

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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www.trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org

PASTOR ROBERT E. MOELLER, JR.

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3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 27, 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
Men's Club Rent-A-Bum Dinner and auction ~ 12:00 noon
LWML Prayer Service at Memorial ~ 1:30 pm

MONDAY ~ Men's Bible study ~ 6:00 am
New member class ~ 2:00 pm
Dartball at Zion, Canistota ~ 7:00 pm
Drama rehearsal ~ 7:00 pm

TUESDAY ~ Chapel at Tieszen Home ~ 9:00 pm
Choir practice ~ 6:30 pm
Lenten Bible study ~ 7:00 pm
125th Anniversary Committee meeting ~ 7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY ~ Lifelight Bible study ~ 9:30 am
Confirmation ~ 5:30 pm
Lenten Supper ~ 6:00-7:00 pm
Midweek Lenten worship service ~ 7:30 pm

COMING EVENTS

Sun., Mar. 6th ~ Worship ~ 9:30 am
Sunday School/Bible Study ~ 10:30 am
Elders' meeting ~ 12:00 noon
Joint Choir Festival at Our Redeemer ~ 3:30 pm
Church Council meeting ~ 6:30 pm
Men's Club ~ 7:30 pm

July 25th- 27th ~ SD District Youth Gathering at Huron

SERVING THIS WEEK: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2005

Cleaners: Denny & Walt Plagman, Chuck & Debbie Nelson
Greeters: Chuck & Debbie Nelson
Head Usher: Casey Barber **Acolyte:** Thomas Iverson

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2005

Greeters: Denny & Walt Plagman
Head Usher: Brock Thompson **Acolyte:** Aubrey Larson

NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2005

Cleaners: Helen Wenzlaff, Pat Wenzlaff, Melvin Letsche
Greeters: Helen Wenzlaff, Pat Wenzlaff
Head Usher: Bryan Kelley **Acolyte:** Austin Wolfe

WORSHIP SERVICE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2005

Attendance: 52
Loose Offering \$ 24.00 Mission \$ 142.00
Current 110.00 Building Fund 40.00

WORSHIP SERVICE, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2005

Attendance: 51
Loose Offering \$ 27.00 Mission 60.00
Future Church Worker 10.00 Building Fund 125.00

First Sunday Special Offerings go to Campus Ministry

Third Sunday Special Offerings go to Amy Kashenov

2005 JOINT CHOIR FESTIVAL

Singers! You are invited to participate in the 5th Annual Choir Festival, a collaboration of all the adult (high school on up) choirs from the Sioux Falls area LC-MS churches, which will be held at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls on Sunday, March 6th at 3:30 p.m.

Rehearsals will be held on three Sundays in February—the 6th, 13th, and 27th—from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. Dress rehearsal will be Saturday, March 5th at 10:30 a.m.

TASTE OF CULTURES & TREASURES OF THE WORLD

Lutheran Social Services Refugee and Immigration Programs hosts its 10th Annual *Taste of Cultures Benefit Dinner and Treasures of the World Silent Auction*, Saturday, March 12, 2005 at Faith Lutheran Church, 601 N. Cliff Avenue, Sioux Falls.

If you have any questions, would like to purchase tickets, be a sponsor, or donate an item for the silent auction, please call Pat Reichert at 526-6225.

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 will be sent to congregations in mid-March. 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:

The Trinity Drama Troupe is looking for men, women, and teens who would be willing to share their acting talents in our upcoming mid-week Lenten services. You need not have any previous experience, only a desire to help share the Good News of Jesus Christ. If you are interested in helping, please contact Pastor Moeller.

We are also looking for people who would be willing to share their musical talents (vocal/instrumental) at our worship services.

THANK YOU

Thank you to John Barber, Carlene Barber, Aubrey Larson, Talis Johnson, Derek Johnson, Brady Eggebraaten, for sharing their acting talents with us in our midweek Lenten service last Wednesday.

Thank you to Jeff Kalb for preaching in today's service.

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.

March 6, 2005 – "The Sexton." The conflict of good and evil is the theme of this drama. A pastor and a sexton with magical powers fight an eerie duel in church. The featured speaker is Rev. John Werner of St. Peter Lutheran Church in Clayton, SD, and St. John Lutheran Church in Emery, SD, who will preach on "Not to be Served, but to Serve."

LUTHERAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Attention all couples! A Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend is a wonderful way for couples of all ages to grow in their love for one another. Treat yourselves!

The main emphasis of the weekend is to improve communication between you and your spouse. There are no group discussions, only the opportunity to spend time focusing on your spouse away from the pressures of daily life.

Make plans now to attend the next Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend, which will be held on March 4-6, 2005, at the Country Inn & Suites in Sioux Falls.

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

PARKING DURING CONSTRUCTION

During construction, parking places near the church will be at a premium. Please leave the two handicapped parking spaces for those with state handicapped permits. If you park in front of the church please park diagonally, headed toward the **west**. Gary Miles has given permission to park in his driveway, directly south of the church. We suggest parallel parking on the west side of the driveway and turning 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, it can be very dangerous for pedestrians crossing the road, coming between cars. Thank you for your patience and consideration of others!

... A Lifetime of Love

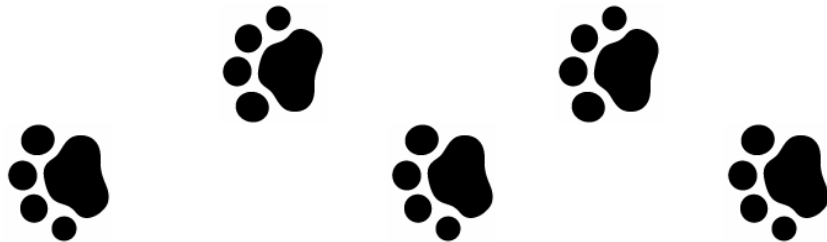




Hello Everyone!
It is time that we begin to plan for this year's VBS. Because we are expecting a large turnout again this year, we are going to need a bunch of help and support. If you are at all interested in

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 March 28th 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 Pastor Moeller at 526-3572 or Jessi Moeller at 321-1642.



Christ's Love Compels Us

Through the gifts of faith and grace, we are changed from reluctant to willing givers. As the Apostle Paul said in 2 Corinthians 5:14, "*Christ's love compels us*" to give generously. Christ's love for us and ours for Him releases our grip on our time and money. When we give cheerfully, we display the Macedonian spirit, which Paul talks about in 2 Corinthians chapter 8.

Some time ago, there was an elderly man named Alfred. He retired in a midwestern town where he once owned a large factory. As an immigrant to the U.S. from Denmark as a young man, he made a promise, "Lord, as I prosper, I will share the Gospel with others overseas." Later in life, Alfred built a hospital in India, supported the leprosy clinics in India and Tanzania, and helped fund special medical work in Liberia.



A national magazine wanted to print a story about Alfred's generosity. He declined saying, "No, I want no one to see me. I want people to see the Lord only."

For men like Alfred, giving is a natural response to the love given to him by Jesus. When hearts are filled with love, giving is a by-product of that love. Giving is not done for recognition from others or to earn God's favor, but in response for all that God has done for us in Christ Jesus. "*And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him Who died for them and was raised again*" (2 Corinthians 5:15).

The same love that compelled the Macedonians to give compels us to grow in our giving during our **Ten for Ten** program. Through our giving, God is glorified, and we are blessed.

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 that will meet on Mondays at 2:00 p.m. Others will begin 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.

GOD'S SALTY CHILDREN

The Sioux Falls Zone LWML will have a service of praise and inspiration at Memorial Lutheran Church (5000 South Western Avenue, Sioux Falls) on Sunday, February 27, 2005. Registration will begin at 1:30 p.m. and the service at 2:00 p.m. Beverage and refreshments will follow.

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!

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.

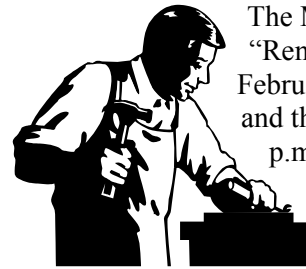
Upon completion of this class you may join Trinity Lutheran Church in one of the following ways:

- 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

3rd Sunday in Lent ~ John 9:1-41: In our Gospel for today Jesus healed a man of his physical as well as his spiritual blindness. As the Light of the world he also has the power to release us and all people from spiritual blindness. Like the formerly blind man we are witnesses of the great things God has done for us.

“RENT-A-BUM”



The Men’s Club will be sponsoring our annual “Rent-a-Bum” dinner and auction on Sunday, February 27th. The dinner will start at 12:00 noon and the auction will follow at approximately 1:00 p.m. We have a number of talented men who have agreed to work for 8 hours at a time agreed upon with the highest bidder who has purchased them. This work can be done anytime that is agreeable between the two parties as long as it is completed and paid for by the end of October, so you might consider any projects that you have planned for the next few months.

All the proceeds from the dinner and auction will be used for the Future Church Worker fund to support the education expenses of Jeff Kalb at the seminary. At this date, we have met just a little over half of \$2,000 that the seminary asks each home congregation to provide for support.

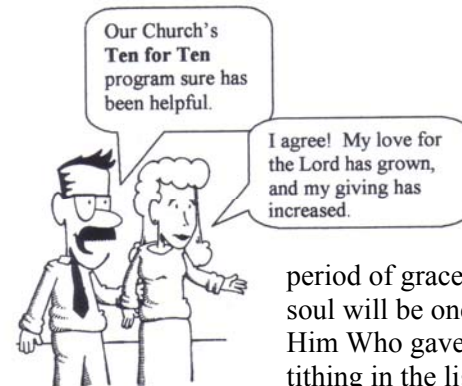
Jeff and his family are planning on attending, and he will be preaching for our worship service that morning. Anyone who wishes to donate 8 hours of labor as a “bum” should contact Pastor Moeller. We ask that everyone else would consider the odd jobs you might need to have done around your home and bid for one of our talented “bums.”

BAPTISM—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—Baptism: 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 understanding and appreciation for your Baptism and help to prepare you to share your faith with others. Please join us!

THOUGHTS ON TITHING



“The tithe is a time-honored practice which has glorified God in the lives of many people. In the first Biblical accounts of man’s relation to God, the tithe was law. In the coming of Christ, man moved from a period of law to a

period of grace. The response of the Christian soul will be one of earnest desire to yield it all to Him Who gave His all for us. As we consider tithing in the light of Bible history and in the

practice of many Christians today, we will discover that the tithe is not dead, nor should it be, but we must also go beyond the tithe and give careful consideration to the New Testament teaching of proportionate giving. Out of this background we believe in calling people to percentage giving, in order that they may have a specific starting point on a road which encompasses the doctrine of tithing and moves beyond it to the total surrender of all they have and all they are. As such, we are concerned with Jesus’ attitude toward the tithe. Here we discover that we must let Christ, the living Word, speak to us personally.” (Charlie Shedd)

LIFE QUOTES” FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

“At the end of *The Passion of the Christ* we get a glimpse of Jesus after He has risen from the dead. To some this scene spells ‘s-e-q-u-e-l’! But to us it spells ‘H-O-P-E’! To us it spells ‘L-I-F-E’! To us it is our ‘M-E-S-S-A-G-E’!” Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, Executive Director, Lutherans For Life www.lutheransforlife.org

Divine Service

Hymn of Invocation..... #409
“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”
The Order of Holy Communion.....p. 15-16
The Introit.....

P: My eyes are ever on the Lord,
C: **for only he will release my feet from the snare.**
P: I cry aloud to the Lord;
C: **I lift up my voice to the Lord for mercy.**
P: I cry to you, O Lord;
C: **I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."**
P: Listen to my cry, for I am in desperate need;
C: **rescue me from those who pursue me, for they are too strong for me.**
P: Set me free from my prison that I may praise your name.
C: **Then the righteous will gather about me because of your goodness to me.**
P: My eyes are ever on the Lord,
C: **for only he will release my feet from the snare.**

The Readings Back of bulletin
The Nicene Creed p. 22
The Sermon Hymn #398
“Renew Me, O Eternal Life”
The Sermon..... “Darkness and Light”
The Service of Communionp. 24-30
The Distribution Hymns
#360 “Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness”
#304 “An Awe-full Mystery Is Here”
The Collect, Benediction..... p. 31
The Closing Hymn #492
“Lord of the Living Harvest”

REVELATION FOR LENT

Seven churches of the ancient world received messages from Jesus Christ through the revelation to the apostle John. What do these letters have to say to the modern church? How does this section of Holy Scripture relate to the Lenten season?

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, we will focus each week on one ancient city from Revelation 2:1-3:22 and its unique challenges, Christ's call to "hold on to what you have," and how this message still applies today. With special emphasis on why we need Jesus Christ to do what we are unable to do, these messages will help us focus on the Savior's sacrifice for our salvation and the faith and hope that He alone gives.

In addition to this special sermon series, we will have special music, dramas, and a Bible study each Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. during Lent, in which we will look at the text from Revelation for the upcoming midweek service. There is also a family devotional book that follows the same theme. Please be sure to pick up yours!

Midweek Lenten services will be held each **Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.** For your convenience the 125th Anniversary Committee and YES group will be serving supper each evening from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

TEN FOR TEN: YOUR FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

Thanks for your commitment! Thanks for taking a leap of faith! If you have not completed a commitment form for the **Ten for Ten** program, please take time now. Your timely response will save our having to mail out reminders. The commitment forms are available at the greeter's stand. You may place the completed form in the offering plate or return it to the church office. Thanks for your participation and commitment to the mission and ministry of our church.



STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

3rd Sunday in Lent ~ Ephesians 5:8-14: Christian stewards are empowered by God's Spirit to live as children of light, freely sharing God's bounty so all may have enough. This kind of stewardship is possible only when the love of Christ rules in our hearts and minds.

KEEPSAKE COOKBOOK

If you have submitted a recipe, **Thank You!** Please feel free to submit a couple more of your special recipes. We are short of recipes for beverages and snack things but will be happy to accept any you want to share.

If you have not submitted any, **please do so now**, as we would like to have a few recipes from everyone in the congregation. There are forms available on the stand at the rear of the church. We need the completed forms back by March 15, so we can get them ready for a printer. You may return them to the box that is next to the forms.

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 can be obtained from one of 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.

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.