



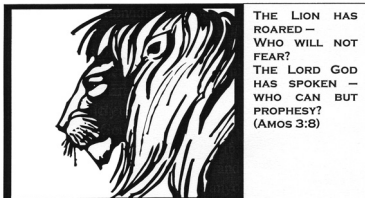
Tri-angles

Trinity Lutheran Church

300 S. Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181

630/834-3440 www.trinitylutheranvp.com

March 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

And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. (Luke 4:29)

“Living the Redeemed Life”

We say “how ya doin?” fifty times a day without really expecting to hear anything. One of my favorite people usually answers this question jokingly with, “Oh, you know, living the dream.” Well, I don’t think that there are many of us who are living our dreams. We might be avoiding our nightmares. But Christ would have us live not a dream but a life redeemed. What does that look like? Well consider the context from which the line above is taken.

In Luke 4:16-30, (look it up in your Bibles and read it if you want to feel completely pious!) Jesus had returned to Nazareth and he had gone to the synagogue to teach. He chose a reading from the prophet Isaiah which was probably the appointed reading for the day.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Then Jesus preached his sermon on the text. It was a Bishop Pittelko kind of sermon.

"Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing. Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well. Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian."

That was it. Done and done. That was when they decided to throw him down the cliff. Why? Why did they become so angry? They became angry because Jesus was not acknowledging their favored status as Jews. They wanted to be “one up” on everyone else because they were God’s children. They wanted to be “living the dream.” But Jesus does not offer us a dream, but reality.

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The reality is that we, the people of God, live in a broken world where there is poverty, captivity and oppression. It is our calling to minister to those who are poor, held captive and oppressed and where possible to alleviate their suffering but always to proclaim the truth that this world is not our homeland. While we live for now in this brokenness, the day will come when we enter the real Promised Land and all our suffering will be at an end. The Redeemed Life is a life in which we take all the bad in the world with a grain of salt and know that one day it will pass and we will continue

The problem is that the devil, the world and our sinful flesh distracts us from reality. The trinkets and baubles of this world are forever dangled in front of our eyes. If we are not careful we may lose sight of our eternal destination and begin to put down roots in the wilderness. That is what Jesus' congregation had done. They didn't want to be the poor and oppressed. They wanted to be the conquerors with a Messiah who could defend them and destroy their oppressors, who happened to be the Romans at that time.

Rather than see the beauty and joy we get to experience on this earth as a divine intermission in our journey, we want to put down roots and stay right here. Why? No matter how beautiful life in this world may seem from time to time, it is no more than a poor reflection of how wonderful life will be for us when our journey is complete. Likewise, no matter how horrible life can be in this world, it is but a poor reflection of how utterly hideous Hell is.

If, however, we lose perspective and begin to think the intermission is the show, then we will miss the grand finale. When I was in High School, we went as a class to the city nearby to watch Broadway plays that had gone on tour. The theater had a strict policy. Once the show started, the doors were closed and that was that. Every year at least one or two kids got locked out of the second half of the show because they got distracted by something. One was in line at the concession stand. One had to call his mother. One was in the bathroom. The excuse did not matter. If the show had started, you were out of luck. I always made sure that I dropped everything and got back into that theater the first time the lights dimmed.

Don't dilly-dally, thinking you have plenty of time for Jesus **AND** whatever worldly fascination you may have. And don't throw Jesus off the cliff just because he calls you back to reality. We all get side-tracked by things that grab our attention in this world. But the amazing thing about our Lord is that he calls us to him time and time again. He calls us to stay close to his Word, allow our Baptismal waters to wash away the nonsense of this world and to eat and to drink of the Lord's Supper to strengthen us for the journey.

In His Service, *Pastor Rogers*

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

Debbie Thompson

Dir. of Christian Ed.

Scott Golz

Dir. of Church Property

Jerry Graunke

Dir. of Evangelism

Debbie Johnson-Long

Dir. of Human Care

Rich Kumnick

Dir. of Lay Ministry

Carol Boettger

Dir. of Parish Fellowship

Matt Thompson

Dir. of Stewardship

Mike Ticaric

Dir. of Youth Ministry

Vacant

TCNS Chair

Heather Grant

Dir. of Trinity Christian

Preschool

Jenn Ellsworth

Public Relations Dir.

Kathy Golz

Housekeeping

Marilyn Felz

Altar Guild President

Suzanne Gagliano

Dorcas Guild President

Mary Rinda

LWML President

Trinity Youth

Jell-O

My friend Judy Buehre creates this fabulous Jell-O dish made up of multiple layers of different flavored gelatin. You've probably seen it if you frequent the church pot lucks. The finished product is presented in a glass dish where you can see the beautiful ribbons of color formed by the various flavors. I've never attempted this recipe myself since it requires a lot of time and patience to create the desired layered effect.

I recently took a group of 27 junior high kids to Youth Quake, an event held in a local hotel that features Christian speakers, musical groups, and fun activities. The Quake is sort of a highlight for the kids, something they look forward to all year. Middle school youth + the excitement of this event + weekend in a hotel without their parents usually = chaos. Going into this weekend I anticipated a fair amount of unruly behavior. I was wrong! Yes, they were loud – but there were 27 of them. As the weekend unfolded the group was respectful, interacted very well amongst themselves and with others, and participated in all the planned activities without any resistance.

Well, I couldn't just appreciate this little miracle; I needed to ponder how it happened. That's when I began to think of Judy's Jell-O. It wasn't a miracle that the finished product was so beautiful and delicious. It was the work she put into it, the time and the patience. Now each layer was itself quite tasty and enjoyable. But put them together and you've got yourself a culinary masterpiece.

And so it is with youth ministry. Individually each retreat, service project, fundraiser, confirmation class, Bible study, or weekly youth group meeting is meaningful in and of itself. Standing back and looking at them as layers in the whole of the youth ministry objective gives a new perspective. Planning each event takes time, helping these young people learn what's expected of them and watching relationships form takes patience. It's taken years of work, but as the group has gelled, the layers formed, and something beautiful has been created. What I saw at Youth Quake was the result of these efforts and it was delightful.

As the dessert is finished off with a layer of whipped topping, the youth ministry is topped with blessings that God brings to the group and the forgiveness we receive in Jesus. Of course, unlike the Jell-O the layers are endless and the product is never finished, but a masterpiece is constantly in the making.

Judy Bruschk

LWML

Come be Refreshed and Renewed on your Faith Walk. **Join us for the LWML Spring Rally on Saturday, March 13 starting at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast.** Church Service with Communion and Bible Study will begin at 9:00 a.m. Hear inspirational speaker, Heidi Floyd; tell her encouraging story of faith, hope, courage and strength on a journey with breast cancer. Bring your mothers, daughters and granddaughters to hear her story. Remember no one at any age is safe from breast cancer.

Memorials

In Loving Memory of Daniel Grevis

Given by: Dorcas Guild

In Loving Memory of Charlotte Luther

Given by: Mr. Bill Luther

In Loving Memory of Malinda Van Swol

Given by: Mr. & Mrs. Lowell Pals

In Honor of Warren & Judy on 50th Anniversary

Given by: Mr. & Mrs. Frank Felz

Mrs. Mary Rinda

Rev. & Mrs. David Ritt

Mr. & Mrs. Warren Sheridan

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce & Arlen Solyom

Newsletter Deadline

Please keep in mind that I need to receive all materials for the April Newsletter NO later than March 8th. Thankfully there are many ways you can submit articles; I can accept any WORD doc via email (jennart64@comcast.net, on CD or you can just mail me any info you have, also you can put a note or letter in the "newsletter" mailbox by the church office. If you have questions I will be glad to help. -Jenn Ellsworth 630.941.1742.

The Music of Taizé

During midweek Lenten services, we are again singing the music of Taizé. The following quote from the preface of Songs & Prayers of Taizé gives insight into this style of music and its link with prayer:

From the depths of the human condition a secret aspiration rises up. Caught up in the anonymous rhythms of schedules and timetables, men and women of today are implicitly thirsting for the one essential reality: an inner life, signs of the invisible.

Nothing is more conducive to a communion with the living God than a meditative common prayer with . . . singing that never ends and that continues in the silence of one's heart when one is alone again. When the mystery of God becomes tangible through the simple beauty of symbols, when it is not smothered by too many words, then a common prayer, far from exuding monotony and boredom, awakens us to heaven's joy on earth.

Source: Songs & Prayers of Taizé, p. 5. Chicago: GIA Publications, 1991.

Donate blood to help others who need blood in your community.

Trinity Lutheran Church Blood Drive

Sunday, March 7th

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Watch for the sign up poster or call Deb Long,

Parish Nurse at 630/248-5408

Church youth donating at this blood drive will receive Power Points.

Photo ID is Required.

February 2010 Financial Comparison

Income	2010	2009	Diff.
Basket	488	226	+262
Unified Envelope	22,757	*25,525	-2,768
Special Envelopes	1,031	1,062	-31
Debt Retirement	3,780	3,303	+477
Budget Income	28,056	30,116	-2,060
Non-Budget Income	484	964	-480
Income	28,540	31,080	-2,540
<u>Expenses</u>			
Budgeted Expenses	32,099	33,751	-1,652
Non-budgeted Expenses	110	18	+92
Total Expenses	32,209	33,769	-1,560
General Operating Fund	3,669	-2,960	+709

Our income/contributions are down \$2,540 from last year. Our expenses are down \$1,560 from last year (mostly thanks to less snow removal this year.)

Our General Operating Fund is in the red by \$3,669, which is \$709 worse than last year. Our expenses are up \$734 more each week than we took in.

Should you have any questions on this report, please contact Warren Sheridan, Treasurer.

Adopt-a-Student Financial Report – 12/31/09

Income	\$365.00
Expenses	
Pending Payment to Sem.	365.00
Fund Balance	0.00

**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.	8,346.23
DDW	9,689.67
Chris Saunders - Software	139.30
M.R. Keith & Associates	5,972.57
Expenses-Phone	
Phone	4,964.00
Total Expenses	29,111.77
Income	
Donation by Members	1,000.00
Net Amount Spent	28,111.77
Balance	3,388.23

Special Thanks to the Trinity Congregation...

The following organizations would like to thank Trinity and its members for their generous gifts.

Concordia Seminary St. Louis – “Dear Friends in Christ, Thank you for the generous donation to Concordia Seminary. Your gift in this early New Year, is a special blessing and encouragement to our seminaries, faculty and staff. Your gift is already at work on behalf of this mission of preparing the church’s future pastors, missionaries, deaconesses and leaders Thank You!”

Thrivent Match Reaches \$3 Million for Haiti in Three Weeks

LCMS World Relief and Human Care donors teamed up with a generous Thrivent Financial for Lutherans giving opportunity and helped raise a total of more than \$3 million for Haiti earthquake survivors in only about three weeks.

"We thank Thrivent for their generosity in making these matching funds available, and we thank our donors for responding so quickly," said Hans Springer, associate executive director of fund development for LCMS World Relief and Human Care (LCMS WR-HC). "Both Thrivent and our caring supporters are blessings to the suffering people in Haiti."

Just days after the devastating Jan. 12 earthquake, Thrivent Financial announced that the organization would match \$1 for every \$2 donated by Thrivent members to the Haiti relief efforts of LCMS WR-HC and three other Lutheran groups, up to \$1 million for the potential of generating \$3 million. On Feb. 8, generous donors helped meet that \$3 million goal.

While the matching gift opportunity has ended, Thrivent Financial announced that members who still wish to donate to Haiti relief efforts can continue to make online donations at www.Thrivent.com through Feb. 28. Thrivent Financial members who want to donate by check are asked to send their gifts directly to the organization of their choice.

In addition to LCMS WR-HC, Thrivent Financial matched gifts to three other organizations: Lutheran World Relief, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Disaster Response, and Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod Committee on Relief.

To date, LCMS WR-HC donors have given \$2.3 million for earthquake response in Haiti. Springer says he expects contributions to soon surpass \$3 million. "We are so thankful that our donors continue to open their hearts to the people in Haiti," Springer said. "The needs there are so great that we expect our long-term response to continue well into the future."

On behalf of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, LCMS World Relief and Human Care (the mercy arm of the LCMS) is working cooperatively with LCMS World Mission (the mission sending arm of the LCMS), LCMS congregations and districts, and U.S. and international partners to provide immediate and long-term relief for the people of Haiti and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti.

To make a gift that shares Christ's mercy and helps suffering Haitians click on the Give Now button below, call toll free 888-930-4438, or mail donations marked "Haiti Earthquake Relief" to LCMS World Relief and Human Care, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861.

Calendar



March Events

- 1- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon
6:00 p.m. Boxing
6:15 p.m. ESL Class
- 2- 6:00 p.m. Boxing
8:00 p.m. AA & Darts
- 3- 10:00 a.m. Bible Class
4:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper
NO BIG HOUSE
- 4- 6:30 p.m. Boxing
7:00 p.m. Bells
7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
8:00 p.m. Jubilate Choir
- 6-7- LWML Mission Weekend
- Sunday the 7th-**
9:15 a.m. Christian Ed. Hour
BLOOD DRIVE
- 8- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon
6:00 p.m. Boxing
6:15 p.m. ESL Class
7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
- 9- 6:00 p.m. Boxing
8:00 p.m. AA & Darts
- 10- 10:00 a.m. Bible Class
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper
NO BIG HOUSE
- 11- 6:30 p.m. Boxing
7:00 p.m. Bells
8:00 p.m. Jubilate Choir
- 13- LWML Rally Day
CHILI COOK OFF (scheduled)
- Sunday the 14th-**
9:15 a.m. Christian Ed. Hour
FOOD DRIVE
- 15- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon
6:00 p.m. Boxing
6:15 p.m. ESL Class
- 16- 6:00 p.m. Boxing
7:00 p.m. Boards Meet
8:00 p.m. AA & Darts
- 17- 10:00 a.m. Bible Class
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper
NO BIG HOUSE
- 18- 6:30 p.m. Boxing
7:00 p.m. Bells
8:00 p.m. Jubilate Choir
- 19- 6:00 p.m. Guys Night Out

- 20- Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby
- Sunday the 21st-**
9:15 a.m. Christian Ed. Hour
PRESENTATION SUNDAY
- 22- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon
6:00 p.m. Boxing
6:15 p.m. ESL Class
7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
- 23- 6:00 p.m. Boxing
8:00 p.m. AA & Darts
- 24- 10:00 a.m. Bible Class
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper
NO BIG HOUSE
- 25- 6:30 p.m. Boxing
7:00 p.m. Bells
8:00 p.m. Jubilate Choir
- 27- 2:00 p.m. Confirmation Practice
- Sunday the 28th-**
9:15 a.m. Christian Ed. Hour
CONFIRMATION
- 29- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon
6:00 p.m. Boxing
6:15 p.m. ESL Class
- 30- 6:00 p.m. Boxing
8:00 p.m. AA & Darts
- 31- 10:00 a.m. Bible Class
6:00 p.m. Big House

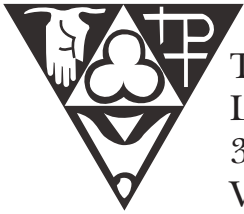
March Birthdays

- 1- Jessie Urso
- 2- Judy Bruschuk
- 3- Andrew Korman
- 4- Shari Zeman
- 5- Neal Corral
Eileen Reese
- 6- Joy Corral
- 7- Scott Gunderson
Amelia Jaent
Jim Pemberton
Joseph Suriano
- 9- Zach Barry
- 10- Daryl Israel
- 11- Erna Aldrich
Jack Jaent
Nancy Weiner
- 12- Jennifer May
- 13- Natalie Lussow
Arlene Radeke

- 14- Cody Bach
Nick Lotter
Tim May
Debra Serna
- 15- Martin Mazurk
Georgianna Ryl
- 16- Phil Bruschuk
Josh Wolf
- 17- Patricia Croon
John Price
Alisa Von Hagel
- 18- Jean Galbavy
Danny Head
Kevin Kunde
- 19- Dolores Johnson
David Larsh
- 20- Carol Boettger
Vivian Boettger
Shelly Bychowski
Ava Lewis
- 21- Laura Cook
Molly Frobels
Steve Gehrt
Eva Kunde
David Speers
Sofia Sperry
Nancy Zeman
- 22- Bonnie Grubisich
Bill Rothenburger
- 24- Norman Grubisich
Rachel Head
- 25- Dante Apuzzo
Rosalie Buenostro
Bruce Kampert
Noah Rogers
- 26- Mike Ticaric
- 27- Andy Corral
- 28- Carly Byron
- 29- Adam Biladeau
Peter Stahlke

March Anniversaries

- 9- Bill & Gerri Rothenburger
- 12- Joseph & Jill Urso
- 14- Scott & Celeste Golz
- 18- Bob & Marna Rundgren
- 21- Gordon & Nancy Busse
Steve & Bev Gehrt
- 26- Art & Anna Jones
- 29- Norm & Bonnie Grubisich
- 30- John & Michelle Jaent



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO...

The many people who volunteer at Trinity! Thanks for countless hours, the amazing talent, the dedication and the generosity you have all shown.

Bob Behemma for driving the youth to DuPage Convelescent Center to sing carols.

Youth Girls' Night Out: Planning committee - Jen Gore, Lisa Ticaric, Heather Grant, Erin Bruschuk and **Event Helpers** - Sue Grant, Donna Heuser, Natalie Grote, Kate Wysoglad, Ellen Cayemberg

All families who have provided meals for Wednesday youth nights. We would have been very hungry without your generosity.

Divine Services—March 2010

<i>Lenten Service</i>	
<i>Wednesday, March 3—</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Saturday, March 6—</i>	<i>5:30 p.m. Chapel</i>
<i>Sunday, March 7—</i>	<i>8:00 a.m.</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Lenten Service</i>	
<i>Wednesday, March 10—</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Saturday, March 13—</i>	<i>5:30 p.m. Chapel</i>
<i>Sunday, March 14—</i>	<i>8:00 a.m.</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Lenten Service</i>	
<i>Wednesday, March 17—</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Saturday, March 20—</i>	<i>5:30 p.m. Chapel</i>
<i>Sunday March 21—</i>	<i>8:00 a.m.</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Lenten Service</i>	
<i>Wednesday, March 24—</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Saturday, March 27—</i>	<i>5:30 p.m. Chapel</i>
<i>Sunday, March 28—</i>	<i>8:00 a.m.</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>

Please note that Holy Communion will be served at all of the March Sunday Services.