



Tri-angles

Trinity Lutheran Church

300 S. Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181

630/834-3440 www.trinitylutheranvp.com

December 2010



THE LION HAS
ROARED —
WHO WILL NOT
FEAR?
THE LORD GOD
HAS SPOKEN —
WHO CAN BUT
PROPHECY?
(AMOS 3:8)

The Lion's Roar

*Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way.
When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before
they came together she was found to be with child from the
Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18)*

God's Plan for a Broken World

I have just about given up thinking I know what is going on. I tried valiantly for years to explain God and understand God and conform the world to God but I give up. Nothing fits. That should not be surprising. Why would a sinful world fit with a righteous, holy, perfect God? So instead of teaching people that they have to do all the right things and everything will be okay, maybe we should be honest and just say,

“Look, nothing is going to work out right. This is a square peg in a round hole kind of thing and despite your best efforts or lack thereof, sometimes you are going to land in the dung pile and sometimes you will come away smelling like a rose and it often has little to do with you or the choices you make.”

Think of Joseph. He was a good man. He lived a good life and was a hard worker and he is just about to marry his blushing bride when she turns up pregnant. How do you explain that one? Do you think his friends and family believed that Mary had conceived from the Holy Spirit? Doesn't that sound a lot like getting pregnant from a toilet seat? I imagine that Joseph put up with a great deal and it doesn't really matter what the truth is because God did not come down in a blaze of glory and tell everyone what was up. Some believed and surely others didn't and by and large Joseph was left with telling people that an angel had told him that Mary was pregnant by the Holy Spirit.

In Advent, we are like Joseph. We believe that Jesus will come again soon because he said so but we don't really have any more factual information than the Bible. We can't point to a scientific formula or documented proof. We can only believe what he said like Joseph believed the angel and went through with his marriage to Mary. That is the life of a child of God. We are square pegs making our way through the round holes of this world the best we can. Sometimes we do well and sometimes we fail miserably but either way our journey ends the same way. Eventually we make it. That is what Christmas is all about.

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We spend all of November and most of December proclaiming Jesus' promised return at the end of this age and then at Christmas, we celebrate the last time he promised that he would come...and he did...just as he said he would in the way that he said he would when he said he would. That is what gets us square pegs through life; not that we have all the answers or make all the right choices, but that Jesus came and paid for all of our wrong answers and all of our wrong choices and these square pegs will be made perfect one day. Until then; like Joseph, we do the best we can and keep putting one foot in front of the other knowing that Jesus walks with us every step of the way. Have a blessed Advent and Christmas and remember that the greatest gift we receive is knowing that after all the ups and downs, we win. In fact, we have already won because of the one who came to earth, became one of us and paid for all of our square edges.

In His Service, 

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: 1-Dee Ann Campbell, Todd Campbell
2-Carol Edwards, Frank Ilcken, Carol Towne 3-Evelyn Gunderson,
Beverly Pittelko 4-Betty Edwards, Sara LoCoco 5-Josh Fulton, Donna Heuser
6-Aidan Kuehl 7-Kirk Golz, Scot Jaras, Sharon Montag 8-Aaron Lotter,
Jim Smelter 9-Andrew Anderson, Christopher Dunk, Ellasyn Jacklin
10-Dana Campagna, Warren Sheridan, Matthew Wolski 11-David Bruhn,
Mary Doerring 12-Nancy Busse, Richard Lussow, Kate Nack, Tate Scofield,
Joan Signa, Kyle Stolzman, Amanda Watkins 13-John Benzin, Gary Knudsen
14-Steven Buehre, Vicki Johnson, David McGrath, Gerri Rothenburger
15-Richard Bier, Jennifer McKeown, Ashley Smelter 16- Heather Grant
17-Dawn Carroll, Susan Jones, John Serna 18-Michael Bruschuk,
Sara Bruschuk, Dave Heuser 19-Diane Bruschuk, Jacob Giambelluca,
John Kelly 21-Robert Rabe, Matt Weiner 22-Eric Wilder
23-Zachary Gunderson 25-Christine Bennin, Melinda Finch, Donna Stubbs,
Christina White 26- Carol Drews, Elizabeth Scherer, Griffin Scofield
28- Donald Freese 29-Sean Gaertner, Ramona Marshall 30- Warren Cook,
Patricia Gray, Michael Warpool 31-Lisa Ritt
ANNIVERSARIES: 1-Stephanie & Chris Gilliland 2-Deb & John Serna
12-Andrew & Samantha Thompson 16-Benjamin & Elisa Gehrt
18-Lori & Joe Varno 19-Courtney & Dan Carbon
29-Wilfried & Edith Schneider

Pastor

Rev. Robert A. Rogers

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Dr. Roger
Pittelko

Asst. to the Pastor
Mary Stahlke
Kantor

Judy Bruschuk
Youth Director

Debbie Johnson
Parish Nurse

Margaret Cotterill
Secretary

Lay Leaders

Dave Heuser
Executive Director

Jeff Blankensop
Asst. Executive Director

Warren Sheridan
Treasurer

Sue Lotter
Dir. of Christian Ed.

Scott Golz
Dir. of Church Property

Jerry Graunke
Dir. of Evangelism

Diane Bruschuk
Dir. of Human Care

Steve Gehrt
Dir. of Lay Ministry

Carol Boettger
Dir. of Parish Fellowship

Matt Thompson
Dir. of Stewardship

Mike Ticaric
Dir. of Youth Ministry

Jill Kelly
TCNS Chair

Heather Grant
*Dir. of Trinity Christian
Preschool*

Jenn Ellsworth
Public Relations Dir.

Kathy Golz
Housekeeping

Marilyn Felz
Altar Guild President

Darla Batjes
Dorcas Guild President

Mary Rinda
LWML President

Erik Grant
Director of TMC

Trinity Youth Group Dictionary

Camp C.H.A.O.S.: The name of the junior high youth group. The initials in “C.H.A.O.S.” represent the following words: c- chocolate, h-holiness, and o-other, s- stuff. This acronym was chosen by the youth leaders because it’s sounds really cool, they love chocolate, are really into the holiness aspect of youth ministry and the group does lots of other stuff. Camp C.H.A.O.S. meets every Wednesday after Confirmation class for service projects, games, crafts, “campfire” sharing time, and of course to eat. This group also meets outside of church for social activities and service projects.

Big House: The name of the high school youth group. The name is reflective of song by that title by the Christian music group, Audio Adrenaline. Big House meets every Wednesday for dinner, Bible study and various projects. The group works on fundraising events, does many service projects, have social outings, attend retreats and week-long servant events.

Collegiate Café: The name of the college age group. Collegiate Café was recently formed to give the young adults in the congregation and their friends a place to have Bible study, eat together, socialize and plan for servant events and other activities. They meet on Wednesday nights.

Church Bucks: Money that is earned by youth. Funds raised by youth are put into a savings account to be used to offset the cost of servant events, retreats, and gatherings.

Youth Quake: A Christian organization based in Minnesota that offers various youth ministry opportunities to youth and families. Trinity’s junior high youth attend their yearly weekend hotel events where they enjoy Christian bands, hear great speakers and attend fun activities that help them grow their faith.

Winter Xtreme: A high school winter experience at Camp Timberlee in East Troy Wisconsin. This is a weekend event that offers a faith-building experience by combining outdoor winter sports with music and Christian speakers.

NYG or National Youth Gathering: LCMS sponsored triennial youth gathering where approximately 25,000 young people join together to proclaim their love of Jesus. In 2010 Trinity sent 30 youth to New Orleans. The 2013 NYG will be held in San Antonio, Texas when hopefully the congregation will send a record number of high school youth.

Congregation: A large body of parishioners who have encouraged the growth and mission of youth ministry at Trinity with their love and support.

The Deadline is ...

The 20th of December for the January Tri-angles Newsletter. Please send any information or articles to Jenn Ellsworth at 134 E. Jackson in Villa Park, 60181, drop in the Church mail box marked Newsletter or e-mail me at jennart64@comcast.net.

Concerts and Worship Services In Trinity and the Community – December 2010

December is a rich month for attending concerts and special worship services, and I've listed some of my favorites here. For more information on a specific event, see the bulletin board in the music room or telephone me (Mary Stahlke) at 708-771-7842.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Dec. 1	7:00 pm	Hanging of the Greens and Advent Service	Trinity Lutheran Villa Park
Dec. 3	7:00 pm	Not-So-Silent Night our own Christmas talent show	Trinity Lutheran Villa Park
Dec. 4	7:00 pm	Service of Lessons and Carols cuchicago.edu	Concordia University River Forest-Chapel of our Lord 7400 Augusta Street
	7:30 pm	Bella Voce "Holiday Delights" bellavoce.org	River Forest Grace Lutheran Church 7300 W. Division Street
Dec. 5	3:00 pm	Elmhurst Choral Union "Handel's <i>Messiah</i> " elmhurstchoralunion.org	Elmhurst College Hammerschmidt Chapel 190 Prospect Avenue
	3:30 pm	St. Olaf Christmas Festival (live broadcast) stolaf.edu/christmasfest	Minnesota Public Radio at minnesota.publicradio.org
	4:00 p.m.	West Suburban Symphony Orchestra "Songs of the Season" westsubsymphony.org	Hinsdale Central H. S. 55th & Grant Streets
	4:00 pm	Chicago a cappella "Holiday a cappella" chicagoacappella.org	Naperville Wentz Concert Hall @ North Central College 171 E. Chicago Avenue
	4 & 7 pm	Concordia University (see above on Dec. 4)	
	7:30 pm	Music of the Baroque "J.S. Bach's <i>Christmas Oratorio</i> " baroque.org	Evanston 1st United Methodist Church 516 Church Street
	7:30 pm	Bella Voce (see Dec 4 above)	Evanston Immanuel Lutheran Church 616 Lake Street
Dec. 6	7:30 pm	Music of the Baroque "Christmas Oratorio" (see above on Dec. 5)	Chicago Harris Theatre Millennium Park
Dec. 7	3:00 pm	Elmhurst Choral Union "Handel's <i>Messiah</i> " elmhurstchoralunion.org	Elmhurst College Hammerschmidt Chapel 190 Prospect Avenue
Dec. 8	7:00 pm	Advent Service	Trinity Lutheran Villa Park
Dec. 9	8:00 pm	Chicago a cappella (see above on Dec. 5)	
Dec. 10	7:30 pm	Chicago Master Singers w/Ars. Viva Orch. "Music of Christmas" chicagomastersingers.org	Chicago Divine Word Chapel 2001 N. Waukegan Road
	8:00 pm	Chicago a cappella (see above on Dec. 5)	

Concerts and Worship Services In Trinity and the Community – December 2010 cont...

Date	Time	Event	Location
Dec. 11	4:00 pm	Agape Ringers “Sounds of the Season” agaperingers.org	Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church Christian Reformed Church 155 Brush Hill
	7:30 pm	Bella Voce (see Dec 4 above)	Lisle St. Procopius Abbey 5601 College Road
Dec. 12	4:00 pm	Chicago a cappella (see above on Dec. 5)	
	4:00 pm	Sunday School Christmas Program Trinity’s own children performing	Trinity Lutheran Church
	7:00 pm	Chicago Master Singers (see above on Dec. 10)	
	7:30 pm	Bella Voce (see Dec 4 above)	Chicago Rockefeller Chapel 5850 S. Woodlawn Avenue
Dec. 15	7:00 pm	Advent Service	Trinity Lutheran Villa Park
Dec. 16	8:00 pm	Music of the Baroque “Holiday Brass and Choral Concerts” baroque.org	River Forest Grace Lutheran Church 7300 W. Division
Dec. 17	8:00 pm	Music of the Baroque (see above on Dec. 16)	Chicago (Old Town) St. Michael’s Church 1633 N. Cleveland Ave,
Dec. 18	3 & 8 pm	Music of the Baroque (see above on Dec. 16)	Techny/Northbrook Divine Word Chapel 2001 N. Waukegan Road
Dec. 19	3:00 pm	Music of the Baroque	
Dec. 23	7:00 pm	Music of the Baroque (see above on Dec. 5)	
Dec. 24	5:30 & 11 pm	Christmas Eve Service	Trinity Lutheran Villa Park
Dec. 25	10:00 am	Christmas Day Service	Trinity Lutheran Villa Park
Dec. 31	7:00 pm	Name of Jesus (New Year’s Eve) Service	Trinity Lutheran Villa Park

ALL SAINTS’ DAY – 2010

We remember this day those in our congregation who have entered their eternal rest this past year:
Gertrude Kral, Frederick Lohrentz, Mary Matthews, Carol Salas & Joe Signa

Those being memorialized:

All Saints, All our Passed Loved Ones, Our Parents

Peggy Bainer, Alice & Julius Bartnoski, Nancy Behenna, Shirley Bhatena, Jeri Bleidorn, Mr. & Mrs. Victor Bloechle, Esther Bruschuk, Gladys & Vernon Buehre, Norman Busse, Warren Busse, Robert C. Devermann, Dorothy Devermann, Charlie & Emily Eldridge, Edna & Frank Felz, Michael Felz, Colleen Rothenburger Flynn, Albert & Margaret Frese, Robert Frindt, Laura Furlong, Ron Gallman, Rev. Raymond Giese, Ralph Gomez, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Gosswein, Robert Jr. & Carolyn W. Graham, Carolyn Ann Graham, Daniel, Laverne, & George Grevis, Donna Grote, Doris Heaney, Meta Hendron, Bill Hoffrage, Al Hotwagner, Sr., Teresa Hotwagner, Dolores Johnson, Jos. & Mary Johnson, Sr., Jos. Johnson, Jr., Gerry & Marshall Kaiser, Julius & Marie Kalis, Lauren Kiefer, Clarence & Alma Kumnick, Walter & Lillian Matthews, Mazurk Family, Harry Miller, Alfred & Mary Mortenson, Rodger Neubert, Henry & Ruby Pals, Pat Piper, Carrie Rexroad, Alan Riedinger, Rinda Family, Tim Rothenburger, Thomas G. Ryl, Joseph Scaccia, Erna & Emil Schlehahn, Harold Schlehahn, William Schlehahn, David Sharon, Margaret Sheridan, E. Alvin & Edna Swiedom, Larry Treptow, Beloved members of the Urso Family, Carolyn “Aunt Toots” Valkman, Francis Van Ewyk, Janice Van Ewyk, Lorraine Van Ewyk, Edward Voelz, Mary Jane Voelz, Esther Wallen, Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Wardo, Mike Williams

October 2010 Financial Comparison

Income	2010	2009	Diff.
Basket	4,636	3,286	+1,350
Unified Envelope	233,359	228,780	+4,579
Special Envelopes	14,073	15,497	-1,424
Debt Retirement	35,533	36,005	-472
Budget Income	287,601	283,568	+4,033
Non-Budget Income	4,202	5,057	-855
Income	291,803	288,625	+3,178
Expenses			
Budgeted Expenses	305,345	297,183	+8,162
Non-budgeted Expenses	1,028	1,403	-375
Total Expenses	306,373	298,586	+7,787
General Operating Fund	-14,494	-10,202	-4,292

Our Income/Contributions are up \$3,178 over last year, but this is due to an extra weekend in October, where as it was in November last year. Our expenses are up \$7,787.

Our General Operating Fund is in the red \$14,494 vs. \$10,202 in the red last year. We have spent \$330 per week more than we took in.

Should you have any questions on this financial comparison, please contact me, Warren Sheridan, Treasurer.

Adopt-a-Student Financial Report – 10/31/10

Income	\$4,034.00
Pending Payment	-343.00
Sent to St. Louis	--3,691.00
Fund Balance	\$00.00

**New Computer/Phone System Fund (\$29,000 approved by 11/07 Voter's Meeting)
(\$2,500 approved by 11/08 Voter's Meeting)**

Expenses-Computer	
Dell Marketing L. P.	8,705.32
CDW	9,689.67
Chris Saunders - Software	139.30
M.R. Keith & Associates	6,392.57
Testa Audio Video	
Expenses-Phone	
Phone	4,964.00
Total Expenses	30,295.86
Income	
Donation by Members	1,000.00
Net Amount Spent	29,295.86
Beginning Balance	
	\$31,500.00
Total Expenses	29,295.86
Fund Balance (2/28/09)	\$2,204.14

Trinity Music Center

“Celebrating God with Music & Art”



New faces may start appearing around Trinity. TMC is currently interviewing and hiring new staff to begin offering music lessons on a wide variety of instruments. Please help our new staff and students feel welcome to Trinity by introducing yourself.

New instruments make great Christmas gifts... Unfortunately they don't play themselves. Usually after a month of not knowing how to play an instrument, the gift of an instrument becomes frustrating and boring. The gift of ensembles or private music lessons is a great gift that can be given from anyone in the family. Contact Erik Grant for a TMC Christmas Gift cards to make the gift of music last a life time.

Erik Grant
erikgrant@tmcnow.com

Trinity Christian Nursery School News

~About TCNS: TCNS is an early childhood program. Our classes include twos, threes, and fours. The children at TCNS learn about God's love. They have weekly chapel, which provides them opportunities to sing, pray, acolyte, interact with Pastor, Judy and Mary, and learn the meanings of the stain glass windows. In class, the children learn skills to give them a head start in preparing them for Kindergarten and life. We provide the children with hands on learning activities to teach them religion, math, reading, and writing.

~We all sing! This month we will be singing at Not So Silent Night on December 3rd at 7:00 p.m. We will also be dressing up as angels and singing and celebrating the birth of Jesus with the Sunday School on December 12th at 4:00 p.m.

~See's Candy: Our annual See's Candy Fundraiser is here! Check your church mailbox for more information. The candy make great Christmas Gifts! I hear pastor loves candy!

~Our Family Feast was a wonderful night of family and friends. We enjoyed a meal of turkey, ham and all the trimmings. There were over 140 people in attendance! What a wonderful night!

~Donations: TCNS is expanding to a full time school by the fall of 2011, so we are always looking for donations. We are looking for gently used kid's books and gently used toys. (Please no fast food toys)

~Service opportunities: Due to our upcoming expansion, we will be looking for volunteers to help set up classrooms, move items out of the lower level, and build toys and shelves. If you would like to help out with either opportunities, please contact Heather Grant at 630-833-1080.

God's Blessing to all!
Heather Grant
TCNS Director

December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 – Bible Class Seniors 4:00 – Confirm/TMC 5:00-Chimes 6:00-Soup Supper 6:15-ESL 6:30 – College 7:00-Worship 7:30-Hanging Greens 8:00-Voices of Praise	2 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, Council 8:00 - Choir	3 7:00-Not So Silent Night	4 4:30 – Worship 8 am -4pm Santa Paws
5 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed Teachings of Christ 12:00–String Ensemble	6 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL	7 6:00 – Boxing 7:00 - Dorcas 8:00 – AA, Darts	8 10:00 – Bible Class 4:00 – Confirm/TMC 5:00-Chimes 6:15-ESL 6:30 – College 7:00-Worship 8:00-Voices of Praise	9 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 9:30 - Quilters 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells 8:00 - Choir	10 6:00-Big House Christmas Party	11 4:30 – Worship Children’s Program Practice
12 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed Teachings of Christ 12:00–String Ensemble 4:00-Childrens Program	13 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL	14 6:00 – Boxing 8:00 – AA, Darts	15 10:00 – Bible Class Seniors 4:00 – Confirm/TMC Camp Chaos Party 6:00-Soup Supper 6:15-ESL 6:30 – College 7:00-Worship 8:00-Voices of Praise	16 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, 8:00 - Choir	17 6:30 – Boy Scouts	18 4:30 – Worship 3:00- Wysoglad/Ilcken Wedding
19 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed 12:00–String Ensemble 6:00 - Diners Club	20 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL 7:00 – Thrivent	21 6:00 – Boxing 7:00-Board Meetings 8:00 – AA, Darts	22 10:00 – Bible Class 4:00 –TMC 6:15-ESL	23 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, 8:00 - Choir	24 Christmas Eve 5:30 & 11PM – Worship	25 Christmas Day 10:00 am - Worship
26 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed 12:00–String Ensemble	27 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL	28 6:00 – Boxing 8:00 – AA, Darts	29 10:00 – Bible Class 4:00 –TMC 6:15-ESL	30 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS	31 New Years Eve 7:00-Worship	