



# Trinity Times

June, 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."**

## Confirmation Class Confirmed May 20th



**Back row: Pastor John Zeitler, Ryan Diers, Jesse Johnson, Pastor John Meyer.  
2nd row: Tyler Storrs, Kaitlyn Kuske, Cody Peltonen, Samantha Zahn.  
Front Row: Ashley Otto, Adam Miller, Brittany Thelemann, Cody Sieben, Kelsey Koepp.**



Examination for Confirmation was held on May 16th. After the service lunch was given by the Ladies Aid and served by the May Standing Committee.

## Track Competition

On May 30th a track competition was held at Trinity Lutheran School. There were three teams who participated in the meet all from Trinity. They were the White, Green, and the Blue teams. The competition was strong and every one competed well. The Blue team came out the victor. Below Bryon Krick is competing on the High Jump.



## Graduation will be held Thursday, June 7th.



**Graduating 8th graders, Cody Seiben, Cody Peltonen, and Kaitlyn Kuske.**

**I talked to the students and asked them a few questions of their years at Trinity. *Continued on page 2***

## From the Pastors Desk!

By Pastor John Meyer

### Membership

We don't have dues. We don't have mandatory meetings. We don't have secret handshakes. We don't have passwords. We don't have uniforms or even a dress code. Anyone may come. Anyone may listen. Anyone may leave.

So why do we have such a difficult time getting ourselves to church? Records show that we operate with approximately 35% of our members attending on average. In a sad twist of irony, we might actually have MORE show up if we did institute some of these external obligations. Man likes to feel he is earning something for himself and he seeks that through the law. The law, with its burdens and demands, is more familiar and more comfortable to the sinful flesh.

The gospel message is truly foreign. To think that an all-powerful, all-knowing, all-seeking God would want anything to do with us baffles the mind. But the gospel trumps the mind. It conquers and even confuses reason. Our God comes to our meager, dirty abode and invites us into his home. He makes a place for you in a church so that you can hear his word.

As a member within God's church you are privileged indeed! Here you sit side by side with those who will take seats in God's cathedral. You share donuts with those who will have seats of honor at the Lord's wedding banquet. You talk and laugh and cry with those who will have a face to face friendship with God himself. Membership is about so much more than your name on a record. It's about Christians strengthening each other, encouraging each other, loving each other despite the harsh realities of this sinful world.

As that church, one of many in the world, we are united as a family in God. If you lost a beloved member of your family, you would seek to find them and bring them back. You wouldn't abandon that loved one to the empty streets and the dark alleys. We seek to bring our lost family back. Trinity has begun a program known as RescueNet. Through that program we have been reaching out to those family members we have not seen in a while. We do this not to our own glory, but so that others may be reminded of the sweet gospel joy we treasure ourselves.

RescueNet could still use your help. The devil is constantly active. He pulls at the church wherever he can get a hold. There are many who are still wandering in the darkness. Many who used to remember the light found here. Ask your pastors how you may be of assistance to these family members and look for further developments in the weeks to come.

Dear family of Trinity, thank you for your attention. Enjoy your day and I look forward to seeing you soon,  
Pastor John Meyer - your brother in Christ.

### Notes from the Voters' Meeting

On Wednesday evening, May 23, our congregation approved an operating budget of \$534,046.00 for the fiscal year starting in July. Our budget for this past year was \$541,130.00. We were able to grant a slight pay raise to our staff, but have not yet reached the recommendations of the synod code. Staff will still be required to pay 40% of their health insurance premiums and custodial and secretarial hours will be limited. We extended our mission commitment to \$40,000.00 (from \$30,000.00) to help

*Continued on page 3.*

*Continued from page 1*

Where will you continue your education?

Kaitlyn, West Lutheran in Plymouth.

Cody P. and Cody S., Belle Plaine High

Their Favorite teacher, They all agreed on Brenda Vinkemeier their art teacher. Kaitlyn also added Mrs. Arndt 1st & 2nd grade teacher.

What do you value the most that you learned in school?

Kaitlyn, The memorized bible verses that will be used throughout her life to deal with all aspects of life and to share with others

Cody Peltonen, Learning about God.

Cody Sieben, Learning how to get along with all people and to be tolerant of those who have the same name as he has. We are now the best of friends.

Favorite Class; Both Codys like Art, Kaitlyn; cooking

Least favorite; all said literature

What will you miss most? Cody S. Sitting next to Cody P. In class. Cody P., making my own lunch in the kitchen. Kaitlyn, Friends she has made the past 8 years and Coach Klatt.

What are your aspirations for the future?

Cody P.: Graduate from high school, go to Gulf Coast University with a degree in Marine Biology, Work in Texas. Retire at age 55 retire to Northern Minnesota and have a cabin around International Falls. Some time in my life I will be a B.M.X. Biker.

Cody S.; After high school attend Texas A & M. To become a mechanical engineer. Live in Texas and be on the Texas swat team. Retire at age 40 and become a pro-bass fisherman.

Kaitlyn; wants to play softball at West Lutheran. After graduating from West Lutheran she wants to attend College and study Graphic and Interior Design. She also wants to be a pitcher on their Softball team. She wants to appear on Broadway. Get married and have 5 children. When she retires she wants to live where the weather is warm.

We ask God to Bless these young people as they leave our school and pursue they hopes and dreams for the future.

---

### Summer Worship Schedule

We have begun our new summer worship schedule. We will have only one services at 9:00 a.m. through Labor Day weekend. A coffee hour/bible class will be held at 8:00 a.m. before the service. The bible class will be on the book of Revelation. Come for breakfast and the word before worship. The regular midweek service will continue on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

---

### Spiritual Enrichment Group for Women

All women of the congregation are invited to Kathy Fredrich's house (484 South Chestnut) on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. during the month of June for a spiritual enrichment study of Psalm 91 on the subject of "Confidence." A study book may be purchased for \$8.00. Call Kathy at 952-873-3671 for more details.

---

### Choir Notes

The Senior Choir is in need of an accompanist(s) beginning in August. Please call Lynn Erickson at 873-4328 to discuss possible options available. The Senior Choir will be singing

*Continued on page 3*

Address our synod's financial crisis. A Paid Time Off Policy was also adopted for our staff members. Copies of the documents from the meeting can be found on the table in back of the church. Marlin Matzke is willing to serve as our congregational delegate to the Mankato PTL Conference on June 9th.

**Notes for the Council meeting**

- Membership Changes:
  - o Released:
    - Robert Behnke
    - Samuel Kerkow
- Marriage: Daniel Whitney and Kerri Olson
- RescueNet will offer all members a chance to pray for and contact inactive members by way of a sealed envelope system.
- The elders are investigating the possibility of having a special service (polka?) and pork meal on September 23 or 16.
- Mrs. Hanneman will teach our preschool next year. It is possible we might have two sessions if enrollment trends continue.
- Projected enrollment for our school next year is 60 students in grades K through 8.
- Vacation Bible School will be held August 6-10.
- The Financial Stewardship committee will publish the Mission Advancement Plans developed from our every member survey for congregational review. They are also research various options for advancing the concept of our Endowment Fund.
- The Outreach Committee will participate in the Belle Plaine Cookout and build a float for the BBQ Days parade. Information packets were distributed at the Belle Plaine and Jordan showcases.
- The Properties Committee is still searching for the furnace warranty. New lights will be installed this summer.

**Important notice!!!**

The refrigerator in the kitchen and the freezer in the store room need to be cleaned out. If you have something in either one which you wish saved please pick it up. If there are articles that not marked with your organizations name or initial on it it will be tossed. There are some things that look as though they are spoiled and need throwing. If everyone would remove what they are not going to be using it would make it easier for everyone. Thank You for your cooperation in this matter.

**Please Note!!**

**The following items should NOT BE REMOVED from the church property.**

- NEW PLASTIC TABLES**
- DARK BROWN TABLES**
- ANY PADDED CHAIR**

**We have some that we can loan out. Please see Win to check on what is available at any time.**

with the children for Trinity's graduation on Thursday, June 7th. To prepare for this, we will have two short rehearsals on Wednesday, May 30th and June 6th at 7:00 p.m.

**Eighth Grade Banquet**

The 8th Grade Banquet will be held on Tuesday, June 5 at 6:30 p.m. The event is hosted by TEL and the 7th Grade Parents. The cost of the tickets is \$8:00 per person which includes a meal.

**Volunteers For Cleaning Crews?**

We need more members to volunteer for helping to clean the school building on Saturdays. We are grateful for the 24 volunteers who have already stepped forward, but we all need to share the load in order to save on custodial costs. We will also need helpers to move classroom furniture for floor maintenance starting June 11. Please call Jeff Vinkemeier at 873-3487 to volunteer or sign up in the lobby.

**Return "We Love Trinity - Ask Me Why" Lawn Signs**

Please Bring back your lawn signs and sign off on the list so we know which ones have been returned. Thank you for displaying this information about our school in your neighborhood. They have been noticed.

**Student Teacher Assignments**

Our former student teachers received their assignments on Call Day at MLC last Saturday. David Duncan received a call to serve as a principal's apprentice at Trinity, Nicolett. Rossi-Kay Henchen received a call to Peace, Kissimmee, Florida. We pray for God's blessings on their ministries.

**Housing Needed For Summer Interns**

The Lutheran Home is looking for families willing to act as hosts for 7 interns this summer (3 men, 4 women) from June 3 through 8. Signup sheet is in the church lobby. Please call Pastor Dallas Miller (612-747-5015) if you have questions or email Mike Henning ([mhenning@tlha.org](mailto:mhenning@tlha.org)).

**Financial Secretary**

Our Stewardship Committee is seeking names of members interested in serving as Financial Secretary. This important position maintains records of individual gifts, prepares quarterly statements for members and supervises the counting teams. Nella Schmidt has faithfully served in this position for nine years and would like to step down. You may call her to find out more about the nature of the work (873-6473). We also need one or two more volunteers to serve on the counting committees. Call Nat Hahm if you are interested (507-202-6286).

**"Walking Together" Offering**

Almost \$1,360 has been brought forward for the special "Walking Together" offering for missions. If God has enabled you, please use your "Walking Together" offering envelope to help our synod out of its serious financial crisis. There are extra envelopes in back of church.

**Flowers for church**

Anyone wishing to place flowers in the church for a given Sunday service should contact Evonne Otto at 873-6793 to make sure that they are placed where there is room. Someone else may have requested to place flowers for a special occasion such as confirmation, graduation etc. We appreciate that people wish to grace our alter with flowers and want to use them properly. Thank you.

**Thank You!**

Thanks to the Bob Seaver family for donating 2 fans to be used in church.

We could still use several more for the summer months. It gets warm in church some days and a little breeze would help a lot.

**Trinity Lutheran School Golf Tournament**

On July 7th Trinity Lutheran School is having a Golf Tournament Fundraiser at the Glencoe Country Club.

The tournament will be a 4 person scramble. The \$55.00 per person fee will include Golf, Cart, and Dinner.

Support your school and have a fun afternoon on the golf course! Everyone is welcome! There will be a silent auction that includes items from our Minnesota Sports Teams.

- Registration/ Silent Auction from 1:00 to 1:55 p.m.
- Golf 2:00 p.m.
- Dinner 6:00 p.m,
- Awards and Silent Auction 6:30 p.m.

All money earned will go towards new computers for our school. Please call Jeff or Sheila Vinkemeier (873-3487) to reserve a spot for your team by June 30th.

Supplemental Funding Provided by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

**Mark your Calendars**

The Annual TLHA Auxiliary Meeting for The Lutheran Home Campus will be held Wednesday July 18, 2007

- Registration and fellowship: 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.
- Opening Devotion begins at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Jim Selvy will give an update on the building projects on The Lutheran Home grounds.

The Business meeting, elections, & project selections follow. Pastor Dallas Miller, Director of Spiritual Services will give a presentation on "Volunteer Helper; Safe and Sound".

We are trying to get more people involved in volunteering at The Lutheran Home to help improve the quality of life for the residence. There are many things we can do from visiting with the residences, labeling clothing, playing cards or board games with some of the residence, take them down to meals etc.

Come to the meeting and find out what can be done.

A Luncheon will be served at 12:30 p.m.

Tours of the campus will be available upon request.

**Summer Coffee Hour Volunteers**

We would like to provide a coffee hour during the summer at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday before the worship service. If you, your family, or your group would like to host a coffee hour, please sign up on the calendar in the kitchen or talk to the pastors. You may use any donations collected to help pay for the refreshments and donate the remainder for your favorite mission program. There are two Sundays in July and three Sundays in August that still need to be filled.

<b>GOD'S YELLOW PAGES</b>		<b>(Promises about )</b>
<b>Moving God through Prayer</b>		<b>Gaining Perspective from God's Word</b>
1 John .....5:14-15		Psalm .....119:15-16
Psalm .....86:6-7		Psalm .....119:105
Psalm .....6:8-9		Mark .....4:20
<b>Refreshed by God's Word</b>		<b>Being Guided by God's Word</b>
Psalm .....119:103		Psalm .....119:11-12
Psalm .....19:7-8,10		2 Timothy .....2:15
Joshua .....1:8		Proverbs .....6:25
<b>Growing Through Adversity</b>		<b>Hoping in God</b>
1 Peter .....4:12-13		Joel .....2;26
Psalm .....128:7		Romans .....8:38-39
2 Corinthians .....2:14		Romans .....11:33

**Ladies' Aid**

June meeting will be June 14 at 9:30 a.m. We are starting our summer schedule with the meeting held in the morning. We welcome all ladies of the congregation to attend. The officers of the Ladies Aid will be serving for the summer meetings.

The annual LWMS rally will be held in June 21-24 in Detroit. Next year 2008 the rally will be held in Tucson, AZ, and in 2009 it will be held in Colorado.

The next MLC Auxiliary meeting will be held October 10, 2007. The Ladies voted to donate \$50.00 to the four missions on our list of missions to support and remember in our prayers.

The Ladies voted to again pay for the Confirmation Luncheon after the examination of the confirmation class on May 16th. The standing committee will serve the lunch.

Coffee hour will be June 17th at 8:00 a.m. Before the one service, serving will be Arlene Manthe, Vivian Luedloff and LaVerne Muehlenhardt.

The June Standing Committee Co Chairwomen are Donna Karnitz and Leona M. Sellnow.

The rest of the Committee are

Joanna Fahey	Judy Schultz	Marlaine Savelkoul
Lila Schwecke	Julie Miner	Carla Barziza
Tina Benck	Arlene Kerkow	Laura Herrmann
Pat Meyenburg	Trudy Smith	Wanda Sellnow
Trudy Thelemann	Rachel Weirs	

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

**Article for the News Letter are due by June 24. Please give to Luella Heitkamp, or put it into our mail box at church, or send by email to luellaheitkamp@unique-software.com Thank You!**