

# TRINITY'S GOOD NEWS

Volume 10 Issue 2

February 2009

## *February Birthdays*

- 2/01 Lydia Gutting
- 2/02 Sandi Watts
- 2/03 Kim Krieg, Jacob Clostermery
- 2/04 LeAnn Fecht, Jacob Ufkes,  
Delmer Schlueter, Elton Holtsclaw
- 2/06 Jared Schwartz, Carl E. Hartweg
- 2/09 Scott Shipman
- 2/11 Aaron Brodie
- 2/12 Jesse Holtsclaw
- 2/13 Jerry Bartell
- 2/14 Cindy Menn
- 2/16 Cory Clostermery, Leanne Pollock
- 2/18 Kyle Kirby
- 2/19 Brad Ufkes
- 2/20 Helen Seigfreid, Jolene Gronewold
- 2/23 Ethan Johnson
- 2/24 Trey Geissler
- 2/25 Carol Vest
- 2/27 Angie Ufkes
- 2/29 Alex Bentzinger

## *February Anniversaries*

- 2/08 Bill & Tiana Kirby
- 2/10 John & Linda Hartweg
- 2/14 Lawrence & Marjorie Harrell
- 2/24 Mark & Traci Harrell
- 2/27 Eric & Tonya Boyer
- 2/28 Melvin & Dorothy Wetterich

## *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, February 3. 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 December 31, 2008

### Current

Amt. Budgeted YTD - \$143,639  
Amt. Received YTD - \$118,834  
Amt. Spent YTD - \$112,048  
Current Fund Balance - \$13,976

### Benevolence

Amt. Budgeted YTD - \$18,635  
Amt. Received YTD - \$18,997

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.

### *Welcome Center Update*

As of December 31, 2008, the amount given to the Welcome Center totals \$391,325. Of this amount \$50,509 was given through December 31, which compares to \$56,971 given through December 2007. Total cost of the project was \$548,653. For 2008 we have paid \$6,165 in interest through December compared to \$6,757 in 2007. We have reduced the Marine Bank loan by \$64,783 so far this year, leaving a loan balance of \$92,217. In addition there are \$62,000 of our own funds on loan to the Welcome Center. 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.

### *Thanks from Shepherd's Pantry*

Shepherd's Pantry thanks everyone who has given money to help support the operation of the pantry. Your recent donations help guarantee that the pantry will be able to purchase food items on a regular basis. This helps the pantry fulfill its mission to provide food boxes for area families. THANK YOU!

### *Ladies Bible Study*

There is a new Bible Study that is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 February 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

### *Winter Items Needed*

The Department of Human Services is collecting new or gently used coats, sweatshirts, gloves, mittens and scarves to hand out to those in need this winter. You may drop your items off at their office at 2005 E. US Highway 136 starting now through the end of February. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Edris at 357-3116.

### *Address Changes*

Amy Moore  
1425 Elm Street  
Quincy, IL 62301

Nathan Wisehart  
8620 Crescent Chase Apt. 21C  
Johnston, IA 50191-2252

### *Thank You*

Many thanks to all the people who stayed behind after church to decorate the sanctuary and Welcome Center, and then a few weeks later, take the decorations down. Everyone seemed to know exactly what to do, and where to go, which made things move smoothly. It was a good time of cooperation, fun and fellowship.

Linley Bartell, Chair Worship & Music

## *Picture Directory Update*

**Please plan on being included in our new directory.** The directory will be very useful for our next Pastor, so he can put names and faces together. It also helps new members to become more acquainted with us "older" ones!

The dates are Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 5, 6, and 7. There is still time to sign up for an appointment. The website is shut off, so you will need to use the hard copies in the Welcome Center.

But if you can't make it on one of these days, the Methodist Church will be taking pictures, also, on February 26, 27 or 28<sup>th</sup>. If you can not make our dates, perhaps you could schedule one at the Methodist Church.

And if you can not have a new picture taken, please send us one - **4" x 6" or smaller**. Remember, if the photo is from a professional photographer, you will need to get a release in order for Olan Mills to include it in the directory.

Be sure to send us pictures of your family members who are in the Military.

If you would have some time on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday, **we could use your help!** We would like to have some hosts during the appointment times, to assist with the paperwork, and help out as needed. The Thursday and Friday times are from 3:00 to 9:30, and on Saturday, they are 10:00 to 5:00. Please call John (746-9000) and let me know what times you could come in.

**And, Thank You!**

If you have any questions, please contact someone on your Evangelism Committee.

**With all of these options, we should be able to get everyone in the directory!**



## *Isn't Technology Great?*

Even though I am approximately 5,250 miles from home, (as the crow flies), I can still do my best to keep up with the church website. ([www.carthagetrinitylutheran.com](http://www.carthagetrinitylutheran.com))

Just like with the church and associated buildings, the Christmas "decorations" have been removed from the site as I continue to add, delete, and edit content as I find new things or feel that previously posted items have become stale. If you haven't checked it out lately – please take a look at it. (Hint: The "Inspirational/Fun" page gets more changes than the others. But that doesn't mean that little things don't get added to the others as well.)

Do you know who Nick Vujicic is? You can find out on our site, and quite possibly be amazed! Do you need a chuckle? You might find a couple of those there as well.

As always, if you have any suggestions, constructive criticism, or would like to just make a comment, please go to the "Contact Us" page and send me a message via the form at the very bottom or email me direct at: [gronewold@hotmail.com](mailto:gronewold@hotmail.com). Over the past 11 months, an average of 46 different computers checked out the site each month. (Only 31 in December)

Meanwhile, we will continue to aspire to inspire!

*Church Council Highlights*  
*January 8, 2009*

Council members present were Brent Ufkes, John Schwartz, Jody Miller, David Hartweg, Kathy Graham, Angie Fecht, Merlin Gronewold, Linley Bartell, John Dittmer, Dave Poland, John Peterson, Ryan Schardon and Ron Schulz. Absent: Pastor Gayle Pope

Brent called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Devotions and opening prayer led by Dave Poland.

The minutes of the December 11, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as presented by John Peterson. Seconded by John Schwartz. No further discussion. Motion carried.

The following Petitions or Communications reported:

- 1) A thank you note was received from the Children's Miracle Ranch regarding the donation.
- 2) A letter from the Synod renewing Dave's privileges from 11/2/08 to 4/30/09 was received.

**Financial Secretary's Report** – Financial Secretary Report dated December 31, 2008 was reviewed. Motion to approve the financial secretary report by John Schwartz. Seconded by Kathy Graham. No further discussion held. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer's Report dated January through December 31, 2008 was reviewed. Motion to approve Treasurer's report by John Schwartz. Seconded by Kathy Graham. No further discussion. Motion carried.

**Christian Ed. (Angie Fecht)** – No report.

**Evangelism (John Peterson)** – No report.

**Fellowship (Jody Miller)** – No report.

**Finance (Kathy Graham)** – The investment and account balances from November 2008 – January 2009 were reviewed. A request from the Hancock County Family Fun Fair committee was received. This information will be provided in the church bulletin and newsletter for individual member consideration.

**Memorial (John Dittmer)** – No report.

**Property (John Schwartz)** – No report.

**Social Ministry (Tammy Snyder)** – No report.

**Stewardship (Merlin Gronewold)** – No report.

**Worship & Music (Linley Bartell)** – No report.

**Youth (Ryan Schardon)** – Ryan stated that the youth continue to meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month. They are currently planning some fundraisers to help with the summer event.

**Call Committee** – Reviewed the letter received from the Synod office.

**Carthage Ministerial Alliance Report (Ron Schulz)** – Ron reported the following CMA activities:

- 1) International worship was held December 21 at the Baptist Church. This was a nice event with a follow-up event to be held possibly in March.
- 2) Carl Sandburg College will be offering English as a second language course at the Baptist Church. Refreshments were requested from area churches as an opportunity for outreach during their class breaks. Ron will check on a schedule.
- 3) High School bible study has been on hold since the convergence. Pending approval of the Assembly of God church board for use of their building, these classes may soon resume during the lunch hours.

- 4) The annual CMA pulpit exchange is scheduled for January 25. Father Tony Trosley is scheduled to be at Trinity and Dave is scheduled to be in Burnside.

**Pastor Gayle's Report** – No report.

**Dave's Report** – Dave stated that he has given communion to several this past month. He and 3 confirmation youth attended the lock-in in Springfield this past month. Those that attended had a good time. Acolyte training is scheduled for January 11 with Zach Lemley to assist. A baptism for Ayden Young-Sitzmore will be held this coming Sunday. Christmas Eve service was well attended with 232 in attendance.

**Old Business: Annual Reports:** All committee reports are due to Denise no later than Monday, January 12.

**Nominating Committee:** A report from the nominating committee regarding possible council members was reviewed.

**Organ Update:** Linley reviewed the information regarding the organ. She has a bid of \$27,900 for an organ update. A recommendation was made for the finance committee to meet to discuss possible funding opportunities. This meeting was scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. If funding is available, a recommendation may be made at the annual meeting.

**Geographic Parish Report:** No update available.

**New Business:**

**Van Use:** The Christian church is requesting to use the church van for a trip to New Orleans February 7 – 14. They have 11 attending. Motion was approved.

Next council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (unless changed at the annual reorganization meeting.)

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 by John Schwartz. Seconded by Angie Fecht. No further discussion. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Recorded By: Jody Miller, Council Secretary

# 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](mailto:oldtrinity@hotmail.com). This is yet another way we are **caring for each other**.

\* Congratulations to **Dave and Sandy Poland** on the birth of a granddaughter. Lilly was born Monday, January 19 at 4:21 a.m. and weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz. and was 21" long. Dave says she has more hair than he does! Lilly is the daughter of Dave and Sandy's daughter, Jenny.

## *HUGS in Hancock County*

### **"Laughter is Good Medicine" is the topic for the February meeting of HUGS,**

a support group for cancer patients or survivors, their care givers and loved ones. The presenter is LaRae Roth, a mother of four who teaches English at Illini West High School in Carthage and who, in her spare time, "likes to spread the joy of laughter" as a humorous and inspirational speaker. The meeting is set for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3 at Memorial Hospital, Carthage, 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.

*Hancock County Family Fun Fair*  
*February 7, 2009*  
*Donations Needed*

The interagency committee serving families in Hancock County is again sponsoring a Family Fun Fair for families in the area. The goal is to provide parent education, child development concepts and take home ideas for enjoyable family activities. This year's theme, "Lincoln's Birthday," will feature fun for everyone including interactive learning storytellers, door prizes, birthday cake and much more!

This free family event relies solely on donation from individuals and businesses. We are asking you to help sponsor the 2009 Family Fair. If you would like to donate a monetary gift, you can make checks payable to the **Hancock County Family Fair** and mail it to: Memorial Hospital, c/o Florine Dixon, P.O. Box 160, Carthage. Please consider donating to this year's Family Fair. Over 400 people attended last year's fair, so your donation would be much appreciated! Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

*Ash Wednesday Worship*

Our traditional Ash Wednesday worship services, including the imposition of ashes and the sharing of Holy Communion, will be held at both 9:00 a.m. in the parish hall (followed by a light Lenten breakfast) and at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. On Ash Wednesday, Christians gather to be reminded of our need for repentance and renewal during the 40 days of Lent. Marked with a visible reminder of our mortality and sinfulness, we enter Lent prepared for the journey that lies ahead, a journey that culminates in our observance of Christ's death and resurrection on Good Friday, and finally, Easter Sunday.

*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.



*Souper Bowl Sunday*

"Souper Bowl" Sunday has become an annual tradition here at Trinity! Once again this year, our confirmation students will collect a special "Souper Bowl" offering on Sunday, February 1 to benefit hunger ministries both locally and abroad. Part of our "Souper Bowl" offering will go toward the confirmation youth's trip to the soup kitchen in Quincy and the rest will go to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Let's help our kids score a touchdown against world hunger as we live out our congregation's mission of **Serving God's People!**

*Offering Envelopes*

Offering envelopes for 2009 are available to be picked up in the Welcome Center. If you have not yet picked your envelopes up, please do so as soon as possible.