

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

A message from Pastor Kock

Acts 2:42 "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

"Be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you."

2 Corinthians 13:11

FUNDAMENTALS OF A HEALTHY CHURCH - #1 GROWING UP!

Someone once said, "Can you imagine how ridiculous it would look if you saw adults walking around in diapers, holding baby rattles in their hands, with pacifiers protruding from their lips? It's time to get out of the nursery." He was commenting on the spiritual level of maturity of many Christians. Like the believers to whom the letter of "Hebrews" was written, we often still need milk instead of being ready for solid food; we have so much room to grow in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The early Christians knew the importance of growing up in their faith in a world hostile to their faith. They were devoted to the apostles' teaching. That means they were committed to God's Word. They loved his Word and loved studying it. They recognized the importance of gathering with fellow Christians for worship. They appreciated the Lord's Supper and loved every opportunity to receive Christ's body and blood with their fellow believers. They were consciously striving to grow stronger in faith.

Can anyone argue that we are living in dangerous times spiritually? When even marriage between a man and a woman is questioned by our society, it is clear that the devil feels our generation is easy pickings for him. He senses that the hearts and souls of Americans are hopelessly adrift in moral confusion. Like a roaring lion that smells blood, the devil is poised to pounce on each one of us to destroy our faith.

God calls us to be mature in faith. Keep growing! "Resist the devil, standing firm in the faith," he says in I Peter 5:9. Oh, for a faith that will not shrink though pressed by many a foe! "That bears unmoved the world's dread frown nor heeds its scornful smile, that sin's wild ocean cannot drown nor Satan's arts beguile. A faith that keeps the narrow way till life's last spark is fled and with a pure and heavenly ray lights up the dying bed." (Hymn 405) 5

God gives us the tool for a growing faith – his Word. Through worship, Bible study, and personal meditation of God's Word, he will continue us in faith and cause our confidence in Jesus to grow. Be devoted to God's Word. Love it and love every opportunity the Lord gives you to search it and find in it your mighty refuge and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Pastor Mark Kock

Inside this issue:

Miscellaneous News,	2
Serving Your Savior	3
Lent 2004 Evangelism News	4
Youth Group, Women's Retreat, Did You Know?	5
Adult Bible Study, On the Road with Loneys	6
Preschool News, Camp Philip	7
Key People, Birthdays, Anniversaries	8
Phone numbers, Special Dates Youth Service	9

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.
- The **Spring Area Meeting of the Martin Luther College (MLC) Auxiliary**, St Croix Conference will meet Saturday, March 6 at Christ Ev Lutheran Church, Cambridge, MN, with registration at 9:45 am. Christ is located approximately two miles east of the 65/95 Cambridge intersection just off Hwy 95 on Vickers St. Professor Paul Wendland will bring us up-to-date with happenings at the MLC campus. You are encouraged to bring a non-perishable item for the Married Students Food Shelf.
- Would you like to know more about **Alzheimer's Disease**? If so, Polk County UW-Extension is offering a video teleconference on Wednesday, April 28 from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. It will be held at the Polk County Government Center in Balsam Lake. To reserve a place or for more information, please call Polk County UW-Extension at 715/485-8600.
- **The Minnesota Circuit** invites you to the **41st National LWMS Convention** at the Sheraton & Sioux Falls Convention Center June 24-27, 2004. For more information visit the website at www.goodshepherdwels.com/wms.
- **Be A Shining Star!** Minnesota District Regional Youth Rally July 11-13, 2004. Come to the 2004 WELS Youth Rally held at Cragun's Resort on Beautiful Gull Lake in Brainerd, MN. For more information contact Gerald Pieper at 294-3836.
- 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.
- **MLC Music Camp—June 13-18, 2004**. The camp is open to WELS/ELS youth who have completed 7-8. Keyboard and music instruction will be offered. Registration deadline and full payment is due Friday, April 30, 2004. For more information contact Christina at the MLC—Office of Special Services, by sending an email to hoppbcm@mic-wels.edu, calling 507-354-8221 ext. 368 or by sending a letter of request to Martin Luther College—Office of Special Services, 1995 Luther Court, New Ulm, MN 56073.
- **MLC Science & Technology Camp—July 4-9, 2004**. Camp is an opportunity to give children experiences in exploring topics in science and technology in an atmosphere of Christian fellowship. Applicants must have the recommendation of their classroom teacher and will have just completed 6-8 grade. Registration deadline and full payment is due April 30, 2004. For more information contact Christina at the MLC-Office of Special Services. (See information above)

*Share this website address:
www.WhatAboutJesus.com*

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

Christian Stewardship

Serving Your Savior

Christian stewardship is putting our faith into practice and telling God that everything we have is a gift of his to us, and that we intend to use his gifts for his glory and to build up his Christian Church.

Christian stewardship begins in the heart. There where Christ abides, our crucified and Savior, there where the Holy Spirit dwells who has led us to trust in Jesus as our Savior, there rises to heaven our worship, thanks, and consecration. Our faith-filled hearts continuously tell God, "You are first in my life. I love you because you first loved me."

But we do not keep this attitude of faith hidden in our hearts. We also show our love and thanks to God. We show God that he is first in our lives when we make worship of him our first priority of the week, when we make giving to his Church and Kingdom work the first priority of our income and the first use of our abilities.

Christian stewardship is all about the first commandment, that means, "We should fear, love and trust in God above all things."

Praise the Lord for opening our hearts to give generously to his Church this past month. Pray that his grace continue to swell our hearts with love and a joyful willingness to put the spiritual needs of people and the mission work of the Church our highest concern.

Parents, it's 11:00 PM Do you know where your children are?

Are you old enough to remember local television stations broadcasting this public service announcement every evening? No responsible parent would allow their child to wander around the big bad world alone at night. No responsible parent would let their child wander alone in the big bad world of electronic media. Do you know what television programs or movies your kids are watching? What web sites they visit? What video games they play? What music they listen to?

Dr. David Walsh, the founder and president of the nonprofit National Institute on Media and the Family, said, "Whoever tells the stories defines the culture." In generations past that would have been Grandma and Grandpa or Mom and Dad telling stories around the hearth. Today it's the electronic media telling the stories and defining our culture. If you doubt the part about defining the culture, try to count how many television programs are pushing a homosexual agenda. How many programs tell viewers that sex with anyone, anywhere, at any time is just fine?

We should strive to protect our children from the poison that seems to pervade the electronic media, but as they grow older it becomes harder and harder to control everything they see and hear. That's why we need to teach them discernment. It's important to have open and honest discussion with our kids. Don't ignore what's happening in the electronic media. Talk about it. Most importantly, continue to keep your family firmly grounded in God's Word. That's the foundation that will give our children a basis for proper discernment as it strengthens their relationship with God.

The world of electronic media doesn't have to be a big bad world. It can be a world of educational wonder and wholesome fun if we take control of it.

Until next time, read a book to your kids.

Confirmation Students—Get on Board

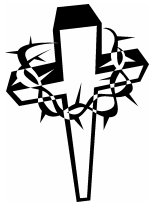
A trip to Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota is planned for March 18 and 19. The trip will include an overnight stay in a Lutheran school gymnasium, a tour of the college campus that trains our future pastors and church teachers, and surprises that we'll never forget. The cost will run about \$10 per person. Enrollment forms for students will be out, soon. Adult chaperones are welcomed, High School youth are also invited.



Lent 2004

"CROSS EXAMINATION"

Our Wednesday services of Lent help us prepare for the celebration of Jesus' death and resurrection. We gather for special services to remember the suffering (Passion) our Lord endured for us to deliver us from the dreaded weight of sin and death. This year in our Wednesday services we will consider several questions that flow from the events and characters that surrounded the suffering of our Lord Jesus.



- "Will you really lay down your life for me?"
- "Are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"
- "What is Truth?"
- "What shall I do, then, with Jesus?"
- "Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?"
- "Surely not I, Lord?"
- "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"



Mark your calendars and put a cross beside each Wednesday of March. Pre-service dinners begin at 5:45 p.m.

Evangelism News

GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL

On February 14, Curt Richter, Fred Loescher, Darryl Klawitter and Pastor Kock visited new residents to our area. Friendly receptions and God's grace allowed them to leave invitations to worship with a good number of new neighbors.

"This is not what I expected it to be," said one of the evangelism team. "It was really enjoyable."

In a few weeks car ignitions will start up, shoes will walk to doors, mouths will share good news and people will hear of a living Savior. And even more members of Trinity will be participating in this simple way of reaching out.

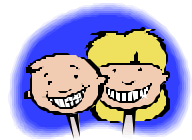
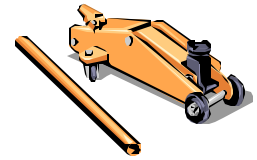


The boys and girls have been meeting together this year and have been enjoying their activities.

The group will meet on Sunday, March 14 at 6:00 pm to continue to work on their pine cars.

On Sunday, March 28, all Trinity members and families are invited to a spaghetti dinner. Stay and enjoy our annual pine care race. We need people to vote for the best looking car and to cheer!

If you have any questions about what the kids have been doing or about race day, please call Kathy Hendricks at 268-6786



Spiritual Renewal Weekend for Women

- Spiritual Renewal Weekend for Women.** March 26-28, 2004, Radisson Downtown Rochester, MN. Weekend of speakers, music, entertainment, and fun. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!** Theme: **"A Celebration of God's Love"** John 3:16 **Deadline for Registration is Feb. 25, 2004.** Sponsored by Women of St. Peter Ev. Lutheran Church—WELS. Fee: room for 4—\$132 per person; room for 3—\$147 per person; room for 2—\$180 per person; room for 1—\$277 per person—includes 2 nights lodging, Friday night snacks, 2 breakfasts, Saturday lunch & banquet, retreat registration, parking and tax. A registration form and the agenda for the weekend is available in the Narthex.



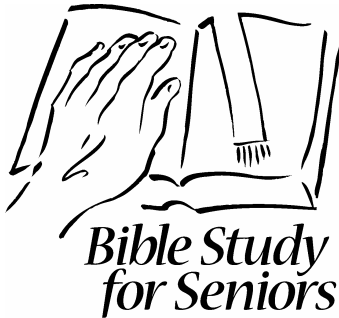
Did You Know??? Read on for useful Trinity information!

Last month we began a new section where we will provide some extra info for everyone at Trinity. It is designed to give us all useful bits and pieces of information about our church and how we do things. Let us know if there are any items you'd like to know more about! Read on for this month's items:

- Our Wednesday evening offerings during Lent are not used in our budget for the year, rather they are given to various mission opportunities. The recipients vary from year to year. Lutheran Institutional Ministries, The Lutheran Home, Northside Ministries in Milwaukee and Mission for the Children in Mexico are some examples of the organizations that we have gifted.
- Northside Ministries, Mission to the Children in Mexico, Friends of China, East Fork Apache High School, Hmong Mission in St. Paul and a new Iowa mission church are some of the missions that will be highlighted this Lenten season. Please prayerfully consider these missions as you contemplate your Lenten offerings this year.



Attend a Bible Class at Trinity

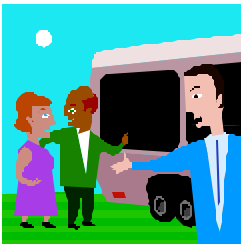


On Sunday morning Bible Class at 9:15 a.m.. A new Bible Class begins March 7. "Jesus Knows What It's Like"

When people let you down
 When you are rejected
 When you are wrestling with temptation
 When you feel run down
 When you are filled with grief
 When you are facing decisions
 When you are experiencing conflict

Women's Bible Study & Fellowship—We will begin a new study, "Capture the Joy!" on Tuesday, March 9. Please accept our invitation to join our Women's Bible Study group. We meet twice a month on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Trinity Church library. All you need to bring is yourself and your Bible (a pen might be handy too!). This new study includes Bible study, video portions and music. Now is a great time to join the group!

On the road with the Loneys and Builders for Christ



We left Dresser RV Park October 26th and spent November and December sightseeing and visiting friends while staying in Trail Riders RV Park. On January 11th we headed for our building project at Fort Mohave, AZ. About 280 miles from Mesa, AZ. The area is all sand, wind, but lots of sunshine and no snow. The temperature has been below normal. It is around 60 but some cool mornings. There are 14 RV's parked and we all get along very well. When the wind blows there is sand in everything. The Lord has really blessed this project. The guys had to wait over one week for rafters but in the mean time they put up the walls for the two bath rooms, Pastor's office and built alter platform. The rafters came and the guys had them up by lunchtime. A crane operator was a great help. Today, February 5th they are sheeting the roof. Don't see or hear many birds, no big trees anywhere for them to be in.

The congregation has grown almost to 90 members. When the Pastor came there were only 30 members and the church was ready to close. He is a young Pastor and only in the ministry a short time. It is a ELS congregation in fellowship with the WELS. The church is being built and the area they are now using will be the fellowship hall. Many people have asked if a pre-school could be built because the school system here is not good. They plan in 5 years to have one built

The gals wanted to quilt, so guess what we are doing!

We had a great surprise, Jeff and Lori Hauser from Tucson and leaders for Mission to the Children stopped by to see us on their way to her folks. We had 15 mixed size quilts ready for them to take back. We are still making more and hope to drop them off on the way to Don Carlos around the middle of March.

Time is going fast—feeling pretty good. May God be with you all.

Love from the Loneys



Tender Loving Care Preschool News

The month of February is coming to a close, and there are only three months left of the school year (unbelievable!!). This month was packed full of activities and learning experiences for the children at Tender Loving Care Preschool.

The first two weeks of the month were filled with Valentine activities. The children learned about Valentine's Day through books and discussions. We made Valentine's Day crafts and decorated boxes for our Valentine's Day party. They had fun celebrating the holiday by giving a Valentine to each of their classmates, playing games, and eating goodies.

"Occupations" was the theme of the last half of February. The preschoolers visited Mrs. Beck, one of the church secretaries, and Pastor Kock to learn more about their jobs. The a.m. session also had Mrs. Swanson, a nurse, come and talk about her occupation. The children had fun thinking about what they want to be when they grow up. We also studied different occupations through a variety of fun learning books.

Every day at preschool, the children continue to practice new letters and numbers. I am so amazed at how their knowledge has grown over the months. Most of the children can write their names, or the first letter of their names, on activity sheets. Also, many of the four and five year olds are beginning to copy words from the board! Wow!

The children also sang on Sunday, February 22 during worship service. We will have a very busy March as well.

God's blessings,

Mrs. Annette Schultz, Teacher

Open Enrollment for next year's sessions begins March 1. Please inform family and friends that may be interested in enrolling. If you have further questions, please contact the church office at 294-2828.



Camp Phillip 2004 Summer Programs

Are you looking for summer camps for your children yet? If you are, we have some info that might interest you.

As you know, we have our fantastic Camp Croix for middle school children. We will have registration forms and dates soon.

If you are looking for camps for your younger or older children, Camp Phillip in Wautoma, Wisconsin is offering many opportunities—from Fledgling Camps for grades 2-4 through Live Your Faith (LYF) Camp for grades 9-12. There are also specialty camps such as cheerleading, guitar, photography, horseback riding, cave exploration, outdoor adventure, family camps, single parent camps, grandparent camps and a Family Fest Weekend in June with many activities and Christian music concerts. You can even camp in a Conestoga wagon if you want!

We have brochures in the church office if you are interested in learning more.

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."

Hebrews 6:19



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Church Office Hours:
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm

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

Mark Kock, Pastor
Chris Riba, Council President
Scott Doerr, Treasurer
Nancy Beck & Carol Jensen, Church Secretaries
JoAnne Johnson, Altar Guild, 294-2020
Ken & Lorna Stob, Fellowship Coordinator, 715-248-7244



2003 Trinity Church Council Members:

Chris Riba, President
Dick Durand, Secretary
Will Stob, Trustees
Wayne Riba, Vice-President
Curt Richter, Evangelism
Bob Wells, Christian Education

Scott Doerr, Treasurer
Dean Dehmer, Stewardship
Kevin Rogers, Elders

2003 Board of Elders:

Jim Brown
Mike Plaster
Steve Gustafson
Kevin Rogers
Randy Getschel
Don Rogers
Roger Howard
Ken Stob

Special Dates!

- Wednesdays in March—Trinity band practice, 5:00 pm
- Wednesdays in March—Soup & Sandwiches, 5:30 pm
- Wednesdays in March—Midweek Lenten Worship Services, 7:00 pm
- Women's Bible Study—new topic! March 9 & 23 at 7:00 pm
- Synergy Teen Bible Study—Saturdays, March 13 & 27, 9:00 am
- Sunday, March 21—Youth Group work on pine cars, 6:00 pm
- Sunday, March 28—Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner, Noon
- Sunday, March 28—Race pine cars, 1:00 pm



Let light
shine out of
darkness...

2 Corinthians 4:6

Yes, the teens are still seeking work from Trinity members!
Please call Barb Hoverman at 755-2762 to schedule your time.