

# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

**A message from Pastor Kock**



*"Husbands, be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life." 1 Peter 3:7*

## **Heirs Together of the Gracious Gift of Life**

Our Lord teaches through his Word that Christian men and women are heirs together of the gracious gift of life. Through faith in Christ, they share in eternal life, the gift of God's grace.

What a rich blessing of God to keep in mind. For husband and wife are different; they differ in their personalities, abilities, and in their roles. God calls the husband to be the head of the wife and the wife to be the husband's helper. It could be easy for the differences to dominate the relationship, so that husband and wife are dwelling more on what they lack in common than on what they have in common. But they have the gracious gift of life in common. They share the hope of standing before Jesus Christ their Savior on the final day and hearing him say to each of them, to both of them, "Come, blessed by my Father, take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world."

May the sharing of the gracious gift of life cause husbands and wives to dwell together in love and harmony, and with their children rejoice in the goodness of the Lord.

Pastor Mark Kock

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## Miscellaneous News

- 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.

### Food Shelf



- **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.



- **Blessing Baskets.** The gift cards for the Blessing Baskets are now available for the taking. Please take a card or two and share your holiday with a family in need. There are clothing cards, diaper cards, and money cards for turkey and food certificates. If you take a card, especially a gift or diaper one, **PLEASE RETURN THE ITEM BY THE DEADLINE DEC. 14TH.** Distribution of the Christmas baskets will be on December 19. PLEASE NO TOYS! If you would like to donate a toy, bring it to the Riverbank who is responsible for toys for the Christmas baskets. Any questions, call Rosanne at 755-3096.
- **On Thursday, December 18th the Christmas Blessing Baskets** will be assembled. If anyone wishes to help wrap and sort, please join us at 4:00 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church. If we have enough people it usually takes about one hour. This is a great way to get community service hours.

### Offering Envelopes



- **Please pick up your set of 2009 offering envelopes**, located in the narthex of church in the next few weeks. If you do not find a box there with your name on it, please talk to Nancy.
- **Interfaith Caregivers** provides volunteers to assist seniors and adults living with disabilities. The 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.
- **The Greeting cards** for sale are now located in the Fellowship Hall. There is a very fine selection of affordable Christian cards for most occasions.



### QUILTING GROUP

- **Quilters:** The Monday quilting group invite you to come and see the quilts they have worked on this year. The quilts will be displayed in the Fellowship Hall after Sunday services the next few weeks. If you would like to take a quilt home with you, a free-will offering is requested to help offset the cost of materials. Please see Laverne Renspe or Joyce Dehmer with questions.
- Everyone is invited to the **Ladies Aid Christmas Party!** The party will be held on **Thursday, December 18 at noon** in our Fellowship Hall. Bingo will be played and if you wish to participate, please bring a \$2.50 gift.



## Our Life of Worship at Trinity

### December Highlights

#### Advent Wednesday Dinner and Devotion:

Dinner—5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

December 3, 10, 17, at 7:00 p.m.

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. Our Advent Hope: *"My God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."*



#### Worship Choir:

Worship Choir is held on Wednesdays at 6:20 p.m. during the Advent season to prepare music to sing to the worship of our Lord Jesus Christ in our worship services. Come! "It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to praise his holy name."



#### Christmas Eve Worship, December 24, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday school children through recitation and song present the Christmas Gospel.

#### Christmas Day Worship, December 25, at 9:00 a.m.

The Church celebrates the birth of God's Son.

#### 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.



Peace Love JOY Peace Love JOY

The Joint WELS Reformation worship received offerings of \$536.76 toward WELS Community on Relief

## We Grow Together in Studying God's Word



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

#### Advent Breakfast

The Tuesday evening Women's Bible Study invites you to join us for an Advent Breakfast on Saturday, December 6th. We will serve breakfast at 8:30 a.m. At 9:30 a.m. we welcome Pastor Sengbusch from Zion Lutheran Church who will do a presentation showing us Biblical artifacts that explain scripture. All are invited to attend.



#### Sunday School News

Thanks to Ron Lueck for the gift of family altars that he presented to our Sunday School families in November. Those families who missed the presentation are asked to meet with Ron on Sunday, December 7, at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship hall. God desires that your home be a church, where your household come before him with prayer and praise, and receive his holy Word for the joy of your faith.

#### Christmas Eve Rehearsals for Sunday School Children

Monday, December 15, 6:00–7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 22, 6:00–7:00 p.m.

#### High School Youth

"Inner Court" fellowship and Bible Study is held each Sunday, at 9:15 a.m. On Saturday, December 13, the youth will meet at the church kitchen to bake cookies which will be given to elderly members of our church later in the month.



#### Catechism Class

The youth are invited to present recitation during each of the Wednesday Advent services. This is part of the purpose we have for Catechism instruction: their growth in God's Word is connected to a life of serving their Lord and his Church.

#### Adult Bible Class

Jesus said, "Search the Scriptures." Be sure to take time each week to read and study God's Word. You are invited to attend one of the following Bible studies offered at Trinity:

Sunday, 9:20 am, Topic: "Heirs Together of the Gracious Gift of Life"

Tuesday Women's Bible Class, 7:00 pm, Topic: "Angels: Good and Evil" (**No Class** the weeks of 12/16, 12/23, 12/30—Resume 1/6/09 with study about Abraham

Wednesday Bible Class, 10:30 am, Topic: "Second Corinthians"



#### Christian Life Resources

The mission of CLR is to use life and family issues as bridges to convey the love of God and to share the message of salvation through Christ. This organization educates people on what God's Word has to say about the value and sanctity of human life. The intent is to mobilize Christians to make God-pleasing decisions about life and family issues. CLR focuses attention on many issues such as abortion, infertility, birth control, post-abortion syndrome, infanticide medical directive statements, assisted suicide and euthanasia.

## Reaching Out with the Gospel

### Jesus Cares Ministries

On November 8th we gathered for our fifth event. Pastor led a simplified service using symbols, songs and rhythm instruments. We have had the generous response with 11 students who have been able to join us. There are other people with developmental disabilities in our communities who need to hear about Jesus' love for them. We are striving to carry out Christ's Great Commission by teaching His Word to people with developmental disabilities. Our next gathering will be held on December 13th at 10:00 a.m.



### Christmas for Kids, Saturday, December 13, 2:00 p.m.

"Christmas for Kids" is a one-day outreach event to help our children and our neighborhood children learn the true meaning of Christmas and receive the most valuable gift anyone can receive—the knowledge of Christ the Savior. Pass on the word to friends of this event.



### Visiting New Residents

We will visit new residents to the Osceola area with an invitation to join us in hearing the Gospel and giving thanks to the Lord on **Saturday, December 20 at 10:30 a.m.**

## Opportunities for Fellowship at Trinity

**Wednesday Advent Services:** This year we will offer meals before our three Wednesday Advent services on December 3, 10 and 17. It will be a great time to gather for food and conversation, and then contemplation of the grace of God whose Son came to us in lowliness, and will come again in majesty. Free will offerings to the meal will be matched by Thrivent toward special projects of the church.



**Lutheran Women's Missionary Society:** As we celebrate this joyous Christmas, remember that you have brothers and sisters all over the world, sharing our joy of the birth of Jesus, our Savior! Although many of us will never meet these siblings in Christ here on earth, we will raise praises together in heaven one day.

**Brothers:** All men of Confirmation age and up are invited to the Men's Breakfast, December 20 at 8:30 am. Enjoy good food, great company and the best message of the day—God's Word



**Decorate the Church, the Christmas Tree** and enjoy fellowship with your Christian family—Friday, December 5. A chili supper will begin at 6:00 p.m. Bring from home your favorite chili, or another dish to pass.

### Christmas Caroling—Sunday, December 21, 4:00 p.m.

I encourage all Sunday school children, parents, and all other members of Trinity to participate in this event that shares in song the Christmas gospel to many of our elderly members and friends. We will re-gather at church after caroling for hot chocolate and cookies.



## Serving Jesus with Our Gifts and Talents

### *Serve the Lord with Gladness!*

God's love for us in his Son Jesus opens our hearts to gladly give offerings of our time and treasures to the praise of his holy name.

Income and expenditure information for October:



#### BUDGET UPDATE

	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$17,397	\$74,211
Expenses:	\$21,369	\$75,094

Reminder: The goal of our church is to receive monthly offerings of \$18,333. We pray that the Lord's grace will cause our hearts to overflow with generous donations of our time and offerings so that his saving Word may continue to be proclaimed.

Be sure to pick up your 2009 offering envelopes, located in the church narthex after December 7th.

#### **Year of the Jubilee Offering, Sunday, December 14**

A Jubilee offering is being collected among the Wisconsin Synod churches with the goal of gathering \$22.4 million to eliminate the synod's debt. Reducing or eliminating this debt would free up to \$2.5 million a year to "proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" to prisoners of darkness around the world.

## People News

**Funerals:** Joyce Hanson, Died 11/5/08, Funeral Service at Trinity 11/9/08.

## Special Thanks

We would like to thank the family of Melba Drinkwine for donating 25 copies of the Songbook, *"Let All the People Praise You"*

## Pray for



- Pray for our members in the service: Mike Beck currently stationed in Mississippi.
- Pray for your fellow members who are shut-ins, hospitalized, or struggling with illness or other matters. Rejoice in the blessings of Health, family, work, and accomplishment that the Lord gives your Brothers and sisters. Love one another sincerely.



**Trinity Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

300 Seminole Ave  
Osceola, WI 54020  
Phone & Fax—715/294-2828

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

Mark Kock, Pastor (pastorkock@centurytel.net)  
Curt Richter, Council President  
Ron Jasperson, Treasurer  
Nancy Beck & Carol Jensen, Church Secretaries  
Jean Brown, Altar Guild, 294-4566  
Sherry Lueck, Altar Build, 651/433-2943



**2008 Trinity Church Council Members:**

Curt Richter, President	Harry Beck, Vice-President	Ron Jasperson, Treasurer
Bob Jensen, Secretary	Daniel Francis, Evangelism	Lowell Enerson, Stewardship
Colin Hendricks, Trustees	Randy Getschel, Christian Education	Kevin Rogers, Elders

**2008 Board of Elders:**

Jim Brown	Kevin Rogers	Will Stob
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**Special Dates!**

- ◆ Advent Worship Services December 3, 10, 17 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Advent Dinners, December 3, 10, 17 from 5:30—6:45 p.m.
- ◆ Christmas tree and Church Decorating—Friday, December 5th with Chili Supper at 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Advent Breakfast sponsored by Tuesday Women’s Bible Study on December 6th 8:30—10:30 a.m.
- ◆ Jesus Cares Ministries, December 13, 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ Christmas for Kids, December 13, 2:00 p.m.
- ◆ High School Youth Cookies Bake and games, December 13, 4:15 p.m.
- ◆ Kids Christmas Eve Rehearsal, December 15, 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Distribute Blessing Baskets, December 19, 5-7:30 p.m.
- ◆ Men’s Breakfast, December 20, 8:30 a.m.
- ◆ Christmas Caroling, December 21, 4:00 p.m.
- ◆ Kids Christmas Eve Rehearsal, December 22, 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Christmas Eve Worship, December 24, 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Christmas Day Worship, December 25, 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ New Years Eve Worship, December 31, 7:00 p.m. with Holy Communion

**December**

