



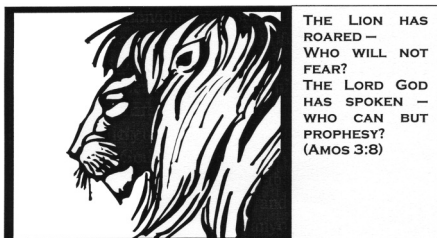
Tri-angles

Trinity Lutheran Church

300 S. Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181

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October 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

"...but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." (John 20:30-31)

The text above was the basis for the National LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans this past summer. Trinity sent 30 youth and 5 adults to the Gathering. It was a remarkable experience that I will share with you in this article.

I have taken youth to 6 national gatherings, once to San Antonio, once to Atlanta, twice to New Orleans and twice to Orlando and every gathering has been an amazing experience but a very different experience. Here are a few of the stories.

One youth never participated in anything at church. She attended rarely because she was very involved in a sport that practiced on Sundays. But she went to the gathering with me because she thought a trip would be fun. I wondered if it made any difference. Some members of the congregation were irritated because they never saw her but paid for her to go to the gathering. Today she is a solid Christian who attends church with her husband weekly and she told me that the 1998 gathering changed her life. In fact, she said it was the most significant experience of her life. She said that when she spent a week worshipping with 25,000 other Lutheran youth who had all the challenges she had and all the questions she had, she felt Jesus for the first time in her life. Jesus became real for her – not just a religious concept but a real person.

Another youth was having a spiritual crisis. She felt distant from God and was seriously challenged by the unbelievers in her life. She had begun to wonder if Christianity was just one of many religions and if all were just as valid. At the gathering she heard speaker after speaker and musician after musician present Jesus as a real person who cared more about her than anything else in the world. She heard that Jesus loved her personally. She was not an idea for him but a real human being with faults and sin whom he loved enough to suffer even hell.

Another youth was the cool, good looking kid who used the youth group for social reasons but only worshipped when his mother forced him to come to church, and then he didn't really worship. He just endured church until it was time to go home and watch football. During that week, he was moved to open up to me and tell me the extreme emotional pain he bore because of broken relationships and abandonment in his life. At the communion service, when he received the body and blood of Christ from me, tears were rolling down his cheeks and the whole youth group was in shock. No one knew this kid could cry and everyone's heart grew that day.

In This Issue

Lion's Roar	2
Youth Pix	3
Youth Stories	4
Bday's/Anniv.	5
Memorials	5
Thanks	5
Financial Rep.	6
TCNS	7
TMC	7
Calendar	8

continued on page 2...

continued from page 1...

There are no easy ways to get to these places. There is no cheap Bible Study or cool mixer game or fun Jesus song that will bring people to the foot of the cross in the way that the National Gathering does. I cannot explain it fully, but I have witnessed its power 6 times over 15 years. The National Gathering is an amazing work of God through which the Holy Spirit reaches into the souls of our youth saving some and strengthening others. My goal is to take 45 youth to San Antonio, Texas in 2013. Over the next 2 ½ years we will need to raise about \$45,000 to do this. Remember this is not a vacation for the kids. This is not a program to keep them busy during the summer. You and I are paying to facilitate the work of the Holy Spirit in our children's lives. How much is a soul worth to you? Is it worth \$1,000? That same soul was worth the life and soul of Jesus for our Father.

So as time ticks down toward 2013 and you begin to see the National Gathering fundraisers reappear – remember what you are buying with that \$10 bill for a bowl of soup at Lent or that \$20 for a car wash. This is how we pay for ministry in the lives of our children that we could never do on our own and in 10 or 20 years, when Trinity again has 400 people in worship and a full Sunday School, you will have a satisfied smile on your face remembering all those \$10 bowls of soup and \$20 car washes.

In His Service,

Pastor Rogers

Diners Club is trying something different for the next 3 months.

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 they will plan the main course and everyone else will bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert. Please give it a try on October 17th at 6 PM. 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

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

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING * NEW ORLEANS, LA * SUMMER 2010



Caldwell, Ohio, June, 2010

Tom and Linda

Tom and Linda were retired. He was once a college professor and she had been a nurse. Their health appeared to be quite good for a retired couple. The farmhouse they were refurbishing was in excellent shape, the grounds well-kempt, and some very nice vehicles were in the garage.

This wasn't what I was expecting – not at all a typical servant event situation. On these trips teams of youth work for local residents, doing light construction, painting or maybe yard work for home-owners who usually need assistance because of poverty, poor health or physical disability, maybe old age. Many are lonely, feel abandoned, or are spiritually broken.

My team consisted of 5 boys and me. This is my sixth trip, so I no longer have unrealistic expectations of male teenagers. I know what it's like to paint in small confined spaces with boys who have large feet and that it takes a miracle worker to find enough meaningful labor to keep them engaged for 7 hours a day. I reviewed the information sheet on this farm with interest: a chicken coop to paint, barn doors to build, landscaping and fence repair – the list was endless. Wide open spaces, outdoor painting, multiple projects... I'll take it! Pastor Rogers and his team of 4 guys were added to the mix, making 10 of "them" and me.

When we arrived at the farm Tom and Linda immediately caught our hearts. They loved and understood teens. They opened their beautiful home to us and invited us into their lives. It was really fun to work for them.

Here comes the "but"... But why did God send us to this farm. The couple could certainly benefit from the strength and endurance supplied by these young guys, yet there was no reason they couldn't have paid for the projects to be done. The hills of Ohio turned out to be rather lonely for them. Were we there to provide some company for a few days? I can guarantee that Tom and Linda were not lonely for the 5 days our teams were there and that they benefitted from the hard work provided.

BUT, what amazed me was what they boys got from them. Tom worked side by side with the guys. He taught them work skills and he taught them patience. When I was very irritated that this group of teens kept me up late one night with a problem Tom had the perfect project the next day – trench digging. Throughout the week he shared his wisdom – getting to know each boy individually and taking time to talk as they worked one-on-one.

Linda nurtured the team. We appreciated the jug of cold water she kept filled and the afternoon snacks she handed out, the lunch that was grilled for us one day and the invitation to cool off in the pond. Even more, we enjoyed that she often sat and talked with us, listening with interest.

There were no heroes in this story. Hard work was done and friendships were made, but we didn't walk away feeling like we saved the day because we helped some poor needy people. This was Jesus at work. I heard Him in Tom's voice as he spoke to the guys about their lives. I saw Him in Linda's hands as she lovingly prepared and served food. I saw Him in the fun and joy provided by a group of loud fun-loving teen boys. I saw Him in Tom's eyes as he read a specially chosen Bible verse to us on our last day with them.

Tom and Linda. Not who I expected to work for on a servant event, but just who God wanted me to know. God is good.

Judy Bruschuk

Memorials

In Loving Memory of Betty Schulz
given by: Mr. & Mrs. Warren Sheridan

The Deadline is ...

The 18th of October for the November Triangles 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.

Keep The Date....

Please keep the date of Saturday, October 2nd open....Parish Fellowship's Fall Event will be a hayride at Danada Equestrian Center + campfire & goodies following. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. Further information & a sign-up sheet are posted in the Narthex.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO...

Servant Event in Ohio chaperones - Heather Grant and Lisa Ticaric
National Youth Gathering chaperones - Dolores Johnson, Mike Ticaric, Lisa Ticaric
Confirmation Retreat chaperones - Chris Gore, Heather and Erik Grant, Lisa Ticaric

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: 1- Robert Finch 3 -Traci Dale 4- James Hoeflinger 6- Sue Grant 7- Noah Brockie, Lynn Freese, Megan Janopoulos, Joanne Ruble 9- Dawn Boettger-Mudd, Samantha Devermann 10- Tim Marchewka 11- Hailey Lucas, Bob Rundgren, Alisa Snyder, Julia Suriano 14- Stephanie Gilliland, Jessica Elliott, Jacob Felz, Joyce Gatz, Robin Ohman, Andrea Ritt 15- Katie Benson, Diane Lussow, Karen Ross 16- Merle Barta, Sara Biladeau, Jeff Kaiser 17- Marna Rundgren, Carol Speers 18- Avery Corral, George Donchenko, LeRoy Reinke 19- Diane Rodenbostel, Noah Scofield 20- Chase Sanderson 21- Harley DeJong, Frank Felz, Ethel Hoffrage 22- Ryan Zeman 23- Deb Barry, Susannah Scherer 24- Art Jones, Rachel Korman 25- Brian Guillemette, Laura Guillemette, Jeff Jaras, Jerry Juzwiak, Ashley Klonowski, Robert Siessenbuettel, Sean Tyree 27- Jonathan Ritt 28- Dave Bruschk, Daniel Musa, John Zientara 29- Bob Devermann, Daniel Knudsen 30- Susan Bukowski, Russell Dyer 31- Michael Meissner

ANNIVERSARIES: 1-John & Wendy Dorn, Shelby & Bruce Kampert 2- Sandi & Mark Wolski 3- Scott & Evelyn Gunderson, Erica & Jesse Mora, Matthew & Katie Boudro 4-Matthew & Kathryn Weiner 10-Jake & Jessica Koors 11-Gary & Carol Knudson 17-John & Joyce Price 18--Michael & Denise Meissner 22-Tom & Kathy Jones 23-Dale & Robin Ohman 25-Karen & Jeff Magnuson 31-Martin & LaVera Levin

August 2010 Financial Comparison

Income	2010	2009	Diff.
Basket	3,812	2,645	+1,167
Unified Envelope	185,059	186,903	-1,844
Special Envelopes	14,074	15,472	-1,398
Debt Retirement	28,301	28,769	-468
Budget Income	231,246	233,789	-2,543
Non-Budget Income	3,549	4,291	-742
Income	234,795	238,080	-3,285
Expenses			
Budgeted Expenses	251,385	239,227	+12,158
Non-budgeted Expenses	1,033	1,178	-145
Total Expenses	252,418	240,405	+12,013
General Operating Fund	-18,021	2,598	+15,423

Our Income/Contributions are down \$3,285, and our expenses are up \$12,013.

Our General Operating Fund is in the red \$18,021 vs. \$2,598 in the red last year. Our deficit has increased \$15,423 from last year, but improved \$4,089 from last month. We have spent \$501 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 – 8/31/10

Income	\$3,323.00
Pending Payment	-382.00
Sent to St. Louis	-2,941.00
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
Expenses-Phone	
Phone	4,964.00
Total Expenses	29,610.86
Income	
Donation by Members	1,000.00
Net Amount Spent	28,610.86
Beginning Balance	
	\$31,500.00
Total Expenses	28,610.86
Fund Balance (2/28/09)	\$2,889.14



TMC

“Celebrating God through Music and Art”

New songs, music trivia, ensembles, music lessons, performances and more now posted on the new TMC website. If you didn't get your copy of the TMC Sunday School Song Collection CD at Rally Day, then pick one up from the Sunday school office, NOW!!! 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: Come in on October 15th from 5:30-6:30 and visit our classrooms. You can see our preschool and our brand new twos class. You will also get a chance to meet the staff and me.

~We all sing! Our students will be joining the Cherub Choir at the 10:30 service on October 17th. Come and support the families and see all the children sing.

~Hop-a-thon: TCNS students will be participating in a Hop-a-thon. The purpose of this activity is to teach the children about people with disabilities, help others in need, feel good about helping others. Our school goal is to raise \$500 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. If you would like to donate money to MDA, please contact Heather Grant at 630-833-1080. The donations for the hop-a-thon will be due October 26th.

~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

October 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed Commitment Sunday	4 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 - ESL	5 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:00 – Boxing 6:30 – Dorcas 8:00 – AA, Darts	6 10:00 – Bible Class Seniors – Boat Tour 4-Confirmation/TMC 5:00-Chimes 5:30 – Camp Chaos 5:30 - Insts of Praise 6:30 – Big House	7 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, Council 8:00 – Vocal Workshop	1	2 4:30 – Worship 6:30-Hayride/Bonfire
10 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed Teachings of Christ	11 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL 7:00 – Women’s Bible	12 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:00 – Boxing 8:00 – AA, Darts	13 10:00 – Bible Class 4-Confirmation/TMC 5:00-Chimes 5:30 – Camp Chaos 5:30 - Insts of Praise 6:30 – Big House 7:00 – TCNS Meeting	14 9:30 – Quilters 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, Council 8:00 - Choir	15 6:30-Boy Scouts	16 4:30 – Worship
17 Blood Drive 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed Teachings of Christ 9:15- Youth TY Brunch 6:00 – Diner’s Club	18 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL 7:00 - Thrivent	19 4-9 PM TMC Music 6:00 – Boxing 7:00 – Bd of Christian Ed Bd of Lay Ministry 8:00 – AA, Darts	20 10:00 – Bible Class Seniors 4-Confirmation/TMC 5:00-Chimes 5:30 – Camp Chaos 5:30 - Insts of Praise 6:30 – Big House 7:00 – Fellowship Mtg	21 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, Council 8:00 - Choir	22	23 4:30 – Worship
24 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed Teachings of Christ	25 1:00 – Al-Anon 6:00 – Boxing 6:15 – ESL 7:00 – Women’s Bible	26 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:00 – Boxing 8:00 – AA, Darts	27 10:00 – Bible Class 4-Confirmation/TMC 5:00-Chimes 5:30 – Camp Chaos 5:30 - Insts of Praise 6:30 – Big House	28 4:00 – 9:00 TMC Music Lessons 6:30 – Boxing, TOPS 7:00 – Bells, Council 8:00 - Choir	29	30 4:30 – Worship
31 Reformation 8 & 10:30 Worship 9:15 Christian Ed Teachings of Christ						