

# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

## A message from Pastor Kock

*"In everything He has the supremacy." Colossians 1:18*

**"I will forgive their sins and will remember them no more."**

**Jeremiah 31:34**

Notice how the media loves to run its end of the year winners? Time magazine has its "Man of the Year." People magazine will do the "Sexiest Man of the Year," or the "Best Dressed Woman of the Year" to be followed by the "Worst Dressed Woman of the Year." In a few months we will learn from Billboard magazine "the Song of the Year", then will come the Oscar winning movie of the year. The interesting thing is that you can be at the top for only one year. You can be sure that whoever is rated the best looking man of 2005 will not even be considered for 2006.

How different it is for the Christian Church. Man of the Year? Jesus Christ, hands down, or as we consider the blessings he gives us each day through his Word, hands up. Mark him down in this category for all the years to come. Best dressed? Jesus Christ. His swaddling clothes fit him to a tee, for he came in humility to redeem us from our sins. His righteous life that he wraps around our bodies is wrinkle free and unblemished. Again, Jesus will top this category next year, too. Song of the Year? The Gospel that the angels sang at Jesus' birth: "For to you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord." Each year it is sung a bit differently by his Church on earth, because there are new voices added to the chorus of believers, but it beats all competition.

In every generation, in the year 2005, 2006, and in all the years that remain of this world, Jesus ranks #1.

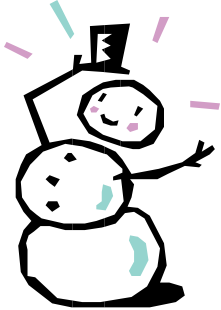
Pastor Mark Kock



### Inside this issue:

Miscellaneous News,	2
Our Life of Worship	3
Adult Choir Update	
Mission to Reach Out	
Study God's Word	4
Bible Studies	
Sunday School News	
High School News	
Tender Loving Care Preschool	
Catechism Class Update	
WELS Connection	5
What Does Bible Say About	
Marriage	
Chat with Pastor	
Serving Our Savior	6
Open Forum	
Stewardship	
Key People	7
Birthdays, Anniversaries	
Council People	8
Special Dates	

## Miscellaneous News



Share this website address:

*www.WhatAboutJesus.com*

*People will get real answers  
about Christ, the Bible and  
faith.*



- 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.
- Be sure to pick up your box of **offering envelopes for 2006** this month. They are located on the narthex table. If you don't see any there with your name on them, please speak with Nancy at 294-2828.
- Many thanks to everyone's generosity towards the **Blessing Basket program** for this year! Ninety-eight families and 247 children were given food and gifts this year! Remember the food shelf throughout the whole year—you can bring items here to the church or directly to the food shelf. The telephone number for the Open Cupboard (food shelf) is 294-4357.
- Want to help a neighbor? **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. Contact Interfaith at 715/483-9263 for more information.
- Are you longing to spend some quality time with your spouse? The WELS Adult Discipleship ministry may have what you are looking for. They are sponsoring a **WELS Marriage Retreat & Get-Away Weekend** at the Radisson Hotel in Plymouth, MN from January 27-28, 2006. For more information to go [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net), then follow: Ministry->Family->Adult Discipleship->Marriage Retreats. Or, see the information on display in the bulletin board in the narthex.
- **A special thanks to the Osceola Lumber Co.** for donating the cedar lumber used for building the stable for the nativity scene.

### Did you know . . . ?

**There are extra copies of past weeks' bulletins on the shelf under the mailboxes. They are there for anyone to take if you missed worship or just want another copy of the weekly bulletin.**

## Our Life of Worship at Trinity- January Highlights

New Year's Eve Worship  
December 31st  
7:00 pm with Holy Communion

Evening Vespers  
Wednesdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25  
7:00—7:15 pm



A time for meditation on God's Word, prayer, and praise, and to receive the shelter, refuge, strength and grace of God for daily living. Pastor Kock especially invites the 8th Grade Catechism Class and parents to attend.

### Adult Choir Updates:

Rehearsals occur Wednesdays, at 7:15 pm. In January the choir will learn worship music that ties in with the Epiphany Season of the church year, as well as music to honor the Lord whose passion we recall in Lent. Do you have singing gifts to offer the Lord through choir?

## 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.

- ◆ Walk in the Holy Spirit so that all you do is to the glory of the Lord and invites an interest in your God from those who work with you.
- ◆ Invite friends and neighbors to join you in Sunday worship.
- ◆ Ask Pastor Kock when he is next going out to meet area newcomers and offer to join him.
- ◆ Pray for those who remain outside the kingdom of heaven in spiritual darkness, that the Lord convert them by his Holy Spirit to saving faith.
- ◆ Be friendly to new faces at church. Before entering the Fellowship Hall for coffee, notice who is new and give a hearty "Welcome!"
- ◆ Give joyfully and faithfully to the church to support its mission of spreading the Gospel. A portion of our offerings supports the church ministry of our congregation to bring the Word to our neighbors.
- ◆ Pray for God's blessing on the videotapes of our worship that are shown to residents of area nursing homes.



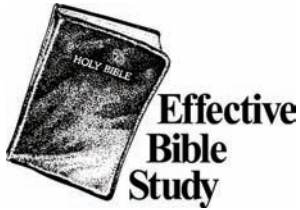
### The Mission Awareness Committee

*This committee serves Trinity by presenting various missions our church and Wisconsin Synod support and sharing the news of God's gracious blessings on what he is achieving through his Church. Do you have a heart for sharing Christ's love with the lost? Then consider attending this Committee's next meeting, **January 21, at 9:30 am.***



## 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

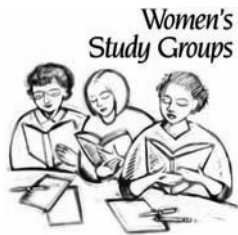
New Topic: "Spiritual Growth: Your Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ"

### Tuesday Women's Bible Class—7:00 pm

Women of Trinity! You are all invited to join us in our weekly Bible Study and fellowship time. The group meets every Tuesday evening at 7 pm in the Trinity library. On January 3rd, we will begin a several week study on Baptism. Be sure to join us!

### Wednesday Bible Class—10:30 am

Topic: "Christianity, Cults, and other Religions"



### "BROTHERS"

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

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Fourth graders of Trinity will receive a personal Bible from the congregation, during the 10:30 am worship, January 8.

Sunday School offerings that are now being gathered during the Sunday opening devotion are designated to the Ukraine Lutheran Church's Special Ministry to Children.

### Tender Loving Care Preschool

The Preschool Committee and Church Council are recommending to the Voters in the January meeting to request a Call List for the position of teacher. Pray to Jesus, the Lord of the harvest, to grant his Church the gifted people and supporting members to proclaim his Gospel to you children.

### Catechism Class Update

January 22, 8:00 am worship, the 7th Grade Class presents the confession of faith, the first article of the Apostles Creed.

January 29, 8:00 am worship the 8th Grade Class presents the confession of Holy Baptism.



### 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.

Trinity's high school youth baked cookies for members in December. Planning for a winter retreat at Camp Croix, January 27-29, is underway. Wish to help? See Jerry Pieper or Pastor Kock.

## The WELS Connection



### SEVERAL SYNOD EVENTS PLANNED FOR EARLY 2006

#### *“Real Treasure” Bible Study*

As directed by the Synod Convention, a Bible study called “The Real Treasure of Every Treasured Soul” has been prepared for presentation to every member of the synod. “The Bible study asks me to value what my heart’s greatest delight really is,” said Pastor Richard Gurgel, a professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary who produced the study. The study focuses on parts of the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus assures us that God will provide for our needs. We should not worry, but should rather “store up for [ourselves] treasures in heaven” (Mt 6:20).

The study is unique in that it is intended to be used for one on one encouragement with every member of the synod. President Karl Gurgel is meeting individually with each member of WELS Conference of Presidents, along with wives, in December and January. These pastors are asked to meet with one pastor and spouse from each WELS circuit. Each pastor from the circuits is encouraged to have the study with other pastors/spouses in his circuit. Finally, pastors at the local level can share the study with leaders in their churches, who can then assist in discussing it with fellow members. The hope is to have the process completed in the first half of 2006.

“I think the ultimate goal is to help God’s people in our country, who have so many of the resources of this life, not to get caught up in living as if that’s what it’s all about . . . the real danger is not budgets that don’t get met, but hearts that get focused on that which cannot satisfy,” said Professor Gurgel.

## What Does the Bible Say About Marriage?

**Bible Topic for Members and Neighbors**  
**Thursday, January 26—6:30 pm**  
**Part I**

Let’s face it: marriage, what it is, why we need it, how we honor it, is everyday news and conversation. Many turn to opinions or what their friends say to grasp marriage and its meaning for today. But there is a better way: The Lord who created marriage in his Word guides us in how to use this gift, even in the year 2006.



## 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: JANUARY 24, 6—8:00 PM**

## Serving Your Savior—Stewardship at Trinity



### BUDGET UPDATE

	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$17,394	\$235,387
Expenses:	\$19,313	\$243,693

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR SET OF 2006 OFFERING ENVELOPES  
LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX

## Open Forum—January 15th



### It's Your Church and Your Ministry to Carry Out

On January 15th an Open Forum will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 11:45 am to give you a first look at the proposed Mission Plans and Budget for 2006. Come, learn of the goals the leadership of Trinity is proposing and discuss ways for us all to better carry out Christ's Commission. "Go and make disciples of all nations."

## STEWARDSHIP PRESENTATION TO THE CONGREGATION—JANUARY 29, 9:15 AM

To review the past year and God's grace and blessings on our church and ministry.

To receive the adopted budget and plans for 2006.

### **Martin Luther College— Our WELS College of Ministry/ Facts you should know ...**

- The synod in Convention reaffirmed that ministerial education is a core ministry of our synod.
- Synodical operating subsidy for ML in 2000-01 was \$5.4 million, or 42% of its operating budget. In 2005-06, this subsidy has declined to \$.7 million, or 5% of the MLC's operating budget.
- The current MLC operating subsidy represents about 2% of the synodical budget. This means that 2% of a congregation's mission dollars flow to MLC for its operating budget. A congregation who Congregation Mission Offering is \$40,000 supports MLC's operating budget at a level of about \$800 per year. Other synodical monies can and do support MLC through emergency capital projects.
- Current synod subsidy and tuition revenues are not sufficient to cover the costs of operation. The estimated operating deficit at MLC is \$1.7 million for 2005-06, or approx. \$9,100/business day (subsequent to drawing down the final \$1.3 million of unallocated reserves), and \$3.6 million for 2006-07, or approx. \$14,400/business day.
- Tuition and room and board has risen 61% the past 5 years from \$7,730 to \$12,400 seriously impacting enrollment, as well as the student loan debt incurred by our future pastors and teachers, MLC has eliminated 17 faculty and 5 staff positions over the past 3 years, reducing expenses by approximately \$1.2 million.



**Trinity Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

300 Seminole Ave  
Osceola, WI 54020

Phone & Fax—715/294-2828

Email: telc@centurytel.net  
Pastor's email: pastorkock@centurytel.net  
Web-site: <http://www.telcoscwi.org>

Mark Kock, Pastor  
Wayne Riba, Council President  
Scott Doerr, Treasurer  
Nancy Beck & Carol Jensen, Church Secretaries  
JoAnne Johnson, Altar Guild, 294-2020

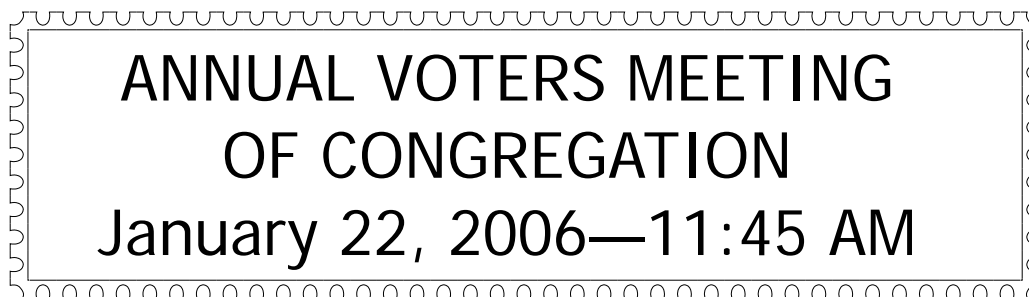


**2006 Trinity Church Council Members:**

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

**2006 Board of Elders:**

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



**Special Dates!**

Sunday, January 1—Worship 8:00 am with communion—worship 10:30 am

Friday, January 6—Epiphany

Saturday, January 14—Men's Breakfast—9:00 am

Sunday, January 15 - Open Forum—11:45 am in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 22—Annual Voters Meeting—11:30 am

Thursday, January 26—6:30 pm—Bible Study on Marriage

Saturday & Sunday, January 27/28—High School Youth Winter Retreat

Thursday, January 29—Stewardship Presentation to congregation - 9:15 am



*The Year Ahead*