

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

**“Worship the
Lord in the
splendor of his
holiness”**

1 Chronicles 16:29

“My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can snatch them out of my hand.” John 10:27

A familiar slogan is “letting the fox guard the chickens.” Another version of it speaks of “the wolf watching over the sheep.” It refers to the trouble that is bound to come when there’s a conflict of interest, when you give a position of responsibility to someone who’s going to exploit the ones entrusted to his care. A fox will feast on the chickens; a wolf will tear into the sheep.

Satan wants to devour believers in Jesus Christ. What a stroke of fortune for Satan if he can have leaders in the Church, pastors and teachers, who are serving his aim of devouring Christians’ faith. Such church leaders are teaching falsely and undermining the gospel of Jesus Christ, actually leading people away from putting their complete trust in the Lord for salvation. This was the nightmare of the Middle Ages of Europe, a time when church leaders were hiding from the parishioners the truths of Scripture and teaching them to believe that their good deeds or church works were necessary to be saved. The sheep were being ravaged, left without the sure comfort of the gospel that Christ had paid for their sins in full and had won for them the gift of eternal life, theirs by faith alone.

The Lord Jesus stepped in on behalf of his people. We call this event of history, “the Reformation.” He used a man named Martin Luther to bring back into the open the light of the Bible and its beautiful message that “It is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God –not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8,9 What a blessed act of Christ to restore to people the message of grace and free and full salvation. Once again, the people could rejoice in the Lord and say, “Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ!” Romans 5:1

This month we again recall the Reformation of the Church. On October 28, we will do so in our Sunday morning worship, as well as in a WELS Reformation Rally, 4 p.m., at Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Croix Falls. It is our privilege to thank Jesus Christ for faithfully carrying out his role as the Good Shepherd. To this day, Jesus keeps his people in faith by preserving for them and preaching to them the Gospel in its truth and purity. That’s what Jesus is doing for you. In gratitude for his shepherding work that protects you from the wiles of the devil, hear his Word and work together to spread its truths from age to age and shore to shore.

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.

- The **Open Cupboard (Osceola area food shelf)** is always in need of items. There are paper bags in the blue food shelf container in the narthex. There is a shopping list with the bags so you can fill up the bags with the items needed the most. You can bring your donations to the church and we will deliver them to the food shelf for you. Money donations are also always helpful. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

- **The Mission Wearhouse Thrift Store** needs your help! Volunteers are needed in a variety of ways. The store is located just off 35E and Little Canada Road in Little Canada, MN. To volunteer, please call Charlene at 651/917-4149. The thrift store supports Christian Life Ministries and Other World Missions.

Food Shelf



- **The Library of Congress**, in cooperation with the **Wisconsin Regional Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped**, provides Braille and recorded books for Wisconsin residents who are visually or physically handicapped. With more than 60,000 book titles available in recorded formats, the FREE program is able to provide a range of books similar to that in any public library collection. The program also offers recordings of 46 national magazines such as Good Housekeeping, National Geographic, People, Sports Illustrated and U.S. News & World Report. Please call 800/242-8822 for more information.

Check out this website that offers a fresh approach to connecting people to Christianity,

www.WhatAboutJesus.com

- **Reliable Drivers Needed Weekdays:** Share your time, Make a difference. Help your neighbors maintain their independence in Polk County. Elderly and adults living with disabilities need: transport to appointments; help with shopping and errands; rides for chemo & radiation. Sign up now for volunteer training on September 8. Contact Interfaith Caregivers @ 483-9263 or Polk County Aging Programs @ 485-8599.

- Please keep supporting our **Osceola Food Shelf!** Bring your donation to the church and we'll get them to the food shelf.



QUARTERLY VOTERS MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22 AT 7:00 PM



Our Life of Worship at Trinity

October Highlights:

Sunday, October 28th Reformation Sunday

A special afternoon Reformation Rally Service, 4:00 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Croix Falls, with choir music by our children and adults, and with dinner to follow.



Wednesday Worship and Bible Class

7:00 p.m. throughout the Fall.

Including prayer, praise, and a Bible Study (instead of sermon), explaining a basic teaching of the Christian faith each week.



Church Choir Resumes

Thursday, October 4, 7:00 p.m.

What would life be without the singing of birds? Do you know that they sing to the glory of their God and Maker? You, too, have a voice. God the Father gave it to you to use to his glory. Come to Choir and sing your heart out to the Lord, thanking and praising him for making you one of his own, redeemed through the blood of Christ, an heir of eternal life through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Join the birds, the trees and valleys, the hills and angels, in singing praise to the Lord.

“I rejoiced with those who said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord!’” Worship the Lord faithfully, every week. Your faith needs to be fed God’s Word. The Lord Jesus deserves your thanks and praise. In Holy Communion He offers his body and blood to strengthen your faith, and says, **“Do this in remembrance of me.”** Your presence at worship is an encouragement to your brothers and sisters in faith.



Evangelism: Reaching Out with the Gospel

- ◆ Thanks to those who helped out at the church fair booth at the Osceola Fair, September 7-9.
- ◆ There is still time to invite children to attend our Sunday School. Jesus wants all the children of our communities to know him dearly as Savior and Lord.
- ◆ The Mission Awareness Committee meets Saturday, October 20, at 9:00 am. **The purpose of this committee is to enlighten us on God’s blessings through the missions that we support as a WELS congregation, and to inspire us to do more for our Lord.** Join the Mission Awareness Committee.

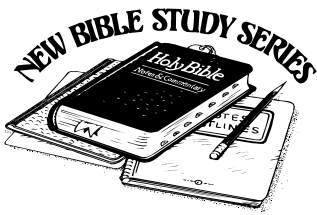


We Grow Together in God's Word



Adult Bible Class:

- ◆ Sunday Adult Bible Class, 9:25 am
- ◆ Tuesday Women's Bible Class, 7 pm
Topic: Book of Jeremiah
- ◆ Wednesday Bible Class, 10:30 am
Topic: "Understanding the Old Testament"
- ◆ Wednesday Bible Class, 7:00 pm
Topic: "The Basic Teachings of the Christian Faith"



New Adult Bible Class Begins October 7th

"MY BROTHER'S KEEPER"

All Christians are tempted to stray from God, from his Word, and from worship. In every church there are those who have fallen away. This Bible study assists God's people in fostering love and concern for fellow members to regain those who have strayed.

- ◆ Sunday School for children pre-K through 8th grade, 9:15 a.m. May the Lord graciously bring it about that each and every child of our families faithfully attends and grows in the love of the Savior.
- ◆ Inner Court for High School youth, Sunday, 9:15 a.m.
- ◆ Catechism Class for 7th and 8th graders: The 8th grade class is asked to meet at church, October 6, at 9:00 am to clean the church
- ◆ **Parents, check out the website "parentscrosslink.net."** This is a WELS site intended to serve families in Christ.
- ◆ **The first meeting of "On Eagles' Wings," a joint Bible study for the high school youth of our River Valley WELS congregations, occurred September 30.**



Pray for Our Members



Pray for your fellow members in the service: Mike Beck (currently stationed in Mississippi).

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 accomplishments that the Lord gives your brothers and sisters. Love one another sincerely.

Serving Jesus with

Serve the Lord with Gladness!

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.

BUDGET UPDATE	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$15,858	\$38,510
Expenses:	\$15,315	\$34,977

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Thanks to Bob Luhman for building the playground bench and sign. We pray this addition to our church property will assist us in inviting our neighbors to participate in our worship and Christian education life.



Opportunities for Fellowship at Trinity

- ◆ **Brothers:** All men of Confirmation age and up are invited to the Men's Breakfast, October 20th at 8:30 am. Enjoy good food, great company, and the best message of the day—God's Word.
- ◆ **Golf Outting:** The September addition to the monthly men's breakfast and Bible study had a little swing to it. After a delicious egg bake courtesy of Lyle and Marsha Guggisburg and careful study of Proverbs chapter 5, a group of nine headed out to Kroked Kreek golf course to work off breakfast and show off their swings. A frosty morning gave way to sun and by 10:30 made for a beautiful day for golf. But was it beautiful golf? Considering the fact that for most it was to be the only golf of the year, maybe not, but it was a good time. In fact, it well enough for those that were there to say we should do this again. And we will!
- ◆ **LWMS RALLY** (Lutheran Women's Mission Society) is Saturday, October 13 at Zion Lutheran Church in Farmington, WI. The theme will be "Peace in Jesus—Vietnamese Mission in Boise, Idaho." Registration begins at 9:00—9:30 am. A flyer is posted on the narthex bulletin board for more information. All are welcome!
- ◆ **IT'S A HAYRIDE FOR ALL AGES!** October 6 – Meet at Trinity at 2:00 pm or at the Brown Farm at 3:00 pm Supper will be provided. Desserts are welcome.

**Directions to Brown's Farm from Osceola:**

Take WI Hwy 243 into Minnesota

At MN 95, turn right (north)

Go 1/2 mile-Turn left onto Pleasant Valley Rd

Go several miles until you come to Hwy 8

Go straight crossing Hwy 8

Go 3/4 mile to Browns Farm (left)

14845 Pleasant Valley Rd.

Center City, MN

Questions: Call Jim at 651-257-5700 or (cell) 612-799-9357



**Join us on
a hayride!**



Latest financial report shows increase

Overall receipts for WELS operating budget in July 2007 showed a marked increase over the previous July, but the synod's chief financial officer is urging caution in projecting the increase beyond the current month.

Receipts for July 2007 of \$5.5 million were \$3.9 million greater than July 2006, but the increase reflects receipt of the first annual installment from an anonymous WELS member who is donating \$2.55 million a year for the next five years to the synod's operating budget. Changes in foreign exchange rates have added another \$225,000 to the value of the installment.

July 2007 Congregation Mission Offerings (CMO) were up \$550,000 over the previous July. As recently as June, receipts were 1.9 percent less than 2006. The upturn in July appears to reflect the efforts of the Conference of Presidents to increase CMO prior to the synod convention, held July 30-Aug. 3.

From January through July, CMO receipts were up 3.6 percent over the prior year--a 3 percent increase was forecast. "I give thanks to God for the support his people provided in July, but strongly caution those using July results to project support for the other 11 months of the fiscal year," says Todd Poppe, WELS' chief financial officer. "Even in my short service to the synod I have seen positive results quickly turn around."

Martin Luther College enrollment figures

Martin Luther College (MLC) in New Ulm, Minn., has released its official enrollment figures for the 2007-08 school year. A total of 720 on-campus students are enrolled--531 are studying for the educational ministry and 173 for the pastoral ministry. Sixteen are unclassified.

Peter Kruschel, administrator for WELS Board for Ministerial Education, says the 720 figure is "at the high end of what we had hoped for."

While 11 fewer students are enrolled this year than were enrolled at the beginning of last year, there are 10 more enrolled than were enrolled at the end of last year. It's the first time there's been a gain from the end of one school year to the beginning of the next since the 2002-03 school year.

Still, MLC's beginning enrollment is the lowest since a peak of 1,063 five years ago. Phil Leyrer, MLC's vice president for enrollment management, says the main factor is the rapid rise in tuition over those years. Kruschel says other factors include that not as many students are coming through WELS' grade school and high school system and that not all candidates for the teaching ministry have received calls.

Official enrollment figures from all four synod schools will be published in the Four Schools Report, due out by the end of September.

WELS military personnel serving in the Middle East

Pastor Paul Ziemer, national civilian chaplain to the military and Armed Forces liaison, is preparing for another trip to the Middle East. Congregations and families are encouraged to submit names of WELS military personnel to the Military Services Committee so Ziemer can serve the men and women stationed there.

Visit www.wels.net/jump/military and click "refer military personnel" to submit new information or update previous referrals. If possible, include a working e-mail address for each person being referred to the committee. For more information, contact Rev. Paul Ziemer at 910-717-0085 or welsmilitary@msn.com.

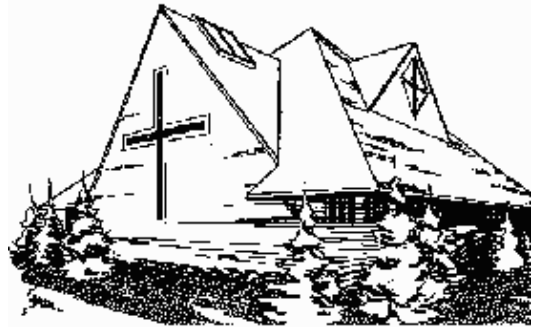


Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Curt Richter, Council President
Ron Jasperson, Treasurer
Nancy Beck & Carol Jensen, Church Secretaries
Jean Brown, Altar Guild, 651/257-5700 and
Sherry Lueck, 651-433-2943
Lorna Stob, Fellowship, 715-248-7674



2007 Trinity Church Council Members:

Curt Richter, President
Bob Jensen, Secretary
Colin Hendricks, Trustees

Harry Beck, Vice-President
Open, Evangelism
Jerry Pieper, Christian Education

Ron Jasperson, Treasurer
Daryl Klawitter, Stewardship
Kevin Rogers, Elders

2007 Board of Elders:

Jim Brown Kevin Rogers Will Stob

Special Dates!

- October 6—Hayride at the Browns—2:00 (meet at church)
- October 13—LWMS Rally at Zion Lutheran in Farmington
- October 18—Ladies Aid—Noon
- October 22—Voters Meeting, 7:00 pm
- October 22—Newsletter Deadline
- October 28—Reformation Sunday
- October 28—WELS Reformation Rally, 4:00 pm
at Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Croix Falls
- **Tuesdays Women’s Bible Study, 7:00 pm**
- Wednesdays Adult Bible Study, 10:30 am
- Wednesday Worship/Bible Lesson, 7:00 pm
- Thursdays Choir Practice, 7:00 pm

