

TRINITY'S GOOD NEWS

Volume 10 Issue 4

April 2009

April Birthdays

- 4/01 Stephanie Stott
- 4/03 Heather Stevenson, Ryder Duffy
- 4/05 Pastor Greg Busboom, Anne Ufkes
- 4/06 Randy Geissler
- 4/07 Lance Stott, Rod McGaughey
- 4/08 Ashley Koster
- 4/09 Tyler Ufkes, Zach Lemley
- 4/13 Edith Galloway
- 4/14 Scott Harrison
- 4/15 Austin Ufkes
- 4/16 Nathan Wisehart, David Harrell
- 4/17 Crista Rainford
- 4/20 Dustin Ellefritz
- 4/22 Andy Redenius, Erin Markham
- 4/24 Gerrie Harrison, Travis Ufkes, Ryan Biery
- 4/25 Denver Smith
- 4/26 McKenna Huls
- 4/28 Sally Swank, Margaret Rosenboom
- 4/29 Susan Pennebaker

April Anniversaries

- 4/09 Tadd & Carrie Markham
- 4/15 Rick & Lori Wildrick
- 4/22 Loren & Connie Schulz
- 4/24 Jim & Lori Ufkes
- 4/30 Morris & Karen Gronewold

Choir Practice

Choir practice will be held on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Welcome Center. Anyone wishing to sing is welcome to join us!

Sewing Group

The sewing group will meet each Monday at 9:00 a.m. Anyone wishing to sew can join us.

Committee Night

Committee Night is Tuesday, April 7. No meetings have been scheduled at this time.

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.

Financial Update

As of February 28, 2009

Current

Amt. Budgeted YTD - \$23,804
Amt. Received YTD - \$26,317
Amt. Spent YTD - \$8,155
Current Fund Balance - \$23,968

Benevolence

Amt. Budgeted YTD - \$3,106
Amt. Received YTD - \$1,694

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!

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.

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.

Welcome Center Update

As of February 28, 2009, the amount given to the Welcome Center totals \$397,429. Of this amount \$6,104 was given through February 28, which compares to \$14,019 given through February 2008. Total cost of the project was \$548,653. For 2009 we have paid \$1,203 in interest through February compared to \$1,287 in 2008. We have reduced the Marine Bank loan by \$3,622 so far this year, leaving a loan balance of \$88,595. In addition there are \$62,000 of our own funds on loan to the Welcome Center. Our payments 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.

Do You Know Someone Who's Graduating?

Graduation will soon be here! If you have a child, grandchild, or someone else who will be graduating from high school or college, please let the church office know so they can be recognized in next month's newsletter.

The confirmation youth will again serve breakfast on Easter morning 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.

The following food items are needed and a sign-up sheet is in the Welcome Center. Monetary donations may be left in the church office. Please have food items in the parish hall kitchen by 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 11. Thanks!

10 – 2 lb. boxes pancake syrup
(just add water)
9 – 24 oz bottles syrup
6 gallons pre-made orange juice
2 gallons milk
1 – 1 lb. can coffee

High School Bible Study

Attention Illini West Students! Invite your friends and come study God's Word each Thursday at Calvary Assembly of God Church, 720 Miller Street, Carthage. Please bring a \$2.00 donation for lunch. Bible Study is hosted by Carthage Area Ministerial Alliance at both lunch hours.

Fellowship Hosts Needed

We need volunteers to host coffee fellowship on Sunday morning. If you would be willing to host, please sign up in the Welcome Center. Thanks!

Delegates Needed for Synod Assembly

We are in need of delegates to represent us at the synod assembly at the Crown Plaza in Springfield on June 11 – 13. We need one male and one female, as well as one youth under the age of 21. The theme for this year is God's Work. Our Hands: Accompaniment. If you are interested in serving, contact the church office for more information. Early registration ends April 18.

Easter Breakfast

Church Council Highlights
March 12, 2009

Council members present were Merlin Gronewold, John Schwartz, Dave Hartweg, Kathy Graham, Mary Sargent, Galen Krieg, Connie Flesner, Delmer Schlueter, Dave Poland and Pastor Gayle Pope. Absent: John Dittmer, Angie Fecht, Ryan Schardon and Linley Bartell.

Merlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Devotions and opening prayer led by Dave Poland. Galen Krieg will lead the devotions in April.

The minutes of the January 25 and February 19, 2009 were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as presented by John Schwartz. Seconded by Kathy Graham. Motion carried.

There were no special Petitions or Communications.

Financial Secretary's Report – Financial Secretary Report dated February 28, 2009 was reviewed. Motion to approve the financial secretary report by John Schwartz. Seconded by Mary Sargent. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer's Report dated February 28, 2009 was presented and explained by Dave Hartweg. Motion to approve Treasurer's report by John Schwartz. Seconded by Kathy Graham. Motion carried.

Christian Ed. (Angie Fecht) – No report.

Evangelism (Connie Flesner) – Connie Reported that she had a meeting with John Peterson. The banners have been put up. An ad will be in the paper for Easter.

Fellowship (Mary Sargent) – Mary reported that there are fellowship and Lenten supper sign-up sheets in the Welcome Center.

Finance (Kathy Graham) – Kathy reported that despite the economy, the numbers are looking up.

Memorial (John Dittmer) – No report.

Property (John Schwartz) – John reported that thanks to several men spending three Saturdays, the pipe room is done. On Saturday, March 21, the men will work on the plumbing fixtures in the parish hall. The committee is still working on the hail problems and is hopeful that work can start in early June depending on the farming and weather.

Social Ministry (Galen Krieg) – Galen is trying to form a committee and has 4 people so far. He is looking into the Financial Peace University. It is a work in progress.

Stewardship (Delmer Schlueter) – No report.

Worship & Music (Linley Bartell) – No report.

Youth (Ryan Schardon) – No report.

Call Committee – No report.

Carthage Ministerial Alliance Report (Ron Schulz) – There was discussion about the Illini West weekly Bible Study. John Schwartz made a motion to pay the amount for the lunch provided on February 26, and provide for one more lunch using the Marie Fecht fund. Delmer Schlueter seconded. Motion carried. There was a reminder that there will be Holy Week breakfasts and a message at different churches during the week and a Community Service for Good Friday at the First Baptist Church at 7 p.m. Trinity will also hold its own service.

Dave's Report – Dave Poland gave a report on visits. There is a schedule with Dave, Pastor Gayle, Jackie Adkins and Lynn Fecht. Dave and Sandy will be attending a retreat at Wartburg Seminary Marcy 14-16. If a minister is needed, call Pastor Gayle or Denise. Pastor Jeff Otto from Macomb will lead the worship on Sunday, March 15. Mid-week Lenten services are going well.

Pastor Gayle's Report – Pastor Gayle had a report about her visits. There was also discussion about the Confirmation students attending the soup kitchen in Quincy. Around 30-35 people were served. Attendance at confirmation was also discussed.

Old Business:

Organ Fund: We have had donations to the organ fund. Approximately \$7,100 is still needed to meet our obligation.

Geographic Parish: The parish will meet on Thursday, March 26, at Mendon. Dan Wilson, facilitator, will ask if the group would like to break into smaller groups. Pastor Gayle asked the Council's opinion about a part-time secretary for the group. Council agreed it is an idea worth pursuing.

Synod Assembly: Merlin received information about the Assembly to be held June 11-13, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. We are able to send 3 voting members: one female, one male and one youth (21 or younger). The deadline is April 19 for the lowest rate. He will put information in the newsletter.

Northwest Conference Assembly: A meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran in Golden. The Bishop will be in attendance. We need to send 2 delegates. These delegates will elect representatives to serve on synod committees and synod council. Merlin will also put this in the newsletter.

Other: The van was used by the Christian Church to travel to work on the Katrina recovery.

New Business:

Council Reports: There was a discussion about receiving reports several days before the council meetings.

Bank Accounts: The signature cards at the bank needed to be updated. Dave Hartweg made a motion to allow Merlin Gronewold, as president of the Church Council, permission and access to the Trinity Lutheran Church accounts and is authorized to have his

signature on the card and co-sign checks. John Schwartz seconded. Motion carried. *Disaster Strategy:* A discussion was held about an emergency preparedness plan. Two aspects were expressed: security of prevention and response. This will be deferred to the Worship and Music Committee.

Stained Glass Window: Jackie Adkins is making a church display at the Kibbe Museum. They would like to borrow a stained glass window from the old choir room for this. If we need the window back at any time, it will be returned. John Schwartz made a motion to allow the Kibbe Museum to borrow a stained glass window for their display. Dave Hartweg seconded. Discussion included having the other window displayed in the Welcome Center. Motion carried.

Highway Clean-Up: There is an opening for the highway clean-up that Thrivent was responsible for. It requires clean-up twice a year for about one to two hours, depending on the number of people. Signs will also be displayed along the highway. A motion was made by John Schwartz and seconded by Mary Sargent for Trinity to be responsible for highway clean-up. Motion carried. John will be the contact person and Connie Flesner the second contact.

Next council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 16th at 7:00 p.m.

John Schwartz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Galen Krieg seconded. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Connie Flesner,
Council Secretary



Ladies Bible Study

There is a Bible Study that is held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in my home. The title of the 9-month study is "The Hidden Land of God: Wisdom Stories from Ruth, Daniel and Esther." There is lots of discussion and no wrong answers to questions that arise. There is always room for one more at the table and the group is very welcoming. The next meeting is March 12. For any questions you might have give me a call at 357-2737. Copies of the current Bible Study are available in the organist mailbox in the parish hall.

Doris Holtsclaw

HUGS in Hancock County

"I May Have Cancer, but Cancer Doesn't Have Me" is the topic for the April meeting of HUGS, a support group for cancer patients or survivors, their care givers and loved ones. Allen and Carol Shay of Carthage, both cancer survivors, will talk about their experiences with treatment and how it has affected their lives and relationships. The meeting is set for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2009, at Memorial Hospital, in the executive conference room. HUGS supports people impacted by cancer by offering monthly meetings for fellowship and education. A limited amount of financial assistance is also available through HUGS. For more information, contact Florine Dixon at Memorial Hospital, Carthage, 217-357-6565, or Jetty Calvert at Carl Sandburg College, 217-357-3380, ext. 6922.

News From our Sponsored Children

My dearest Trinity Lutheran Church,

Praise the Lord that we are all still alive. Well done. I am fine and in good health and so are the family members, however, I long to hear from you.

School went well. I was promoted to P.S. All that is through your effort and prayers.

I wish you good luck in 2009 and all the years to come. God bless you.

Love,
Deric Watala

Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday, April 5, 9:00 a.m.

Jesus enters Jerusalem. On Palm Sunday, we become a part of the parade of people trailing behind Jesus, who is mounted on a lowly donkey. We wave palm branches and shout "Hosanna!" on this day as a way to praise the one who has come to save us all – in great humility. Our joy is mingled with sorrow because we know Jesus is heading into his last days on earth.

Maundy Thursday, April 9, 7:00 p.m.

Jesus goes to the Upper Room. On Maundy Thursday, we climb the stairs to the upper room prepared for Jesus and his disciples, where they share a Last Supper together. In the bread and wine served here, Jesus gives his very body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Today we partake of this special meal together as the family of believers – to remember his death until he comes, find grace to help in our time of need, and renew our Christian love.

Good Friday, April 10, 7:00 p.m.

Jesus dies on the cross. On Good Friday, we stumble through the streets of Jerusalem to witness Jesus on his path to the cross to suffer and die. We recognize that we should be on this road ourselves, but understand that Jesus is the only one who can walk this way if we are truly to be saved from sin and death. We contemplate the cross, express grief over his suffering, and marvel at the sacrifice of the sinless Son of God.

Easter Vigil, April 11, 7:00 p.m.

Jesus rises from the dead. On Holy Saturday, we wait to walk with the women to Christ's tomb on Easter morning. There we will see the stone rolled away. We will see

Jesus alive again, beckoning us to come,
follow him to life everlasting.

Easter Day, April 12, 9:00 a.m.

(Breakfast 7:30 a.m.)

Once again we sing our Alleluias as we
celebrate that the tomb is empty and Christ
lives! Joins us as we gather for this festival
celebration of Holy Communion! And, don't
forget the delicious breakfast served by our
confirmation kids!