



From the Pastor's Desk.....

Dear Trinity Family,

October is a significant month for our ministry together through Trinity. Let me highlight some of the special ministry opportunities at Trinity in October:

**Prayer Vigil:** An integral part of **Faith Gives appeal** is our spiritual growth in the people of God. Spiritual growth is a fundamental component of Christian discipleship. I pray the entire congregation has grown through using the Devotional prepared by the Appeal Prayer Team. This Team continues to lift **Faith Gives** in prayer, and invites the congregation to join them on October 1<sup>st</sup> for a 7 hour Prayer Vigil. A member of the Prayer Team will be in the sanctuary at the Church Center from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM praying for our congregation, our ministry, and lifting up the specific prayer requests submitted by the congregation in the last two weeks of September. We invite every member of Trinity to pray. You may come to the Church Center, or you may pray from wherever you might be on Saturday. If you choose to pray at home or another location, I encourage you to use a Bible, a copy of our newsletter, and the Church Directory. Scripture leads us in prayer, the newsletter contains information about ministries you can lift in prayer, and the directory contains the names of your brothers and sister in Christ at Trinity, so you can pray for your Church family.

**Tell the Story Fellowship Events:**

- *Sunday October 2<sup>nd</sup>* we will gather at the Family Life Center from 10:10-11:00 AM for fellowship. Jo-on-the-Go will be there to prepare specialty coffee for our fellowship time together.
- *Sunday October 2<sup>nd</sup>* we will gather at 5:30 PM at the Sumtur Amphitheater for a hayrack ride, bonfire, and hot dogs. Feel free to wear your western attire, and enjoy an evening of fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ. We are suggesting you bring a blanket for the picnic.

**Celebration Sunday:** October 9<sup>th</sup> will be a special day as we make our commitments to both the General Fund and the **Faith Gives** Vision Appeal. ***Our commitments to Faith Gives are over and above our regular giving to the General Fund.*** Remember:

**General Fund** = Ongoing expenses for benevolence, missions, worship, Christian education, youth ministry, insurance, utilities, salaries, and other expenses of serving in ministry through Trinity.

**Faith Gives Vision Appeal** = Over and above our commitments to the General Fund. These funds support Ministry Development, Facilities renovation, and debt reduction.

You will receive a special mailing with detailed information about the items above.

**Reformation Sunday Confirmation:** We will celebrate the Reformation on October 30<sup>th</sup> as we remember the work and theology that launched the Lutheran Church. At the 11:15 AM service, the Trinity family will also celebrate together as we confirm our 9<sup>th</sup> graders into the Lutheran faith.

My ongoing prayer is that you will join your brothers and sisters in Christ at each of these ministry opportunities to celebrate with your family of faith.

Your Pastor and Friend,

*Pastor Erik*

## From the Church Council - Highlights from the September 13, 2011 Council Meeting

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- Pastor Erik opened in prayer and Council studied 1 Samuel 7:15 - 8:22 and 1 Corinthians 9:19. To meet the needs of the people where they are but standing firm with God is a task that needs great discernment and attention.
- Pastor Erik reported that the budgeting process is well underway. There was a motion and approval to set the Congregational Budget Meeting for Sunday, November 20.
- The Distribution Priorities for Endowment document was updated and presented to Council. A motion was made and the modifications were approved. This gives clear usage guidelines for if and when distributions are made available.



- Our partnership with Kairos for our Faith Gives Vision Appeal is well under-



"Give as freely as you have received."

FAITH IS DARING THE SOUL TO GO BEYOND WHAT THE EYES CAN SEE

"For we walk by faith, not by sight" - 2 Corinthians 5:7

During his two years in the army, David Brenner made the most of his posting to Europe by traveling at every opportunity. To heighten his sense of excitement, he often showed up at a train station and bought a ticket to wherever the next train was going.

One day he bought a ticket for Rome and since the train was scheduled to leave immediately, he raced across the station, but still arrived at the track just as the train was pulling away. He chased after it as fast as he could run! Standing on the platform of the last car was a well-dressed man who motioned for him to hand him his bags. He quickly tossed him his smaller bag and then his larger suitcase. By this time, he was growing weary from running, but then he looked into the man's face! The smirk he saw quickly told him that the man had offered his help not altruistically, but criminally. If Brenner didn't make it on board, this man had brand-new clothes and gear!

Brenner kicked up his heels and running as never before, he managed to grab the railing by the entrance to the last car. With all the strength he could muster, he swung himself aboard.

Adversity sometimes comes to rob you. Instead, let it motivate your faith to be even more daring!

From "God's Little Devotional Book" - Honor Books, Inc.

**To Tell the Story Events:** We are so fortunate to be part of God's story and there is an excitement in the air as we participate in these fellowship opportunities. Not only do we get to spend time together with our church family, but we also hear about God's future for Trinity and our part in it. There two remaining events on October 2nd: Jo-On-The-Go at 10:10 AM at the FLC and the Hayride/Bonfire at Sumptur Amphitheater at 5:30 PM. If you signed up for this one, remember to bring a blanket for the picnic.

## Happening at Trinity

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Our **New Member Discovery Class** has a new look. This three-session class meets on Sundays during the Education Hour (10:15 AM). Participants will visit with the pastors and some of the staff as they learn more about Trinity and what it means to live out a life of faith in our Church family. All those who are not yet members should consider attending this next Discovery Class, November 6, 13 & 20. Whether you have visited Trinity just a few times, or you have been coming for ages but never officially joined our church family, this is the class to answer

your questions about walking out your faith with us. Those who participate in this class and wish to join Trinity, will be welcomed in worship on December 4. We believe God is doing great things at Trinity. Indicate your interest on the welcome sheet. Childcare will be provided for children ages three and under, all others are welcome to attend Sunday School.

**Book Reader Discssion Group:** Our October selection is *A Sea Glass* by Anita Shreve. 376 p. (2 at Sump) Synopsis: A

### Trinity's Executive Board

President - Doug Pikop  
Vice President - Scott Hembertt  
Secretary - Kerri Stover  
Treasurer - George Madson

**Church Council elections are approaching.** If you are interested or wish to suggest a prospective candidate, please contact any one of the listed Nominating Committee Members: Greg Classen (402-592-0780), Bob Graham (402-592-1105), Debbie Mohr (402-339-5303) and Nancy Noda (402-331-8666).

richly engaging tale unfolds of marriage, money, and troubled times, and the story of a pair of young newlyweds who, setting out to build a life together in a derelict beach house on the Atlantic coast, soon discover how threatening the world outside their front door can be. Join us on October 18 at 7:00 PM in the Bride's Room at the CC for great discussion.

Ladies, read 2 Timothy, jot some notes and join us to **Grow Your Faith Today**. We meet in the Parsonage from 6:30 - 8:00 PM on Saturdays, October 22 and November 12 to learn from God's word together. Give yourself a GYFT and join us. Contact Janet Tschudin (402-597-1498) with questions.

**Flower charts for 2012** are up for both of our worship locations. The suggested donation amount for altar flowers is \$30.00. Please remember to take your flowers home following the last service at the worship location you provided them.

**Going to the Movies:** Sunday, October 2, 2011. Meet at the FLC at 12:15 to carpool. Show time is 1:00 PM at Twin Creek

Theater. We have pre-purchased 50 tickets; call the Church office to purchase your \$6 ticket today. **COURAGEOUS** is the fourth film from Sherwood Pictures, the moviemaking ministry of Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia. Riveted moviegoers will once again find themselves laughing, crying, and cheering as they are challenged and inspired by everyday heroes who long to be the kinds of dads that make a lifelong impact on their children.

**SPORTS NIGHT:** On Thursdays, beginning October 6, we are opening up the FLC for adults to use up some energy on the court. Volleyball will be the focus through December and then in January we will switch it up with basketball. Join us at 7:00 PM. Indicate on the welcome sheet if you are interested.

**REFORMATION SUNDAY** is October 30. Everyone is encouraged to wear red as we are reminded Martin Luther's steadfastness to the truth of God's word.

## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

FLC=Family Life Center CC=Church Center P=Parsonage (623 S Madison)

**Every Tuesday** - Fellowship Bible Group - 7 PM - P - *Patty Reid* - 402-331-6257  
**10/03 & 10/17**-Adult Quilters-12:30 PM-FLC - *Joanne Ahlers* - 402-339-3190  
**10/06**-Fifty-Five Plus-1 PM-CC - *Sue Lauritsen* - 402-331-2672  
**10/13**-Stitchers-7 PM-IT Village - *Joan McAleer* - 402-339-3448  
**10/14**-Scrapbookers-7 PM-CC - *Amy Masek* - 402-934-4975  
**10/18**-Book Readers Group-7PM-CC - *Ardis VonSeggern* - 402-592-0100  
**10/20**-Women of the ELCA (WELCA)-7PM-P-*Karen Gerdes* - 402-253-2263  
**TBA** -Trinity's Old Timers - *Pat Njus* - 402-592-5751

### August Ending Balances

General Fund - \$(8,713.39)	Trinity Relief Fund - \$2,443.83
Benevolence - \$12,330.44	Memorial Fund - \$28,534.00
Building Fund - 67,833.65	FLC Loan - \$632,679.68
Mission Fund - \$1,866.02	FLC Interest \$707.37
Designated Fund - \$12,719.95	Farm Escrow - \$167.73

### Financial Facts for Trinity:

- Year-to-date giving 16.76% below pledged amount for the same time frame.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the farm property taxes were paid this month in the amount of \$1,247.56.
- What financial facts would be helpful to you? Please submit your suggestions to Teresa Flash (tflash@trinitylife.org) and then keep your eyes peeled to this section for the answers.

### Stewardship Stirrings



Matthew 10:8

*"Give as freely as you have received."*

*faith gives*

Trinity sends self-addressed **envelopes** quarterly. This helps so that if you might not be in worship one week-end, you may still mail your tithes and offerings in to the church. Did you know that another way to support the ministry God is doing at Trinity is through our **ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT)** program. This is an easy way to support our mission. Auto withdrawal forms are located in the entry at both worship locations and on our website, [www.trinitylife.org](http://www.trinitylife.org). EFT funds are transferred to Trinity around the 25th of the month. Should you ever need to change the amount you would like to give, or to stop your auto withdrawal, just call the Contributions Secretary, Shar Butler (402-339-3788).

## Mission Focus

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**A Church in Mission:** At Trinity we are reaching beyond the walls of our congregation in mission to people in our community and around the world in many ways. To give everyone a better understanding of the ways Trinity reaches out to those in need throughout the year, the mission team will highlight one or more of these opportunities every month. We are not adding many new events; we are simply sharing the ways in which our church is already in mission and how we can focus some additional effort on these areas. Our **October Mission Focus** is the WIC Clinic.

**Women, Infant, and Children Clinic:** WIC provides federal grants to states for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk. Trinity supports this organization by offering the use of our building twice a month. To further assist them, **during the month of October we are requesting donations of new and slightly used children's clothing for ages 0 – 6, including coats and outerwear.** We also ask for ongoing support for these local families with donations of diapers, wipes, baby bottles, and coupons. There are collection boxes for these items at both worship locations. Please pray for these families as we continue to share the love of Christ by caring for their current needs.

**Stephen Center Fourth Friday Meal:** Sign up on the bulletin board at either worship location for the ingredients you will bring to prepare the dinner for October 28. Drop off these items in the kitchen at the CC by noon on Wednesday, October 26. If you would like to cook, please contact Mike Jones (402-597-1660); if you will transport and serve the meal, please contact Ethel O'Neal (402-618-5637).

**The Covering/The Raining Season:** Sunday, October 2 is the last day to bring **NEW summer-weather** children's clothing for the orphans in Sierra Leone. All sizes are needed from infants through teens. We will ship them later this

month. If you would like to help with shipping costs, please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church, noting in the memo: "shipping costs".

**Mission Trip to Sierra Leone: Informational meeting on October 9.** If you have any interest in this trip, join us at 12:15 PM in Classroom D. Come and learn more about this opportunity to share the love of Christ with the orphans at the Raining Season. Do not let cost of this trip be the reason you do not come to this meeting. We will discuss God's provision and ways to raise support. Some helpful details:

- Dates of travel January 12-21
- Participants must complete a travel application.
- Passports are necessary.
- Cost for the trip \$1150 (this does not include airfare)
- Tentative cost for airfare is \$1800

## The Raining Season



If you are interested in this trip, please attend the informational meeting or contact Matt Pearson (402-213-3206) as soon as possible.

Trinity partnered with Pastor Vijay and **Shalom Ministries in India** many years ago. This ministry trains Indian pastors in God's word while caring for widows and orphans. Please pray for Shalom, the pastors being trained for ministry, for the "least of these" who are cared for there, and for God's safety as Pastor Vijay travels to America this month.

**Next Month's Mission Focus:**

- Tri-City Pantry
- Fontenelle Thanksgiving Baskets

## Little Lights Preschool - Teaching Children to Grow, Learn and Shine for Jesus

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Cute little voices can be heard singing about pumpkins and falling leaves as you pass by the preschool rooms. Our theme for October is "God Made Seasons." The children will also learn the importance of the Bible, Moses and prayer. The children will invite their fathers to preschool for "Dads and Donuts," during letter "D" week, and have a "Pumpkin party" and costume parade at the Village this month.

Nancy Wert

Director of Little Lights Preschool

littlilight@trinitylife.org

### Christian Education

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Trinity's Sunday School year is off to a fabulous start! Many children are engaged in learning about Jesus this fall—but there is always room for more! We are eager to share the love of Christ with you and your children. It's not too late to join in on Sunday School—no matter your age!

Our Sierra Leone donation jar is getting heavier each week! I'd love for it be so full that I can't lift it anymore, so please keep bringing in your dollars and change each week. Our friends at The Covering orphanage in Sierra Leone will be so excited to be able to buy chairs, Bibles and other items for their school!

October is a busy time for our Footsteps kids. We will finish up our unit on The Big Ten on October 16<sup>th</sup>. To commemorate the completion, our Footsteps children will be singing at the 11:15 service that morning. I can't wait to hear them singing about the Big Ten, how about you?! Mark your calendars and join us at 11:15 worship that day!

On October 23rd, Footsteps begins our Christmas unit—Jesus is the Reason for the Season! I know that we almost rival the retail stores in getting the Christmas message out there early at Footsteps, but we've got a lot of good stuff going on this fall and Advent that we need to squeeze in! The children will

be sending up praises in Science, making sticky surprises in Cooking, and learning about the many names of Jesus in Music. Some assembly will be required in Craft, kids will learn that Jesus is the best gift ever in Drama, and watch a classic Christmas message in Video!

So, how do the Footsteps parents like the Constant Contact e-mail notes? I would love to hear from you! If anyone is not getting them, then I must not have your e-mail address. Please contact Juli (jstaab@trinitylife.org) in the Church office to make sure we have it! I love being able to include pictures of Footsteps kids right along with the information you need to keep you up-to-date!

Just a reminder to parents and siblings, Sunday School for all ages begins at 10:15 and runs until 11:05. Teachers are not expected to be in the classrooms until 10:10, so please do not leave your Footsteps child unattended until an adult arrives! Thank you!

As always, thank you for sharing your children with me each week. I consider it such a blessing to see their smiling faces and hear their delighted laughter as I walk down the halls!

Blessings,

Sheila Kendall

Christian Education Director

skendall@trinitylife.org



## Quest Youth and Family Ministries

**READ- APPLY- TRANSFORM:** In youth ministry we've been talking a lot about application because of the James' verse that says we aren't to simply be hearers of the word but doers. We have been wrestling with this verse and are working on how we might read the Bible differently so that we might live it out more effectively in the context of each of our lives. Instead of asking our students to read long passages of scripture, we have been approaching our reading in a new way, challenging our students to read one action verse a day and apply that immediately into their lives. Here's an example from Ephesians 6:10 - *Honor your father and mother. This is the first commandment with a promise.* So when God's word says honor your father and mother, the students are asked to wrestle with that, figure out how to live it out and then do it. It has been really interesting to see several of our students taking these challenges seriously. One small group on Wednesday night discussed the James verse about bridling our tongues — we should watch what comes out of our mouths. In discussion, we shared the struggles we have with filth in our language and also with using our words to hurt or injure others.

As we consider what God has to say to us, we see that the Bible acts as a mirror, showing us our sin and what God wants us to do about it. Again in James, we are told that when we look at the mirror and walk away, forgetting what we look like, that is really like talking about what God's word exposes in our lives and deciding to do nothing about it. If you looked in a mirror and noticed chocolate all over your face, would you clean it off or ignore it and go about the rest of your day? More than likely you would do something about it. Likewise, we are called to look at God's word not just to take it in as knowledge, but instead, that we would take it and apply it directly to our lives.

So let's try it together, when God's word says in Philippians 2:3 - *Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves.* What comes to your mind? Consider your motives and your actions this week. Confess those times when you have acted selfishly and immediately start applying the rest of the verse. It's not easy to do, but God's word is meant to be active, applied and transformational in each of us. So let's start living and applying God's principles to our lives, rather than acting like God's word is preparing us for some quiz or to give us the ability to point out sin in someone else. As Bo Pelini says "you don't point the finger, you point the thumb."

~Matt Pearson  
Youth and Family Minister  
mpearson@trinitylife.org



## COMING UP IN STUDENT AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

- 10/02 - Let's go to the movies to see **Courageous**. Tickets are available at the Church office for \$6. *Carpool from the FLC at 12:15 PM.* The show time is 1:00 PM at Twin Creek Theater.
- 10/09 - **High School** meet at the FLC from 6-8 PM for a great lesson and lots of FUN putting together music videos! Come be creative with us!!
- 10/16 - Let's go **paintballing**. Contact the church office by October 5 to get signed up. All ages welcome; adult drivers needed.
- 10/13 - Mission Trip Prayer Night. Join us at 6:00 PM at the FLC. We will ask for God's will, direction, favor and guidance on what ministry we will participate in and where He would like us to take the Gospel next summer.
- 10/30 - **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** during 11:15 worship, Meet in Classroom C at 10:15 AM. Pictures will be taken on Confirmation Sunday. Mandatory rehearsal is Wednesday, 10/26 at 8 PM at the FLC. Be sure you have turned in your completed parent and student covenants, you have turned in your faith statement and you have met with or scheduled a meeting with either Pastor Erik or Matt.
- 11/04-11/06 - **Teens Encounter Christ at Trinity**. This is a fantastic opportunity for high school students to deepen their walk with Christ. Contact Matt for more details.
- 02/10 to 12 - **Acquire the Fire** - 7th - 12th grade **BOYS ONLY**. Kansas City
- 02/16 & 17 - **Dare 2 Share** - 7th - 12th graders. Lincoln, NE
- 03/16-03/19 - **Ski Trip to Winter Park, CO**. We will enjoy two days of skiing and three nights of lodging at Moose Hollow Lodge. Adults: \$300; Students: \$290; Children: \$240; Non-skier: \$150; Snowboarder rentals: additional \$25. Contact the church if interested. All ages welcome, 6th grade and younger must have a parent on the trip.
- 04/21 & 22 - **Revolve Tour** - 7th - 12th grade **GIRLS ONLY**. Omaha, NE



**Prayer Focus:** We want to see God move in and through the people of Trinity. Prayer is vital to this. This fall pray that:

- God gives us wisdom as each of us seeks His will in how to participate and respond to the Faith Gives Appeal and General Fund support at our Celebration Worship services on October 9th and 10th.
- God would stir our hearts to desire to know Him fully by gathering with our brothers and sisters in Christ to study His word.
- God provides a way for all those who desire to go to Sierra Leone in January.

## TRINITY'S MISSION

Trinity Lutheran Church is an ever-widening circle in Christ where the Gospel is proclaimed, the Bible is taught, and people gather to worship, serve and glorify God.

## TRINITY'S VISION

Trinity is a place where people are able to establish a solid foundation in Christ upon which faithful and fulfilling lives can be built.

### Trinity Office Staff

Erik Boye - Senior Pastor

Neil White - Associate Pastor

Sharon Bernady - Resource Coordinator

Teresa Flash - Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant

Sheila Kendall - Christian Education

Matt Pearson - Youth and Family Minister

Juli Staab - Office Manager

Gene Walden - Music and Worship Director

402-339-3788

[info@trinitylife.org](mailto:info@trinitylife.org)

[www.trinitylife.org](http://www.trinitylife.org)

**Weekly Publications:** All details to be included the weekly announcements or Constant Contact are due by noon on Tuesdays. **Monthly Newsletter:** All details for the next *Trinitarian* are due at the office by 10/14. **Office Hours:** Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM. **Phones:** When you call, the staff may be on another line or away from their desks so please leave a message on the answering machine and we will get back to you as soon as possible. The office is staffed by a volunteer during weekly staff meetings. The general church voicemail is not checked regularly on the weekend; **if you have an emergency outside of office hours**, please use the directory to call any staff member at home.