

October 2015

Fellow Trinitarians,

With the recent controversy surrounding Planned Parenthood we Lutherans have been handed a great opportunity to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people who are heavily laden with sadness and guilt in the aftermath of an abortion. There is healing and hope through the cross of Jesus Christ, which grants forgiveness and renewal to hurting people. And there are resources!

On October 3 and 4, our special guest will be The Rev. Dr. James Lamb, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life. He will preach at all services and will give a special presentation between services on the 4<sup>th</sup> about the ministry of Lutherans for Life. Please make an effort to welcome Dr. Lamb and to attend his presentation. We will be taking a door offering at all services for Lutherans For Life.

Coming up on November 21 and 22 our special guest will be The Rev. Rob Rogers, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Villa Park. Pastor Rogers is the Midwest Regional Vice President of the English District. He has a heart for youth ministry and is a fantastic speaker. He will be preaching at all services and I will be asking him to present a topic of his choice for between services on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

I'm sure you will enjoy the presence of these two pastors as we continue to celebrate Trinity's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Seventy-five years seems quite a long time. But as the years quickly pass we continue, by the grace of God in Christ, to be receivers and givers of His great love for us. Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

In Christ,  
Pastor Hoag



## 2015 Newsletter

Cool weather means fall fun for everyone. Enjoy the fall leaves, pumpkins, hayrides, bonfires and football games. Come join us at some of our fall activities.

### **UPDATE FROM OUR CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT, JEFF McDONALD**

With colder temperatures ushering in and with our 75th Anniversary year nearing the end, it is worth reflecting on some of the highlights that were tackled by our property committee this year. This committee is lead by Dan Bay with help from Bob Jackman, Jeff Lorenz and Virgil Switzer, among others. In fact, there were more volunteers pitching in this year than in other years as our 75th anniversary came together, but hopefully that spirit of volunteerism does not end with 2015. We are the Living Stones of this church - we depend on the great support we get from our member volunteers. A special thanks to our property committee and to ALL members who helped with this impressive list of enhancements to our physical plant:

- Installation of the new organ - something hopefully all of you continue to enjoy
- Removal of several trees from the property that posed safety or other concerns (special thanks to our chainsaw-wielding former President Rex Toepke, former President Sheldon Klemm, Ron Lorenz, Jeff Lorenz and Virgil Switzer for their collective efforts in tree removal this year)
- Resurfacing of our north and west stairs in a durable yet visually appealing finish
- Cleaning and polishing of every inch of our church courtesy of Virgil Switzer and his tireless efforts
- Organization of our basement storage rooms - also courtesy of Virgil Switzer (if you haven't been down to tour these rooms, stop Virgil at church and ask to see them)
- Removal and replacement of the preschool fence, funded and overseen by Trinity's preschool
- Landscape clean-up day, including the replacement of several shrubs and the removal of numerous weeds
- Installation of the lift (an ongoing effort, and one that will hopefully be completed very soon!)
- Replacement of the exterior front steps (also ongoing but moving along now that all administrative hurdles have been cleared)
- Paving along Elm Street for "lift parking" - hopefully to be done once the lift construction has been completed

That is quite a list, and there are surely things missing from it. All of these items added up to a sizable cost to our congregation, but the generosity of our members who donated money, hosted and/or supported fundraisers or helped in other ways, made all of this possible without the need to incur any additional debt. We have not paid the final bills for all of these items as of this writing, but we are projecting final costs that will hopefully be only modestly over the amount we raised this year for

these projects. We have a small surplus that we intend to use to cover any shortfall that might occur between our costs and our budget for these items. Please join in thanking our Property Committee and all volunteers for an impressive list of accomplishments this year!



## Church Member Updates during the month of August/September, 2015

### Baptisms:

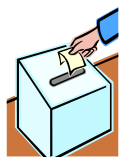
Kaylee Lora Blecke, daughter of Samanta and Matthew Blecke, birth date April 23, 2015, baptized September 5, 2015.

Noah William Cramer, son of Jennifer and William (Bill) Cramer, born January 23, 2015, baptized September 6, 2015.

Logan John Riley, son of Yalisa and Brian Riley, born May 7, 2015, baptized September 13, 2015.

**Marriages:** Jaime Lee and Andrew Zemaitis, August 29, 2015.

**Transfer Out:** Elyse Lerner Small to trinity Lutheran church, Tinley Park, IL



## Church Council Elections are approaching at the end of October.

If you have considered becoming more involved with the running of the church, please consider running for a council position. All positions are for a two-year term, beginning in January 2016. Council meets monthly (excluding summer months) on the second Sunday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the church library. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Pastor Hoag at your earliest convenience.



**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Our celebration continues on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> with The Rev. Dr. James Lamb, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life, as our guest preacher. A door offering will be taken after each service for “Lutherans For Life”.**

**In between the Sunday morning services, while the children are in Sunday School, a reception will be held for Dr. Lamb, who has agreed to speak to our members about the ministry of “Lutherans for Life’.** *You are invited and encouraged to attend this very interesting program. A mini-continental breakfast will be hosted by the Social Ministry Committee. **Please join us!***

*A door offering will be taken after each service this weekend to be given to “Lutherans For Life”.*



**Chancel Guild's Annual Fall Salad Luncheon – Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Tickets are still available. They are on the counter in the office. Cost: \$8.00 donation – take your ticket and leave your money in the envelope. Carry Outs available. Men are welcome! If you have questions or need tickets, call the church office at 815.485.6973. **Women's League will be making the desserts for the Chancel Guild's Salad Luncheon. Come and enjoy their delicious bakery goods.****



## Trinity Pre-School

**AM spots are still available for 2015-2016. Please tell your friends and neighbors!** There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. For the school year beginning September 2015 the tuition per month will be \$100 for two day students and \$125 for three day students. Children must have turned 3 by September 1, 2015. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.



**Confirmation classes are held on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.** If you would like to enroll your son or daughter, would like more information, or have any questions, please contact Pastor Hoag or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



**Wednesday Morning Bible Class** meets each week from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. in the Library. Please contact Pastor Hoag if you have any questions.



**Choir practice is held each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.** Please join us - both male and female voices are needed. If you have any questions, please call Julie Verchimak, at 815.723.1429 or the church office at 815.485.6973.



**CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR – Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.**

***Come out and visit the great crafters and vendors and do some fall shopping!***

Woodcrafts and wooden toys, knitted items, floral arrangements, jewelry, purses, taste mixes and so much more! Free admission and lots of great raffle items! Come out for a great time and support the Youth! Tell your neighbors and bring a friend!

This is a fundraiser for the benefit of the youth group.



**Halloween Palooza - Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 11:30 am**

(immediately following the late church service). ***Come make your own***

***“spooky ghost” lantern, and also enjoy some games and snacks.*** Social

Ministry will supply the decorating materials, you just need to bring the kids!

*Adults are invited to join in - and show off their artistic talents!* In order to make

this craft, we are collecting empty milk jugs with lids. Please remove all

labels, thoroughly wash and dry them, and place them in the collection box

under the hallway table. To help us prepare we are asking that you sign on

the sign-up sheet on the hallway table. Please remember that children

must be accompanied by an adult.

**Student helpers** – we are looking for 2-3 students to help with this event. This is another service hour opportunity. If you would like to help, please write your name on the sign-up sheet and mark “helper” beside your name.



Thanks to everyone who volunteered in some way with helping around the church over the summer. A lot of projects were going on, both inside and outside, and your help was greatly appreciated.



**GIVE BLOOD  
SAVE LIFE**

Thanks to everyone who donated blood on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Your donation saved lives! Thanks to Deb Aiken for coordinating this with Heartland Blood Centers.

# Coffee

COFFEE HOSTS NEEDED! We are still in need of a coffee host/hostess for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month for October, November and December. If you would be willing to take a turn on a 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, the sign-up sheet is on the hallway table.



**Prayer Chain:** Thanks to Ginny DeCarlo and Pat Fuerst for heading up this very worthwhile organization. Please feel free to contact Pat or Ginny via the telephone to leave a prayer request, or Ginny via email to get a prayer started. Contact information: Pat 815 485 6441, Ginny 815 485 2001 or [ginny@vdecarlo1952@gmail.com](mailto:gabby@vdecarlo1952@gmail.com)

Please inform the church office when you or a family member's status change, or are well enough to be removed from the Prayer List. Thanks!



## Readers and Greeters:



Sign-up sheets for October are on the hallway table. Please stop by and sign up. We could use a few more readers. If you would like a copy of the readings ahead of time, please call the church office at 815.485.6973.



## **Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – Pack The Pantry with New Lenox's latest band – SIDE EFFECTS!**

Please come out and join the fun and hear music from the 70s, 80s and 90s! Three of our members are part of this band - Doug Hoag, Dan Bay and Mike Teare. Please bring at least two canned food items to help "Pack the Pantry" for the holidays.

Location: Thomas E. Hartung American Legion Post 1977, 14414 Ford Dr., New Lenox.

Time: 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.



Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – New Lenox Historical Society Oktoberfest Dinner at the VFW, New Lenox from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Tickets (\$10 each) may be purchased from Ed Tatro or at the door.

**craft** Silver Crossings Vendor/Craft Fair – Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Location: Silver Cross Hospital conference Center. Enter through Pavilion A/B Lobby. Handmade craft items, homemade baked goods, over 40 vendors. Proceeds will benefit the Silver Cross Inpatient Dialysis Unit. For more information call Volunteer Services at 815.300.7117.

Virgil Switzer has been helping and repairing, various items around the church but does not always have the tools he needs. **We are looking for standard wrench and socket set and also a metric wrench and socket set.** If you would like to donate the following tools, please bring them to church. Please place them on a table in the gym. The do not have to be new tools, just extras you may have at your home.



Church office hours are Monday and Thursday, 9-3; Tuesday and Friday, 9-12.

