



*Love.
Transform.
Serve.*



Vol. XXIX
No. 17
August 19, 2007

115 N. 4th St.
Stillwater, MN 55082

trinity

TODAY

Experiencing Life?

...the experience
begins Sept. 8 & 9.

Sat., 5 p.m. – Evening Worship

Sun., 9 a.m. – Traditional Worship

Sun., 10:30 a.m. – The Walk Worship

Sunday School begins Sun., Sept. 23

Adult Education kicks off Sun., Sept. 30

*Watch for Children's & Adult Ministry fall
educational opportunities in your mailbox soon!*

Worship, Live & Learn this Fall

worship opportunities

August 18 & 19

- Saturday, 5 p.m.: Worship, Communion
- Sunday, 9 a.m.: Drive-In Worship
- Sunday, 10 a.m.: Worship, Communion, Nursery
- Sunday, 6 p.m.: The River (Grades 9-12 youth worship)

August 25 & 26

- Saturday, 5 p.m.: Worship, Communion
- Sunday, 9 a.m.: Drive-In Worship
- Sunday, 10 a.m.: Worship, Communion, Nursery
- Sunday, 6 p.m.: The River (Grades 9-12 youth worship)

remember in your prayers

Please notify the Trinity office at 439-7400 if you or anyone you know has a prayer need, or when you or a loved one is hospitalized (the hospitals do NOT notify us of admissions), has a baby or a death occurs in the

family. Please contact Jane Backe at 439-6006 or Jan Most at 436-7264 for prayer team submissions.

Baptisms

- Maxwell Nolan Bobrowski, son of Jacob & Jennifer Bobrowski
- Emma Louise Olson, daughter of Eric & Jennifer Olson

Births

- A daughter, Caroline Rose, to Bill & Heidi White

Interested in joining Trinity?

Have you been worshipping at Trinity, taking a class, participating in a mission trip – and wonder how to partner with Trinity in a deeper way? Membership at Trinity is an intentional act that joins us with one another to partner and steward our God-given gifts, talents, and time for the sake of carrying out God's mission in the world. If you or someone you know is interested in joining Trinity at this time, please contact Diane Rollie at drollie@trinitylc.org or 439-7400, ext. 141.

Membership forms can also be downloaded from our website at:

www.trinitylc.org/membership.aspx

aug. 18- aug. 31 calendar

Sat., Aug. 18

- 3 p.m. Wedding-Glas/Shanley: Worship Center
- 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION

Sun., Aug. 19

- 9 a.m. WORSHIP at DRIVE-IN: Houlton, WI
- 10 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 6 p.m. The River Youth Worship (Gr. 9-12): Luther Hall

Mon., Aug. 20

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Living Library
- 6 p.m. Trinity for Tomorrow Team: Room 108B
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi Class: Luther Hall

Tue., Aug. 21

- 9 a.m. Croixdale Sr. Communion
- 9 a.m. Worship Team Planning Meeting: Narthex
- 9:45 a.m. Good Samaritan Sr. Communion
- 10:30 a.m. Greeley Sr. Communion
- 1:15 p.m. Prayer Group: Office Conference Room
- 6:30 p.m. Camp Quadna Reunion: Garden Room

Wed., Aug. 22

- 10:26 a.m. Trinity Women's Golf: Cimarron Golf Course
- 1 p.m. Usher Team Meeting: Office Conf. Room

Fri., Aug. 24

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Living Library

Sat., Aug. 25

- 3 p.m. Wedding-Schumann/Oswald: Worship Center
- 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION

Sun., Aug. 26

- 9 a.m. WORSHIP at DRIVE-IN: Houlton, WI
- 10 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 6 p.m. River Youth Worship (Gr. 9-12): Luther Hall

Mon., Aug. 27

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Living Library
- 1 p.m. Vets' Service Planning Meeting: Room 108B
- 2 p.m. Usher Training: Worship Center
- 6 p.m. Mano Amiga Fabric Cutting: Narthex
- 6:30 p.m. Congregational Council Meeting: Office Conference Room
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi Class: Luther Hall
- 7 p.m. Usher Training: Worship Center

Tue., Aug. 28

- 9 a.m. Worship Team Planning Meeting: Narthex
- 1:15 p.m. Prayer Group: Office Conference Room

Wed., Aug. 29

- 6:30 p.m. Circle Leaders Meeting: Office Conf. Room

Fri., Aug. 31

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Living Library
- 10 a.m. Knitting Ministry: Living Library

trinity transportation

Sunday van schedule

Trinity's van will be available during the Sunday 10 a.m. worship service. A van ride is available for members or non-members lacking other means of transportation. Please call the Church Office (439-7400) between 9 a.m. Wed. and 4 p.m. Thurs. to reserve your seat each week. Estimated pick-up times at senior residences if you have reserved a seat are:

9:15 a.m. – Boutwells Landing

9:25 a.m. – Raymie Johnson

9:35 a.m. – Croixdale

9:40 a.m. – Oakridge

9:45 a.m. – Rivertown Commons

worship attendance

August 4 & 5

5 p.m.	81
Drive-In	355
10 a.m.	169

August 11 & 12

5 p.m.	30
Drive-In	360
10 a.m.	156

trinity TODAY

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Upcoming Mission opportunities

- The Helping Hands group would like those with a willing heart and hands to help move the St. Croix Valley Food Shelf from its current location behind SuperAmerica to a new location on Curve Crest. The date will be sometime in Aug. Please contact Lowell Saterbak at 436-6252 if you would like to help.
- On Sat., Aug. 18, Trinity workers are packing Global Health Ministries containers with medical supplies to be shipped to countries in need. If you can help pack, please contact Lowell Saterbak at 436-6252.

Lutefisk Alert!

Lutefisk Dinner Coordinator(s) wanted
The Lutefisk Dinner is a long-standing tradition here at Trinity that serves the community, remembers our heritage, and supports missions. The teams are well-staffed, and the dinner runs like a well-oiled machine, but a new person is needed to step forward and lead. Donna Dielentheis is eager to walk with a new leader to insure a good start. A pair of co-leaders would also be welcome. Please call Donna at 439-3497 soon!

Help paint the Food Shelf

The Helping Hands painters will be needed this fall to help at the St. Croix Valley Outreach Food Shelf. We'll paint one large food storage warehouse room at their new Curve Crest location in September. The date(s) will depend on other construction at the new building. If you are interested in helping paint a large room to support our community, please call Kathy Hagen at 426-7176.

JESUS Delivers schedule August 18 & 25

If you would like to serve or organize a group to serve, contact Peter or Cary Bolstorff at peterbolstorff@scelimited.com or caryjbolstorff@comcast.net, or 439-8342. A mission trip leader will organize everything from directions to meal plan, to a list of things to do; all you have to do is show up with open hearts. For complete details about the JESUS Delivers ministry, visit www.jesusdelivers.info

Second annual adult Mexico mission trip

Trip dates: Feb. 21 thru Feb. 29

In February of 2008 a group of adults will travel to our base camp in Chuburna Puerto, a gulf coast village north of Merida, Yucatan. We will spend the week serving our friends, learning about the culture and cuisine of the Mayan civilization, and enjoying the recreational opportunities in the surrounding area. Trinity has been sending groups of youth and adults to this area since 1990. In these 16 years, youth and adults from the St. Croix Valley have forged deep relationships that continue to this day. Many of you have sponsored these missionaries over the past 16 years. You now have the opportunity to travel the same streets as missionaries from years past. We will be led on our mission trip by a team of experienced missionaries – Tom Thiets, Trinity's Director of Missions, Marlene Harty, and Lisa Thiets, who have been co-leaders on trips to the border and the Yucatan. If you have any questions please call Tom at 439-7400, Marlene at 439-6444 or Lisa at 430-2357.

School supplies collection

Valley Outreach is collecting school supplies for area students who are headed back to school and may have problems purchasing all the needed supplies. Supplies can be dropped off the week of Aug. 20 on Mon., Wed. or Fri. from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Valley Outreach, 5898 Omaha Ave. N., behind SuperAmerica. Please contact Cara McLain at 430-2739 with questions.

Supplies needed: safety scissors, pens (red, blue, black), pencils (#2 and mechanical), pencil sharpeners, erasers, dry-erase markers, zipped pencil cases, rulers, folders, 3-ring binders, spiral notebooks (wide, college), loose-leaf 3-ring paper (college, wide), colored pencils, markers (washable), backpacks, calculators (math, science, graphing), protractors/compasses, highlighters, graph paper, book covers, post-it notes, index cards

Mission Tanzania update

Aug. 26: Special Drive-In Sunday

We are hosting a special hospitality and information event "Getting Connected – Faith & Electricity" at Drive-In worship on Sun., Aug. 26. We will be raising funds for electricity at the school and Thrivent is providing a match for this special Drive-In event.

September Mission Tanzania Trip

The next mission trip departs for Tanzania at the end of September with a team of 10. The project goal is to connect the Bomalang'ombe Secondary School with electricity! This is a wonderful opportunity to facilitate better learning opportunities and living conditions at the school. Exciting things are happening! Our mission projects are continuing to nurture the seeds of positive change in Tanzania. There is a role in Mission Tanzania for anyone with the drive and commitment to make a difference.

Mission Tanzania brochure revised

Our brochure for Mission Tanzania has been revised to include the present status of all projects. The brochure also highlights education needs and exciting mission developments at the Bomalang'ombe Secondary School. Copies are available in the Commons at Trinity and at all worship services. The next trip open to all adults is in June 2008. Contact Tom Thiets at ext. 146 for more information.

Kowalski's Groceries for Good Causes gives back to Trinity

Trinity participates in the "Groceries for Good Causes" program through Kowalski's supermarket. Next time you shop at Kowalski's, simply leave your receipt in the cubby box near the exit marked "Trinity Lutheran." The amount of the purchase doesn't matter, just the number of receipts collected. If you want to keep your receipt in case you need to make a return, just ask for a second receipt and they'll gladly provide one.

Our small group experiences take us to new places and opportunities to encounter the living God.



101 junior high students and 20 camp counselors from Trinity went to Confirmation camp. The students really bonded, making it a great place to explore and discover faith in Jesus. Cabin times were some of their favorite memories from camp.

22 youth and leaders from Trinity traveled to Destin, Florida July 29-Aug. 4. They spent some great times digging into the Bible and hanging out in the sun and all grew really close to each other and God. Rocking praise and worship and lots of laughs highlighted the trip, making it a big step for many of the students on their faith journey.



Four families from Trinity traveled to the Black Hills of South Dakota for family camp, a time together to focus on faith and fun. Days at camp were relaxed and carefree with opportunities for kids and adults to study the Bible, worship and play together.

Seek out
ask them to
experien

upcoming e v e n t s

CareGivers Meeting

Wed., Sept. 5, 1-3 p.m. – Living Room
CareGivers will meet to renew covenants, receive updated lists, and plan for the Fall Luncheon. Pastor Kris will be with us to discuss the topic of depression.

Fall Worship/Communion for seniors, Hilltoppers

Wed., Sept. 12, 11 a.m. – Worship Center
Mark your calendars now! After the service, you are invited to the Fall Luncheon, prepared and served by the CareGivers, in the Garden Room. We are pleased to announce that for our enjoyment the Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis will be presenting a concert, consisting of Scandinavian and English songs.

Food for Thought

Would you like the opportunity to meet other Trinity members over dinner? "Food for Thought" is again organizing a group for 2007-08. This is a small group setting of eight or so people that will meet four times a year. Everyone helps in hosting one dinner, sharing in the food, fellowship and fun of the get-together. See the sign-up sheet in the Commons or call Connie Thalacker at 439-9782 with questions or to sign-up.



Right: Students in grades 3-5 spent four days in June at Bay Lake Camp in Deerwood, MN. Their camp experience included worship, group-building activities, creative and interactive learning experiences and games of all kinds. Kids had the chance to grow in their faith and their faith community and the opportunity to ask questions and seek answers they have about God.



Trinity men traveled to the Boundary Waters for a long weekend in May.



Rebekah Cirle recently made a visit to the National Eagle Center in Wabasha, MN. Pictured is Karen Bosmoe, Phyllis Frederickson, Cathy Tollerud, Carolyn Minor, Mary Oswald, and Rita Lawson.

the people pictured and
to share details about their
experiences encountering God.

The Arts Committee:

Fine Arts; Visual Arts; Environmental Arts

These are a few of the names this group functions under! And truth be told, each is a bit different. Over the past two years much work has been done to create a team approach to beauty in worship and in worship spaces - and now we are truly a team, with 10 creative, committed members.

Our work centers around bringing visual and artistic beauty to worship as well as the Worship Center, Narthex, Commons and anywhere else that calls for our expertise.

The areas in which we work include:

- Enhancing the Worship Center for worship every Sunday and festival throughout the church year - from denoting the liturgical seasons with banners and other elements - to visually creating Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost
- Creating and hanging art exhibits in the Narthex and Commons that give meaning and context to the beauty of all creation and creatures
- Working with worship leaders to enhance themes
- Producing concert and theater events that fulfill the mission of Trinity Lutheran Church

For many years the altar flowers have been wonderfully cared for by Helen Orff and Esther Asmus. Our heartfelt thanks go out to them for many years of service. This function will now be handled by Karen Remington in the Church Office (ext. 205). As in the past, you are encouraged to sign-up to give flowers on the poster under the cross in the Narthex - in honor of, or in memory of, a loved one - or for any other reason. Typically we will be working with Rose Floral to offer a number of options; Karen will call to explain them to you.

In all areas we value your comments and suggestions. We, as humans, have five senses and ideally they will all be engaged in worship - sight, hearing, touch, smell and taste - the Fine Arts Committee invites you to look for great things this fall.

"Singing - it's a good thing!"

William Byrd, a musician in the 16th century said it, Martha would probably say it too - but, in this case Carol, Gretchen and Sonia say it. And in so doing, invite all interested to come sing with a choir this season. Choirs are an integral part of worship: they bring beauty, enlightenment and leadership to worship: they bring beauty, enrichment and fun to a life. All of Trinity's choirs are open to anyone. Below are rehearsal times and contacts for each group.

Temple Choir:

A mixed voice ensemble that sings most Sundays at 9 a.m. worship - plans for the season include leadership at a hymn festival, a service of lessons and carols as well as festival services. Rehearsals are held on Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 5 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. in the choir room and Worship Center.

Director: Carol Carver (ext 118) or 430-0631

Sine Nomine Singers:

A choir for young women in grades 7-12. The choir sings approximately once at month at

9 a.m. worship and rehearses on the Wednesday prior to singing, at 5:30 p.m. The Singers also sing for festival worship and have dreams of a tour this year. Anyone interested in joining should contact Carol Carver to be included on the list of those contacted for rehearsals.

Director: Carol Carver (ext 118) or 430-0631

We know music plays a central role in a child's intellectual, academic, social, moral and spiritual development. Through choirs at Trinity, children have the opportunity to develop invaluable personal attributes such as self-discipline, self-reliance, concentration, initiative, imagination, sensitivity, aesthetic judgment, and an attention to detail. In combination with the development of linguistic, interpretive, leadership, cognitive, communication and team-working skills, a choir can provide the very best training for future success as well as a strong Christian foundation. Below is the new rehearsal schedule and age groups for children's choirs.

Alleluia Choir (Grades 3-6)

This choir sings at least once a month at either 9 or 10:30 a.m. worship.

Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 5-5:45 p.m. beginning Sept. 12, in the Worship Center. The year includes a musical and a choir festival led by Roosevelt Credit.

Director: Gretchen Perkins 430-9194

Joyful Noise Choir (K-Grade 2)

This choir will sing at least once a month at either 9 or 10:30 a.m. worship.

Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 5-5:45 p.m. in the Chapel beginning Sept. 12.

Director: Sonia Esch 439-0643

There is a hymn in our new hymnal, the title is "Soli Deo Gloria" - that is what we say also - to God alone be the glory.

family ministries

Valleyfair trip for all students in grades 6-8

Wed., Aug. 22, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., \$25

Students who have completed grades 6-8 are welcome to come to this end-of-summer Valleyfair event. This event is separate from the regular Summer Stretch schedule, open to anyone who would like to attend. We will be joining with the other churches in the Valley. Please return permission form and \$25, so we can order tickets. Contact Cindy Jones with any questions at ext. 137.

Quadna Reunion

Tue., Aug. 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Garden Room

All campers and counselors are invited! We will have music, games, snacks and lots of pictures. Watch for special guest appearances! Friends are welcome to attend.

By Pastor Kris Linner

pray where you are

A Hasidic story tells about the prayer of a poor, simple woodcutter. He was in the forest, and it was time for evening prayer. But, he had forgotten his prayer book. What could he do? He did not know any prayers by heart. He decided to wing it. He said, "God, I have forgotten my prayer book and I do not know any prayers by heart. But, you, O God, know the prayers of my heart. So I will recite the letters of the alphabet and you put the prayer together."

The story concludes that the woodcutter went through the Hebrew alphabet and of all the prayers that God heard on that day, the prayer of the woodcutter in the forest was most precious.

Prayer is not about eloquent words; rather, it is about trust. Prayer is furnishing God with the letters of our life and then trusting our loving God to put the prayer together.

"Gracious God, the tragedy of the bridge collapse makes me aware of the uncertainty of life. Help me to live life fully, to love well and to be grateful for the gift of each new day. Be with those whose lives have changed forever when the bridge collapsed. Surround those who grieve, those who wait for answers, and for those whose bodies are healing with your loving presence. Amen."

care ministries

With Pastor Kris Linner

The collapse of the 35W bridge raised for me the common human question in the face of suffering, "why"? People of faith have been asking the unanswerable questions for centuries.

I don't think there is anyone who has not asked life's unanswerable questions. Some ask "how long?" when the darkness of depression won't let go. Others ask "why?" when the betrayal of a loved one rips the heart in two. For some the questions of "where are you, God?" comes with the waves of loneliness that grief brings. Each of us knows the pain of our own suffering and have addressed our questions to God. No one is exempt. At some point in life the questions do come. No one is exempt, not even Jesus.

While hanging in agony on a rough wooden cross, Jesus gave voice to the ageless human question in the face of suffering, "Why? Why me?" In the terror of emotional, spiritual and physical torment, Jesus cried out, "My God, my God why have you forsaken me." The psalmist said it, Job voiced it, we have wondered it and Jesus prayed it, "My God, my God, why?"

What do all of those who have asked such questions have in common? What is it that connects Job, Jesus, you and me in such moments? Faith. Yes, faith. It is easy to interpret the questions that arise out of life's ash heap as an expression of doubt, but in truth, one needs to have a strong faith to bring such honesty to God. To pray with the kind of honesty that Jesus did in a time of deep suffering

is a strong assertion of faith in a God who will never, never forsake us, not even in the times when we feel forsaken.

Elie Wiesel in his book, *Night*, tells the story of being in a Nazi concentration camp where he watched two men and a boy being hung. As the prisoners watched, one said, "Where is God? Where is God, now?" To which another prisoner responded, "There is God. God is hanging on the gallows."

That seems to me to be the answer to life's most difficult questions. Answers to life's difficult questions rarely come, but God is with us in the asking. God is found in the midst of our suffering. God was with Jesus on the gallows and Jesus is with us. Therein lays our comfort when the difficult questions of life rise from fallen bridges, broken relationships, grief-torn hearts, changing health and other forms of suffering. There is nothing that can separate us from God's loving presence, not even the depth of human suffering or the pain of life's unanswerable questions.

Where is God in our suffering? God is with us as we ask the hard questions of life. God is with us in our suffering. God is always with us.



Confirmation 2007-2008



Fall is coming and so is confirmation for students in grades 7-9! Confirmation is an incredible opportunity for junior high students to learn how to own their faith and build lasting relationships with peers and adults. Experiences in confirmation help nurture faith in the family and personal growth as a Christian. Registration begins Aug. 15 for all grades. Registration forms and informational booklets are now available in the Youth Center. Contact Cindy Jones for more information at ext. 137 or at cjones@trinitylc.org

the River World Tour Youth Worship

Grades 9-12

6 p.m. Sunday Nights
Luther Hall

The River meets every Sunday night for great worship and fun times with friends.

Hilltop
Drive-In

Special Drive-In *Sundays*

TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Summer 2007



August 19

Motorcycle Sunday:

*Ride your bike, hear the thunder
of the Gospel!*

August 26

Mission Tanzania Sunday:

Power-Up for Education



I n s i d e

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