



The Messenger

April 2006

Pastor Gregory Pope

Church: (920) 758-7500

Home: (920) 758-3800

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

11303 Wehausen Rd. Manitowoc, WI 54220

www.trinityliberty.org

RESOUNDING SYMBOLS

Pastor's Corner

Spring is in the air! Today, Thursday, was quite a nice day outside. And it should be a sign of a refreshing new month for us as a congregation. I talked to our painter/contractor, Mr.

Joel Stradel, this morning, and he still plans to have our sanctuary ready by Palm Sunday weekend. According to him, one section of scaffolding will remain standing, but it shouldn't interfere with our worship. After Palm Sunday, then, for the rest of Holy Week, all the scaffolding will be gone. Sounds good!

You probably noticed that the title of this article is *Resounding Symbols*. No, that isn't a typo, just my meager attempt at a pun. I mention symbols, because another part of our redecorating project became more solidified today. If you'll notice Mr. Smith's article on the next page, we are going with symbols above the angel murals. Visual symbols are a powerful gift God has given his church. When a Bible truth is captured on a wall, the truth resounds for as long as people can see it.

Now if you saw Mr. Stradel's sketch, he proposed a kneeling lamb (God the Son) over one mural, a cup with wafers (Holy Communion) over the other, and a descending dove (the Holy Spirit) over the altar. I agreed, except for one revision. Instead of the cup, paint a down-turned hand emerging from a cloud. This is the "manus dei", an ancient symbol meaning "the hand of God". It symbolizes God the Father as Creator, reaching down from heaven to make and shape the world. I think you see why I made that decision. What is our church's name? **Trinity**. So why not symbolize the three persons of the trinity with our symbols? More will be explained on the symbolism once the painting's done, but you get the idea. And by the way, if you're dead-set against any of these symbols, let me know. I'm open to other ideas. In fact, Mr. Stradel actually plans to paint each on canvas, and then glue it to the wall – his tried and true method – and he's doing that in the middle of the week (April 3-6), so there's still time. But that's the scoop for now. Exciting, isn't it?

Pastor Gregory Pope



Message From The President

APRIL VOTER'S MEETING

The next voter's meeting is scheduled for April 18th at 7:30 p.m. At this meeting there will be many items brought for the congregation's attention.

- Church lighting – hopefully a final recommendation
- Church pews – recondition completely or just the edges
- Church carpeting – clean for now or replace
- Teacherage – offer from St. John's and council recommendation

Other items for discussion will be the ideas brought up at the congregational meeting for input on the redecorating.

- Apostle's on balcony – price quote
- Stained oak frame around murals quote
- Toning down glare from windows behind Altar
- Moving vents out of murals

As you can see this will be a meeting of importance. I hope you will attend.

John Smith, Congregational President

REDECORATING RESULTS

The results of the congregational meeting last Sunday were:

- The majority liked the colors to the west (or right side as you sit in the pews)
- The chair rail is to be painted lower wall color
- The gold leaf line to go completely around above chair rail
- The front murals to have a framed look.
- A stained wood frame is preferred.
- Symbols to be added above murals
- Angel figures to be glazed.
- Flower design in corners at bottom of arches
- Burgundy accents on flowers and striping along banding
- The narrower banding up into ceiling.

The result of the voting turned in by those in attendance was overwhelmingly for these choices. The stained wood frame around the murals was not in the original price quote. The decorator will be getting us a price for that. He is also getting us a price to put the apostles back on the balcony.

Those in attendance brought up some good ideas to be checked into and the council is following up on those ideas. These are things that can be added in the near future if the congregation so chooses, right now we need to get the original redecorating done to be back in church for Easter worship services.

John Smith, Congregational President

This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.
Matthew 24:14

Synodical Council discusses contingency plans

The Synodical Council of WELS met Feb. 24-25 at the Synod Administration Building in Milwaukee, Wis. The main topic of the winter session was the financial contingency plans for the synod through 2007 and beyond.

During the weekend-long meeting, President Karl Gurgel presented his contingency plan for balancing the synod budget through 2007 after covering the anticipated deficits at WELS ministerial education schools. By foregoing internal repayments, the synod will redirect \$1.7 million to Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, Mich., and \$900,000 to Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn., through 2007. The schools, along with Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis.; and Luther Preparatory School, Watertown, Wis., have been blessed with more than \$3 million in gifts since the opening of advancement offices at each school in 2005. However, additional resources were needed.

The Synodical Council approved Gurgel's current plan and directed him to provide an additional contingency plan for the next four years (2007-2011). The plan will outline adjustments to each area of ministry should support be inadequate. Preliminary forecasts indicate that there could be as much as a \$4 million shortfall annually beginning in 2007.

More detailed information on all aspects of the Synodical Council meeting will be provided by the President's Update, a video streaming report, available on www.wels.net/jumpword/presreport beginning March 8.

After hearing the contingency reports, council members also heard a recounting of blessings from the areas of ministry. This included a report of a 3% increase in commitment from WELS churches in their Congregation Mission Offerings for 2006. "God's blessings are surely evident in the commitments of God's people, supporting the mission and ministry of WELS," noted Gurgel.

An executive summary of the Synodical Council proceedings is available at www.wels.net/jumpword/sc. Additionally, Gurgel will speak in detail about the Synodical Council proceedings in his blog at www.wels.net/jumpword/imprint.

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Matthew 24:14

Congregation Mission Offerings up 2.6%

WELS Ministry of Christian Giving has released the latest forecast for 2006 Congregation Mission Offerings (CMO). Based on more than 1,000 congregations submitting their subscriptions to synod, the Ministry of Christian Giving estimates that there will be a 2.6% rise in giving for 2006.

“We praise our gracious God for moving the hearts of people to consider their material blessings along with their spiritual blessings. We thank the hundreds of people—district officers, circuit pastors, Christian Giving representatives and counselors, and congregation leaders—who worked to encourage the generosity and commitments of our WELS people,” adds Pastor Wayne Mueller, Vice President for Mission and Ministry.

“The synod has given all of us the important task of working together to make sure WELS has adequate funds to make the most of every opportunity the Lord is laying at our feet,” says Pastor Dave Liggett, Ministry of Christian Giving director.

More than 150 congregations still have not submitted CMO subscriptions. In the absence of these subscriptions, actual receipts from 2005 were used to help estimate funds for 2006. “This can be done because Congregation Mission Offering receipts versus projections came in at almost 100% performance in 2005,” notes Liggett.

“We are grateful for the 2.6% increase,” continues Liggett. “However, with inflationary costs running close to 5%, there is a fast growing gap between revenue and expenses. If this gap isn’t closed, it will result in yearly deficit of approximately \$1 million. A gap of that magnitude cannot be absorbed without significantly impacting the work that we do together as a synod, specifically the training and sending out of gospel workers.”

Liggett encourages congregations to incorporate the 10/10 concept in their giving. Congregations are asked to give 10% of their annual receipts to the synod or raise their subscription to the synod by 10% over 2005 gifts.

MLHS NEWS:

- In need of car repairs? MLHS has a great coupon available with all proceeds going to the Drama Department. Get over a \$100 value for just \$20 for use on oil changes, brakes, or other repairs. Details also available on our website.
- Back by popular demand! MLHS is offering its second round of adult education classes for Spring, 2006. Registration forms are available at MLHS and church offices, on our website, or call Pam Reichardt, program coordinator (732-3656 or reichardt@isol.net).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Week of 3/27 – 4/2

Fri 3/31 Friends of the Lancers Annual Fish Fry @ American Legion Hall, Mtwc

Week of 4/3 – 9

Tue 4/4 MLHS Board of Control Mtg; 6:30 p.m.
Thur 4/6 Baseball vs. Valders; JV-(A) V-(H); 4:30
Softball vs. Valders (A); 4:30

Week of 4/10 – 16

Tue 4/11 Track @ Valders/Hilbert; 4:15 p.m.
Baseball vs. Reedsville; JV-(H) V-(A); 4:30 p.m.
Softball vs. Reedsville (H); 4:30 p.m.
Wed 4/12 MLHS Easter Concert; 7:00 p.m.

Visit our website at www.mlhslancers.com!

Bay Area Pregnancy Center In Need

Brethren, In the name of Christ who said "I am...the Life," greetings—

I am Rev. Wallace Gaulke, retired last summer after 40 years in the WELS ministry. I was recently called by the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Pregnancy Center to be their new Spiritual Advisor.

I met with the BAPCC Directors recently, and was appalled to learn that this life-saving branch of our northeastern Wisconsin WELS churches is on the verge of bankruptcy. The BAPCC can not survive by selling some roses here, and sponsoring some event there. This group of several dozen highly motivated volunteer women needs the regular financial support of every one of your churches.

This is why I have been searching high and low to find as many Email addresses as I can of the churches served by the BAPCC. I want to inspire you to place the BAPCC in your church budgets by showing you from time to time the wonderful work these dedicated women are doing for your members. If this batch mailing works you will be getting occasional updates from me.

Yours in Christ, the Living One,
Pastor Wallace Gaulke, emeritus. (*Wally, Half-brother to the Manitowoc Conference*)

P. S. Check out our web site at www.lutheransonline.com/lo/greenbaylife

Announcements

Baptized Into God's Kingdom Of Grace

Andrew Haupt Propson, son of Bill & Michelle Propson, was baptized during the 9:30 A.M. service on Sunday, March 26th.

Easter Lilies

Deadline for ordering Easter lilies to decorate church is this Sunday April 2nd. Please put money in envelope in the container. Any questions contact Louette Propson-Enders @ 775-4389.

Lutheran Women's Mission Society

There will be a door collection this Saturday and Sunday that will go to the Mission Box Collection. Your support is greatly appreciated. The "Lutheran Women's Mission Society" Shoreline Circuit is having it's annual spring "all day" Rally at St. Peter's in Collins, WI on April 25th. In the morning Pastor Haag and his wife will tell about their work in the Arizona Apache Mission. In the afternoon Pastor Haag's son-in-law and daughter will describe their activities at the Cameroon Mission. In the rally each church has a Mission Box Collection they turn in. All men and women are welcome to attend, Noon lunch is served for \$5.00 for anyone interested. There will be a chance to register in the near future.

Helping Tara & David Mellstrom

There is a container in the hall to help collect money for gas cards (or you may bring in gas cards!) for David & Tara Mellstrom so they can get back and forth to Green Bay to be with their newborns, Makayla & Nicole who are in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay.

Prayer Requests

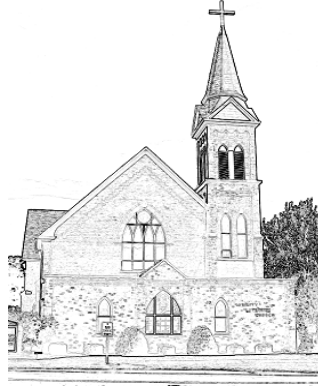
Please keep the following people in your prayers:

- * Reuben Gass whose wife Jane recently went home to be with the Lord.
- * David & Tara Mellstrom and their family as they deal with the loss of their newborn Lindsay, and as they continue to be with Makayla and Nicole at the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay.
- * Jane Schultz who was recently hospitalized and is now at River's Bend.
- * Lucille Teesch who was recently hospitalized.

Thank you

Thank you to Gary & Denise Preston for sponsoring April's WCUB Radio Broadcast in memory of Geraldine Behnke & Darrell Behnke.

Church Attendance for March



<u>March 2004</u>	<u>March 2005</u>	<u>March 2006</u>
Week 1: 134	Week 1: 245	Week 1: 123
Week 2: 134	Week 2: 151	Week 2: 171
Week 3: 105	Week 3: 140	Week 3: 134
Week 4: 77	Week 4: 236 (Easter fell on this weekend)	Week 4: 195
Monthly Average: 113	Monthly Average: 193	Monthly Average: 156

Bible Study Attendance



Sunday March 5th: 14
Sunday March 12th: 12
Sunday March 19th: 7
Sunday March 26th: 15

Sunday School Attendance

Pre – k thru 8th Grade

March 5th : 19

March 12th : 28

March 19th : 24

March 26th : 23

Sunday School Perfect Attendance For March!

Pre- K & Kindergarten: Lindsay Glaeser, Brittany Hochkammer, Benjamin Kiesow, Joshua Kiesow, Faith Knutson

1st & 2nd Grade: Amanda Knutson, Heidi Knutson, Lauren Petersen

3rd & 4th Grade: Desirae Kiesow, Tyler Petersen

5th – 8th Grade, Breanna Glaeser, Trisha Petersen, Joe Nagel

A+

Congratulations to the Sunday School kids who memorized all their memory work for the month of March!!!:

Pre- K & Kindergarten: Lindsay Glaeser, Brittany Hochkammer, Caden Jungbluth, Benjamin Kiesow, Joshua Kiesow, Faith Knutson

1st & 2nd Grade: Hanna Bratz, Heidi Bratz, Alex Free, Allyson Jungbluth, Amanda Knutson, Heidi Knutson, Lauren Petersen, Jasmine Smith

3rd & 4th Grade: Nicole Glaeser, Desirae Kiesow, Rachel Nagel

5th – 8th Grade: Brett Glaeser, Breanna Glaeser, Joe Nagel, Samantha Ott



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

4/1 Kermit Liermann

4/1 Todd Petersen

4/5 Jeff Knutson

4/5 Mark Knutson

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

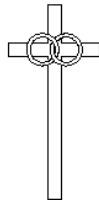
4/24 Kayla Mancheski

4/25 Janice Wehausen

4/26 Marilyn Kaufmann

4/27 Matthew Schreiber

4/29 Madeline Schleis



Happy Anniversary To...

4/1 Andrew & Nancy Matznick – 14 Years!

4/5 Richard & Helen Isaacson – 31 Years!

4/5 James & Mary Liermann – 20 Years!

4/8 Wayne & Elaine Petersen – 45 Years!

4/11 Raymond & Sylvia Kasten – 31 Years!

4/11 Keith & Gail Olm – 36 Years!

4/15 Wayne & Elizabeth Otto – 28 Years!

4/24 Dean & Charlotte Luebke – 2 Years!

4/29 Leonard & Sharon Arnold – 45 Years!

***If you have an April birthday or anniversary and it is not listed or is listed incorrectly please let us know so we can update your information. Thanks!**



Usher Schedule (A complete usher schedule will be published in the bulletin once the progress on the church redecorating has been established.)

Wednesday

March 29th Al Bonfigt, Mark Kiesow, Andy Kiesow

April 1st Warren Lutze, Chris Mangin

April 2nd Eli Kenneke, Keith Petersen, Jeff Knutson

Wednesday

April 5th John Smith, Jim Liermann

April 8th Len Arnold (Server), Bradley Liermann (Server), Peter Liermann

April 9th Warren Lutze (Server), Mark Knutson (Server), Gary Vetter, Dean Luebke

If you are unable to make your scheduled service, Please call Brian Glaeser @ 775-3941.

Communion Liturgy: Take, Eat ; This is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.



April Altar Guild Schedule

Group 4: Marie Knutson, Darlene Kiesow, Marilyn Kaufmann, Grace Ott

Our Greeters For April

April 2 Elwood & Denise Free

April 9 Sunday School (Handing out palm branches)

April 16 Fred & Janice Wehausen

April 23 Denise & Lance Preston

April 30 Ross & Ruth Zimmerman



Kids Corner

Bible Quiz - WORKERS & TOOLS.

1. Which of the following prophets speaks of beating plowshares into swords?
 - a. Ezekiel
 - b. Jeremiah
 - c. Joel
 - d. Malachi
2. Which man was plowing when he was called to be a prophet of God?
 - a. Peter
 - b. Elijah
 - c. Elisha
 - d. Ezekiel
3. What trade related task were James and John working on when Jesus called them?
 - a. Repairing a plough
 - b. Mending a fishing net
 - c. Sharpening a saw
 - d. Mending a wheel
4. What does Joel foretell will be done to pruning hooks?
 - a. Used no more
 - b. Sharpened
 - c. Beaten into spears
 - d. Hung on the wall
5. What tool-of-trade did David perfect the use of in his early years?
 - a. Bow and arrow
 - b. Spear
 - c. Fishing net
 - d. Sling shot

Answers: 1.) c [Joel 3:10] 2.) c [1 Kings 19:16,19] 3.) b [Matthew 4:21] 4.) c [Joel 3:10] 5.) d [1 Samuel 17:49,50]

Word Search

R	E	T	S	A	E	H	R	A	D
A	S	H	R	O	F	T	S	R	D
S	T	H	P	M	U	I	R	T	O
B	E	R	A	M	L	A	P	R	O
E	V	O	L	A	I	F	A	U	L
R	E	M	E	S	R	A	E	T	B
F	I	N	I	S	H	E	D	H	G
A	L	R	E	O	S	L	I	A	N
N	E	S	I	R	S	A	R	E	O
A	B	E	D	C	A	R	E	S	M

(UP / DOWN / DIAGONAL / BACKWARDS)

1. Palm
2. Cares
3. Easter
4. Truth

5. Die
6. Cross
7. Nails
8. Blood

9. Finished
10. Love
11. Risen
12. Faith

13. Believe
14. Triumph
15. Song

God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son.

John 3:16

