

Summer 2015

# Trinity Lutheran

Newsletter



## God's Blessings on Trinity's Changing Ministry

**PLUS Spanish Language Outreach,  
Youth Group Updates, Summer  
Concert Series and more!**





# Trinity: Blessed with Faithful Workers

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*"So how is it going at Trinity?"*

I get asked that question often.

My answer? *"Very well, thanks!"*

And then I begin to explain what very well means.

The last two years have seen several significant changes in our ministry. First, came the realignment of pastors. Pastor Gates has been thoroughly enjoying his work in *mercy ministry*. Our brothers and sisters who are sick and shut-in are receiving good pastoral care. In so doing, Jesus' word is being heeded "... I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me" (*Matthew 25:36*). Pastor Oelhafen has continued his focus on reaching out to the unchurched. He has not slowed down in reaching out in English. He has added, by working with the Spanish Vicars, reaching out to Waukesha's Hispanic community. The Lord has blessed our efforts! Of the almost 1,300 churches in WELS, Trinity ranked 20th in adult confirmations and 10th in adult baptisms. I don't quote these stats to boast in any way: that would be sinful! I quote these stats to give perspective on how richly the Lord is blessing our outreach efforts. Pastor Oelhafen is busy reaching out and in so doing, Jesus' Word is being heeded. *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. . ."* (*Matthew 28:19*). I've added the work of administration to my work with worship, school, and youth. The realignment of pastoral duties was done because we believe what the Scriptures teach: *"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord"* (*1 Corinthians 12:4-5*).

The realignment of our pastors is going very well.

At this time last year, we made several changes to our support staff. In the area of worship, Mark Davidson and Jon Laabs are doing their best to make sure that the worship we offer God is the best we can offer. Laura Reinke has been doing wonderful work as Youth Assistant. Attendance at youth events and monthly Bible study has increased significantly. After years of decline, Sunday School is heading in the right direction. Ruth Mattek's work with communications has cut down on confusion and "kicked up" the quality of our publications a notch. Kim Hierlmeier continues to work with Jennie Busse in our school office, but in the church office keeps our membership database current and assists our Board of Elders in their work. Sandy Huebner began working exclusively in the business office this past year. In my four years here, the budget process has never gone so smoothly. Pastor Mattek is doing quality work in the area of development and with the stewardship commission. His work will enable us to do more and more ministry to people in the future.

The many brothers and sisters who have been serving behind the scenes have been serving *very well*.

There is more to come. The sanctuary roof was never right. This summer, it will be done right. Our school is welcoming new staff with new gifts and abilities. Mr. Justin Gut in 6th grade/technology has accepted our call. A new 5th grade/language arts teacher will be assigned, God willing, from Martin Luther College. Speaking of school, it seems like this is a good time to mention that private gifts have come in for a new *Science and Discovery Center*. Could it be that a newly outfitted science classroom will be a reality within a year or two? God is good. As I look at our school ministry, I have to conclude that things are going *very well*.

What isn't going very well? Church attendance has stabilized, but it has not yet begun to increase. I need to pray more about that. In an effort to work at church attendance, we are going to launch a new emphasis on home-based "Growth Groups" this fall. These social/devotional groups will help newer members get to know our veteran members. Why? If we can keep more of the souls that we confirm, attendance will eventually - under God's blessing - turn around. Another thing that isn't going very well is school enrollment. Again, enrollment is stable. The goal, however, is to teach more and more children the good news of Jesus. To that end, a *School Promotion Committee* has been formed. The new graduate from MLC will be entrusted with an extra assigned duty: helping Principal Inniger *promote school enrollment*.

Join with me in praying for more and more people to fill our church pews and school desks. Why? Not so that we can go from 20th to 19th in confirmations, 10th to 9th in adult baptisms, or from 14th to 13th in church attendance! Join me in praying these prayers, *because Christ crucified and raised to life again comes first!*

In Christ,

Pastor Aaron L. Christie  
*Pastor for Administration, Worship, School, and Youth*

# GOD'S HOUSE / June 1 - August 31, 2015

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*"Lord, you establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished you have done for us." (Isaiah 26:12)*

In preparing this article for the summer months, it was suggested that I give a more in depth review of the rather significant capital work that Trinity needs to undertake on God's House. So as a follow up to my weekend presentation April 18-20, I have prepared the following list for your information. Keep in mind that these are maintenance and repair items that have accumulated over the last decades and can only be put off at the peril of greater expenses down the road. It is our prayer that the Lord will bless us to complete these projects by the end of October.

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- 1. Architectural Material Specifications:** Design team will provide architectural and engineering specifications and details to be used by construction management team for quality assurance purposes during bidding and construction.
- 2. Main Sloped Metal Roof & Clerestory Windows:** Membrane and metal counter flashing at top of roof to clerestory window sills will be improved and corrected. Sealant around windows and flashing at top of windows will be inspected, repaired and enhanced.
- 3. High Roof Parapet End Walls:** Masonry cavity walls, stone caps, and metal roof assemblies will be remodeled to include proper flashing at weep holes, through wall flashing beneath stone caps, and proper membrane and counter flashing at roof to wall transitions at both ends of the main church roof volume. This is where most of the water infiltration problems are occurring.
- 4. Low Roof Areas:** Low membrane/ballasted roof areas over side aisles, church offices, Trinity room, and both entrance volumes to be replaced in areas where drainage slopes were not properly installed. Flashings at transition to brick walls will be raised to a minimum 12" above roof level. Additional drains to be added to handle the larger volume of storm water from upper roof. Cost and routing alternates for directing storm water and snow-melt drainage off the roofs and down into storm water system in Baxter Street to be reviewed and engineered. Options include interior roof drains with a new buried drain piping system, or exterior routing over grass/paving areas.
- 5. Large Stained Glass Window Repositioning:** The large stained glass window depicting the Lord's Supper will be repositioned to allow for a higher window sill and new thermal pane curtain wall glazing system. Mosaic panels beneath window on interior of church may be repositioned. Some restoration of stained glass and mosaics is needed.
- 6. Interior Lighting Fixture and Controls Replacement:** The interior church lighting system to be replaced with new LED system and controls. Design and engineering for proper light levels, aesthetics, and maintenance will be taken into account by architecture, liturgical design and engineering team.
- 7. Clerestory Window Volume Ventilation:** Fans originally designed for high interior volume within clerestory windows will be installed according to engineering analysis and architectural design recommendations. This is required to prevent condensation buildup and will help keep energy consumption down in all seasons.
- 8. Miscellaneous Repairs and Improvements:** Several smaller repair and improvement projects will take place as part of project including a new parking lot entrance stoop, carpet replacement in several areas, interior drywall and insulation repairs, interior patching and repairing of wall surfaces, etc.

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As you read the list over, it becomes apparent that a lot of planning and work will be needed in order to address our house of worship issues. Please remember to pray for the success of these projects as well as the safety of all of the workers who will be engaged in the various tasks.

Your continued support will ensure that these 8 areas will be completed. Thank you for helping Trinity to address its campus needs.

Ted Oertel  
*Congregation President*

*"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed." (Proverbs 16:3)*

# TRINITY IS THANKFUL AND READY TO EMBRACE CHANGE

For many years, Trinity has been blessed with a stable and experienced teaching staff. As the school year drew to a close, we thanked Sue Braun, Jim Martens, and Rachel Pierson for their dedication to the Christian training and educational instruction of our children. They will be greatly missed. However, with their departures, we embrace the change that is inherent in welcoming three new staff members. The question to ask ourselves is: How can we, the Trinity family, prepare our hearts, minds, and attitudes for this change and welcome the new called workers and staff?

Change, whether positive or negative, is always difficult. However, in the book of Ephesians God commands us to build up the body of Christ. In Ephesians 4:11-13 Paul writes; *“11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”* Therefore, the change we look forward to at Trinity for the next school year is a wonderful opportunity to build up the body of Christ and recognize the gifts that these new individuals can bring to TLS. May God guide you as you take the time to get to know our new team members and genuinely welcome them to the Trinity family.

Trinity has a tradition of excellence. In order to maintain this tradition, we must adapt to the changes and challenges in front of us while taking advantage of the new opportunities we face throughout the year. The ability of a school to adapt and to improve is directly related to the cohesiveness of the team (pastors, teachers, staff, parents, and children). Cohesiveness requires trust and respect. This means that we must recognize each other's gifts and work together. The process of building a strong team requires time and persistence. Henry Ford once said; *“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.”* I pray that as we face the upcoming school year, we start by coming together with the goal of working together to build up the body of Christ. I reassure you that the Board of Education, TLS faculty, TLC Pastors, and staff are committed to building a stronger team. We ask you to join us in making Trinity a unified family working together to God's glory. Won't you join us?

In Christ's Service,

Matt Reinke  
*Chairman, TLS Board of Education*



*From left to right: Rachel Pierson, Jim Martens, & Sue Braun*

# Spanish Language Outreach Ministry

The last couple months have seen the end of the second semester of English class, during which more than a dozen new faces learned and practiced English with the help of volunteers from Trinity. During Holy Week we delivered gift cards, treats, and devotions to twenty local families in need through a partnership with Casa de Esperanza. When the recipients expressed their thanks, I had the chance to explain that the gifts were from you, the members of Trinity, motivated by God's gift of his Son.

A few guests attended our Easter service in the Trinity Room, and the message of peace through Christ's resurrection was shared with many more families over the next couple weeks as I took the devotion around the city on in-home visits. It has been a joy to share the gospel in Spanish, for example, to a woman who just gave birth to a baby girl, a young man looking for a new job, and an older man concerned about his children's future.

By reaching out in living rooms, our library, a conference room full of the area's Hispanic leaders, and sidewalks all throughout the city, Trinity's interest in using Spanish to reach lost souls with the gospel is making an impact on the community.

I have enjoyed getting to know you and the people of this city over the past year. Thank you for giving me the opportunity and the call to use Spanish to take God's Word to our neighbors. Thank you for contributing to the welcoming atmosphere at Trinity. Our ESL students and worship guests do notice and tell me. Who knows what doors may be opened for the gospel simply by your friendliness toward neighbors of another culture? God bless each of you as you reach out in Jesus' name.

Phil Hunter  
*Vicar for Spanish Outreach*

**Ed. Note:** Our Spanish Outreach Ministry will continue in the fall with Seminary senior Ryan Kolander taking over for Phil Hunter. Like Phil and Justin Gran, Ryan is very capable in Spanish and is excited to begin his work among us and in our community. Ryan is the son of fellow Waukesha county pastor David Kolander. Please welcome him.



*Trinity's English as a Second Language Class*

## Trinity Worship Services Now on YouTube

Our Trinity website [trinitywels.com](http://trinitywels.com) now offers our worship services on YouTube. Service folders and sermons are downloadable, so viewers can watch the video and follow along with worship folders. Our YouTube videos are being viewed as far away as Krakow Poland.

We have had over 500 views on the Mass of the Children video from the April 12 concert.



# SUMMER YOUTH UPDATES

## Youth Group Bible Study

**June 7, July 5, and August 2**  
**9:30-10:30 a.m.**

After a busy year of Bible study, service work, movies, pizza, and lots of fun, our youth group will continue its activities throughout the summer with Youth Group Bible Study the first Sunday of every month. So join your youth group friends on June 7, July 5, and August 2, from 9:30-10:30 am in the Shepherd's Room. We'll always have baked goods and drinks for the stomach and good, solid Bible study for the soul!

## Camp Kilimanjaro Vacation Bible School

**July 6-10**  
**9:00 a.m.-Noon**

Children of all ages are encouraged to join the youth group teens at Camp Kilimanjaro, Vacation Bible School, July 6-10, 9:00 a.m.-noon. Camp Kilimanjaro is an epic adventure your children won't want to miss! It's the most exciting place around where kids learn to walk in God's wisdom as they enjoy songs, crafts, games, goodies, and dramas. Children ages 4 yrs. through 5th grade (based on grades entering in fall '15) are eligible to register for Camp Kilimanjaro (\$10 fee). In addition to all youth group teens (grades 7-12) 6th graders are also encouraged to volunteer their time to serve as group guides for this exciting trek through the book of Proverbs. Registration is available online at [www.trinitywels.com](http://www.trinitywels.com) for campers and teen volunteers. Questions?? Call Youth Ministry Coordinator: Laura Reinke at **414-254-3397**.

## WELS Night at Miller Park

**Friday August 14th**  
**7:10 p.m.**

Finally, SAVE THE DATE for the 2nd Annual WELS night at Miller Park on Friday August 14th at 7:10 pm. Discounted Tickets are available for WELS congregations and our Trinity Youth Group will be coordinating carpools for this event. Watch your monthly youth group newsletter this summer for additional information. Not receiving the youth group newsletter? Let us know at [youthgroup@trinitywels.com](mailto:youthgroup@trinitywels.com).

Laura Reinke  
Trinity Youth Coordinator

# Revelation Illustrated: A Survey Bible Class

Dear friends,

You may or may not be among those who have felt, "Revelation? Too difficult to understand!" Either way, it is interesting to note what John writes right at the beginning of this last book of the Bible (1:3): *"Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near."*

Over the past twenty years, you may have heard any number of people talk about how they feel they are "visual learners." Undoubtedly you've heard the old statement, "A picture is worth a thousand words." Pat Marvenko Smith is a Christian artist who has used her significant talent to produce a number of high quality artistic representations of the series of visions which John received from Jesus on a single Sunday, what we know as the book of Revelation.

"Revelation Illustrated" is the title of one of the Sunday Bible Classes which will be offered at Trinity this coming fall (September 13 – November 8). It will feature a home reading assignment of two to three chapters of Revelation per week, combined with a booklet (for each participant) which includes all of Smith's artwork representing the visions in Revelation. As a survey course, we won't take apart each verse, but we will certainly look at the "big picture" of the entire book.

Please be encouraged to register in advance at [signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com), to help us know how many booklets to print. If you are not an internet user, you may call the church office to be registered.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Michael Schultz

# Summer Lunchtime Concert Series

*Presented by Waukesha Academy of Music - A Community Extension of Trinity Lutheran Church*

Each concert will take place in the sanctuary of Trinity Lutheran, 1052 White Rock Avenue. Concerts will last approximately 35 minutes. You are invited to bring a brown bag lunch. Coffee and water will be provided.

Seating at these free concerts are on a first-come, first-served basis.

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<b>July 16, 2015</b>	<b>12:15-12:50 p.m.</b>	<b>Sarah Zietlow, Voice</b> <i>Faculty, Vocal Arts Specialist, Wisconsin Conservatory of Music</i>
<b>July 23, 2015</b>	<b>12:15-12:50 p.m.</b>	<b>Mark Davidson, Organ</b> <i>Minister of Music, Principal Organist, Trinity</i>
<b>July 30, 2015</b>	<b>12:15-12:50 p.m.</b>	<b>Jonathan Laabs, Voice</b> <i>Director, Canticum Novum</i>
<b>August 6, 2015</b>	<b>12:15-12:50 p.m.</b>	<b>Dr. Bethel Balge, Piano</b> <i>Professor, Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN</i>
<b>August 13, 2015</b>	<b>12:15-12:50 p.m.</b>	<b>Rev. Bryan Gerlach, Organ</b> <i>Director, WELS Commission on Worship</i>
<b>August 20, 2015</b>	<b>12:15-12:50 p.m.</b>	<b>Aaron Zauner, Cello</b> <i>B.Mus. from Luther College, Decorah, IA</i>

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## Newsletter

**“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them  
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”  
Matthew 28:19**

### **WORSHIP TIMES:**

**Saturday 5:30 p.m., Sunday 8:15 & 10:45 a.m. & Monday 6:30 p.m.**

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