

EDITOR: The Rev. Gary R. LaCroix, Senior Pastor  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: The Rev. Laura Koppenhoefer, The Rev. Christian H. Meyer, Visitation Pastor; Jim Graham, Director of Youth Ministry; Julie Blew, R.N., Parish Nurse; Anne Williams, Director of Christian Education; Stephen Steely, Minister of Music; Jon Palomaki, Children's Choir Director; Tina Hayz, Blessed Beginnings Director; Karen Anderson, Secretary; Carmen Stout, Communications Coordinator; Natalie Condit, Bookkeeper.  
Trinity Visitor (USPS 641-740) is published bi-weekly by Trinity Lutheran Church, 1330-13th Street, Moline, Illinois 61265-3099.  
Periodicals postage paid at Moline, Illinois.

**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to  
Trinity Visitor C/O Trinity Lutheran  
Church, 1330-13th Street, Moline, Illinois**

## Trinity Birthdays

### September 5th–September 18th

- 5—Colleen Lohr, Patricia Olson, Theodore Thoms, Joshua Womack
- 6—Craig Beek, Lorraine Miller, Katherine Petersen, Miriam Retz, Christie Springfield
- 7—Timothy Knanishu
- 8—Dana Griffin, Lacey Langrock, Cheryl Lyman, Judy Marine, Lisa Wassenhove
- 9—Jeanne Johnson, Jeffrey Johnson, Brett Loy, Judith Zeiser, Jane Zimmer
- 10—Katherine Allen, Karl Bodenbender, Verna Hall, Stacey Kookan
- 11—Jane Bahls, James Burton, Robert Groene, Timothy Roderick, David Tews
- 12—Barbara Greene, Norma Henning, Gary LaCroix, Stephanie Lehrmann
- 13—Marilyn Harter, Arthur Johnson, Cindy Johnson, Matthew Petersen, Brian Prybil
- 14—Ssra Heinrich, Dale Kruse, Ruth Martin, Jeremy Saunders
- 15—Elaine Widener
- 16—Nialene Boden, Bette Carlson, Tammy Rugeberg
- 17—Lenetta Brown, Anthony Carter, Irma French, Diane Sutterman, Aina Swanson, Louise Wheelock
- 18—Ann Maffie, Emily Maxey

Trinity Lutheran Church  
1330—13th Street  
Moline, IL 61265-3099  
Address Service Requested

Periodicals Postage Paid at  
Moline, IL 61265

# Trinity Visitor

Volume 54  
Number 18  
September 4, 2004  
1330 Thirteenth Street  
Moline, IL 61265-3099  
Phone 309.762.3624  
FAX 309.762.3674  
E-mail: [office@trinitylutheranmoline.org](mailto:office@trinitylutheranmoline.org)  
<http://trinitylutheranmoline.org>



## CATCHING THE SPIRIT

Please join us on September 12<sup>th</sup> for our new Sunday schedule.

- 8:30 a.m. – Traditional Worship
- 9:30 a.m. – Fellowship in Founders Hall  
(In Multi-Purpose Room starting September 19)
- 10:00 a.m. – Learning for All Ages (50 minutes)
- 11:00 a.m. – Contemporary Worship
- 12:00 Noon – All Congregation Celebration Meal

On Sunday, September 12th Learning For All Ages will begin at 10:00 a.m. in Founders Hall. People of all ages will begin with an opening. Then Sunday School age children will be dismissed to their classrooms to meet their Shepherds and Teachers for fun and games.

Adults will stay in Founders Hall to learn about the upcoming adult education classes, and then parents can pick up their children from their classrooms at 10:50 a.m.

Afterward, all are welcome to the an all congregation celebration meal in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Watch for the next “Catch the Spirit” mailing covering various adult learning options.

**DON'T FORGET:  
CONFIRMATION MID-WEEKS START WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT 6:30 P.M.**

MISSION STATEMENT OF TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA  
*Praise God – Serve Christ – Love One Another*

Pastor LaCroix   Pastor Koppenhoefer   Pastor Meyer

**THE NEXT TWO SUNDAYS AT TRINITY**  
**Worship Services: 9:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.**

**September 5, 2004 – 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Deuteronomy 30.15-20 + Philemon 1-21 + Luke 14.25-33**

In remembrance of baptism, many Christians make the sign of the cross. We are the people marked with Jesus' cross. But that cross is costly, and those who bear it must be prepared to let go of everything in order to take-up the new life of the crucified and risen Christ.

**September 12, 2004 – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Exodus 32.7-14 + 1 Timothy 1.12-17 + Luke 15.1-10**

Only the lost can be found. The confession of sins is our admission that we do not know the way to God. But God has been looking for us. This day we are surrounded by images of people who "once were lost." Those who are found enter the joy of the Lord.

**A CHILD'S WORD**

September 5th – *Giving*                      September 12th – *Setting the Table*

**COME CELEBRATE**

On September 12th, we will celebrate the ministry of Pastor LaCroix and Christine at Trinity. On this day, the Congregation Council and other church members are planning a day of recognition for them. They will be honored during both church services and at the coffee hour from 9:30-10:00 a.m., as well as after the 11:00 service. A gift from the congregation will be presented during both services. If you would like to participate in this gift, please make a check payable to Trinity and mail it to the church or place your specially marked envelope in the offering plate, no later than September 8th.

Please plan to helping to celebrate Pastor LaCroix's ministry and wishing God's blessings on the LaCroix family.

**Deadline for articles for next *Trinity Visitor* is Thursday, Sept. 9th.**

**HINTS TO ENCOURAGE CHILDREN AT WORSHIP**

Accompany your child to the altar for the children's sermon until they are comfortable going alone. In the car on the way home have a family discussion on what was presented in the children's sermon.

**A Note to Our College Students**

All new or returning to college students, please let me know where you will be at school this year, and to send e-mail addresses when available. You may call me at home, 309.797.3591, or e-mail me at Trinity, [jimgraham@trinitylutheranmoline.org](mailto:jimgraham@trinitylutheranmoline.org).

*Jim Graham*

**UPCOMING WELCA EVENTS**

**September 10** – Church Women United Quad City Fall Fellowship at Riverside United Methodist Church, Moline.

**September 25th** – Northern Illinois Synodical Convention at Prince of Peace Lutheran, Freeport, IL. Program: "Listen, God is Calling."

For reservations for either event, contact Diane Beam, 797-6867.

**ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE**

Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for requests to be considered at the third quarterly meeting of the committee. Requests need to be received in the church office by that date. Questions? Call Jerry Lundeen, Endowment Fund Chair, 764.1108.

Reminder: The Trinity Endowment Fund provides one-time tuition grants of \$1,000 for full and part-time Trinity students who have a completed at least the equivalent of 12 college credit hours with a C average or above. Applications are available in the church office.

**Connections**

**LYO News**

**Wednesday September 8**

We will meet in the LYO room at 7:30 p.m. We will continue to explore our faith through conversation and learning about each other.

**Wednesday September 15-WOW**

Let's all attend the WOW (Worship on Wednesday) at 6:30 p.m. with our families. We will then meet in the LYO room at 7:30 p.m.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Sunday September 12** – See you either at worship at 8:30 am. or 11:00 a.m. and at Learning For All Ages from 10:00 a.m. - 10:50.

**Come be part of the excitement!**

**October 2- 3** – LYO retreat at LOMC (cost is \$55.00). See Jim for more information.

Our Condolences to the family of Leah Collins, age 78, who died on August 12. Memorial Service held at Trinity Thursday, August 26th.

**PRAYER CHAIN 762-3624**

**ATTENDANCE**

<u>WORSHIP</u>	<u>9:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>Total</u>
August 22nd	199	140	<b>339</b>
August 29th	202	145	<b>347</b>



### Ministry Teams at Work

**Communication Team** Plans were made to let the congregation know about the informational meetings scheduled to present the proposed, revised Church Constitution and receive input. Brochures about the fall program and about family worship are being designed and will be distributed. Radio and newspaper coverage of the new schedule and emphasis on worship and learning is being planned.

**Stewardship** The team is planning to send out a series of informational and testimonial letters in preparation for the fall stewardship drive. Testimonials will follow some Temple Talks, and these and the letters will begin after the fall schedule is underway. Commitment Sunday will be on All Saints Sunday, when the 'Faith Response Cards' will be turned in.

**Evangelism** The new photo directory has been postponed until next year. The Endowment Committee has approved \$2,000 to have a counter-cabinet made for the west narthex. This fall the fold-in sessions will be held during the Education Hour on Sunday mornings from October 31 to November 21. This ministry team will serve as a welcoming team on September 12, and a new Greeter schedule will be mailed out for the following several months.

**Building and Grounds** More secure door hardware has been installed on the glass entry doors. A contract has been signed to have the kitchen brought up to code with the extinguishing system over the stove. Tri City Electric repaired the lights in the sanctuary, and there have been no problems since.

**Christian Education** The Children's Education Team will ask the Council for funds for additional nursery hours. The Communion age for the church is being discussed. Journey of Joy is seeking shepherds and teachers. More teachers are also needed for the Junior and Senior High classes, and the rotation model is being considered for these groups. The Adult Education Team worked on the surveys of educational topics that were turned in and they came up with a list of proposed forums.

**Worship and Music** The topic of lead ushers for both worship services was discussed, and the first service is covered. The second service will be handled with temporary personnel until regular attendance at that service is established and volunteers step forward. New altar care service pieces will be purchased for use with the communion wine and bread. A gift from the Endowment Committee has made it possible to purchase a drum set, and a personal gift allowed the team to purchase a digital piano for music support on Sundays and Wednesdays.

**Congregational Life** Fifty-eight people attended the picnic on July 18. A "continental breakfast" idea for September 12 is being considered. A golf outing is planned for Sunday, October 17, and a "Trivia Night" may be held during the winter. Another social opportunity idea being considered is a "Dinner for Six" – dinner at a member's home for dinner and conversation. This team needs more members to help plan activities.

### Notes on the Journey

The other day I was rushed. Several places to be. Many things to do. It was about lunch time and I didn't even realize it, and in walks a pastor friend. If I had looked more closely at my palm pilot, I would have realized that it was time for our "Lectionary and Lunch" weekly women clergy meeting. I look forward to this weekly (did I say weekly?!) meeting where we study the scripture that we'll be preaching on about 10 days in advance. How could I forget?!

Her arrival stopped me in my tracks. I gathered a few things and met her in the library. Then, I started explaining. "I'm on my way to a funeral visitation....then off to pick up Rod to go to an appointment with the oncologist....then.... wherever...."

As I was talking, she was taking her lunch out of a bag from Arby's. "A low-carb turkey wrap," she said, and passed me half of her sandwich. "Of course, I had them hold the ranch dressing and put on low-fat mayo, and extra tomato" she said. No, thanks, I couldn't take her sandwich. I'm sure I could find some other thing to eat. Sometime. Couldn't I?

"Take it," she insisted, and pushed the sandwich half to me on the Arby's paper. "Do whatever you need to do to eat it...open it up, take stuff off. Whatever! There are no rules attached to this sandwich!"

So, I did. I gave her the extra tomatoes and I ate that sandwich. I prayed my thanksgiving for that sandwich and the grace that came with it. Yep, grace. Undeserved love. Grace straight from God. Love that you can't earn. Love that is no-holds-barred. Love that gets you through the busy-ness and concern of a day. Love that feeds you.

Some people wonder why we are changing our

worship schedule to accommodate a separate time for Christian education (which we call "Learning for All Ages"). People wonder why we are adding an additional style of Lutheran worship on Sunday mornings. Why? The answer is in God, the "low-carb turkey wrap" and my friend.

We need to be able to make connections. We all get in the midst of days when ordinary busy-ness happens. We all get in the midst of days when scary, life changing things happen. But, can we all make the connection between God's grace and what happens on those days? For many years I didn't. I won't say that I couldn't, but I didn't. But long before I ever went to seminary, I decided that I wanted to learn how to make those connections. So, I started learning. I learned through Sunday school classes, through daily prayer, through leading in worship, through reading scripture on my own, through prayer with others, through serving in new ways...and the list goes on. I learned to make the connection—or maybe better said, to see the connection God had made with me.

Where is God present? God is present, and made known to us by the work of the Holy Spirit, through the body of Jesus Christ—also known as the church, our brothers and sisters in Christ. I've said before that we all need Jesus with "skin on." We need Jesus active in the world. We need eyes to see and ears to hear...to see the "low-carb turkey wrap" and my friend, hear the invitation to eat. (And we need to be a friend who offers — no-holds-barred.) Why to we need to change? You make the connection...

*Confident in Christ,  
Pastor Laura*



## WELCA FALL LUNCHEON

Thursday, September 9th at Noon, at  
Faith Lutheran Church, Moline

Salads brought by WELCA Board.

Just come and enjoy yourselves!

Pam, head of The Learning Connection (TLC), will  
be the speaker.

Please contact Mariellen Ehredt, 764.3942,  
if you have any questions.

## Up 'N Adam, Eve

Wednesday, September 1st  
at 8:30 a.m.

Beth Carvey,

Black Hawk Historical Site

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)

Tickets available

Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> and 29th  
in Founders Hall between services.

## TEMPLE TALK

### The Ford Family Call To Worship of August 29, 2004

1. Here at Trinity, things are just fine  
Kids are polite, and usually don't whine.  
We each go our own way  
Most every Sun-day  
And meet again at Donut Time.
2. But there's just been one little snare  
At learning – our parents aren't there  
Instead they're at a service  
Without kids to make them nervous  
Now tell me – does that really seem fair?
3. But at first it might seem a bit strange  
But now things are going to change  
Next month our worships will be  
rearranged.  
We'll learn AND worship as One,  
And we'll all have some fun!
4. We hope this has helped tell you why  
The 2-hour challenge is something to try  
Instead of complaining,  
Think of all you'll be gaining  
(Instead of excuses, let's get off our  
caboozes)  
That's the end of our poem – good-bye!

August 10th Council Minutes are posted in Founders Hall.

## SPANISH LESSONS

Interested in learning Spanish? You can study with  
other Lutherans? Beginners, intermediate and  
advanced students welcomed. Thursday evenings  
from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. beginning September 30th  
at Immanuel Lutheran Church in East Moline. To  
register, call 755-1018 or email [ilc@derbyworks.net](mailto:ilc@derbyworks.net).

## ATTENTION BRIDGE PLAYERS

The Trinity Bridge Marathon is being  
organized for the 2004-05 year. Anyone  
interested in joining the group may contact  
Jim or Joan Ribbeck (788.8058) by  
September 1st.

## WHAT HAPPENS TO US WHEN WE TITHE?

**Most of us don't tithe even though the Bible asks us to and we would like to.** Considering our personal and family financial obligations, giving 10% of our income to the church seems more of a financial stretch than we feel we can handle. If that's how you feel, you've got lots of company.

**On the first Sunday of October, those of us who are not currently tithing during 2004 will have the opportunity to experience what happens to us when we tithe. We may find the answers to some of our questions about tithing.** Did tithing create any financial difficulties for us?

What positive effects did we experience from tithing? How did tithing make us feel? What made it possible for us to tithe on that Sunday?

On "Try-A-Tithe Sunday" (October 3), **we will have the opportunity to tithe by putting an amount in a special offering envelope that, when added to our regular weekly pledge, will equal a tithe.** The additional amount bringing our total weekly offering to 10% will go to Trinity's global mission projects.

**The next two TRINITY VISITORS will have  
short articles about "Try-A-Tithe Sunday." Watch for them!**

## SINGERS



If you enjoy singing, join  
the Trinity Choir!  
Rehearsals are  
Wednesday evenings at  
7:30 in the Chapel. The fall season  
begins on September 8th, with a kick-  
off dinner at 6:30 in Founders Hall,  
followed by rehearsal at 7:30. (The  
Trinity Choir will sing at the 8:30  
Sunday worship service.) Please call  
Steve Steely at 762.3375 for more  
information.

## HEALTH TIP

### Recycling Project

Did you know that those items you bring in  
for recycling are really used? 50 pairs of  
eyeglasses went to the Lion's club;  
prescription bottles were sent on a mission  
trip in South America; soap, shampoo and  
lotion went to the John Lewis House and  
the Christian Family Care Center. **Thanks**  
for donating . . . and remember, the  
collection carts are outside Julie's office.

## TRINITY GOLF OUTING

Plans are being made for Trinity's annual golf outing Sunday afternoon, October 10th.

Watch the *Trinity Visitor* for details.