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. At Tammy Meyer's home (426 W Church St)

Membership Classes

Offered by personal appointment with the pastors.

All Pro Dads

Dads and kids, join us for an All Pro Dads meeting on Saturday, April 12th, at 9:00- 11:00 a.m. in the gym. All Pro Dads is a monthly gathering of dads and their children. Guest speakers will be the Belle Plaine Police Department. A donation of \$2.

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who has saved us for himself and for eternity through Christ our Savior.

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. Romans 8:18

Pastor Holz's Retirement

Pastor LaVern Holz, our former pastor, announced his retirement as of March 31. The members of St. Paul's Lutheran, Prairie Farm, Wisconsin, hosted a farewell open house for him and Elaine on March 30, at the Community Center in Ridgeland, WI. Our congregation was invited to attend this farewell and several of our families were able to attend the event. The Holz's will be living in Hudson, Wisconsin.

Men's Choir

Our newly formed men's Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Come and join them.

Summer Schedule

On Memorial Day Weekend our Sunday service will revert to one service each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. The Thursday evening service will continue at 7:00 p.m. This schedule will continue through Labor Day Weekend.

LWMS Event Invitations

There are two wonderful events below for you to read about. One is a local Circuit event and the second one is about the National Convention of LWMS.

This is your invitation to the Spring LWMS Rally. The Minnesota Valley Circuit Rally will be at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Jordan on Saturday, April 19th. The theme is "**INDIA~Inform~Nurture~Discipline~Instruct~Assist**".

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. The day will include a morning devotion, a short business meeting, Professor John Zarling will be presenting information on the MLC international Student Experience, and after lunch Professor Mark Zarling will tell us about mission work in India.

All women of the WELS are members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society. Please consider coming to learn more about the mission work done by our synod and how this organization works to encourage and support the spreading of the Gospel message throughout the world and here at home.

Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the desk in the Narthex if you plan to attend. Teens, Pastors, men of the congregation ... Are welcome to join us as well. (Child care is also being provided.)

This is an additional invitation for you to sunny Tucson, Arizona. This invitation is to the annual LWMS National Convention. The Grand Canyon Circuit invites us to attend the 45th annual LWMS Convention at the JW Marriott Star Pass Resort and Spa. It will be held June 26-29th.

"Tell the Glory of His Kingdom (Psalm 145:10-12) is the theme chosen for the convention.

This is a wonderful opportunity to hear directly from our missionaries that are home on furlough and from synod office representatives.

There are two different bus trips being planned for those that may be interested.

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Will include donuts and juice. Please RSVP to Jeff Vinkemeier at sjvink@frontiernet.net, or 873-3487.

Silent Auction Gala

There is still time to RSVP for the Silent Auction Gala here on Friday, April 18. Please turn your cards in as soon as you can. Does anyone have the following items that you could lend or donate for decorating the silent auction. White round tablecloths, ivy, tulle and white Christmas lights. If you could help, please call Sheila Vinkemeier (873-3487). We really appreciate the great response we are getting for this event! A preview of some items to be auctioned off: framed prints, hotel outings, flower pots and much more! TEL is raffling off a beautiful outdoor rocker donated By The Yard Furniture. It is on display in back of church.

Finance Committee Being Formed

We are looking for members who are knowledgeable in the areas of accounting, bookkeeping or business to serve on the new Finance Committee that will analyze our financial statement each month, prepare a summary and make recommendations to our council and boards in managing our cash flow. Please talk to Chairman Ralph Malz or Pastor Zeitler if you are interested.

Kwik Trip Fund Raiser

TEL is making Kwik Trip gas/product cards available for a special program which donates 20% of the value to our school. Talk to Mark Kuske or Rachel Weiers to order your cards. Give them as gifts to others also.

Scrip Orders

Use *Scrip* orders to help support our school and help with tuition payments. Order forms are available on the table in the lobby. Please call Rachel Weiers (873-2745) if you have any questions.

TLHA Kingsway Apartments

The Lutheran Home Association is introducing their new community for senior citizens, age 55 and older. The new Kingsway Retirement Living Center, located on the TLH campus offers independent living apartments (719 to 1597 square feet), and memory care apartments. These are all joined through the Marketplatz. See the exhibit in the church lobby, the showroom across from the Dairy Queen on Highway 169, or call 952-873-2022 for more information.

Sermons on the Web

You can get a recording of Sunday's sermon off our Trinity web page as an MP3 file (www.trinityluthbp.com) We are also looking for someone to help manage and redesign our web site. Please talk to the pastors or Mr. Whitney.

Special Voter's Meeting

Our council has called a special voters' meeting for Sunday, April 27, at 9:15 a.m. To clarify the calling of a preschool teacher for next year.

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More information is available on the table in the Narthex, on the website www.lwms.org, or from Deb. Malz 873-6998 United, with you, to serve Jesus, Deb Malz, LWMS Reporter

Campbell Soup Labels

We are still having a problem with the Campbell soup labels that are turned in for school credits. The company has told us that they will only accept UPC label with the boy on it as shown below. The label is yellow with the bar code on it, this needs to be clipped as indicated on the can label and turned into the school so that it can be sent to Campbell Soups Company. Thank you for your participation in this fund raiser for our school.



Memorials for Trinity

Vivian Wolpern Memorials

General fund \$145.00 given by Vivian's family, Ted & Bonnie Malz, Dick & Janice Schense, Robert & Mavis Hillstrom, Leo & Donna Schmidt, David & Ronaye Gnan, and Violet Vinkemeier

Audio-Visual Fund \$10.00 From John & Carol Buszmann
Trinity Bible Garden \$10.00 from Lois Schuldt
Debt Retirement Fund \$15.00 from Arlis Fahrenkamp, and Bruce Panning

Trinity Lutheran School \$35.00 from Donald & Lois Wolters, DJ Anderson, and Lorie Kornder

School Library Fund \$10.00 from Robert & Barb Seaver

Ladies Aid \$80.00 from Vivian's family and Wally & Evonne Otto

Knotters Group \$15.00 from Gary & Nella Schmidt

Padded Pew Fund \$35.00 from Maynhardt & Betty Bahrke, Eldred & Wilmay Karnitz, Evelyn Martin, And Loren & Shirley Stier

Church Piano Fund \$10.00 from Win & Barb Vathauer

Ewald Hauer Memorial

Senior Choir Fund \$25.00 from Sharon K. Schroeer

Padded Pew Fund \$20.00 from Loren & Shirley Stier

Margaret Seaver Memorial

General Fund \$30.00 from Dick & Janice Schense, and Lois Schuldt

Home to Home Thrift Store

April is anniversary month. That's right; Home to Home Thrift Store is 9 years old on April 15th. The Thrift Store has been a great blessing to the community and The Lutheran Home these past nine years. All the credit goes to the great volunteers we have had all those years. There is still more work to be done and we need your help. So come sign up to work and keep all the wonderful donations coming. We ask a favor. When you bring donations from a garage sale please remove the sales sticker tags, this would be so helpful to us. Thank You so much!

GOD'S YELLOW PAGES

Winning one Battle at a time

Hebrews4:15
Matthew14:23
Proverbs2:8-9

That only God can Change us

Proverbs35-7
Philippians2:13
Psalm62:7

To KNOW His Will

Romans12:2
Proverbs19:21
Psalm33:11

(Accepting God's Help)

To Give yourself over to Him

Psalm20:7
2 Corinthians 10:5
Romans8:6-7

To Seek His Word

Psalm19:9-10
Hebrews4:12
Isaiah40:31

To Accept His Plan for you

Psalm139:23-24
Psalm19:12-14
Psalm26:2-3

Ladies' Aid

The Ladies were reminded of the MLC auxiliary meeting on April 28th at St.Peter's Lutheran Church at St. Peter. A light lunch will be served at around 11:30 a.m. before the meeting. Anyone who is interested in the College can attend.

The Standing committee for May will be serving a light lunch for the confirmands after examination on May 14th.

The Ladies cleaned the large coffee pots that are used for making coffee for the larger crowds. They should all be working now. When you use the coffee pots be sure to clean them by cleaning out the stem well with a scrubber pad to get all the coffee residue out so the a connection can be made to make the pots work. Thank you!

The next Ladies' Aid meeting will be April 10 hostesses will be Deb Malz and Arlene Manthe

Coffee hour will be April 20th. Serving will be Dorothy Mueller, Deb Malz and Leona Sellnow

The April Friendship/Courtesy Team Co Chairwomen are Betty Volek and Vicky Sons Eiden.

The rest of the Committee are:

Marlene Carlson	Gretchen Carlson	Barbara Seaver
Mercedes Battcher	Ann Schmidt	Janet Halverson
Erna V. Miller	Wendy Fors	Kerri Whitney
Sharon Schwichtenberg	Cora Soller	Kay L. Carlson
Carole Smith	Julie Evers	Kay (John) Miller

The Friendship/Courtesy Team co chairwomen for May are Nella Schmidt and Luella Heitkamp

Articles for the News Letter are due by April 27. Please give to Luella Heitkamp, or put it into our mail box at church, or send by email to luellaheitkamp@unique-software.com Thanks!

Area Lutheran Schools pack 250,000 meals for starving Children

Students, staff and parents join Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in a meal-packaging blitz during Lutheran Schools Week.

More than 1,000 students , staff and parents from Trinity Lutheran School and 11 other Lutheran schools donning hairnets and a caring heart, stood side by side inside Martin Luther College during a meal-packaging blitz on Friday, March 7th. The Luther Student Center temporarily morphed into an assembly line as volunteers packed 250,775 nutritionally rich meals consisting of rice, soy, vitamins, and dehydrated vegetables with Minnesota-based nonprofit, Kids AgainstHunger. The event was part of Lutheran School's Week March 2-8. *Continued on next page*

Kids against Hunger workers .



Trinity students from left to right Clair Miner and Aby Meyenburg.



Trinity students from left to right, Josh Mosbeck, Ryan Westra-Smith, and Alyson Krommedyk



Trinity Students from left to right Brenna Krommendyke, Parent, Cindy Mosbeck, Ian Mosbeck, Aby Meyenburg, Clair Miner



Thrivent Financial for Lutherans helped organize the event and provided funding to assist with the cost of the materials and ingredients used to prepare the meals. The schools also fund raised \$10,000 to assist with paying for the supplies.

Each Volunteer committed to a 2 hour shift helping scoop ingredients, weigh packages, seal bags and box the rice-based meals. "It's powerful to see a group of Lutheran students joining together here in Minnesota to pack meals that will feed other children in a different part of the world," said Nancy Hansen, Financial Consultant of Thrivent Financial. "Thrivent Financial and our members are proud to work with local schools to provide this type of enriching and educational opportunity for our youth. Knowing that the efforts of everyone involved will bring much-needed nutritious meals to hungry children is very heartwarming."

Thrivent Financial and Lutheran Schools in Southern Minnesota joined with Kids Against Hunger to reduce the number of starving children throughout the world and to become better informed about the problem of global hunger and how to respond to the need.

Kids Against Hunger developed a food mixture that would be easy and safe to transport, simple to make with only boiling water, and culturally acceptable worldwide. The meals are distributed in over 40 countries around the world through partnerships with humanitarian organizations.

About Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a Fortune 500 financial services membership organization helping nearly 3 million members achieve their financial goals and give back to their communities. Thrivent Financial and its affiliates offer a broad range of financial products and services including life insurance, annuities, mutual funds, disability income insurance, bank products and more. As a not-for-profit organization, Thrivent Financial sponsors national outreach programs and activities that support congregations, schools, charitable organizations and individuals in need. For more information, visit www.trivent.com.

About Kids Against Hunger

Kids Against Hunger is a nonprofit organization with the mission to significantly reduce the number of hungry children in the USA and to feed starving children throughout the world. This is being achieved by getting volunteers involved, and by setting up food packaging satellites in the USA, and through partnerships with humanitarian organizations worldwide enabling Kids Against Hunger to deliver its specially formulated rice-soy casserole to starving children and their families in over 40 countries. The Kids Against Hunger network currently includes 30 food packaging satellites in 16 US states.

