

January 2010

# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



Psalm 139:5-10 *“You hem me in – behind and before. You have laid your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens you are there. If I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.”*

Lost. Separated from parents. A little child screams silently out of panic. The large crowd at the shopping mall has caused a desperate situation. Everyone is a stranger. The parents also sense fear. They're separated from their child. Everyone is in the way as they hurriedly look from store to store.

Then mom and dad see their child. They have always been just a few aisles of clothes away from each other. They now unite with relief.

At times we Christians may sense separation from our God. We experience an accident, or illness, or the loss of a job, or a loved one, and we look around and ask, “Where are you, God?”

The verses of King David in Psalm 139 remind us that God is never separated from us, though we may think he is. He hems us in, behind and before. He surrounds us with his love and forgiveness and watchful eye. He is there with you at the lowest point of life and at the highest. There is no place or situation you can get yourself into that he is not there.

The continual presence of God in our lives is the result of his grace. Though we turned our backs on God in sin, he turned to us in love,

sending his Son to be our brother and Savior. Jesus turned his cheek to his enemies who then crucified him. Following his resurrection, Jesus turned his face toward us in baptism, and united us to him. God gives his Word to all believers, that nothing shall separate us from his love to us in Christ Jesus, nothing.

Is God there with you now? You better believe it.

Pastor Mark Kock (with help from a Synod devotion entitled, “Hemmed In”)

## “Who Are We, Members of Trinity Lutheran?”

We are a fellowship of believers in Jesus Christ, who gather to receive the gospel of our Lord and Savior in Word and Sacrament for the strengthening of our faith and equipping of our lives to serve in his world and to his glory.

Check out our church web page each week for highlights and spiritual messages.  
[www.telcoscwi.org](http://www.telcoscwi.org)





Trinity Evangelical  
Lutheran Church

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Mark Kock, Pastor ([pastorkock@centurytel.net](mailto:pastorkock@centurytel.net))  
Curt Richter, Council President  
Ron Jaspersen, Treasurer  
Nancy Beck & Carol Jensen, Church Secretaries  
Sherry Lueck, Altar Guild, 651/433-2943  
Jean Brown, Altar Guild, 715/294-4566

#### 2009 Trinity Church Council Members:

Curt Richter, President  
Will Stob, Vice President  
Ron Jaspersen, Treasurer  
Bob Jensen, Secretary  
Open, Evangelism  
Lowell Enerson, Stewardship  
Colin Hendricks, Trustees  
Randy Getschel, Christian Education  
Kevin Rogers, Elders

#### 2009 Board of Elders:

Jim Brown, Kevin Rogers

#### Reaching out with the Gospel

- 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 Food shelf** — The Open Cupboard is always in need of donations. Just take one of the grocery bags from the narthex, fill it up and return it to the church. **We'll deliver it to the food shelf for you!**
- **E-Mail Address:** If you have a new e-mail address or have changed your e-mail, please notify the church office so we can keep our records up to date. Thank you!

#### January Worship Highlights

- In addition to Sunday worship, at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., the Wednesdays of January offer you a Vesper (evening devotion) service at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 6 is Epiphany. The Christian Church has marked this day as the day to celebrate the visit of the Wise Men to Jesus in Bethlehem. The event proclaims Jesus as the Savior of all nations, of Gentiles as well as of Jews. **A vesper Epiphany service will be held January 6 at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Thanks to Ruth Novak** for the narthex bulletin board Christmas display.



## Mission Festival January 31

Worship theme: Go and Make Disciples of All Nations

Dinner with Nigerian cuisine

Telling of the mission life of Rev. William Schweppe (deceased), former Pastor of Trinity, and missionary to Nigeria.

- Displays and maps of Nigeria.
- Letters and journals of Schweppe.
- Drama that portrays missionary life and ministry.

#### Festival Choir song: "Go Tell It On the Mountain"

- For Children, Teens, and Adults—all welcome!
- Choir practices Sunday, 4 pm, 1/10 & 1/17  
Melinda Wells, director.
- Rehearsal with Sunday school children 1/24.

Members needed to help plan the dinner, and head up the drama.


- The Board of Elders will submit a report to the Voters Assembly, January 17, regarding the matter of using disposable communion cups or not.

## Search the Scriptures & Grow in God's Grace

- Sunday, 9:20 a.m. "What must I do to be saved?"  
Study God's answer to this question. Learn how to respond to others who are unsure of their eternity.
- **Tuesday Women's Bible Class**, 7:00 p.m.  
Watch for further details.
- Wednesday Bible Class, 10:30 a.m.  
"Responding to Blessings and Challenges"
- **Saturday Men's Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.**  
(3rd Saturday of each month) "Making God-pleasing Decisions"



- Tender Loving Care Preschool  
Teacher Paulette Enerson
  - Openings for more children, ages 3-5
  - Meets Tuesday & Thursday, 9—11:30 a.m.
  - Any donations, please place in classroom at the end of the hall, second room on the right. Thank you. The decision regarding the use of any donation is left to the discretion of the Preschool Committee.
- Trinity is looking for a member to assume the position of **Preschool Administrator**. The position entails clerical work, promoting the preschool, enrolling new children, answering questions of prospective parents, filing reports, and handing other duties that keep the preschool attractive in its appearance and complying with the aims of our church that it serve God's children with his Word. This is a part-time position. Please speak to Randy Getschel or Rob Davis of the Education Board.
- **Church Library**—check out the resources for spiritual growth, check out a book or CD. Barb Hoverman has joined the library team of promoting the library, filing materials, and ordering new books.



### Sunday School Teachers Appreciation Day

Sunday, January 10

We will:

- ◆ Thank the Lord for his Word that nurtures the faith of our children.
- ◆ Renew our commitment to bringing our children to Sunday School.
- ◆ Express thanks in Christ to the teachers he has called to serve youth.

- On January 17, the Sunday school children will have an opportunity to select a gift from the congregation that will strengthen their faith-life. Invite them to see the items on the display table in the Fellowship Hall.
- The Inner Court
  - Sunday Bible Study for High school youth at 9:20 a.m.
  - Now studying "Self-Control", January 3rd.
- High School Youth in Fellowship & Service  
Planning is underway for the Annual Winter Retreat at Camp Croix to be held early February. Like to help?

### Opportunities for Fellowship

- Men's Breakfast, January 16, 8:30 a.m. All men Confirmation age and up are invited.
- Mission Festival Dinner, January 31

### Pray for our members in the service:

**Mike Beck** stationed in Fort Leonard, Missouri

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 on another sincerely.



## Serving Jesus with our Gifts & Talents

### *Serve the Lord with gladness!*

- Thanks to those who have volunteered to serve as a “College Companion” and give spiritual encouragement to our members who are living away from home during the school year at a college campus.
- Thanks to all who donated to the Ukraine relief. Unfortunately, after the drive was completed, we learned that the Ukraine Lutheran Church was recently placed under the supervision of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (our sister Synod), and that the relief arm that receives material donations no longer exists. The decision has been made to forward all donated materials to the Christian Life Resources center in Little Canada, that distributes clothes and other items to neighbors and to women who come for pregnancy counseling.
- Income and expenditure information for November and up to date for the year.

BUDGET UPDATE		
	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income	\$19,704	\$87,722
Expenses:	\$18,922	\$89,136

**Reminder:** The goal of our church is to receive monthly offerings of \$19,167,00.

- **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 or special projects of the church.
- If you have not already done so, please pick up your box offering envelopes for 2010. Please mark the back of the offering envelope correctly.

## Reaching out with the Gospel

- **Jesus Cares Ministries**—Serving the developmental disabled population with the Word of Christ. Next Event: **“Worship at the Cross”**  
Saturday, January 9, 10:00 a.m.
- How can Trinity use modern technology to share the Gospel, technology such as a web page, video recording that can be put on the computer, facebook, radio ministry? Plan on attending a **presentation on what’s available to our church and recommends ways to use technology to share Christ with this generation, Sunday, January 24, 9:20 a.m.**
- **The ABCs of Christianity**—a course of instruction in the basic teachings of the Christian Faith, offered continually by Pastor Kock. Know of anyone to invite to this class?
- **“A Reason for Hope”** - check out [www.areasonforhope.net](http://www.areasonforhope.net) for devotions, produced by Pastor Don Patterson, of Holy Word Lutheran, Austin, TX. A half-hour radio broadcast airs each Sunday at 7:00 a.m. on KKMS 980 AM, supported by Christ Lutheran and New Life Lutheran congregations of the Twin Cities.
- Support **Christian Life Ministries**, the organization representing Trinity and many Twin Cities WELS congregations, that brings Scriptural counseling to pregnant women to prevent abortion and promote life in Jesus Christ, as well as providing Scripture—based education to teenagers. CLM provides speakers for a planned Life Sunday. ([www.clmonline.com](http://www.clmonline.com).) **CLM’s annual meeting is January 24, 2:00 p.m. at St. Croix Lutheran High School**, with guest speaker Paul Snamiska who will talk about New Beginnings, a home in Colorado for mothers.