



Trinity Times

January, 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."

The men's Gamefeed.

January 15, the Outreach Committee and Adult Discipleship sponsored a game feed banquet for the men from our congrega-



tion and friends. Each person attending were asked to bring a dish made from game or a desert or salad. It was reported that there was a great variety of dishes from different game, such as deer, grouse, pheasant, antelope, goose, turkey, elk, and other dishes. Everything was delicious and all had a good time.



This is the volunteer clean up group. There were between 35 to 40 men who attended the event.



Adam Block, a Conservation Officer from the Dept. Of Natural Resources Service spoke to the group. He explained what his job entailed and what he had to do when working with the people who do the hunting and fishing. There was a drawing for two prints. The first place prize went to Mark Seliger and 2nd prize to Justin Buszmann. There were other prizes as well.

From Home to Home Thrift Store.

Below is a group of volunteers who are working very hard to get everything in order for the store "Grand Opening" on February 14th. (more information on page 3)



The Volunteers shown above are: Erna Miller, David Soller, Cora Soller, Char Hesperheide, Mary Miller, Shelly Selly, Barb Vatthauer, Arlene Manthe and Greg Manthe.

This store has quite a lot more room as the old store. There is also much more work space so there is more room for volunteers. We look forward to working with new volunteers.

From the Pastors Desk

by Pastor John Zeitler

Rebuilding

Last year in February many leaders from our congregation, men and women, met “on the hill” for the good part of a Saturday and reviewing our past and brainstorming on how we should plan for our future. God blessed us with a delightful day, an energetic crowd, and a willingness to put some hard work into a very important planning process.

The conclusions drawn that day were that we needed to address four main areas: spiritual apathy, outreach, finances and our school. Work has been done in all four of these areas this past year. When we say “work” we mean more than just “talking about” the challenges. At times we have had to set some very small achievable goals and then move on to bigger ones. It’s a learning process for all of us, and God is blessing us.

At our annual meeting, which is soon approaching, reports will be given on the progress made in each of these areas and our plans for the future. We are thankful that God has given us leaders who are willing to give their time and abilities to help lead our congregational family. Pray that God give them joy in their work and that he give others the courage to come forward and lead us in the future, especially as our elections for church council, elders and school elders area approaching.

We also ask for your prayers in two especially challenging areas right now. The enrollment in our school has gone down substantially this past year. Our school is one of the most unique outreach ministries a congregation can have, and we have been blessed through it for many years. We are in a “rebuilding process” and rebuilding does not always happen over night.

The other challenging area is our finances. Giving for our local programs is down substantially form last year. The result is that we may have to readjust our operating budget in a major way. That means we will have to consider what our priorities are in our ministry. We need to review our mission statement and our constitutional statement on the purpose of our church. What can we do without? This too can be a “rebuilding process.” God may use it to strengthen our family unit and give us even greater focus and joy in working together.

Remember, membership in a Christian congregation is voluntary, but the true motivation comes from the Holy Spirit. Your absence from church or your decision not to support it is a vote to close the church’s doors. Whining, grumbling, complaining, fault finding and gossiping are not God’s work, but the devil’s. May God bless us in our efforts to address these challenges, and may he give us joy in working and serving Him together.

Sometimes, he may lead us to take a few steps back, before we can go forward.

Church Council Notes

From the meeting on January 17.

- New Members received through confirmation: Jeremy McGee, Sarah Meyenberg, Mollie Mueller, Travis Tointon.
- 1 Baptism: Brian Joseph Baumann
- 1 Burial: Lucille Witthus
-

Continued on page 3

Memorials Received

In Memory of Henry Trimbo from Ralph and Deb Malz.

In Memory of Phyllis Westphal from Sherry Guertin.

In Memory of Ethel Kahle from Lori Kornder.

In Memory of Lucille (Peltz) Witthus from Helen Mueller, and Dick and Jan Schense.

In Memory of Lillain I. Brandenburg from anonymous.

In Memory of departed family members of Ray and Bev Ince from Ray and Bev Ince.

In Memory of Pearl Fehlandt from Florence Sellnow.

Service Concert by Charles Bonow.

On Sunday, February 12th, during our morning worship services, organist Charles Bonow will present his new worship service concert entitled “Our Life in Christ.” This service concert will begin with a devotion followed by scripture readings, organ solos and congregational singing of our well-loved hymns of faith. Mr Bonow, a former pastor in our synod, now carries out a ministry through the presentation of these services concerts in our churches throughout the country. This is his life’s work and means of support for himself and his family. A free-will offering will be received for his family after the services.

Special Voter’s Meeting

A special meeting of the congregation has been called for Sunday, February 12th, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the plan for our school’s future and to hear an update on our serious financial shortfall. Everyone invited to attend this meeting.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is contacting potential candidates for our February 26th church leaders’ election. The positions to be filled are:

- Elder
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- School Elders (2)
- Youth Discipleship Chairman
- Properties Committee Chairman.

The members of the committee are Al Mosbeck (873-5519); Wayne Krentz (873-2599); Rick Pachan (873-3642); and Garth Perry (873-3834). Both of our pastors are advisory members of the committee. Thank you to all who have considered offering themselves to help lead us forward in our ministry.

New Member Welcome

On Sunday, February 19th, at noon, our Adult Discipleship Committee will sponsor a potluck dinner in the gymnasium to welcome all of our new members from the past two years. Please mark your calendar and bring your family and a dish to pass.

Annual Pine Car Derby

The pioneers will host their annual Pine Car Derby on Sunday, March 19th. Anyone wishing to participate should call Rob Selly (873-3055) to get their pine car kit. The cost is \$3.50/kit. There are no other entry fees.

Continued on page 3

- Weekly bible calss attendance averages about 45.
- The imposition of ashes will be done again on Ash Wednesday.
- The Choir will perform a tenebrae cantata twice before Easter.
- The \$10,000 note at the bank was paid off.
- Regular gifts are about \$25,000 behind where we were last year at this time.
- A special meeting of the congregation was called for January 29 to approve further short term borrowing for the operating fund.
- A Special meeting of the congregation will be held on February 12 to hear the plan for the school from the school elders.
- Two new Girl Pioneers leaders will be needed.
- Work continues on developing a nursery in the school for Sunday services.
- On March 4 the District Church Leaders Workshop will be held here.
- Annual reports are to be in by the first Sunday in February.
- An open forum will be held on January 15 to hear the plan for the school.
- The elders reported 41 telephone calls mad to inactive members

Can You Offer a Ride To Church?

We have a request from a gentleman living at Valley View Assisted Living in Jordan for a ride to church services. He is looking for a church home. Please talk to Pastor Zeitler if you can help.

Bible Studies

Pastor Zeitler conducts a Bible Study in the gymnasium at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings using the theme for that Sunday. On Wednesday evening, in the school library, Garth Perry conducts a class at 6:00 p.m. On *Discovering Our Special Gifts*. At 7:00 p.m. in the library Pastor Moldenhauer conducts a study on *King David*.

Youth Programs on Wednesdays

Classes, discussions and activities are offered for our young people on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. The younger grades meet in the gymnasium and the older grades meet in the school "lounge" room. The Messengers youth choir meets at 6:00 p.m. in the church. The Praise Band meets at 8:00 p.m. in the church. Confirmation classes begin at 6:00 p.m. In the 8th grade classroom. Come and join the fun!

Youth Group Activities

Our youth group will be attending a movie (End of the Spear) Together on February 12 in Eden Prairie. Meet at the church by 1:15 p.m. Parents are invited. The Group is also hosting a Ski outing at Mount Kato on Sunday, February 19th from 2:00-9:00 p.m. Call Pam Schuette (952-240-3910) for details. All members of our congregation are invited to join us. Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex by Sunday, February 12th.

We run an Open Class, as well as classes for the Girls and Boy Pioneer groups. Anyone who is not in Pioneers is eligible for the Open Class. Trinity's Pioneers are also hosting the District Derby the following Friday, March 24th. See you at the races!

Home to Home Thrift Store Update by Barb Vathauer
Grand Opening!!!!

It is amazing what has been accomplished since late fall that allowed us to be on target with occupancy of a beautiful new thrift store. Our "Grand Opening" is planned for Tuesday, February 14th, and it will begin with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10 a.m. The week-long event will feature refreshments, prize registration, and tours. All are invited!

There are no words to describe the awesome team of volunteers who pulled together to get everything moved across town. The work continues as willing workers unpack, organize, clean, and do everything it takes to get ready to open. You know who you are! Thank you!

Anyone willing to become involved with the effort of the store to support special projects at The Lutheran Home and Hope Residence is urged to step up now and respond, "I can do something! How can you use me to help?"

Store hours are Tuesday - Friday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The phone Number is (952-873-6901).

Donations are encouraged, including furniture. Should you need assistance with a donation, call the store. We will make the effort to help.

We hope to see everyone at Home to Home Thrift Store soon! Thank you for keeping the project in your prayers to the almighty God we are privileged to serve. ***"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed."*** ***Proverbs 16:3***

Annual Reports Due

All church boards, committees, service groups and fellowship groups are requested to submit a summary of the year's activities for the annual report to be published at the end of February. Chairpersons, please bring your reports to the school office as soon as possible.

Thrift Store Grand Opening

The Home to Home Thrift Store operated by The Lutheran Home Association will hold its Grand Opening ceremony on Tuesday, February 14, at 10:00 a.m. There will be a week-long celebration with refreshments, prizes and tours. The store is located next to the Dairy Queen and is open from 10:00 to 5:00, Tuesday through Friday, and 9:00 to 2:00 on Saturday. Volunteers are always welcome as are donations of household goods, furniture, clothing, and jewelry. Call 952-873-6901. Excess funds raised will go to help care for residents at The Lutheran Home Campus.

Housing for Prep Choir

The Luther Prep Choir from Watertown, Wisconsin, will be singing for our Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday April 15.

Church Basement Ladies”

Trinity Ladies Aid is going to “Church Basement Ladies” at the Plymouth Playhouse on April 9. Depart at 12:30 p.m. and return at 6:00 p.m.

\$33.00 will include show and transportation. We will stop to eat on our way home. This is on your own. Call 952-873-2411 by March 1 to reserve a ticket. Any other questions or concerns contact Irma Woestehoff at 507-665-6581.

Giving Plus

Help to support our school with a 50% match of your gifts through Thrivent. See Mark Kuske in the lobby after the service or pick up a form from the table in back.

From Healing Through Humor

And the Good News

A young woman brought her fiance home to meet her parents. After dinner, her mother told her husband to find out about the young man. So the young woman’s father took the young man into his study to discuss things “man to man.”

“So, what are your plans, young man,” asked her father.

“I am a Bible scholar,” the young man replied.

“A Bible scholar. Hmmmmm,” the father said, “admirable, but what will you do to provide a nice house and life for my daughter?”

“I will study,” the young man replied. “God will provide for us.”

“And how will you buy her a beautiful engagement ring such as she deserves?” asked the father.

“I will concentrate on my studies,” the young man answered.

“God will provide for us.”

“And children?” asked the father. “How will you support children?”

“Don’t worry, Sir. God will provide,” replied the fiance.

The conversation proceeded like this for quite an amount of time. Every time the father asked a question, the young man always replied with, “God will provide.”

Later after the young man had left, the mother asked her husband, “How did it go?”

The father answered, “He has no job and no plans, but the good news is he thinks I’m God.”

A tramp knocked on the door of the inn known as The St. George and the Dragon. The landlady answered the door.

The tramp said, “Could you give a poor man something to eat?”

“No,” said the woman, slamming the door in his face.

He knocked again and said, “Could I have a few words with George?”

Pain Relief

A man entered a drug store and asked the pharmacist for a cure for the hiccups. The pharmacist immediately reached out and slapped him across the face.

“What’d you do that for?” asked the man angrily.

“Well, you don’t have the hiccups anymore, do you?”

“No,” replied the man, “But my wife out in the car still does!”

The Choir will be arriving the day before on Saturday. We will provide a meal for them at the church. We need families who will volunteer to keep choir members overnight and get them to church early on Easter Sunday. Please talk to your pastors or call the church office if you can help.

GOD’S YELLOW PAGES (Inspirational Promises)

About being Right Before God **About Growing Old**

Romans13:10-11 Isaiah46:4

Joshua24:14-15 Psalm37:25

2 Peter1:3-4 Psalm71:17-18

About Fearing Death **About God’s Answers to our**

James1:12 **Prayers**

1 Corinthians15:54,56 Matthew7:7-8

2 Corinthians5:1 Hebrews11:6

About Feeling Overwhelmed 1 John5:14-15

By Problems **About Longing for Heaven**

Psalm.....69:16-18 Psalm73;25-26

Psalm116:1-2 John14:2-3

Jeremiah29:11-13 1 Corinthians2:2-9

Ladies Aid

The February meeting will be Thursday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m.

The Hostesses are Deb Malz and Arlene Manthe.

February 19th Coffee Hour Hostesses are Dorothy Mueller, Deb Malz, Leona M. Sellnow.

The February Standing Committee Co Chairwomen are Betty Volek an Marlene Carlson

The rest of the Committee are:

Vicky Eiden Gretchen Carlson Barbara Seaver

Mercedes Battcher LaJune Zellmann Janet Halverson

Erna V. Miller Ann Schmidt Kerri Olson

Cora Soller Kay L. Carlson Carole Smith

Julie Evers Kay (John) Miller

Sharon Schwichtenberg

The March Standing Committee Co Chairman are, Nella Schmidt and Luella Heitkamp.

From the Crown Of Life Lutheran Church, New Orleans, LA

Dear Trinity Knotters,

Thank you so much for the lovely quilts! I know they were made with love and care. We will give them to members and others in need. We have a member who was in a Nursing Home that flooded and lost everything. I will bring her one for sure.

We appreciate your concern for us.

Love,

Carol Steinhagen

Please submit your article for the News Letter by February 26. You can give the article to Luella Heitkamp or put it into our mail box at church. My E-mail is not working at the present time so don’t try to send it to me by E-mail. Thank You!