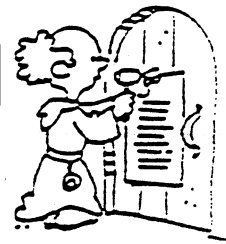


February 2014

Trinity Lutheran Church, Milledgeville
717 Stover Ave., P.O. Box 637
telcsecretary@frontiernet.net
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

"Where We Serve Christ and You"



Sunday February 2nd: Presentation of Our Lord

Sunday February 9th: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Tuesday February 14th: Happy Valentines Day

Sunday February 16th: Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday February 23rd: Seventh Sunday after Epiphany



February Prayer

The proper use of wealth

God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings; our table is richly furnished, our cup overflows, and we live in safety and security. Teach us to set our hearts on you and not these material blessings. Keep us from becoming captivated by prosperity, and grant us in wisdom to use your blessings to your glory and to the service of humankind: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Return Service Requested

Tanzania

Companion Synod

Ruth Borth

Organist

Amy Hook

Parish Secretary

Kathleen Burkheimer

Pastor

Ministers: The People of God

N. IL. Synod of the ELCA

First Lutheran W. Jordan

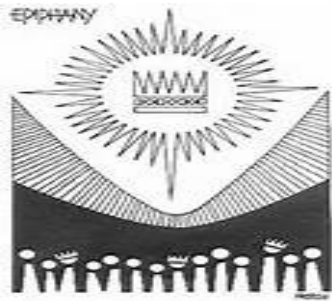
Partner in Cooperative Ministry

Phone: 815-225-7410

Milledgeville, IL 61051

717 Stover Ave, PO box 637

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



Prayers of the People

Spend time in prayer with God each day.

We keep in our prayers the men & women who serve in our nation's armed services and their families, especially, Ethan Gerdes, the wounded & the grieving. We pray for those who strive for justice & peace. For President Obama & all leaders. We pray for our enemies. We pray for knowledge of God's will and for the strength to obey:

- **Pray for:**
- Both church councils, both council members and for the call committee.
- .That we learn to love each other, practice living the compassion of Jesus and become more mature in the practice of the faith we claim.
- For the hungry, poor, homeless, the sick, those grieving, facing surgery, those who struggle with depression or addiction, and winter fatigue
- All the people & organizations who fight to end hunger in America & around the world.
- For persecuted Christians in the Middle East and elsewhere.
- For citizens living in the midst of lethal conflict especially in Syria, Egypt, Iraq & Afghanistan.
- For all who are fighting cancer & for their caregivers.
- For volunteers in our community who give their time and risk their lives
- For the earth & for willingness to change our behavior.

Those who are homebound/in nursing homes:

Lynn Oncken, Tammy McMormic, Doris Bryant, June Stewart, Janice Geerts, Derrick Hunzinger, Matt Kriewarldt Vicki & Roger Hinricks, Ray & June Purvis, Lynn Oncken, Bill & Ruth Borth, Herm & Leora Beveroth, Linda & Myron Deets, & Anita & Leonard Gilbert

February Readings

Sunday, Feb. 2nd: Presentation of Our Lord

Malachi 3:1-4
Psalm 84; refrain, Ps. 84:1
Hebrews 2:14-18
Luke 2:22-40

Sunday, Feb. 16th: 6th Sunday of Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8; refrain, Ps. 119:1
I Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

Sunday, February 9th: 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)
Psalm 112: 1-9 (10); refrain, Ps. 112:4
I Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)
Matthew 5:13-20

Sunday Feb. 23rd: 7th Sunday after Epiphany

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18
Psalm 119:33-40; refrain, Ps. 119:33
I Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23
Matthew 5:38-48



Baptismal Anniversary



2/8 Laura Buckman
2/14 John Byvick
2/14 Kurt Landis

Anniversaries



2/7 Otto & Dorothy Wagenknecht
2/9 Keith & DeAnn Wagenknecht
2/17 Robert & Lori Oncken
2/21 Gary & Le-Anne Nye

Birthday's



2/1 LYNN Queckboerner
2/7 Lucas Koett
2/9 Margaret Bauling
2/10 THOMAS Barkley
2/11 David Wagenknecht
2/12 Alyvia Woodard
2/15 Troy Wagenknecht
2/15 Kathy Bogott
2/16 Kali Livengood
2/16 SUSAN Lorke
2/18 Karen Landers
2/26 RON Judd
2/27 Nancy Dittmar
2/27 MICHAEL Strehlow
2/28 KASSIE Murray

Pastor Kathy's New Address:

814 Leroy Ave
Rock Falls, Il 61071

Thank You's from Pastor Kathy

Thank YOU for the many Christmas cards, gifts, prayers and good wishes for me and my family. All these, and the givers, are greatly appreciated. We had a merry Christmas and your thoughtfulness added to our blessings. God bless you and keep and give you peace,

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

Thank you. Thank you for: Two parties! gifts, cards - all to say, 'Farewell'. It was all wonderful, generous and fun. All of you and all your gifts are very appreciated and treasured. God bless and keep you and send the Holy Spirit to guide you into the future.

Renew and renovate

The church is in need of a little renovation of its own. As it attempts to fulfill Christ's edict to preach the gospel to a changing world, the church finds itself hobbled by a culture where seat to ever-burgeoning materialism and where tradition has little relevance in people's lives.

Mainline churches are no longer in the mainline and find themselves struggling with decline membership and worship attendance.

Nearly 30.9 percent of ELCA churches reported an average worship attendance of fewer than 50 people in 2012. From 2002 to 2012, average weekly worship attendance dropped 28.9 percent. And from 2009 to 2012, ELCA membership decreased 14.7 percent, according to ELCA Research and Evaluation.

Declining membership means doors are often closed to new ideas and, even more important, energy. Church members and ministers watch as attendance decreases and enthusiasm dwindles.

Karen Taylor, an associate in ministry serving St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Lakewood, Calif., observed; "The percentage of every-weekend worshippers is small, and it's shrinking. Offerings are decreasing as more members retire or die. We operate with a minimal staff, and most of our employees haven't received a raise in more than five years. The pool of volunteers—ushers, musicians, altar guild, council and committee members, etc.—is drying up."

Many of the stalwart, faithful members who remain active are bound by a sense of tradition and duty. Some are more comfortable to continue ministries "the way we've always done it." But here's the problem; adhering to that tradition and duty formula is a sure-fire way to fizzle faith and fervor.

A study conducted by Dave Daubert, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Elgin, Ill. And author of *Living Lutheran: Renewing Your Congregation* (Augsburg Fortress, 2007), found that among the 1,000 he surveyed 23 percent of those who had attended church regularly for 30 years were functionally agnostic (someone who neither believes nor disbelieves in existence of a deity). Many said they didn't believe their church had helped them grow spiritually—and they seemed satisfied with the spiritual stagnation.

Many respondents said they attended a church because "my grandfather made the baptismal font, because my mother was involved in the altar guild and that's what we do in our family," Daubert said. "Their involvement in church was based on life stories and traditions. They weren't engaged on a faith level or based on faith at all, but rather they were grounded in apathy and agnosticism.

So what's a church to do? Is it possible to honor beloved, age-old traditions while infusing life and vitality back into the lives of members and the community?

Daubert thinks now is the perfect time for renovation.



"The work of the church is renewing its people," he said. "We were trying to renew congregations and you can't do that. You can only renew its people and let them renew the congregation. God isn't interested in a bigger church as much as God is interested in transformed world. And that means reconnecting the church with what God is up to in the world."

For Daubert, that means teaching church members how to recognize God as a living, breathing, dynamic part of their lives, helping them recover a sense of the vibrancy third, and maybe then growth," Daubert added. "It's not a number game, it's spiritual belief and passion.

Excerpt from January 2014 *The Lutheran*



February 2014

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Presentation of Our Lord 8:30 Worship @ FWJ 10:15 AM Joint Worship Pastor Leo Patterson | 3 Noon Sewers | 4 6:30 PM Choir Practice | 5 FWJ Circle | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 5th Sunday after Epiphany 8:30 Worship @ FWJ 10:15 Worship @ TLC Pastor Roger Asplund | 10 Noon Sewers | 11 1:30 Naomi Circle @ Lois S. 6:30 PM Choir Practice 7 PM Council Meeting | 12 | 13 7 PM Dorcus Circle | 14  | 15 |
| 16 6th Sunday after Epiphany 8:30 Worship @ FWJ 10:15 Worship @ TLC Pastor Jeff Clement Assistant to the Bishop | 17 Noon Sewers | 18 11 AM Grace Meals 4:30 Worship to Southtown 6:30 PM Choir Practice | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | | | Trinity Deliver's Golden Meals | | |  |
| 23 7th Sunday after Epiphany 8:30 Worship @ FWJ 10:15 Worship @ TLC TLC Bold Women Sunday | 24 Noon Sewers Adult Girl Scouts 6-8:30 PM | 25 6:30 PM Choir Practice | 26 | 27 | 28 | |

Trinity Lutheran Church General Building Use Guidelines

Church functions, Non-profit organizations and
school events are given priority.

The building is not available for-profit organizations.

1. Check with the pastor concerning dates & purpose. (Members: 1st Come, 1st Serve)
2. You & your group are responsible if something you use or borrow is broken.
3. You are also responsible for leaving the building in the condition you found it.
4. Be sure that all lights are turned off and arrangements have been made for the building to be locked.
5. Donations to help with costs/maintenance are greatly appreciated.
6. All Weddings held here must pay the custodian for clean up.

TLC Building Use 'Contract'

Name of Group _____

Date: _____ Time: _____

Name of Contact Person & Phone:

Location in Building: _____

Will you be using the kitchen?: yes no appliances: yes no

Number of people: _____

_____ Yes, we agree to the conditions set by the TLC congregational Council

January 14th Council Highlights

Correspondence Received: Thanks from Cinda

New Business:

- Discussed the Synod's Boundaries Worship & paying for Amy to go if she is able.
- Discussed & decided to make the Choir Director Cinda;
Worship & Music a paid position of \$4,000 a year
- Nominating Committee: Kevin Anderson has agreed to come back on council.
Cherrie will remain on council for 1 more year for a total of 6 years.
- Created a Worship Cancellation Policy effective immediately.
 1. Council President and the Pastor will make the decision together
 2. The decision to cancel worship will be announced on WSDR and **WCCI.**
- Approved updated scholarship guidelines and applications
- Approved Building Use Guidelines & Contract (view in this newsletter)
- Reviewed the first draft of the 2014 budget.
- \$1000 extra charity giving from the Fall Bazaar event to:
LOMC, PADS, Good Samaritan & NIU Campus ministry

Old Business:

- Patty Murray & Ken Kaufman will begin working on personnel guidelines.

Standing Committee Reports

*Christian Education: Amy Strehlow has agreed to take over Sunday School Superintendent from Stacy Mickelson

- Stewardship: confirmation on CRE, Money, Meaning & Faith
- Property:
 1. Kevin Kaufman has fixed the problem upstairs women's bathroom
 2. Working on replacing the kitchen back door

Thank you, Thank you...

* Good Samaritan sent a Thanks for the donation made from the Fall Bazaar



Acolyte Schedule for January

5th: Alyvia
12th: Jenna
19th: Clayton
26th: Connor



Bold Women Sunday Event

February 23rd, 2014

11:15 A.M. - 1 P.M.

in Fellowship Hall TLC

A short program and lunch provided - come join the fun and fellowship

RSVP by January to
Carol Frederick 225-7660
Carol Bushman 225-7757
Kim Stewart 225-5541

Congregational Resourcing Event

The 2014 CRE will be Saturday March 8th at Kishwaukee Community College in Malta, IL

Keynote Speaker: Nathan Dungan of
Sharesavespend.com

Come & Enjoy Milledgeville Grace Meals

Day: Tuesday February 18th, 2013

Time: 11:30 AM

Who: You & Family & Neighbors

Cost: Free Will Offering

Church Closing will be announced on:

WCCI

Trinity Lutheran Church,

On Tuesday, November 19th, 2013, Elizabeth Bolton passed peacefully in her home in Peoria, IL. She had been in hospice care for 8 days. A Memorial Service was held in her honor at Salem Lutheran church, Peoria, IL on Saturday, December 7th, 2013.

Elizabeth was the wife of former pastor the late Rev. Tessler S. Bolton, of Trinity, Milledgeville during the late 1950's and early 1960's. She is survived by her children Karl Bolton (Bridgitte), Lois Ulrich, Ann Mumper (David), and John Bolton (Debra), 7 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren

Karl Bolton
1345 Westbooke Terr. Dr.
Ballwin, MO 63021
Karl1522@SBCGlobal.net



Three Expressions One Church

Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

An update from the

ELCA Malaria Campaign

"For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom." (Isaiah 9:6-7a)

In **South Sudan**, a presidential power struggle has catalyzed tribal conflict. Hundreds of thousands of people have fled their homes, seeking safety in other communities or UN camps. In fleeing their homes, many are hiding in swampy areas, where the risk of malaria skyrockets. Hundreds or even thousands of children have been separated from their families. Despite these grave circumstances, the Lutheran World Federation continues to operate its malaria program as thoroughly as possible in rural areas. *Lord, have mercy.*

In the **Central African Republic**, malaria program plans are on hold as civil unrest and violence spark a mass humanitarian crisis. The Lutheran-run Bohong clinic has been completely ransacked. More than 800,000 people so far have fled violence in their hometowns, seeking shelter mainly in the capital city of Bangui – which itself is not immune to the violence. *Christ, have mercy.*

In **Nigeria**, the malaria program is operating in the Northern and Eastern parts of the country—the same place where religiously-motivated violence has provoked a military response, resulting in the deaths of insurgents and civilians alike. *Lord, have mercy.*

Through the ELCA Malaria Campaign and other ministries like ELCA World Hunger, we walk alongside our sisters and brothers as they face these daily realities.

Lutherans are there for typhoon-wrecked Philippines

Lutherans went to work immediately after Typhoon Haiyan caused massive destruction across the central islands of the Philippines. The ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Relief provided \$1 million to Lutheran World Relief for survivors. More than a month after the storm, Lutherans and their exumenical partners were continuing to assess needs and provide for urgent necessities like clean water, food, shelter kits, cooking supplies and medicine.

Because the storm's 235 mph winds, torrential rains and up to 45-foot waves destroyed more than 1 million homes and displaced more than 3 million people, the rebuilding process will need to be accompanied by development help and cash for work programs (such as debris removal) that help people work, eat and care for their families.

To address survivor needs, the ELCA works with many partners, including LWR, which has skills and capacity in the Philippines; the Lutheran World Federation; and ACT Alliance, an ecumenical global partnership.

Beyond the immediate Lutheran response to the tragedy in the Philippines, the church is learning more about standing with victims of extreme weather events, said Vitaly Vorona, program director for ELCA international disaster response. "This disaster has taught us to affirm our commitment and resources to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in the Philippines and other disaster-prone countries," Vorona said.

Based on reports from Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief and ACT Alliance.

Church Directory **Trinity Lutheran Church**

Council President

Kim Stewart

815-225-5541

Deacon (Custodian)

Lynn Kaufman

815-225-7660

Council Members

Choir Director

Cinda Heeren

815-225-7963

Patty Murray

815-855-0532

Sharon Woodard

815-225-7973

Karen Landers

815-225-7755

Cherrie Simpson

815-225-7673

Ken Kaufman

815-225-7660

Jerry Heeren

815-535-4069

Organist

Ruth Borth

815-225-7446

Financial Secretary

Ken Peterson

815-493-2769

Treasurer

Connie Brockhouse

Parish Secretary

Amy Hook

telcsecretary@frontiernet.net

Cooperative Ministry **1st Lutheran W. Jordan**

Council President

Jan Wetzel

815-631-9353

Council Member

Jan Koett

815-718-5144

February Mission Focus: ELCA World Hunger Appeal



ELCA World Hunger responds to hunger and poverty in the United States and around the world by addressing root causes. Through a comprehensive program of relief, development, education, and advocacy, people are connected to the resources they need to lift themselves out of poverty. Between 70-75 percent of ELCA World Hunger funds are spent internationally, and 20-25 percent are spent domestically.

Wisdom for Those Raising Children

- A– Always trust them to God’s care.
- B– Bring them (not send) to church.
- C– Challenge them to high goals.
- D– Delight in all their achievements.
- E– Exalt and praise God for their lives
- F– Frown on evil.
- G– Give them love.
- H– Hear their problems and struggles.
- I– Invest yourself in their lives.
- J– Joyfully accept their apologies.
- K– Keep their confidences.
- L– Live a good example before them.
- M– More than all else, show them your love.
- N– Never ignore their questions.
- O– Open your home to friends.
- P– Pray for them daily by name.
- Q– Quickly seek to heal their broken spirits.
- R– Remember their needs and hopes.
- S– Show them the joy of faith.
- T– Teach them to take responsibility.
- U– Understand they are still growing and learning.
- V– Verify the truth of your words.
- W– Wean them from bad company.
- X– Expect them to obey.
- Y– Yearn for God’s grace to lead their lives.
- Z– Zealously guide them with love along Christ’s path.