



Tri-angles

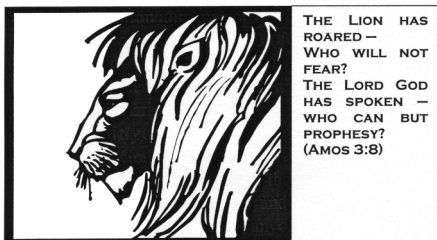
Trinity Lutheran Church

300 S. Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181

630/834-3440 www.trinitylutheranvp.com

November 2010

The Lion's Roar



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

12 *Be appalled, O heavens, at this;*

be shocked, be utterly desolate,

declares the LORD,

13 *for my people have committed two evils:*

they have forsaken me,

the fountain of living waters,

and hewed out cisterns for themselves,

broken cisterns that can hold no water. Jeremiah 2:12-13

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Living Waters - Broken Cisterns

There are many so called pious people on earth. That does not make them particularly good Christians or really pious. Frankly so called pious people are a dime and dozen. Some do good things because they are afraid of their god. Whether Christian, Muslim or Mormon if you do whatever you do out of fear of punishment, you are missing the point of life on this earth and that is not true piety. God did not put us here to run a gauntlet like rats in a maze trying to find the "right" path so we can get to Heaven, or the Telestial Kingdom, or whatever righteous end you believe good people have. The truth, according to Scripture is that all the civilly righteous works in the world and \$3.50 will get you a Latte at Starbuck's.

The people to whom Jeremiah writes have lost confidence in God's ways and have chosen to use political alliances and military strategies to protect themselves while all along continuing to worship at the altars of other gods. God calls that hewing out broken cisterns. A cistern is a stone bowl that is carved out to catch rainwater and a broken one is of as about as much use as salt that has lost its saltiness. If you think that you are going to do anything that somehow will earn you merit with God or fix what is wrong in your life, you are carving a broken cistern.

Living water is an important concept to desert dwellers. Stagnant water is where insects lay eggs and vegetation rots. Stagnant water is often undrinkable because it will make you sick and may even kill you. They didn't know about microbes and viruses in Jeremiah's day but they did know that if the water was flowing, it was usually safe to drink. Living water is flowing water. That's why your dog would rather drink out of the toilet. That water flows and replenishes with every flush as opposed to the water in his bowl that has been sitting for days and has a film of dust over it with hairs and bugs floating around.

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So when God says living water, Jeremiah's people hear him saying water that brings life as opposed to illness or death and they are reminded that only God brings life. Jesus later reiterates this for the woman at the well who is trying to live a secret life and find salvation on her own. Jesus gives her living water to drink. So too has God given us living water.

Our Baptisms are not just historic events. Our Baptisms are a faucet that was turned on and can never be shut off. God is not stingy with his grace but pours it out continuously over our heads washing us moment by moment. We have no need to build our own cisterns because the water is continuously flowing. Who would build a storage device for that which is constantly replenished? What's more, any storage device that we build; false gods, good works, our own ingenuity is a broken cistern.

So abandon any broken cisterns you might have lying around. Have no confidence in your own collection systems and trust only in God for complete forgiveness, abundant grace and strength for walking the path of righteousness.

In His Service, 

Diners Club has been trying something different for the last month and will continue in November too. Instead of meeting in the host homes we will all be meeting in the Trinity Center. Three or four host couples will be assigned each month and the others bring salad, appetizers, rolls, dessert, ect to complete the meal, so the host does not do all the cooking! It is a great way to meet others and to share in good fellowship. Please sign up on the sign up sheet in the Narthex. Please give it a try. Everyone is welcome to enjoy an evening of good food and laughter. Call the Van Swol's at 630-543-0335 if you have any questions.

Thanks, Myrna Van Swol

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

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Executive Director

Jeff Blankensop
Asst. Executive Director

Warren Sheridan
Treasurer

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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

Lutheran Church Charities - Devotion

Chosen

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

John 15:16

How you begin a relationship is very important; all parties need to feel secure in order for it to go well. For example, when you're invited to somebody's home for dinner it's reasonable to expect they'll fulfill certain social obligations. Since you've been invited you don't have to wonder whether you're welcome or if there'll be enough food to go around or if there's a place at the table for you. Those are things you might be concerned about if you stopped by uninvited. However, knowing you've been 'chosen' gives you confidence! It means you're accepted; you don't have to perform or campaign to get elected. That's how it is with God. He said, "You didn't choose Me. I chose you..." If you think that walking to a church altar to become a Christian meant you chose God, think again! He chose you - because He wants to bless you - and bless others through you! But not all of God's blessings are things you rejoice about in the beginning. God speaks of blessings "that [you] shall not [have] room enough to receive" (Malachi 3:10). Sometimes His blessings are so overwhelming that when He starts pouring them out you think, "Dear Lord, I'm not sure I can handle this!" and you'd be right, if you'd been the one who initiated the relationship! But remember, you didn't choose Him, He chose you, and whoever He picks, He provides for! All you need to do is stay open and obedient to Him. Listen: "give yourselves completely, tools in the hands of God, to be used for His good purposes" (Romans 6:13).

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I did not choose you but you chose me. Thank you and make me all you want me to be. In Jesus' Name, Amen

Youth News – About Kenny

I have one more story to tell from last summer's travels. I want to introduce you to one more soul – Kenny.

Groups attending the National Youth Gathering are offered the opportunity to participate in an off-site servant event. We can indicate our preferences, but the final decision about the actual project is made by the Gathering personnel. It had only been 19 days since we'd returned from the mission trip in Ohio so I was hoping for something easy - maybe sitting in an air conditioned nursing home playing cards with the residents. We would not know what our assignment was until we arrived in New Orleans.



Recently I've been noticing that God really doesn't care too much about what I have in mind. It turned out that our project would be clearing weeds in a lot that had been vacant since Hurricane Katrina 5 years ago. Pulling weeds? In 95 degree heat? I had just spent an entire week in Ohio pulling weeds in the heat! I know helping others and working with kids builds character, but I'd felt that I'd reached my limit on character for the summer. The tirade continued and Pastor Rogers did his best to reason with a very unreasonable youth director who after the 15 hour bus ride just wanted to relax on her "Serta brand Suite- Dreams Bed" back at the Hilton.

By the time our group actually left for the project a few days later I had to agree that this was going to be a meaningful day. All over New Orleans there was evidence of the tragedy caused by Katrina. Just standing in the Superdome knowing what had happened there was a somber experience.

We were bused down to the Lower 9th Ward, where the worst of the damage was done by the breach in the levy during the hurricane. Shoulder high weeds grew around concrete stairs leading to nowhere and paved foundations no larger than our garages were the only thing left of many people's homes. We looked out of the bus windows, stunned at the homes still standing, abandoned after the devastation, marked with red paint to indicate how many dead people had been found inside.

The work crew clad in their bright green servant event t-shirts filed off the bus on a deserted street, donned their work gloves, picked up their tools and set to work. The weather was hot, the weeds were tough, and the fire ants were ferocious. But there was determination and good spirits all around.

Shortly after the work had begun we were approached by a man asking for a drink. His name was Kenny. He had just gotten a job working for a plumber, and thinking he'd work inside had come unprepared for the task he had digging a trench in the sweltering heat with no access to water. Glen offered his extra water bottle, which Kenny accepted then quickly emptied.

After expressing his appreciation Kenny began to tell his story, the story of survival in a fight against nature and of being abandoned by people he thought he could trust. We stood in the shade of the bus mesmerized as this man told his tale. He rode out the terrifying winds but the flood that followed drove him from his home into streets filled with waist-high waters, where the sights he saw were horrifying. He lost every material possession he owned and was separated from his family. For days Kenny had no clean water, no food, it was unmercifully hot. He was surrounded by death and crime, filled with fear and physical discomfort.

His words touched my heart, made me grateful that I had that nice bed to sleep in at night and good food to eat. I was safe and unafraid. It humbled me to hear how Kenny still has faith in God and fellow man after what he lived through. And I believe that he healed a little from being able to share his story with a group of Lutheran kids from Chicago and a youth leader who tried to fight with God about having to spend a few hours being uncomfortable. I guess you can never have too much character.

Judy Bruschuk

Memorials

In Loving Memory of Nancy Behenna
given by: Mr. & Mrs. John Serna

In Loving Memory of Betsy Kaiser
given by: Mr. & Mrs. James Smelter

The Deadline is ...

The 15th of November for the December 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.

Music News

Lutheran Service Book—Part III: Lectionaries

Every worship service includes Scripture readings, which the sermon, hymns, and musical selections illuminate. For centuries, the Lutheran church appointed two readings—Old Testament and Gospel—for each worship service of the year. In recent practice, a third reading from a New Testament letter—the Epistle—has been added. The one-year lectionary, or list of readings, can be found in Lutheran Service Book on pp. xx-xxi. Feasts, festivals, and occasions also have appointed readings, which are found in Lutheran Service Book, pp. xxii-xxiii. The term “lectionary” for a list of readings comes from the Latin “lection,” which corresponds to the English word “lesson.”

To expand the number of Scripture readings heard in worship, many churches choose to use a three-year lectionary rather than the traditional one-year list. The readings for the first year, called “Series A,” are given in Lutheran Service Book, pp. xiv-xv. They trace the Gospel of Matthew, the first Gospel in the New Testament. “Series B” features the Gospel of Mark (pp. xvi-xvii), and “Series C” emphasizes the Gospel of Luke (pp. xviii-xix). The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke trace the life of Christ in a similar manner and are therefore called the “Synoptic Gospels.” The Gospel of John is structured quite differently, and therefore is not presented as one of the series in the lectionary. Instead, excerpts from John are sprinkled throughout the series devoted to the other three Gospels.

In any particular service, the readings from the lectionary usually provide a thematic link between the Old Testament lesson and the Gospel reading. The Epistle reading is more independent, and usually covers a portion of a New Testament letter over several weeks of readings. For more information about the lectionary in Lutheran Service Book, visit the website of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod at: <http://www.lcms.org/pages/internal.asp?NavID=863>

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: 1-Reno Bach, Clare Rundgren 2-Michael Scherer, Robert Towne, Alex Wolski 3-Lisa Miller, Michael Oswald 4-Jennifer Gore, Martin Levin, Myrna Van Swol 5-Michael Pansera, Jennifer Wardo 6-Heidi Alvarez, Charlotte Hermann, Del Richardson, Robert Rogers 7-Danny Carlson, Michael Nguyen 8-Christopher Gore, Lorelai May, Madison Serna 9-Amanda Heuser 10- Tim Tomasek 11-Abbey Blankensop 12-Chris Gilliland, Keith Golz 13-Joshua Brown, Barbara Sharon 14-Elaine Bruschk, Benjamin Gehrt 15-Don Anderson, Jeremy Reinke 16-Chris Saunders 20-Laura Bernhard 23-Ernie Frindt, John Graham, Gustav Prangen 24-Kristen Scofield 25-Michael Carroll 27-Ben Pennacchio, Lisa Ticaric, Aaron Weiner 28- Steven Cox 29-James Kehring, Nancy Rex, Kelsey Taylor 30- Hailey Finch.

ANNIVERSARIES: 2-Karol & Daniel Mullally 3- Jane & Jerry Gore 4-Bob & Grace Cox, Michael & Elizabeth Scherer, Michael & Stacy Warpool 13-Wade & Jamie Golz, Nancy & Michael Zeman 19-Michael & Nancy Reschke 22-Shelly & Bob Bychowski, Jean & Dean Elliott 24-LeRoy & Dawn Reinke 25-John & Jill Kelly, Judy & Robert Wardo 26-Donna & Joe Stubbs 27-Nathan & Shannon Gehrt

September 2010 Financial Comparison

Income	2010	2009	Diff.
Basket	4,865	2,915	+1,950
Unified Envelope	206,347	207,579	-1,232
Special Envelopes	14,073	15,472	-1,399
Debt Retirement	31,497	31,945	-448
Budget Income	256,782	257,911	-1,129
Non-Budget Income	3,810	4,676	-866
Income	260,592	262,587	-1,995
Expenses			
Budgeted Expenses	280,341	269,926	+10,415
Non-budgeted Expenses	1,107	1,293	-186
Total Expenses	281,448	271,219	+10,229
General Operating Fund	-20,795	-8,905	+11,890

Our Income/Contributions are down \$1,107, and our expenses are up \$10,229.

Our General Operating Fund is in the red \$20,795 vs. \$8,905 in the red last year. Our deficit has increased \$11,890 from last year and increased \$2,274 from last month. We have spent \$553 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 – 9/30/10

Income	\$3,691.00
Pending Payment	-368.00
Sent to St. Louis	--3,323.00
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	6,112.57
Testa Audio Video	
Expenses-Phone	
Phone	4,964.00
Total Expenses	30,015.86
Income	
Donation by Members	1,000.00
Net Amount Spent	29,015.86
Beginning Balance	
	\$31,500.00
Total Expenses	28,610.86
Fund Balance (2/28/09)	\$2,484.14

Trinity Music Center



“Celebrating God through Music and Art”

Preschool events: TMC would like to thank TCNS for the great hop-a-thon event and open house. We had a great time playing music and raising money for muscular dystrophy. Enrolment is now open for TMC's Preschool program. More information on the Preschool program is available on our website.

Music Lessons: We are continuing to enroll students for private 1 hour music lessons. Lessons are available for all instruments. More information on private 1 hour music lessons is available on our website.

Acoustic Concert Series: Be ready to experience acoustic concert like you never have before!!! These concerts will be an intimate acoustic concert setting. Watch the TMC website for updated information on when these concerts will begin...

Music Trivia??? You don't have to play music to know about it. Venture a guess on the new TMC Music Trivia game. Only on the TMC website, www.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.

~**Open House:** Our Open House was a huge success. So many of the families came and got a chance to see what our church and school is all about. I would like to thank Evangelism, Youth Group, Sunday School and Trinity Music Center for coming out and meeting the families!

~We all sing! On October 17th we had 16 families join us to watch their children sing at the 10:30 service.

~**Hop-a-thon:** TCNS students participated in a Hop-a-thon last month and we are getting closer to our \$500 goal for children with Muscular Dystrophy. Our classes made it in the local newspaper to share our success. Thank you to all the people that volunteered their time at the Hop-a-thon.

~**See's Candy:** Our annual See's Candy Fundraiser is coming. Keep an eye on your church mailbox for more information. The candy makes great Christmas gifts! I hear Pastor loves candy!

~**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:** We will be hosting for the TCNS families a Family Feast on November 4th. This feast consists of feeding over 120 people and we are looking for volunteers to help out. Also, 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

November 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL	2 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:00 – Boxing 6:30 – Dorcas 8:00 – AA, Darts	3 10:00 – Bible Class Seniors 4:00 – Confirmation/TMC 5:00-Chimes 5:30 – Camp Chaos 6:15-ESL 6:30 – Big House/College	4 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 5:00 – TCNS Feast 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, Council 8:00 - Choir	5 High School Retreat	6 4:30 – Worship High School Retreat
7 ALL SAINTS 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed Teachings of Christ High School Retreat	8 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL	9 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:00 – Boxing 8:00 – AA, Darts	10 10:00 – Bible Class 4:00 – Confirmation/TMC 5:00-Chimes 5:30 – Camp Chaos 6:15-ESL 6:30 – Big House/College 7:00 – TCNS Meeting	11 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 9:30 - Quilters 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, Council 8:00 - Choir	12	13 4:30 – Worship Anniversary Dinner
14 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed LCFS Presentation	15 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL 7:00 – Thrivent	16 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:00 – Boxing 7:00 – Christian Ed & Lay Ministry Mtgs 8:00 – AA, Darts	17 10:00 – Bible Class Seniors 4:00 – Confirmation/TMC 5:00-Chimes 5:30 – Camp Chaos 6:15-ESL 6:30 – Big House/College 7:00 – Fellowship Mtg	18 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, Council 8:00 - Choir	19 6:30-Boy Scouts	20 4:30 – Worship
21 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed Voters Meeting 4PM Diners Club	22 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL 11/27 & 11/28 Bulletin Deadline	23 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:00 – Boxing 8:00 – AA, Darts	24 10:00 – Bible Class 5:00-Chimes 6:15-ESL	25 Thanksgiving 10:00 – Worship	26	27 Santa Paws 4:30 – Worship
28 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed	29 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL	30 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:00 – Boxing 8:00 – AA, Darts				