

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

A message from Pastor Kock

“Jesus came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said.” Luke 10:38,39

“I will forgive
their sins and will
remember them
no more.”

Jeremiah 31:34

About four centuries ago, a man by the name of Richard Baxter was called to serve as pastor of a church in Kidderminster, England. Kidderminster was a poor town made up of underpaid carpet weavers. The times were financially tight for the people. The years were marked by civil war and the deadly plague. The citizens were known for their illiteracy and overall moral depravity. Baxter was 26 when he began his work with a small but loyal group, who had remained faithful to the Lord. He spent 19 years there. His church grew and increased in number.

How was such change effected? Did he lure people into church through raffles? Did he become a political activist advocating social change through a social gospel he preached? Did he invite London opera stars to sing in the choir? Did he hobnob with the wealthy mill owners of the town? Not Richard Baxter. He had a very simple plan of ministry. Day after day, he entered the homes of weavers and taught them how to read the Scriptures. The Word of God took over from there. It is the power of God, the living voice of the living Lord Jesus Christ. The Word brought salvation to the people and changed their lives. They hungered for more of the Word; they came to church to hear sermons and to give thanks to their Savior.

Today, we are a far more educated people than those of Kidderminster. And although our economy has taken some hits, we are far better off financially than were the people of that mill town. Are we giving our attention to what the weavers did, to the Word of God? Have we learned respect for the Lord and his holy Word? Are we training the next generation, our children, how to read the Scriptures?

May the Holy Spirit move us in this direction – what blessings await us! For the Lord Jesus himself comes into our lives through the Word. As we sit and listen to him speak to us, he gives us the love of his Father, the blessings of his life, death and resurrection, and the gift of the Holy Spirit – faith and new life that loves the Lord and gladly worships him. May the Lord open our hearts to regularly read God’s Word, the one thing needful.

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.

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.

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.

Many thanks to everyone's generosity towards the **Blessing Basket program** for this year! One hundred seventeen families and 279 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.

Share this website address:
www.WhatAboutJesus.com

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

Did you know . . . ?

- ◆ Every family has a MAILBOX, located in the narthex. This is how we communicate with our members. Newsletters, notes, cards, schedules, and various items are distributed in the boxes. Please check your box weekly!
- ◆ There are extra copies of past weeks' bulletins and newsletters 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.
- ◆ Cassettes and videos of the Worship Services are available for your use to bring to a shut-in or someone who has been ill and unable to attend worship. They are located on the shelf under the mailboxes.



If you have a new e-mail address or have changed your previous e-mail, please contact the office with your current information. E-mails are used to communicate meetings, funerals and reminders of important events at church. Your help in keeping this information current is most appreciated. Thanks!

Our Life of Worship at Trinity

January Highlights:

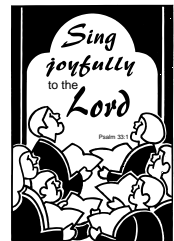
6 January Epiphany

It is a festival day in the Christian Church. We recall the visit of the wise men to infant Jesus and their worship of Jesus through their gifts of gold, incense, and myrrh. Jesus rules from the rising to the setting of the sun and continues to draw to himself people of every nation. He brought you to him from afar, you were lost, now brought near. On January 6, say a prayer of thanks to Jesus Christ, and pray for the proclaiming of his holy Word throughout the world.



8 January Worship Choir

Worship Choir resumes Thursday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m. Come! Sing to the Lord the song of salvation. Prepare music to bring to Sunday worship for the glory of the Lord. The choir will learn music of the Epiphany and Lent seasons of the year, as well as liturgical songs, and hymns. Fellowship and refreshments follow the hour of practice. You'll have a great time. "It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to praise his holy name."



25 January—Guest Preacher

We will have a guest preacher, Pastor Dustin Sievert, from Martin Luther College. In between services he will present information about Martin Luther College, the training school of our Wisconsin Synod that prepares men and women for full time ministry.

Ushers Meeting at 3:00 p.m. on January 25th. This meeting is for all ushers to attend for review of practices and updates on equipment.



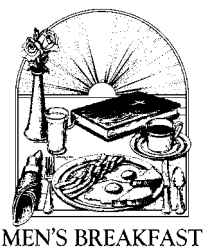
Opportunities for Fellowship at Trinity

◆ Men's Breakfast—January 19

Brothers: All men of Confirmation age and up are invited to the Men's Breakfast on January 17, at 8:30 a.m. Enjoy good food, great company, and the best message of the day—God's Word!

◆ Thanks!

Thanks to Paulette Enerson and those who assisted her in the Advent dinners in December; and to Kevin Rogers for organizing Christmas Caroling that occurred on Sunday, December 21.



We Grow Together in Studying God's Word



Sunday School News

The members of Trinity are committed to having every child of our church attend Sunday School faithfully.

Thanks to Rachel Hoverman and the Sunday School teachers and parents who worked many hours with our children toward the Christmas Eve presentation of the Christmas gospel.

High School Youth

“Inner Court” fellowship and Bible Study is held each Sunday, at 9:15 a.m. Two upcoming events to be mindful of: (1) Winter Retreat is in the planning stage. (2) This summer the WELS offers its bi-annual WELS International Youth Rally. Registrants must act soon to share in this inspirational event. Speak to Pastor Kock for more information.

Adult Bible Study - “Learn of me,” says our Lord Jesus

Sunday, 9:20 a.m. Topic: “Heirs Together of the Gracious Gift of Life”

Tuesday, Women’s Bible Study, 7:00 p.m. Topic: Ladies’ Bible Study will be taking a break over the holidays, but will resume at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 6th, 2009 with a short (2-3 week) section on Mormons. We’ll be viewing a DVD called “Witnessing in Love to Mormons”, featuring Ms. Becki Detro filmed at this year’s LWMS rally. Becki, of Truth in Love Ministry was raised Mormon and later came to the WELS, so we will be able to learn from an insider exactly what the Mormon church is about, and how best to speak the truth in love to them. Please feel free to join us – men or women – for this special segment! Call Nancy at 294-2828 with any questions.

Wed. Bible Class, 10:30 a.m. Topic: “Second Corinthians”

Wed Evening , 7:30 p.m. Topic: “Made New!”



Advent Breakfast Recap

On Saturday, December 6th, twenty-one people attended an Advent breakfast sponsored by the Tuesday Night Ladies’ Bible Study group. Our guest speaker was Pastor Sengbusch from Zion, who presented artifacts from the Holy Land to help illustrate Scripture. Among the featured items were insulated camel-skin shoes for walking on hot desert sands (Air Bedouin?), examples of “household gods” such as Jacob’s wife Rachel possessed, and oil lamps as discussed in the parable of the ten wise and ten foolish virgins. Pastor Sengbusch explained that sometimes these lamps were even built into shoes, which makes clearer the passage, “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

Reach Out with the Gospel

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society

Befriend A Mission (BAM) provides an opportunity to keep in touch with assigned missions/missionaries daily through year-round prayers. Our letters, cards, and occasional packages are merely voluntary extras. The missionaries tell us how much they need our prayers and truly appreciate them. Our assigned missionaries will be included under the prayer list in each monthly newsletter.

The Strong family has one child, Hannah, who was born on April 3, 2008. Their wish list for their mission includes special prayers for finding a worship home (currently they are meeting in their home) and blessing their outreach efforts; for their family they are asking for health and faithfulness in their calling to share God's word and diapers and other items for Hannah.

The Baerbock family has four adult children; Joshua, Brenda, Amy, and Matthew and 12 grandchildren. Their wish list for their mission includes special prayers for: the children they baptize continue to grow in faith, financial support for Mission to the Children so they can continue their work in Sonora, safety as they travel 30,000 miles a year on dangerous roads, that the men become more active, that the many people presently in Bible Information Classes will complete the course and walk together with them in faith as members and future leaders of the Lutheran church in Sonora, that they find a way to fit into their schedule all of the requests for catechism and bible classes, that the Lord keeps them healthy so as to be able to do His work, that a Mexican pastor be sent sooner than later to take over the work in Sonora. The family needs calling cards and nights lodging in a Tucson motel where they sometimes stay.

Jesus Cares Ministries

Jesus Cares Ministries exists to bring the saving, loving message of our Lord and Savior to children and adults with special needs, and their families, through Christian support, education, worship, fellowship, and evangelism. Our programs warmly reach out to welcome and share the Gospel with everyone. As we gathered last month we were blessed with three new students. Our next gathering will be held on January 10th.

Visit New Residents

We will visit new residents to the Osceola area with an invitation to join us in hearing the Gospel and worshipping the Lord—Saturday, January 17, 10:30 a.m.



Reaching Out with the Gospel Cont'd



Made New!

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has gone, the new has come!”

Living with baggage from the past? Looking for a fresh start? Longing to be renewed in spirit? Come to the Wednesday Evening Bible Studies, at 7:00 p.m. that begin January 7. This 7-week class will guide into the love of God and his Son Jesus Christ, to be made new in your mind and life.

Lesson 1- Sing a new song of salvation

Learn that God’s message is not old but fresh and full of mercy and saving grace.

Lesson 2- Back to the Garden

Enter the paradise of Eden and enter a relationship with the Father in which his mercy is new every morning.

Lesson 3- Through Christ conquer the Old

Through Christ conquer the old evil foe, the devil; and the old self, the sinful nature.

Lesson 4- Christ has redeemed us from the Law

The Law is summarized in the Ten Commandments, and they take the life out of us. See how Christ has redeemed us from the Law and set our hearts free to gladly obey.

Lesson 5- Christ our newborn King!

Discover the full meaning of Christmas: born is our King whose reign has no end.

Lesson 6- God’s New Covenant of Grace

Learn how the death of Jesus Christ established a new covenant between God and us, a covenant of grace and forgiveness.

Lesson 7- God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

It’s true! By the Holy Spirit God has made you new, a new and eternal life to live.

Telephone the church office, 294-2828, if you would like babysitting services for your children at church, during the Bible Study.

Serving Jesus With Our Gifts and Talents

Serve the Lord with gladness!

For God’s redeemed people, giving is empowered by his grace. Sometimes we give when we see the financial statements from church. Sometimes, we give because there’s a crisis or need. The giving, however, that God truly wants us to practice is giving that flows from love. God has loaded all our guilt onto his Son Jesus and met our greatest need by forgiving all our sins. We know that; we believe that; we are moved by that grace of God to respond in love. Ponder the words of 2 Corinthians 8:9 *“You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that through his poverty might become rich.”* As you make your decision about giving to the Lord, these are the words to keep in mind.



Income and expenditure information for November:

BUDGET UPDATE

	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$19,536	\$93,747
Expenses:	\$18,491	\$93,585



- ◆ Reminder: The goal of our church is to receive monthly offerings of \$18,333.00. 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.

Year of Jubilee

The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod has launched a Year of Jubilee celebration in view of God’s mercy and forgiveness to us in Christ Jesus. A part of our thanks to the Lord is a Synod-wide special offering to eliminate the synod’s debt. Reducing or eliminating the debt would free up to \$2.7 million a year to proclaim the gospel to many of our world who are prisoners of darkness because they don’t know God’s grace.

A special offering brochure is located in the narthex to be used for the Year of Jubilee thank offering to the Lord. Let your giving be motivated by God’s love to you in his Son Jesus, who has freed you from the debt of sin and promises to provide for all your needs of this life and to prepare you in faith for the life to come.



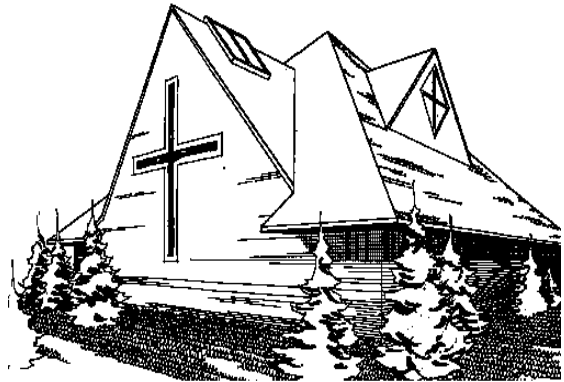


Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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



2009 Trinity Church Council Members:

Curt Richter, President Harry Beck, Vice-President
Bob Jensen, Secretary Daniel Francis, Evangelism
Lowell Enerson, Stewardship Colin Hendricks, Trustees

Ron Jaspersen, Treasurer
Randy Getschel, Christian Education
Kevin Rogers, Elders

2009 Board of Elders:

Jim Brown Kevin Rogers Will Stob

Special Dates!

Saturday, January 10—Jesus Cares Ministries—10:00 a.m.
Saturday, January 10—High School Game Night—7:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 15—Ladies Aid—Noon
Saturday, January 17—Men’s Breakfast—8:30 a.m.
Sunday, January 18—Voters Meeting—11:45 a.m.
Sunday, January 25—Ushers Meeting—3:00 p.m.



Pray for Our Fellow Members

- ◆ Pray for our members in the service: Mike Beck (currently stationed in Japan.)
- ◆ 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.

◆ Home Mission
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