

## Trinity Lutheran Church

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Pastor Robert E. Moeller, Jr.

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November 2004

### **Pastor's Ponderings**

Dear Christian friends,

In the last few weeks you have been alerted to the financial needs that we have at Trinity Lutheran Church in order to meet the challenges and opportunities that God has placed before us. I believe that the greatest opportunity we have is to grow in faith. God does not need our stewardship to get His work done. He has more than enough resources to carry out His work. Everything is His already. We are the ones who stand to gain as we grow in our stewardship.

Speaking for myself, I would say that the one area of my faith and stewardship that needs the most growth is my prayer life. Too often, I find myself trying to solve my own problems and looking to my own limited resources when I should be turning them over to the Lord. I suspect that many of you may suffer from the same sin.

God promises to answer our prayers. In fact, our stewardship is one of the areas where He invites us to test Him and His blessings. I challenge you to join me in praying for the finances of our congregation each day this month. To help you start I offer this prayer as an example.

“O Lord God, our Creator and Redeemer, we confess that we have not always been the joyful, faithful stewards that you would have us to be. Forgive us and renew us through the power of your Holy Spirit. Give us the means and the mind to joyfully and generously give of the bounties you have placed into our hands. Remind us that these offerings of money represent also the time and abilities that we bring to Your kingdom. Bless them to Your glory and to the work of this parish and beyond.

“Lord, you alone know the needs of our congregation and community, the financial resources that we have available, and the opportunities for ministry you have placed before us. If we were to try to support any of these ministries on our own, we could not succeed. But You have promised in Malachi, chapter three: “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this,” says the Lord Almighty. ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.’ ” Grant us the faith to put these words into practice. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

God's blessings in Jesus Christ!

*Pastor Moeller*

### **LSS Refugee and Immigration Programs**

With cold weather upon us, the LSS Refugee and Immigration programs are in need of winter clothing for refugees so they can attend school and English classes, go to work, and do the many things required to support a family.

Clothing is needed for men, women, and children. They are accepting used coats, scarves, hats, gloves, mittens, and boots in good clean condition. .

Donations may be brought to LSS Refugee and Immigration Programs at 620 W. 18<sup>th</sup> St. Sioux Falls, SD 57104. For more information call Alice at 731-2006 or Pat Reichert at 526-6225.

## **"Seedtime and Harvest"**

Genesis 8:21-22 contains this promise of God made to Noah and all generations after the destruction by the world-wide flood: *"Never again will I destroy all living creatures as I have done. As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."*

This year and every year we hear about natural disasters throughout the world, including hurricanes, tornadoes, winds, hail, earthquakes and other violent weather, and yet this promise of God rings true. Crops may be ruined in some parts of our country, but other parts are blessed with more than enough to make up for the loss. Every summer and fall farmers and gardeners bring in the rich supplies of grain, vegetables and fruit so there is enough food to sustain all the creatures in our country and elsewhere. Maturing stewards see God's hand in all these blessings and pause in the busyness of life to look up and praise the God of creation for his bountiful goodness. Maturing stewards also praise God for his bountiful grace in sending his only-begotten Son to be the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

How fitting it is during this month of November to observe a National Day of Thanksgiving. However, Christian stewards should not need a day on the calendar to remind them to give thanks and manage the rich blessings of life so that all creatures will have food and shelter. Maturing stewards are reminded of the truth that they are God's stewards involved in distributing blessings as expressed in Psalm 145:15-16: *"The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living creature."* What a privilege it is to be God's instruments in making these words come true.

November with its beauty and bounty is a great time for giving thanks for the goodness and grace of God. No wonder many Christian churches conduct stewardship emphases and campaigns during this time of the year. Maturing stewards are those who see God's hand in all of life and return their thanks by words of praise and thanksgiving and deeds of love and generosity. Supporting the work of extending the kingdom of God on earth with our time, talents and treasure is the least we can do as the people of God. Not only is it our duty and responsibility, but it is our privilege and joy to manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.

*"Maturing stewards strive for excellence in all they do!"*

## **Finding Jesus in Genesis Sermon Series**

We are currently having a series of sermons in our Wednesday night services that explore the Book of Genesis. We are digging into the ancient stories of Biblical heroes and villains, heroic adventures and sinful lapses, all the while following the golden thread that leads to Christ our Savior. May God bless our excavations in these weeks ahead, knowing that the promises we unearth are fulfilled in Jesus Christ!

## **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.

A new session of this course 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.

## **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.

## **Tuesday Night Bible Study**

On **Tuesday** evenings, from 7:00-8:00 p.m., we will meet to study various Bible lessons based upon the “Our Life in Christ” series. Those teaching Sunday School will find this study helpful in their preparation for teaching, as we carefully examine the coming week’s lesson. But everyone else is invited. Please consider taking part of this opportunity to grow in your faith.

## **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. Our goal is to accumulate 84,480 pennies (\$844.80). Thank you for your support.

## **The Lifelines of Love**

The Couples Club will be getting together for supper on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Please contact Pastor Moeller to let him know if you are able to attend. Following the supper, we will continue our discussion of the fifth chapter of The Lifelines of Love, a wonderful review of to the foundations 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.

## **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Meeting**

The committee that is planning for our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in 2006 will be meeting on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Anyone who is interested in helping is welcome to attend.

## **Understanding Stem Cells and Cloning**



With the recent deaths of President Ronald Regan and actor Christopher Reeve, stem cell research has been in the news a lot lately. Unfortunately there has been much misinformation, even propaganda, on the subject. Lutherans For Life has published a short paper on the biological and Biblical basics of stem cell research and cloning. The Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb has written this informative piece in language that can be understood by those of us who are not research scientists. Pastor Moeller has a copy of this paper posted on the bulletin board, which anyone is welcome to borrow. If you would like your own copy you may copy it or go on the internet at [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

### **LifeQuotes from Lutherans For Life**

“We had no idea what He had in mind for our little Down Syndrome baby physically, but we did know spiritually that our merciful, kind, loving God would adopt him as His own child through baptism and write his name in His book of life. We did know that this little child would live in God’s grace all the days of his life. We did know that Christ would nourish his spirit with His Word and Sacraments. We did know that Christ would give his life the utmost in meaning as this little baptized child would have Christ living through him. ‘I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me’ (Galatians 2:20 NKJ). We knew even then that someday this precious little baby would be in heaven praising his Lord and Savior with all the other saints.” *Rev. North P. Sherrill Jr.*

### **High School Bible Study**

All High School-aged students are invited to come to the parsonage each Sunday from 10:30-11:45 a.m. for a Bible study. This year, we will be studying the “The Authority of Scripture” a Biblical look at the importance and authority of Scripture and the three main styles of challenges to Scripture throughout history. Joe Krizan and Archie Wolfe will be leading.



**The Junior Youth will be hosting a fundraiser  
from October 24th-November 20th.**

**Once again they are offering  
SCENTED CANDLE JARS.  
The price is \$8.00 each.**

**Everyone loves candles!  
Candles make great gifts.**

**Each jar burns for 50 hours! They come in 18  
different scents and will be on display in the  
back of the church.**

**All proceeds will be used to help the  
Junior Youth cover expenses of  
Summer Church Camp.**

**Recently you received a letter from the stewardship committee.  
The following are key points from that letter:**

- Our giving is averaging \$1,264.07 per week, which is below our projected budget level of \$1,396.00 per week. Our treasurer has borrowed \$5000 from the designated expense fund but now this fund is empty. This leaves us at least \$5000 behind our projected year-to-date budget. Money that had been set aside to meet upcoming expenses such as propane is no longer available.
- God has certainly been blessing us and the gospel is bearing fruit and growing here in the Hartford area and throughout the world. God is also giving us the opportunity to grow even further in our faith and in our stewardship of time, talents, and treasure!
- As Christian stewards our giving should never be done out of a sense of duty or to meet a budget. We give back to God in joyful response for the blessings He has given us, most especially the gift of His Son Jesus Christ. Just as we love because God first loved us; we give because He has first given to us.
- In order for our congregation to faithfully take advantage of the blessings, challenges and opportunities for growth God is laying before us, **we do need to prayerfully consider raising our level of giving**. This is necessary, if for no other reason than it is one of the ways, which God uses to stretch and grow our faith.
- As we step out in faith, we can be confident that God will continue to bless us and the ministry He has given us. He has promised to provide us with all the resources we need to carry on His work. As He does, may we be found to be faithful stewards of those riches!

*“What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?” (Romans 8:3 1-32)*

**Augustana Choir Performances**

Marty Reichert, a member of the Augustana Choir and Chamber Choir invites you to attend their 2004-2005 performances. The Augustana Choir founded in 1921, performs their “sermon in song” *a cappella* in small churches as well as large concert halls. The Augustana Choir continues to bring sacred choral music of the highest caliber to people around the region, nation, and world. Future Sioux Falls concerts include November 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at Augustana, Vespers Service December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at First Lutheran, and December 5<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph Cathedral. For more information see the Augustana website at [www.augie.edu/dept/music/choir](http://www.augie.edu/dept/music/choir) or contact the Reicherts.

**Parking During Construction**

While the building addition is under construction, parking places near the church will be at a premium. We ask that you leave the parking spaces closest to the entrance of the church for those unable to get around as easily as you can. Gary Miles has called and said you may park in his driveway, which is located directly south of the church. We suggest everyone park on the west side of the driveway and that way everyone will be able to drive up by the house and turn around.

## TRINITY LWML, OCTOBER 13, 2004

- † Trinity LWML met Wednesday, October 13, 2004 at the church with Lois Mielke hosting. Pastor Moeller led the five members in a study of another chapter in the series “The Robe” a short story about the life of the Christian on Earth.
- † Due to the absence of the Secretary, there was no report.
- † The Treasurer’s report showed a balance of \$549.95.
- † Christian Growth Chairman, Pat Reichert led the members in reviewing Personal Bible Study Tips from the *Quarterly*.
- † Motion carried to reimburse Lois Mielke for any future expenses in supplying the “Church Bags” for the children.
- † Connie Geide directed our attention to an article on Pastor Appreciation from the Argus Leader.
- † Connie is calling to remind cleaners, greeters and ushers for October, LaRaye Rehfeldt will call in November.
- † Connie reported on the Christian Growth Workshop, “Speaking Up for Faith in This Age of Tolerance”, presented by Pastor Saatgast from Mt. Calvary, Huron.
- † Motion carried to serve the Circuit Pastors Conference at Trinity, November 18.
- † Pat reported on the Fall Rally. 64 attended with \$264 given toward the mite goal. 36 backpacks were completed and delivered to Lutheran Immigration Refugee Service in Sioux Falls.
- † Motion carried to donate \$15 for additional supplies to complete the children’s backpack project from the Fall Rally.
- † Connie suggested making an item to include in the Christmas sacks. Action tabled until the November meeting.
- † Motion carried to purchase 5 sets of devotions for service men and women and their families.
- † Amiee Moeller will host the November meeting.
- † The meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer and the Table Prayer.
- † Everyone enjoyed a hearty fall lunch prepared by Lois.

Pat Reichert  
Acting Secretary

## LWML

Eight months to go! There’s no sea sickness in Harbor Hall, where thousands of LWML sisters will experience the smooth sailing of a well-planned convention! Salty Servants begin the day on Thursday, June 16, 2005 with numerous on site servant activities at the convention center. You and your family can take a tour of the Tampa Bay Area or just relax at the beach! That evening, hear worship proclaimer Rev. Barry Keurulainen, Senior Pastor of St. Luke Lutheran Church and School, Cabot, PA; tell us how we can **Live Joyfully as Salt and Light** at the opening communion Worship Service of the LWML 31<sup>st</sup> Biennial Convention. More to come!

## *Prayer Chain > Prayer Link*

*The prayer chain is being remodeled. Sometimes it is difficult to repeat the message correctly using the telephone, sometimes the people on the prayer chain list are not at home and sometimes the message changes from the time it is requested until it reaches the end of the chain. Yet we should not be discouraged. God wants us to pray and hears our prayers. We are just communicating with each other in a new way.*

*From now on the Prayer Chain will operate by e mail. If you want to be included in the **Prayer Link**, send your e mail address to Pat Reichert at [mmreichert@msn.com](mailto:mmreichert@msn.com). When prayers are requested, you will be sent an e mail including the prayer request. There will be no need to forward or pass on the information; everyone in the link will be contacted as a group. If you do not have e mail 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. You are encouraged to contact Pat or Pastor Moeller with prayer requests. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4: 7*

## Trinity Lutheran Church Voter's Meeting

7:30 p.m. Sunday October 24.2004

President Don Reichert called the meeting to order. Pastor Moeller opened with prayer. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was given and approved.

- **Pastor's report:** 13 Sunday worship services (6 with Holy Communion) 13 Wednesday night services (6 with Holy Communion). Transfer out; Henry & Jill Kraai, Taylor & Morgan. Transfer in; Leslie & Brenda Erickson, William, Daniel & Patrick.
- **Reports of boards and committees:**
  - **Elders:** Christian Education, no report; Christian Worship, continue to work with all ushers; Evangelism, no report; Stewardship, Updating member's addresses and e-mails. The newsletter will be sent e-mail to members wanting it that way. The committee is looking into a program called Simply Giving, an automatic bank withdrawal for church offerings.
  - **Trustees:** Have replaced broken brick and plastered cracks inside the bell tower. A sealer is available to spray on the outside of the bell tower to seal up cracks. The price is around \$500.00.
  - **Men's Club:** They are selling pies for a fund raiser to finish the garage electrical work, insulation, sheet rock and work bench.
  - **LWML:** no report.
  - **High School Youth:** will be serving the meals before the Wednesday night service during Advent.
  - **YES:** selling candles to help pay for church camp.
  - **Couples Club:** meets on the first Sat. of every month, all couples are welcome.
  - **125 Anniversary Committee:** There will be a church cookbook; all members are encouraged to submit several recipes.
  - **Improvement Committee,** The bell tower is mostly patched inside. A forklift is available to reach the high spots on outside. The plywood above the louvers will be replaced with dark brown metal.
  - **Future Facilities Committee:** The footings for the new building are being poured. Members can park parallel in Gary Miles driveway, also in the cemetery if the ground is not wet. Please do not park along the highway.

### Unfinished Business:

- Ray Matthies reported the saw mill on North Cliff in Sioux Falls will take the tree on the east side of the church but could not give a date.
- The prayer chain is being reorganized to use E-mail.

### New Business:

- Members voted against adopting Constitutional Amendment A which would place limitations upon the authority of the Board of Directors to supervise the property and business affairs of the Synod.
- Members voted in favor of adopting Constitutional Amendment B which would add Directors of Family Life Ministry to the roster of advisory members of the Synod. Results of the Synod wide vote will be announced after the February 28, 2005 voting deadline.
- **Mission Budget/Together in Mission:** A motion was made by John Barber seconded by Louis Thompson to pledge \$300 to TIM. MC. John Barber brought a motion from the council for a tithe of 10%, a total of \$7300.00 for the 2005 mission budget. Seconded by Dale Snyder, MC.
- **Christmas Committee:** Logan Moeller will fill the candy sacks. The Reichert family will put the Christmas tree up.
- **Calendar:** Thanksgiving Eve Worship, November 24, at 7:30  
Advent Worship - December 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30, with supper served before service.  
Christmas Eve worship at 7:30, Christmas Day worship at 9:30.  
New Years Eve worship at 7:30.  
January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005 - council meeting at 7:30,  
January 16<sup>th</sup> - Voters meeting, 2005 at 12:30, with a shared meal at 11:30.  
April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005 - Confirmation Sunday.  
April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005 - council meeting at 7:30  
April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005 - voters meeting, at 7:30  
July 10<sup>th</sup> 2005, - council meeting at 8:00  
July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005 - voters meeting, at 8:00.  
October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005 - council meeting at 7:30  
October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005 - voters meeting, at 7:30
- The meeting adjourned. Pastor had prayer. We closed with the Lords Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, June Snyder, Secretary.

# November 2004

## Cleaners, Greeters, Head Ushers, & Acolytes

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 6:00 am Men's Bible study 5:30 pm Circuit Pastor's name	<b>2</b> 9:00 am Chapel at Tieszen Home 6:00 pm Choir practice 7:00 pm Bible St. 8:15 pm Elders' meeting <b>Election Day</b>	<b>3</b> 9:30 am Lifelight Bible study 5:30 pm Confirmation classes 7:30 pm Worship	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7:00 pm SESD Lutherans For Life meeting at Clayton	<b>6</b> 1:00 pm Stewardship meeting
<b>7</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am SS & Bible study 7:30 pm Men's Club meeting	<b>8</b> 6:00 am Men's Bible study	<b>9</b> 6:00 pm Choir practice 7:00 pm Bible Study	<b>10</b> 9:30 am Lifelight Bible study 1:30 pm LWML meeting 5:30 pm Confirmation classes 7:30 pm Worship	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:30 am District Youth meeting
<b>14</b> 9:30 am Worship w/communion 10:30 am SS & Bible study 7:00 pm 125th Anniversary Comm. meeting	<b>15</b> 6:00 am Men's Bible study	<b>16</b> 6:00 pm Choir practice 7:00 pm Bible Study	<b>17</b> 9:30 am Lifelight Bible study 5:30 pm Confirmation classes 7:30 pm Worship w/communion	<b>18</b> 9:30 am Circuit Pastor's meeting at Trinity	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 pm Couples Club
<b>21</b> 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am SS & Bible study	<b>22</b> 6:00 am Men's Bible study	<b>23</b> 6:00 pm Choir practice 7:00 pm Bible Study	<b>24</b> 9:30 am Lifelight Bible study 5:30 pm Confirmation classes 7:30 pm Worship <b>Thanksgiving Eve</b>	<b>25</b> 2:00 pm Chapel at Leisure Living  <b>Deadline for Newsletter</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:30 am Worship w/communion 10:30 am SS & Bible study	<b>29</b> 6:00 am Men's Bible study	<b>30</b> 6:00 pm Choir practice 7:00 pm Bible Study				

### Nov. 3

Greeters: Dwayne & Mary Anderson  
Head Usher: Louis Thompson  
Acolyte: Austin Wolfe

### Nov. 7

Cleaners: Ray & JoAnn Matthies, Bryan & Susan Kelley  
Greeters: Bryan & Susan Kelley  
Head Usher: Marlo Anderson  
Acolyte: Holly Kelley

### Nov. 10

Greeters: Ray & JoAnn Matthies  
Head Usher: Louis Thompson  
Acolyte: Thad Johnson

### Nov. 14

Cleaners: Don & Pat Reichert, David & Faye Gilderhus  
Greeters: David & Faye Gilderhus  
Head Usher: Marlo Anderson  
Acolyte: Megan Eggebraaten

### Nov. 17

Greeters: Don & Pat Reichert  
Head Usher: Louis Thompson  
Acolyte: Colin Kelley

### Nov. 21

Cleaners: Dale & June Snyder, Jerrad & Cheryl Snyder  
Greeters: Dale & June Snyder  
Head Usher: Marlo Anderson  
Acolyte: Dustin Kleba

### Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Eve

Greeters: DeWane & Joyce Carls  
Head Usher: Louis Thompson  
Acolyte: Courtney Iverson

### Nov. 28

Cleaners: Roy & Gerry Ruud, Henry Dansman, Jr., Dianne Dansman  
Greeters: Henry Dansman, Jr., Dianne Dansman  
Head Usher: Marlo Anderson  
Acolyte: Ashley Matthies

### Dec. 1 Advent

Greeters: Roy & Gerry Ruud  
Head Usher: George Vogt  
Acolyte: Emily Krizan

**Elder for November: Dale Snyder 526-6681**