

May 2012

Dear Friends of Trinity,

God does incredible things that can be seen with the eyes of faith. It means that sometimes we have to look “behind the scenes” to get a good idea of what God is up to. With these eyes we can look beyond present circumstances, especially the bad ones, and have confidence that God is working to bring His will to bear our lives.

Maybe this is what the Bible means when it says, “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28—ESV)

ALL things!

No matter what happens to us, God’s will and purpose is always being done. And it’s all for our good.

Have you ever had something happen to you years and years ago and then very recently figured out why that something happened? Dr. Timothy Johnson, of *Good Morning America* fame, always wondered why certain things happened in his own life. He then figured out that, had it not been for those things, he and his wife would have never had the opportunity to adopt their son years later. This is exactly God’s hand at work behind the scenes, bringing triumph out of disaster, calling forth victory out of defeat.

The greatest example of this is Jesus. All of history was culminating to the events of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. God worked though it all to bring forgiveness, life, and salvation to our world and to us. The ups and downs of life do not in any way detract from this. In Jesus Christ God is for us, not against us. That is God’s pleasure and joy! I hope that gives you joy as well.

In Christ,

Pastor Hoag

## May Newsletter

Ah yes, dandelions with beautiful flowers. Must be Spring. Yet who among us hasn't presented our own Mom's with a dandelion and been proud of our gift; and what Mom hasn't thought it as priceless as a beautiful rose or orchid?

The "in" box for the Newsletter runneth over – what a delight! You'd think it was November with all the thanks being tossed around. We ARE a grateful congregation!

Let's start with this one:

Thank you to the confirmands and their families for their contributions of eggs and candy and toys for our Easter Egg hunt. Also, thank you to the congregation members who donated to the Easter Egg hunt. This was our 7<sup>th</sup> Easter Egg hunt and it was again very successful and the children were thrilled to see all the eggs everywhere! I can't thank you all enough for your continued support to help make this annual event so successful. **Thank You!** Doris Bay

(from Kim: there is still a box under the sign-up table if you want to return any eggs)

Then, speaking of those confirmands:

Thank you to Thrivent for donating the crosses that will be presented to our confirmands on Confirmation Sunday.

Also a special thank you to:

Pam Burke for bringing to fruition the making of the new Confirmation banner that compliments the beautiful one Wendy Kaun made for Pentecost.

### TODAY'S LIGHT:

If you are interested in this quarterly magazine that will take you through the entire Bible in two years by reading just 15 minutes daily, please let Kim or Pastor know. We already have enough interest to get a group discount!

Six daily readings a week include: *Get the Big picture*, a helpful overview of the text, so you comprehend what you've read; *Sharpen the Focus*, a closer look at the passage to see its significance in your life; and *Zoom In*, touches on the text's highlights. It can be used independently or in combination with the *Today's Light* Bible. Also, it's great for Bible discussion groups. Discussion questions are available on line. Let us know whether you are interested in the 1 year or 2 year plan. Thanks!

In Trinity's gym on the 24th of April, Trinity Women's League enjoyed the presentation of "Pre Civil War Quilts" by Dr. Clarice Boswell. More than forty members and guests attended. "If history were taught like this, people would not be bored by it, and they would understand it better," said one of the appreciative guests. Dr. Boswell presented this history through the stories of persons who were living each day with the controversies of our country at that time. Both the audience and presenter enjoyed the conversations and desserts following the presentation. Gratitude is expressed to Dr. Boswell and her husband of 58 years, Henry, and the hostesses of Women's League for an enriching experience.

Women's League next gathering is 5/29 when they will join forces to clean. What will they clean? Come and find out! They begin at 12:30 with a short devotion and meeting and then look around for things to clean... (Seriously, they restore the kitchen to good working order after the heavy use it received during the Lent/Easter season.)

### Chancel News

Final meeting before the summer break will be 5/7 at 6:30. Hostesses will be Doris Bay and Allene Bachmann. Continuing with our grateful theme: thank you to these wonderful ladies for all the extra hours they put in during the Lent/Easter season with all the additional services!

**WE WANT YOUR BLOOD!!!!** Whether you are an A, B, O, or that rare one, an AB, we want you! Whether you are a positive person or a negative type; we want you! When? Tuesday, **5/22** from **3-7**. Come and we'll give you an \$11 gift certificate to Oberweis to sweeten the deal. Check out the posters for the rest of the details.

### Choir

Rehearsals are coming to a close for this fine group as well, with the last one being on 5/16. They will tootle their last note for the season on 5/20 and then rest their voices for the summer. Thank you to all of them for their hard work during the Lent/Easter season with special music and special rehearsals as well.

### Feed My Starving Children

In partnership with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Frankfort, we are assisting in a community-wide effort to raise funds to help feed some of the more than 925 million people in the world who are chronically hungry. An organization called Feed My Starving Children ([www.fmsc.org](http://www.fmsc.org)) is working to end hunger, but they need our help!

This is a Christian nonprofit hunger relief organization working with volunteers to produce MannaPack Rick, a scientifically formulated food formula that is culturally acceptable worldwide. They are able to produce these meals at a cost of just 24 cents each, but to keep their costs down, they need volunteers.

How can you help? There are two ways. If you would like to donate to the cost of these meals, please see the board outside the sanctuary. If you would like to volunteer to help pack these meals, we are organizing a group from Trinity to go to Good Shepherd on Friday, June 22nd and Saturday, June 23rd. This is open to all members age 5 and up and should be a great opportunity to help those in need. There are six shifts that are each 2 hours in length. You can sign up at church or on the website on the Missions page. Any further questions, please see Jeff McDonald.

Preschool Board Meeting: 6/3 following service. Sunday School Teacher's Meeting will be 5/20 following the 10:30 service.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY:** Sadly enough, the scheduled Ladies Luncheon on April 29<sup>th</sup>, has been cancelled due to lack of participation. All monies and checks will be returned after church services, or left in the office in marked envelopes. Thanks to those who registered to attend; we're sorry we couldn't fulfill our offering.

St. Matthew's: Their soup kitchen continues to be in dire need for foodstuffs and monetary donations, along with rummage offerings. Please continue to "fill" the designated food box in the upper hall, and deposit rummage offerings in the lower basement. St. Matthew's is in need of serving tables to replace the existing 25-year-old ones; if you have any to donate, please leave usable ones in the rummage room. If you have too many to transport, please call Midge Meents 815 485 6527 for pick up.

Summer Activity: Social Ministry wishes to host another Ice Cream Social in late August, but would appreciate receiving suggestions from the congregation for a co-event to make the evening more enjoyable. Please place your suggestions in the office Social Ministry box. More information will be forthcoming.

**VBS TIME!!!!!!** Come and join us on an Amazing Desert Journey. - Where Jesus Leads Us Home! VBS will be June 11-15, 9:30 a.m. - Noon. Ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to join us. Registration is online or by the enclosed form. The fee is \$5 per child. We also could use plenty of helpers. Whether you can volunteer for just one day or for the whole week, we would love to have you. Adults and youth who have completed 6th grade or above are welcome to volunteer. Call Michelle Hoag or complete the volunteer form online. Friendly reminders - please wear sturdy shoes - NO FLIP-FLOPS - and cell phones need to be left at home. If students must bring a cell phone, it must be turned off and we cannot be responsible for lost, stolen, or broken cell phones.

**DONATIONS NEEDED FOR VBS: PLEASE CONTACT SHARON BUELL AT 815 263 2717 BEFORE YOU DROP OFF ITEMS!** At this time, the following items are needed: glue sticks, multi-colored craft gems, monetary donations. The following things we would like to BORROW:

Large, square throw pillows,  
Area rugs (no larger than 4x5')  
Large or medium sized baskets (woven, not plastic)  
Sheer, old curtains (no heavy drapes, please)  
Small-sized canopies

Food donations will be requested when we get closer to VBS time.

### **YOUTH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL FAMILIES:**

Come to a cookout on Sunday, May 20 at noon after the 10:30 church service. We'll provide the burgers and hot dogs if you provide a salad, dessert, chips, or beverage. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets for sitting. In the event of inclement weather, we will hold the lunch in the gym. The whole family is invited. Please register on-line or on the sign-up sheet at church. Thanks!

Church Council Members: please note the following changes in your schedules: 4/29 there will be a brief meeting following the 8 am service to discuss tuckpointing. The May meeting has been moved to 5/20 to accommodate the celebration of Mother's Day. Pastor Karl Koch will be making a presentation to Council between services on 5/20.

**TPCG** All hands on deck! Our annual service project for VBS is May 11 where we will be slaves, err, willing participants to whatever needs to be done for VBS. Whether it is assembling craft kits or scenery, come and join us! If you want to bring scissors and a glue gun, they probably won't go to waste. Snacks are a definite plus on this particular night...

**CONFIRMED IN CHRIST:** On May 6, the following young men and women will be confirmed in Christ. Please pray for them. Wayne Michael Thomsen, Erin Virginia Strache, Taylor Nicole Sass, Owen Charles Sigrist, McKenzie Mya Schultz, Jackson Robert Remm, Zak Gehrig Pavlovich, Anthony Joseph Myers, Cody James Harbin, Amanda Rose Grady, Elena Ysabel Gerk, Riley William Fahey, Derek Anthony Delcorio, Rachel Anne Czaja, Andrew Morris Cuthbert.

# MAY BIRTHDAYS

Kiel Cundari	1	Audrey Minnett	9	Christy Schultz	22
John Farnetti	1	Alexa Erikson	11	Bob Jackman	23
Alyssa Johnson	1	Rachel Loucks	11	Starlette Torkelson	23
May Schrank	1	Rita Tinker	11	Jennifer Woodcock	23
Danielle Nick	2	Andrew Cuthbert	12	Paul Fuerst	24
Geri Bailey	3	Kristin Schlak	12	RLee Hedden	25
Susan Guenther	3	Dorothy Seehafer	12	Dave Krohe	25
Nicholas Kirchman	3	Matt Wendling	12	Haley Thompson	25
Ashley Reithel	3	Gianna Steinhauer	13	Nathan Deloian	26
Jacob Munn	5	Anabelle Adochio	14	Tony Lopez	26
Tim Nagel	5	Jeff Alfano	14	Ashley Johnson	27
Eleanor Nelson	5	Joshua Ryan	14	Gary Marcolina	27
Zachary Reno	5	Debbie Nick	15	Tom Buell	28
Mason Marcolina	7	Dean Nagel	16	Betty McCure	28
Brett Backhus	8	Nikolas Anderson	16	Beth Parker	28
Brianna Paulsen	8	Richard Rohner	17	Jeremy Wallace	28
Shawn Purnell	8	Melanie Bell	18	Gary Wendling	28
Ed Tatro	8	Jeff Gardner	18	Grace Anders	29
Trysta Kosel	9	Jamie Brolick	19	Barb Lueken	30
Alex McDonald	9	Mike Gardner	20	Shelley Manning	30
		Haley Wallace	20	Emma Minett	30
		Andrew Farnetti	21	Scott Evans	31
		Bob Look	22	Bruce Hasch	31

## ANNIVERSARIES

Dave and Debbie Nick	1	Dave and Helen Anderson	14
Dominic and Ann Bowden	7	Mary and John Leahy	14
Earl and Sandy Sutton	7	Fred and Midge Meents	21
Nikolas and Deanna Anderson	8	Scott and Kristin Rogan	21
Ken and Lori Krumreich	12	Stephen and Nancy Tomany	23
Don and Pam Burke	12	Fred and Lori Dorman	24
Larry and Sharon Buell	13	Bob and Kim Blecke	26
		Daniel and Susan Willenborg	27
		John and Jan Buell	28