

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 24, 2005

WELCOME

A special welcome to our guests worshiping with us this morning. We are glad you are here; we thank God for you! We pray that Jesus will touch your heart in some special way for being here. Please sign the guest book and fill out a visitor's card that you will find on the pad in your pew and place it in the offering plate during the service or hand it to one of the ushers, so we can thank you for joining us this week. If we can be of service to you, please let us know.

OFFERINGS AND TITHES

Offerings are our special gifts given to the Lord on special days or occasions or whenever we are moved to do so, for any reason.

Tithes are those monetary gifts we return to the Lord on a regular basis as first fruits because He asks us to do so, and to meet our spiritual need to give back to the One who has first given to us.

If you are a visitor today, feel free to give an offering to the Lord, but do not feel you need to do so. The members of Trinity support the work of the Lord here by giving back to the Lord a portion of what He gives us. We pray that the Lord will continue to lead you to give your offerings and tithes to your home congregation.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Everyone who has a special prayer request is invited to give those requests to Pastor Moeller. If you don't have a chance to do so before the service, write it down on one of the pads from the front of your pew and hand it to one of the ushers with the offering. Pastor will include those requests in our prayers for the day and/or the prayer chain.

PRAYER UPON ENTERING

Heavenly Father, we thank You for coming to us in the person of Your Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins. Enable us gracious Father, by the indwelling power of Your Holy Spirit, to keep our focus firmly on Jesus so that He will be the center of our lives and faith always—even unto everlasting life. In the name of Jesus. Amen!

ACTIVITY BAGS

Activity bags provided by the LWML are available for all the young children who join in our worship services at Trinity. You can pick up a bag from those that are hanging in the coat room. The children are welcome to keep their artwork by please return the bag and its other contents to the hooks where you find them.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

SUNDAY ~ **Worship w/communion ~ 9:30 am**
 Sunday School/Bible study ~ 10:30 am
MONDAY ~ **Men's Bible study ~ 6:00 am**
TUESDAY ~ **Choir practice ~ 6:30 pm**
 Bible study ~ 7:00 pm
WEDNESDAY ~ **Lifelight ~ 9:30 am**
 New member class ~ 7:00 pm

COMING EVENTS

Sun., May 1st ~ Worship ~ 9:30 am
 Sunday School/Bible Study ~ 10:30 am
 Men's Club meeting ~ 7:30 pm
Thurs., May 5th ~ Ascension Day Service ~ 7:30 pm
Sat., May 14th ~ Couples Club ~ 6:00 pm
Sun., May 22nd ~ Reception for Graduates
Sat., June 25th ~ Lutherans For Life Leadership/Speaker Training Seminar at
 Trinity ~ 9:30 am – 4:00 pm
July 18th – 22nd ~ Safari Adventure Vacation Bible School
July 25th - 27th ~ SD District Youth Gathering at Huron

SERVING THIS WEEK: SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2005

Cleaners: Merle & Barb Muchow, John & Wanda Barnhart
Greeters: John & Wanda Barnhart
Head Usher: Melvin Matthies
Acolyte: Dustin Kleba

NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2005

Cleaners: Marlo Anderson, Mike Anderson, Matthew Anderson
Greeters: Marlo Anderson, Mike Anderson
Head Usher: Lance Wollmann
Acolyte: Emily Krizan

WORSHIP SERVICE, SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2005

Attendance:	173	Communion:	95
Current	\$1,481.00		
Loose Offering	158.60		
Mission	95.00		
Future Church Worker	10.00		
Building Fund	460.00		

First Sunday Special Offerings go to Campus Ministry
Third Sunday Special Offerings go to Amy Kashenov

CAMP MINNEBOJI 2005

KIDS IN GRADES 4-9: Camp Minneboji is coming! June 19-25 is the time. Camp Okoboji in northwest Iowa is the place. The camp features Bible study, mission presentations, music, crafts, sports, recreation, and the chance to meet new Christian friends. This year's camp theme is "Courageous Faith: Bold Witness." The camp registration fee is \$210 (\$240 for 9th grade "Honors" Campers). Camp registration booklets are available from Pastor Moeller.

Check out the camp Web site: www.minneboji.com or contact the Camp Dean, Rev. Scott Sailer (Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD), for more information (605/332-3401; scottsailer@aol.com).

WANTED:

We are also looking for people who would be willing to share their musical talents (vocal/instrumental) at our worship services. If you are interested in helping, please contact Pastor Moeller.

FIT FOR LIFE



Why is the world so messed up? Why does God let bad things happen to good people? If we all use the same Bible why are there so many different denominations? Does God still speak to us today? Is His Word reliable? Is it relevant for today? If these are questions that you have asked, please plan to attend "Fit For Life in Christ," an exciting course in Christian growth that presents the

Word of God in new and meaningful ways. It is a course for those who are interested in membership in our church, or for anyone who wants to know what it really means to have a relationship with Jesus Christ. We are beginning a new class soon. If you are interested in participating, please speak with Pastor Moeller, about a time that would work well for you and/or your friends.

SHUT-INS

Please remember in your daily prayers the following shut-in members or those in nursing homes: Walt Wenzlaff, Bud Plagman, Vivian Dansman, Bonnie Edgecomb, and Martha Westphal.

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

The Red Hat Ladies of Hartford are sponsoring a special thank you for the five local military personnel who have returned from Iraq. The community is invited to join them at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 24th at the American Legion in Hartford. Ssgt. Tim Pranger of the 153rd Platte army guard will present a powerpoint program from his time in Iraq. Refreshments will be served.

THE CONFESSION DECLARED AT COMMUNION

The New Testament Church *continued steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread (Communion) and in the prayers (Acts 2:42)*. The Sacrament of the Altar is a confession of oneness in doctrine – that those attending believe, teach and confess what Trinity Lutheran Church believes, teaches and confesses. Those attending the Lord's Supper are baptized Christians who have been instructed in the Chief Parts of Christian Doctrine: The Ten Commandments, The Apostles' Creed, The Lord's Prayer, The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, The Office of the Keys and Confession, and The Sacrament of the Altar.

Those attending the Lord's Supper have been formally admitted to the fellowship of the Altar and continue in that fellowship as a member of Trinity Lutheran Church or sister congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod committed to rightly teaching the Word of God and administering the Sacraments according to Christ's institution. (Even children of Trinity congregation only come to the Sacrament after they have confirmed the confession of faith.)

While we acknowledge and appreciate the oneness of the Church which crosses denominational lines, we practice a confessional communion because attendance at the Altar is a declaration of oneness in doctrine. We would not want you to make that declaration without an opportunity of explaining what we believe, teach and confess. Therefore we ask that if you are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation that you would refrain from receiving the Sacrament before first speaking with Pastor.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR COMMUNION PREPARATION

Q: Do you believe you are a sinner?

A: Yes, I believe it; I have failed God and others in my life. I am a sinner.

Q: Are you sorry for your sins?

A: Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

Q: Do you need God's forgiveness?

A: Yes, I need the gift of life He gives through Jesus Christ.

Q: What has Christ done for you?

A: He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins.

Q: How do you know this?

A: From the holy Gospel and the words of the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.

Q: Do you believe that in communion you receive the true body and blood of Christ with the bread and the wine?

A: Yes, I believe it because of His Word and promises.

Approach the altar with joy and thanksgiving as you receive Christ for your forgiveness and strength.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN

We extend the Sacrament of Baptism to all who have not been baptized—infants, children, youth, and adults. We invite those adults who are looking for a church home to come to one of our New Member Orientation classes. A new class will begin soon. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Pastor Moeller as soon as possible.

Upon completion of this class you may join Trinity Lutheran Church in one of the following ways:

- The Rite of Confirmation for those who have never been confirmed in the Lutheran Church.
- A Letter of Transfer is gladly accepted if you wish to transfer your membership from another Lutheran congregation.
- Reaffirmation of faith is for those who have been confirmed in a Lutheran church but have not been active in their former church.

OUTREACH THEMES FROM OUR READINGS

Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ John 14:1-12: In our Gospel for today Jesus encourages us not to let our hearts be troubled, but rather to put our complete faith in his promise that he has gone to heaven before us to prepare a place for us and all believers. That promise is too good to keep to ourselves!

SD DISTRICT LCMS YOUTH GATHERING

The South Dakota LCMS Youth Gathering will be held Monday, July 25th to Wednesday, July 27th at the Crossroads Hotel & Convention Center in Huron, SD. It is open to all youth entering the 9th grade in the fall of 2005 to those who will have graduated from high school in the spring of 2005. The theme for this year's gathering is "Courageous Faith/Bold Witness," the theme for the upcoming 100th anniversary of the South Dakota District. "Against All Odds," a professional band from Minneapolis, will lead the music throughout the gathering and put on a concert Tuesday evening. Other scheduled activities included servant events, worship, the "junk-food potluck," and games.

MAIN STREET LIVING

Main Street Living has become the "at home" television church service for the homebound.

The program continues to be available on KDLT-NBC at 10:00 a.m. and on PAX at 11:00 a.m. Check your local listings for cable channels.

May 1, 2005 – "A Shameful Kind of Death." This drama deals with the effects of suicide on those people closest to the victim. The featured speaker is the Rev. Robert Moeller, Jr. of Trinity Lutheran Church in Hartford, SD. The sermon theme is "Baptism Now Saves You."

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ 1 Peter 2:4-10: St. Peter calls us God's own people who have been called to declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. As Christian stewards we give witness to this truth through our free and joyous living and giving.

PREDESTINATION—THE LUTHERAN DIFFERENCE

As Lutherans interact with other Christians, they often find themselves struggling to explain their beliefs and practices. Although many Lutherans have learned the "what" of the doctrines of the church, they do not always have a full scriptural foundation to share the "why." Because of insecurities about explaining particular doctrines or practices, some Lutherans may avoid opportunities to share what they have learned from Christ and His Word, including our understanding of prayer.

Our Lifelight Bible study group meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in people's homes. Our study—Predestination: The Lutheran Difference—will identify how Lutherans differ from other Christians and demonstrate from the Bible why Lutherans differ on predestination, one of the most misunderstood doctrines of the church. These studies will help you grow in your understanding and appreciation for your Baptism and help to prepare you to share your faith with others. Please join us!

A MILE OF PENNIES

The High School Youth Group is sponsoring "A Mile of Pennies" Fundraiser. Members are invited to donate their pennies and other spare change into the jar on the table by the entrance to the church nave. Other monetary donations will be accepted as well (\$1.00 = 100 pennies). The proceeds will be used to purchase a multimedia projector for the new building addition. We now have over a mile of pennies (91,400 or \$914.00) collected, which placed side by side would stretch over 1 mile. Thank you for contributing!

PRAYER CHAIN > PRAYER LINK

To insure better communication, the prayer chain now operates using email. If you want to be included in the Prayer Link, send your email address to Pat Reichert at mmreichert@msn.com. When prayers are requested, you will be sent an email including the prayer request. If you do not have email but want to be contacted when prayers are requested just call Pat at 526-6225 and you will be put on the list to call. Everyone is encouraged to contact Pat Reichert or Pastor Moeller with prayer requests. St. Paul encourages us, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Philippians 4:6).

Divine Service

Hymn of Invocation.....#355
"Thou Art the Way; to Thee Alone"
The Order of Holy Communion.....p. 15-16
The Introit.....

P: Come and listen, all you who fear God;
C: let me tell you what he has done for me.
P: Shout with joy to God, all the earth!
C: Sing to the glory of his name; offer him glory and praise!
P: Praise our God, O peoples,
C: let the sound of his praise be heard;
P: he has preserved our lives
C: and kept our feet from slipping.
P: Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer,
C: or withheld his love from me!
P: Come and listen, all you who fear God;
C: let me tell you what he has done for me.

The Gloria Patri, Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis.....
The Readings Back of bulletin
The Nicene Creed p. 22
The Sermon Hymn#250
"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"
The Sermon..... "No Innocent Bystanders"
The Offering.....
The Rite of Confirmation
The Service of Communionp. 24-30
The Distribution Hymns
#371 "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"
#316 "O Living Bread from Heaven"
The Collect, Benediction..... p. 31
The Closing Hymn #188
"Hallelujah! Let Praise Ring"

SIMPLY GIVING

The Trinity Stewardship Committee would like to introduce a new program that could help you in your giving of your tithes and offerings. Through *Simply Giving*, your tithes and offering are made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account. You determine the frequency of your automatic gifts—weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly—the option is yours. Your gift is deposited into the church's bank account on the same day it is withdrawn from your account.

Simply Giving is a reliable, safe way from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to move your stewardship plan into action. It allows you to share your gifts through planned giving and activates your generosity into ongoing stewardship. Because your gift is given consistently, you won't need to play "catch-up" at year-end or worry about forgotten checkbooks or missed Sunday offerings. But you're not the only one that benefits. Our congregation benefits from steady, more predictable revenues throughout the year, and more efficient bookkeeping.

To participate, all you need to do is fill out a simple form that is available from the members of the Trinity Stewardship Committee (John Barber, Tim Totton, Mary Krizan, Aimee Moeller, or Amy Valdes). If you have any other questions they are willing to help you.

LIFE QUEST 2005

Dakota Extreme Events of Sioux Falls will be sponsoring an adventure race May 20-21st at Inspiration Hills near Canton, SD. The proceeds will be donated to the Alpha Center.

During the race, four-person co-ed and two-person open teams will work together to conquer an established course, which will include elements like mountain biking, running/hiking, canoeing, rope skills, map and compass navigation, and some surprises on a 50- to 60- mile course with a time limit of about 12 hours will challenge participants' skills and endurance.

Participants, volunteers, and sponsors are needed to make the event a success. Contact Adel Valdes (605) 201-7733 or check out the website: www.dakotaextremeevents.com

LFL LEADERSHIP/SPEAKER TRAINING SEMINAR

Lutherans For Life Executive Director Rev. Dr. James Lamb and Ed Szeto, LFL director of outreach, will present a one-day seminar designed for those who want to learn how to speak on life issues in their congregations, communities, and schools. The event will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Saturday, June 25th, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hartford, SD.

The seminar cost is \$50 for a single registration (includes one manual/CD) or \$60 for husband/wife registration (includes one manual/CD). Scholarship money is available through LFL of SD. Class size is limited, so register early. To register, please speak to Pastor Moeller.

"LIFE QUOTES" FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

"With . . . abortion we say, in essence, 'Isn't it a shame to bring children into the world who haven't got a chance?' The only problem with that argument is that we're playing God when we think we know what that chance really will be." *Elizabeth Skoglund, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist* www.lutheransforlife.org / 888-364-LIFE

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Trinity Evangelism Committee will be meeting on Monday, May 9th at 7:00 p.m. Among the projects we will be working on is our new member welcome program and activities for the upcoming Hartford Jamboree. We would like to have a large number of creative and energetic people help us in these projects. Please plan on attending.

SERMON AUDIO TAPES

The Trinity Lutheran Church Evangelism Committee has audiotapes of each Sunday sermon available. These are great for use by the homebound, shut-in, nursing home residents, or to give to your unchurched neighbor or family member. If you or someone you know would like to receive these tapes on a weekly basis, please contact Brenda Erikson (363-3444) or Connie Geide (526-3840).

DIAPER DERBY

Our congregation is participating in the SESD Lutherans For Life Annual Diaper Derby. From now through Mother's Day and until Father's Day, we will be collecting baby diapers that will be donated to the Alpha Center, or local crisis pregnancy center. Amy Valdes has set up a nice and collection box for your donations.

COUPLES CLUB

The Couples Club will be getting together to watch the movie **The Passion of the Christ** on Saturday, May 15th at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is asked to bring some kind of finger food. All couples of the congregation are invited to join us! Please contact Kathy Totton at 528-3849 as soon as possible to let her know if you are able to attend. The number of couples who plan to attend will determine whether we meets and the Krizan's house or at Omnitech.

PREPARING FOR DEATH

Preparing people for death (their own or a loved one's), is among the most important work a pastor does. It is at the time of death when we each try to ask those "why" questions that may not have a satisfying answer and try to make sense out of what *does not make sense*. At such times our faith is tested the most. But properly prepared, it can be the time in which our Christian witness is the most effective, where we may have unique opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, who has defeated death and transformed it into the gate to eternal life. We might say, that if we are better prepared for our death, we are better prepared for life.

Over 400 years ago, a relatively unknown Lutheran pastor in Germany, Rev. Martin Möller, wrote a small book, *Heilige Sterbekunst*, which dealt with "the holy art of dying." Although a book of this kind can never outgrow its usefulness, it was not available in English until Pastor Arthur E. Schulz translated it in 1974. We are examining this small book, *Preparing for Death* in our Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.) adult Bible study. We encourage all adults of the congregation to attend. Those who do, will find a very helpful companion and resource to use for many years in the future, as they face the death of their loved ones and their own inevitable death. *Preparing for Death* gets the message straight and gets the message of God's love out. Please join us!

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

Along with Easter and Pentecost, Ascension was one of the three most important festivals of the early church, but today it often goes relatively unnoticed. We continue to celebrate the Ascension of our Lord because it marks the highest degree of His exaltation. Seated at the right hand of God, Christ entered into the full use, according to His human nature, of the divine attributes He had set aside during His life on earth. We are comforted that our faith and hope rest secure in the ascended Christ who now is always and everywhere present and governs and protects His here on earth. We look forward expectantly to the day return when He will return in the same way He ascended. Please plan on joining us to worship on Wednesday, May 5th at 7:30 p.m.