



Trinity Times

February, 2007

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."

Sunday Bible Study



Every Sunday after 1st service there is a bible study starting between 9:15 and 9:30. Everyone is invited to attend and get a better understanding of the bible. See you there on Sunday.

Sports Corner:

by Manley Vinkemeier

As you read this our basketball season will be well under way. According to my records we have thirty students signed up to play basketball this year. Our win and loss record may not be too impressive, but the dedication of these young student athletes is. I've watched a lot of practices and games and these young students try their hardest to carry out what their coaches are trying to teach them. We've played some different schools this year and we only hope the competition will make us stronger in the years to come. As I write this we have five games left and then the tournament at M. L. C., February 23, 24 and 25. Our boys "A" team will be the only team from Trinity because of the low number of 7th and 8th grade girls; therefore, no girls "A" team.

If you haven't had a chance to see these students play this year, try to get to a regular season game or the tournament at M. L. C. Because of the competition they've played against this year, I look for our boys to do well at M. L. C.

There are a lot of people involved to make this athletic program work and we are blessed to have three coaches that share their knowledge and coaching experience with these young athletes

- Brandt Vinkemeier - Girls "B" team
- Mark Kuske - Boys "B" team
- Mike Klatt - Boys "A" team

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Look for display in the narthex of the church.



School Spirit Sponsorship

The Trinity Lutheran Booster Club is looking to boost our school spirit. Our annual trek to New Ulm for the SMLGSL Basketball Tournament is quickly approaching. Our team will be competing this tournament the weekend of February 23rd - 25th. In an effort to get more people involved in this program and excited about Trinity Basketball, we would like to start a sponsorship program for this tournament. You can pick one player, more than one, or possibly the whole team. You can pledge for free throws made, three-pointers made, field goals made or total points scored. We are also hoping that this sponsorship program will foster more interest in the program and possibly bring more of the Tiger Faithful to New Ulm to cheer on our team. Please consider being a sponsor for your favorite player or the entire team. All proceeds will be donated to the Athletic Fund. Our team would love to see and hear you in New Ulm for one, two or all three of the tournament days. We hope to see you there.

Sign up sheets will be available in the Narthex between services Sunday February 11th and 18th, or contact Janet Krick @ (952) 873-2210).

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Also, thank you to Brenda Vinkemeier for coaching our young girls in cheerleading and Mr. Whitney for all his help and support. Thank you to Janet Krick and Ann Schmidt for taking over the concessions for the Booster Club. Thank you to all the score keepers, timeclock operators and all the parents that help out and cheer-on their children.

See you in the gym.

TWO PASTORS: WHAT DO THEY DO?

Now that God has blessed Trinity with two called pastors, you may wonder what they do and how they divide their duties. The following guidelines were adopted by our council a while back. Occasionally, there is overlap in some of the duties, and occasionally there is an exchange by mutual agreement of the pastors. Both pastors and the elders review the division of duties regularly to update it and match the gifts of the individual pastors to the tasks at hand as best as we can. Here is the present the “job description.”

General Guidelines for the Pastoral Ministry

Trinity Lutheran, Belle Plaine, MN

Trinity’s ministry offers many new opportunities as well as many challenges. The key challenge will be how the pastoral ministry is carried out in a practical way.

- A. In order for the pastoral ministry at Trinity to be carried out in the most orderly, efficient and practical way possible, it is necessary to define the qualifications, responsibilities and duties of each pastor beyond the statements found in the divine Call and in the Constitution of Trinity’s congregation.
- B. Although having different areas of primary responsibility, it is to be understood:
 - 1. That each pastor will be considered a called shepherd of the entire congregation to care for its spiritual needs.
 - 2. That each pastor may be asked to serve in any capacity at any time should the need arise;
 - 3. That each pastor will be permitted to function in areas of ministry outside of his specific area of primary responsibility when mutually agreed upon;
 - 4. That each pastor may call on the other for help in his area of primary responsibility.
- C. It is also understood that “responsibility” does not, of itself, require the pastor to carry out that function personally. It is desirable that lay members be trained and utilized in as many areas of ministry as possible.
- D. In order for ministry to maintain a singleness of purpose, it is necessary that one of the pastors be given the final responsibility for the overall ministry. This will be the responsibility of the lead pastor.
- E. In order for the ministry to be of genuine spiritual benefit to the members of the congregation, it is necessary that the office of the pastoral ministry be conducted in a spirit of harmony and cooperation.
- F. Therefore, in all circumstances and on every occasion, a spirit of brotherly harmony and mutual concern will be exercised. All the guidelines, procedures, succession of responsibilities, etc., will not be applied legalistically or rigidly. They are to be used as norms that the spiritual welfare of the membership is served and that the work of the shepherds of the flock is blessed with satisfaction by Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Church.

Shared Ministry Guidelines

1. Worship Services:

- A. Each pastor shall share equally in the work of proclaiming the Gospel from the pulpit and in conducting the liturgy.
- B. It shall be the responsibility of the Lead Pastor to establish the preaching schedule in consultation with the Youth/Outreach Pastor.

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- C. When possible, both pastors shall participate in the distribution of Holy Communion in the worship service.
- D. Each pastor shall have one weekend a month when he has no service responsibilities.

2. BAPTISMS;

- A. Baptisms shall be conducted by the pastor serving as liturgist.
- B. Private Baptisms shall be conducted as mutually agreed upon as emergencies dictate.

3. WEDDINGS:

Weddings shall be shared between the full-time pastors on a rotating basis; however, the family or families involved may request a specific pastor to conduct the marriage ceremony. This special request shall not affect the rotation schedule. It shall be considered extra service. The pastor who specifically requested may decline because of time restrictions or because of other circumstances.

4. FUNERALS:

Funerals shall be shared between the full-time pastors on a rotating basis; however, the family may request a certain pastor to conduct the funeral. This specific request shall not affect the rotation schedule. It shall be considered extra service. The pastor who is specifically requested may decline because of time restrictions or because of other circumstances.

5. MERCY MINISTRY:

- A. Hospital Calls: Both pastors will share in these duties.
- B. Shut-in Visits: These will be the primary responsibility of the Lead pastor. The Youth/Outreach Pastor will want to maintain occasional contact with the shut-Ins.

6. HOME VISITATIONS:

The Lead Pastor shall coordinate such visits in consultation with the Youth/Outreach Pastor and maintain a record of visits. Efforts shall be made to both pastors to share equally in the duty of family unit visits.

7. COUNSELING:

The membership may seek out the pastor of their choice for counseling services. When the pastors determine that counseling is needed in an individual case they shall determine themselves which of them would be most effective in handling the case.

8. COMMUNICATIONS:

Communication between the pastors regarding the work of the ministry as well as coordinating of efforts is essential; therefore, the pastors shall meet as often as deemed necessary, but no less than weekly, at a time and mutually agreed upon. At the same time, it is important that there be communication between the pastors and school principal regarding the overall work of the congregation; therefore, the pastors and principal shall meet as often as deemed necessary, but no less than once a month, at a time and place mutually-agreed upon.

9. COUNCIL AND VOTER’S ASSEMBLY:

Both pastors are expected to attend the meetings of the Church Council and Voter’s Assembly.

10. CHURCH AT LARGE:

Each pastor shall be given time to serve in areas of ministry such as the circuit, district, synod, pastoral conferences, boards and committees in keeping with his spiritual gifts and experience.

11. SPIRITUAL/PROFESSIONAL GROWTH:

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A. Each pastor shall regularly study for personal, spiritual and intellectual growth.

B. Each pastor shall regularly attend study clubs, workshops, etc.

C. Each pastor shall pursue continued formal education.

D. Each pastor shall keep current with contemporary events and the latest developments in church and theological affairs, with special emphasis in his area of primary responsibility.

Individual Responsibilities

LEAD PASTOR

His ministry will have a special emphasis on "overseeing" the spiritual well-being of the congregation." He will need to coordinate the work and generally be responsible for the administration of the congregation. He will need both administrative and management skills and he must have the ability to delegate authority. His specific areas of responsibility are:

TEACHING Develop and implement an adult educational program (Bible Classes, Membership Classes), Special Education Bible Class,

ORGANIZATIONS: Ladies Aid, Men's Club

COMMITTEES: Properties, Financial Stewardship, adult discipleship, Worship, Nominating, Constitution, and all special committees

Boards: Elders

STAFF MEETINGS: Church Musicians (choir/organ/music)

VISITATION: Straying members

MERCY MINISTRY: Tape ministry, members away from home, share in hospital visits, shut-ins

OFFICE: Bulletin, Annual Report, Newsletter, Church Records of all types

YOUTH/OUTREACH PASTOR

His ministry will have a special emphasis on the spiritual growth and activity of the children, youth, and young adults within the congregation. This means he will have primary responsibility for the ministry of Trinity's Lutheran School. He will also be responsible for the congregation's outreach with the Gospel into the community. He will need the ability to establish rapport with the children, youth and young adults within the congregation and be able to relate the Gospel to them and seek to meet their spiritual needs. He will also need to develop and supervise programs which will bring the Gospel to the unchurched in our community. His specific areas of responsibility are:

TEACHING: Sunday School Teachers, VBS Staff, Confirmation Classes

ORGANIZATIONS: Trinity Education League, Youth Group, Girl Pioneers, Boy Pioneers

COMMITTEES: Youth Discipleship, Outreach

BOARDS: School Elders

VISITATION: New Members, Prospects, and Visitors

MERCY MINISTRY: Share in hospital calls, occasional shut-in contacts

Both men are pastors in the full sense of the word, charged with the dispensation of the Means of Grace. Neither pastor has an inferior or superior role, nor does his title convey lesser or greater ability. The distinction is primarily administrative.

Thursday Evening Services

We hold regular midweek services on Thursday evenings. The sermon at these services will be repeated on the following Sunday. During Lent (Feb. 21st) the Thursday service will be replaced by mid week Lenten services.

Reminder for Church Leaders

Church leaders and group leaders, please bring a summary of your year's activities to the annual meeting on Monday, February 15th so that we can assemble a complete annual report by the time of the annual meeting on Monday, February 26 (7:00 p.m.).

MLC Volleyball Tournament

Martin Luther College is sponsoring a church volleyball tournament for men on March 17 and women March 24. Teams must be registered by February 14. Anyone interested? Talk to your pastors.

Nominations for Leadership Positions

We are seeking nominees for our annual leadership elections in February. The annual meeting will be held on Monday, February 26, at 7:00 p.m. Positions to be filled are:

- Elder
- Adult Discipleship Chairman
- School Elder (three positions)

Members of the Nominating Committee are Scott LaPointe (873-3782), Wayne Krentz, Jeff Schmidt, Dan Barziza, Principal Whitney, Pastor Zeitler and Pastor Meyer. Pray for faithful leaders who will help take our congregation forward in carrying out our mission and ministry.

Church Ministry Workshops

Please consider taking in the Church Ministry Workshop sponsored by our Minnesota District here at Trinity on Saturday, March 3. A brochure is in your mailbox. Register via email or at the door that morning.

Raising a Preschooler Workshop

On Saturday, March 3, at Living Hope in Shakopee WLCFS will sponsor a workshop on raising preschoolers. Call 877-204-2443 to register.

Women's Enrichment Weekend

Salem Lutheran Church is sponsoring a weekend retreat for women on April 20-22. Registration forms are in the lobby on the table. Registrations must be in by March 20.

Tuition Help for School Families

Our School Elders are seeking individuals who would be willing to help a family with their tuition payments for sending their children to our school. Please talk to Mr. Whitney (873-6320) or Jeff Schmidt (873-2486) for more information.

Elders on Duty

Our church elders are always ready to listen if you would ever like to discuss an issue regarding spiritual matters in our

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Congregation.

Wayne Krentz (873-2599)

Jon Luedloff (873-2314)

Jim Baumann (873-2514)

Care Committee

Do you need some extra help or an encouraging word from a fellow Christian? Perhaps you have an illness in the family, suffered the death of a spouse, need a ride to the clinic or hospital, need to visit a loved one in the hospital, need a ride to church, the victim of a disaster or fire, etc. Call Lavonne Schlingmann at 873-4324.

Memorial Gifts - 2007

Myron Haas Memorial

Padded Pew Fund \$10.00 from Wally and Evonne Otto

Julia E. Otto Memorials (from Family and Friends

Trinity General Fund \$140.00

Padded Pew Fund \$ 70.00

School Computer Fund \$ 10.00

Blood Mobile

On January 25th Trinity Lutheran Church hosted the Blood Mobile. We sincerely thank the 78 people gave blood to help the many people who need it.

There were 11 people who volunteered to work greeting people helping with the paperwork, serving the lunch etc. There were two who took the blood down to St. Paul, two trips. We had 14 who brought cookies to serve those who gave blood. The Ladies Aid organized the drive and paid for the Sloppy Joe's and other lunch items. We are truly thankful for all the help given to make this drive a success.

Last but not least we thank those who called the people on the list who have given blood previously and were asked to do so again. Thanks everyone for a job well done.

Trinity's Kitchen

It has been reported that some groups who use the kitchen are not seeing to it that it is cleaned when they are finished with it. Please remember that it is a privilege to have a nice kitchen to use when we need it. It is necessary to leave the kitchen clean for the next group who will be using it. Please be considerate and leave it in the same or better condition as you found it.

The Ladies Aid cleans it once a year and should not have to clean everyone else's mess more often. If everyone does their share it will make it easy for those in charge. The coffee pots need to be scrubbed out each time they are used. There are scrubbers there for that use; just rinsing them does not work. All the counters and tables need to be wiped off and all spills cleaned up. If everyone works at this it will be a big help. If this does not happen you may lose your kitchen privilege. We had a policy in place that required too have a Ladies Aid member in the kitchen when it was being used. We would like to feel that we can trust everyone to see to it that this will not become necessary again. If this is to happen we will need to have more and younger ladies join the Ladies Aid to make this possible.

There is also a suggestion that a fee be charged to pay someone to keep the kitchen clean. Do you want that to happen?

GOD'S YELLOW PAGES (Promises to help you)

Find Fulfillment

Psalm63:5

Psalm37:4

Psalm17:15

Find Holiness in the Ordinary

Psalm68:19

1 John3:18

Proverbs15:13

Ecclesiastes11:6

Enjoy Giving toOthers

Luke6:38

Proverbs31:20

Proverbs28:27

Psalm83:3-4

Find Joy in Your Work

Colossians5:23

Philippians4:15

Proverbs14:23

Psalm29:11

Understand Your Emotions

Psalm100:2-3

Psalm102:2

1 Peter5:6-7

Enjoy God's Colorful Creation

Romans12:4-6

1 Corinthians12:4-6

Philippians2:1-2

Ladies' Aid

On January 25 Trinity hosted the Blood Drive at the Vets Club. A successful drive was reported. Thanks to all who helped in any way.

LWMS report given by Lila Schwecke, the Spring Rally will be held April 14th at Renville. The National convention will be June 21-24 in Detroit. We have been given a new list of missionaries for Befriend a Missionary. We will be sending \$50.00 to each missionary in May. We will also be paying the \$50.00 membership for the LWMS.

The Standing Committee will be serving at the councilmen's workshop on March 3rd.

We are looking into going to the Old Log Theater as a group to see the play "Over The Tavern" in which Christina Vinkemeier is one of the cast members. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex of the church.

The February meeting was held on Feb 8, with Nella Schmidt and Leona M. Sellnow serving lunch.

The March meeting date is March 8th hostesses are Deb Malz and Arlene Manthe.

Coffee hour will be February 18 serving will be Karen Bauer, Vivian Luedloff, and Arlene Manthe

The February Standing Committee Co Chairwomen are Debra Malz and Shirley Ernst

The rest of the Committee are:

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| Vivian Wolpern | Lainey Mathwig | Laura McConnell |
| Betty Bahrke | Margaret Borgardt | Diane Otto |
| Bev Ince | Mailiee Schwichtenberg | Lavonne Bratsch |
| Lee Ann Krick | LaNae Barta | Janet Krick |
| Brenda Schmitz | Susan Karnitz | Lisa Jeurissen |

The March Standing Committee Co Chairwomen are, Betty Volek and Marlene Carlson.

PLEASE submit your article for the News Letter by February 25. 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!