

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

A message from Pastor Kock

“And this man shall be the peace.”

Micah 5:5

“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you.”

Luke 2:11

For Christians, Christmas is the celebration of the incarnation of Jesus Christ. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us to redeem us from our sins. Jesus' birth is the wonderful beginning of his earthly life that carried out our deliverance from sin, death, and the devil. This is the grace of God that we celebrate. Christmas for us is holiday for our faith to lift up its voice in praise to the Lord God.

Our world has added many secular customs to Christmas. They range from decorating the outside of our homes with lights, attending the Nutcracker Suite, laughing with jolly old Santa, ending television soap opera plots on a happy note, listening to pop singers do Christmas specials, traveling, candy canes, and Budweiser horses sleighing through the snow.

Let the world add a hundred more customs, if it would like, it still cannot take away from the Christian the real meaning of Christmas. It is God's event that faith finds as the source of eternal salvation.

Let the Word of God dwell in you richly so that in the coming months, as the sounds and actions of the world crowd in, the Lord testifies to your heart the simple truth of the highest joy: Christmas is the birth of the Savior, Jesus Christ.

Pastor Mark Kock

Inside this issue:

Miscellaneous News	2
Our Life of Worship	3
Grow Together In God's Word	4
WELS Connection Fellowship at Trinity	5
Reach Out with the Gospel	6
Serving Your Savior	7
Budget Update	
Serving Committees	
Key People	8
Anniversaries & Birthdays	
Council Members	9
Special Dates	



Miscellaneous News

*Check out this website that offers a fresh approach to connecting people to Christianity,
www.WhatAboutJesus.com*



- If you would like to pray with us weekly, there are copies of the **prayer chain requests** in the church office every Sunday morning. If you would like to make a request for prayers, please call Pastor Kock at 294-2828 or 294-2979.
- **HELP Supply the Foodshelf** – The Open Cupboard is always in need of donations. You may bring the items to church and we will bring them to the food shelf.
- Have you looked in your **church mailboxes** lately?!
- Do you need help paying for your **heating costs**? Wisconsin's Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) helps you pay for the cost of heating your home. To make an appointment to learn more about this program, please call Polk County Human Services Department at 715/485-8876 or 485-8400.
- Once again, it is time to get ready for the **Blessing Baskets!** The Blessing Basket program started many years ago to help area families in need at Christmas time with food and gifts for their children. Our Card Tree is in the narthex, decorated with gift cards. You choose a card from the tree, buy the gift listed on the card and return the wrapped gift (with the card on the outside of the package) to Trinity. All gifts must be returned by Sunday, **December 11**. The baskets will be assembled on Thursday, December 15 at 6 pm in Trinity's fellowship hall. Volunteers are encouraged to help that day. Baskets will be distributed to the families on Saturday, December 17. NO volunteers are needed that morning as this is a confidential time for the families. If you would like to nominate a family for the program, please contact Pastor Kock at 294-2828 or Roseanne at 755-3096.
- **Message from the Master** broadcasts every Sunday morning at 7:00 am for those of you who cannot attend services. Put your radio dial on 1220 AM WEZU for an uplifting message every week.
- Everyone is invited to the **Ladies Aid Christmas Party!** The party will be held on Thursday, December 15 at noon in our fellowship hall.
- Trinity Youth placed third at the **St. Croix Conference Volleyball Tournament!** Trinity students, ages grades 7-12 spent a fun day playing volleyball at St. Croix Lutheran High School on Sunday, November 6. Stay tuned for more fun activities planned for Trinity teens!
- **WELS Marriage Retreat & Get-Away Weekend.** Are you longing to spend some quality time with your spouse? They are sponsoring a WELS Marriage Retreat and Get-Away Weekend at the Radisson Hotel in Plymouth, MN from January 27-28, 2006. For more information go to www.net, then follow: Ministry->Family->Adult->Discipleship->Marriage Retreats. Or, see the information on display in the bulletin board in the narthex.
- **Please pick up your set of 2006 offering envelopes,** located in the narthex of church.
- **Interfaith Caregivers** provides volunteers to assist seniors and adults living with disabilities. Our services are provided free of charge by caring volunteers from churches in Polk County. If you need their help or could volunteer to help others, please call 715/483-9263 for more information.
- You and the high school aged youth from your congregation are cordially invited to attend a **"Holiday Open House"** hosted by the Admissions Department of Bethany Lutheran College on Saturday, December 10 at 1:30 pm. Please call 1/800/944-3066 with any questions.

Our Life of Worship at Trinity

Wednesday Advent Services 7:00 pm

The services provide us with an opportunity to gather in our Father's house to receive rest for our souls and ponder the promises of our Savior's return to the world. We are his bride who eagerly await his coming. Let us worship the Lord and pray, "Come, O Come Emmanuel!"

Theme of the Wednesday Services: "In the Beginning"

- November 30 He made the heavens and the earth
- December 7 He established family love
- December 14 He gave the promise of the Savior



December 24, 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship

The Sunday School Children will proclaim the good news of the Savior's birth through song and recitation.

Special Rehearsals for the Sunday School children:

Saturday, December 17, 9:00 am

Thursday, December 2, chili supper at 5:00 pm rehearsal at 6:00 pm

December 25, 9 a.m. Christmas Day Worship

Regular worship hours of 8:00 am and 10:30 am

New Year's Eve, December 31, 7:00 pm

We close the year with a Communion service that thanks God for his faithfulness to his covenant of grace.



Adult Choir Updates

Rehearsals occur Wednesdays at 6:30 pm before the Advent services. The Choir will bring Advent psalms and songs to the Sunday worship services of December, and a Christmas hymn for Christmas Day. Consider attending the December rehearsals and adding your musical gifts to glorify the Lord.

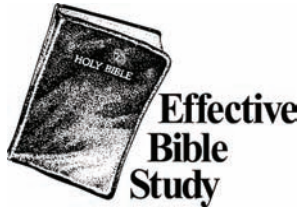
MERRY
CHRISTMAS

We Grow Together in Studying God's Word

Trinity offers you these opportunities to study God's Word:

Sunday Adult Bible Class at 9:15 am

New Topic: *"John the Baptist: Forerunner of the Savior"*



Tuesday Women's Bible Class—7:00 pm:

The Women's Study group continues to meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 in Trinity's library. We are currently reading the books Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther in "The People's Bible" Series. We will finish this study the week of Christmas and then take a short recess and resume in January. Ladies, January 2006 would be a great time to join us! Call Pastor or Nancy with any questions (294-2828).

Wednesday Bible Class—10:30 am

New Topic: *"How to Study the Bible"*

"BROTHERS"

Men's breakfast and Bible study fellowship next meets January 14, 9:00 am and is for all men of the church, Confirmation age and up.

Sunday School News

Parents, a survey will soon be in your hands to learn if your child will be participating in the December 24 Christmas Eve service. If so, remember to have your child here for the rehearsals, December 17, 9:00 am and December 22, at 6:00 pm. (chili dinner at 5:00 pm)

All children are invited to join the Christmas caroling to church members and residents of our local area nursing home. It begins at 4:00 pm, December 18. Refreshments follow the singing. Give the gift of the gospel this Christmas.



Catechism Class Update

December 4, 8:00 am Sunday Service, the 7th grade class presents a confession of the Commandments.

December 11, 8:00 am Sunday Service, the 8th grade class presents a confession of the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed.

The Inner Court (High School Members)

Bible Study and Christian fellowship for the high school youth of Trinity occurs each Sunday at 9:15 am. This is a great opportunity for teens to stay connected to Christ and his Word. Pastor Kock will meet with the youth the Sundays of December.

Tender Loving Care Preschool

The Congregation intends to re-address the calling of a preschool teacher at the January voters meeting. The harvest is plentiful. Many are the children in our area in need of hearing the Word of the Lord Jesus so that they may believe in him and by believing have eternal life.

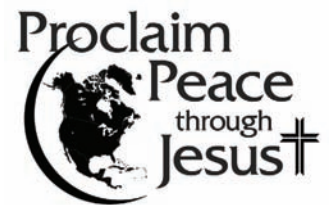
The WELS Connection

WALKING TOGETHER '06 TO FOCUS ON MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

Walking Together Sunday, an annual event to celebrate what we, by the grace of God, are able to accomplish as a synod, will focus on Martin Luther College in 2006. The school, located in New Ulm, MN, is WELS' college for preparing pastors, teachers and staff ministers. The college along with synod's other Ministerial Education schools—Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, WI; Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, MI; and Luther Preparatory School, Watertown, WI—are at a critical phase financially. Insufficient support of synod work has forced cuts in all areas, including Ministerial Education. Martin Luther College's needs are the most urgent.

This year's service will be similar to the one in 2005 with a short video and brochures to provide information to members. A sermon theme, litany and hymn suggestions will also be provided. Churches are encouraged to participate in the service on May 7 or another Sunday during the Easter season. Materials for the service will be mailed and posted on the Web well ahead of time.

Members were moved to contribute generously to support synod work in 2005. Walking Together brought in about \$976,160 as of mid-November, with approximately three fourths of all WELS congregations participating.



Opportunities for Fellowship at Trinity

- ◆ **December 7 & 11**
REFRESHMENTS AFTER ADVENT WEDNESDAY WORSHIP
- ◆ **December 9**
DECORATE THE CHURCH AND TREE FOR CHRISTMAS
(Come anytime after 5:00 pm—Meal at 6:00 pm)
- ◆ **December 18**
CHRISTMAS CAROLING TO MEMBERS AND NURSING HOME
Meet at church at 4:00 pm
Refreshments upon return
Everyone is invited to join in singing the good news of Christ's birth.



Come Chat with the Pastor

Each month Pastor Kock sets aside a day to give you an opportunity to visit with him at church, ask him questions, talk the spiritual talk of Christ, or whatever is on your mind. No appointment necessary. Just stop by.



PASTOR'S DAY: DECEMBER 19, 4:00—7:00 PM

Our Mission to Reach Out with the Gospel



There are plenty of opportunities for you to share your faith in Jesus and help others learn of their Savior:

- ◆ Invite friends and neighbors to the Christmas Eve service.
- ◆ Ask Pastor Kock when he is next going out to meet area newcomers, and offer to join him.
- ◆ Tell your neighbors what Christmas means to you: it's not about getting material things but receiving God's gift of a Savior.
- ◆ Ask your children to invite to Sunday School a school friend of theirs.
- ◆ Be friendly to new faces at church. Before entering the Fellowship Hall for coffee, notice who is new and ready for a hearty "Welcome!"
- ◆ Give joyfully and faithfully to the church to support its mission of spreading the Gospel to people throughout the world. A portion of our offerings goes directly to mission work in such foreign lands as Pakistan, Brazil, Hong Kong, and Czechoslovakia. Proclaim peace through Jesus!
- ◆ Join the Christmas carolers, December 18, and sing the gospel to residents of our nursing home.

Dear Trinity Lutheran Church,

We praise God whose powerful hand spared the pastors and members of our church in the gulf area from the worst ravages of the hurricane Katrina.

Several of our churches and parsonages did sustain damage and many of our members' homes were destroyed. President Gurgel and representative from Kingdom Workers assessed the damage on site recently, and WELS help teams have put together a plan to restore our churches and members' homes and then reequip them to extend spiritual and physical support to the communities surrounding them.

Katrina's fury and the physical destruction it unleashed reminds of the greater physical and spiritual harm posed to our brothers and sisters around the world daily by immorality and unbelief. May God bless our WELS efforts in 23 World Mission Fields and 200 home missions to bring salvation and comfort to these lost souls. Only in the preaching of Jesus is there permanent safety and the strength to uphold us through the many trials of life.

May God bless you for your loving heart and your generosity and grant you peace through Jesus. On behalf of all your brothers and sisters in WELS.

Wayne Mueller, Vice President, Mission and Ministry



The Mission Awareness Committee

This Committee continues to research the feasibility of introducing a Jesus Cares ministry to our congregation. Jesus Cares serves the developmentally disadvantaged with the Word of God.

Serving Jesus with Our Gifts and Talents

BUDGET UPDATE

	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$19,770	\$205,966
Expenses:	\$26,291	\$224,855



TRINITY CHURCH HAS A MEMORIAL FUND, READY TO ACCEPT donations at any time from its members. You may designate your memorial offering to a specific project or purchase of the church (that has church approval) or leave your offering undesignated, to assist with future needs of special projects of the church. Memorial money provided for the landscaping around the M sign. The project will be completed in the Spring.

SERVING COMMITTEES

The Ladies Aid has re-organized the serving committees that serve meals at such occasions as funerals. Printed below are the four committees. They operate on a rotational basis throughout the year. When your committee is on duty, you will receive a phone call and request to bring food and/or serve for a meal. If you volunteered to serve on a serving committee of the church and your name is not printed below, please speak to Pastor Kock.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>#1 LaVerne Renspe
Karen Gray
Marsha Guggisberg
Adelaide Albrecht
Becky Larson
Donna Cottor
Dorothy Landin
<u>Bring food only:</u>
Erma Nelson
Myra Bader
Carmen Mallin
Selma Shay
Joleen Funk</p> | <p>#2 Joyce Dehmer
Iris Holm
Rachel Hoverman
Alice Olson
Doris Martinson
Betty Rogers
Melinda Wells
Daniel Wells (serve only)
<u>Bring food only:</u>
Bonnie Richter (serve if not working)
Joyce Ekstrand
Antoinette Loescher
Diane Pettis</p> |
| <p>#3 Irene Peper
Ann Fox
Betty Thompson
Barb Hoverman
Julie Heil
Kathy Hendricks
<u>Bring food only:</u>
Darryl & Shirley Klawitter
Peggy Rydeen
Corrine Zehm
Gladys Otto
Helen Swanson
Trudi Getschel
Terry Rydeen (serve if schedule allows)</p> | <p>#4 Marilyn Basham
Pat Loney
Iva Hanson
Alice Lambrecht
Audrey Rydeen
JoAnn Johnson
Lorna Stob
<u>Bring food only:</u>
Carol Jensen
Shirley Bethke
Deb Johnson
Kirk & Alyssa Winkelman
Nancy Beck (serve if not working)
Lois Luhman (serve if not working)</p> |





Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

300 Seminole Ave
Osceola, WI 54020
Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9-3
Phone & Fax—715/294-2828

Email: telc@centurytel.net
Web-site: <http://www.telcoswi.org>

Mark Kock, Pastor (pastorkock@centurytel.net)
Chris Riba, Council President
Scott Doerr, Treasurer
Nancy Beck & Carol Jensen, Church Secretaries
JoAnne Johnson, Altar Guild, 294-2020
Lorna Stob, Fellowship, 715-248-7244



2005 Trinity Church Council Members:

Wayne Riba, President	Curt Richter, Vice-President	Scott Doerr, Treasurer
Dick Durand, Secretary	Doug Gray, Evangelism	Bob Wells, Education
Dean Dehmer, Stewardship	Will Stob, Trustees	Kevin Rogers, Elders

2005 Board of Elders:

Jim Brown	Kevin Rogers	Don Rogers	Ron Lueck
-----------	--------------	------------	-----------

Special Dates!

- ◆ Wednesdays, November 30, December 7, 14—Advent Worship at 7:00 pm
- ◆ Friday, December 9—Chili dinner & decorate church at 6:00 pm
- ◆ Saturday, December 10—High School Youth Cookie Bake at 9:00 am
- ◆ Saturday, December 10—Christmas for Kids at 10:00 am
- ◆ Tuesdays, December 6, 13—Women’s Bible Study at 7:00 pm
- ◆ Thursday, December 15—Ladies Aid Christmas Party at Noon
- ◆ Thursday, December 15—Assemble Blessing Baskets at 6:00 pm
- ◆ Saturday, December 17—Children’s Christmas Rehearsal at 9:00 am
- ◆ Sunday, December 18—Caroling at 6:00 pm
- ◆ Thursday, December 22—Children’s Christmas Dinner & Rehearsal at 5:00 pm
- ◆ Saturday, Christmas Eve—Worship & Program at 7:00 pm
- ◆ Sunday, Christmas Day—Worship at 8:00 and 10:30 am
- ◆ Saturday, New Year’s Eve—Worship with Lord’s Supper at 7:00 pm
- ◆ Sunday, New Year’s Day—Worship at 8:00 and 10:30 am



Holiday Schedule