



trinity
Lutheran Church

trinity.today.

October 2011
volume XXXIII, issue IX
www.trinitylc.org

Trinity Lutheran Church
115 N. Fourth Street, Box 339
Stillwater, MN 55082 • 651-439-7400

love.transform.serve.

Fall worship & learning opportunities abound!



FAiTH

under CONSTRUCTION

Adult Ministry offers many classes, studies and workshops this fall – you can be sure to find one for you inside this issue!

SPARK
Sunday/Wednesday
Learning
KICKS OFF
Sun., Sept. 25 &
Wed., Sept. 28

Read all about it on page 10



Confirmation Family Night

Wed., Sept. 28
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Each student is expected to attend with at least one parent

Confirmation begins
Wed., Oct. 5

JR. HIGH
* MINISTRY

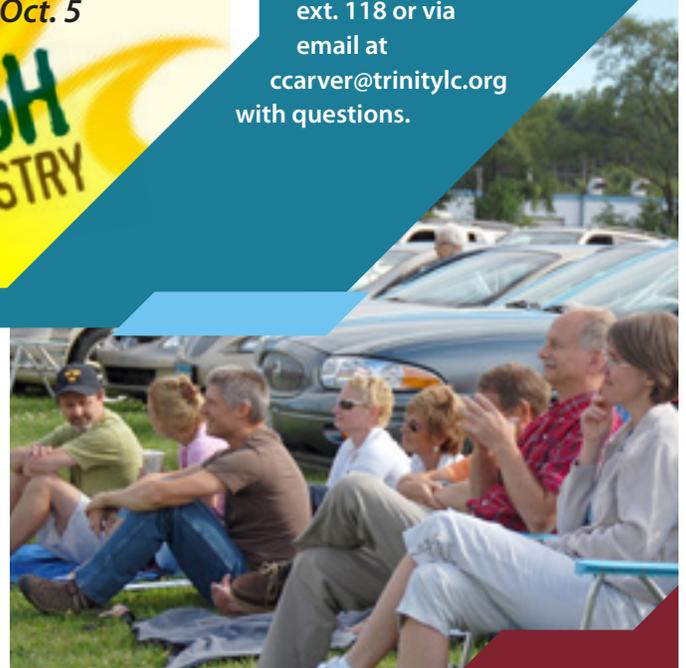
Join the Trinity Choir

You are cordially invited to join this choir of adults (high school age and up) that believes worship of God is central to life and that the music we sing – as an expression of our faith – is a gift from and an offering to God. Through our disciplined commitment and dedication to excellence, we enjoy sharing this gift with the people of Trinity to heighten the meaning of scripture and the spoken word and lead the congregation in liturgy and song. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. This year's schedule includes the premiere of a new work on All Saints Sunday. Contact the director, Carol Carver, at ext. 118 or via email at crcarver@trinitylc.org with questions.

LAST DRIVE-IN WORSHIP OF THE SEASON

SEPT. 18 • 9 A.M.
**CONGREGATIONAL
PICNIC & GAMES**

*Bring your own picnic!
Enjoy lawn games with family
and friends hosted by the
Children's Ministry team.*



PASTOR DAN POFFENBERGER



Walking through an open door

Doors to our homes, our schools, workplaces, favorite stores, and restaurants open easily and without thought. Familiar doors are almost seamless portals to sights and smells that welcome us home, make us comfortable and embrace us in community. Often, just on the other side of a familiar door, we know what lies beyond. We have been there so often, the familiar open door sweeps us in.

An unfamiliar door is something altogether different. It brings anxiety, hesitation and even a bit of fear. What lies behind the door is unknown, and perhaps even unwelcoming. When approaching a closed, unfamiliar door, we “formal up,” put on a brave face and knock, awaiting permission to enter. We do not assume we belong, but wait to be invited.

And there is the rub. Perhaps we will not be welcome, even if the door opens.

Or, perhaps once in, we will wish we were now out.

A home that always has an open door and an owner who has the gift of hospitality is an entirely different place than a house with a closed door and an owner whose hospitality has been locked away in a distant place.

Remember the old adage “home is where they have to take you in?” Home is the place with the door that is always open.

An open door is a powerful metaphor. The image of an open door conjures up fresh possibilities, a new start, an unconditional welcome, a ready community. “My door is always open” suggests a willingness, an accessibility, a friendship.

The metaphor of a closed door is equally powerful. Justice denied, opportunities choked off, community not offered. It is the metaphor of prejudice, of segregation, of hostility.

God has opened the doors to the kingdom, to life and to grace. Jesus stands as a literal and metaphoric gate, or door – and it is open wide. As Lutheran Christians, we affirm that we have walked through the open door of grace and have been welcomed into the Kingdom of God.

Perhaps one way to imagine our role as evangelists is to think of ourselves as open doors. We open ourselves, our love, our compassion as wide as possible, so that our neighbor may experience the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of God’s amazing love.

Trinity is a community that is called to be an open door. How we connect

with the world around us, how we befriend the people around us, and how we welcome the ones who walk in the open door is our opportunity to live out the gospel. Many in the world perceive the church to be a largely closed door – unknown, judgmental, prejudicial – and that is not who we are called to be.

Jesus has welcomed me – a sinner – and called me his own. God has opened the door to me of this amazing life, and given me every needful thing. Out of thanksgiving and gratitude, I must become an open door for others.

We, as the community of Trinity, must be an open door, so that God’s love might flow in and out freely, and that all might be welcome to the abundance of God’s grace.

There is an amazing reality that must be noted. First, as we offer ourselves as an open door, it may be us who are transformed when the other, the stranger, or the neighbor walks through. Sometimes they bring the kingdom in through our open door. This brings us to a place of humility and expectation. To close ourselves from the stranger or the neighbor is, the Bible points out, to close ourselves off from God.

Let us with joy give ourselves to the world as open doors!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Poffenberger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

GRATITUDE MINISTRY



There are some wonderful surprises in the definitions of these gratitude words:

Philanthropy. The Greek origin of the word is “love of humankind.” When we write a check to bring water to a village in Tanzania or put a roof on a home in Mexico, when we write a check to Valley Outreach, Family Means, Lutheran World Relief, or our alma mater, we are philanthropists acting on our love of people and our desire to help meet the needs of others. When we pledge our financial support to Trinity, it may be because we love people and we want them to know and experience God’s love in ways that were made possible for us by others.

Eucharist seems like an old-fashioned word for Holy Communion. The term comes from the Greek by way of Latin, and it means “thanksgiving.” Communion is the meal of thanksgiving, the meal of grace.

Grace is the thanks we say before meals, but it is also the core of Christianity, the shift from God’s law to God’s grace. Almost every epistle in the New Testament begins and ends with “Grace to you.” Grace is unconditional, unmerited giving of abundant gifts. Grace begins with God’s gift of Jesus and is reflected in our shared ministry to spread the love of Jesus.

Stewardship describes a relationship. A steward is someone in high authority with great responsibility who takes care of something that actually belongs to someone else. When God created the world there was no transfer of ownership. Humankind was put in high authority with great responsibility to care for creation for the benefit of all. Our stewardship is our relationship with God. Trinity was invited to and is in the midst of a research project on Vibrant Stewardship. What a beautiful description of us – people living in a vibrant relationship with God!

Grateful Hearts Generous Lives. Just as the words “hearts” and “lives” are quite inseparable, so are the words grateful and generous. Gratitude without generosity or generosity without gratitude? Virtually impossible! We are people with grateful hearts and generous lives bound together by the grace of God.

Whatever gift each of you may have received, use it in service to one another, like good stewards dispensing the grace of God in its varied forms. –I Peter 4:10

Grace to you!

VIBRANT STEWARDSHIP

On the Move

Luther Seminary selected Trinity as one of only nine congregations from across the nation to participate in the Vibrant Stewardship Research Project. This three-year initiative is focused on faith communities demonstrating vibrancy in the expression and development of their faith through stewardship. By studying leaders and innovators, the research team hopes to identify approaches, practices and tools to aid all ELCA churches in the strengthening of spirituality through stewardship.

The first phase gathered information regarding each congregation’s beliefs about and practices in handling money. Trinity accomplished this last winter when 221 people took the Vibrant Stewardship survey and 28 people/couples participated in a Vibrant Stewardship interview. Sincere thanks to those who contributed during Phase One.

Moving into Phase Two, a new Trinity team is now formulating ideas, programs, projects, events, and initiatives to capitalize on identified opportunities learned in Phase One. Members of this new team include: Angie Brekke, Michele Hermansen, Ann Wolff, Jody Thone and Julie Jolivette. The team has selected a tagline: “Growing in the grace of giving!” Watch this column in *Trinity Today* for monthly stories and updates.





Tom Thiets
Director of
Missions

MISSION update

As we move through life we encounter people from all walks in life living in a variety of situations. We evaluate people by examining their living conditions, their possessions. We try to scrutinize their decisions and their actions in an attempt to understand their life and culture. What do we see first? Do we see our differences or our similarities? No matter the circumstance it is easy to slip into the seat of judgment as we begin to define our differences. This decision-making process has been, and will always be, part of our daily life. At times I can easily slip into the routine of defining the differences as right or wrong, but common sense eventually returns as I regain the understanding that while something may be different it is not wrong. It's only different. After some reflection and conversation I come to realize that while we have some differences, we have many things in common.

Walking alongside our mission partners and friends constantly tutors me in the necessity of viewing our differences

Seeing Ourselves in Others

through a lens of understanding rather than judgment. The important question before us is not about where we came from or how we got to our current position, but rather where are you going? And then, what are our plans to get there and how can we help?

Two weeks ago, I traveled to the troubled nation of Haiti for the dedication of a new high school. The construction of the Andrew Grene High School and its operation are only possible through the cooperation and hard work of groups and individuals that desire to move forward together rather than focus on differences.

I met a gentleman at the new school that, from all outside appearances, one would not think had any similarities to the people of Haiti. On one hand was this wealthy, pale-skinned, robust Irishman and on the other is a rather gaunt poor black Haitian child. It would be easy to point out the vast differences in these two lives and the people of their respective countries, but this man only spoke about the similarities.

Yes, the similarities between Ireland and Haiti.

He spoke of the similar history shared by these two island nations. He spoke about the spirit and determination of people that could have easily given up in despair, but continue to live in hope. How each had endured occupation,

famine and hunger, the tragedy of war, the struggle for identity, the lack of economic opportunity coupled with limited access to education. It was inspiring as this man spoke with emotion, and the glistening of tears filled his eyes.

The path to renewed life in Ireland was education, and it will also be the path for Haiti. Seeing the similarities in others opened a pathway of gratitude in Mr. O'Brien's life. A pathway that is rather remarkable as he strives to help provide education to the children of Haiti by building 80 schools.

In the process of seeing our similarities we can empower gratitude, open doors of opportunity, and bring hope to the world.

Along with our partners in Tanzania, we have recognized education as the path to restoration as well. Together we are striving to provide a quality education for the children at the Bomalang'ombe school. Currently we are in the midst of a flurry of building activity to complete a five-classroom building. If you are interested in learning more about how you can help please contact Tom Thiets, Director of Missions, at tthiets@trinitylc.org

Peace, Tom Thiets



GROUP & TEAM MINISTRIES

Tour Historic Stillwater

Thu., Oct. 6; Cost: \$22/person

Meet in Trinity Commons by 9:45 a.m. to catch the Trolley

Immerse yourself in Stillwater history. Enjoy a guided tour of the Warden's House followed by a narrated trolley tour of Stillwater including historical sites and residences as well as little-known tidbits about the town. Finish with a tour of the historic courthouse. Enjoy the marvelous fall colors while we tour. Lunch (own expense) with friends to follow if desired. Contact Kay Sanders at 439-2082 with questions. Register online at www.trinitylc.org



God Loving Outdoor Women

Book of Faith Bible Study: James

Mondays, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 24,

Nov. 7; 7-8 p.m.; Cost: \$8

Home of Kat Carlsen:

220 4th St. S., Stillwater

RETIRED MEN'S EVENTS

Tour Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Tue., Oct. 11, 10 a.m.; 8:45 a.m., carpool - 4th St. lot

Cost: free tour; lunch at own expense

The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis supports the Federal Reserve System in ensuring a safe, sound and accessible banking system and stable financial markets. The 40-minute tour consists of a general overview of the Federal Reserve, a visit to the Cash Department, and a discussion of Reserve Bank operations. A photo I.D. is required for entrance to the bank. Cameras are not allowed. Contact Dwight Pederson at 439-2078 or via email at dwhightpederson@hotmail.com with questions. Register online at www.trinitylc.org



Habitat for Humanity work days

Thu. & Fri., Oct. 13 & 14, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Woodbury, MN

The Retired Men of Trinity will be participating for one day on a current Habitat for Humanity housing project. This is a great chance to provide hands-on work for an important housing initiative. If you like to work with your hands, want to learn new skills or generally enjoy working with others on building projects, this is for you. Further details regarding this project will be available in late September or early October. Contact Vic Thalacker at 439-9782 or via email at vpthalacker@yahoo.com with questions.

Hilltoppers featuring Gary Langness video

Thu., Oct. 20; noon-1:30 p.m.

Garden Room - Suggested donation \$5

Come participate in warm fellowship, enjoy a tasteful lunch prepared by Susan Carr, and be inspired by Rev. Gary Langness, who grew up at Trinity. Three years ago, at a Gratitude event, Gary delivered a very special and personal message of thanks to Trinity. His story, *The Gift of a Generous Heart*, is inspired by his mother, Alma. If you missed the event, you won't want to miss this replay of the video. If you heard him then, you undoubtedly look forward to hearing him again. This event is primarily geared for retired persons, but people of all ages are welcome to attend.

Fall Friendship Gathering

Fri., Oct. 7, 6:30 p.m.

Jan Anderson's farm, Houlton, WI

Join your GLOW friends for a potluck and bonfire under the stars at Jan Anderson's farm. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Drinks will be provided. Contact Jan Anderson at info@britishlabradors.com with questions.

MVP

MEN. VALUE. PURPOSE.



CELEBRATING FOOTBALL

Tue., Oct. 4, 6-8 p.m.

Garden Room & Gym; \$12.50



Buffalo wings are on the menu!

Sign up now online at www.trinitylc.org

ON PURPOSE

uniquely designed TO MAKE A difference

ON PURPOSE MINISTRIES

BY JODY THONE

I was lucky enough to experience two wonderful Enneagram retreats this summer. The first was our annual Young Women On Purpose (YWOP) retreat at my cabin on Pipe Lake. These enthusiastic young women started their day with spiritual practice on the dock and then dove into learning about themselves and others based on the Enneagram. With a mature and honest noticing of what they are doing now; where they are

challenged, where they struggle, and where their unique gifts shine, they discovered their Enneagram type and ways they can continue growing into all of their potential.

My next adventure was really an adventure! It was held on Poplar Lake off the Gunflint Trail and led by Karen Lohn and Michael Goldberg. It was based on Michael's book, *Travels with Odysseus*, which retells the adventures of the Greek hero Odysseus as wise counsel for our present day journey. Odysseus gets sidetracked, enchanted, waylaid, some truths he learns easily and others he resists. In all of this, Odysseus is not so different than the rest of us. In our BWCA Odyssey, we travel with Odysseus around the outer circle of the diagram, from Point Nine to Point One before ultimately reaching Home.

We paddled from the land of Lotos Eaters to the Cyclops, Aeolia and Laestrygonians and so on as we asked ourselves about our journey home, our journey to our True-Selves.

Continue your own learning journey with the Enneagram this fall! Join us for any of our classes. If you have questions about On Purpose Ministries please email me at jthone@trinitylc.org

What is the Enneagram?

The Enneagram is a profound, elegant, and pragmatic approach to understanding people and their relationships. It describes nine different ways of being in the world. Each of the nine styles has its own natural gifts, limitations and blind spots; each has its own distinctive ways of thinking, acting and being.



CARE MINISTRIES

WITH PASTOR CANDEE MOSER



Some of you know that I spent two weeks in August traveling throughout Tanzania with seven others from my former home congregation, Roseville Lutheran Church. As I write this article, I've only been home for one week and so the people I met, the experiences I had and the images I saw are still very fresh and will remain deeply embedded in my heart and mind.

Since returning, many people have asked me, "What impacted you the most in Tanzania?" Without a doubt, I must say that the joy, the smiles and the spirit of the children will always be with me. The children I met from the village of Ng'ang'ange and its surrounding area had very little in terms of material items. Litter found in the ditches along with sticks and stones served as toys. Their shoes and clothing were riddled with stains, rips and tears. Yet these were the same children who would sit attentively throughout a two-and-a-half-hour church service. These were the children who did not fight (at least not in public) with their siblings but instead cared for them, literally carrying the smallest ones upon their backs. These were the children, who, along with their families, welcomed us with a gracious and sincere spirit of hospitality – branches waving, voices singing, feet dancing! These were the children and people who were so poor in material things but so rich in what truly matters – relationships and the love of the Lord.

As always, I embarked upon this adventure with a desire to learn as much as I could about the people, their country and their needs. My colleagues and I did plenty of research and homework before we left, filling requests and our suitcases with supplies for teachers, preachers and students. Once we arrived in Tanzania, we spent time with officials from the village discussing the well situation. Roseville Lutheran provided money to restore it so that the village can once again have



clean, potable water. They've agreed to purchase musical instruments for worship and to continue providing scholarships so students can go on to secondary schools. Pastor Msoula's motor bike will be repaired so that he does not have to walk to his four preaching points. All of this is good and yet, I was the one who returned with so much more than I had given – not in material things (though my purchase of souvenirs did help the Tanzanian economy!) but in having been transformed by the love, spirit and beauty of the people, especially the children.

It's true that we, who have so much, have been blessed to be a blessing. May we continue to be open to God's call and willing to go wherever, whenever God calls us – whether that is to Tanzania or to our neighbors down the street. In giving, we will continue to be blessed in countless, surprising ways. To God be the glory!

"Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine, according to God's power that is at work within us, to God be the glory in the church and in Jesus Christ throughout all generations, forever and ever." Amen. – Ephesians 3:20-21

Bible Study with Pastor Candee

Wednesdays, Sept. 14-Dec. 14
9:30-10:30 a.m. – Garden Room

Strap on your sandals and prepare for the journey of a lifetime as together we walk in the footsteps of Peter, Paul and other First Century believers through the Book of Acts. How and where did the good news spread? What were some of the challenges those first disciples faced? Do we, disciples living in the twenty-first century, encounter some of the same challenges and joys? Please join me for an engaging study on Wednesdays as we seek answers to these questions and many more in the Book of Acts. Contact Pastor Candee at ext. 107 or cmoser@trinitylc.org with questions.

FALL ADULT MINISTRIES



Book Discussion:

Rob Bell's *Love Wins*

Tue., Sept. 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Garden Room; free

Books available for \$16.50 in the Church Office

Millions of Christians have struggled with how to reconcile God's love and God's judgment: Has God created billions of people over thousands of years only to select a few to go to heaven and everyone else to suffer forever in hell? Is this acceptable to God? How is this "good news?" What if what Jesus meant by heaven, hell, and salvation are very different from how we have come to understand them? Author, pastor, and innovative teacher Rob Bell presents a deeply biblical vision for rediscovering a richer, grander, truer, and more spiritually satisfying way of understanding heaven, hell, God, Jesus, salvation, and repentance. The result is the "good news" is much, much better than we ever imagined. Purchase and read your own copy of *Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived*. Then, come join a lively conversation about the book. *Led by Trinity's pastors.*

Faith under Construction: Fun, one-hour practices to build your skills and raise your confidence

Come join other adults for these new, experiential learning opportunities designed to quickly boost your ability to connect with God on a daily basis. You can attend one or more of these depending on your schedule and interest.

Wed., 6-7 p.m. – Trinity Library

Sept. 28: How to start your day with God

Oct. 12: How to end your day with God

Nov. 2: How to pray out loud

Nov. 9: How to name your questions about God

Sundays, 9-10 a.m. – Living Room

Oct. 2: How to start your day with God

Oct. 16: How to end your day with God

Oct. 30: How to pray out loud

Nov. 13: How to name your questions about God

Julie Jolivet and Pastor Siri Erickson

Embracing an Adult Faith

Sun., Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

10:30-11:30 a.m. – Living Room; Cost: \$15

Have you ever wondered: Am I a Christian? or What does it mean to be a Christian today? You are not alone! Many adults reach a point in their lives when they ask themselves these questions. With author and Bible scholar Marcus Borg as our guide, we will spend time revisiting some of Christianity's most fundamental questions. Who is God? What does salvation mean? What place does Jesus hold in contemporary Christian faith? How can we practice our faith in our everyday lives? Bring your questions, along with an open heart and a curious mind to this engaging learning series. Register online at www.trinitylc.org
Led by Pastor Siri Erickson

Making Sense of Scripture (online)

Oct. 3-Dec. 9; Cost: \$15

Have you ever had a question about the Bible or wondered how to make sense of this amazing and complicated book? Have you ever thought you should read more of the Bible but didn't know how or where to begin? Have you ever been afraid to join a Bible study or lead a group at church because you think you don't know enough about the Bible? Making Sense of Scripture invites you to bring all your questions and enter into a conversation about the Bible: where it came from, what it is and isn't and how it functions in our lives today. No experience with the Bible is necessary and no question is a dumb question! Some reading is required between classes. Work through the books, videos and discussions at your own pace in this online learning community. *Led by Pastor Siri Erickson; to sign up, contact her via email at serickson@trinitylc.org*

Building your Personal Theology: GOD

Tue., Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25

9:30-11:30 a.m. or 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Garden Room; Cost: \$30

From a pocket knife in the past to an iPhone today, we all have ordinary, everyday, dependable things that make our lives better. Having a good, workable theology is also one of those things. Come put together the pieces of your theology. Through conversation, creative reflection and connection to God, join us in building your personal theology. Register online at www.trinitylc.org. *Led by Pastor Siri Erickson.*

Building Your Personal Theology: BIBLE

Tue., Nov. 8, 15, 22

9:30-11:30 a.m. or 6:30-8:30 p.m. Garden Room; Cost: \$20

The Bible informs your personal theology, but you also have beliefs about the Bible itself. What is it? Where did it come from? How does it relate to your everyday life? How does it reveal God? What is its core message? In this class you will have the chance to explore your core beliefs about the Bible. Through conversation, creative reflection and connection to God, join us in building your personal theology about the Bible. This class has pre-work and homework between sessions. Completion of Building your Personal Theology: God is a prerequisite for participation in this class. Register online at www.trinitylc.org. *Led by Pastor Siri Erickson.*



Introduction to The Enneagram

Sat., Sept. 17, 9 a.m.-noon – Garden Room

Cost: \$30

The Enneagram is one of the most popular systems for self-understanding and is used as a tool personal growth & spiritual transformation. This half-day retreat will introduce the nine distinct personality types and begin to show you how you can overcome your inner barriers, realize your unique strengths, and discover your deepest direction in life. Led by Jody Thone & Tim Gillis.

Enneagram Toolkit Series

Sundays, Oct. 30-Nov. 20, 10:30 a.m.-noon – Room 108B

Learn more about the Enneagram and how to use it in your life. There is no charge or fee for this series, but please register online.

Led by Jody Thone and Tim Gillis

Oct. 30 – Levels of Health: Learn about the nine levels of health in the Enneagram, your personal “wake-up call” and “red-flag warning sign” and how to continue on your journey to wholeness.

Nov. 6 – Stress Points: Learn about the arrows or lines of movement in the Enneagram. Recognize your patterns under stress.

Nov. 13 – Integration Points: Learn about your direction of integration. You’ll learn how the Enneagram helps you to grow and develop your potential.

Nov. 20 – Practices for Growth: Learn about daily practices for each type.

Living Your Strengths

Thu., Oct. 6, 6-9 p.m. – Living Room; Cost: Class \$20, Class & Book* \$30

*Note: You must take the Clifton StrengthsFinder™ prior to attending this session; you will need a book if you have not yet taken it.

Based on the work of the Gallup organization and over two million interviews, Living Your Strengths is a process that helps you identify, affirm and serve from your strengths. It includes the Clifton StrengthsFinder™ assessment and Trinity’s own workshop designed to bring us together to explore our strengths and learn about the incredible power of our community when we serve God from our strengths. Led by On Purpose team members: Amy Karlstad, Walt Ogburn and Jackie Peterson

Contemplative Practice Group

Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 a.m. – Returning indoors Sept. 22 in Narthex

This small group is open to anyone who wants to practice seeing the sacred in everyday life. We gather for lectio divina, silent meditation and other spiritual practices and support one another in delighting in the living presence of God.

Led by Jody Thone, jthone@trinitylc.org

Ask Gene: Resume & Interview Coaching

Call or email to schedule an individual appointment

Are you in job transition? Would you like to talk with someone about your resume or practice improving your interview skills? Ask Gene Ecker. Gene has over 30 years of human resource experience and has done extensive job search coaching. Email Diane Rollie at drollie@trinitylc.org to schedule an appointment.

Career & Life Planning: Finding Your Way to Make a Difference

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; email to schedule a coaching session

Cost: Free-will contribution to On Purpose Ministries

Phase 1: Explore your strengths, values, passions and practical needs.

Phase 2: Generate and research career and life options to match your unique design.

Phase 3: Evaluate, decide and act on your career and life plan, including job search.

Led by Jody Thone

SERVE THE WORLD

Seeking usher coordinators

Sunday morning worship

Individuals are wanted to assist in the recruitment of ushers for Sunday morning worship. No previous experience is required; just a willing heart with time to contact people and schedule them to usher. Please contact Zanny Johnson at zjohnson@trinitylc.org or ext. 130 for more information.

Use your strengths at

Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner!

Thu., Nov. 3; seatings at 11:30 a.m., 12:45, 4:15, 5:30, 6:45 p.m.

It’s time for the Lutefisk dinner again. This dinner takes more than 300 volunteers to make it a success. Whatever your strength or passion, put it to use at this all-congregational event. If you can serve in any way, please contact Joan Newman at 436-8609 or Lynn Schurrer at 430-1632. Debi Orff will take your offer of a home-made pie – apple, pumpkin or mincemeat; call her at 283-5215.

Help make blankets

Third Tue. of the month, 4-6 p.m.

Living Room

Are you looking for a hands-on mission experience right here at Trinity that has both a local & global impact? Join us in making blankets for newborns. Pattern and instructions will be available. Please bring your supplies and gather for a time of service and fellowship as we provide a gift for newborns here in Stillwater and at our partner hospitals in Guatemala and Tanzania. Contact Sandy Wendt at sandy.wendt@courts.state.mn.us or 297-7807 with questions.

Workers needed for

Two Rivers Land Trust

Sat., Sept. 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Come help clean, do maintenance work and/or paint a local house to prepare it for a low income family. Lunch will be provided. Contact Kathy Hagen via email at sprucehaagen@comcast.net or 426-7176 for more information.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Children's Ministry Team is looking for....

youth and adults who care about kids. God values each one of us and in Children's Ministry we model that by creating small groups, by providing learning through workshops that touch on the eight different learning styles and by recruiting Shepherd Leaders who will come alongside their small group all year long. Give us a call or come to our leader training on Wed., Sept. 21 from 6:30-8 p.m. and hear first-hand what Children's Ministry is all about and the role you can play on a child's faith journey. If you want to invest your God-given strengths and abilities in children ages preschool thru grade 6, give us a call. Training and encouragement are provided! Contact Jody Nyenhuis or Christine Lande at 439-7400.



SPARK KICK-OFF!



Sun., Sept. 25, 9-10 a.m.
and
Wed., Sept. 28, 6-7 p.m.

Parents are invited to join us as we launch a great year of Children's Ministry!



Sunday/Wednesday Learning Registration

The Children's Ministry team is excited to welcome all the Sunday/Wednesday learners back this fall to once again explore and discover God's good news for us. You may register your child online for one of two learning options; 9 a.m. on Sunday and 6 p.m. on Wednesday. The same Bible stories and workshops will be taught and led each week at both learning hours.

Please note that Sunday learning will NOT be offered at 10:30 a.m. so your family may worship together. Look for more details about this exciting hour of worship!

DATES to REMEMBER:

Sun., Sept. 18 - Last Drive-In Worship

Bring your own picnic!

Enjoy lawn games with family and friends hosted by the Children's Ministry team.

Wed., Sept. 21, 6:30-8 p.m.

Worship Center/Garden Room

Children's Ministry Shepherd Leader and Workshop Leader training



every night in every home...

Turn off the television, put down the newspaper, set the mobile on silent and invest **5 minutes** in your family with these simple

Share your highs and lows of the day

Read and highlight a verse of scripture in your Bible

Talk about how the Bible verse relates to your highs and lows

Pray for your highs and lows, for your family, and for the world

Bless one another



Share



Read



Talk



Pray



Bless



Little Tots and Polka Dots has spots open for fall 2011

A \$50 non-refundable registration fee and the registration form are required to hold a spot for your child. Find complete program and registration information at www.trinitylc.org. Families are also welcome to register at Trinity.

YOUTH MINISTRIES



The River Fall Kickoff!

Sept. 21

@ the Croix Center
7:15-8:15 p.m.

It's fall and that means back to school... but it also means FREE TACOS @ The River!

Come and hang out with us

Sept. 21 from 7:15-8:15 p.m.
Listen to the live band, play games, and of course eat FREE TACOS!

The River is a gathering of students in grades 10-12 where we explore this thing called "faith in God."

At The River we dig deep to understand our faith through worship, talk about relevant life issues and build genuine friendships. Whether you go to church every Sunday or have never been to church we would love for you and your friends to hang out with us!

Have questions/need more info? Contact: Cory Jones at 439-7400, ext. 144 or via email at cljones@trinitylc.org.

Confirmation 2011-12

Family night:

Wed., Sept. 28, 7-8 p.m.

Confirmation begins:

Wed., Oct. 5

Register online at
www.trinitylc.org
or in the Youth Center

Cost: \$80

All students in grades 7-9 are welcome to join Trinity's Confirmation program. Confirmation is about learning and experiencing faith. We strive to make the Confirmation process fun, engaging, real, Christ-centered and relational. Your student will experience an exciting large group opening time and then be matched with a small group and small group leader. Don't miss out on this formative time in your student's faith development. Parents are part of the process as well – so get ready to participate! Register online now at www.trinitylc.org. Contact TJ Anderson for more information at ext. 120 or tjanderson@trinitylc.org.

JR. HIGH * MINISTRY

TENTH-GRADE CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Fall Gatherings

Sept. 28; Oct. 5, 12 & 26

5:30-7 p.m.

Grade 10 students

Each small group will meet this fall to prepare for the Rite of Confirmation, finish their projects, and do their confirmation interview.

Rite of Confirmation

Oct. 30, 2 p.m.

Rehearsal: Oct. 29, 9-11 a.m.

This is the day the Confirmation class publicly affirms their baptism and personal faith.

Expectation: Each student must attend rehearsal on Saturday to rehearse the service and for photos. Students must attend the Rite of Confirmation to be confirmed.



Fall sr. high small groups kicking off!

If you are a student in grades 10-12 grade and want to be part of a small group that meets to talk about God, faith and/or relevant life issues or you are an adult that would like to guide a small group of students in grades 10-12 as they navigate God, faith and/or relevant life issues then we want you! Contact Cory Jones at ext. 144 or cljones@trinitylc.org if interested or for more information.

worship opportunities

- **Wednesdays, 7 p.m.:** The River (Gr. 9-12 youth worship)
- **Saturdays, 5 p.m.:** Evening Worship, Communion
- **Sundays, 9 a.m.:** Drive-In Worship; Hilltop Drive-In, Houlton, WI
- **Sundays, 10 a.m.:** Traditional, Air-Conditioned, Worship at Trinity

Baptized:

- **Arianna Christine Dahl,** daughter of Zach & Jennifer Dahl

Sympathy to:

- Family and friends of **Lynn Plankers,** whose funeral was held at Trinity on Fri., Aug. 19.
- **Wally (Marian) Skyberg & Sandy Brown,** whose sister Susanne Hedlund passed away on Aug. 13.
- **Dave Swager, Brad Swager & Val Corman,** whose father, Norris Swager, passed away
- **John (Pat) Reinke,** whose sister, Marlene Carlson, passed away on Aug. 5

worship attendance

Aug. 13 & 14	Aug. 20 & 21
5 p.m.37	5 p.m.37
Drive-In422	Drive-In452
10 a.m.88	10 a.m.91
Aug. 27 & 28	Sept. 3 & 4
5 p.m.43	5 p.m.39
Drive-In517	Drive-In364
10 a.m.104	10 a.m.72
Sept. 10 & 11	
5 p.m.36	
Drive-In446	
10 a.m.171	

*Interested in membership at Trinity?
Official membership is not the goal as much as engagement in Trinity's mission. If you are interested in Trinity Membership, information can be found on our website at www.trinitylc.org or contact Julie at jjolivet@trinitylc.org or ext. 108 with questions.*

trinity transportation

Sunday van schedule

Trinity's van is available for the Sunday, 10 a.m. worship service at Trinity. A van ride is available for members or non-members lacking other means of transportation. Please call the Church Office at 439-7400 between 9 a.m.

Wednesday and 4 p.m. Thursday to reserve your seat each week. Estimated pick-up times for senior residences if you have reserved a seat:

- 9:15 a.m. – Boutwell's Landing at the main entrance
- 9:25 a.m. – Raymie Johnson
- 9:35 a.m. – Croixdale
- 9:40 a.m. – Oakridge
- 9:45 a.m. – Rivertown Commons

trinity.today.

Publication Number: USPS 509-650

Published once per month by
Trinity Lutheran Church, 115 N. 4th St.,
Box 339, Stillwater, MN 55082

Editor: Mary Steffl

Design & Layout: Amy Shalles

Articles for the next *Trinity Today* (November issue) are due Mon., Oct. 3 to begin arriving in mailboxes Thu., Oct. 13.

Office: 651-439-7400; Fax: 651-430-2935

E-mail: trinitytoday@trinitylc.org

Trinity Today is also available in full-color at Trinity's web site at www.trinitylc.org

Postmaster: Send address changes to Trinity Lutheran Church, PO Box 339, Stillwater, MN 55082.

© Copyright 2011 Trinity Lutheran Church, Stillwater, MN

Join Jubilate Bells

Handbell choir rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m in the Chapel. New members are always welcome. No previous experience is necessary.

Fri., September 16

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon Mtg: Rm 108B

Sat., September 17

- 8 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon Mtg: Luther Hall
- 9 a.m. Enneagram Intro: Garden Rm
- 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION

Sun., September 18

- 9 a.m. DRIVE-IN WORSHIP, Houlton, WI
- 10 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION
GLOW Hikers Returns

Mon., September 19

- 7:30 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 8 a.m. Women's Golf League: Applewood
- 9:15 a.m. Our Families First: Nursery, Living Rm
- 4 p.m. Congregational Council: Office Conf. Rm
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 p.m. Bible Study: Library

Tue., September 20

- 7:30 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Rm
- 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Supreme Bean
- 9 a.m. Little Tots/Polka Dots: Nursery
- 1:15 p.m. Prayer Group: Narthex
- 4 p.m. Blanket Making: Living Rm
- 6 p.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 7 p.m. Walk Rehearsal: Worship Ctr

Wed., September 21

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 9:15 a.m. Hearts of the Home Moms: Garden Rm
- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study: Garden Room
- 4:45 p.m. Joyful Noise Choir (K-Gr2)
- 4:45 p.m. Hosanna Choir (Gr3-4)
- 4:45 p.m. Alleluia Choir (Gr5-6)
- 6 p.m. Jubilate Bells (Adult): Chapel
- 6:30 p.m. Sun./Wed. Leader Training: Garden Rm
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation leader training: Narthex
- 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Rm
- 7 p.m. the River Worship (Gr9-12): Croix Center

Thu., September 22

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 7:30 a.m. Spiritual Practice: Narthex
- 9 a.m. Little Tots/Polka Dots: Nursery
- 10 a.m. Knitting Ministry: Living Rm

Fri., September 23

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon Mtg: Rm 108B

Sat., September 24

- 8 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon: Luther Hall
- 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION

Sun., September 25

- 9 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 9 a.m. Couples Groups: Rm 108A/B, Libr Conf. Rm
- 9 a.m. Family Fun Event
- 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 10:30 a.m. Couples Groups: Room 108A; Lib. Conf. Rm
- 5 p.m. Last Sunday Supper: Ascension Episcopal
- 7 p.m. Women's Book Club: Off-site

september 16-october 14

Mon., September 26

- 7:30 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 9:15 a.m. Our Families First: Nursery, Living Rm
- 5:30 p.m. Lutefisk Mtg: Living Rm
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 p.m. Bible Study: Library
- 7 p.m. Bible Study: Home of Kat Carlsen

Tue., September 27

- 7:30 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Rm
- 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Supreme Bean
- 9 a.m. Little Tots/Polka Dots: Nursery
- 1:15 p.m. Prayer Group: Narthex
- 6 p.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 6:30 p.m. Book Study-Love Wins: Garden Rm
- 7 p.m. Walk Rehearsal: Worship Ctr

Wed., September 28

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study: Office Conf. Rm
- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study: Garden Rm
- 4:45 p.m. All Children's Choirs (K-Gr6)
- 5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Gym
- 6 p.m. Jubilate Bells (Adult): Chapel
- 6 p.m. Faith Under Construction: Library
- 6 p.m. Family Fun Night: Lower Lvl
- 7 p.m. Confirmation Family Night: Worship Ctr
- 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Rm
- 7 p.m. the River Worship (Gr9-12): Croix Center

Thu., September 29

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 7:30 a.m. Spiritual Practice: Narthex
- 9 a.m. Little Tots/Polka Dots: Nursery

Fri., September 30

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon Mtg: Rm 108B

Sat., October 1

- 8 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon: Luther Hall
- 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION
- 6 p.m. Food for Thought Kick-off: Garden Rm

Sun., October 2

- 9 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 9 a.m. Sunday Learning (3 yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
- 9 a.m. Faith Under Construction: Living Rm
- 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 10:30 a.m. Embracing an Adult Faith: Living Rm
- 4 p.m. Marriage Finance Class: Living Rm

Mon., October 3

- 7:30 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 9:15 a.m. Our Families First: Nursery, Living Rm
- 2 p.m. Commodity Distribution: Croix Ctr
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 p.m. Bible Study: Library

Tue., October 4

- 7:30 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Rm
- 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Supreme Bean
- 9 a.m. Little Tots/Polka Dots: Nursery
- 9:30 a.m. Personal Theology-God: Garden Rm
- 1:15 p.m. Prayer Group: Narthex
- 6 p.m. MVP-Football: Garden Rm, Gym
- 6 p.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 6:30 p.m. Personal Theology-God: Living Rm
- 7 p.m. Walk Rehearsal: Worship Ctr

Wed., October 5

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 9:15 a.m. Hearts of the Home Moms
- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study: Garden Rm
- 4:45 p.m. All Children's Choirs (K-Gr6)
- 5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Gym
- 6 p.m. Jubilate Bells (Adult): Chapel
- 6 p.m. Wed. Learning (3yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
- 6 p.m. Couples Group: Office Conf. Rm
- 6 p.m. Conf. Leaders (Gr7-8): Narthex
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation (Gr7-8)
- 6:45 p.m. Conf. Leaders (Gr9): Rm 108B
- 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Rm
- 7 p.m. the River Worship (Gr9-12): Croix Center
- 7:15 p.m. Confirmation (Gr9): Croix Center

Thu., October 6

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 7:30 a.m. Spiritual Practice: Narthex
- 9 a.m. Little Tots/Polka Dots: Nursery
- 9:45 a.m. AWE-Historic Stillwater Tour
- 2 p.m. Healing Touch Group: Narthex
- 6 p.m. Living Your Strengths: Living Rm

Fri., October 7

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon: Room 108B
- 6:30 p.m. GLOW-Fall Gather: Jan Anderson home

Sat., October 8

- 8 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon: Luther Hall
- 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION
- 8 p.m. Valley Chamber Concert

Sun., October 9

- 9 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 9 a.m. Sunday Learning (3 yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
- 9 a.m. Couples Groups: Rm 108A/B, Libr Conf. Rm
- 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 10:30 a.m. Embracing an Adult Faith: Living Rm

Mon., October 10

- 7:30 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 9:15 a.m. Our Families First: Nursery, Living Rm
- 12:30 p.m. Rebekah Circle: Library
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 p.m. Bible Study: Library
- 7 p.m. GLOW-Book of Faith: Kat Carlsen home

Tue., October 11

- 7:30 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Rm
- 8:45 a.m. Retired Men-Federal Reserve Tour
- 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Supreme Bean
- 9 a.m. Little Tots/Polka Dots: Nursery
- 9:30 a.m. Personal Theology-God: Garden Rm
- 1:15 p.m. Prayer Group: Narthex
- 6 p.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 6:30 p.m. Personal Theology-God: Garden Rm
- 7 p.m. Walk Rehearsal: Worship Ctr

Wed., October 12

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study: Office Conf. Rm
- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study: Garden Rm
- 4:45 p.m. All Children's Choirs (K-Gr6)
- 5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Gym
- 6 p.m. Faith Under Construction: Library
- 6 p.m. Jubilate Bells (Adult): Chapel
- 6 p.m. Wed. Learning (3yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
- 6 p.m. Couples Group: Office Conf. Rm

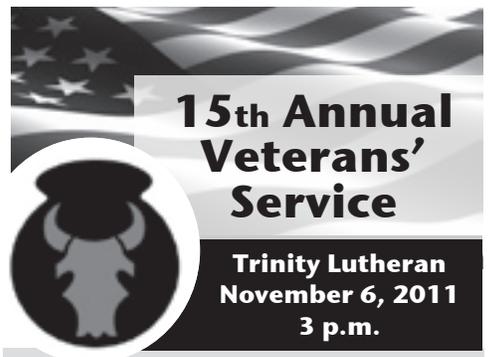
- 6 p.m. Conf. Leaders (Gr7-8): Narthex
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation (Gr7-8)
- 6:45 p.m. Conf. Leaders (Gr9): Rm 108B
- 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Rm
- 7 p.m. the River Worship (Gr9-12): Croix Center
- 7:15 p.m. Confirmation (Gr9): Croix Center

Thu., October 13

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 7:30 a.m. Spiritual Practice: Narthex
- 9 a.m. Little Tots/Polka Dots: Rm 106
- 7:30 p.m. St. Paul Chamber Orchestra: Worship Ctr

Fri., October 14

- 7 a.m. AA Mtg: Living Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Room 108B



**15th Annual
Veterans'
Service**

**Trinity Lutheran
November 6, 2011
3 p.m.**

This year's Veteran's Day service continues a long tradition of community support for our Veterans and their families. Please attend, and invite the veterans of your family, work and neighborhood as we recognize their service. We will gather for a time of prayer and worship.

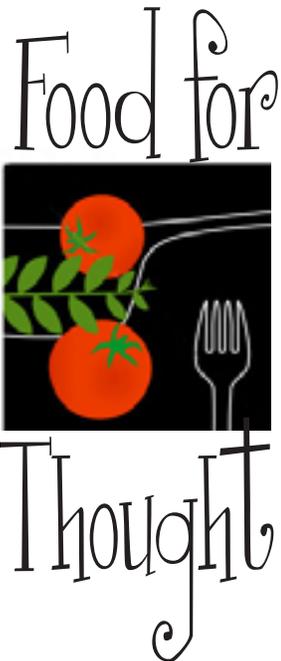
This Veteran's Day worship comes on the 150th Anniversary of the onset of the Civil War, and will feature a display and presentation by Bob Goodman, author of *In Their Own Words: The Civil War as Seen by Washington County Soldiers*, which features the history of the 1st Minnesota Voluntary Infantry Regiment, which saw action at Gettysburg and other battlefields. Following the Veterans' Day service, join us for refreshments and a special presentation by Goodman.

It is also the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, and during the worship service will be special recognition of the veterans who served in WWII. It is hoped that General Nash of the Minnesota National Guard will be the featured speaker at the service, and the color guard will come from the local Red Bulls. This is a beautiful and meaningful service; please join us!

trinity.today.

Trinity Lutheran Church
115 N. Fourth Street, Box 339
Stillwater, MN 55082-0339

Periodical
postage paid at
Stillwater, MN
55082-0339



This year's kick-off will include an interesting presentation by Vienne Olson from Trade Winds Spice Company in Stillwater. You are sure to be intrigued as she makes biblical ties to spices.

Food for Thought **KICK-OFF**

features spicy speaker

Sat., Oct. 1, 6 p.m.

Garden Room

*Cost: Potluck dish and \$2/person
at the door*

If you are a past participant, don't miss this opportunity to come back together to enjoy good food and friends!

If you are interested in Food for Thought and want to find out if it is for you, come meet other Food for Thought participants and ask your questions! Hosting guidelines and an explanation of regular participation vs. being a substitute will be presented at this event. A final list of participants is needed by Oct. 7, so the schedule can be made and distributed efficiently.