



*Love.
Transform.
Serve.*



Vol. XXIX
No. 22
Oct. 28, 2007

115 N. 4th St.
Stillwater, MN 55082



Trinity Concerts 2007-2008

The mission of the Trinity Concert Series is to share God's great gift of music with the congregation and the community for inspiration, education, and the renewal of the spirit. The Trinity Worship Center, with its excellent acoustics, is a wonderful place to hear a concert. All concerts are open to Trinity members and to the community.

Sat., Nov. 3 – 8 p.m.
Saint Croix Artists Series

Thu., Nov. 8 – 8 p.m.
St. Paul Chamber Orchestra

Fri., Nov. 9 – 7:30 p.m.
St. Croix Concert Series
– Camerata Bariloche

Sat., Nov. 10 – 5 p.m.
worship
Trinity Children's Choirs
Present – Elijah

Sat., Nov. 17 – 7 p.m.
Hymn Festival With
Guest Artist
– Aaron David Miller

Sat., Dec. 1 – 8 p.m.
Vocal Essence

Sat., Dec. 8 – 2 p.m.
Croix Chordsmen & Sweet
Adelines Christmas Concert

Sun., Dec. 16 – 9 & 10:30 a.m.
Prophets and Angels
– An Advent Festival of
Lessons & Carols

Sun., Dec. 23 – 3 p.m.
The Rose Ensemble
– And Glory Shone Around:
An Early American Christmas

Sat., Feb. 23 – 8 p.m.
Valley Chamber Chorale
– Voices Of Peace

Fri., Feb. 29, 2008 – 7:30 p.m.
St. Croix Concert Series
– Biava String Quartet

Fri., March 27 – 8 p.m.
St. Paul Chamber Orchestra
– J.S. Bach: Brandenburg
Concerto No. 1 in F

Fri., April 4 – 7:30 p.m.
St. Croix Concert Series
– Awadagin Pratt

Thu., April 17 – 8 p.m.
St. Paul Chamber Orchestra

Tue., April 22 – 7:30 p.m.
Stillwater High School
Concert Choir

Sun., April 27 – 2 p.m.
Classical Masterpieces
Concert

Sat., May 10 – 7:30 p.m.
Vocal Essence
– A Slice of Americana

worship opportunities

October 13 & 14

- Wednesday, 7 p.m.: The River (Grades 9-12 youth worship)
- Saturday, 5 p.m.: Worship, Communion
- Sunday, 9 a.m.: Traditional Worship
- Sunday, 10:30 a.m.: the WALK Worship, Communion, Nursery

October 17, 20 & 21

- Wednesday, 7 p.m.: The River (Grades 9-12 youth worship)
- Saturday, 5 p.m.: Worship, Communion
- Sunday, 9 a.m.: Traditional Worship
- Sunday, 10:30 a.m.: the WALK Worship, Communion, Nursery

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.

Support in Prayer

- Ken Johnson
- Leroy Swanson
- Vickie Cartony

Baptisms

- Savannah Staceyann Hagen, daughter of Chad & Yulanda Hagen

Altar flowers

- Oct. 27 & 28 – In honor of Lloyd & Gloria Goble's 50th Wedding Anniversary on Oct. 26, given by their children & spouses & grandchildren
- Oct. 27 & 28 – In loving memory of Lisa Jo Richert, given by the Dale Richert family.
- Nov. 3 & 4 – In memory of Bob Ayres who passed away one year ago on Nov. 3, given by the Savstrom family.
- Nov. 10 & 11 – In honor and in memory of all veterans, given by Don & Miriam Madsen.
- Nov. 10 & 11 – In loving memory of Wayne Smith, husband of Carol Smith & father of Karen Gieseke.



Veterans' Day Service

Sat., Nov. 10, 2007, 2 p.m. – Trinity Worship Center

Honor those who serve at this community celebration featuring a Stillwater High School musical ensemble and the St. Croix Valley Chordsman, with organist Dave Goulette.

Guest speaker Rev. Vernal Anderson is the State Command Chaplain of the Minnesota National Guard, and is currently the pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Inver Grove Heights. Refreshments will be served in the Garden Room following the service. A free-will offering taken during the service will be designated to the Military Family Support League, which assists families of deployed military personnel.

trinity transportation

Sunday van schedule

Trinity's van will be available during the Sunday 9 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:

8:15 a.m. – Boutwells Landing
8:25 a.m. – Raymie Johnson
8:35 a.m. – Croixdale
8:40 a.m. – Oakridge
8:45 a.m. – Rivertown Commons

worship attendance

October 13 & 14

| | |
|------------|-----|
| 5 p.m. | 96 |
| 9 a.m. | 364 |
| 10:30 a.m. | 342 |

October 20 & 21

| | |
|------------|-----|
| 5 p.m. | 97 |
| 9 a.m. | 276 |
| 10:30 a.m. | 215 |

trinity
TODAY

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Have you ever wondered why a sunset is so beautiful? What is it about the interaction of longer reddish wavelengths of light with air particles and water vapor that causes us to stop in our tracks coming out of Wal-Mart, and to stare as if an alien ship has just landed? And why does it elicit a heart-felt response in us?

I think our moments of deep and true worship are like encountering those breath-taking sunsets. Whether you believe that God created people to respond to beauty in creation, or simply that evolution has created neural pathways that draw us to attractive looking things (in our partners, for example), our brains are wired to respond to pleasing visions.

We can find ourselves responding through our other senses as well. Sometimes we'll even find ourselves spontaneously thanking God – or the universe – for the delights of taste and smell. I believe that these innate responses are some of the most organic expressions of worship we have.

But what happens to that involuntary overflow of the heart when we are languishing in a place of doubt about God; when our search for truth – or at least peace of mind about what is knowable – is stymied by the lack of evidence of God's real presence in our lives?

Most people have periods in their lives when little about God, the world and the meaning and purpose for our existence makes sense. For many Christians this wilderness becomes a source of anxiety, maybe even fear, in their lives. Without knowing or trusting what we've learned about God, we may

question why we are put here on earth.

I think that part of maturing in our faith is learning how to live with ambiguity in faith. It is learning how not to fear that the walls will cave in on us if we don't do and say all the right things in God's eyes and in the world's judgment.

Finally, faith is trying to understand and appreciate the meaning and purpose in everything we do. Even when we're not sure about our personal God-given purpose, we can simply do or say the right thing in response to another's needs, making the world a better place. To me, these caring acts are another unrehearsed moment of worship, acknowledging that we can find God in everything, and everyone, when we are willing to open our minds and be content with our limited comprehension of the universe and its



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Creator.

So, how will you worship when you find yourself doubting that God has a plan for your life, or that God cares about the world, let alone even exists? I suggest you try to catch the next couple

of sunsets (or sunrises!) and see what your heart tells you about God.

Phil Kadidlo
Director of Worship Ministries

Get ready, get set, GO LUTEFISK!

Thu., Nov. 1

11:30 a.m., 12:45, 4:15, 5:30, 6:45 p.m.

Tickets on sale Oct. 13

Adults \$15, 12 & under \$5, under 5 free

It's time for the Lutfisk dinner again. This dinner takes more than 300 volunteers to make it a success. Whatever your strength or passion, put it to use at this all-congregational event. If you can serve in any way, please contact Norma Swanson at 439-6377 or Wilma Edhlund at 439-5912. Helen Orff, 439-6272, will take your offer of a home-made pie – apple, pumpkin or mincemeat.

Are you a techo-geek?

Audio/Visual Ministry seeks you!

Looking for an exciting way to get involved at Trinity and its ministries? The Audio Visual Ministry is looking for youth and adults with good attitudes and an interest in technology to help out with Sunday morning worship operations. Interested? Please contact Jacob McBroom, Audio Visual Director at jake_mcbroom@hotmail.com or at 507-271-5696. No experience necessary; we will train!

Sunday and Wednesday Children's Learning needs you!

The Sunday & Wednesday learning opportunities for our children are planned and we need YOU to help the children on their faith journeys! Whether you enjoy leading or co-leading a group of children, organizing activities, singing or playing guitar, enjoy photography or video taping, like to provide hospitality and welcome others, or have some other strength or talent you want to share, WE NEED YOU on the team! Opportunities exist in all age groups and on both Sunday morning and Wednesday evening! Please contact:

- Karen Gieseke at ext. 145, kgieseke@trinitylc.org
- Rebecca Christiansen at rchristiansen@trinitylc.org
- Mary Peters at mpeters@trinitylc.org

Nursery Ministry opportunities!

Trinity's Nursery Ministry has opportunities available for those who love to spend time with God's littlest children! If you enjoy sharing both your energy and your tender care with babies and pre-schoolers, we'd like to hear from you! Trinity's Nursery is available Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, and other times by prior arrangement. If you are interested in joining the Nursery Ministry Team, please contact Karen Gieseke at kgieseke@trinitylc.org, or at ext. 145, or Rebecca Christiansen, Director of Early Childhood Ministries at rchristiansen@trinitylc.org

Knit for the Food Shelf

If you love to knit and keep children warm, why not start now on the hats and mittens for area children? The Valley Food Shelf collects and distributes to those in need. All shapes, sizes and colors are wanted. If you have questions, please contact Barb Bylander at 439-4364.

JESUS Delivers

Winter Serving Dates: Sign up Now!

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26

Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Meet at The Daily Grind coffee shop in Stillwater and carpool to St. Paul

Serve meals to homeless men and women in St. Paul. Contact Peter or Cary Bolstorff at peterbolstorff@scelimited.com or caryjbolstorff@comcast.net, or 439-8342 to serve. For complete details about the JESUS Delivers ministry, visit www.jesusdelivers.info

Think winter with clothing donations

Trinity is blessed to have a small sorting team whose primary job is to sort through all the clothing dropped off in the bins upstairs. It is a wonderful job because we get to see all the generous donations that people make, like beautiful sweaters and sturdy shoes. Our plea now is to THINK WINTER! Think of what warm layers/jackets/socks/hats and gloves the homeless will need at Jesus Delivers. Think of the jackets and snow pants that the young school children in both St. Paul and Stillwater will get through Kids' Winter Wear. Think of the warm sweaters, sweatshirts and jackets people can get at the free store at Joseph's Coat in St. Paul. Think of all the refugees who come with so little, who need so much. And think of all the pairs of feet which need to have winter boots! Go through your closets—who really needs 12 scarves and 9 pair of gloves? Weed out those warm clothes which just take up space in your drawers and closets. Or buy some brand new ones! There are so many cold-weather needs in Minnesota. Let's all pull together and clothe those who need the warmth of Trinity hearts! Anyone can join the sorting team; contact Kristie Anderson at 439-9133 or jkjsa@hotmail.com to help.



Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John

Thursdays through Dec. 13, 9-10 a.m. – Living Room

The poetic literary style of the Gospel of John is filled with rich imagery. Like the other gospels, the Gospel of John tells the story of Jesus' life and teachings, but it does so in a unique and interesting way. Come when you can as we read and discuss the Gospel of John together.

Led by Pastor Kris Linner

treasurer's c o r n e r

A time for farewell and a time for welcome:

A new treasurer for Trinity!

Ecclesiastes 3:1 states, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." (NIV) It is now a good time for me to say "farewell" as your Treasurer. When I was asked to be Treasurer, I prayed that God would guide me through some uncharted territory during uncertain times. A lot of numbers were crunched, projections and charts made, budgets created and reports prepared and presented in the past six years. I have enjoyed tremendous support from congregational members, council members and staff. I especially want to recognize the effective partnership that evolved with our dedicated Parish Administrator, Bob Eiselt. It has been both an honor and a grand adventure to have served as Trinity's Treasurer; I have been blessed by the experience.

It is the right season for me to retire from this position, and it is my distinct pleasure to offer an enthusiastic welcome to our new congregational Treasurer: K.C. Kidder, a long-time Trinity member and professionally well-qualified successor!

Jeff Anderson

I must admit that succeeding Jeff is quite humbling. He is a formidable predecessor who has worked tirelessly to serve God and this congregation with his gifts. He's been a skilled financier, an interesting author of *Trinity Today's* Treasurer's Corner and a dedicated partner to the church leadership and council. He leaves big shoes to fill! I'm excited to be the one called to fill them and I'm grateful for Jeff's partnership and support during the transition.

This church, its mission and its people are important to me. As a member for 20 years, I've been blessed to be involved in a variety of ministries. My love of children (especially my own, Keegan-20, Korey-17 and Kaitlyn-15) fueled a passion to work with youth as a Sunday school teacher, Confirmation small-group guide, Breakfast Club leader and Mexico Mission adult leader. Passion may be just one step away from insanity—for a year I served in all four capacities concurrently and loved every minute! My role as mother and connecting with young people is far and away my favorite.

I've also been blessed with another role – an exciting and rewarding 31-year career with Wells Fargo & Company where for 19 years, I've managed a division of corporate finance. I respect the company and its leaders immensely and I enjoy my job.

My roles as mother and manager have taught me valuable lessons and I've developed skills that have prepared me for this new journey and I look forward to serving as your treasurer!



K.C. Kidder

Exploring Wellness Team

*Sun., Oct. 28, 11:45 a.m. – Lowell Inn
Brunch Cost: \$13.95*

Through the gospels we see examples of Jesus taking care of himself by going off for quiet time and prayer. Holistic well-being is important for us today. Several people have responded that they are interested in meeting to explore the possibility of starting a new Wellness Team and they would like to extend that invitation to others. If you are interested in exploring with them, please come join us. Contact Amy Quarberg at 351-5343 or Julie Jolivet at jjolivet@trinitylc.org with questions.

You are invited to lead or host an Advent PAUSE gathering!

The special season of Advent is drawing near, and with it comes the Advent PAUSE gatherings for women. If you are interested in leading or hosting an Advent PAUSE gathering, or would like more information regarding being a leader or hostess, please contact Karen Gieseke at 439-0146 or mkgieseke@msn.com, prior to Nov. 7. Advent PAUSE gatherings will occur around the week of Dec. 4-10.

An Advent P.A.U.S.E

*Peace And Understanding—
a Season to Embrace*

- * Come join other women for a small, relaxing gathering. With a warm beverage in hand, pause and reflect about the wonder of the season.
- * Gatherings will be hosted the week of December 2-8, at a number of women's homes. Times and locations vary, to fit your holiday schedule.
- * Sign-up for an Advent PAUSE gathering on Sunday mornings, Nov. 18, 25 or Dec. 2, or in the Church office.
- * Invite a friend, neighbor or co-worker to join you, and share in the peace and spirit of the season.

Questions? Contact Karen Gieseke at 439-0146 or mkgieseke@msn.com, or the Church Office at 439-7400.

K.C. Kidder

On-Purpose

By Jody Thone

One of my favorite parts of my jobs, both here at Trinity and in my executive coaching practice, Original Face, is walking with people as they explore their call. Now most people don't use the word "call" in their coaching objective. They don't often say, "I want to explore my call." They say things like: *"I want to change jobs, I want to explore different careers, I want to be an executive leader, or they may say, I want more meaning in my life, I want to make a difference, or I don't know what I'm going to do now that I am retiring or now that my life has changed."*

These statements are all about listening and discerning call. When I am coaching someone and I hear these statements, I know that I am called in that moment to guide a person into the mystery of listening for God's call. In these sacred moments I find that guiding people into the territory of their hearts often pays off with wisdom. God seems to be very active planting dreams, inspiration and passion in the chambers of this human drum.

Frederick Buechner said, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." Your deep gladness, your passions, your dreams are part of your call. As a coach, career counselor, and ministry leader, I have been lucky enough to witness many moments when individuals triumph over fear and follow their call. They are not perfectly

smooth rides - following your call doesn't seem to guarantee immediate success or even success as you've defined it. But the called journey seems to be more rewarding, more joyful, and more purposeful even in the times of sadness. This year a gentleman named Paul Potts captured my attention and moved me to tears as I watched him take a stand for his passion. Paul Potts was auditioning for *Britain's Got Talent*, the English equivalent of *American Idol*. His audition moment has been captured on YouTube and I recommend that everyone watch this clip at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9oxTy7KIAaA>. If you don't have access to the internet, please feel free to stop by my office. Paul Potts was selling car phones or something of the sort at the time of this audition. He faced internal and external barriers but followed his passion despite these challenges. In these moments captured on tape I see God so clearly. So what moment is it for you? Are you listening for God's call in your life? Is there a tug at your heart regarding your career, your community, the needs of the world? This year's On-Purpose column will be dedicated to our stories of call. Please consider joining the On-Purpose team this year as we offer more classes, small group resources, books, and individual coaching regarding your call. You can start by watching the Paul Potts video clip (I guarantee that you'll be moved), and then reflecting on the following questions.

Stop. Listen. God is calling you!

Exploring Passion:

What generates meaning, hope, inspiration, and curiosity for you? _____

If time and money were no object, what would you do? _____

What do you dream of doing someday? _____

What do you love to do? _____

What makes you stop and think, "I wish there was a way that I could help." _____

What need in the world breaks your heart? _____

If you could work to resolve one issue or challenge in this world, what would it be? _____

What would you be doing if you were ten times bolder? _____

You are now a very old person, walking with a school child who asks you, "What are you most proud of about your life?"

What do you say? _____

Living Your Strengths

Tue., Nov. 13, 6-9 p.m. -

Office Conf. Room

Cost: \$15 book fee, \$5 dinner

This is Trinity's own workshop designed to bring us together to

explore our strengths and learn about the incredible power of our community when we serve God from our strengths.

Led by Jody Thone



Living Your Strengths 2: Marcus Buckingham video discussion series

Sundays, Nov. 4, 11, 18; Dec. 2, 9, 16
10:30-11:30 am - Living Room



In the new short-film series, *Trombone Player Wanted*, Marcus Buckingham, best-selling author and one of *Business Week's*

"Best of 2006-Thought Leaders," teaches you how to discover your strengths and put them to work.
Led by Jody Thone and Learning & Living On Purpose Group



Jonathan Nye the Psalms Guy

Psalm 4:7-8

You brought me more happiness than a rich harvest of grain and grapes. I can lie down and sleep soundly because you, Lord, will keep me safe.

You've given your thoughts to the Creator of the earth and heavens. You trust God to keep you through the night. The comfort from this assurance is of a value not to be compared to anything that can be purchased anywhere. This knowledge is better than owning a home, winning the lottery or a college degree.

The writers of the Psalms lived in a time when a good harvest was equivalent to owning a home. A rich harvest of grain and grapes was a feeling of true wealth. Yet the Psalmist is convinced that the happiness that comes from the protection that Yahweh brings is incomparable to all this.

What a timely idea, even here in the twenty-first century. We too want happiness; we too want safety. We also experience the joy of earthly blessings and know how good it feels to have stuff, own stuff and to be able to buy more stuff.

But if our happiness is dependent upon these worldly items, which are here today and tomorrow may be gone, we cannot truly be happy. The assurance of God's love, of God's protection, is a deep happiness no wealth can buy. The Psalmist knew this.

oct. 27 - nov. 9 calendar

Sat., Oct. 27

- 5 p.m. Singles Connection Worship/Dining
- 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION

Sun., Oct. 28

- 9 a.m. Bible Explorers (Gr. 3-4) Garden Room
- 9 a.m. Sunday School (3 yrs.-Gr.2): Lower Level
- 9 a.m. Club 56 (Gr. 5-6): Luther Hall
- 9 a.m. Adult Ed.-Secret Message of Jesus: Room 108B
- 9 a.m. Couples Small Group: Library Conference Room
- 9 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School (3 yrs.-Gr.6): Lower Level
- 10:30 a.m. Called to Service: Living Room
- 10:30 a.m. Couples Small Group: Room 108A, Room 108B, Luther Hall, Library Conference Room
- 10:30 a.m. Jesus 101: Garden Room
- 10:30 a.m. Called to Service: Living Room

Mon., Oct. 29

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Living Library
- 6:30 p.m. Congregational Council Meeting: Office Conference Room
- 7 p.m. Monday Night Bible Study: Living Library

Tue., Oct. 30

- 6:30 a.m. Gratitude Ministry Team meeting: Office Conference Room
- 8:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study: Living Room
- 9 a.m. Moms Day Off: Lower Level
- 1:15 p.m. Prayer Group: Office Conference Room
- 7 p.m. Jesus 101: Garden Room
- 7 p.m. Growing Your Faith: Living Room

Wed., Oct. 31

- 2 p.m. Trinity Today deadline
- 8 a.m. Lutfisk Dinner set-up: Kitchen, Garden Room, Gym
- 9 a.m. Pilates w/ Stability Ball: Narthex
- 9:15 a.m. Heart of the Home Moms: Lower Level
- 5 p.m. Alleluia Choir: Choir Room
- 5 p.m. Joyful Noise Choir: Chapel
- No Children's Learning
- No Confirmation
- 7 p.m. Temple Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room, Worship Center

Thu., Nov. 1

- 9 a.m. Bible Study-Gospel of John: Living Room
- 9 a.m. Moms Day Off: Lower Level
- 11:30 a.m., 12:45, 4:15, 5:30 6:45 p.m. Lutfisk & Meatball Dinner: Garden Room
- 2 p.m. Caregiver Support Group: Joseph's Restaurant
- 3 p.m. Jam Sessions with Drew: Worship Center
- 7 p.m. the WALK rehearsal: Worship Center

Fri., Nov. 2

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Living Library

Sat., Nov. 3

- 2 p.m. Children's Musical rehearsal: Worship Center
- 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION
- 8 p.m. Music St. Croix Concert: Worship Center

Sun., Nov. 4

- 9 a.m. Bible Explorers (Gr. 3-4) Garden Room
- 9 a.m. Sunday School (3 yrs.-Gr.2): Lower Level
- 9 a.m. Club 56 (Gr. 5-6): Luther Hall
- 9 a.m. Adult Ed.-Secret Message of Jesus: Room 108B
- 9 a.m. Couples Small Group: Library Conference Room
- 9 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, NURSERY
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School (3 yrs.-Gr.6): Lower Level
- 10:30 a.m. Called to Service: Living Room
- 10:30 a.m. Jesus 101: Garden Room
- 10:30 a.m. Living Your Strengths 2: Living Room
- Noon Mexico Mission Information meeting: Garden Room
- 6:30 p.m. Gratitude Event: Lake Elmo Event Center

Mon., Nov. 5

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Living Library
- 9 a.m. Small Group Leader training: Room 108B
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi (Session 2): Gym
- 7 p.m. Monday Night Bible Study: Living Library
- 8 p.m. Co-Ed Basketball: Gym

Tue., Nov. 6

- 6:30 a.m. Gratitude Ministry Team Meeting: Office Conf. Room
- 8:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning: Bible Study: Living Room
- 1 p.m. Martha Circle: Home of Glenice McGarry
- 1:15 p.m. Prayer Group: Office Conference Room
- 6:30 p.m. R.O.C.K. Basketball (Gr. 3-4): Gym
- 7 p.m. Adult Ed.-Jesus 101: Garden Room
- 7 p.m. Adult Ed.-Growing Your Faith: Living Room
- 7 p.m. The WALK rehearsal: Worship Center
- 7 p.m. Dorcas Circle: Home of Betty Wasmundt

Wed., Nov. 7

- 9 a.m. Pilates w/ Stability Ball: Narthex
- 9:15 a.m. Heart of the Home Moms: Lower Level
- 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Band Practice: Worship Center
- 5 p.m. Alleluia Choir (Gr. 3-6): Choir Room
- 5 p.m. Joyful Noise Choir (K-Gr. 2): Heritage Chapel
- 5:30 p.m. Pizza Night: Gym
- 6 p.m. Leader Mtg Gr 7-8 Confirmation: Narthex
- 6 p.m. Club 56 (Gr. 5-6): Luther Hall
- 6 p.m. Bible Explorers (Gr. 3-4): Gym
- 6 p.m. Wed. learning (3 yrs.-Gr. 2): Lower Level
- 6:30 p.m. Gr. 7-8 Confirmation: Lower Level
- 6:30 p.m. Leader Meeting Gr. 9 Confirmation: Narthex
- 7 p.m. Gr. 9 Confirmation: Lower Level
- 7 p.m. Temple Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room, Worship Center
- 7 p.m. THE RIVER Youth Worship (Gr. 9-12): Garden Room
- 7 p.m. Jubilate Bells (Adult) Rehearsal: Heritage Chapel

Thu., Nov. 8

- 9 a.m. Bible Study-Gospel of John: Living Room
- 1 p.m. Miriam Circle meeting: Living Room
- 3 p.m. Jam Sessions with Drew: Worship Center
- 6 p.m. R.O.C.K. Basketball: Gym
- 7 p.m. Small Group Leader training: Room 108B
- 7 p.m. St. Paul Chamber Orchestra concert: Worship Center

Fri., Nov. 9

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Living Library
- 10 a.m. New Member Leadership Team: Office Conf. Room
- 7:30 p.m. SCCS - Camerata Bariloche: Worship Center

"...and let these gifts to us be blessed."

How many times have we prayed these words before a meal? Please let me share another perspective on these words as a member of the Gratitude Ministry Team. God has provided us with many gifts in the form of talents and strengths, and goes further by blessing these gifts as they are used in service to others.

I am grateful for the gifts of our church staff. I pray that God will continue to bless their gifts as they are shared.

I am grateful that as I enter the church building for worship, choir rehearsal, or a meeting, the custodial staff has provided a clean environment free of distraction. Their gifts for organization and cleanliness are blessed as they provide a place to worship and serve.

I am grateful for support staff who use their gifts of structure to make things work. Often these staff members work quietly but significantly and without recognition to ensure that the work of God is carried out effectively and

THE GIFT OF A GENEROUS HEART

efficiently. Oh my, how their gifts are blessed!

I am grateful for program staff whose gifts in their respective areas are matched with the ministry they provide. From music to education to food service to the arts to service to worship, we see the impact of competent, dedicated people using the strengths blessed by God for the continuation of God's kingdom.

I am grateful for the leadership team who uses their gifts to provide a variety of worship and music experiences to praise the One who made us. We have leaders who assure mutual care of our members and care of others through mission work here and in our larger world. How blessed we are with

leadership gifts to design learning for God's children of all ages, or those with needed communication and management skills.

Today I am grateful that God has blessed the gifts, talents, and strengths of our staff at Trinity. As Jesus blessed the loaves and fishes and fed thousands, so also God blesses the gifts you offer in service so that thousands can be "fed." For the offering of these gifts, we all are enriched ... and filled with gratitude.

Send your message of gratitude via email to gratitudeministry@trinitylc.org or mail it to the Church Office or drop it in the offering plate.

A Week of Gratitude Prayers

Remembering to thank God for all that we are and all that we have.

Sunday: Thank God for the gift of all people at Trinity Church who are truly God's children and part of God's family. Pray specifically for three people for whom you give thanks.

Monday: Give thanks for the gift of sight to see the beauty of autumn in the St. Croix Valley, the beauty of the skies at night, the beauty in the faces of people we love.

Tuesday: Give thanks for the gift of hearing to listen to the sounds of nature, the sounds of work, the glory of music and the tone of familiar voices.

Wednesday: Give thanks for the smells of a fall campfire, cookies baking, a familiar fragrance, an infant child you have held.

Thursday: Give thanks for the taste of an abundance of food such as tart lemonade, sweet apple pie, or a hamburger on the grill. Pray for the people who sit around your table.

Friday: Give thanks for the feel of a warm jacket on a cold day, a soft pillow at night, the touch of the hand of someone for whom you care.

Saturday: Give thanks to our loving God for all that we are and all that we have, and for God's loving gift, Jesus.

You are invited
to an
EVENING & DESSERT
with

Stillwater and Trinity native
Pastor Gary Langness



THE
GIFT
OF A
GENEROUS
HEART



and Trinity staff member and seminarian,
Jeremy Johnson

SUN., NOV. 4

6:30-8 p.m.

LAKE ELMO EVENT CENTER

3712 Layton Ave. N., Lake Elmo

Watch your mail for your
personal invitation soon!

*This event has been donated with
thanks to God for the gift of you.*

upcoming e v e n t s

Congregational Potluck & Entertainment

Sat., Nov. 10, 6:15 p.m. – Garden Room
Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come enjoy an evening of great home cooking and barbershop music. The award-winning quartet “The Talk of the Town” will be performing at this potluck. Please sign up in the Commons so that an accurate count is available. Please bring one dish to pass. Contact Don Paulson at 777-2187 with questions.

Retired Men’s meeting

Assassination Records Review Board & Constitution for an Independent Kosovo

Tue., Nov. 13, 9 a.m. – Garden Room
Federal Judge Jack Tuhheim (a Trinity member and former council president) will speak on his work with a Kosovo constitution and the Kennedy assassination. Please contact Bob O’Neil at irviking@comast.net or 770-8881 with questions.

Black Hills Family Camp

July 27-Aug. 1, 2008 – Black Hills
Are you interested in joining other families from Trinity in taking a stress-free vacation?
Family Church Camp at Outlaw Ranch in the Black Hills is a wonderful way to nurture family relationships while renewing one’s soul with worship, bible study for kids and adults and afternoon free time for family activities. If you are interested in family camp, please contact Kris Linner at ext. 107 or klinner@trinitylc.org. To assure your spot you must register by Nov. 5.

Camerata Bariloche

Fri., Nov. 9, 7:30 pm
South America’s most famous chamber orchestra, Camerata Bariloche, will perform in Stillwater at Trinity as a part of its 40th anniversary tour. Music will include European and Latin American masterpieces by Mozart, Rossini, Paganini, Ginastera, and Piazzolla. Meet the musicians after the concert and enjoy special desserts from the Lake Elmo Inn. Tickets are \$10. Call the St. Croix Concert Series at 430-3528 or purchase on-line at www.stcroixconcertseries.org

care ministries

With Pastor Kris Linner



The 23rd Psalm is a beloved psalm of many. I cannot tell you how many times I have shared that psalm with those who are going through a difficult time. It is a psalm that people often request to have read as they die or at their funeral.

The meaning of the psalm was enriched for me when I was leading a grief support group. One participant shared with the group that she was confident she would get through her grief because of the words of the 23rd psalm. She said the hopeful verse for her was, “Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death.” She went on to say that the word that she clung to was “through.” She noted that the psalmist was not walking in the valley, but THROUGH the valley. She had hope that God would be with her as she moved in, out and through the valley of grief. That is the hard thing about grief. We just keep moving in and out of its valley all the rest of our days.

Psalm 23 helps us claim the promise that God’s presence is with us in the valleys, whether they are illness, divorce, doubt, loneliness, depression, addiction, loss of a job, a bad grade at school, grief, shame, or a troubled relationship. Life is filled with many valleys, but we can go through any valley with God’s help.

Looking at the first, the middle and the last words of Psalm 23 can summarize the entire psalm. “The Lord...with me...forever.” That is a powerful theme throughout the scriptures and empowers us to move through life’s valleys with God at our side.

pray where you are

By Pastor Kris Linner

What do you do when God doesn’t answer your prayers? (or at least the way that you want) Pray harder? Give up? Ask others to join you in prayer? I need to confess that sometimes my response to unanswered prayers is anger. Yes, I get angry with God.

For example, I have been praying for a friend with cancer and I know that hundreds of others are praying for her as well. Yet, despite all the prayers the cancer continues to take its physical and emotional toll and I get angry.

My anger does not stop me from praying. Instead, it becomes a part of my prayer. In the tradition of the psalmists who come to God with

complete honesty, I tell God exactly how I feel.

I am thankful that I have that kind of relationship with God, a relationship which allows me to be blatantly honest and know that such honesty will not change God’s love for me.

Gracious God,

I don’t always understand what you are up to. Sometimes I get angry and frustrated when it feels like my prayers are falling on deaf ears. I feel like a child who stomps her feet in response to a parents, “no.” Give me the loving trust to pray, “Thy will be done.” Amen.

Children excitedly begin "Journey With Jesus"

All children ages three through grade two are welcome to join the journey! Our rooms are packed with shining smiles and happy hearts of children learning stories about Jesus' life!

It's an hour when we get to share Jesus with each other and...

- sing songs
- do art projects
- play games
- and best of all, become friends

If your children still need to sign up, our arms are wide open! All are welcome Sundays at 9 or 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

PB&J (Pew Buddies & Jesus)

Children ages three through grade two are able to enjoy the ever-changing, open-ended activity kit each week that encourages quiet learning during the worship service. Living out our commitment to raise children in faith, our children are included in worship through presence, involvement and experiencing worship alongside adults. PB&J kits are provided October through April outside the Worship Center doors. Be sure to pick-up a clipboard and activity box next time you are in worship!

Nursery

Sun. mornings & Wed. evenings

The Nursery Ministry is available for children ages six weeks through 36-months-of-age. Children experience the love of Christ through tender care, joyful music, creative dance, meaningful stories and a play area.

Wednesday Pizza Night

Enjoy the ease of Wednesday Pizza Night for children and their families. From 5:30-6:30 p.m., families are invited to enjoy pizza and conversation together before joining other families and children in an evening of faith learning opportunities.

Family Engaging Devotion (FED) ministry!

Written by families and friends in our own faith community, these weekly family devotions will arrive at your home at the click of a mouse! Written to coincide with the learning theme and scriptures being used throughout Trinity learning opportunities that week, FED gives families an opportunity to begin and continue faith conversations, and nurture and grow in their faith together. E-mail Karen Elowson at kelowson@trinitylc.org to sign up.

Mission: Australia

Frequent flier miles sought

Drew King, a young man from Trinity, has accepted a missionary position with the Lutheran Church of Australia. This mission experience will have several components. One of the experiences will be reaching out to at-risk youth who do not fit well with a traditional educational model. Another opportunity will be working with Aboriginal youth and their life-skills training. Drew will also be working with video, making TV programming for students, and providing outreach to young people. All these ministries are part of a new church model that is taking the church where people need help and then being the church in the community. This is a new model for Australia and for the US. This is a great partnership and it will be exciting to see where God leads us. Drew is in the process of raising funds for his trip. We need 100,000 Northwest miles to fly him there and back. If you or someone you know might want to donate miles or sponsor this ministry, please contact TJ Anderson at 439-7400, ext 120.



Drew King

Baptism instruction

Sun., Nov. 18, 10:30 a.m.

For those who want to baptize a child
Begin a journey of promise, prayer, praise, and process. Through time in conversation and learning, families will learn how God has something wonderful to share through baptism. We will have the opportunity to learn more about God's amazing promises and gifts shared with us as God makes us God's own child. As God joins us for our time together, we trust that it will be blessed. To register, please contact Karen Elowson at kelowson@trinitylc.org or visit us online at trinitylc.org

Mom's Day Off openings!

Children ages 3- 5 years

The Tuesday morning Mom's Day Off has openings and we'd be thrilled to have you join us! The MDO program provides children a happy, safe environment to socialize, sing, play and make new friends! Space is available Tuesdays, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Tuition is \$70/month. For more information or to register your child, contact Early Childhood Ministry Director, Rebecca Christiansen at 439-7400 or rchristiansen@trinitylc.org

**No confirmation,
River worship,
children's Learning
or choirs on
Wed., Oct. 31**



Save the Date

Sat., Dec. 1


Children

Newborn to Grade 2

Who is coming to our house?

A special Christmas Event





The River
Youth Worship Service has
moved to Wednesdays from
7-8 p.m. in the Garden Room.
Join us as we kick-off the "I AM"
series – learning about who Jesus
claims to be.



Confirmation has begun

6:30-8 p.m. – students in grades 7-8

7-8:30 p.m. – students in grade 9

Confirmation is an important milestone experience for junior high youth. Trinity has great leaders and a great program to help that milestone experience have lasting meaning. If you have not registered for confirmation, there's still time. Visit us online at trinitylc.org or pick up a registration form in the Youth Center or at the Information Center in the Commons.

Mexico Mission 2008

Informational meeting:

Sun., Nov. 4, noon – Garden Room

All 10-12 grade students are invited to serve on the Mexico Mission Trip! This year's trip will be March 14-21, 2008. In Mexico, students will be challenged physically as we mix concrete and build roofs; we'll be encouraged to grow spiritually as we serve others for Jesus. Student and adult applications for the Mexico Mission Trip are now available at The River youth worship and in the Youth Center. Applications signed by the student and parent/guardian and the \$50 deposit are due Nov. 11. The Nov. 4 informational meeting will cover questions about cost, sponsorships, travel, where we will be and what we will be doing. This is a required meeting for students thinking about attending. If you have questions contact Cory Jones at ext. 144.

Breakfast Clubs 2007-2008

Do you like to hang out with friends?
Do you want to grow in your faith?

If you answered yes to those questions then you will love Breakfast Clubs! B-Clubs are high school small groups that meet once a week or twice a month. Trinity would love to help connect you to a group and a leader. Breakfast Clubs meet at all different times of day – not just for breakfast! Groups can even meet on Wednesday nights after The River Youth Worship Service! Contact Cindy Jones if you are interested in joining a group at 439-7400 ext. 137.

Bible Explorers

Dig into your Bibles! Join the journey! Great activities, learning, friends, games, crafts and music, all leading to knowing more about Jesus, his life and the relationship Jesus invites us to have with God. Become an expert explorer as you learn about the Bible, its great stories, and what a great book it is to read! Register online at trinitylc.org or pick up a registration form in the Youth Center or at the Information Center in the Commons.

Students on Bible journey

Bible Explorers are beginning a journey with Jesus and digging into their Bibles! Third- and fourth-grade Bible Explorers received their Bibles and had them blessed in worship on Oct. 10. The following third-grade students received Bibles and are now ready to continue this journey into God's word!

Samuel Alcorn; Madison Christopher
Seth Eisele; Mason Jensrud
Marietta Johns; David Johnson
Adam Kaye; Ian LeCloux
Alyse Lewis; Weston Lombard
Eric Longnecker; Lucas Olson
Samuel Payne; Maddy Peters
Austin Potter; Casey Rorabeck
Jonathan Rustad; Linnea Rustad
Alex Serier; Evan Smith
Noah Sova; Joseph Weber
Katelyn Christiansen; Madison Crain
Grace Gualtieri; Laura Ilkka
Evan Johnson; Ryan Kilmer
Kai Knudson; Zach O'Hara
Claire Patterson; Simon Schoenborn
Rose Stoeber

Faith in Action Team

Senior high students – are you interested in making a difference in Stillwater and around the Twin Cities through a variety of different service projects?

Meet other senior high students one Saturday a month for great times serving God through serving others! Team members will help decide what service projects are chosen for each month. Contact Cindy Jones via email at cjones@trinitylc.org or at ext. 137 if you are interested in being a part of the team

TRL – Trinity Rec League

Sundays, 2-5 p.m. – Trinity Gym

For students in grades 9-12

Games start on Nov. 4 thru Feb. 26

Why not put together a team of 5-7 of your friends and join the Trinity Recreation League a.k.a - TRL?

November: Basketball / 5-on-5

December: Dodgeball / 6-on-6

January: Volleyball / 6-on-6

February: TBA

Co-ed teams are encouraged! Please contact Cory Jones at 439-7400 ext. 144 or cljones@trinitylc.org with questions.

Bibles for all ages

Journey in the Word

Got a question about what Bible to buy for yourself, child or teen? Check out this list. Contact Karen Gieseke at ext. 145 with questions.

Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 2

- Read With Me Bible:

An NIV Bible for Children

Grades 3 through 6

- Hands-On Bible NLT

- Bible Explorer supplemental Bible:
The Picture Bible

Grades 7 through 12

- Student's Life Application
Study Bible NLT

Adult Learning

- The HarperCollins Study Bible New
Revised Standard Version with the
Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical Books

- New Oxford Annotated Bible with
the Apocrypha, Augmented
3rd Edition, New Revised
Standard Version

*All youth and children's Bibles are
available for purchase at Trinity.*

A hymn festival
celebrating one year of
song with Evangelical
Lutheran Worship
**Through the
Church the
Song Goes On**

Aaron David Miller
– guest organist
Trinity Temple Choir
Christ Lutheran,
Marine on St. Croix
Bethlehem Bayport
Senior Choir
Roy Henderson
– soloist

7 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran

Enjoy an evening to celebrate our grand Lutheran heritage of being known as “the singing church.” Together with Bethlehem Lutheran in Bayport and Christ Lutheran in Marine we will raise the roof with our singing. Guest musician Aaron David Miller, a young man with much talent, will take the organ (and piano) bench. This festival will explore the new and the old in ELW—the new cranberry book in the pews. If you have never sung at a hymn festival—or even heard the singing at a hymn festival—you are in for a treat. Bring friends and family; this is for all ages. There is no charge, but a free-will offering will be gathered.

As Garrison Keillor says “I have made fun of Lutherans for years—who wouldn’t, if you lived in Minnesota? But I have also sung with Lutherans and that is one of the main joys of life, along with hot baths and fresh sweet corn.”

*This event is sponsored by the
Trinity Fine Arts group.*



Evangelical Lutheran

Worship