

# TRINITY'S GOOD NEWS

Volume 10 Issue 7

July 2009

## *July Birthdays*

- 7/01 Helen Hartweg  
7/03 Pam Edris  
7/04 Linda Schmudlach, John Dittmer  
7/06 Paxton Brown, Austin Brown,  
Sarah Kohl  
7/07 Lynn Fecht  
7/10 Wilber Johnson, Natalie Cole  
7/14 Wilma Fecht  
7/15 Tanna Ellefritz, Marcia McGaughey,  
Brooke Gronewold, Abbie Lemley  
7/16 Maressa Busboom  
7/20 Donna Hills  
7/21 Peggy Higgins  
7/22 Steven Sargent  
7/24 Jane Wills, Ashley Snyder  
7/26 Bill Kirby, Regan Seaver,  
Jackie Adkins  
7/27 Ruth Ufkes, Kaci Ellefritz,  
Amber Jacoby, Colt Vance  
7/28 Ed Seaver  
7/29 Brianna Hale, Barbara Hartweg  
7/30 Gladys Rhodes, Norm Jurgens  
7/31 Jennifer Duffy

## *July Anniversaries*

- 7/05 Cory & Jennifer Clostermery  
7/06 John & Pam Edris  
7/10 Don & Phyllis Housewright  
7/13 Bill & Teresa Geissler  
7/14 Chris & Kim Nettles,  
Ryan & Sarah Kohl  
7/16 Jason & Cari Seaver  
7/19 Ronnie & Traci Johnson  
7/20 Gary & Susan Holloway  
7/22 Tyler & Adrian Creasy  
7/26 John & Shirley Manning

## *Committee Night*

Committee Night is Tuesday, July 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 May 31, 2009

### Current

Amt. Budgeted YTD - \$59,511  
Amt. Received YTD - \$55,774  
Amt. Spent YTD - \$40,445  
Current Fund Balance - \$26,778

### Benevolence

Amt. Budgeted YTD - \$7,765  
Amt. Received YTD - \$8,264

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 May 31, 2009, the amount given to the Welcome Center totals \$412,018. Of this amount \$12,064 was given through May 31, which compares to \$18,520 given through May 2008. Total cost of the project was \$548,653. For 2009 we have paid \$2,271 in interest through May compared to \$2,869 in 2008. We have reduced the Marine Bank loan by \$19,291 so far this year, leaving a loan balance of \$72,926. 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.

### *Sewing Group*

The sewing group will meet on July 6 and August 3 at 9:00 a.m.

We will also meet on Thursday, July 23, from 9 to noon to sew school bags to prepare for school bag-a-rama in August. All ladies of the church are invited to join us. If you have a sewing machine, please bring it that day. If you can't make it that day, contact Jackie Adkins and she can give you material to sew at home. If you have any questions, please contact Jackie at 357-2012.

### *Ladies Bible Study*

This summer's remaining sessions will be a study of Mary. Session 2, July 9, Kinships, Friendships, and Holy Encounters; Session 3, August 13, Mary Among the Disciples.

If you are wary of a Bible study about Mary, consider that Martin Luther called Mary "the highest woman and the noblest gem in Christianity after Christ" in a Christmas sermon in 1531.

This Bible Study meets in my home on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. It is informal and no prior knowledge is needed. We discuss, ask questions and together we look for answers. Copies of the study will be in the organist mailbox. If you have questions, call me at 357-2737 or know you are welcome in my home on June 11 at 7 p.m.  
Doris Holtsclaw

### *Attention Choir Members!*

The choir will be singing on July 5 for Pastor Adam's first Sunday with us. Please meet at 8:45 a.m. that day to rehearse. Also, please wear a white shirt and black pants or skirt.

### *Address Changes*

Corey Housewright  
1991 Oakcrest  
Hamilton, IL 62341

Randall Ruhs  
4932 Sauquoit Lane  
Annandale, VA 22003-5142

### *Pastor Dichsen's First Sunday*

Pastor Adam Dichsen will begin serving as our pastor on July 1, 2009. His first Sunday service will be on July 5 at 9:30. We are moving our service back a half hour so our members can participate in the community service on the square at 8:00 as well. At a later date, we will have his official installation whenever the synod and Pastor Adam can find a mutually agreeable date.

## *Church Council Highlights*

*May 14, 2009*

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

Merlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Devotions and opening prayer led by Linley Bartell. Merlin Gronewold will lead the devotions in July.

The minutes of the special meeting of May 3, the regular council meeting of May 14, and a congregational meeting on May 31 were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as presented by Angie Fecht. Seconded by John Schwartz. Motion carried.

Petitions or Communications: Merlin read a thank you note from the Warsaw after prom. An invitation to Adam Dichsen's ordination was received. It will be Saturday, June 20 at 5 p.m. at the Faith Lutheran Church in O'Fallon, Illinois. Connie read a thank you from Marcia McGaughey thanking the council for their help.

**Financial Secretary's Report** – Financial Secretary Report dated May 31, 2009 was reviewed. Motion to approve the financial secretary report by John Schwartz. Seconded by Kathy Graham. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer's Report dated May 31, 2009 was reviewed. Motion to approve Treasurer's report by John Schwartz. Seconded by Kathy Graham. Motion carried.

**Christian Ed. (Angie Fecht)** – Angie reported that the CLASP account has become dormant because of inactivity. There was discussion about whether to leave the funds for five years or transfer the money to another account. The Youth Group has already put a deposit of \$900 down for lodging and \$270 deposit towards the bus. They will need to pay St. John's, Springfield,

\$1,106 balance for the charter bus. Linley Bartell made a motion to move the CLASP account into the transfer fund account to be used for transportation funds for the youth trip to New Orleans. Dave Hartweg seconded. Discussion followed. Motion carried. Vacation Bible School will be held July 13 to 16 at Trinity.

**Evangelism (Connie Flesner)** – Connie again thanked the council for their help for an at-risk student at the high school. The small church signs are a work in progress. There has been no communication received about the roadside clean up.

**Fellowship (Mary Sargent)** – Mary reported she will be appointing people for the coffee fellowships. The church council will provide refreshments on June 21.

**Finance (Kathy Graham)** – The investment sheets were reviewed with the financial reports. Kathy has moved the money to prepare for the housing loan. Kathy and Merlin will work out the particulars of the loan. Kathy also received a request from the Hancock County Sheriff for the National Child Safety Council for help with child safety, drug prevention and safety materials. Linley Bartell made a motion to donate \$100 to them, Mary Sargent seconded. Motion carried.

Merlin also discussed the two youth account CDs that are coming due. One was \$2056.38. The other was \$10,849.19. Dave Hartweg made a motion to put the \$2,056.38 CD into the youth account, and put the \$10,849.19 into a 6-month CD. Kathy Graham seconded. Motion carried. Kathy is the signature person on the student account along with Marcia McGaughey.

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

**Property (John Schwartz)** – Four members of the property committee (Dave Hartweg, Delmer Schlueter, Minor Garrelts and John Schwartz) met on Tuesday to look over work needed at the church. Work will begin on Friday, June 12, to tear off the shingles on

the parish hall. This is one week early because of Bill Kirby's schedule and the weather. Other issues discussed included the limestone chipping, the trim chipping, and the steeple damage. John is doing some checking with other sources about the best possible route for this upkeep.

**Social Ministry (Galen Krieg)** – No report.

**Stewardship (Delmer Schlueter)** – No report.

**Worship & Music (Linley Bartell)** – Linley reported that Professor Roth will be here for the organ rededication. David Cool will be here on Saturday to do a tune-up and some minor repairs. He will also be here for the rededication. There was some discussion on Prof. Roth's compensation. Mary Sargent made a motion to pay the lodging for Prof. and Mrs. Roth at Prairie Winds Motel. Kathy Graham seconded. Motion carried.

**Youth (Ryan Schardon)** – Ryan discussed the fund raisers for the New Orleans trip. The pizzas were great. He also discussed his replacement as he will be leaving for college. July 9 will be his last meeting.

**Carthage Ministerial Alliance Report (Ron Schulz)** – In Ron's absence, Merlin reported that the duties for the July 5 Community Church Service have been reassigned.

**Dave's Report** – Dave Poland gave a report on his visits. Dave will help drive the van and the confirmation youth to camp on Monday, June 15. There was discussion on help to return on Friday, June 19. Dave also reported on Pastor Gayle's visits. There still are some assignments due from the confirmed youth. Sunday, June 21, will be Dave's last Sunday. He will be attending and participating in both granddaughter's baptisms on Sunday, June 20 and July 5.

#### **Old Business:**

*Church Building:* Dave Hartweg discussed the wheel chair ramp going into the Annie Reyer room. It seems to collect and hold lots

of water that is damaging to the foundation and basement. It was discussed if we really need this now that we have the ramp access from the Welcome Center.

*Geographic Parish:* No report.

*Other: Reports.* There was a discussion about receiving reports prior to the council meetings as explained in job descriptions. Perhaps this could be received via e-mails. Merlin will look into this.

*Memorials:* There was a discussion about thank-you notes written by the church for memorials. We would like to reinstate this courtesy. This will be referred to the Memorial committee. The Evangelism and Social Ministry might be able to help with this as well.

#### **New Business:**

*Adam Dichsen:* Adam will arrive on Tuesday, June 16 with the moving van from Chicago. He would like help to unload the van on Wednesday, June 17. His ordination will be on Saturday, June 20 and he will return to Carthage on June 24. Merlin will discuss with him the date of his first service. Adam will also accompany the youth to New Orleans, July 22-26.

*Moving Expenses:* There was discussion about the moving expenses, approximately \$750, and the laptop computer upgrades needed, approximately \$50. Dave Hartweg made a motion to pay the moving expenses and upgrade the laptop computer. Linley Bartell seconded. Motion carried.

*Welcoming and Greeting:* There was a brief discussion about welcoming and greeting Adam and Karen Dichsen and their family.

Next council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Angie Fecht made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Delmer Schlueter seconded. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Connie Flesner,  
Council Secretary

### *Vacation Bible School*

Bible School will again be held at Trinity with the closing program at the First Christian Church. It will be held Monday, July 13 through Thursday, July 16. Times are: Monday 5 to 8 p.m. and Tuesday through Thursday 5:30 to 8 p.m.

We will move from the market place of Jerusalem to the marketplace of Rome as we focus on Paul and the Underground Church.

All children ages 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to participate. There will be Bible stories, crafts, games, and family time and supper will be provided.

Sign up sheets for volunteers and food items are in the Welcome Center.

### *Wedding Invitation*

Sarah Nichole Anderson and David Scott Haas, both of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, will be married on Saturday, July 18, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Carthage, at 4:00 p.m. A reception will follow at the Warsaw Brewery, 900 North Sixth Street, Warsaw, Illinois at 6:30 p.m.

David is the son of Tom and LuAnn Haas of Nauvoo and the grandson of Minor and Mary Ann Garrelts of rural Hamilton. David has performed special music at various Trinity services over the past several years. All are cordially invited to attend the wedding; an RSVP is requested of anyone planning to attend the reception. To do so, please call Tom and LuAnn Haas at 217-453-6636.

### *Thank You*

We would like to thank everyone for their calls, visits and prayers during Jerry's illness and surgery. Jerry & Sharon Ideus

### *Pastoral Assistance*

Denise will be on vacation July 20 to 25 and Pastor Dichsen will be gone to New Orleans with the youth from July 22 to 26. If you need pastoral assistance, please contact Merlin Gronewold at 217-242-0943.

### *Thank You!*

I would personally like to thank the members of the congregation for all of their help on the removal and replacement of the shingles on the parish hall. Many hands make lighter work as we got a tremendous amount done in a short period of time. Also, thanks to the ladies of the congregation for the snacks and noon meals both Friday and Saturday and to Mark Harrison for the food on Saturday. A special thank you to Bill Kirby and Brad Schardon for their expertise and the use of their equipment. None of this could have been done without filling our mission to serve. It just shows there are many ways and this was a necessary and important one. Thank you all!

John Schwartz  
Property Chairman

### *News From our Sponsored Children*

Dear Trinity,

I hope you are healthy along with your family.

I write you this letter to thank you for the birthday gift you sent me. Let me tell you that this is my last school year and I'm in senior class so I'm happy to graduate from school. I'm also trying to decide the profession I'll study.

Well, my family is very well here and they wish you the best. That's all I can tell you so I say goodbye with a strong hug and many kisses. With love, Silvia

Trinity Lutheran Church,

I am mother to Daniel Salau. For what you have sent to my child I would like to say a word of hello to all members of church and also I would like to inform you that our country is very dry because it's a long time since we get rain. We are having a lot of problems in our area and also I am writing this letter to inform you that Daniel is at school and he is doing well on his studies. Last year he did well with credit C. I got his money amount US \$10 which I bought him mathematic table and calculate which he will use for his studies. We are doing well. For this time I will say bye until next time.

Jacinta Wanjiru