

TRINITY'S GOOD

Volume 9 Issue 3

WALKING THROUGH THE THREE DAYS—TRIDUUM

Introduction

Every Sunday in worship the church celebrates the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit gathers us to receive again the gifts of God that come to us through Christ, the saving Word. On several key days at the center of the church year, however, worship takes a particular shape. These central days have come to be known as the Three Days (in Latin—Triduum), recalling Jesus' own words to his disciples that he would be handed over to death, and that "after three days he will rise again" (Mark 10:34). The Three Days encompass the time from Maundy Thursday evening through the evening of Easter Day. In particular, the services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter unfold in a single movement, as the church each year makes the passage with Christ through death into life.

Maundy Thursday

With nightfall our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to begin the Three Days during which we participate once again in the saving power of Jesus' passing over from death to life. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

Good Friday

At the heart of the Good Friday liturgy is the passion according to John, which proclaims Jesus as a triumphant king who reigns from the cross. The ancient title for this day—the triumph of the cross—reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn this day but to celebrate Christ's life-giving passion and to find strength and hope in the tree of life. In the ancient bidding prayer we offer petitions for all the world for whom Christ died. Good Friday's liturgy culminates in the Easter Vigil, the following evening.

Easter Vigil

This is the night! This is our Passover with Christ from darkness to light, from captivity to freedom, from death to life. This night is the heart of our celebration of the Three Days and the pinnacle of the church's year. The resurrection of Christ is proclaimed in word and sign, and we gather around a pillar of fire, hear ancient stories of our faith, welcome new sisters and brothers at the font, and share the food and drink of the promised land. Raised with Christ, we go forth into the world, aflame with the good news of the resurrection.

Please join us as we worship during the Three Days leading to Easter Sunday.

Worship times this year: Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, 7:00 P.M. Easter Vigil, 8:00 P.M.

God's blessing to you during these holiest of days,

Pastor Hale

March Birthdays

- 3/01 Ron Schulz
3/02 Sally Cook
3/03 Kyle Jacoby
3/06 Max Gronewold, Carrie Markham,
Brent Ufkes
3/09 Jenny Robinson, Sandy Peterson
3/11 Kelum Fecht
3/14 Kaylee Menn, Heather Disney
3/17 Heath Marmion
3/18 Brittany Ufkes
3/19 Haeli Johnson, Luke Busboom
3/20 Megan Harrell
3/22 Vonda Jacoby
3/23 Shirley Manning
3/25 Lynnea Janssen
3/27 Debbie Johnson, Nicole Shipman,
Angie Fecht
3/28 Kathryn Gronewold
3/29 Molly Ufkes
3/30 Suzan Harrison
3/31 Kendall Sargent, John Morrison

March Anniversaries

- 3/05 Eldon & Darlene Harrell
3/07 Wade & Helen Nolden
3/13 Corey & Amy Housewright
3/14 Bill & Mildred Marshall
3/22 Dale & Edith Galloway

Blood Pressure Checks by Health Ministries Team

The nurses of Trinity will be doing blood pressure checks for the congregation on the second Sunday of each month in the Welcome Center. These checks will be held before and after church.

Choir Practice

Choir practice will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome, so if you are interested in singing, please join us!

Committee Night

Committee Night is Tuesday, March 4. No meetings have been scheduled at this time.

Financial Update As of January 31, 2008

Current

Amt. Budgeted YTD - \$11,969
Amt. Received YTD - \$18,570
Amt. Spent YTD - \$10,739
Current Fund Balance – \$14,011

Benevolence

Amt. Budgeted YTD - \$1,553
Amt. Received YTD - \$1,423

Thank you for your faithful giving as together we live out our mission of Celebrating Christ's love as we welcome, encourage, and serve God's people!

Donations for Shepherd's Pantry

The food pantry could use the following items that aren't always available each month from the state food pantry system:

Boxes of dry milk
Cans/jars of spaghetti sauce
Pancake batter
Syrup
Fruits and Vegetables

Shepherd's Pantry would appreciate any donations that members are able to make. Thank you for your help.

Lenten Soup Suppers

Lenten soup suppers continue each Wednesday through March 12. The light meal will start one hour prior to services.

Address Changes

Jeremy Schulz
P.O. Box 400
Carthage, IL 62321

Nathan Wisehart
5513 Aurora Ave. – Apt. 16
Des Moines, IA 50310-2316

Welcome Center Update

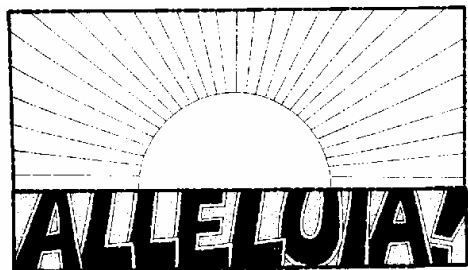
As of February 24, 2008, the amount given to the Welcome Center totals \$354,875. Of this amount \$13,614 was given through February 24, which compares to \$11,512 given through February 24, 2007. Total cost of the project was \$548,653 plus interest to date of \$22,863.72. We have reduced the Marine Bank loan by \$35,538 so far this year, leaving a loan balance of \$121,162. In addition there are \$62,000 of our own funds on loan to the Welcome Center. On January 10, 2008 the construction loan ended and our payments now are due monthly in the amount of \$2,412.29. Let's continue to work together as we pay down our debt as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

Together, we are living out our congregation's missions of Celebrating Christ's Love as we Welcome, Encourage, and Serve God's people.

Trinity Prayer Ministry

This **ministry at Trinity** is for anyone who wants to join us in prayer one day a week. Come to the Welcome Center at **7:00 a.m.** on Wednesday mornings. Prayer request slips are located in the pew racks. They may be filled out and put in the collection plates, or you may call Connie Schulz (357-6667) or the church office (357-2468) to request prayer. These names are used for the Prayer Ministry only and not in the prayer chain or Sunday morning prayers. Together we live out our congregation's mission of celebrating Christ's love as we welcome, encourage, and serve God's people.



News From Our Sponsored Children

Dear Trinity,

Hi! I hope you are in good health with your family.

Thank you for the money gift of US \$10.00 you sent me for Christmas. It was equivalent to Bs. 76.12 and I bought myself a jacket.

I want to tell you that school is over and I did very well. I did very well in Math most of all. I will help my mother with the chores on vacation. Let me tell you that I am playing in a basketball team again. I am so excited to play again.

My family is very well and sends lots of regards and kisses to you, especially Ramirito. He is my little brother and I love him very much because he understands me, although he is only 9 years old.

Well, I say good bye with kisses and hugs, take good care for you!

With love, Silvia

Dear Trinity Lutheran Church,

First is much greetings from your sponsored child Daniel Salau.

It is now a long time that we have not communicated to each other, but thank our heavenly father that you are fine and still praying to each other. Here in Kenya the year started good but here was an election that took place and it have bring a lot of complains that it have even reached to an extent that people are being killed, but in our place we are fine and praying to our country.

My mom and sisters are at home and they have told me to tell you that you are doing a good job to us as a family and we are appreciating your work.

At school I am doing well and hope to perform in all my subjects. My teachers are giving thanks to you for the accompany.

Lastly I hope that you are all right and praying for our country to have peace and also I give thanks that the money you gave me I have bought a lot of things like uniforms and goats. Thank you.

Your sponsored child, Daniel Salau

Church Council Highlights February 21, 2008

Council members present were Pastor Hale, John Schwartz, Jody Miller, David Hartweg, John Peterson, Angie Fecht, John Dittmer, Kathy Graham, Tammy Snyder and Linley Bartell. Absent were Brent Ufkes, Ryan Schardon & Merlin Gronewold.

John Schwartz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Devotions were led by Pastor Hale, reading from the February 2008 issue of the Lutheran magazine, titled "Waters of Life" by Bishop Hanson. Opening prayer by Pastor Hale.

Minutes of January 18, 2008 were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Linley Bartell. Seconded by Angie Fecht. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report – Report dated January 31 reviewed. Motion to approve by David Hartweg and seconded by Tammy Snyder. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Report dated January 31 reviewed. Motion to approve by John Peterson. Seconded by Kathy Graham. Motion carried.

Christian Ed. (Angie Fecht) – Angie stated that the VBS tentative date is set for July 27-31. Only two of the five churches attended the meeting, therefore, Beth Rupe would make follow up calls.

Brig Dion has resigned from the CLASP program due to a conflict of interest with the church he is currently at. Michelle Jefferson has agreed to assist Jennifer Menn at a rate of \$15 per day to be paid through the CLASP funds.

The confirmation youth collected \$855 from the Souper Bowl collection. The confirmation youth are also scheduled to serve at the soup kitchen in Quincy this Saturday. A spaghetti dinner is being planned.

Confirmation camp registration forms were recently distributed. Youth are required to attend at least one year. Camp is funded through the church and youth activities.

Confirmation youth will again plan the Easter breakfast with matching funds from Thrivent to be submitted.

Evangelism (John Peterson) – No report.

Fellowship (Jody Miller) – Jody stated two soup suppers have been held. Attendance has been averaging 20 people. Fellowship sign-up is covered for the next couple of weeks; however, it would be nice to get the schedule filled and not have to wait until the last minute. It is harder to find members willing to host.

Finance (Kathy Graham) – Kathy reviewed the investment and account balance report previously distributed.

A thank you was received from Trinity Lutheran Seminary for the \$1,200 donation for Jennifer Hartweg. Also, a \$100 donation request was approved for a mission trip that Justin Neally of the Christian Church will be taking to Taiwan this summer. This will be paid through the Marie Fecht Outreach account. A thank you letter was also received from the Mosaic Foundation for the \$150 donation from the Sunday school programs.

Memorial (John Dittmer) – John stated that Kurt Wilhite will install the new sound system on Monday and Wednesday next week. Jason will be available to assist and other members that are available are encouraged to assist to help reduce costs. A training session may be held the 29th or 1st upon completion. John will make arrangements for the training session, preferably Saturday afternoon, and notify those who are requested to attend. Head ushers will be encouraged to learn the new system.

Property (John Schwartz) – John reported that we have been having furnace issues. The church recently was without heat and this evening the parish hall unit is not working properly. Arrangements have been made for repairs. A storm window has blown out of the west tower and Cook's Glass will be contacted about the repair at a later date. Discussion was held regarding

the exterior of the church. A plan will be created for the future maintenance and repairs needed. The shingles are available for the parish hall roof and will be laid when a little warmer.

Social Ministry (Tammy Snyder) – No report.

Stewardship (Merlin Gronewold) – No report.

Worship & Music (Linley Bartell) – Linley stated that the committee, along with Pastor Hale, met earlier this month to discuss the worship schedule. On April 6th a narrative Holy Communion service titled “Why Lutherans Do What We Do” will be held. Brian Flesner has been asked to accompany the choir during the 4 Easter services at \$20 per service. Linley stated she has been in contact with John Bassinger, organist repairman, regarding some recent problems. An organ repair fund may need to be established when a current quote is received.

Youth (Ryan Schardon) – No report.

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Hale stated that Pat Monroe and Pastor Gayle were interested in a joint council retreat including Faith Augusta, Immanuel Lutheran, Christ Lutheran in Nauvoo and Trinity, possibly to be scheduled immediately following Easter season on the first Saturday, March 29. Discussion was held regarding our current constitution and the model constitution of the ELCA. Pastor Hale suggested creating a task force to re-evaluate the constitution with any recommendations to happen before the next annual meeting or congregational meeting. Any interested members need to notify Pastor Hale. Delegates are needed to attend the Conference and Synod Assembly meetings that are coming up. The Conference meeting is being held May 6th at 6 p.m. at Immanuel in Golden. Two representatives will be needed. The Synod Assembly meeting is May 29-31. It was noted that Brent & Angie Ufkes are possible representatives again for the Synod meeting. Registration forms are available from Pastor

Hale and need to be completed as soon as possible. A first communion class is being scheduled the first two Sundays in March with the first communion to be held during Maundy Thursday services. Info will be included in the upcoming newsletter on these classes.

Old Business – Teller and Communion Sign-Up: The sign-up sheet was circulated and council members signed up or were assigned months. If not available when assigned, please find coverage and let Denise know of the arrangements.

New Business – Good Friday Services: Services will be held at Trinity at 7 p.m. A motion was made by Linley to invite all area churches of the Carthage Ministerial Alliance to join our services and the loose offering to be decided upon by the Carthage Ministerial Alliance. Seconded by Angie Fecht. Motion carried.

Food Resource Bank: John Schwartz briefly shared information about the food resource program. A joint venture with St. John’s Lutheran Church in Springfield is being discussed. Congregations are paired up. Urban congregations provide the funding and rural congregations provide the land and the crop. The proceeds of the crop go to the food resource bank. Further discussion will be held next month. St. John’s will be contacted to discuss a timeline.

Web Site: A brief discussion was held regarding the new church web site. Greg Gronewold has put in a tremendous amount of time to revise the web site and is now looking for the congregation’s input. Feedback is needed as to what items the congregation would like to see on the web site and also if anyone is interested in maintaining any pages for their group or committee. Contact Greg with any feedback or if you are interested in assisting in any way. The new web site is:

www.carthagetrinitylutheran.com. The web site currently has the updated 2008-2009 duty rosters, newsletters, history of the church and previous pastor’s photos. A special thanks to Greg for all his work.

Meeting Date Changed: The next council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 13 at 7 p.m. The date was changed due to the conflict with Maundy Thursday services.

Regional Parish Meeting: The next regional parish ministry meeting is scheduled for March 27 at 7 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, south of Carthage.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. by Linley Bartell. Seconded by Pastor Hale. No further discussion. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Recorded by Jody Miller
Council Secretary

HUGS in Hancock County

March HUGS Meeting to Focus on Nutrition: Deborah Schuster, registered dietician at Memorial Hospital of Carthage, will speak on improving nutritional health while fighting cancer at the March meeting of HUGS (Helping Us Give Support) in Hancock County, a support group for cancer patients or survivors, their care givers and loved ones. The meeting is set for 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, at Memorial Hospital, in the executive boardroom. The program is for anyone dealing with cancer or those who want to reduce their risk factors for cancer. The public is invited to attend. This program was previously scheduled for February, but was cancelled due to weather.

For more information about HUGS, or to ask about a speaker from HUGS, please feel free to call Florine Dixon, CNO at Memorial Hospital 357-6565; Stephanie Willey at the Hancock County Health Department 357-2171; Jetty Calvert at Carl Sandburg College 357-3129; or Deb Limkemann at the Sherrick Drug and Medical 357-3353.

Extra! Extra!
Children of Trinity!
We Need Your Help!

The winter has been long, cold and wet. We realize it has been difficult to attend Sunday School. With spring coming and anticipation of new life we would like to have as many children participate in Sunday School and Angel Choir as possible. To make it convenient for your parents, Angel Choir practices during the Sunday School opening.

The congregation loves to see you children take part and you add joy to the church service. Jesus loves you – come and sing for Him.
Connie Schulz

World Day of Prayer
World Day of Prayer service will be held on Friday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. and the Baptist Church.

Easter Lilies

It's time to order flowers to be placed in the church for Easter. Cost is \$11 each. Please fill out an order form in Sunday bulletins or call the church office. Orders must be placed by Sunday, March 9. Make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church and put "Easter Lily" in the memo line. Thank you!

Corned Beef and Cabbage Supper

Christ Lutheran Church of Nauvoo is holding its third annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Supper from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, March 17. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for kids age 12 and under. Supper includes corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, rye bread, beverage and dessert (hot dogs will be available for kids who don't like corned beef). Tickets may be purchased at the door, or in advance at the Nauvoo Pharmacy. Come join the fun!

Easter Breakfast

The confirmation youth will be serving breakfast on Easter Sunday beginning at 7:30 a.m. The menu will consist of pancakes, breakfast casserole, fruit and drink. A free-will offering will be collected to help offset costs for the youth to attend confirmation camp. Congregational matching funds will be applied for through Thrivent. We are asking for donations of the following food items. Monetary donations will also be accepted to purchase additional items that will be needed. For those of you willing to donate food items, there is a sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center. Monetary donations may be left at the church office. Please try to have food items in the parish hall kitchen by 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 22. Thank you!

10 – 2 lb. box pancake mix (just add water)
9 – 24 oz. bottle syrup
6 gallons orange juice (pre-made)
2 gallons milk

FAMILY News

Family News” is a place where we can celebrate together the many good things that are happening in the lives of Trinity’s members and friends. We hope to include news about all of our members and their families. To submit good news, please call Denise at the church office (357-2468) or send an e-mail to oldtrinity@hotmail.com. This is yet another way we are ***caring for each other.***

*Congratulations to the 8th grade Carthage Boys Basketball team for taking 2nd at the State Championship in Monticello on Thursday, February 14. Team members associated with our church are Tyler Bruns, Kirby Fecht, Chris Holtsclaw, Kyle Miller and John Malloy. The boys lost to Winchester, last years state champion, in a hard fought game 47-45. The season record was 25-2.

Hosts Needed for Luther

College Chorale

Luther College Collegiate Chorale will be performing a concert in Keokuk on Tuesday, April 17. We need volunteers to house and feed choir members. If you would be willing to host, please sign up in the Welcome Center or let Pastor Hale or Denise know.

Great Rivers Laity Prayer Retreat May 2nd & 3rd, 2008

Toddhall Retreat Center
Plan now to be a part of this inaugural laity prayer retreat to be held in the midst of God’s beautiful creation. Nestled in the woods near Cahokia, Toddhall Retreat Center, Columbia, IL offers a scenic and peaceful setting for fellowship and communion with the Lord. Participants will enjoy time together devoted to glorifying God through study, reflection, renewal, and prayer. The cost of \$65 per participant includes lodging and meals. Registration is limited. Reservations must be received no later than Friday, April 18. For more information, contact Melissa Idleman at 217-469-2786 or via email at Melissa.Idleman@insightbb.com

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

First Communion Classes will be held on Sundays March 9 and 16 at 10:15, in the Fellowship Hall following worship. Parents are asked to accompany their children to the classes as there will be booklets for both the child and the parents passed out at the first session. First Communion will take place on Maundy Thursday, March 20 at 7:00 P.M. Children receiving their First Communion will go up with the rest of their families during the First Table of Holy Communion. The usual age for First Communion in the Lutheran church is around 2nd or 3rd grade, but children who are younger are invited after consultation with Pastor Hale. Please call the Church office by March 4 at 357-2468 to register your child ahead of time. Or you may sign up on Sunday, March 2 in the Welcome Center. We need to have a fairly accurate count so that we may order materials ahead of time.