



The Messenger

April 2005

Pastor Gregory Pope

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Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

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Pastor's Corner

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. (I Corinthians 12:4-6)" No, this is not a sermon text any time soon. It won't appear as a designated epistle lesson in the Sunday bulletin (as part of our Synod's three year series of revolving readings) until Epiphany, 2007 (flip to page 165 in the hymnal to see for yourself). Still, it is a reading that applies to God's church, especially our country church, right now. When the apostle Paul says God has worked all kinds of workings, "in all men", of course, "men" means Christian people, not just males. To illustrate this point, I'd like to highlight the contributions of four Trinity women over the past several months. Let me add some notes, though, before we begin.

A whole host of Trinity members have served the Lord prominently over the years, many of whom are *still* using their gifts with gusto. The hope is to make this recognition of member gifts a regular feature in our newsletter, so we see the wide variety of God's grace to us, so no one is left unappreciated, and so each of us is inspired

to maximize our own talents for the church's greater good. Also, this focus on member gifts is not meant to praise the individual, but to show the two directions Christian love flows. First, from God to us. As he worked to wash our sins away on Calvary, the Lord works through member gifts to make our worship life more edifying and enjoyable. Second, from us to God. Our best efforts glorify his name and thank him for his saving grace. I Peter 4:10,11b shows this double-edged sword of service that the Christian wields. **"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised, through Jesus Christ."**

Remembering, then, that God has worked gifts of service in *"all"* of us (I Cor. 12) let's get on with it. Here are four recent female gifts to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Liberty.

Nancy Matznick, along with her children Tabitha and Uriah, has been a member of Trinity since 2003. One of her gifts is in the realm of computers. She is currently working on a two year degree for web development and design at Lakeshore Technical College. Nancy's gifts are clearly evident on our new church web page (www.trinityliberty.org), which she built herself in volunteer service to the Lord. Members of area churches have raved to me about how informative it is, and easy to navigate. The site can be a powerful outreach tool for us, as web searchers find us, and, with us, the Gospel.

Jennifer Coutts, has been our member since she was confirmed here, December 2004. Her gifts fall especially in the area of music. She teaches several courses on music theory in the Manitowoc Public Schools. She also occupies a first violin chair in the Manitowoc Symphony Orchestra. Her gifts have shone for our

church several times already, as she has played the violin during offertories. She is eager for the chance to play more often. Also, she organized and directed the new Trinity Youth Band for their clean rendition of "Ode to Joy" during our Easter, 9:30 AM service. (Note: the Trinity Band is just the working name for the group. Let Jen Coutts or Pastor Pope know if you can think of any catchy, or otherwise, Biblical name for the band.)

Anna Knutson, along with her husband Dan and daughters Kalie, Heidi, Amanda, and Faith, has been our member since her family transferred from Pound, WI, toward the end of last year. She filled a much-needed post for our church when she agreed to be our secretary. She brings several gifts to the table, most notably: a solid work ethic and strong computer formatting and word-processing skills. Her gifts were on full display with our Easter bulletins, which were well organized and pleasing to the eye. This newsletter is another example. Also, the large print bulletins, available for our visually impaired members, have come to us compliments of her.

Louette Propson-Enders, along with her husband Mike (also confirmed here last December), has been a Trinity member for many years. If you have visited her home, you would know that she is talented in home stylings. Collections of antiques decorate her rooms and walls. She is part of this initial female group of four, because she has recently used her gifts for our congregation's benefit. The attractive new backgrounds of our bulletin boards, and the flowers ornamenting the wall of our narthex, are examples of her decorative touch.

Let us thank God for these living gifts, and ask his blessing as we strive to unsheathe and polish our own gifts, all to His glory!

Pastor Gregory Pope

From The President



The secular world often measures people by personal achievements. The world often tells us that we have it in ourselves to make things better. This same world uses psychological questions to try to understand our mental state. One of these questions is: Is the glass half full or is it half empty? Depending on your answer you might be judged as a pessimist or an optimist.

As a Christian, I believe there can only be one right answer to that question. Half full. Because Christ died on the cross and rose again, I know my sins are forgiven. I have not earned this, but receive this through the grace of God. That forgiveness of sins should make me a positive person and therefore an optimist.

With this in mind, I look back on what has happened at Trinity in the past few years. We wonder why God has allowed these things to happen. God allows these things to happen for a reason. We do not see that reason now, nor might we see the reason in our lifetime. But there is a reason.

I know that your church council has wrestled with this over the past couple of years. We have gone back to the basics set forth in the constitution. We have been reorganizing the workload of the particular boards and are starting to see results of that work.

We have a new, youthful, and energetic pastor who is willing to work with the congregation in an orderly fashion to grow the congregation both spiritually and, God-willing, physically. We now have a church secretary who helps wherever to move the congregation forward. One of those projects she has taken on is

this newsletter. For the July voters meeting, the church council is preparing a congregational work plan for the next fiscal year.

These and other minor changes that are happening at Trinity tell me that our congregational glass is half full. All the members of Trinity need to come together now and fill that glass to overflowing because of what Christ has done for us. The Easter season that we just celebrated should cause our attitudes to be positive.

John Smith, Congregational President

Spiritual Affairs Committee



Members: David Schultz (Chairman), Fred Wehausen, Paul Nagel, and Brian Glaeser.

The Spiritual Affairs Committee is always open to suggestions and concerns from all members of the congregation. The committee is currently investigating the idea of the congregation participating as a "Mission Partner." The congregation would select a Mission Partner Project that would be supported by individuals, groups and special offerings. There would be no set goal or commitment. The project would be above our regular WELS and mission commitment. This idea will be voted on at our congregational meeting.

Ladies Aid

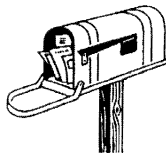
"Shoreline Circuit" Spring Rally

Come attend the daytime "Shoreline Circuit" Spring Rally on Tuesday April 19th, 2005. Registration begins at 8:30 A.M., 9:15 opening service; session ends about 3:00 P.M. It is held at Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, 916 Pine Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220. Missions supported are "Sharing Christ in Zambia" and "The Central African Medical Mission-Bridge Ministry". The WELS Synod doesn't provide these two missions. Both speakers are former residences of our area. Men are invited to attend. Trinity will have a door collection after the weekend-services of April 2nd and 3rd. Thank you. Any questions contact: Mabel Liermann at (920) 758-2789.

Christian Education

Please send an old shoe along with your children to Sunday School for April 10th, as they will be using it for a craft. The last song for the year will be "Thy Word is a Lamp" which will be going out to the kids in a couple of weeks. Please help your child learn the words.

Announcements



New Mailboxes

We would like to thank Jim Zivko from First German for making our new mailboxes (Located between the back of the church and the narthex). Please be sure to check them frequently. (Church officers have special mailboxes on the top row).

First German Celebrates 150 Years!

As part of its 150th Anniversary year, First German Lutheran Church in Manitowoc would like to invite all its past confirmands to a Reunion Sunday on May 1, 2005. Everyone is invited to attend either the 8:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service, with a social & presentation held between services. Please make plans to join us in thanking our Heavenly Father for 150 years of blessings!

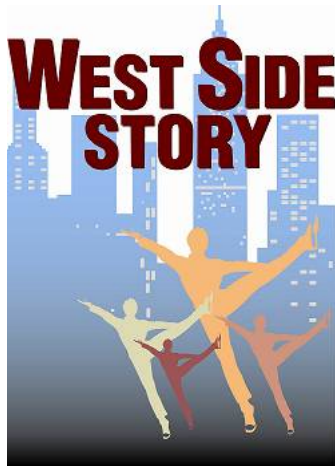


Secretary Hours

The church secretary, Anna Knutson, is available from 8-11 A.M. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. She can also be reached by e-mail. icecreamfit@yahoo.com. Messages can be left in her mailbox (between back of church and narthex) and there is also an envelope on the wall downstairs by the computer for messages. Please notify her or Pastor with any prayer requests, births, etc.

MANITOWOC LUTHERAN PRESENTS WEST SIDE STORY

One of Broadway's towering achievements, WEST SIDE STORY is a collaboration of Musical Theatre giants. Combining the powerful music of Leonard Bernstein, the penetrating lyrics of Stephen Sondheim, the breathtaking choreography of Jerome Robbins, WEST SIDE STORY was nominated for six Tony Awards. Then 4 years later the hit movie version of this classic show won a record 10 Academy Awards including Best Picture. Suggested by Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," WEST SIDE STORY is an epic tale of love eternal and undiminished by the dangerous forces that surround it. It is a story as ageless as time and as fresh as tomorrow's headlines. It is a theatrical event not to be missed!



Starring Stephanie Schmill as "Maria" and Garth Neustadter as "Tony", Anna Fink as "Anita" Will Ruzek as "Bernardo" and Josh Lemke as "Riff", WEST SIDE STORY will be presented at **Manitowoc Lutheran High School** Friday and Saturday, April 8-9, at 7:30 pm, and Sunday, April 10 at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$8-\$7 and \$6 for bleachers. For advance tickets, visit our website, www.mlhslancers.com, or call 682-0215 ext. 127 Monday through Friday from 3:15 to 4:30 pm.



Church Attendance for March

March 2, 2005 (Wed)	82	
March 5, 2005 (Sat)	32	
March 6, 2005 (Sun)	213	(Trinity Junior Choir)
March 9, 2005 (Wed)	72	
March 12, 2005 (Sat)	28	
March 13, 2005 (Sun)	123	
March 16, 2005 (Wed)	61	
March 19, 2005 (Sat)	31	
March 20, 2005 (Sun)	139	
March 24, 2005 (Thur)	87	
March 25, 2005 (Fri)	75	
March 27, 2005 (Sun, 6:30 A.M.)	54	
March 27, 2005 (Sun, 9:30 A.M)	182	



March Births

Kim Fischer and her husband Steve had twins, Matthew Steven and Kaitlyn Mae, born on March 4, 2005.

Kara Sieracki and her husband Sean had a daughter, Jordan Sierra, born on March 25, 2005.



Baptisms

January 30, 2005 Samantha Rose, daughter of Julie & Kevin Siehr, was baptized into God's Kingdom of grace at our 9:30 A.M. service. Witnesses were Robin Siehr, Steve Siehr.

March 13, 2005 Hope, Charles, & Ben Lovell, children of our new member Jody Lovell and her husband Charles, were baptized into God's Kingdom of grace at our 9:30 A.M. Service. Their sponsors were Virginia Ratsch & Holly Peters.



New Members

We would like to welcome our new members of our church, Jennifer Ott and her son Tony. Also Jody Lovell and her children Hope, Charles, and Ben.



Prayer Requests

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Walter Kiesow in the hospital recovering from an infection.

Marilee Slater (wife of our member Terry), one of our new adult confirmands, whose sister Laurie Pearson recently died of cancer.

Kim Fischer & her husband Steve who were blessed with the births of twins.



Church Kitchen Wish List

Through the Lenten Meals and others we have noticed our church kitchen is lacking a lot of items. We have compiled a list of what would be nice to have added. Please consider donating any of the following items to make future meals easier to prepare. Thanks!

- Can opener
- Teflon Spatulas
- Measuring Cups
- Measuring Spoons
- Surge Protectors
- Extension Cords (heavy Duty)
- Disposable Salt & Pepper Shakers
- Hand Mixer
- Paper Towel Holder
- Blender
- Cake Servers (3)
- Plastic Cups
- Scouring Pads
- 2 frying pans
- Big Plastic Spoons



April Birthdays

A Happy Birthday and God's Blessings to...

4/1 Kermit Liermann
4/5 Mark Knutson
4/8 Todd Petersen
4/8 Steve Pleuss
4/8 Hannah Schleis
4/9 Earl Glaeser
4/11 Christopher Mangin
4/12 Miles Schreiber
4/13 Ross Zimmerman
4/14 Ruth Zimmerman
4/19 Marie Knutson
4/21 John Smith
4/24 Harold Behnke
4/24 Kayla Mancheski
4/25 Janice Wehausen
4/26 Marilyn Kaufmann
4/27 Matthew Schreiber
4/29 Madeline Schleis

* If you have an April birthday and not listed or your birthday is listed incorrectly please tell Anna Knutson so we can update the information.

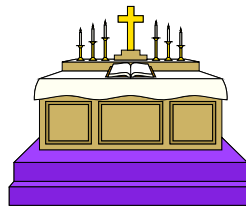


Usher Schedule

- April 2nd Harold Bratz, Steve Pleuss
April 3rd Warren Lutze, Keith Petersen, Dan Knutson, James Ott
April 9th Len Arnold, John Smith, Andy Kiesow
April 10th Eli Kenneke, Brian Glaeser, Gary Vetter, Earl Glaeser
April 16th David Schultz, Chris Mangin
April 17th James Glaeser, Derrick Krey, Andy Krey, Wayne Otto
April 23rd Harold Bratz, Steve Pleuss
April 24th Len Arnold, Brian Glaeser, Mike Enders, James Ott
April 30th Warren Lutze, Al Bonfigt
May 1st John Smith, Mark Knutson, Dean Luebke, Keith Petersen

Greeter Schedule

- April 3rd: Harold & Ann Luebke
April 10th: Sunday School grades 3 –4
April 17th: Marie Faber & Stacy Sornson
April 24th: Jennifer, Jeana, and Jim Ott



Altar Guild Schedule

- April: Helen Isaacson & Donna Nagel
May: Lorna Matthias & Marilyn Kaufmann

Kids Corner



Bible Quiz

1. The number of Plagues of Egypt?
 - a. 2
 - b. 1
 - c. 20
 - d. 10

2. The number of books in the Bible
 - a. 66
 - b. 72
 - c. 29
 - d. 34

3. The number of tribes of Israel?
 - a. 12
 - b. 16
 - c. 7
 - d. 50

4. Jesus wept at the death of this man, and then bid him to come out of the grave:
 - a. John the Baptist
 - b. Lazarus
 - c. The Centurion's Servant
 - d. Joseph

5. This man was in prison, when an angel came and unlocked all the doors for him:
 - a. Samson
 - b. Jesus
 - c. Peter
 - d. Paul

Answers: 1.) d 2.)a 3.) b 4.) a 5.) b 6.) c

Word Search

G	F	S	L	E	G	M	A	R	K
N	S	R	O	P	H	E	T	S	T
I	P	U	R	R	P	S	U	A	S
P	R	I	D	B	J	S	L	U	E
I	O	R	U	O	E	A	A	M	S
H	V	P	D	J	X	G	H	L	O
S	E	Z	R	S	B	E	T	U	M
R	R	U	E	A	B	E	U	K	A
O	B	J	O	I	Y	R	R	E	G
W	S	M	I	R	A	C	L	E	K

(UP / DOWN/ DIAGANAL / BACKWARDS)

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------|----------|
| 1. PROPHETS | 7. JESUS | 13. JOB |
| 2. LORD | 8. MOSES | 14. MARK |
| 3. MESSAGE | 9. EXODUS | 15. MOAB |
| 4. PSALM | 10. WORSHIPING | 16. AMOS |
| 5. LUKE | 11. PRAY | |
| 6. MIRACLE | 12. RUTH | |

Jesus prays to God in the
garden of Gethsemane.

Matthew 26:36-46

Mark 14:32-42

Luke 22:39-46

