

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Learn from the Confessional Lutheran Church of Latvia

• *“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!”*

Mark 11:9

Who are they? “Confessional Lutheran Church” means they are believers in Christ who hold to the teachings of the Christian Church as summarized in the Lutheran Confessions, such as Martin Luther’s Catechism. They gather in churches of a north-central European nation on the Baltic Sea.

There are two main thrusts to the work of our Latvian brothers in Christ. First, they are advancing the worship life of the church. A pastor wrote, “We consider the ‘Divine Service’ to be the main mission tool of bringing people to Christ. Over the years we have witnessed how powerful the Means of Grace are. God serves his people through the liturgy, the sacraments and preaching.”

Learn from the Lutheran Church of Latvia. Every blessing of Christ that you want for yourself and for your neighbors comes through the Gospel in Word and Sacrament. Faithfully attend worship so that the Lord may continue his work of forgiving your sins, and guiding you in the path of righteousness. Invite your neighbors to worship. All too often, they assume that everyone gets to heaven no matter what they believe, or that good works will earn a way there. They need God’s Word. His message of the Law removes any hope that we sinners can save ourselves. God’s Word of Gospel directs us to Christ, crucified for our sins, raised to life for our justification, our one and only certainty of entering heaven.

The second important part of the Latvian Lutheran Church’s mission is to educate the people to be witnesses of Christ. Many are attending Saturday Bible Classes, spending 6 hours of the day learning about Jesus and the Bible!

Learn from the Lutheran Church of Latvia. Jesus says, “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” I Peter 3:15. You are the Bible many people read. Study God’s Word and know it in your heart and in many cases, by heart. Then, happily announce the truth of Christ, and by your actions winningly invite other to learn of Christ.

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Pastor Mark Kock

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. Thanks!
- ◆ Remember to keep checking your **church mailboxes!**
- ◆ **Attention Ushers!** Since we are going to one worship service on Sunday mornings and the Wednesday evening service, both teams will work together to cover the services. The head usher for your team can answer any questions you may have about the schedule.
- ◆ Would you like to have a **copy of our worship services** to give to family or friends? If so, we have both VHS and cassette tapes available for you to take. They are located on the shelf under the mailboxes in the narthex.
- ◆ We would like to say **thank you** to MaryLou Durand for making our cloth “Reserved” signs to be used for special seating during services.
- ◆ **Membership Changes:** Tonya Dill (removed due to unanswered requests); Brooke Pettis (released by request).
- ◆ Included in this newsletter is a copy listing our **council and board members** for July 2007 through June 2008. These men were elected at the Quarterly Voters’ meeting, held on Sunday, April 29th.

All Aboard for Vacation Bible School!

June 18-22, 12:30 p.m.—3 p.m.

This year’s VBS encourages students to thank Jesus for putting them on the right track to heaven.

For children attending summer school:
Take the buss at noon from Osceola schools to Trinity.
Bring a snack lunch along to eat at church.

We’ll provide the beverage.

Each day will begin with devotion, at 12:30 p.m., followed by singing, Bible lesson, crafts, games and fun.

For children ages Pre-K—6th grade.

The WELS Connection

WELS ANNOUNCES GENEROUS GIFT FROM DONOR

An anonymous WELS family has announced its intent to donate approximately \$2.5 million a year for the next five years to support the synod's ministry. A foundation previously set up by the family will also contribute approximately \$170,000 a year for the next two years to support WELS worker-training schools. According to the donor, the funds will be available this calendar year.

It's not clear yet exactly what the gift means for the synod's budget and ministry. The Synodical Council is to discuss the matter at its next meeting April 27 and 28. Even so, WELS President Karl Gurgel is grateful. "We react with double gratitude," he said. "First, we're surely grateful that God has lavished this unexpected gift on us. Second, God's goodness inspires all of us to meet the remaining challenges before us."

The family's pastor said the family is truly grateful for their own personal blessings, and in view of the gift of eternal life through Christ, they are offering this gift to the Lord to support WELS ongoing ministry at this critical time.

ONLINE DAILY DEVOTIONS PROVE POPULAR

Almost 10,000 people subscribe to Daily Devotions, a free devotion service provided by WhatAboutJesus.com. Through this service, subscribers receive a brief devotion in their e-mail Monday through Friday.

A recent survey of the subscribers is helping the Commission on Evangelism, the provider of WhatAboutJesus.com, understand how the devotions are impacting the subscribers. Twenty-two percent of the Daily Devotions recipients responded to the survey. "We were blown away by the level of response," says Pastor Ken Fisher, project director.

Through this survey and its 45 pages of overwhelmingly positive feedback, Fisher and his team discovered that the Daily Devotions service allows many recipients to, as one respondent stated, "start each day with a devotion—something I never made time for before . . . but now it's so easy."

This devotion service gives individuals an easy way to get a daily dose of God's Word. "The devotions arrive in your inbox every day; all you have to do is read them," says Fisher. The devotions are brief, applicable to life, and designed with both the church and unchurched in mind. Two devotions each week are designated for Bible study; the others focus on general topics. To subscribe, go to www.whataboutjesus.com and click on Daily Devotions.

COMMISSION ON YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP COMPLETES TEEN SURVEY

From Dec. 1, 2006, to March 30, 2007, the Commission on Youth Discipleship conducted an online survey of WELS confirmed teens. More than 400 teens participated. The survey was conducted to communicate to WELS teens that their views are important, to obtain teen insights on various youth ministry topics, to seek reactions to findings from the "Why Young People Leave WELS" national study, and to develop discussion starters for the 2007 WELS International Youth Rally in July. Questions ranged from gathering general statistical information to understanding teens' views on faith and service. Survey results can be found at www.wels.net/jump/bps-cyd.



Our Life of Worship at Trinity—June Highlights



◆ Trinity Sunday, June 3

This is a festival service of the Church Year. Come, give praise to the Father who created us, the Son who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us.

This day also marks the close of the Sunday School year. The Sunday School children will sing, and the congregation will give thanks to God for blessing the teachers of His Word to our children.

Picnic and games for everyone follows the service.



◆ VBS Sunday, June 24

Following the five-day Vacation Bible School, June 18-22, we gather to worship the Lord whose Word has blessed our children. May God grant that children of our neighborhoods who heard the Word during VBS will be brought to the font of Holy Baptism.



◆ Wednesday Worship—7 p.m., with fellowship afterwards

During the summer months, Pastor Kock will be conducting a 10:45 a.m. Sunday service at Grace, Nye, following the 9 a.m. service at Trinity. The Grace congregation is working to extend a Call to a retired Pastor to serve them with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Reaching Out with the Gospel

Here are some ways you can help Trinity share the gospel with our neighbors:



- ◆ Invite a friend to attend Pastor Kock's Tuesday Bible Class, 7 p.m., "I Have Good News for you!" Attend, yourself!
- ◆ Saturday, June 16, 10 a.m.—Hand out flyers to neighbors, announcing our Vacation Bible School.
- ◆ Volunteer to head up our parade float project for September.
- ◆ Volunteer to co-ordinate our Polk County fair booth.
- ◆ Help out at VBS. Can you teach crafts? Teach a Bible lesson? Do you enjoy helping children learn of their Savior?

We Grow Together In God's Word

Sunday School: June 3 is the day to have a formal close to the Sunday School year, thank our Sunday School teachers, and thank God for blessing us with his Word. **Games and picnic follow the service. The children's offerings, gathered since January, will be forwarded to a mission in Africa that supplies milk to infants and the Word to families.**

The Inner Court (Bible Study for High School Youth) is currently studying Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. The Inner Court invites all recent Confirmands to attend June 3. Bible Study is life-long.

Adult Bible Class

- ◆ Sunday Adult Bible Class, 9:25 a.m. The Environment, Global Warming, Pornography—these are some of the contemporary topics we are studying on the basis of God's Word. Join Us.
- ◆ Tuesday Women's Bible Class, 7 p.m.: Book of Jeremiah
- ◆ Wednesday Bible Class, 10:30 a.m. "The Augsburg Confession"
Learn of one of the great confessions of faith of the Christian Church, God's gift to us through the believers of the past who met at Augsburg, Germany in 1530.
- ◆ **Parents, check out the website: "parentscrosslink.net."** This is a WELS site to serve families in Christ.
- ◆ Trinity women (ages confirmation and older) are invited to a retreat day on Saturday, June 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Val Johnson, Event/Outreach Coordinator at the True North WELS Campus Ministry (located in the Twin Cities) will guide us through a Bible study to help us discover our unique gifts. Lunch will be served.



Women's Retreat

Opportunities for Fellowship at Trinity

Brothers: All men of Confirmation age and up are invited to the Men's Breakfast, June 16, 8:30 a.m. Enjoy good food, great company, and the best message of the day—God's Word.

Leadership Workshop, Saturday, June 2, 9:00 a.m.

Come Chat with Pastor Kock

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: June 4, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The St. Croix Conference gathers at St. Croix Lutheran High School, June 5, 6:00 p.m. **to discuss key issues coming to the Synod's Convention in July, Let Pastor Kock know if you would like to join him in attending this meeting.**



Serving Jesus with Our Gifts and Talents



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.

Giving for April	=	\$20,563	Total:	\$286,015
Expenses for April	=	\$15,974	Total:	\$288,083

The Lenten Wednesday offering totaled \$5,883.00.

We thank the Lord for inspiring us to give cheerful offerings to his Church.

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.**

Pray the Lord to fill two vacant positions of church leadership:

- ♦ Board of Evangelism chairman.
- ♦ Additional Elder for the Board of Elders.

Support Trinity's College Student Fund. It provides assistance to our members who receive higher education at one of our Synod's schools, toward the preaching or teaching ministry of the WELS. Currently Peter Wells is attending Martin Luther College, New Ulm.

People News



The following were confirmed on May 20, 2007:

<i>Gilbert Brown</i>	<i>Mirielle Francis</i>
<i>Randi Funk</i>	<i>Marissa Haroldson</i>
<i>Jacobi Kock</i>	<i>Ashley Pool</i>
<i>Lisa Rydeen</i>	<i>Seren Thorman (Grace)</i>
<i>Daniel Wells</i>	



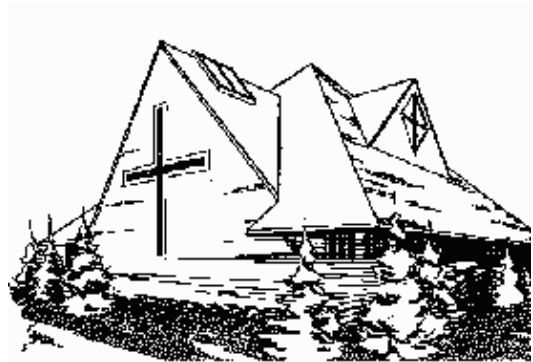
Pray for our members and member relatives in the service:
Mike Beck and Jeffrey Mortenson.



Trinity Evangelical
Lutheran Church

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Mark Kock, Pastor (pastorkock@centurytel.net)
Wayne Riba, Council President
Scott Doerr, Treasurer
Nancy Beck & Carol Jensen, Church Secretaries
Jean Brown, 294-4566; Sherry Lueck, 651/433-2943 , Altar Guild
Lorna Stob, Fellowship Coordinator—715/248-7674



2007 Trinity Church Council Members:

Wayne Riba, President	Curt Richter, Vice-President	Scott Doerr, Treasurer
Bob Jensen, Secretary	Open, Evangelism	Daryl Klawitter, Stewardship
Colin Hendricks,, Trustees	Jerry Pieper, Christian Education	Kevin Rogers, Elders

2007 Board of Elders:

Jim Brown	Kevin Rogers	Ron Lueck	Will Stob
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Special Dates!

- Leadership Workshop, June 2, 9:00 a.m.
- End of School year with picnic and games—June 3
- Chat with Pastor, June 4, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
- Summer Worship, June 6, 13, 22, 27, 7:00 p.m.
- **Women’s Fellowship & Bible Study, June 9, 9:30 a.m.**
- Vacation Bible School, June 18-22, 12:30—3:00 p.m.
- **Men’s Breakfast, June 16, 8:30 a.m.**
- Council Installation, June 24



Here am I, send me!

Mowing, raking, scrubbing, baking, cleaning, shopping, hauling, mopping...

If you’ve got a job to do, the Trinity Youth Group will help you do it. From spring cleaning or yard work to clearing out the attic or running to the store, call on us for a helping hand.

No fee—just a free will offering if you can! If you need help with a project, please leave a note in Barb Hoverman’s church mailbox or call her at 755-2762.

