

The Visitor

Volume 28, Number 12, December 2010

IMPOSSIBLE MADE POSSIBLE



Pastor Steve Trewartha

Ever since I was young, what's fascinated me most about the Christmas story is the whole idea of God making the impossible possible at Christmas. As a child, one passage that made

a deep impression on me was when Isaiah wrote "the wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and yearling together" (Isaiah 11:6). Even as a child I understood the paradox of such metaphors. And I was fascinated by the imagery of placing fervent foes alongside each other in solemn peace. Today I thank the biblical writers for prophesying in such poetic language filled with creativity. Even a child can understand that when arch

enemies, predator and prey, lie down together in peace and harmony, something extraordinary is afoot. Such bizarre things don't just happen.

Christmas is about the impossible now being made possible:

- * An all powerful God who would come as a helpless baby
- * The powerless being made powerful
- * The lowly being exalted
- * The poor being made rich
- * The oppressed now being empowered
- * The downtrodden now living with hope
- * The dead being made alive

And the list goes on and on.

Continued, page 2

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES PROPOSED

On November 30th, a letter to the congregation was mailed with the following information enclosed:

Over the past several months, the Church Council has been contemplating some changes to our constitution. There are two main areas we have been working on.

First, we desire the ability for our congregation to call a non-ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) pastor. The ELCA itself has provided the

Continued, page 2

Inside this issue:

Giving Back	3
Prayer Opportunities	3
Children's Ministry	4
Middle School Min.	5
Senior High Moments	5
Small Groups	6
Celebrate!	7
Coming Soon	8
Biblical Principles	9
Pictorial Directory	10

Dates to Note on Your Calendars

- Annual Christmas Tea, Thursday, Dec. 2
- Men's Ministry Breakfast, Saturday Dec. 11
- All Music Sunday! Sunday, Dec. 12
- Sharing Tree gifts due, Sunday, December 12
- Service of Remembrance, Sunday, December 12
- Double the Fun Movie Night, Saturday, December 18

IMPOSSIBLE MADE POSSIBLE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

If you stop and think about it, there's really no end to what Christmas changes. Of course, the problem is that we often fail to realize, and therefore tap into the real power of the impossible at Christmas. Not only do we often commercialize and neuter the season into flimsy tinsel and cheap eggnog, even worse, we busy ourselves such that we miss the real meaning of what we're celebrating and are so mesmerized by it all, we don't even know it. Kind of like the time our family took a vacation to relax and "get away from all", and we came back more exhausted because we busied ourselves doing all the things "you are supposed to do," instead of what we really needed.

Of course there's nothing inherently wrong with the many good traditions and celebrations of the Christmas season. Just make sure you pause and leave room to savor the Savior and celebrate what his coming means, or you just might miss the miracle of the impossible and unimaginable becoming real in your life.

Pastor Steve Trewartha



CONTINUATION OF ARTICLE #2

option for congregations to call non-ELCA pastors from several other denominations. Since our constitution does not reflect this option, we desire to be able to call non-ELCA pastors, maintaining our current high standards of training and proper screening. We also desire to maintain our calling of pastors who are properly trained with a seminary education and a Lutheran understanding of the Christian faith. Chapters 2 and 4 clearly provide for this desire in that they cover the Lutheran Confessions and our adherence to the Word of God as our sole norm and guide in all affairs.

Secondly, we desire to clear up any possible misunderstanding regarding the ownership of this congregation. In the event we would change our relationship with the ELCA, we want to make sure our property, title and deed stay with the congregation and are not subject to any limitations from the synod or larger ELCA. With Holy Trinity Lutheran Church having previously been a part of the predecessor body, the Lutheran Church of America (LCA), we want to have the same protection and autonomy afforded

other predecessor bodies (The American Lutheran Church (ALC) and the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches, (AELC). Currently there are clauses in our constitution that say otherwise.

Proposed changes we are recommending to the congregation are enclosed in the letter to the congregation.

As required in our constitution, the letter is being sent out thirty days prior to a **special congregational meeting** that the Church Council has called to be held on **Sunday, January 9**. Please review your letter carefully and plan to attend the meeting.

Questions? We will host informational meetings on **Sunday, January 2nd** at both 9:00 and 10:30 services to address any questions.

Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Pastor Steve Trewartha, Senior Pastor
Curt Guerrette, Council President

Along with fellow **Council Members**:

Jed Becher
Mark Besser
Shawn Brandt
Jackie Frolund
Brenda Gratz
Willie Macris
Paul Precht
Randy Sauer
Loren Sivula
Ann Sletten
Brett Wegner



GIVING BACK WHAT HE HAS GIVEN TO US

I was at a bit of a loss as to what I might write about for the newsletter until I heard Randy Sauer give a stewardship talk in late October.

I have been on the church council for almost two years. In that time I have come to know what it takes to run Holy Trinity. It takes a great deal of people power and I am amazed at the sheer number of people that volunteer a large amount of time to make things happen at HTLC. If you are not involved in some way outside of Sunday worship I strongly encourage you to do so. It doesn't have to be a big commitment to reap the benefits of giving of yourself. Being involved in any way beyond Sunday worship really helps people connect with their church home.

Running HTLC also takes financial contributions from our members. During these troubling financial times HTLC has experienced a decline in member contributions. It is not difficult to understand why this has occurred given the widespread impact of what has been

happening the past few years. I can't talk about this subject without honestly saying I am concerned about the growing gap between budgeted and actual contributions.

The majority of the budget at HTLC is made up of staff salaries and adjustments to team budgets will have little impact on the overall budget picture.

The council has been keeping all of this in mind as we conduct the business of the church each month.

Something that helped my family for the past ten years is the Simply Giving program managed by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. It's a convenient, safe and simple way for individuals to make automatic payments to HTLC through electronic funds transfer (EFT) directly from checking or savings accounts. This program keeps our giving on track all year long, especially over the busy summer months when congregational giving typically

hits a low point each year.

Please give prayerful consideration to your current and next years giving to HTLC as we enter the fall stewardship campaign.

Deuteronomy 16:17 All must give as they are able, according to the blessings given to them by the LORD your God.

II Corinthians 9:7 You must each make up your own mind as to how much you should give. Don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves the person who gives cheerfully.

Jed Becher

Member HTLC Church Council

"I am concerned about the growing gap between budgeted and actual contributions."



To ask about Simply Giving, please contact Marsha in the church office:

952-758-3513

Marsha@holyltrinityonline.org

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES



In a Health Care Facility:

Ellen Niski, Floy Bohn, Leona Poucher, Hattie Jensen

In Our Prayers:

Helen Winterfeldt, Tom Johnson, Brooklyn Pickens, Bev Horejsi, Lois Landela

Births:

Jade Morgan Haroldson, daughter of Matt Haroldson & Amy Von Bank, September 28, 2010.

Ella Sue Meyer, daughter of George & Suzanne Meyer, September 25, 2010.

Cooper James Jaspersen, son of Emily & Aaron Jaspersen, October 23, 2010.

Cameron Michael Giesen, son of Jason & Heather Giesen, October 21, 2010.



Baptisms:

Ethan Anthony Trowbridge, son of Anthony & Ana Trowbridge, November 14, 2010.

Jordynn Faith Berens, daughter of Kari Berens, November 21, 2010.

Shayne Nicole Gilb, daughter of Armando Torres & Rhylee Gilb, November 4 21, 2010.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

December. . . Christmas time. . . Let the craziness begin???

I will be the first to admit that this is my favorite time of year. I have very well-established Christmas-time traditions that do include Black Friday shopping, and I am proud of it! We always go shopping; we always cut a Christmas tree down and decorate the house; we always bake cookies; we always listen to Christmas music for the entire month; we always buy presents; we always have many family gatherings; we always cram as much as we can into as few days as the Christmas season allows for. And guess what...I love it all! I love it all because God's love flows through every aspect of it all!

I love going shopping on Black Friday because it is a special time with my mom, aunt, and cousins. I love cutting the tree down, decorating the house, and listening to Christmas music because it is a special time with my husband and children. I love buying people presents because I love to see the joy it gives them.

It is very easy to get wrapped up in the insanity of the season, but it is also very easy to get wrapped up in the joy and love in the season. I encourage you all to take a step back and look for God in every activity you choose to do. Sometimes God calls us to change plans or activities for Him, but I strongly believe that sometimes He just asks us to see Him and His love in all we do on a daily basis as well. Look at your children or any child and look at the wonder in their eyes this season. Do we have that same wonder in our eyes this season for all God has done for us? I sure will strive to share that message through every Christmas activity I choose to do this month and I encourage you to do the same! Plan wonderful activities to create memories for your children. Take time to just watch your children and enjoy. Soak up all the joy and excitement the children have this time of year! And never forget why there is so much love to share and receive at Christmas and always!

Merry Christmas!

Cassie Drake,
Director of Children's Ministries

Children's Church update



ANGEL ALERT

Performance at both services on
December 12 (All Music Sunday)
All Children Pre-K through Grade 5 should
wear a white shirt.



NO Children's Church December 26th or January 2nd.

PUTTING ON THE ARMOR OF GOD



Children 2 1/2 years old through Kindergarten have been learning stories in the Old Testament. Stories have included: God created the animals, Noah's Ark, Daniel in the Lion's Den, Joseph and his Dream Coat and more.

Children grades 1-4 have also been learning from the Old Testament and the 5th graders have been learning how to apply Biblical principles to their lives at school.

Grades 1-5 have also learned about the Shield of Faith and will continue to learn about each piece of the Armor of God. The next piece we will begin talking about is the Sword of the Spirit then the Helmet of Salvation.



Take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (Ephesians 6:16-17)



Hark the Herald Angels Sing

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRIES

Feeding ourselves

I like to cook; I like to read cookbooks just to get ideas about stuff I might never make. I have to admit, having my pantry filled with all the necessary ingredients for whipping up a batch of cookies or my favorite pasta dish makes me feel somehow strangely happy. Most people who know me see that I especially like to experiment with healthy ways to sneak veggies into my kids' meals, or juicing some kind of weird fruit into a high powered morning smoothie.

Given the choice between junk food and "veggie surprise" my kids would probably more often choose the junk, but it's still my responsibility to keep them healthy and teach them how to make good choices to keep their bodies and minds in their best shape.

The same goes for spiritual food. I enjoy surrounding myself with a healthy choice of books, music and learning that puts God at the center and feeds my spirit - my spiritual vitamins if you will. On my bedside table, you might find books on anything from "how to's" to a good old fashioned novel. I'm always trying to "feed" my head with as much of the "good stuff" - or should I say "God stuff" as I can.

As a parent, I need to do the same for my kids - stocking their shelves (so to speak) with good books, music and movies which point them in the direction of God and away from what they get a really huge dose of every day . . . the junk.

I read a great article this weekend about Christians who love to blame their Churches because they do not feel they are being spiritually "fed". It's actually

become a frequently used phrase that implies it's the responsibility of our Church not only to provide for everything in our spiritual pantries, but to digest it and nourish our minds with everything we need to be spiritually "full" as well. Is that even possible?

The more I thought about it, the more I was reminded that it really IS up to me to make the choices I need to follow where I feel Christ has called me. It's important to keep my self and my kids supplied with the "good stuff" - and use it!

So what's in your pantry?

Lisa Precht,
Director, Middle School Ministries



SENIOR HIGH MOMENTS

FALL WAS BUSY!

This fall has been a good and busy one within the Senior High youth department. We've enjoyed a lot of fun times by participating in activities like paintball, the Halloween party and the Toby-Mac/Skillet concert.

We've just concluded our study "Search: Your Spiritual GPS to finding God" on Sunday nights. We learned a lot about our relationship with God, others and ourselves.

Starting on December 5th we will begin our study based on the movie, "To Save a Life" which will last through the month of December.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP:

First things first, if your student is interested in attending the summer mission trip to Chicago July 10th-15th, please send me an e-mail or give me a call at your earliest convenience. We need to give YouthWorks our final count of how many are participating by January 20th. The cost of the trip this year is \$308.00. We have started our fruit sale, cookies & soups in a jar fund-raisers. We are doing these fund-raisers through November 29th. If your student is interested in participating in these, please contact me

and. I can have forms available for them to pick-up in the church office.

Secondly, we will have an **informational meeting for parents and students about our trip to Chicago on Monday, December 6th at 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Paul's Place.**



NEXT (or not):

There will be **NO** Senior High Sunday on **November 28th**.

Friday, December 10th we will be going to the opening night of the new Narnia movie, "The Voyage of the Dawn Treader" at Lakeville 21 Theaters. I will have more information on when we will leave the church once show times are available.

Sunday, December 12th is All Music Sun-

day at the morning services. The senior high will be sharing a couple of songs in the service. If your teenager is interested in being a part of this, let me know.

Sunday, December 19th we will have a Senior High Christmas Party from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

NOTE: We did have a lock-in scheduled for December 11th, but I learned this week that is the day of the black light dance at school. The lock-in is rescheduled for January 15th & 16th. More information will be given about that in the coming weeks.

We still have our

- * Weekly Senior High Sunday
- * The Breakfast Club
- * Teen bible studies
- * Youth band
- * Drama Team

practices taking place. If these are of interest to you, feel free to contact me for more information:

betsy@holyltrinityonline.org

Betsy Uttech,
Senior High Youth Director

SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

WOMEN'S MINISTRY TEAM



Wake Up for Women

There will be **No Wake up for Women in December.**

See you again on **January 22nd.**

Aprons and Recipes

Come on Monday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m. for a quick 60 minute commitment to serve, fellowship, and have a time of devotion. The evening before our Spice of Life luncheon, we invite you to come and help prepare the food

for the Spice of Life meal (you take home recipes to recreate the meal for your own family). We meet from 7 to 8 pm on the Monday before the third Tuesday of the month. We have a brief devotional and prayer and enjoy the fellowship with others as we cut, cook, and sauté in the church's kitchen.

Contact Gretchen Havlicek at church for more information.

Save the Date!!

Our Women's Retreat will be Friday & Saturday, February 25th – 26th.

Join us at our 2011 Women's Retreat as we break away to Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls. We will enjoy the fun fellowship with other women from our church in a relaxed setting. Also have

some time to reconnect with our Savior and grow together through small group discussion. Cost will be \$45 if paid by February 1 and \$55 thereafter. Brochures will be available in mid December.

Women's Ministry Team

We invite you to contact any of the Women's Ministry Team members with your thoughts and suggestions:

Vicki Anderson

Wendy Mathiowetz

Gretchen Smith

Gretchen Havlicek

Trisha Otterness

Jill Vulcan

MEN'S MINISTRY TEAM



The **Monthly Men's Ministry Breakfast** will be on Saturday morning December 11th from 7:30 – 9 am. Come for a hearty breakfast, music, and a powerful message. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend or your son.

The Men's Lunch is a monthly gathering over the lunch hour for fellowship and a brief time in the scripture. Group meets in Room 205 on December 21st at 11:30 am. A free will offering helps with meal costs. Contact Dwayne Anderson for more information.

Gentlemen – As part of the ongoing ministry, there are regular email communications. If you want to be included in this distribution, register your email online at <http://www.holytrinityonline.org/resources/emailsignup.htm>.

For any information about **Men's Ministry** contact a member of the ministry team:

Brett Wegner @ 952-758-7164:

Brett.Wegner@Kemps.com

Dwayne Anderson @ 952-758-5437:

dwayne.anderson@ihg.com

Paul Precht @ 952-461-6311:

paul.precht@mark-itgraphics.com

Brad Carlson @ 952-250-8289:

brad.carlson@allstate.com

Chris Havlicek @ 952-492-3189:

havlicek@frontiernet.net

Jim Glen @ 507-667-4080:

james.glen@yahoo.com

SMALL GROUPS

Spice of Life will meet on December 21st.

Spice of Life is a monthly gathering over the lunch hour especially for our seniors and those who enjoy spending time with them. We will meet in Paul's Place on Tuesday December 21st at 11:30 am. We'll have lunch and a devotional will be shared. A basket for donations helps with the cost of the food.

Faith in Society

The Faith In Society Team will meet again on December 7 at 7pm in Room 108 – our Middle School Youth Room. If you are interested in being part of this team – planning seminars, special speakers, and weekly Wired Word sessions for adults please join us.



Faith in Society hosts this weekly discussion.. Previews of the current topic right from the past week's headline news are available via email each Thursday. Bible resources and discussion sheets guide our discussion. Join us in the room called "Paul's Place" at 9:00 or at 10:15 a.m.

CELEBRATE! LINDSAY!

Lindsay Jacobson has been an integral part of our contemporary worship at Holy Trinity for over 10 years.

I can hardly believe it myself, but there was actually a time when he was asking me how to get started on playing the guitar! Little did I know at that time that he was a music major at Concordia College. Though he hadn't really played guitar (or piano for that matter) very much at all, all he needed was a few things to get started – and away he went – growing in his musical ability

and love. What a joy it has been to see Lindsay's gifts and talents mature into the worship abilities he has today.

I've always appreciated Lindsay's willingness to take on extra tasks with a smile and with joy. He's always considered it a privilege, another opportunity to serve the Lord and an invitation to introduce people to Jesus.

From helping out in Confirmation, to Men's Ministries, to Children's Programs to special music requests, to assisting anyone who wanted to learn an instru-

ment or sing, Lindsay has been there to help out. His faith and spirit will always shine through, and we wish him God's very best.

With Praise and Thanksgiving,
Pastor Steve Trewartha



As long as I've attended Holy Trinity, Lindsay has been the Celebrate! Worship Leader. I hadn't sung in a choir for 25 years, or played my guitar for 30, but through Lindsay's encouragement, now I can look back and say that I have been participating in Celebrate! for almost as long as he's been leading our congregation in that role. For all of us, this is going to be a big change! But I do welcome that change, because this is one that the Lord has orchestrated for Lindsay, as well as for us.

The news was not altogether surprising, as anyone could see that Lindsay's desire to expand the depth and breadth of his gifts and abilities reached beyond our current needs. As we contemplated what to do and how to manage without the strength and presence Lindsay brings to us in his role as a leader, it dawned on me; the Lord that will provide for Lindsay's new path is the same Lord that will provide for the needs at Holy Trinity. God has a plan. God has always had a plan.

As we draw near to the close of Lindsay's service to The Lord with us, I celebrate and give thanks to The Father for watching over us all, for bringing us to this perfect place and time. I am thankful for His faithfulness and the promise that He will provide for his devoted followers. I wish Lindsay all the blessings that God has to offer in his walk with The Lord, and look forward to what the future holds.

With a thankful heart,

Katy Fjelstad,
Holy Trinity Operations Manager

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
is seeking a
Celebrate Worship Leader

Resumes can be sent to:
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1300 E Main Street
New Prague, MN 56071
952-758-3513

Now seeking...
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Leading Worship.

Worship

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

**Sunday, December 12,
2010 @ 5:00 p.m.**

When death comes to a family, how do we respond? Loss brings grief and loneliness; it can also bring anger and questions. Why my husband, my wife, parent, child, friend? The Good News is that healing can happen through the love and power of a caring Lord Jesus who says, "Come unto me," as well as through a congregation that reaches out as a family.

On December 12th at 5:00 p.m. a Service of Remembrance will be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. This one service does not solve all the heartaches and questions relating to our loss, but hope-

"healing can happen through the love and power of a caring Lord Jesus who says, 'Come unto me,'"

fully, it can help to make a new beginning in our life. We will come together to pray and remember. You will also be presented with an angel with your loved ones name on it.

Whether your loss has been this past year or a few years ago, welcome. Bring family and friends. Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall and pamphlets on grief will be

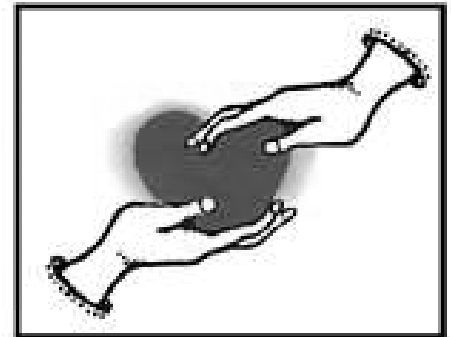
available.

Please provide the following information to the church office by December 5th: Name of deceased, Birthdate, Date of death. The names of the deceased will be printed for the Remembrance Service.

If you know of anyone in the community that would care to attend this service,

please pass this information along to them. Everyone is welcome! Questions? Call Marsha at Holy Trinity church office @ 758-3513.

To facilitate this memorial service your help is needed! Please let Marsha know if you would like to serve in this way.



THE SHARING TREE

Each year Heaven's Helping Hands ministry partners with LeSueur County Adopt A Family to sponsor gifts for individuals and families for Christmas. Please prayerfully consider helping us with this ever growing ministry.

The Sharing Tree is set up in the narthex and filled with tags. Each tag represents one item with each child's parent or guardian asked to submit a clothing need for their child and a request for a toy. Sizes

Please prayerfully consider helping us with this ever growing ministry

and details of the child's wish are on each tag. When you select a tag or multiple tags you are helping to adopt an entire family.

This year the tags again have two parts. Please take the top yellow colored tag as your shopping reminder. Fill out the needed information on the attached white tag

and place it in the box next to the tree. The colored tag should be returned with the unwrapped gift to the tree by

the deadline date of **Sunday December 12, 2010.**

Any questions can be directed to Mary Hanson-Busch at 758-3275 or mmea-busch@bevcomm.net .



Helping the Hurting

FAMILY MOVIE TIME!

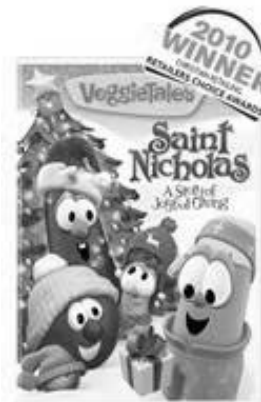
**Double the Cookies...
...Double the Show**

Come to church for a Christmas Veggie Tale double feature!

We will be watching the brand new movie Saint Nicholas: A Lesson in Joyful Giving followed by The Toy that Saved Christmas.

**Come for One
or Come for All**

All families with children of any age are encouraged to attend! Bring Christmas cookies to share and we will provide hot cocoa. Camp out in the fellowship hall with your blankets and pillows (chairs will be available) and enjoy a church family movie night!



Who: All families!

What: Movies and cookies

When: Saturday, December 18th at 6:30 pm

Where: Holy Trinity Fellowship Hall

Why: To enjoy some family Christmas time together!

APPLYING BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms” (1 Peter 4:10).

A steward is one who is responsible to transact the business of another. A steward is not an owner, but the representative of the owner. A steward is one who manages that which belongs to someone else. All our gifts, time and talent are on loan to us from God which we can use to glorify God and to be a blessing to others.

Someone has likened stewardship to a three-legged stool consisting of time, talents and treasure. If any of the three legs are removed, the stool cannot stand. Sometimes people wonder why the church talks about money. You can blame God and Jesus. There are actually more Scripture verses dealing with money, material possessions and giving than with heaven and hell combined, even more than a common topic like faith. Jesus talked more about money in his 40 parables than any other single subject. It is virtually impossible to overlook the fact that God thinks money is important.

Randy Alcorn wrote:

I might feel a little better trying to squirm out of responsibility for some minor or obscure teaching of Scripture. “I just didn’t understand it, Lord. It was unclear. You really didn’t give us much to go on.” But I can’t help but feel that if I plead ignorance in this area of money and possessions, God is liable to say to me, “I spent a large part of the Bible teaching you about money and possessions — what more would you have wanted me to say than what I said? Was your problem that these passages were unclear — or that they were too clear?”

How we use our money directly reflects our view of God and our view of ourselves. If God owns it all, and if we are just managers and stewards of what rightfully belongs to God, then we will use God’s resources differently than if we think that the financial resources in our grasp actually belong to us.

“All our gifts, time and talent are on loan to us from God which we can use to glorify God and to be a blessing to others.”

The issue of money and possessions lies at the very heart of the Christian life. Martin Luther recognized the same when he said for each of us, there must be not only the conversion of the heart and mind, but also the conversion of the purse.

This time of year we are reminded that God has blessed us all abundantly. And the resources we have been given have been entrusted to us for God’s glory, for the good of others, and for this ministry. As 2010 comes to close, please be thinking and praying about how God is calling you to help Holy Trinity end this year strong and in the black. And then ask God to give you a spirit of willing obedience in the days ahead.



According to legend, three trees grew near Jesus’ manger: an olive tree, a palm tree and the fir. The olive offered its fruit to the newborn king, and the palm tree gave its dates.

The poor fir, having nothing to give but worship, raised its boughs in adoration, and the angels hung stars on its branches. So the fir became the first Christmas tree.

“A Christmas Message”

Christmas holds the mystery
Of how God touched the earth
By giving us the Christ child
In a newborn baby’s birth.

Great awe was in young Mary’s heart,
And in the shepherds’ pace
As they ran quickly to the town
And found that special place.

These humble shepherds knelt before
This tiny newborn king;
And as they did so, they could hear
The lovely angels sing:

“Fear not, for unto you this day,
The Prince of Peace has come
To share God’s love throughout the world.
Rejoice now, everyone!”

—Peggy Ferrell

*“This will be a sign for you:
you will find a child
wrapped in bands of cloth
and lying in a manger.”*



Luke 2:12, NRSV

NEW CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Do you ever see people and wonder what their names are?

Have you heard an announcement regarding someone and wished you could put a face with a name?

Are you a new member and wish you had something to help you put names with faces?

Help is on the way!

It has been almost 4 years since we did a pictorial directory here at Holy Trinity. We feel it is time for an update.



We need you to make our new family album complete

Help us put faces with names. We have chosen to partner with Lifetouch to help us connect our members and tell our story.



Each family will receive a *Complimentary 8x10 portrait & directory* for participating

Volunteers Needed!

To make our directory a success we need volunteers. If you are interested in helping during our photography, sign-ups, telephoning our members, or serving as a host or hostess during the actual photography sessions contact Gretchen Havlicek at the church 952-758-3513

Lifetouch will be here at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church from **Monday, January 31st-Saturday, February 12th**

(no appointments on Wednesdays and Sundays)

Watch for weekend sign-ups and the opportunity to schedule your own appointment online.

The Visitor is published monthly by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New Prague, Minnesota. Worship services are held Saturday afternoons at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. You can reach Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at (952) 758-3513; fax (952) 758-4407; website: www.holytrinityonline.org



Reaching People Serving God

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

May	2010	\$7,506.23
Jun	2010	\$4,925.50
Jul	2010	\$6,072.50
Aug	2010	\$4,629.50
Sep	2010	\$3,634.50
Oct	2010	\$7,146.50

Total Giving, Oct 04—Sep 2010: \$809,939.29
Loan Balance as of 9/30/10: \$127,463.02

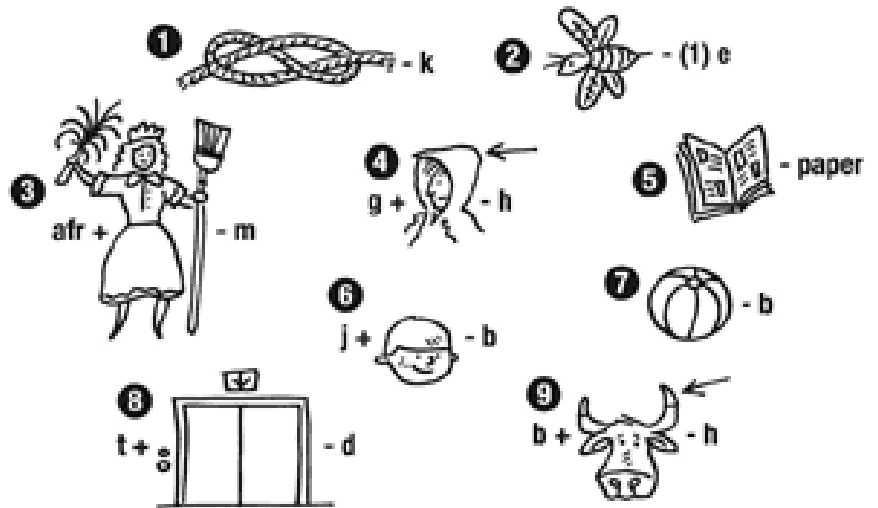
Thank you for your sacrificial giving!



The angel's message

On the first Christmas Eve, shepherds were watching over their flocks when an angel suddenly appeared.

Use the picture clues below to find out what the angels said to the terrified shepherds.



"Do _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 I bring you _____ 4

_____ 5 of great _____ 6 that will be for _____ 7 the people.

Today in the _____ 8 of David a Savior has been _____ 9

to you; he is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11, NIV

Month in Review

In November we learned a lot about Native Americans and Pilgrims. We read stories, sang songs, and acted out the First Thanksgiving. We also ground corn and made leather (wetting brown paper bags and scrunching it to soften it). We even had a teepee set up in our room. Ask your child what a Kachina Doll is. It is fun to get an idea of how the Native American and Pilgrims may have lived.

We also made projects from nature... such as branches, pinecones, seeds and gourds. Many beautiful turkeys were made from hand prints.

Our Christmas Programs are scheduled for the following dates and times:

M/W/F a.m.= Friday, December 17th @ 11:15 a.m.

T/Th a.m.= Thursday, December 16th @ 10:45 a.m.

T/Th p.m.= Thursday, December 16th @ 2:45 a.m.

Our programs take place in the Sanctuary. Family and friends are welcome. Cookies and juice will be served after each program.

Looking Ahead

Watch for field trip information (When you Give a Moose a Muffin – Stages Theater) coming home soon.

We are always looking for larger sheets of tag board or paper for painting and projects. Consider Sonshine before disposing of any you may have.

Thank you Parent Helpers for helping out in the classroom. It helps our day run smoother with an extra pair of hands in the classroom.

Mark your calendar!

December 6: No school

December 16 - 17: Sonshine Christmas Programs

December 23—January 3: Christmas Break—Return to school January 3.

Answers: 1. knot-k=not; 2. bee-(1)e=be; 3. afr+maid-m=afraid; 4. g+hood-h=good; 5. newspaper-paper=news; 6. j+boy-b=joy; 7. ball-b=all; 8. t+down-d=town; 9. b+horn-h=born

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11, NIV



25270 Cedar Lane
New Prague, MN 56071
Phone 952-758-3513
Fax 952-758-4407

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www.holytrinityonline.org

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