

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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[www.trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org](http://www.trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org)

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## THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 9, 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 at Trinity 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 unto 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!

### SHUT-INS

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

### THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

SUNDAY ~      **Worship w/communion** ~ 9:30 am  
                    **Sunday School/Bible study** ~ 10:30 am  
                    **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee meeting** ~ 6:30 pm  
                    **Church Council meeting** ~ 7:30 pm

### 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 ready to begin a new class soon. If you are interested in participating, please speak with Pastor Moeller, letting him know a time that would work well for you and/or your friends.

### CHURCH COUNCIL AND VOTER'S MEETINGS

The Church Council will be meeting on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. All committees, boards, and groups are asked to have their annual reports turned into Secretary, June Snyder by that day.

The annual voter's meeting will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Included on the agenda will be the election of officers.

The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee will be providing a meal before the meeting. Free will donations will be used to defray expenses for the upcoming 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Everyone from the congregation is invited to attend this dinner. You need not bring anything!

### NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

The following have been nominated for position as officers of the church council in the elections, which will be held at the annual voters meeting, on Sunday, January 16, 2005 at 12:30 p.m.

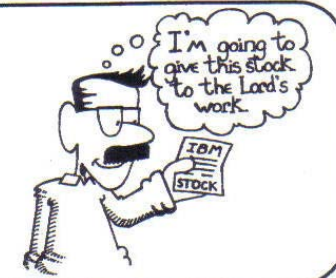
President—Don Reichert; Vice President—John Barber, Talis Johnson; Treasurer—Adel Valdes; Trustee—Dwane Matthies, Ray Matthies; Elder—Tim Totton, Steve Oligmueller.

### TEN FOR TEN BIBLE STUDY

Everyone attending our worship service and Sunday School today should receive a short Bible about tithing. All adults are invited (and encouraged) to stay after the worship service for a special one hour study of tithing. The High School students can bring their study with them to the parsonage for their Bible study today. The Sunday School students can bring theirs home to review with their parents.

**Giving to God is an act of worship and thanksgiving for all that God has done and entrusted to us.**

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).



**WELCOME:**

**MINUTEMAN MESSAGE:** “Tithing”

**OPENING HYMN:** #250 “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

**INVOCATION:**

**Pastor:** Let us call on the name of the Lord.

**People:** **In the name of the Father,**

**Pastor:** the Creator of all.

**People:** **In the name of the Son,**

**Pastor:** the One Who redeemed His created one through His death; the One Who brought forgiveness to unfaithful stewards, re-creating them to be faithful managers of His gifts of life.

**People:** **In the name of the Holy Spirit,**

**Pastor:** the Creator and Sustainer of our faith in the one true God.

**People:** **Let us call upon and praise the name of the Lord.**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Pastor:** The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**People:** **I lift You high in praise, my God and my King! I will bless Your name into eternity.**

**Pastor:** The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**People:** **God, You are magnificent. You can never be praised enough. Your greatness is limitless.**

**Pastor:** The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**People:** **Generation after generation stand in awe of Your work; each one tells stories of Your mighty acts.**

**Pastor:** The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**People:** **My life is filled with God’s praise. Let everything living bless Him; bless His holy name from now to eternity.**

**VERSE OF PRAISE** “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen sound from His people again;  
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

**KEEPSAKE COOKBOOK**

We need your favorite recipes! The 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee is printing a keepsake cookbook as part of our celebration of proclaiming the Word of God in this place for those many years. There are forms available at the back of the church. Please return at least 5 recipes (more if you like) by **January 16, 2005** so we can start to categorize them. You may also submit recipes in memory of a friend or loved one.

Please indicate **how many** you would like to buy so we can get some idea of the quantity we will need to print. Please return the completed forms to the box on the table near the greeting stand.

**JEFF & CARLA KALB**

The Kalb’s just sent a Christmas card, which is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. You can also see Jeff’s picture on the calendar also posted there. They would love to hear from you. Their address is: 8006 Leesburg Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46818. Their telephone number is (260) 625-5567 and their email address is kalb1@earthlink.net.

Please remember that our congregation has been asked to contribute \$2,000 per year for a portion of Jeff’s seminary instruction. If you would like to help you may give your contributions in your weekly offerings by giving a portion to the Future Church Worker fund.

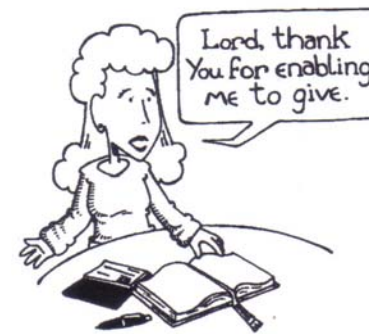
**LUTHERAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend in South Dakota will be March 4-6, 2005, in Sioux Falls. The main emphasis of the weekend is to improve communication between you and your spouse. Plan to attend.

For more information or for a registration form, contact Pastor Bob and Aimee Moeller, (605) 526-3572, [seelsorge8@aol.com](mailto:seelsorge8@aol.com); Milton and Donna Kaufman, (605) 651-3231, [miltkauf@tnics.com](mailto:miltkauf@tnics.com); or Vern and Karen Harrington, (712) 546-7381. [giblem@frontiernet.net](mailto:giblem@frontiernet.net)

**EVANGELISM COMMITTEE**

The Evangelism Committee is looking for members who would be interested in helping out in the area of evangelism. This would include things such as delivering service bulletins and tapes to shut-ins, making homemade gifts for visitors. Anyone who is interested may speak to Pastor Moeller or Joe Krizan.



**MAKING CHOICES THAT COUNT**

The concept of tithing has been the method of financially supporting the Church and its ministry on earth since the early Church. If you do not already tithe, you are encouraged to participate in **Ten for Ten**, committing to give ten percent for ten weeks to our church. Though the prophet Malachi, God **challenges** us to: “*Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse; our response is to “test” Him and obey, and He will reward us by the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that [we] will not have room enough for it*” (Malachi 3:10). Even if at this time tithing is not possible, ask God for the faith and strength to grow in your giving.

**EPISTLE:** 2 Corinthians 8:1-14

And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God’s will. So we urged Titus, since he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us □a□—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

And here is my advice about what is best for you in this matter: Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.

Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need.

**HOLY GOSPEL:** Matthew 23:23-28

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men’s bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

**CHILDREN’S SERMON:** “Practicing My Stewardship”

**SERMON HYMN:** #442 “Lord of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us”

**SERMON:** “Tithing: The First Step in Giving”

**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.

**FALL 2004-2005 ATTENDANCE AWARDS FOR TRINITY LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Perfect Attendance**

Lindsey Eggebraaten, Travis Eggebraaten, Jennifer Eggebraaten, and Austin Eggebraaten.

**Faithful Attendance**

Heather Totton, Abby Totton, Megan Eggebraaten, Brady Eggebraaten, Colin Kelley, and Holly Kelley.

**CHURCH EXTENSION FUND**

At this time of year, we stop and give thanks to the Lord for the many blessings He bestows upon us. We have gracious God who loves us so much that He reaches out to us through His Son with the free gift of eternal life which we receive through faith in Christ’s atoning death and victorious resurrection. We have much to rejoice about. Investors in Church Extension rejoice in being part of a ministry that helps provide facilities where the Gospel of Jesus is taught and preached.

Our South Dakota District Church Extension Fund (CEF) is offering Term Certificates to our LC-MS members, currently paying interest rates at between 1.9% and 4.0%. Be part of this ministry to build churches through investments, make an investment today. For more information and to invest, see the brochures on the greeting stand or contact SD Church Extension Fund at PO Box 89110, Sioux Falls, SD 57109 or call CEF’s toll free number 1-888-385-7330.

**To be prudent and wise with the money you earn, develop a plan to manage it wisely.**

“By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures” (Proverbs 24:3-4).



**CONFESSION OF FAITH:** Martin Luther's explanation of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He had given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land and animals, and all I have. He daily and richly provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does out of fatherly, divine, goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

**OFFERING:**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:**

**PREFACE**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**People: It is meet and right so to do.**

Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God: For in the mystery of the Word made flesh Thou hast given us a new revelation of Thy glory, that, seeing Thee in the person of Thy Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

**People: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory; Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**People: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: And also with you.**

**AGNUS DEI**

**People: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. . . Amen.**

**MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION** #400 "Take My Life and Let It Be"  
#404 "Soul, What Return Has God, Thy Savior"

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

**People: Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according, to Thy word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**PRAYER**

Pastor: O God the Father, Fount and Source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness didst send Thine only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank Thee that for His sake Thou hast given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament; and we beseech Thee not to forsake Thy children, but evermore to rule our hearts and minds by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may be enabled constantly to serve Thee; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless thee and keep thee.

The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.

**People: Amen, Amen, Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN:** #403 "Savior, Thy Dying Love"

### 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 big screen television set for the new building addition. We have just gone over half way to our goal of accumulating 84,480 pennies (\$844.80), which placed side by side would stretch 1 mile. Thank you for your support.

### STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany (Baptism of Jesus) ~ Acts

10:34-38: Jesus practiced perfect stewardship of all that the Father entrusted to him. Now it is our turn to practice good stewardship of all the blessings God has bestowed upon us as we share physical and spiritual blessings with others in need.

### THANK YOU FROM LSS

Thanks to you many people are staying warm this winter. Lutheran Social Services Refugee and Immigration Programs thanks you for your generous donations of warm clothing, blankets and household goods. Many lives were improved because of your kindness.

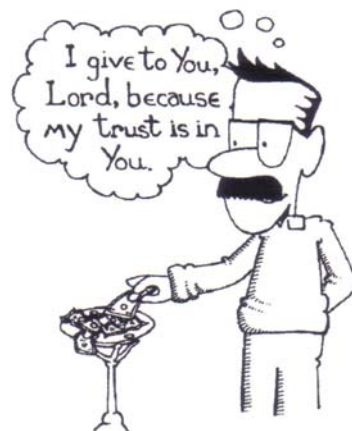
### LIFE QUOTES" FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

Regarding women who have had abortions, “While I might not understand the hurt you feel inside, I do understand the forgiveness Jesus offers. He offers His blood to cover and cure all sins—all hurts—all pains—all guilt—all burdens. Jesus invites you to have your burden lifted up to the cross, where He comes to give Life . . . Don’t allow the devil to work in your life by holding on to the sin and the guilt and the pain. Satan may want to see you suffer. Jesus does not!” *Rev. Paul E. Kaldahl, Jr., First English Lutheran Church, Spencer, Iowa* **A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life / [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org) / 888-364-LIFE**

### DAILY PRAYER—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—Daily Prayer: The Lutheran Difference—will identify how Lutherans differ from other Christians and demonstrate from the Bible why Lutherans differ. These studies will help you grow in your prayer life and prepare you to share your faith with others. Please join us!



### CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord, we humbly come before You knowing that we have failed to speak, think, or act rightly. Hear our confession, Lord, for we have sinned and failed You  
... in the stewardship of time (reflection/confession)  
... in the stewardship of Your Gospel (reflection/confession)  
... in faithfully managing relationships (reflection/confession)  
... in financial stewardship (reflection/confession)  
... in caring for the bodies You have entrusted to us (reflection/confession)  
... in the stewardship of our minds (reflection/confession)

**People: Hear our confession, for we have sinned and are in need of Your mercy and forgiveness. We come to You in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Pastor: Fellow stewards of God’s gifts, appointed disciples, loved children of God: It is impossible for anyone to love you more than God loves you. He also despises our sin more than we do. In His love for us, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to the world He created to save us from the sins that would destroy us. He gives us a song of victory today because of His undying love. He died so that we could live. His forgiveness and presence empowers us to turn away from our sins and live as His redeemed stewards and children. As His called servant, it with great joy and by God’s command that I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 Chronicles 29:1-9

Then King David said to the whole assembly: “My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the LORD God. With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, and all kinds of fine stone and marble—all of these in large quantities. Besides, in my devotion to the temple of my God I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, over and above everything I have provided for this holy temple: three thousand talents □ of gold (gold of Ophir) and seven thousand talents □ of refined silver, for the overlaying of the walls of the buildings, for the gold work and the silver work, and for all the work to be done by the craftsmen. Now, who is willing to consecrate himself today to the LORD?”

Then the leaders of families, the officers of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, and the officials in charge of the king’s work gave willingly. They gave toward the work on the temple of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics □ of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents □ of bronze and a hundred thousand talents □ of iron. Any who had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the temple of the LORD in the custody of Jehiel the Gershonite. The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the LORD. David the king also rejoiced greatly.

### **PARKING DURING CONSTRUCTION**

During construction, parking places near the church will be at a premium. We ask that you leave the parking spaces closest to the church for those unable to get around as easily as you. Gary Miles has given permission to park in his driveway, directly south of the church. We suggest everyone parallel park on the west side of the driveway and turn around by the house.

Please do not park near the road on the south side. The edge of the road is very narrow and with all the traffic that goes by, this can be very dangerous. When the weather is dry an alternative parking place would be on the lawn of the cemetery grounds. Perhaps someone arriving early could open the gate, and the last one who leaves could close it again.

### **SESD LUTHERAN FOR LIFE SOUP SUPPER**

The Southeast South Dakota Lutherans For Life will be holding their annual soup supper at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, January 23, 2005 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 225 W. Juniper, Menno, SD.

Ed Szeto, Director of Outreach for National Lutherans For Life, will speak on "Biotechnology 101," a basic introduction to the four main biotechnologies that touch our lives: in-vitro fertilization, stem cell research, cloning, and genetic engineering. A good discussion starter for the age-old question, "Just because we can do something, does that mean we should?"

We will also hear from a representative from Alpha Center, a crisis pregnancy center in Sioux Falls. Southeast South Dakota Lutherans For Life raised over \$10,000 in this year's "Bike for Life" to be used for the cost of operating the ultrasound at the Alpha Center. We will hear an update of how God is using the free ultrasound service at the Alpha Center to save the lives of babies and their mothers.

### **PRAYER CHAIN > PRAYER LINK**

To insure better communication, the prayer chain will now operate using email. If you want to be included in the Prayer Link, send your email address to Pat Reichert at [mmreichert@msn.com](mailto: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).

### **COUPLES CLUB ~ THE LIFELINES OF LOVE**

The Couples Club will be getting together for supper on Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the church. Please contact Kathy Totton at 528-3849 to let her know if you are able to attend. Following the supper, we will continue our study and discussion of the **sixth chapter** of The Lifelines of Love, a wonderful review of the fundamentals that form the foundation of a successful Christian marriage.

All couples of the congregation are invited to join us even if you haven't been able to attend before! If you haven't picked up your copy of The Lifelines of Love and your homework assignment, please speak to Pastor Moeller.

### **OUTREACH THEMES FROM OUR READINGS**

The Baptism of our Lord ~ Matthew 3:13-17: After Jesus was baptized, the Father's voice from heaven declared: "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Our strongest witness is to point people to Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

### **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.

**MONDAY ~ Men's Bible study ~ 6:00 am**  
**TUESDAY ~ Choir practice ~ 6:00 pm**  
**Bible study ~ 7:00 pm**  
**WEDNESDAY ~ Lifelight Bible study ~ 9:30 am**  
**LWML meeting at Good Samaritan Village ~ 1:00 pm**  
**Confirmation ~ 5:30 pm**  
**Midweek worship service w/communion ~ 7:30 pm**

**COMING EVENTS**

Sun., Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> ~ Worship ~ 9:30 am  
 Sunday School/Bible Study ~ 10:30 am  
 Dinner served by 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee ~ 11:30 am  
 Annual Voters' meeting ~ 12:30 pm  
 Thurs., Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> ~ Deadline for newsletter  
 Sat., Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Couples Club ~ 6:00 pm  
 Sun., Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Installation of Officers to church council  
 Lutherans For Life Soup Supper at Menno ~ 6:00 pm  
 Sat., Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> ~ SD District Lay Enrichment Conference at Our Redeemer-Sioux Falls ~ 9:30 am  
 March 4-6, 2005 Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend in Sioux Falls

**SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE : SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2005**

**Cleaners:** Bob & Ruth Moore, Louis & Michelle Thompson  
**Greeters:** Arnold & Ruth Arends  
**Head Usher:** Harvey Rehfeldt **Acolyte:** Holly Kelley

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2005**

**Greeters:** Louis & Michelle Thompson  
**Head Usher:** Daniel Erikson **Acolyte:** Thad Johnson

**NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2005**

**Cleaners:** DeWane & Joyce Carls, Ben & Michelle Matthies  
**Greeters:** Ben & Michelle Matthies  
**Head Usher:** Harvey Rehfeldt **Acolyte:** Megan Eggebraaten

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2004** **NEW YEAR'S EVE. DECEMBER 31, 2004**

<b>Attendance:</b> 12	<b>Attendance:</b> 6
<b>Communed:</b> 12	<b>Communed:</b> 6
<b>Offering:</b> Current \$ 20.00	

**WORSHIP SERVICE, SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2005**

<b>Attendance:</b> 51	
<b>Offering:</b> Current \$ 1,146.00	
Loose Offering 0.00	
Building Fund 120.00	
Mission 125.00	
Future Church Worker 10.00	
Campus Ministry 11.00	

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

**January 9, 2005**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**46448 263<sup>rd</sup> St.**  
**Hartford, SD 57033**  
**(605) 526-3571**  
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**Rev. Robert E. Moeller, Jr., Pastor**