

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

46448 263RD ST. HARTFORD, SD 57033

www.trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org

PASTOR ROBERT E. MOELLER, JR.

HOME 526-3572 OFFICE 526-3571

pastor@trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org

PENTECOST 16 SEPTEMBER 22, 2004

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, if you wish, 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!

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

THURSDAY ~ **Deadline for Newsletter**

SATURDAY ~ **LWML Christian Growth Workshop - Brandon ~ 9:00 am**

SUNDAY **Worship w/communion ~ 9:30 am**

MONDAY ~ **Sunday School/Bible study ~ 10:30 am**
Men's Bible study ~ 6:00 am
Bible study ~ 7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY ~ **Lifelight Bible study ~ 9:30 am**
Confirmation ~ 5:30 pm
Worship w/communion ~ 7:30 pm

COMING EVENTS

Sun., Sept. 26th ~ Worship ~ 9:30 am
Sunday School/Bible Study ~ 10:30 am
Fundraiser for Lenny Muth at SFLS ~ 11:00 am – 1:30 pm
Installation of Rev. Jeffrey Pautz - Freeman ~ 4:00 pm

Sun., Oct. 3rd ~ LWML Fall Rally at Zion-Sioux Falls ~
Oct. 4th to 6th ~ SD District Fall Pastor's Conference at Rapid City
Sun., Oct. 17th ~ Church Council meeting ~ 7:30 pm
Sun., Oct. 24th ~ Quarterly Voters' meeting ~ 12:30 pm

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.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2004

Greeters: Archie & Lisa Wolfe
Heed Usher: Brock Thompson
Acolyte: Derek Johnson

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2004

Cleaners: Marvin Mielke, Wilbur & Lois Mielke, Jennifer Bauer
Greeters: Marvin Mielke
Head Usher: Tim Totton
Acolyte: Brady Eggebraaten

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2004

Greeters: Wilbur & Lois Mielke
Heed Usher: Brock Thompson
Acolyte: Jared Bauer

WORSHIP SERVICE, SEPTEMBER 15, 2004

Attendance: 9

WORSHIP SERVICE, SEPTEMBER 19, 2004

Attendance: 59

Offering:	Current	\$ 982.00
	Loose Offering	11.00
	Building Fund	200.00
	Mission	45.00
	Future Church Worker	10.00

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

Genesis 24

Abraham was now old and well advanced in years, and the LORD had blessed him in every way. He said to the chief servant in his household, the one in charge of all that he had, "Put your hand under my thigh. I want you to swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living, but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac."

The servant asked him, "What if the woman is unwilling to come back with me to this land? Shall I then take your son back to the country you came from?"

"Make sure that you do not take my son back there," Abraham said. "The LORD, the God of heaven, who brought me out of my father's household and my native land and who spoke to me and promised me on oath, saying, 'To your offspring I will give this land'—he will send his angel before you so that you can get a wife for my son from there. If the woman is unwilling to come back with you, then you will be released from this oath of mine. Only do not take my son back there." So the servant put his hand under the thigh of his master Abraham and swore an oath to him concerning this matter.

Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and left, taking with him all kinds of good things from his master. He set out for Aram Naharaim and made his way to the town of Nahor. He had the camels kneel down near the well outside the town; it was toward evening, the time the women go out to draw water.

Then he prayed, "O LORD, God of my master Abraham, give me success today, and show kindness to my master Abraham. See, I am standing beside this spring, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water. May it be that when I say to a girl, 'Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,' and she says, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too'—let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master."

Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel son of Milcah, who was the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor. The girl was very beautiful, a virgin; no man had ever lain with her. She went down to the spring, filled her jar and came up again.

The servant hurried to meet her and said, "Please give me a little water from your jar."

"Drink, my lord," she said, and quickly lowered the jar to her hands and gave him a drink.

After she had given him a drink, she said, "I'll draw water for your camels too, until they have finished drinking." So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough, ran back to the well to draw more water, and drew enough for all his camels.

Without saying a word, the man watched her closely to learn whether or not the LORD had made his journey successful.

When the camels had finished drinking, the man took out a gold nose ring weighing a beka and two gold bracelets weighing ten shekels. □ Then he

asked, "Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room in your father's house for us to spend the night?"

She answered him, "I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son that Milcah bore to Nahor." And she added, "We have plenty of straw and fodder, as well as room for you to spend the night."

Then the man bowed down and worshiped the LORD, saying, "Praise be to the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who has not abandoned his kindness and faithfulness to my master. As for me, the LORD has led me on the journey to the house of my master's relatives."

The girl ran and told her mother's household about these things. Now Rebekah had a brother named Laban, and he hurried out to the man at the spring.

As soon as he had seen the nose ring, and the bracelets on his sister's arms, and had heard Rebekah tell what the man said to her, he went out to the man and found him standing by the camels near the spring. "Come, you who are blessed by the LORD," he said. "Why are you standing out here? I have prepared the house and a place for the camels."

So the man went to the house, and the camels were unloaded. Straw and fodder were brought for the camels, and water for him and his men to wash their feet. Then food was set before him, but he said, "I will not eat until I have told you what I have to say."

"Then tell us," Laban said.

So he said, "I am Abraham's servant. The LORD has blessed my master abundantly, and he has become wealthy. He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, menservants and maidservants, and camels and donkeys. My master's wife Sarah has borne him a son in her □f□ old age, and he has given him everything he owns. And my master made me swear an oath, and said, 'You must not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live, but go to my father's family and to my own clan, and get a wife for my son.'

"Then I asked my master, 'What if the woman will not come back with me?'

"He replied, 'The LORD, before whom I have walked, will send his angel with you and make your journey a success, so that you can get a wife for my son from my own clan and from my father's family. Then, when you go to my clan, you will be released from my oath even if they refuse to give her to you—you will be released from my oath.'

"When I came to the spring today, I said, 'O LORD, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come.

See, I am standing beside this spring; if a maiden comes out to draw water and I say to her, 'Please let me drink a little water from your jar,' and if she says to me, 'Drink, and I'll draw water for your camels too,' let her be the one the LORD has chosen for my master's son.'

"Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out, with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water, and I said to her, 'Please give me a drink.'

"She quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too.' So I drank, and she watered the camels also.

"I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?'

"She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel son of Nahor, whom Milcah bore to him.'

"Then I put the ring in her nose and the bracelets on her arms, and I bowed down and worshiped the LORD. I praised the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to get the granddaughter of my master's brother for his son. Now if you will show kindness and faithfulness to my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so I may know which way to turn."

Laban and Bethuel answered, "This is from the LORD; we can say nothing to you one way or the other. Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has directed."

When Abraham's servant heard what they said, he bowed down to the ground before the LORD. Then the servant brought out gold and silver jewelry and articles of clothing and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave costly gifts to her brother and to her mother. Then he and the men who were with him ate and drank and spent the night there. When they got up the next morning, he said, "Send me on my way to my master."

But her brother and her mother replied, "Let the girl remain with us ten days or so; then you may go."

But he said to them, "Do not detain me, now that the LORD has granted success to my journey. Send me on my way so I may go to my master."

Then they said, "Let's call the girl and ask her about it."

So they called Rebekah and asked her, "Will you go with this man?"

"I will go," she said.

So they sent their sister Rebekah on her way, along with her nurse and Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "Our sister, may you increase to thousands upon thousands; may your offspring possess the gates of their enemies."

Then Rebekah and her maids got ready and mounted their camels and went back with the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left.

Now Isaac had come from Beer Lahai Roi, for he was living in the Negev. He went out to the field one evening to meditate, and as he looked up, he saw camels approaching. Rebekah also looked up and saw Isaac. She got down from her camel and asked the servant, "Who is that man in the field coming to meet us?"

"He is my master," the servant answered. So she took her veil and covered herself.

Then the servant told Isaac all he had done. Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Abraham was now old and well advanced in years, and the LORD had blessed him in every way. He said to the chief servant in his household, the one in charge of all that he had, "Put your hand under my thigh. I want you to swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living, but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac."

Genesis 24:1-4



**Wednesday,
September 22, 2004
Trinity Lutheran Church
Hartford, SD**

Abraham's Servant Meets Rebekah is a woodcut illustration by Julius Schnoor von Carolsfeld and was originally printed in "Das Buch der Bücher in Bildern."

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Courtesy of Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, the World Mission Collection

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.

FULLNESS OF JOY—A SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY OF THE LUTHERAN LITURGY

The word *liturgy* itself is a good conversation starter. Many simply have no idea what a *liturgy* is. Others take it for a collective term for everything that is not important in a service. In other congregations, members doggedly sing the *liturgy* on a weekly basis. However, if we are to ask them why, the answer too often is “We’ve always done it this way before.”

As important as history and tradition is, “We’ve always done it this way before” is not an adequate reason for continuing what we’ve done in the past. With the *liturgy*, there is a far better reason. The liturgy teaches and rejoices in the outstanding truth that our crucified and risen Lord is present with His people in worship—present to serve us with the forgiveness of sins.

In order to learn more about the riches of the liturgy our Sunday morning adult Bible study group (10:30 – 11:45 a.m.) is looking at “Fullness of Joy: A Study of the Liturgy of the Church.” Please join us!

JEFF & CARLA KALB

Pastor and Aimee recently visited Jeff and Carla Kalb and their family at their home near Ft. Wayne, IN. The Kalb’s say “hello” and would love to hear from you. Their address is: 8006 Leesburg Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46818. Their telephone number is (260) 625-5567.

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.

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!

CAMPUS MINISTRY INFORMATION

The District Office is asking all congregations to provide contact information on all their members who are attending colleges or universities this year. If you or your son or daughter are heading off for college or university, please let Pastor Moeller know their name, the post-secondary school they will be attending, the student’s school address and phone number, and e-mail address.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The Stewardship Committee is collecting e-mail addresses for those would like to receive our monthly newsletter electronically rather than through the mail. Those who choose this method will be able to receive their newsletter more quickly and save the cost of postage as well. If you are interest in this option please send your request to pastor@trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org

DIGITAL CAMERA AVAILABLE

Thanks to a generous donation, we have a digital camera available for all groups of the church to use to record their activities. This will be nice to use for updating our website, writing articles for the newspaper and newsletter, and chronicling each group’s activities. If your group has an activity scheduled please contact Pastor Moeller so you can use this camera.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

16th Sunday after Pentecost - Philemon 1:10-21

In our Epistle for today Paul reminds us that as stewards blessed by God we have many opportunities to "refresh the hearts" of one another by deeds of kindness, encouragement and support. Stewardship is as much about doing as it is about giving.

OUTREACH THEMES FROM OUR READINGS

16th Sunday after Pentecost - Luke 14:25-33

Today's Gospel reading deals with the high cost of being a disciple of Jesus in terms of denying ourselves and taking up our crosses and following him, but the rewards include peace and joy in this life and everlasting glory in the life to come. What good news for our daily living and good news for sharing with others!

Divine Service

Service of Light p. 17
Hymn of Invocation..... #643
 "Holy Father, in Thy Mercy"
The Collect p. 18
The Psalm.....

P: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
C: **You have set your glory above the heavens.**
P: From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies,
C: **to silence the foe and the avenger.**
P: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
C: **what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?**
P: You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.
C: **You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet:**
P: all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.
C: **O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**
All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The ReadingsBack of the bulletin
The Offerings.....
The Litany.....p. 20-21
The Sermon Hymn #621
 "O Father, All Creating"
The Sermon.....
 "Matchmaker! Matchmaker!"
The Prayer p. 22
The Blessing..... p. 22
The Closing Hymn #250
 "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

LIFE QUOTES" FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

“Each person doesn’t simply come from a zygote, embryo, or fetus. Each person was a zygote, an embryo, a fetus. All that an adult is or ever will be was in the embryo. If the embryo were destroyed, there would be no baby, no teenager, and no adult. Abortion doesn’t kill potential people. It kills actual people.” *Randy Alcorn*, Eternal Perspective Ministries

LSS REFUGEE AND IMMIGRATION PROGRAMS

We URGENTLY NEED furniture and household items to furnish the apartments of newly arriving refugees.

Couches, dressers, lamps, beds, pillows, single bed sheets, blankets, kitchen tables, chairs, towels, pots/pans, mixing bowls, laundry detergent, laundry baskets, and any other household items used to set up a kitchen.

Donations may be brought to LSS Refugee and Immigration Programs at 620 W. 18th St. Sioux Falls, SD 57104. For information or pickup please call Alice at 731-2006.

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 soon, letting him know a day and time that would work well for you and/or your friends.

125TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING

The committee that is planning for our 125th Anniversary celebration in 2006 will be meeting on Tuesday, September 21st at 7:00 p.m. Anyone who is interested in helping is welcome to attend.

CONSTRUCTION, I.N.C. MUSIC

We have a cd (complete with printed lyrics) of the songs from our Construction, I.N.C. Vacation Bible School for each family who attended. You may pick up yours!

We also need help distributing copies to those who are not members of our congregation. This is an excellent opportunity to get a chance to meet new people. If you would like to help, please speak Pastor Moeller.

ACTS OF FAITH PRESENTS “FIDDLER ON THE ROOF”

Acts of Faith, drama group from Faith Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, is presenting "Fiddler on the Roof" on September 24th, 25th and 26th. Shows will be at 7 pm on Friday and Saturday with a 4:00 p.m. performance on Sunday the 26th. Tickets are available at Faith Lutheran Church, 605-332-3401. Call for tickets.

SIoux FALLS ZONE LWML FALL RALLY

The Sioux Falls Zone LWML will hold their fall rally at Zion Lutheran Church, 1400 S. Duluth, Sioux Falls, SD on Sunday, October 3, 2004 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Included on the agenda is the election of President and Vice President, District LWML President Dianne Diekmann, speakers from Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services, an ingathering of new school supplies and other items to fill school backpacks, and a servant event where backpacks will be filled to be given to newly arriving refugee children.

All women of the congregation are invited to attend.

LIFE MINISTRY COORDINATOR NEEDED

Our congregation is in need of a Life Ministry Coordinator. This person would work with Pastor on sanctity of human life issues and help to keep our congregation informed. If interested, or if you’d like more information, please speak to Pastor Moeller.

MAIN STREET LIVING

Main Street Living, a televised worship service sponsored by the SD District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod can be seen each Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. on KDLT.

THE INSTALLATION OF THE REV. JEFFREY PAUTZ

You are all invited to the installation of the Reverend Jeffrey Pautz as the pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Freeman, SD at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 26th.

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

All High School-aged students are invited to come to the parsonage each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. for a Bible study. We are studying “The Authority of Scriptures,” a youth seminar designed to outline some of the assaults on the authority of Scripture that Christians face today and how to respond to them. Joe Krizan is leading.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the following people who are teaching Sunday School for the 2004/2005 school year:

Preschool: Aimee Moeller, Keith Rueter

Kindergarten: Sherry Rueter

1st & 2nd Grade: Amy and Adel Valdes, Carlene Barber

3rd & 4th Grade: Lisa Wolfe

5th & 6th Grade: Denise Iverson, Susan Kelley

7th & 8th Grade: Louis Thompson, Laura Johnson

High School: Joe Krizan

Thank you to Louis Thompson for teaching the 5th & 6th Grade Confirmation class.

Thank you to those who are serving on the Christian Education Committee this year:

Record Keeper: Carlene Barber

Christmas Program: Laura Johnson

Music Leader: Susan Kelley

VBS: Jessi Moeller

Chairperson: Lisa Wolfe

Librarian: Bert Carls

Thank you to the Evangelism Committee and everyone else who helped in the preparations, setup, and cleanup for Mission/Friendship Sunday.

Special thanks to Pat Reichert for sharing her presentation about Lutheran Immigration Services and to Talis Johnson for overseeing the food preparation.

Thank you to those who shared their talents in our worship service and helped entertain us in the afternoon: Ruth Chabane, Gerry Ruud, the children of the Sunday School, the Trinity Lutheran Church choir, Clarice Wixon, Aimee Moeller, Colin Kelley, Holly Kelley, and Lyndze Thompson.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Bike-for-Life on Saturday, September 11th. Six riders—Talis & Laura Johnson, Adel & Amy Valdes, Adam Weeman, and Pastor Moeller completed the 28.5 mile trip. \$135.00 was raised to help the ultrasound ministry at the Alpha Center in Sioux Falls.