

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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PASTOR ROBERT E. MOELLER, JR.

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7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 8, 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 coatroom. 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
Evangelism Committee meeting ~ 7:00 pm

TUESDAY ~ Choir practice ~ 6:30 pm
Bible study ~ 7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY ~ Lighthouse ~ 9:30 am
LWML meeting at Pizza Ranch ~ 12:30 pm
New member class ~ 7:00 pm

THURSDAY ~ Circuit Mission Festival planning meeting ~ 7:30 pm

SATURDAY ~ Couples Club ~ 6:00 pm

COMING EVENTS

Sun., May 15th ~ Worship ~ 9:30 am
Sunday School/Bible Study ~ 10:30 am
Farewell dinner for Ruud's ~ 12:00 noon

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, MAY 8, 2005

Cleaners: Ray & JoAnn Matthies, Bryan & Susan Kelley
Greeters: Bryan & Susan Kelley
Head Usher: Lance Wollmann
Acolyte: Patrick Erikson

NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2005

Cleaners: Don & Pat Reichert, David & Faye Gilderhus
Greeters: David & Faye Gilderhus
Head Usher: Lance Wollmann
Acolyte: Jennifer Muchow

WORSHIP SERVICE, SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2005

Attendance:	87		
Current offering	\$1,894.00	Loose Offering	8.10
Mission	222.00	Future Church Worker	10.00
Building Fund	2,115.00	Campus Ministry	11.00

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

FAREWELL DINNER

On May 15th at 12:00 noon, the 125th Anniversary Committee is hosting a meal to thank Gerry Ruud for playing the organ for 50+ years at Trinity. Gerry and Roy are moving to Missouri and we wish them God's blessings in their new home. Everyone in the congregation is invited and, if you like, a card shower would be a nice thank you. Funds that are raised from the free will offering will be used in preparation for our 125th anniversary celebration in September of 2006.

VBS PLANNING MEETING



It is time that we begin to plan for this year's VBS, which will be held July 18th through the 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Because we are expecting a large turnout again this year, we are going to need a bunch of help and support. If you are at all interested in contributing to this year's *Safari Adventure*, whether it is by helping to make snacks, teaching, driving, or providing us with supplies, please attend our informational meeting at the church on Monday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m.

All of your ideas, opinions and prayers are greatly appreciated. If you are interested in helping out or would like more information about his year's program, please contact Jessi Moeller at 321-1642.

COUPLES CLUB

The Couples Club will be getting together to watch the movie **The Passion of the Christ** on Saturday, May 14th 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.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Ruth Moore for making the beautiful new banner that is hanging on the north wall of the nave of the church. In the coming months we will be focusing on its theme "God Wills It: The Mission of the Cross."

Thank you to Ben Matthies for maintaining our website. If you haven't checked it out recently, we would encourage you to do so at www.trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org. You can find copies our monthly newsletter, Sunday bulletins, Pastor's sermons, upcoming events, and many other things about Trinity.

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 our faith is tested 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!

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.

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.

RECEPTION FOR GRADUATES

We will be holding a reception for our high school graduates (Casey Barber, Erica Leisure, and Logan Moeller) on Sunday, May 22nd following the worship service. Please plan to join us as we celebrate the completion of their high school education and their individual achievements.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Don Reichert for being elected our circuit's delegate to the SD District Fall Planning Conference. Don will join circuit counselor pastors and lay delegates from all the circuits in our district to discuss ministry priorities and future plans. If you have anything for Don to bring to the meeting, please feel free to give him a call before September.

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.

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.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

1 Peter 4:12-17; 5:6-11: Christian stewards are Easter people--people of hope--who are eager to do the good things that God has prepared in advance for them to do. They do not do these good things in expectation of reward, but because they are moved by Christ's love to do good.

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 15, 2005 – "The Homecoming." A young man who returns from jail finds his girl friend is into prostitution to support a drug habit. See how the man deals with his friend through the love shown by Christ. The featured speaker is Rev. Kevin Vogts of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Dakota Dunes, SD. The sermon theme is "God's Grief Counselor."

Check the website at www.mainstreetliving.com for more information.

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).

OUTREACH THEMES FROM OUR READINGS

Seventh Sunday in Easter ~ John 17:1-11: On the evening before his death, Jesus prayed fervently for his disciples. Later in this same chapter Jesus indicates that he is praying not only for his disciples, but also for all who in the future will believe. That includes us! What a joy to know that we have a Savior who prays daily for us and longs to have all people know and believe in him.

Divine Service

Hymn of Invocation.....#367
"Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus"
The Order of Holy Communion.....p. 15-16
The Introit.....

P: Hear my voice when I call, O Lord;
C: be merciful to me and answer me.
P: The Lord is my light and my salvation-
C: whom shall I fear?
P: One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek:
C: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.
P: For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
C: he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.
P: Though my father and mother forsake me,
C: the Lord will receive me.
P: Wait for the Lord;
C: be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.
P: Hear my voice when I call, O Lord;
C: be merciful to me and answer me.

The Gloria Patri, Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis.....
The Readings Back of bulletin
The Nicene Creed p. 22
The Sermon Hymn#447
"Fight the Good Fight"
The Sermon..... "Listen to Jesus Pray"
The Offering.....
The Service of Communionp. 24-30
The Distribution Hymns
#305 "Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness"
#304 "An Awe-full Mystery Is Here"
The Collect, Benediction..... p. 31
The Closing Hymn #339
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

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. This 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 QUOTES" FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

Mother’s Day “I want to thank the godly women of the Christian church for the faithful and loving witness you give your children from day-to-day. Thank you for bringing your sons/daughters to the house of the Lord so that they might be adopted into God’s family through Holy Baptism. Thank you for placing the Word of God into their hands. Thank you for singing Christian hymns and songs to them as you rock them to sleep at night. Thank you for having the mind of Christ in yourself and humbling yourself in service to your children. Thank you for teaching them to pray by being a person of prayer yourself. Thank you for molding your children into ‘little Christs’ by modeling his love and forgiveness in your life. Yes, Solomon’s words (Proverbs 31:29) are true of you women... you mothers of faith ... , ‘Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.’” *Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer, President, Lutherans For Life of Canada*

LIFE QUEST 2005

Dakota Extreme Events of Sioux Falls will be sponsoring an adventure race May 20-21st at Inspiration Hills near Canton with the proceeds 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 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.

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).

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.