

TRINITY MESSENGER



FEBRUARY 2012 ~ ISSUE NO. 2

“THE RISE OF THE GOLF CART BRIGADE!”

These are exciting times at Trinity! Besides a flourishing ministry we are also in the midst of a historic building project. When all is complete we will have 28,000 square feet of new space as well as the re-purposing of most of our current space!

The challenge of a building project is, of course, all the mess and inconvenience that construction brings. Temporarily, we have limited access getting in and out of our building and it's a little farther to park and then get inside. We are working hard to keep these factors from discouraging people from coming to worship or any of the many events going on here.

This has spawned a new and important ministry for us that many now affectionately refer to as the **Golf Cart Brigade!** I believe it was Roy Collette who championed the idea of bringing in golf carts to help elderly and mobility-challenged worshippers get from their cars in the parking lot to the doors of our building and back. It's been “door to door service” and “service with a smile!” these past months! Beside providing a very valuable and functional service, the golf cart brigade volunteers will tell you, this has been a great way to meet new people and share some meaningful conversation each Saturday or Sunday. (Great opportunities for new hospitality!)



Obviously, we have been blessed with a mild winter and a minimum amount of snowfall (so far)... But thanks to the service of the golf cart brigade we have seen a number of our mobility-challenged friends at worship this winter that are not usually able to get out and get to worship during normal winter conditions! This certainly leads us to ask the question whether we might want to continue the golf cart brigade after our

construction is completed!

I want to thank all those who have faithfully stepped forward to be a part of this crew and weathering the elements of winter conditions: **Steve Hamner, Mark Boe, Barry Adams, Dan Dahle, John Ihlenfeld, Dennis Engel, Dean Shankland, Steve LaCount, and of course, Roy Collette!** This is just another example of Trinity's hospitality and how people of this congregation rise to the challenge to meet a need when they see it.

Please help us: 1) **Spread the word** to others that this ministry is available each Saturday and Sunday to help those that might otherwise be discouraged from attending due to the winter weather or construction.

2) Please be sure to **pat our friendly and faithful volunteers on the back** when you see them! And finally 3) Please **consider “signing on” as part of our golf cart brigade** as a way to help others. As the current crew will tell you, it's been an easy way to serve and have some fun in doing it!

All God's Blessings, Pastor John Lestock



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**MENU
FEBRUARY**

**COME & ENJOY
WEDNESDAY MEALS
AT TRINITY!**

**LUNCH MENUS
FOLLOWING THE NOON
LENTEN SERVICES
\$3 PER PERSON**

FEBRUARY 22

Deli Beef Sandwich or
Hot Ham & Swiss Sandwich
Potato Soup or Chili

FEBRUARY 29

Deli Turkey Sandwich or
Italian Pork Sandwich
Corn Chowder or Tomato Soup

*Dinners include: salad bar,
dessert bar, and beverage.*

**DINNER MENUS
5:00–6:30 PM
\$4 PER PERSON
\$12 FAMILY MAX**

FEBRUARY 1

#1-Seasoned Pork Loin
#2-Chicken Nuggets
Baked Potato, Glazed Carrots,
Dinner Roll

FEBRUARY 8

#1-Chicken or Beef Enchiladas
#2 Italian Beef Sandwich w/chips
French Bread
Creamed Peas & Celery

FEBRUARY 15

#1-BBQ Ham Balls
#2 Hamburger
Chips, Potato or Wild Rice Soup

FEBRUARY 22 (ASH WED.)

#1-Italian Beef Sandwich
#2 Chicken Pattie Sandwich
Augratin Potatoes, Corn

FEBRUARY 29

#1-Spaghetti w/garlic breadstick
#2 Hotdog w/tator tots
Green Beans

WEDNESDAY Lenten services 2012

Please plan to join us for these midweek services focused around our powerful drama series entitled "Sphere of Influence." Lenten services will be held at:

12:00 noon (lunch following) 5:45 p.m. (our youth is serving supper from 5:00-6:30 p.m.) 7:00 p.m.

Following Ash Wednesday on February 22, the drama series will begin February 29, and continue March 7, 14, 21, and 28. We want to thank all our actors and actresses in advance plus our entire drama team. Be sure to keep Lent with us on Wednesdays in this meaningful and faith-filled way! (and don't hesitate to invite a friend along!)



PRAYER CORNER



Please join us this month in praying for: The **Annual Meeting** on February 5, those people who have stepped forward to serve on **Trinity's Commissions**; the **Wednesday evening suppers**; our **new disciples** being welcomed into membership on February 19; the annual **Family Variety Show** on February 26; our Trinity folks who have traveled south for the winter; those recently hospitalized, sick or recovering from illness or injury, or dealing with long term health concerns – **Ken Stensvold, Lonnie Louks, Merlyn Swearingen, Mary Hale, Renee Kruchten, Chuck Jamison, Richard Ulrich, Carmen Bey, Al Zinter, Gladys Eaker, Phyllis Reynolds, Dick Dahl, Denise Kenow, Tom Karas, Dean Fretheim, Lori Witt, Stan Reineke, Steve Nelson, Elma Clausen, Brad Bishop, Gail Moore, Fred Voth, Kyle DeKam**; Caregivers and their families as they care for their loved ones; the **Small Group ministries** of Trinity; the **Financial Peace University** continuing this month; the **Beth Moore Bible Study** continuing this month; the **Wednesday evening Adult forums** continuing this month, the **Gather Us In** evenings continuing this month; those families who are struggling with major issues regarding communication, abuse, health, or finances; the friends and families grieving the death of **Kimi Wilson**.

Thanks To All Our Devotional Writers!

This is our 20th year of offering an "original" Lenten devotional booklet here at Trinity. Our writers are a real "mix" and "cross-sampling" of our congregation: younger and older members. We thank them for sharing their faith stories and life perspectives with us, as we keep these 40 days of Lent. Be sure to pick up a copy for yourself and your family for a daily devotional!



Lilies and Spring Plants for Easter

Again this year, Trinity will create an Easter morning atmosphere of newness and rebirth in the sanctuary with Easter lilies and spring plants such as tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, mums, and azaleas. If you wish to give a plant, you may make a donation allowing Trinity to purchase as many plants as possible with those contributions.

Please return this slip to the church office no later than **Monday, March 19**. Names of those giving plants and those being remembered or honored will be listed in the Easter bulletins. Thank you for your contribution!

Donation given by: _____ Amount donated: \$ _____

Please circle one:

In memory of **OR** in honor of: _____

Please Print Clearly



FROM PASTOR DEAN

Please Pray for Trinity's Youth Ministries!

Please pray for the many kids who will participate in various ministry events this month. We hope for safety and spiritual growth for all the students and leaders at these events.

February 5 – As we gather for our annual meeting, please pray that Trinity continues its strong commitment to our youngest disciples.

February – February is Teacher Appreciation Month at Trinity!

Thank God for all of the Sunday School and R.E. teachers who give so much of their time so that young people can continue to grow in their relationship with Christ.

Mondays – Please pray for the Junior High and High School students who participate in morning Bible studies. Thanks to God for their commitment to showing up at Trinity

before school to learn more about themselves and their relationship with Jesus.

Wednesdays – Trinity's Junior High and High School students will gather for Wednesday Night Live—a time for faith, fun, and community—until Ash Wednesday. After that, you can find them serving our Lenten Suppers to raise funds for their various summer trips. We pray for growing community and tons of support from their Trinity family.

BS in the AM

Junior High and High School students are invited to gather in Pastor Dean's office every Monday morning for a time of discussion and prayer before school. Junior High students will get a ride to school, and High School students will have plenty of time to walk to their first class. Mondays at 7:00 am! In the event of a 2 hour late start, we will also start 2 hours late. If school is cancelled, we will not meet.



Start Saving Now

Watch for more information about a Trinity Rummage Sale this spring. Start setting aside those things you'd be willing to donate for a sale to help offset our youth ministry program expenses. We do not have room to store your items, but we will be ready to collect them as the event approaches. Keep an eye out for more information. Please remember:

We will not accept adult clothing. Please donate adult clothing items to the Steele County Clothesline.



TIME FOR THE 68TH ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW

Come one! Come all! It's the Trinity Talent Show on **February 26 @ 6:00 pm!** Come celebrate the unique, diverse, and (sometimes) hidden talents of our congregation. The Family Commission will serve root beer floats and popcorn. For a \$3 suggested donation (all proceeds will benefit the Youth Campership Fund), you can see all the talent you'd ever want to see—maybe even more! A nursery will be available from 5:30 – 8:30.

If you have an act you'd like to share, please contact Pastor Dean Smith right away!





SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION



Trinity's Sunday morning Adult Education forum meets at 9:45 a.m. Everyone is invited to come! Forums are held downstairs in the Fireside Room; coffee and donuts are available.

FEBRUARY 5 — *“What Would You Be Doing If You Were Living Your Ideal Life?”*

Presented by Stephanie Shea

Stephanie Shea is a Certified Life Coach, trained at the Adler Graduate School in Richfield, MN. She is also a credentialed college counselor, with a Master's degree in Counseling from Winona State University. Stephanie works full time at Riverland Community College here in Owatonna. Join us as she shares what drew her to Life Coaching and also to explore what life coaching can be for individuals. In preparation for this thought provoking meeting, please answer this question – “What would you be doing if you were living your ideal life?”

FEBRUARY 12 — *“What's Your Love Language?”*

Presented by Chuck Jamison

The theory of love languages contends that people feel most loved in a marriage in one of five ways: quality time, words of affirmation, gifts, acts of service, and physical touch. Though we have a primary love language, we can learn a second language so that our spouse's needs are met. Join with us to discover your love language, your spouse's and as an extra bonus...-God's!

FEBRUARY 19 — *“Red Cross: Be Prepared!”*

Presented by Nancy Collette

Nancy Collette a Red Cross Instructor for Steele County will be our guest speaker. She will share with us some of the services available through Red Cross. Nancy will also provide a hands on review of CPR, use of the AED, and what to do when you think someone is choking. All are welcome and encouraged to learn, practice, and gain appreciation for the work that Red Cross provides to our community.

FEBRUARY 26 — *“EPES Is Celebrating 30 Years In Chile!”*

Presented by Melanie Nelson, Pastor John & Janet Lestock, & Linnea Duffus

Karen Anderson, daughter of Dr. Frank and Sophie Anderson, has committed her life work to building a program that educates women and children on health issues. The ELCA honors EPES as a premier program of the Lutheran Church worldwide. Started in 1982, EPES is dedicated to improving the quality of life and dignity for shanty town residents through training and organizational participation by the residents themselves. It's a model used worldwide. Please join us for stories from our November 2011 “earn and discover” EPES tour.



Epiphany Forums continue in February

- Monday evenings Living Beyond Yourself" Bible Study
- Tuesday evenings Financial Peace University
- Wednesday, Feb 8 Keep Climbing" Bible Study
- Thursday mornings Living Beyond Yourself" Bible Study



GATHER US IN WORSHIP

FRIDAYS FEBRUARY 3, 10 & 17

Join together for supper and a brief time of worship, song, and prayer. After a long week, take time to be together and dwell in God's word and presence.

5 P.M. SUPPER 5:30 P.M. WORSHIP

Artwork by
Daniel Erlander

If you are interested in helping with music, prayers, or the message, contact Intern Amanda Schultz at 451-4520 or amandas@tlcowatonna.org.



Calling All Quilters! It's a Mystery!

"Sleep In Your Own Bed - Mystery Solving Retreat"

March 9 & 10



On a cold winter's night there's nothing better than curling up with a quilt on the couch and reading a good mystery. This winter Pastor Julie is challenging you with a project just as fun and stimulating. A mystery quilt! What is a mystery quilt? It is a project in which you are given one step of the mystery at a time. Each step includes explicit directions but the maker of the quilt has no idea what the end product is going to look like.

This mystery quilt will allow you to use your scraps or to buy fabric in the colors of your choosing. You will be given your first clue when you sign up. Thereafter you will receive other clues in the mail leading up to the mystery solving retreat. The pattern for this quilt is considered "lap size" and is for beginners as well as intermediate quilters. Hint: If triangles are something you've been afraid to tackle, this pattern will teach you how to make them perfectly! The cost of this retreat is yet to be determined, but will be minimal as you sleep in your own beds and will already have all the fabric you need once you arrive. Contact Pastor Julie with questions.

Coming in April, New Adult Education Classes!



WORSHIP DRAMA & MUSIC SCHEDULES



Andrea Van Gelder

Music and Fine Arts
Coordinator
andreav@tlcowatonna.org

SAT. & SUN., FEBRUARY 4 & 5

5:00
8:15 & 9:45 - Senior Choir
11:15 - H.S. Choir- C.H.A.O.S. & HS Praise Team

SAT. & SUN., FEBRUARY 11 & 12

God's Puppets at all services
5:00
8:15 & 9:45- Angelus Bells & BELLievers
11:15 Jubilee

SAT. & SUN., FEBRUARY 18 & 19

5:00
8:15- God's Singers
9:45 - Cherubs

WED., FEBRUARY 22 (ASH WED)

Noon-
5:45 - Senior Choir
7:00 - Senior Choir

SAT. & SUN., FEBRUARY 25 & 26

God's Players at All Services
5:00
8:15 & 9:45- Senior Choir
11:15

WED., FEBRUARY 29 (LENT)

Noon-
5:45 - Cherubs
7:00 - Lifesavers



Choir Practice

No rehearsals for music or drama groups on **February 22**. Please attend Ash Wednesday worship services at 12:00 noon, 5:45 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Choir schedule begins February 29

God's Players & God's Puppets will not meet during the Lenten season
Cherub Choir 5:15-5:45 in Room 300 /God's Singers 5:15-5:45 in the Chapel
C.H.A.O.S. 5:30-6:15 in AV Room/ Lifesavers 6:20-7:00 in AV Room



Choir Practice

C.H.A.O.S. - The High School Choir Has a Name!

C.H.A.O.S. stands for Christians Hyped About Our Savior! The high school students are scheduled to sing in the 11:15 service one time a month and are always looking for more choir members. We sing a variety of music, which is accompanied by our own high school band. Please feel free to join us any Wednesday from 5:30-6:15 in the AV Room!

H.S. Praise Team and C.H.A.O.S.

The High School students have two opportunities to participate in and lead worship for the 11:15 services. Once a month the choir (C.H.A.O.S.) is scheduled to sing the musical offering, in addition students have the opportunity to form the praise team for that same service. The students who decide to be on the praise team will lead all of the congregational music in addition to their participation with C.H.A.O.S.'s musical offering. All students are encouraged to be part of the choir. Any who wish to have a more involved role and desire to lead the congregational music (instrumentally and vocally) are welcome to do so. Weekly practice always begins at 5:30 in the AV room on Wed. evenings. Praise team practice is worked in the week or so prior to the scheduled Sunday during the same time. In addition, the praise team meets on the scheduled Sunday prior to the 11:15 service to run through the songs again. If you have any questions please contact Andrea Van Gelder. (andreav@tlcowatonna.org) We'd love to have more students join our groups!



This is a photo of the kids in Holeta, Ethiopia holding up the Christmas Cards that Trinity kids and their confirmation mentors made for them.



The Voice of Family (By Peder Eide) *from the website: www.laughandlift.com*

I love to coach my kids in the sports they play. I have been blessed to coach all my children at different stages and in different sports. It's a treat for me and fills my cup. I love the atmosphere of practice and, of course, game days. Win or lose (though winning is more fun) the amount of life lessons on a game field or court with a group of people called a team are endless.

One thing I have realized is the importance of the sound of my voice. Whether I'm a coach or in the stands when my kids hear my voice, they respond. They play harder, look for me, find new energy, pick up their tempo. The words I shout to them are all affirmation, at least that's what I try to do. Things like "Keep going, move your feet, go hard!" It blesses me when they respond to the voice of their dad.

Did you know how powerful your words are to anyone around you? The thing is that you and I, because of Jesus, carry the Kingdom. When we express words of affirmation and blessing to anyone, we do more than just say something nice. We actually bring a spiritual blessing that is beyond our understanding because of God's Kingdom in us. It's a beautiful way to love someone whether they are easy or hard to love.

Here is an idea for you. Take a sheet of paper and write across the top "I Love (name of someone here) because..." and then write 20-25 reasons why you love that person. Write it for Mom, Dad, a friend, brother, sister, Grandma, etc. Then give it to them in person or via a letter and let God use your words to do what He wants. It's what family does. The voice of a family member is important.



JUNIOR HIGH NEWS FROM MICHAEL ODEGAARD

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2012

February 3: Attention all 6th graders! You are cordially invited to attend an afternoon of "freezing fun"-For our first "FUNKY FRIDAY" of February we're going snow tubing at Mount Kato and then getting supper before we go home. We will take off from TLC @ 3:30 PM and return around 9:00 PM. The cost of this fantastic event is **\$20.00** which covers tubing and supper. A permission form and other information were mailed to your house in January (yellow paper). If you need an extra copy for a friend or yourself, please stop by Mike's office and pick one up. Please return your permission form & payment to the church office no later than **Wednesday February 1st**. Feel free to contact Mike Odegaard if you have any questions.

February 10: Please note that "FUNKY FRIDAY" will not be meeting on this particular day as Mike will be in New Orleans for the ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza. We will get back into the flow the following week (February 17). Thanks for your consideration...

February 17: TLC's Jr. High Servant Leader Corps will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM. All 7th & 8th graders are welcome to attend this evening of fun & fellowship. We will share a meal together, play some games, hang out, learn something, and laugh a lot!!! Please bring \$3.00 for the meal as well as some money for some pop (if you choose).

February 19: TLC's Jr. High Summer Mission Trip to Memphis meeting will be held down in the Fellowship Hall starting @ 6:00 PM. These team meetings are very important, and your attendance is **mandatory!!!** *Please remember to bring your Bibles to this meeting.* Out of courtesy, please call me if you are not able to make it for whatever reason-thanks!

February 26: Please come and support TLC members & staff who will be sharing their gifts, talents, etc. at the 111th-give or take a couple of years-Annual Variety Show. The show starts @ 6:00 and there will be root beer floats & caramel corn served at intermission!



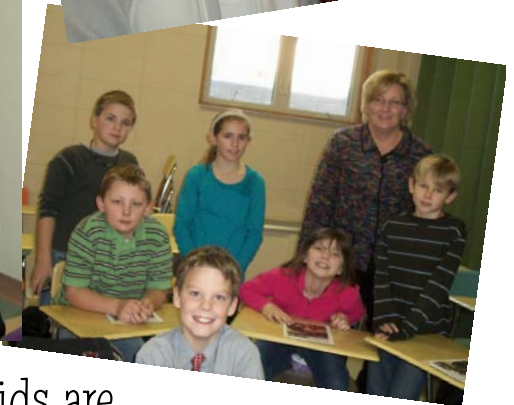
Peace be the journey,

Michael J. Odegaard
Jr. High Youth Director

God's
Love
Never
Fails



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION!



Our Sunday School kids are
blessed with great teachers & volunteers!



A Special
Thank
You



THANK YOU TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & LEADERS!

WORSHIP LEADERS

Val Mullenbach (7)
Stephanie Hanson (3)
Jennifer Schlauderaff (1)
Angela Armstrong (1)
Glenda Smith (4)
Jessica Dant (2)
Katie Wanous (16)

WORSHIP ACCOMPANISTS

Amy Knutson (8)
Gina Mathison Elstad (10)
Mariah Dant (1)
Taylor Limberg (1)

3-YEAR-OLDS

Sherri Whalen (8)
Cheryl Stenzel (6)
Kim Nordlund (12)
Laura Strawmatt (2)
Dawn Weltzin (1)
Laura Weltzin (1)
McKenna Hansen (1)
Elisabeth Otto (1)

4-YEAR-OLDS

Lori Proechel (8)
Arlen Dirks (4)
Jill Achterkirch (5)
Stephanie Reinardy (4)
Deanna Laatsch (3)
Julie Webber (3)
Jen Vetsch (2)
Kaeli Domino (1)
Robin Stanton (2)

KINDERGARTEN

Karin Steffenson (9)
Jodi McMains (7)
Jessica Turnlund (4)
Alexa Olson (2)
Holly Caudillo (3)
Julie Turnlund (1)
Jen Dietz (1)
Bridget Smith (4)

GRADE 1

Renee Lowery (3)
Mike Roesner (2)
Sarah Roesner (2)
Mary Loveless (1)
Cheryl Summer (23)
Jennifer Eichten (4)
Stephanie Cole (4)
Erik Brekke (2)

GRADE 2

Sally Clough (19)
Kelli Gardner (2)
Sara Johnson (2)
Angela Michaelson (2)
Kortni Thompson (1)
Carrin Kath (1)

GRADE 3

Julie Rohrig (19)
Lori Peglow (12)
Jill Manthei (5)
Shannon Pederson (4)
Beth Svenby (1)
Julie Evers (3)
Kristin Elstad (1)
Kelsey Deason (1)
Jace Martinez (1)

GRADE 4

Sara Weber (8)
LouJean Johnson (5)
Michelle Gathje (2)
Sirena Brekke (1)
Shannon Randall (1)
Luke Wanous (1)
Andrew Stelter (1)
Logan Langeland (1)
Christy Wood (14)

GRADE 5

Steve Nelson (8)
Ellen Nelson (7)
Paulette Nelson (3)
Rochelle Belina (5)
Susan Eschenbach (3)
Korie Weigt (3)
Brian Fisher (18)
Lisa Fisher (29)

GRADE 6

Heidi Martinez (6)
Adele Stelter (7)
Al Manthei (5)
Elaine Floy (4)
Martha Floy (1)
Amy Kain (3)
Mieca Valen (3)
Stephanie Ruhter (2)

GRADES 7 – 9

Matt Kretlow (8)
Arla Kretlow (8)
Grant Snitker (5)
Doug Wanous (20)
John Havelka (15)
Dave Otto (10)
Barb Howell (5)
Rob Hagen (2)
Dom Korbel (2)
Ken Deason (8)
Sue Bendorf (10)
Jolayne Mohs (2)
Susie Flemming (2)
Chris Flemming (2)
Andrew Malo (1)
Emily Pearson (1)
Carson Spitzack (1)
Mary Hansen (1)
Mike Odegaard

TUESDAY RE

Denise Atkinson (19)
Angie Malo (7)
Kent Kienholz (7)
Polly Wiebke (3)
Diane Falken (2)
Cheryl Deason (4)
Brooke Schroht (1)
John Lestock
Dean Smith
Mike Odegaard
Sheri Berg
Julie Malone
Amanda Schultz

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Gary Slarks (21)
Judy Slarks (21)
Brian Haugen (14)
Trudy Haugen (14)

YOUTH EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Sheri Edwardson Berg





YOUTH NEWS FROM SHERI BERG

Our church building is changing daily. The Sunday school area upstairs has a new look with better lighting and new ceilings. Thanks for the continued patience of our Sunday school teachers and students for being so understanding of the remodel.



Programing continues during the renovation. We have lots of activities going on to keep us growing in Gods love!

Souper Bowl of Caring, Super Bowl Sunday, is February 5. Let us remember this day, as we all enjoy the abundance of food, fun, fellowship and football, the people in our community who have much less than most of us have. Please bring a can of soup or a cash donation for the Steele County Food Shelf. We will have boxes in the narthex for donations. Please mark your financial donation for the SCFS. Thank you!



Our next **elementary late start event** is here in the kitchen, Monday, February 6. We will be cooking and creating a craft for valentines day! Be watching for more details! I am looking for assistance to carpool students back to their schools after the event. Sign up outside my office.

February is **Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Month**. Please make sure you take time to thank your teachers for everything they do for our kids. We have three boxes located in the narthex, in the preschool area and on third floor where you can leave a note of appreciation.

Mentors and students, please plan on attending the Trinity Variety Show, Sunday February 26 at 6:00 p.m. This would be a great time to plan out a skit, share some musical talent or just attend for the fun of it! The Student/Mentor program is for all 7th, 8th & 9th grade students & their mentor. If you have any questions call Myrna Heegard at 363-6194 or myself at 451-4520.



Summer camp sign up is going on outside my office. Stop by and sign up soon!

Scholarship applications are now available on our website and in the church office! This is a great opportunity for Trinity students. Parents of students who are away at school at the present time should inform their son/daughter of this opportunity for financial assistance. More details on page 17.



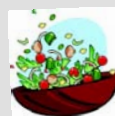
God's Blessing to You,

Sheri Edwardson Berg
Youth Education Director

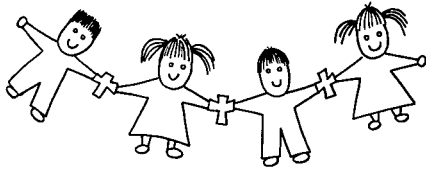
Lend a helping hand by donating salad ingredients!

The Lenten dinners are a large fundraiser for summer camps and mission trips for our youth. Please consider helping our youth by dining at church during Lent and/or donating ingredients for the salads that we prepare here at church for Lenten suppers.

The helping hand ingredient lists will be posted on a bulletin board located in the narthex.

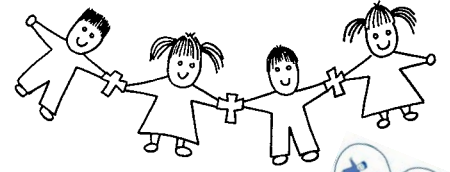


Thank you for your help!



TRINITY NURSERY SCHOOL

Love and Learning Go Hand in Hand
451-8247



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TRINITY NURSERY SCHOOL?

"Serve one another in love." Galatians 5:13. The TNS theme for February is Warm Hearts. The three-year-olds will visit the public library. The 4 year olds will go to sing at Cedarview and get the winter wiggles out at Jill Hoggards. Everyone will have fun celebrating friendship and Valentine's Day. Teachers will be busy evaluating children as they prepare for parent/teacher conferences. Current families are also able to preregister for 2012-2013 classes.



Our **SERVICE PROJECTS** for the month of February are a food drive for the Steele County Food Shelf in conjunction with Fine HeArts, making Valentines for Nurse Kathy to mail to Trinity members and stopping by Cedarview to share a little mid-winter cheer. We are continuing to collect pennies to preserve the rainforest. Check out our tree to watch our progress.

\$\$ SCRIP Dollars \$\$ News— Thank you for helping the SCRIP Dollars program continue to grow. Total sales for 2011 equaled \$202,000. These sales generated over \$8000 in profit. The TNS Board continued their practice of "SCRIP gives Back" by donating \$800 to the Pastors' Emergency Fund, the Trinity Bible Fund, Family to Family and Transitional Housing. SCRIP will continue to be sold on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and during TNS hours. The sales goal for 2012 is \$250,000. Call Brenda for more information at 451-8247. Stop at TNS before you shop.



The Trinity Nursery School

Open House

will be on Thursday, February 23 from 6:30-7:30 pm. Any family interested in learning more about TNS is welcome to stop by-meet the staff, erupt a volcano, and see what preschool at Trinity is all about. A short presentation will begin at approx. 7:00 in Rm 100.

Registrations will NOT be taken at this time.

Registration for the 2012-2013 school year will begin for new families on Saturday, March 3 at 8:00 am in the TNS Office (Rm 106). Call (451-8247) for more information.

Fine HeArts



Trinity Nursery School presents our annual **Fine HeArts Celebration** on Sunday, February 12 at 1:30 p.m. in the Trinity Sanctuary. Following the program, a children's art exhibit will be on display in Room 100. Art created by all TNS students will be displayed. **EVERY-ONE IS WELCOME.** As a part of our Fine Hearts Celebration, TNS will be holding a food drive for the Steele County Food Shelf.



TRINITY'S VOLUNTEER MINISTRY

2012 promises to be an exciting year here at Trinity and there is lots to do so don't hesitate to get involved. If you need help deciding what it should be give me a call and we can figure it out together.

I am especially excited this year to be working alongside some wonderful volunteers as we develop a **Hospitality Ministry**. The Hospitality Ministry will consist of our Parking team, our Greeters, and our coffee and donut families. They will work together to insure a warm and welcoming experience for all who attend on Sunday mornings. Each Sunday we will have a **Team Leader** who will provide leadership for his/her team, ensuring that all required roles (ministries) are being handled to the best of our abilities. They will work closely with our coffee and donut family to assist with all aspects of their responsibilities for the morning. This is a work in process so if you think you might be interested in helping develop our Hospitality Team or maybe you would like to serve as a leader please let me know. I would love the opportunity to visit with you.

It has come to our attention that we are in need of people who would be willing to drive someone to a doctor's appointment either locally, to Rochester or to the cities. This would be a very infrequent volunteer opportunity depending on the number of people we collect on our call list. This is a ministry that would be very helpful and meaningful to so many of our members, so if you have it on your heart to help please give me a call.

Meals on Wheels is also looking for drivers. This is an easy but important ministry that Trinity provides on Mondays to people in our community who are in need of a nutritious meal. You meet at Senior Place about 11:00 and are done delivering by 11:45. It is quick, easy, but very important to many people in our community.

The annual meeting is just around the corner and that means most of our commissions will be looking for new disciples. I have a list of all the different commissions and what they're responsible for so if you're thinking about the possibility of joining one and would like some information please give me a call. They all do an amazing job and are always looking for new disciples and new ideas. The list of possibilities is endless, so please don't hesitate to contact me if you need help searching for the right fit.



Serving Him Together,

Maureen Schlobohm
Volunteer Ministry

*"When you give of yourself,
you receive more than you give."*

-St Exupery



BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

(Updated as of January 5, 2012)

While for many of you, it may have seemed like the first few months of our construction project centered more around a theme of “deconstruction”, the landscape of our church has truly entered into the “building” phase. In the early months of our building project, we saw houses being relocated, a parking lot torn up and expanded, exterior decorative stone removed, and BIG holes being dug as basements and foundations were created.

Now however you should start to truly see the “building” phase of our project take form. Structural steel has arrived and precast units that will define the first floor over the basement area are next in line. Upon completion of the precast, there will be several load bearing masonry walls that will be constructed. One of the most noticeable of these walls will be the one that will be located between the new Narthex and the Multi-Purpose Room...once constructed, this masonry wall will be 31 feet tall!

When the masonry walls are completed, work will begin on the steel erection for the 2nd floor, roof steel, and multi-purpose room steel...as of this writing, the schedule for that is to be erected by the end of February. The roofing project is anticipated to begin in mid-March which will allow for workers to start working on the interior of the building (pouring floors, building drywall partitions, masonry, etc.). Yes, the structural landscape of our Church is changing, but our mission of “Growing Disciples for Christ” remains our foundation.

To follow this project more closely, we would recommend that you check out our website at <http://trinitybuildingproject.com> where you will find a photo gallery of our progress and you will have access to weekly updates of what’s happened, and what is scheduled for the upcoming weeks. We also encourage you to click on the Facebook link on that page and become a “friend” of this site so that you can have these updates sent to you automatically.

Lastly, just another reminder to please be careful around the construction project. While the crew is doing their best to keep pathways and walkways as serviceable as possible, the Minnesota weather will undoubtedly add some challenges to our travels. Please be careful, and when possible, please assist those who may need a steady hand to hold onto.

Notice of Trinity’s Annual Meeting Sunday, February 5, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

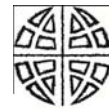
Notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church which is set by constitution for the first Sunday afternoon of February. The meeting will be held on **February 5, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. Join us for lunch at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall!



Did You Know?

(An ELCA Update from
Renee Belina

- Trinity's ELCA Mission Interpreter)



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

In my last article, I mentioned how I was beginning to see more signs of communication and cooperation between the ELCA organization and other denominations. In December, the leaders from the ELCA in the US, the ELCA in Canada, the Episcopal Church in the US and the Anglican Church of Canada met to explore new possibilities for working together and to deepen their sense of unity for doing God's work in the world. In a report issued from their meeting, the leaders stated that their conversation and work together "are hopeful signs for the church."

"There is so much more we can do when working together, whether that is in military chaplaincy, global mission, campus ministry, planting new congregations or advocacy," said ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson of the meeting.

Topics representing their mutual areas of interest and concern ranged from ecumenical and interfaith issues to immigration reform and poverty, from relief and development work to Middle East policies. They reviewed the possibility of producing materials, study guides and resources that congregations and parishes in all four churches could use in various seasons of the liturgical year, and they also addressed the challenges of "church planting" and the need for strategy to do this work with full-communion partners. The national leaders then formed a subcommittee to further consider how to make the bilateral full-communion relationships effective among the four churches. The full group will meet again in 2012, and staff of the four churches will be invited to provide updates on collaborative work.

"Why is this important?" you may ask? I think it's significant because it demonstrates a willingness to cooperate for the better of all people and a realization that there is strength in unity. Isn't that what God wants?

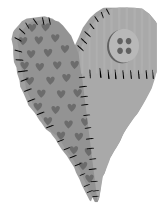
QUILT TILL YOU WILT!

Friday, February 10 6p.m. to whenever!

This is a great time to work on your unfinished projects or perhaps start a new one. You're invited to come on the **second Friday of each month** (through May) from 6 p.m. till whenever you wilt!

What to bring:

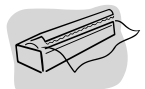
- your projects
- your sewing machine and/or hand sewing needs
- a snack to share
- a friend - the more the merrier!
- A portable light would be handy, too!



Coffee, tea, cutting mats, rulers, rotary cutters, ironing board, and iron are provided. Of course, feel free to bring any of your own utensils you prefer to work with. Contact Pastor Julie with any questions.

Food Shelf Update

The Steele County Food Shelf items for the month of February are **paper goods, foils, and wraps**. Items may be put in the bin in the narthex any time during the month.





TRINITY WILL BE HOSTING A BLOOD DRIVE ON ASH WEDNESDAY.

Please consider taking a few moments from your day to potentially help save a life by being a blood donor.



February 22, 2012
Trinity (Third floor)
1pm – 6pm




Watch for more information in the church bulletins regarding sign up. If you have questions, please contact Kathy Blomquist Parish Nurse.



The *HOLTUM/ELLERMAN SCHOLARSHIP application* forms are now available to be picked up in the church office, in Sheri's office, or downloaded off of our website (www.tlcowatonna.org). This scholarship is being made available from the interest earned by the John Holtum Scholarship Fund and the Lillian Ellerman Estate. The application must be returned to either office no later than Friday, *April 13*. Please remember any *Trinity member* who is currently a **high school senior or is enrolled in post-secondary education, either vocational or college is eligible**. Those of you who have received this scholarship in previous years are not eligible for another award from this scholarship.

2012 Irvin C. and Viola A. Natzel Memorial Scholarships

The Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation will again be offering five \$2000 scholarships for the 2012 year from the endowed Irvin C. and Viola A. Natzel Scholarship fund to members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna, Minnesota. Scholarships will be awarded annually to students planning to attend a post-high school educational institution or for those who are already in a post-high school educational program. The education institution may be private or public and there is no restriction regarding location. 

Both Viola and Irvin Natzel shared a common goal of trusting and helping others. Their financial success over their lifetime enabled them to make a significant contribution to the Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation with income from there to be used to award post-high school scholarships. They requested these scholarships to be used for technical school or college and that awards are to be based upon financial need, aptitude and ability.

Applications and references are due in the church office **no later than March 10th**. Completed applications will be reviewed and final awards determined by the Trinity Foundation Committee. The selection process should be completed by May 1st. Scholarship awards will be made payable directly to the higher learning institution which must be identified by the recipient, and sent to the scholarship recipient for remittance to the learning institution. The scholarship is paid in two installments, the first in August and the second in January of that academic year. Applications can be obtained from the Trinity Lutheran Church office or printed from the Trinity Church Website (WWW.TLCOWATONNA.org).

If you have any questions please contact Trinity Foundation Board Member, Arlene Johnson at 451-3548.



OFFICIAL ACTS

Baptisms:

- Dec 31- **Brooke Adela Meier**, daughter of Brad & Heidi Meier
- Jan 1- **Weston Douglas Schroht**, son of Aaron & Brooke Schroht
- Jan 8- **Jae Miles Herzog**, son of Paul & Angela Herzog

Weddings:

- Dec 16 - **Scott Klecker & Tiffany Dettman**
- Dec 31 - **Joe Rose & Casey Mortensen**
- Jan 1 - **Tanya Bucher & Todd Shatek**

Funerals:

- Jan 6- **Kimi Wilson**

Memorial Gifts:

- Avonne Anderson's brother and sister-in-law** - \$80 Meals of Hope
- Norma Betlach** - \$1,410 Building Fund; \$10 Undesignated Memorial
- Delores Bruessel** - \$462 Bible Fund
- Denise Dufresne's father** - \$20 Building Fund
- Warren Dufresne (father of Tom Dufresne)** - \$45 Building Fund
- Darrel Heegard (father of Joe Heegard & Joan Jutson)** - \$50 Building Fund
- Gwenlyn Hovden (mother of Larry Hovden)** - \$25 Building Fund
- Lucille Knutson** - \$2,193 Building Fund; \$10 Camperships; \$10 Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Margaret Larson (mother of Janell Salcedo)** - \$15 Building Fund
- Charlene Moore** - \$10 Undesignated Memorial
- Kimi Wilson** - \$20 Building Fund

Special Gifts:

- Building Fund** - \$525 in honor of Mae Selvala
- Camperships** - \$1,150
- Church Repairs** - \$120
- Compassion Child** - \$75
- Cremation Urn Pall** - \$125
- Emergency Fund** - \$1,050
- Ethiopia Partnership** - \$250 in honor of Mark & Barb Sebring
- Food Shelf** - \$489
- Holiday Food Baskets** - \$229
- Kitchen Fund (for new kitchen)** - \$227
- Meals of Hope** - \$180
- Nursery Fund** - \$30 in honor of the Baptism of Ashley Beyer, daughter of Brian & Michelle Beyer
 - \$50 in honor of the Baptism of Jae Herzog, son of Paul & Angela Herzog
 - \$50 in honor of the Baptism of Cru Schultz, son of Tim & Laurie Schultz
 - \$50 in honor of the Baptism of Easton Soupir, son of Trevor & Kirby Soupir
- Pine Ridge Indian Reservation** - \$30
- Shirlee M. Peterson Memorial Nursing Scholarship** - \$250
- Sunday School Fund** - \$25
- Sunday School Mission Offerings** - \$113
- TNS Scholarship Fund** - \$401; \$50 in honor of the Baptism of Brooke Meier, daughter of Brad & Heidi Meier
- Transportation Fund** - \$30

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please call the church office (451-4520) if you have an address change or email address change. We don't want you to miss any Trinity mailings!

NEED A LIFT?

If you would like a ride to church, the Trinity bus is available to pick you up for either the 5:00 Saturday service or the 9:45 Sunday service. You must call the church office (451-4520) **before 3:00 on Friday** if you would like a ride to one of these services.



Calendar



TRINITY MESSENGER

Trinity Lutheran Church
609 Lincoln Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
OWATONNA MN
PERMIT NO 61

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH *A Community Growing Disciples for Christ*

WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:15 a.m.
9:45 a.m.
(Contemporary) 11:15 a.m.



TRINITY MESSENGER

Published monthly by

Trinity Lutheran Church
609 Lincoln Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060

(507) 451-4520

Fax: (507) 451-1348

www.tlcowatonna.org

TRINITY STAFF

Pastors: John Lestock, Dean Smith, Julie Malone
Intern Pastor: Amanda Schultz
Visitation Pastor: Charles Espe
Church Administrator: John Petersburg
Youth Education Director: Sheri Berg
Junior High Youth Director: Michael Odegaard
Volunteer Ministry: Maureen Schlobohm
Parish Nurse: Kathy Blomquist
Organist: Janean Hall
Music Coordinator: Andrea Van Gelder
TNS Director: Brenda Jensen
Office Staff: Judith Peterson, Tanyia Bucher
Financial Secretary: Jane Kittleson
Custodians: Roger Schroer, Rick Selbrade, Ben Hale
Food Service Coordinator: Karen Oeltjenbruns
AV Coordinator: Steve Schultz

*The church has an answering machine for after-hours calls.
You may get the name and number of the pastor on call or leave a message.*