

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

APRIL 2013 NEWSLETTER

Trinity Lutheran Church
We exist to share the good news of life through Jesus with the world and to nurture believers in their faith, all to the glory of God.



Trinity Lutheran School
We exist to help families in Aberdeen and the surrounding communities by providing children with quality academic and Christ-centered education, in a loving and caring environment.



The Lord Still Wants You to Serve Him

Can you put yourself in Peter's place for a moment? He had boasted that he would never deny Jesus. He insisted that he would die for Jesus if necessary (Matthew 26:35). You know what happened. A servant girl confronted him, and he wilted in fear. People challenged him and he panicked. He called down curses and took an oath to emphasize he didn't know Jesus (Matthew 26:69-74).

Peter failed miserably and fell in a pretty humiliating way. How did he feel after that? We are told that once he realized what he had done, he went out and wept bitterly (Matthew 26:75). He was genuinely repentant. By the grace of God, his sin was forgiven.

Now, how would you feel after falling like that? How difficult would it be to face the people you had boasted in front of? How difficult would be to face Jesus after this? What would Jesus say after this? What would he do? We know that Jesus made a special appearance to Peter on that first Easter (Luke 24:34). The Lord also spoke to Peter by the Sea of Galilee in John 21. It is comforting to hear what Jesus said to Peter.

If you are Peter what might you fear? "Perhaps Jesus will not want me after the way I fell. He has every reason to say, 'I'm sorry, but I can't use someone like you. When you were challenged, you fell apart. You didn't confess me before others. Instead, you swore you didn't know me. I'm sorry, but I can't use someone like you.'" I think all of us, Peter included, would understand perfectly if Jesus had said that. But he didn't.

Three times Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me" (John 21:15, 16, 17)? Was that meant to remind Peter of his threefold denial? Perhaps. But it gave Peter three opportunities to confess his love to Jesus. And then, three times, Jesus told Peter to feed his lambs and sheep (John 21:15, 16, 17). The Lord made it plain. He still wanted Peter in spite of the disciple's dismal failure. Jesus would still allow Peter to serve him and he would still use Peter and work through him to do his work.

If you read through Peter's powerful sermon on Pentecost (Acts 2), you can hardly believe it is the same person. But that's what God's grace does for sinners. It forgives us when we fail. It calls us to serve even though we are unworthy. It grants blessings that make us marvel.

Perhaps one the reasons Christians throughout the centuries have had a soft spot for Peter is because so many of us can identify with him. How many times have Christians felt extra confident about their faith and perhaps even bragged about how strong they were and then fell into a shameful sin? They may have hung their heads in shame and felt awful about what they did. In their hearts, they may have wondered, "How could the Lord ever want me after what I did?" Yet, just as with Peter, the Lord forgives us and lets us know he still loves us and still wants us to be his children and his servants. He still gives us the privilege of serving him. As we serve, we marvel at God's goodness, and are ever grateful for his grace.

Pastor Rawerts

SPRING TEA



The Trinity Women's Society will be hosting a "Spring Tea" on Sunday, April 14, at 3:00 p.m. Wear your favorite hat (any kind, size or shape) and bring a salad to share. Dinner rolls, dessert, punch and coffee will be provided.

Entertainment will be provided by Sheila Blomster. Put on your thinking hats and come prepared to "Name that Tune". This "Tea" is open to all women of Trinity and their guests. Please come and have some fun.

If you have any questions, please call Ardys Gosch.

TLS MUSICAL

Our Trinity Lutheran School is preparing a musical production entitled, *The Three Little Pigs Out West*. They will give a performance on Thursday, April 25, at 10:30 a.m., for all the Seniors of our congregation. A lunch of chicken strips, dinner roll, fresh fruit mix, and orange crème dessert will be served following the performance. On Friday, April 26, at 7:00 p.m. the students will perform for all friends and members of Trinity Lutheran. Please join us.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

We would like to remind everyone to continue saving "Box Tops for Education". Trinity Lutheran School gets credit for these box tops and is able to get various items for the school. Thank you.

PINEWOOD DERBY RACES:

The Pinewood Derby races are scheduled for Sunday, April 28 @ 1:00 PM. Cars must be registered by Sunday, April 14. To register a car for the races, simply let Steve Kjenstad know of your plans (<mailto:skkjen@nvc.net> or 229-4866). A schedule of the races will be posted on Sunday, April 21, so additional entries will not be accepted after the race schedule has been posted. Students who are building their cars with the Pioneers are already registered.

SERVICES ON THE INTERNET

People are now able to watch our worship services on the internet. Simply go to our website, trinityaberdeen.org and click on 'Church Service Videos'.

VESTMENTS AND PARAMENTS

What is the significance of the colors of pastor's robe, stole, and the colored cloths on the altar, lectern, and pulpit?

Vestments are the garb worn by the pastor as he leads us in worship. Pastor Rawerts wears an alb (gown) usually in white with a variety of colored stoles coordinated with the paraments (the altar, lectern and pulpit clothes).

The reasons we expect our pastor to wear vestments during worship services are three-fold. The first reason identifies pastor as our called spiritual leader. The second reason helps us understand that as the designated leader of worship, he serves as God's representative. The third reason is that Christians value the vestments of worship because the tradition is part of the legacy of the church.

Paraments serve to adorn the worship area and call attention to the nature of the church season or festival being celebrated.

A brief summary of the colors used according to the church year follows.

Ash Wednesday: *black or purple (alternate color).* Black is the preferred, since it is the color of the ashes to which we will return.

Lent: *purple.* Purple is the stark color of repentance and solemnity.

Good Friday: *black.* Black expresses sorrow and mourning as we consider Jesus' death and all that our sins caused him to suffer.

Easter: *white or white with gold running through it.* White is the color of joy in the Resurrection. Gold color indicates that this day is the "highest of festivals" in the entire church year.

Sundays of Easter: *white.* White is the color of joy in the Resurrection.

DAYCARE COMMITTEE

After extensive study of the daycare development plan, the Church Council recommends to the congregation the following:

- 1) Delay the starting of daycare for up to one year to allow time to fully explore all-day Kindergarten, combining preschool and daycare into an Early Childhood Development program, rearrange grade assignments for K-8 using our present teaching staff, utilization of existing space to house the aforementioned, and a business plan showing that the daycare can pay for itself; and
- 2) Ask the building contractor to submit a change order to rough in the plumbing to the previously planned for daycare rooms on the west end of the gym.

As we proceed with the development plan for daycare implementation, many questions will need to be appropriately addressed. The daycare planning committee is looking for your input as we begin with a congregational survey in late April.

Our goal is to formulate a viable plan that provides Christ-centered daycare services with consideration of how the program can be integrated into our school structure.

CALLED WORKER HIGHLIGHT

Pastor was born in St. Paul, Minnesota and raised in the Twin Cities area, primarily Bloomington, Minnesota. He was schooled in Lutheran Elementary school and St. Croix Lutheran High School. Much enjoyment was realized by Pastor during his pre-teen years playing baseball, hockey (in the backyard that was flooded by his father to provide a skating rink), singing and teaching himself to place the guitar. At age 12, his parents bought him a \$12 guitar from Sears; and he used that guitar for 29 years. Pastor has had 8 guitars since that first one. In high school, Pastor participated in choir and baseball (playing first base and occasionally pitching).

The next step in his journey took him to Northwestern Collage where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1980 which prepared him to enter Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. A big highlight of his seminary years was his marriage to Cheryl after his

first year at the seminary. Pastor had several jobs while attending the seminary including working behind the counter of a pharmacy, doing financial counseling over the phone, and telemarketing. His biggest challenges while in the seminary were the large number of classes he had to attend and the large amount of work that constantly needed to be done.

Pastor's first call was through the synod assignment committee to St. Albert's in Canada where he served for 15 years. The second call he accepted was to Trinity beginning in July of 1999.

Hobbies enjoyed by Pastor include singing and yodeling, reading, watching old movies and sports (Go Vikings and Twins!). His musical talents stem from his love for singing ever since early childhood, and he perhaps attributes some of this to his great-grandfather who entertained in vaudeville. Prayer has been the greatest reason he has such keen wit, especially while singing and playing guitar. Pastor is not sure where he derived his unusual eating habits other than being a fussy eater since early childhood.

Pastor's family also includes his mother, Eva Rawerts, of Aberdeen; daughter Amy; son Brian and wife Amy and their three daughters Kaitlyn, Stephanie, and Sarah; son John and wife Anna; and his brother and family in Minnesota.

STUDENT AID FUND

The Student Aid Fund exists to provide financial assistance for those who wish to send their children to Trinity Lutheran School. Without the aid that this fund provides, certain families may not be able to send their children to our school. The Student Aid Fund provides these families with much-needed assistance. We could use some help to replenish the Student Aid Fund. Please keep this in mind as you consider your offerings.



GROCERY RECEIPTS

Please save all receipts from Kessler's and Ken's that are dated after September 1, and put them in the box on the table near the entrance to the church.

LABELS FOR EDUCATION

Please remember to save the Labels for Education. This is an ongoing project that helps to provide school equipment for TLS. The collection box for these labels is located near the mailboxes.

