



Trinity Times

June, 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."

Graduation of the 8th grade class of 2006



The graduates are back row; Chelsea Barta, Debra Schwichtenberg, Karl Schmidt, Andrew Peltz, and Christine Heine, front Row; Shelby Sieben, Desirae Guscette, Jennifer Schmitz, Miranda Pomije, and Jordan Dunfee.



Andrew Peltz speaking to the audience on his years at Trinity.

On May 23rd a banquet was held to honor the graduates. The theme was a luau. Some of the 7th grade parents along with help from some 8th grade parents served lasagna, garlic bread, salad, and desert. Everything was delicious. Professor Bill Pekrul from MLC gave the invocation. Professor Pekrul was a classmate of Mr. Whitney. His talk was inspirational. The class should remember each is an individual and should concentrate on doing their best. The students were asked to give their remembrance of their years at Trinity. Mr. Whitney gave a short talk of his year with this class.

The Bible Garden



As you go closer to look at the plants you will find there are markers that identify the plants showing where they are mentioned in the Bible. It is very interesting walking in the garden and looking at the beautiful plants.



This is a great place to sit and reflect on the wonderful creation of all things. Please take the time to thank Alan and Ruth Anderson, and Jim and Becky Baumann for their hard work in setting up this garden. It is a great asset to our church.

From the Pastors Desk
Blessings from the Fire

by Pastor John Zeitler

Out of a very intense annual meeting on March 5, a meeting in which we made the difficult decision to reduce the size of our faculty, came at least two blessings. Twenty eight people volunteered to be part of an every member visitation team to talk to our Trinity families, hear their concerns and offer encouragement. That project is just about complete and the results will help us to better understand one another and plan for the future more realistically. We are grateful to the people who gave so generously of their time to carry out this project. A second blessing that arose is a comprehensive plan for the future in which we are all asked to make some sacrifices in order to meet the challenges before us. We thank Mark Kuske for drafting and promoting this plan at a very difficult time in our history. We thank God for moving people to commit to the plan and helping us look forward together again. We still have a lot of work to do here, but we have seen again how God provides the willing and positive leaders and resources to carry us forward when the times get tough. Trust him to do even greater things for his kingdom here.

Farewell, Faithful Servants

As the school year winds down we will soon bid farewell to two servants who have sacrificed much to carry out our program of Christian Elementary Education. Our teacher, Matt Wurster will complete his service with us on June 30. Our Teacher's assistant, Kristi Perry, will be leaving with her husband for their new home in Wisconsin on June 10. Please recognize the service given by these children of God, encourage them and pray for God's blessing on them and they continue to serve him in the future.

Mrs. Hanneman's Installation

Mrs. Barbara Hanneman has accepted our call to be our part-time teacher for next year. She will be installed in the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, July 9. A special coffee hour that morning will give our members a chance to welcome her personally. We thank God for sending her to us.

Bible Class and Sunday School

Pastor Zeitler conducts a Bible Study in the gym at 9:30 a.m. On Sunday morning. We are exploring the topic "Man and Woman In God's World." Everyone is welcome to join the 45 minute session: ask questions, offer an opinion, or just listen.

Nursery Available

We have a nursery available for younger children during the worship services and bible class. It is located in the art room in our school. We encourage parents to bring their children to the worship services, but if you need some extra help, bring your child(ren) to the nursery. Sign up to help as a volunteer in the nursery or call Carla Barziza for more details (873-3160).

Summer Bible Class

A evening Bible Class is held at 7:00 p.m. On Wednesday evenings during the summer in the Library. Various topics will be studied. You may also suggest you own topics for future study.

Preschool Registration

Registration for our Preschool for next year is still open for all. Please let us know of any outsiders who may be interested in enrolling their child in the fall. Those who want more information may talk to Principal Dan Whitney or Teacher Lavonne Bratsch.

School Positions

Our school is looking to fill the following positions for the 2006-07 school year: Teacher's assistant for remedial students, athletic director, junior choir director, tone chimes director, and art teacher. If you or someone you know has an interest in one or more of these positions, please contact one of the pastors or Mr. Whitney. They would be more than willing to explain what is needed in each of these positions. Thank you.

Above and Beyond Fund Drive

As of May 28 we had 29 members who have committed a total of \$1,200 above their regular gifts for our operating fund. Our goal in the Comprehensive Plan is to find 100 members who will commit \$3,600 "above and beyond" their regular gifts. All pledges are anonymous. Thank God for the response he is providing as we move forward into the future.

"Meditation Bible Garden"

As many of you have noticed, work is proceeding on the garden. The plan we are following will include plants referenced in the Bible along with many other plants. The center will include benches for seating and there will be lighting for the evening. Donations can be given to help buy plants, benches, and pavers. You can make out a check to either one of us and place it in our mailbox at church or call us with you questions. Ruth Anderson - (952) 873-2741 or Becky Baumann - (952)873-2514.

Gym Floor Refinishing

Our gym will be closed for refinishing from June 5th - 18th. Some individuals and groups have expressing interest in helping pay for this project which will cost \$1,200. Gifts will be accepted for the "Gym Refinishing Project".

Learn Spanish This Summer!

Would you like to learn Spanish? Come explore a basic Spanish conversation course here on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Beginning on June 20th and concluding mid-August. Classes will begin at 7:00 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to learn a new skill to communicate with a fast growing culture in our region and maybe share Jesus with someone of Hispanic origin. This is a fun exciting summer activity designed for ages 12 to 122. Our course instructor is Katie Kaletka, Spanish teacher for GFW schools and a graduate of Trinity School and Belle Plaine High School. Please register in the narthex or call 873-6545 or email at trinitylutheran@fruntiernet.net.

Just for Kix

A *Just For Kix* dance class for girls, ages 3 thru 6th grade, will be held in our gym Monday evenings starting on September 11th. Register for classes this Tuesday evening, June 6th or August 29th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Quarterly Voters' Meeting Results

At the quarterly meeting on Wednesday evening operating budget of \$540,456 was approved for 2006-2007 starting on July 1. The projected revenues assume that we will be able to raise \$36,000 over regular gifts. The budget includes all the cuts made in the comprehensive plan. Copies of the budget with explanatory notes are available in back. Mr. Ralph Malz was approved as our delegate to the Minnesota District Convention this summer. A severance package was approved for Mr. Wurster in compliance with the synod policy for workers whose positions are terminated. The member visitation report is still being compiled due to the tremendous response to the surveys. A *Just For Kix* dance class use of the gym was approved on a trial basis for one year depending on insurance coverage. A memorial was directed to ur district to have our synod investigate replacing the pension plan with a 403B plan.

Youth Confirmation Class

We welcome the following confirmands into communicant membership at Trinity:

Chelsae Barta, Jordan Dunfee, Desirae Guscette, David Keup, Tyler Koepp, Andrew Peltz, Miranda Pomije, Karl Schmidt, Jennifer Schmitz, Deborah Schichtenberg, Shelby Sieben.

From the Synod Statistical Summary for 2005

	Trinity	Minn. Dist.	WELS
% Communicant (loss)/ gain	+4%	(.33%)	(.05%)
Baptisms (% of membership)	1.1%	1.6%	1.9%
Adult Confirmations (%of comm.)	1.4%	.7%	1.3%
Average Sunday Attendance:	37.5%	42.6%	44.6%
Percent of Adults in Bible Classes	7.7%	13. %	14.4%
Average Gifts per Communicant	\$673.39	\$818.59	\$959.17
Average Gifts for Missions	\$50.58	\$66.97	\$87.17

Library News

Come check out our church library! We will be color coding the books by category in the near future. Now the book you're looking for will be even easier to find! We have added donations to the stacks including several children's books and some Christian romance. Featured books are located in the narthex on the back table. Here is a sampling of some of our new books:

Prepared to Answer by Mark A. Paustian

- A popular new book that provides helpful examples for sharing your faith by supplying Scripture-based responses to common objections to Christianity.

What Kids Need Most In a Dad by Tim Hansel

- This book offers practical encouragement for the God-given responsibility of fathering by providing ideas, activities, suggestions, warnings and strategies.

David: A Man of Passion & Destiny by Charles R. Swindoll

- This biography explores the life of King David and uses His story to teach Christian life lessons. The book is filled with Bible quotes and is broken into helpful chapters and sections.

Attention Everyone

The Ladies' Aid have cleaned the kitchen recently. We need **EVERYONE** to help keep it clean. Be sure to wash the counters carefully. We have been bothered with ants and keeping the counters clean will help.

Please check the refrigerator and the freezer to see what is yours. Label your group name and date the product. Take home things that will not be used. Anything that has an expired date on it should be tossed.

Also, please check the storage area and make it look neat. Again, take out anything that is not being used.

The Ladies will be checking the refrigerator periodically for food that is outdated and will toss them. If you want these items please take them home.

Thank you for your help!!

NEWS FOR OUR YOUTH

From Pastor Moldenhauer

A rich gold-miner in the 1800s came across a slave auction where 2 men tried out-bidding each other for a beautiful slave girl. In between their bids, they laughed about their intentions and that the loser would miss out. Finally the auctioneer called out, "Going once! Going twice!"

And right then the miner offered a price worth more than anyone was worth.

The girl assumed the miner was as evil as the other men, so she spit in his face.

The miner waited patiently, and gave a tender and soft smile, until finally he told her, "*I bought you to set you free!*" and free she was indeed! Suddenly her defenses dropped and she promised to serve the miner for the rest of her life.

Isn't the end of May and the beginning of June a vivid example of freedom? Everyone lives summer vacation: students, daycare providers, teachers, pastors who teach confirmation - **EVERYBODY**.

We love it because we have freedom; to get in shape, to stay up late, to sleep in late, to fish, to travel, to get sunburned, to talk smart, to grill and spit watermelon seeds.

3 months of vacation seems like forever, what we do with it is up to us. Are we going to work and pay for school, are we going to review our math facts?

God gives us freedoms too. 1 Peter 1:19 "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed ... But with the precious blood of Christ."

Our Youth Group Bible Studies in June we will be looking at what we do with the freedom Jesus won for us!

Sunday, June 4 - 7:00 p.m. meeting and devotion - theme: FREEDOM FROM SIN

Sunday, June 11 - 7:00 p.m. KICKBALL and pizza

FRIDAY, June 16 trip to Club 3 Degrees Minneapolis for comedy hour

Sunday, June 25 - 7:00 p.m. Meeting and devotion - theme: FREEDOM FOR SERVICE

Wednesday, June 28 - 10:00 a.m. Over the Hedge at Marcus, Meet at church 9:00AM \$2.50 includes popcorn! Parents and kids of all ages invited for this. We'll Need drivers!

“From Grace for the Moment” by Max Lucado

Each Day

It’s quiet. It’s early. My coffee is hot. The sky is still black. The world is still asleep. The day is coming. In a few moments the day will arrive. It will roar down the track with the rising of the sun. The stillness of the dawn will be exchanged for the noise of the day. The calm of solitude will be replaced by the pounding pace of the human race. The refuge of the early morning will be invaded by decisions to be made and deadlines to be met.

For the next twelve hours I will be exposed to the day’s demands. It is now that I must make a choice. Because of Calvary, I’m free to choose. And so I choose.

I CHOOSE LOVE . . .

No occasion justifies hatred;
no injustice warrants bitterness. I choose love.
Today I will love God and what God loves.

I CHOOSE JOY . . .

I will invite my God to be the God of circumstance.
I will refuse the temptation to be cynical . . .
the tool of the lazy thinker. I will refuse to see
people as anything less than human beings,
created by God. I will refuse to see any problem as
anything less than an opportunity to see God.

I CHOOSE PEACE . . .

I will live forgiven. I will forgive so that I may live.

I CHOOSE PATIENCE . . .

I will overlook the inconveniences of the world.
Instead of cursing the one who takes my place, I’ll
invite him to do so. Rather than complain that the
wait is to long, I will thank God for a moment
to pray. Instead of clinching my fist at new
assignments, I will face them with joy and courage.

I CHOOSE KINDNESS . . .

I will be kind to the poor, for they are alone.
Kind to the rich, for they are afraid. And kind to
the unkind, for such is how God has treated me.

I CHOOSE GOODNESS . . .

I will go without a dollar
before I take a dishonest one. I will be overlooked
before I will boast. I will confess before I will
accuse. I choose goodness.

I CHOOSE FAITHFULNESS . . .

Today I will keep my promises.
My debtors will not regret their trust. My associates
will not question my word. My wife will not
question my love. And my children will never fear
that their father will not come home.

I CHOOSE GENTLENESS . . .

Nothing is won by force. I choose to be gentle.
If I raise my voice may it be only in praise.
If I clench my fist, may it be only in prayer.
If I make a demand, may it be only of myself.

I CHOOSE SELF-CONTROL . . .

I am a spiritual being . . .
After this body is dead, my spirit will soar.
I refuse to set what will rot, rule the eternal.
I choose self-control. I will be drunk only by joy.

Continued on next column --->

GOD’S YELLOW PAGES

About Living like Christ

Matthew5:14-16
Ephesians4:13
1 Peter4:11

About Discipleship

John13:35
John8:31-32
John15:8

About Repentance

2 Peter3:9
Joel2:12-13
Isaiah31:15

(About Christian Life)

About the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians12:12-13
Colossians3:16-17
1 Peter2:9

About Heaven

Psalms103:19
Colossians1:5-6A
Matthew5:11-12

About Healing

Luke5:31-32
Revelation22:1-5
Psalm30:2

Ladies’ Aid

The next Aid meeting will be July 13th at 9:30 a.m. We will start our summer schedule and have the meeting in the mornings.

We did not have a meeting scheduled for June due to the refinishing of the gym floor.

Trinity will be giving a bingo party for the Hope Residence on August 7th. The standing committee will host the event.

The Hostess for July’s meeting is Evonne Otto

No Coffee Hour June 18 due to refinishing the gym.

The June Standing Committee Co Chairwomen are Ruth Anderson and Shirley Hesperheide.

The rest of the Committee are:

Myra Kerkow	Diane Kess	Jannette Miller
Marilyn Zabel	Shari Klatt	Doris Kruschke
Toni Larson	Janet Carlson	Therese Kaletka
Julie Kalal	Debra Luedloff	Julie Matzke
Barbara Muehlenhardt		Navada McGee

The July Standing Committee Co Chairman are, Eileen Otto and Lois Wolters

Pease submit your article for the News Letter by June 25th.

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!

Home to Home Thrift Store News:

There are many donations to sort through and process. In addition to our regular store hours, we have established Mondays (when we’re closed) as work days - generally from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Call 873-6901 with questions or just come for all or part of the day. It would be nice to establish a regular Monday crew. Much could be accomplished. Thank you for considering this. Yes, we need volunteers on the other days to, so give us a call.

I will be impassioned only by my faith.

I will be influenced only by God.

I will be taught only by Christ.

I choose self-control.

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

To these I commit my day.

If I succeed, I will give thanks.

If I fail, I will seek his grace.

And then, when this day is done,

I will place my head on my pillow

and rest