

History of 2010

Secular and Ecumenical Context

A magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck Haiti killing more than 250,000 people. World Relief helped the needy. One of the longest annual solar eclipses occurred. The Winter Olympics were held in Canada. Iraq held elections though a final government wasn't formed for months. A volcano under a glacier erupted in Iceland and disrupted air traffic for months. The BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico disrupted the life of fish, ducks, birds as well as destroying beaches and coastlines. Pakistan was hit by massive floods. President Obama ended US combat missions in Iraq. There was rejoicing for 33 miners in Chile that were rescued after sixty days trapped underground. Indonesia was hit by a tsunami and volcano. 30,000 US troops surged into Afghanistan. President Obama sent 1,200 National Guard troops to Border control US – Mexico. The end came to the 7 year war with Iraq. Poverty rates hit a fifteen year high.

Items of Interest

The church started the year in debt and salaries were cut. People re-evaluated their pledges and increased their giving. Pastor Rinas was on a three month Sabbatical to Mexico, Dominican Republic, Honduras and Puerto Rico. Trinity had seven lay preachers, plus six different pastors from the area that filled in for the thirteen Sundays. Pastor Rinas led two Bible Studies during the year. Letters were sent to our inactive members of the congregation, requesting a reply as to dropping their membership, transfer to another church or renewing their membership at Trinity. Pastor and his wife Doreen were co-chairs of the New England Synod World Hunger Committee.

David Lussier was the organist and Jim Ray the president of the congregation.

Stewardship Committee

This group of people works hard at keeping the art of giving in the foremost of the congregation's minds. There are newsletter articles, Temple Talks, bulletin inserts, tithing sermons, pledging, and time and talent sheets. Education is their purpose. A group of dedicated people work to instill in the congregation the joy of giving.

Dean Kolba headed this committee.

Worship and Music

David Lussier was the new organist, the bell choirs changed members and new choir members joined the various choirs. He introduced new liturgies to the congregation. Pastor's sabbatical worked out fine with the supply pastors and members of the congregation filling in. Three services were held in the Orchard, which were well attended. Christmas Eve services were well attended with a children's service, a 7 pm service and the 11 pm with various choirs, brass choir and bells.

Ann-Marie Luhrs, Chairperson.

Altar Guild Committee

Is a subcommittee of Worship and Music. They take care of the altar flowers each week; the gowns, stoles, paraments, etc. making sure they are clean and pressed. Candles are checked, communion ware is kept polished and supplies in stock and baptismal needs cared for. Hymn numbers are placed on boards for services. Luminaries were made for Christmas services.

Pauline Ray is TLC wedding coordinator.

Regina Simms resigned because of illness. She was thanked for her many years of dedicated service.

Marcia Kalarites, Co-Coordinator

Christian Education

Kate Conran reported about 48 families, 115 youth comprise the Sunday school.

Communion Instruction "Fed and Forgiven" is used for training the grades four through six. For the Confirmation class "Here I Stand" was used and the curriculum "SPARK" was used for Sunday School. The students participated in making LWR Health Kits. Vacation Bible School was held at the end of the school year using the theme "Camp Trinity". Lutheran II for Confirmands and Bibles for graduation gifts were given to students. The congregation was invited to mark verses and leave notes in the gift books.

The Christmas program was headed by Laurie Rybicki and her mother Darlene Mageria.

(CCC) Coffee, Conversation and Christ continues to be a popular fellowship option for adults during the Christian Education Hour, with topics, guest speakers, etc.

Confirmation instruction is by Pastor; Acolyte training by Ed Jonson; Cradle Roll by Susanne Pearson; and Book Club by Helen Mallory.

Kate Conran, Acting Chairperson

Library Committee

A total of 28 books were added to the library. Also added were 14 new DVDs. Sunday school classes scheduled story times in the library. Children were read books which were discussed and then they were given the opportunity to check out a book and become familiar with the library.

There are seven members on the committee.

Jan Kolba. Coordinator

Memorial Committee

All memorial gifts over \$50.00 are recorded in the Book of Remembrances located in the Repository in the education wing hallway. On All Saints Day, for that year, all memorials and special gifts are dedicated in the Service of Commemoration and Blessing.

This past year special gifts were given: Dictionary, Vol 4 memory of Wilbert Vaughn;

Entrance Sign letters, sign locks and rubber mulch at sign base memory of Esther Queenan;

Kitchen garden plants in memory of Mildred Badmington, Art Norgaard and Janet Scheele;
Pentecost stole in memory of Mildred Badmington
Memorials were received in memory of Viola Cole, Louis Cote, Adele Luhrs, Arthur Norgaard,
Esther Queenan, Wallace Thompson, Edith Vaughn and Helena Wilhelmy.
A Memorial Garden granite sign “Eternal Garden” was erected and purchased by William
Amerson and Vernon Lind memorial funds. A Sunday school bell was purchased and erected in
the hallway in memory of Arthur Norgaard.
Marcia Kalarites. Chairperson

Evangelism Committee

The Tape Ministry is handled by Karl Molander and other volunteers. Greeters are scheduled for each service. Attendance sheets in the pews are being used. Congregation is encouraged to wear name tags. The importance of all is to Greet, Meet and Engage in Conversation.
Helen Johnson, Chairperson

Fellowship committee

The coffee hour is headed by Karen Merrill, with volunteers supplying refreshments and help Each Sunday. The Wednesday night pot luck fellowship dinners are held each week before services or meetings. Funeral lunches are in the charge of Nancy Grove with volunteers supplying food and workers. Lunch and Learn luncheons are held with various topics on Sunday mornings.

The Corn Roast was held for the congregation.

A Women’s Night Out meeting is held once a month just for a social time. Also a women’s weekend is held at Camp Calumet every fall.

Property committee

The committee has grown and has ten members; Jim Ray has been the council liaison. They are responsible for overseeing all of the physical church property, including the buildings, the contents of the buildings and the grounds. The committee develops and supervises a preventative maintenance schedule for our property. It oversees the work of employed maintenance staff and outside contractors. Many jobs were done this year, such as: painting rooms; replacing slider door; installing shelves; replacing hot water heater; replacing ceiling tiles; replacing outside spotlights; installing air conditioners; planting, seeding and mulching gardens and lawns, etc. Roof repair was done by a contractor and replaced circulator pump and replacement of water heating pipes by a contractor.

Bob Donnelly, our church sexton, maintained the property and Bruce Schepper kept the driveways and parking lot plowed and sanded.

Many projects need to be addressed and fit into the budget to be taken care of.

No Chairperson.

Social Ministry

LWR Kits -23 Layette kits and 31 Health kits were sent to Haiti.

LWR 26 Quilts were made and sent. Thanks to the ladies that worked on them: Ethel Lind, Alice Ekstrom, Lynda Kramer, Ardis Marsden, Edith Vaughn and Jeanette Wilkie. JoAnn Amerson and her sister Sue helped and furnished the batting for them.

Prayer Shawl Ministry headed by Karen McHenry.

Habitat for Humanity – George and Lynn Carlson LeBlanc facilitated this ministry – a Bedford home was completed.

Refugee Ministry helped bring a family from Jordon to join family members in Lawrence.

Seafarer's Mission – Al Teubner coordinates this ministry. Volunteers go down and help with projects.

Refugee Ministry – the Sambella Family of eight arrived in October. Seven other congregations helped with this, but the family chose our church to attend. Many members have helped with this project, furnishings, clothing, language, schools, medical visits, shopping and many other things.

Alternative Giving Fair – held in December, Anneliese Fidler made beautiful jewelry and varied crafts for sale, all proceeds went to World Hunger.

Denise Kuo's card making group sold their wares, with proceeds going to World Hunger. Kathy and Joe Nardoni sold Fair Trade coffee and tea. Congregation members donated baked breads, rolls and desserts with all proceeds going to World Hunger. Members cooked up ethnic and American brunch/lunch foods that the youth served. The Alternative Giving Table gave the opportunity to contribute health care, agriculture and God's Global Barnyard. Youth helped by making stained glass ornaments. All proceeds totaled \$8,204.41.

Food Pantry – Lois Reid serves as liaison to giving locally to poor and hungry. Food is collected every Sunday, as well as money and is distributed. David and Lynda Kramer take contributions of clothing to Lowell Transitional Living Center. Elaine Bamford coordinates the visits of setting up and serving Saturday night suppers at Lowell Transitional Center.

Balaclava Knitting Group – Nancy Grove coordinates these groups that make warm hats for seafarers.

Caring and Sharing Group – Doreen Rinas coordinates this group who volunteer to cook and bring food to those in the congregation in emergent need of food because of sickness or after a birth.

Doreen Rinas, Chairman

Trinity Seniors

Meetings for the year started in March with a luncheon with food from Boston Market and a program with Brian Sandy talking about the stars in our heavens. In April the group traveled to Nashoba Tech for a roast beef dinner prepared and served by the students. In May we visited the American Textile Museum in Lowell. In June we went to the Colonial Inn in Concord, Ma afterwards we toured the Concord Museum. September we had lunch at Trinity and the topic

was on Genealogy given by Jeanette Wilkie who has done a lot of research on her family trees. In October we took a bus trip to Salem, MA, and had a tour of Salem, the witch city. We had lunch at Pickering Wharf. November took us back to Nashoba for our annual Thanksgiving dinner. In December a group enjoyed listening to the Vienna Boys Choir perform at the Lowell Auditorium.

We continue to celebrate our church holidays with our homebound seniors by visiting, telephoning and prayers. Cards are sent by Ellie Olson. We support those who are in need of medical devices and appointments.

Alice Ekstrom, Coordinator, Sally Warren, Programs.

Youth Ministry Committee

The year began with tremendous growth. A youth led Unity Service was held in January. They went to Camp Calumet for the Iditarod Race with a homemade sled built by Brandon van Corbach and came in second place. They had fun at a lock-in at Trinity in the lounge. They hosted the Easter breakfast for the church. They organized the kitchen and labeled the drawers and cabinets. The big event of the year was a week- long mission trip to Calais, Maine. Five kids and two advisors brought hope to the residents of this poor, rural community Also in September was the annual Hammonasset trip hosted by the New England Synod. They went caroling at three assisted living facilities in Chelmsford assisted by David Lussier and his guitar.

Brandon van Corbach, Chairman

2010 TLC Statistical Data

Average Attendance September – May 178

June – August 106

Membership – 714 Baptized Membership

457 Confirmed Membership

New Members:

1/24 Nicole Zawrotny

1/24 Helen Johnson

1/24 Doug, Satoko, Alison and Emma Cool

1/24 Leslie, Kyle and Nicholas Young,

12/12 Tim and Jessie O’Leary

Baptisms – 16

2/7 Sophia Buth

10/3 Theresa Lucille Powers

2/7 Charlotte Edna Bradley

10/3 Mia Elizabeth Climo

2/7 Ryan Matthew Case

10/3 Isabella Consuelo Santos

5/16 Maxwell William Colacchio

10/3 Liliana Elizabeth Amerson

5/16 Preston Arthur Hay

11/21 Danielle Theresa Orr-Skirvin

10/3 Lily Claire Wilson
10/3 Ashley Kate von Corbach
10/3 Jonathan J. Powers

11/21 Victoria Lynne Estabrook
11/21 Zoya Nicole Estabrook
11/21 Livia Mariia Ficara

Confirmations –4

Stephani Post
Erika Elizabeth Spanos

Zachary Scott Straeffer
Caroline Antoinette Witts

Funerals – 6

3/13 Mark Englehart
3/29 Adele Luhrs
7/12 David Silinsh
7/17 Lilja Beals
9/22 Donald Johnson
12/11 Edith Vaughn

Marriages – 0

Church Leadership

Pastor – The Reverend David Rinas
Congregational President – Jim Ray

Edited by: Jeanette Wilkie, March 2012.