



I am pleased to announce the theme of our Vision Appeal is "Faith Gives." The scripture that gives rise to our theme is Matthew 10:8 *Give as freely as you have received!* The power and message of this theme developed by our Leadership Team excites me for ministry. Most importantly, God's influence and leadership is unquestionably apparent as we begin our Vision Appeal with the theme, "Faith Gives."

The official congregational kick-off for the Vision Appeal is September 11, 2011. On kick-off Sunday, I will preach on the Biblical foundation of our theme and vision for Trinity. Significant progress is currently underway by our Vision Appeal Leadership Team. Behind the scenes, our Team has worked diligently to prepare a spiritually uplifting, meaningful and effective Vision Appeal. Our leaders are:

Perry Grell Leadership Team Co-Chair
Mark Erikson Leadership Team Co-Chair
Doug Pikop Council President
Erik Boye Senior Pastor
Ed Gates Member at Large
Brad Thompson Annual Stewardship Team Chair
Sara Martins Communications Team Chair
Marilyn Krueger Spiritual Life Team Chair
Sue Lauritson Messenger Team Chair
Kathy Zeeb Leadership Gifts Team Chair
Pam Frerichs Tell the Story Events Team Co Chair
Melanie Iverson Tell the Story Events Team Co-Chair
Jayne Timmerman Young Disciples Team Chair

Each of these leaders is in the process of gathering a team to plan and lead a spiritually uplifting Vision Appeal for our mission and ministry at Trinity. Our meetings give evidence to the giftedness of this team as their synergy, energy, and passion for Christ's mission through Trinity leads to exciting ideas. As these leaders reach out to you in the weeks and months ahead, please prayerfully consider their requests, and step out in faith to say, "Yes!"

On August 28, Pastor David Misenheimer will be our guest preacher. David is the Kairos and Associates consultant who is leading us through the process of our Vision Appeal. The Leadership Team has expressed their appreciation for David's leadership. I invite you to join us in welcoming David to the pulpit this month. Prior to working as a consultant, David served Christ Lutheran Church, Charlotte, NC, which is one of the largest congregations in the ELCA. David is a gifted leader and preacher, and I am looking forward to Sunday, August 28.

God has powerful plans for Trinity. It is a privilege to be a partner with you in this exciting time of ministry through Trinity.

Your Pastor and Friend,

TRINITARIAN

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August 2011

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We have some wonderful opportunities for adults to continue to develop in their faith as we enter this fall.

The first of which is the ALPHA course. This is a great opportunity for fellowship, food and exploring the basics of the Christian faith. I often talk to people who say, "When I go to bible study I feel out of place, I don't even know what to ask." If that sounds like you, this course will suit you well. ALPHA is designed to be a safe place where you can ask any question, even the most basic ones. So think about this, if you could ask God anything, what might that be? And then join us for the introductory session of ALPHA on Sunday, August 21 in the evening. In ALPHA no question is off limits. This course runs for ten weeks with each session including food and fellowship.

On Sunday mornings, beginning August 28, I will lead a class on forgiveness. Join us in the Worship Center at the FLC (520 W Lincoln) between the worship services. If you need to take younger children to the Church Center for Sunday school, no worry, this class will begin around 10:15 AM. There may be one other option at this time as well; details to be announced.

Additional opportunities to grow include Pastor Erik's Wednesday night Rooted class (begins in September), Monday afternoon Bible study (resuming in the fall), and Tuesday night fellowship (see note below).

Finally, next Spring I will offer a second iteration of ALPHA as well as an option in the evenings for people who are interested in small groups. This is a great opportunity for those who have done ALPHA to continue to grow in a small group environment.

Pastor Neil White, prneil@trinitylife.org



Funday "Son"day is Sunday, August 21. You won't want to miss this afternoon to enjoy a meal and participate in fun and games with your church family. See the insert for complete details. If you want to have even more fun, sign up to help on this busy day! Call Sharon Bernady (402) 339-3788 for details.

Fellowship Bible Study meets the first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 PM in the comfortable setting of Trinity's Parsonage (623 S Madison - the NW corner of the Church Center property). You don't need to be a bible scholar to participate; we open God's word together, read the portion we are studying out loud and then discuss the truths that God has presented in the text. This is a wonderful time to grow together as God's church and we welcome you. Contact: Patty Reid (402) 331-6257.

Book Reader Discussion Group: We will meet August 16 at 7:00 PM at the Church Center to discuss Sarah's Quilt by Nancy E. Turner. 400p. (1 at Sump) This is the spell-binding story of an extraordi-

nary pioneer woman and her struggle to make a home in the Arizona territories in 1906.

TOTS (Trinity's Old Timers) Call Pat Njus (402)592-5751 for details about our August activity.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

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

08/01 & 08/15-Adult Quilters-12:30 PM-FLC

•Joanne Ahlers - 402-339-3190

08/02 & 16 - Fellowship Bible Study - 7 PM - P

•Patty Reid - 402-331-6257

08/04-Fifty-Five Plus-1 PM-CC

•Sue Lauritsen - 402-331-2672

08/11-Stitchers-7 PM-IT Village

•Joan McAleer - 402-339-3448

08/12-Scrapbookers-7 PM-CC

•Amy Masek - 402-934-4975

08/16-Book Readers Group-7PM-CC

•Ardis VonSeggern - 402-592-0100

TBA -Trinity's Old Timers - Pat Njus - 402-592-5751

STEWARDSHIP STIRRINGS

You didn't choose me. I chose you. ~John 15:16

God chose you. You are not an accident. You are a beloved child of the heavenly Father. He created all that exists. That means He created you. The ministry you serve is not random. God chose you as one of His own. The role you fill in the Kingdom of God is part of His plan. Our response to God for all of this is our stewardship.

One stewardship response we make is the offering of gratitude to God. Mark Altrogge wrote a song titled "I'm Forever Grateful" that captures the heart of a grateful response:

You did not wait for me, to draw near to you
But you clothed yourself in frail humanity
You did not wait for me, to call out to you
But you let me hear your voice calling me
And I am forever grateful to you, I'm forever grateful for the cross
I'm forever grateful to you, that you came to seek the lost

Stewardship is a life of gratitude for all that God has first given us. We express our gratitude in Bible Study, praise, prayer, fellowship and worship as we seek to grow our relationship with God. We live our gratitude when we serve in mission and when we give back to God a part of the financial resources God has first given us. Ask yourself, "How is my gratitude being expressed in my relationship with God, serving and giving?"

June 2011 Ending Balances

General Fund - \$(10,344.93)
Benevolence - \$3,152.41
Building Fund - \$63,484.51
Mission Fund - \$1,866.02
Designated Fund - \$26,441.95
Trinity Relief Fund - \$2,393.83
Memorial Fund - \$28,916.62
FLC Loan Principal - \$642,522.11
FLC Loan Interest - \$513.12
Farm Escrow - \$1,424.94

Trinity's Church Council did not meet in July.

Trinity's Executive Board

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

Financial Facts for Trinity:

- Year-to-date spending is below expectation at 94.31% of budget
- During the first 6 months of the year we have lowered our mortgage principal by \$29,644.19
- Revenues for the year are below budget by almost 9.5%.

Trinity utilizes a company that sends **envelopes** quarterly. One of the blessings of this, is that they are self address so that when you might not be in worship, you can 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. 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).



Stephen Center: The fourth Friday of every month we make a hot meal for the people who use this shelter. Please see the bulletin board at either worship location for ingredients we need to prepare this dinner on August 26. If you sign up to provide something, please bring your items to the kitchen at the CC by Wednesday, August 24. If you would like to cook, please contact Mike (402)597-1660. If you will transport the meal, please contact Ethel O'Neal (402)618-5637.

Our next **Blood Drive** will be held on Saturday, August 27 from 6:45-11:15 at the FLC. Sign ups for donors and volunteers will be held on Aug. 7,8,14,15 and the 21 following all services. You won't want to miss this opportunity to help others, plus homemade bake goods will once again be provided. (YUMMIE) If you unable to donate blood there are many other ways that you can help. We need volunteers to help unload the truck, help register donors, serve donors with refreshments after they have donated, bakers, load the truck after the drive is over, plus clean up the FLC. If National Honor Society students need volunteer hours this is a perfect opportunity for you to accomplish that. For more information you may call Shar at (402)339-8041.



Once again Trinity is participating in **BRUSH UP NEBRASKA**. This is an opportunity for us to come together as the body of Christ to assist low-income or disabled homeowners to care for the exterior of their homes. We will paint on Saturday, August 20; prepping may be done in the days before. Because it is helpful to know how many to expect to be part of the crew, please contact Norm Schuessler (402)733-6924.

SIERRA LEONE TRIP: We are in the planning stages for a possible trip in January. Please prayerfully consider joining us. We encourage you to read the following blog, <http://www.savetheorphan.blogspot.com>, for updates on the teams that have recently been there as well as what has been happening in Lucy's life (former orphan). God has been doing amazing things. Things to note: A passport is needed in advance of leaving by at least 2 months; for time away from work—last trip we left on a Thursday morning from Omaha and returned on a Saturday a week and a half later; we recommend writing support letters as well as possible fundraisers to cover costs; the January trip tends to be cheaper because airfare is considerably less at that time of year; this trip is also open to mature high school students. No specific dates have been set, but please talk with Matt Pearson, 402-339-3788, if you are interested.

The Raining Season



Trinity's newly formed **Mission Ministry Team** has been busy. One of our goals is to engage our community of faith in mission more consistently by making known to our congregation the missions Trinity supports. We have been blessed and encouraged to consider all opportunities God has given us to care for the needs of others with the love of Jesus Christ. Our list includes:

- Stephen Center (fourth Friday each month we make a meal)
- Women, Infants and Children Clinic (WIC uses the CC twice a month, diaper and coupon ministry)
- American Red Cross Blood Drive (two to three times each year)
- Brush Up Nebraska annual paint-a-thon
- Fontenelle Church (Thanksgiving baskets)
- Starfish Ministries (ministry to the homeless in downtown Omaha)
- Sierra Leone / The Raining Season orphanage
- Shalom Ministries (Orphanage in India)
- Tri-City Food Pantry (March and November)
- Kids Against Hunger (Food packaging events)
- ELCA Disaster Relief
- ELCA World Hunger
- Mission for All Nations (food pantry)
- Habitat for Humanity
- Adopt-a-Family Christmas Ministry
- Heartland Family Services



Thank you so much for your continued donations towards our rent payments. We also would like to acknowledge your payments towards a future packing event. We have earmarked these funds. When you are ready to pick your date for a packing event, please let us know. We will need a minimum of 30 days notice from the date you choose. Thank you!

~Sincerely, Nick and Kelly Jo Yaksich, Co-Directors.

My family and I would like to extend our appreciation for the many cards and prayers for Mom since the time of her diagnosis of cancer through the time of her passing in May. We especially thank Pastor Erik and Pastor Neil for the visits to her during her stays in the hospital and rehab; also, thank you to Juli for all she did in helping prepare for the service. We are grateful for the support of our church family.

~Chris Cherney and the family of Barb Henning

Friends, I wanted to personally thank you for your generous donation of \$175.56. Please know that you are making a huge difference in the lives of the men, women and children that we serve on a daily basis. In 2010, our emergency shelter operated at 199% capacity. We served 22% more children than we did the previous year. The HERO Program provided for 19,126 nights of lodging and the Emergency Shelter provided 29,235 nights of lodging. We served 139,966 meals. All of this is possible because of people like you. If you would like more information on how your donation is helping to make a difference in the lives of so many in our community, we invite you to visit our website at www.stephencenter.org. Thank you again!

~Sincerely, Del Bomberger, Executive Director



Preschool begins August 29th this year. We are looking forward to a fun and busy year. Each year the children have an opportunity to laugh, play, sing and learn skills through field trips, special events and daily activities. We invite the congregation to pray for the staff, children and families involved in this ministry.

When shopping at Office Depot, please tell them you want to give credit to Little Lights Preschool for your purchases. The preschool will receive 5% cash back for your purchases. We have used the cash-back dollars to purchase some great things.

Please continue to donate your old ink cartridges to Little Lights. We would also appreciate your help in saving "Labels for Education". You may drop off both cartridges and labels at the preschool starting August 29th.

Nancy Wert, Director of Preschool
littlelights@trinitylife.org



Wow! It has been four years since I took over the children's Sunday School program here at Trinity. During that time, Rotational Sunday School or RSS has become part of the lingo. We've sure had fun doing lessons in Cooking, Arts/Crafts, Drama, Music, Video and Science or Game to explain the Bible lesson of the day. Among the most memorable are the chariot races for "Babes of the Bible", homemade ice cream in "Abraham and Sarah", Mary's Treasure Box for "Good News of Great Joy", Resurrection Eggs for "Easter: He Lives!", and the Starry Trails Treasure Hunt for "Reaction to the Promise"! The goal from Day One has been to relay the stories and messages from the Bible in such a way that children can understand and apply those lessons to their lives today. Judging from the reactions of the children as

they come out of class on any given Sunday, I think we have succeeded!

So, as we begin our fifth year together, no more RSS! Now, don't panic—the format stays the same, only the name has been changed! From now on RSS will be known as (drum roll, please)... *Footsteps*.

Footsteps...where Jesus leads, we will follow. Kinda catchy, isn't it? We know it is going to take a while to get used to, but we like the message it sends—where Jesus leads, we will follow! Which leads me to our next big thing...we are introducing an ongoing service project to benefit the children in Sierra Leone, Africa with the help of our friends at The Raining Season and The Covering orphanage. Children helping children is a very powerful way to convey the love of Jesus! We want to tap into that energy and get the children

excited about helping others! More details will follow once *Footsteps* begins this fall. And when is that, you ask?

Footsteps **and** Sunday School for all ages begins on Sunday, August 28th.

Sheila Kendall
Christian Education
skendall@trinitylife.org



Question for the family:

What does your family time look like? More importantly what are you doing to grow in faith in your home as a family? What does your day entail: family devotions, praying together, reading the Bible as a family, teaching basic faith practices and beliefs? Is your faith development vibrant and healthy? That's fantastic! We love to hear it. But maybe it looks more like the space below.....empty or void of substance.



If faith conversations and development in your home are lacking, maybe even non-existent or blank like the space above, it might be a good time to call your church staff and get some ideas, insight, resources, and equipping. We are here to provide support and encouragement for you, to help you develop faith in your home. The bible makes it clear that the home is the primary place where faith development needs to occur; children grow in faith through their parents teaching and example.

Deuteronomy 6:5-8 ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Baptismal promises made by parents: I will bring my child to worship, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, Ten Commandments, teach them Scripture/Bible, and give them instruction in the Christian faith. These are great promises and we would love to hear what you are doing in your home to foster them, valuing faith development as a family. Please consider sending emails or contacting the church office to share things you are doing as a family to make faith important in your home.

Remember, Sunday School and Rooted resume soon. These are great places to be equipped to lead your family and learn the tools to live out the promises made in baptism.

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



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Confirmation Meetings: Sunday, August 14 (between FLC worship services) and Wednesday, August 17 (6:30 PM at the FLC). This meeting is for all students entering grades 5 through 9 and their parents. These sessions explain Trinity's Confirmation Ministry and the expectations for students, parents and the church. Students may enroll at either meeting.

Among Our People

Happy Birthday to Trail Blazers:

- 08/06 - Lorraine Felker, 12102 S 114th St, Papillion, NE 68046
- 08/12 - Eldon Damme, 1024 Beaver Lake Blvd, Plattsmouth, NE 68048
- 08/13 - Dee Somer, 1109 Parc Drive, Papillion, NE 68046
- 08/13 - Ken Stahl, PO Box 460648, Papillion, NE 68046
- 08/15 - Elizabeth Gulzow, 501 E Gold Coast Rd #26E, Papillion, NE 68046
Elizabeth Gulzow, mother of Sharlyce Butler, will celebrate her 90th birthday during an open house reception in her honor from 3:30 to 5:30 P.M. Saturday, August 13, at the Wellington Retirement Center (501 East Gold Coast Rd) Please come and help her celebrate 90 wonderful years.
- 08/16 - Zola Stahl, 201 Cedardale Rd #316, Papillion, NE 68046
- 08/20 - Doris Caughlin, 706 S. Beadle, Papillion, NE 68046
- 08/20 - Jake Reibold, 1945 N. Platte Ave, Fremont, NE 68025
- 08/22 - Don Kalal, 8149 S 93rd Circle, LaVista, NE 68128

Happy Anniversary:

- 08/15 - Paul & Cheré Schroeder, 721 Shamrock, Papillion, NE 68046 - Celebrating 57 years of marriage

Baptized:

- 07/10 - Gavyn Lee Windholz, infant son of Chad and Teri Windholz

Weddings:

- 07-08 - Soni Roca and Blake Leiting
- 07/16 - Kelsey Kalal and Andrew Cunningham

Hospitalized in the last month: Noble Palmer, Hugh Cappen, Anola Palmer

Due to HIPPA laws, hospitals no longer contact churches to share when a congregation member has been admitted. If you or someone close to you is hospitalized, please notify a pastor or the Church Office so we may provide pastoral support during your illness.

Sympathies: We extend our care and prayers to the following: Donna Nichols and Beth Winans on the loss of their mother and grandmother, Joy Ballou; Kathy Anderson and Heather Anderson on the loss of their husband and father, Dennis Anderson. May God bring peace, comfort and consolation to these families in their time of need.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 12:30P-Quilters 7P-Communion Worship	2 10A-Staff Mtg 7P-Fellowship Bible Study 6:30P-WT Vocalists	3 10:30A-Bible Study 7:30P-College & Career Grp	4 7:30A-WIC 1P-55+	5	6 8:30A-WT Instrumentalists
7 - Sign-Up Sunday 8, 9 & 11:15-Communion	8 7P-Worship	9 10A-Staff Mtg 6:30P-WT Vocalists 6:45P-Church Council	10 10:30A-Bible Study 7:30P-College & Career Grp	11 7P-Stitchers	12 7P-Scrapbooking	13 8:30A-WT Instrumentalists
14- Sign-Up Sunday 8, 9 & 11:15 - Worship 10A-Confirmation Meeting 1P-Stockholder's Dinner	15 12:30P-Quilters 7P-Worship Newsletter Deadline	16 10A-Staff Mtg 6:30P-WT Vocalists 7P-Fellowship Bible Study 7P-Book Readers	17 10:30A-Bible Study 6:30P-Confirmation Meeting 6:30P-Adult Choir 7:30P-College & Career Grp	18 7:30A-WIC	19	20 8A-Paint-a-thon 8:30A-WT Instrumentalists
21 8, 9 & 11:15-Communion 12:30P-Funday "Son"Day 5P-ALPHA	22 7P-Worship	23 10A-Staff Mtg 6:30P-WT Vocalists	24 10:30A-Bible Study 6:30P-Adult Choir 7:30P-College & Career Grp STEPHEN CENTER FOOD IN KITCHEN, PLEASE	25 7P-MOPS Kick-Off	26 STEPHEN CENTER	27 6:45A-Blood Drive 8:30A-WT Instrumentalists
28 - 8, 9 & 11:15-Worship 10:15A-Christian Education 5P-ALPHA	29 7P-Worship Little Lights Preschool Resumes	30 10A-Staff Mtg 6:30P-WT Vocalists	31 10:30A-Bible Study 6:30P-Adult Choir 7:30P-College & Career Grp	AUGUST 2011		

Prayerfully consider where God would like you to grow, serve and lead.

Monday Adult Class
 Tuesday Fellowship
 Funday "Son" day Support
 Blood Drive
 Confirmation leader
 Usher, Greet, Lay Read
 MOPS
 Footsteps (formerly known as RSS)
 Rooted
 ALPHA

Following worship at all locations we will sign up to participate in many growth and leadership opportunities including:

ALPHA
 Rooted
 Footsteps (formerly known as RSS)
 MOPS
 Usher, Greet, Lay Read
 Confirmation leader
 Blood Drive
 Funday "Son" day Support
 Tuesday Fellowship
 Monday Adult Class

Prayerfully consider where God would like you to grow, serve and lead.



Return Service Requested

330 W Halleck
 Papillion, NE 68046



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We want to see God move in and through the people of Trinity. Prayer is vital to this. In August pray for:

- God to raise up leaders for all of our fall ministries.
- God to direct our individual responses to the Vision Appeal.
- Our hearts to desire to grow through Bible study and service opportunities.

Erik Boye - Senior Pastor
 Neil White - Associate Pastor
 Sharon Bernady - Resource Coordinator
 Sheila Kendall - Christian Education
 Matt Pearson - Youth and Family Minister
 Juli Staab - Office Manager
 Teresa Flash - Bookkeeper
 Gene Walden - Music and Worship Director

402-339-3788
 info@trinitylife.org
 www.trinitylife.org

Weekly Publications: All details to be included are due by noon on Tuesdays. **Monthly Newsletter:** All details for the next *Trinitarian* are due at the office by 8/15. **Office Hours:** Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM. **Phones:** When you call the office, 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 general church voicemail is not checked regularly on the weekend so if you have an *emergency* on Saturday or Sunday, please call a staff member listed in the directory and they will relay your message to the appropriate person. .

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