

+ Table Talk

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN FRANKFURT AM MAIN, GERMANY — SUMMER 2010



**SPRING ACTIVITIES
WITH CHRISTIAN
LIFE** ₁₂

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+TableTalk

Trinity Lutheran Church's Table Talk is published on a quarterly basis: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter

Contributions from members are welcome and encouraged. Please contact Anita Waldner at parish_worker@trinity-lutheran.de

The deadline for submissions for the Fall issue is October 10th.

A newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church
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Which Way to Go?

by Rev. Robert Flohrs

Do you ever wonder which way to go in life? It could be when you are driving, walking, biking or making decisions.



The picture is of a street corner in Mainz. Perhaps it is symbolic of our lives at times. We are in a busy time of the year. We have activities with family and friends in our church, community, work and school. Do you ever have a hard time deciding what to do? Do you get frustrated that you can't do everything you want to do?

We try to make plans, but at times we don't know what to do first. We can feel guilty because we couldn't go in the direction we thought we should, and then we get upset because we can't get it all done. And all of sudden we don't know which direction we are going or what to do next. We can become afraid of what to do next.

God knew what to do for us - to save us and give us hope - when He sent His Son Jesus to die and rise to proclaim the Eternal Plan. While we are here on earth we have the opportunity to seek God's guidance and His plan for us. The Old Testament prophet Jeremiah reminds us in Chapter 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

At Trinity, we want to be in your plans. God has brought this community together to not only worship and serve Him, but to seek HIS plans for our lives as individuals, families and as a congregation.

As we offer opportunities for worship, spiritual growth, and other activities, please include these opportunities in your plans. When we seek God's plan for us it certainly makes life clearer. It's not always easier, but there is a special peace, comfort and assurance that God does indeed have a plan for each of His beloved children – you and me.



Christian Life Events Ring In Spring and Summer

by Robert Colvin



"Hmmm, good!" say (from left) Claudia Dorn and Cosi Rösch, who took turns working behind the counter of Trinity Lutheran's booth at this spring's Pentecost Festival in Frankfurt.

home baked treats for sale, members also tended the booth - handing out literature and explaining Trinity's story and purpose to passers-by. The bake sale took in €100 which was donated to the international aid organization 'Doctors without Borders'.

Several members of the congregation also took part in the international opening worship service at the Römerberg under the direction of Provost Gabriele Scherle and Pastor Dietmar Will, both from the Evangelische Kirche in Hessen und Nassau/Rhein-Main. Following this service were outdoor musical performances by youth from several ethnic churches in

Ecumenical Pentecost Festival

Pentecost Monday, May 24th, was a warm and sunny day with a lot of helping hands working to make Trinity's Bake Sale booth at the Ecumenical Pentecost Festival a success. This is an annual event held at the Dominican Cloister in Frankfurt, sponsored by the Internationaler Konvent Christlicher Gemeinden Rhein-Main e.V. In addition to those who prepared various



Participants from a wide range of foreign language church communities in Frankfurt participated at this year's Pentecost Monday Festival worship service.



Trinity's Sanctuary Choir under the direction of Jerrode Marsh (left) was among several international choirs asked to perform in the Heiliggeistkirche during the 2010 Pentecost celebrations.

the region. Trinity's Sanctuary Choir, under the direction of Dr. Jerrode Marsh, was one of several choirs selected to sing at the closing ecumenical worship service held in the neighboring Heiliggeistkirche. The choir sang "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" by Peter C. Lutkin and an unusual version of the Doxology.

Photos by Cosi Rösch, Sathish Henry and Robert Colvin



The annual church picnic provided ample time for families and friends to get together to chat and catch up on the latest news before worshipping together.



Music for the Trinity Lutheran church picnic was provided by Lorenz Vasanth and Brenda Reckelberg (seated from left).

Annual Church Picnic

Despite several weeks of rain prior to June 20th, the weather for Trinity's annual outdoor church worship service and picnic in Lohrberg Park couldn't have been better. Thanks to the Marsh and Rüsages families who got to the park early to reserve tables, Trinity had a prime spot with a magnificent view overlooking the skyline of the city. The mix of sun and overcast sky kept the heat within a comfortable range as many members of the congregation gathered at 11:00 a.m., under the leadership of Pastor Robert Flohrs, to thank God for the blessings we are all enjoying. (For those unable to attend the picnic, a short devotional service was led by Pastor Flohrs at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.)

Music, led by guitarists Brenda Reckelberg and Lorenz Vasanth, provided just the right touch for an inspiring

service among fellow Christians. The congregation sang "Lord I Lift Your Name on High," "God is so Good," "Pass It On," and "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky". Following the service, barbeque grills (graciously provided by the Myrcziks and the Berners) were fired up to cook the meat specialties everyone brought with them. The buffet table of salads, desserts, and other goodies, simply groaned under the weight of delicious treats shared among members. The nearby playground provided ample romping space for the little ones.

Despite full tummies, a large portion of participants found their calling in a hotly contested softball game, in which some family members were competing against each other. The game proved to be a magnet to park visitors who were not familiar with the sport. It even drew in outsiders to try their luck at bat.



Taking a slug at the ball is Nate Provost getting a little help from his father, Eric.



Greeted by the church pastor and wife, Robert and Rita Flohrs, worshipers from India (from left: Lorenz Vasanth, Jegadish Nadar, a friend of Jegadish who was visiting Frankfurt for the day, Zenobia and Sathish Henry, enjoyed a day in the park with a view of the city during the picnic.

Members of Ecumenically Active Together (E.A.T.), the group of ±50 somethings from five English language congregations in the Frankfurt region (Trinity Lutheran, Christ the King Episcopal, St. Leonhard’s Roman Catholic, New Hope United Methodist Fellowship, and Atterberry Chapel), had a busy spring and summer schedule with events sponsored by several of the participating churches.

Fully Packed Spring and Summer Offered E.A.T. Members Variety

by Robert Colvin



E.A.T. participants enjoyed the quaint streets and historical buildings of Kronberg on the May walking tour of the suburb.

Monthly Saturday Bible studies on the basics of the Bible were organized during the spring by St. Leonhard member Madeline Mochi under the guidance of Pastor Kevin Seckel from New Hope United Methodist Fellowship. In May at Atterberry Chapel, the group concentrated on the meaning of faith and how it influences individuals’ understanding of the Bible. The group of up to nine regular members took a break during the summer, but has plans to resume again in the early autumn. New participants are welcome to join. For details on the location, date and time of the next Bible study, contact the church office (069-9563-1066).

Evenings of laughs were enjoyed by E.A.T. participants at the Christ the King undercroft for the monthly (last

Saturday of each month starting at 7 p.m.) ‘CtK at the Movies’. Viewers saw hilarious episodes of the BBC comedy series “The Vicar of Dibley” starring Dawn French as an English village’s first female Anglican priest. In June (competing against World Soccer Championship telecasts) a small but interested group got together to watch the Steve Martin comedy/drama “Leap of Faith.” Participants brought drinks and snacks to share. The mid-summer showing on June 17th was planned outdoors to enjoy the fresh evening breezes. The film presentations are without charge but if anyone wishes to make a donation to aid CtK’s building and renovation projects, you are welcome to do so.



Today Kronberg’s gates are open to welcome all, but in medieval times the tower and gates were tightly controlled to regulate trade and insure peace in the community.

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Trinity Sanctuary Choir members have got big things awaiting them in the near future.

Major Musical Project Set to Highlight 2011

by Robert Colvin

Specifically in 2011, the choir and singers from additional Rhine-Main churches will be undertaking an extensive project to perform George Frideric Handel's "Messiah". This piece is rarely performed in English here in Germany, which is the language in which it was originally written. The concert is scheduled for Pentecost Sunday, June 12, 2011 in the historic Heiliggeistkirche. This church, located in the center of Frankfurt, is part of the Dominican Cloister which dates

Jerrode is determined to rehearse the choir at a professional level, so they will be fit to give their best along with the trained professional soloists and orchestra. In addition to regular rehearsals on Thursday evenings throughout the year, the Messiah Project choir will be undertaking autumn and spring extended weekend retreats to learn the material as well as some all-day sessions on selected Saturdays.



Taking the plunge into Handel's demanding oratorio "Messiah", singers spent their Saturday in late June practicing parts as a choir as well as in vocal sectionals.

back to 1470. Under the artistic direction of Trinity's music director, Dr. Jerrode Marsh, the performance is set to be one of the highlights of the international Pentecost activities next year, which are coordinated by the regional office of the Evangelische Kirche in Hessen und Nassau (EKHN). Performing such a work, which is expected to include soloists from the opera houses of Frankfurt and Zürich, takes plenty of dedication and hard work by those committed to the task, says director Marsh.



Choir director Jerrode Marsh explains some of the nuances of singing Baroque music to singers preparing to delve into Handel's major work.

The first of these day-long sessions took place on June 26th in the sanctuary. More than 20 singers spent the day exercising their vocal chords. Learning the choral passages of the Christmas sections, the choir worked up an appetite and took a refreshing break with a potluck lunch. Jim Schar accompanied the choir as they practiced this challenging score. Despite the difficult runs in the music, vocalists felt satisfaction at the end of the day, by having a better command of the material than they did previously.

It's a huge task to organize the performance of this famous piece and it takes more than musicians learning

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Fully Packed...

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On Friday, June 11, E.A.T. members were among the audience at the historic (1219) St. Leonhard's church in Frankfurt for a music concert. They enjoyed the adult choir of Christ the King singing works by Purcell, Britten, Gibbons, Stanford, Walton, Bairstow, Mawby, Topson, and Rutter. In addition to directing the choir, Simon Harden performed an organ recital on St. Leonhard's historic pipe organ dating from 1867.

In early June, 20 participants enjoyed a joint E.A.T./Trinity Christian Life-organized tour of the old town of Kronberg, which is an elegant suburb north of Frankfurt. The hour-long tour conducted by the town crier highlighted the importance of the town from the Middle Ages to modern times. We walked through its market, city walls, historic churches and gardens. The group then retired to the Johanniskirche where Christ the King Church's music director, Simon Harden, performed a half-hour organ concert. The group had supper and fellowship at the Posthaus restaurant following the concert.

Dinner at the Ratskeller restaurant in Oberursel on Friday, July 9th was first on the agenda before taking a short walk to the St. Ursula Church in the old town. There, a string trio made up of members of the 'Orchestra of the 18th Century', Amsterdam (Yoshiko Morita, Japan; Gustavo Salba, Argentina; and Julianne Borsodi, U.S.) performed an evening program of works by Beethoven.

Photos: Monica Müller-Römer

Major Musical...

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their parts. Since Trinity is spearheading this endeavor, Jerrode Marsh has assembled a team of five to handle publicity and program design, coordinate correspondence, handle logistics, and, perhaps most importantly with a project of this size, deal with finance, sponsoring, and fundraising.

However, the train hasn't left the station yet for those still interested. You can still climb aboard as singers are in high demand, especially tenors and basses. Be part of the Messiah Project 2011! Even if you don't want to sing, your talents can still be used in a number of other capacities. Contact Jerrode Marsh at: info@the-messiah-project.org.

Choir practice was on ice for the summer until Thursday, August 19 when rehearsals began again. Please note the new rehearsal times on Thursdays! Those singing regularly in the Trinity Sanctuary Choir meet from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Utatu Room to practice for regular worship services. Messiah Project rehearsals take place from 8:15 to 10:00 p.m. each Thursday. Singers are invited to attend one or both practices.

Photos by Robert Colvin



A highlight of the E.A.T. walking tour of Kronberg proved to be a concert in the historic Johanniskirche where Christ the King Church's music director, Simon Harden, presented a half hour organ performance.

Stewardship is also a matter of separating garbage. Help Trinity to preserve the environment and reduce costs.

Be Stewards of the Planet

by Anita M. Waldner, Parish Worker

God wants us to be good stewards of this planet which he created for us to live on. To be a good steward we should be doing all we can to preserve and protect our environment. This means taking a few minutes to learn how to separate our refuse and preserve our resources.

“Resources” can also mean our monetary resources, too. In order to lower costs, we have reduced the pick-up by the city of Restmüll (the black lidded garbage container outside in the Hof), to once a week. Another way for us to avoid additional cost, is to be sure our garbage is sorted correctly. If Restmüll has been put

RESTMÜLL (black lid)* – dirty paper plates, paper towels, paper napkins; pencils, pens, crayons; glue; candles, light bulbs (NOT energy saving or fluorescent –they need special disposal) *If there is no room in the Restmüll container, please use a grey plastic bag from FES (the garbage collection firm), and place it next to the containers in the Hof. If you need a bag, ask the church office for one.

GELBER SACK/RECYCLEABLES – PACKAGING/VERPACKUNG (yellow lid – use the “gelber Sack”) plastic bags– aluminum foil and packaging; tin cans; plastics such as Styrofoam cups, plastic utensils, plastic



into any of the other garbage containers, we will be fined. This is also true if “mixed” garbage is found in any of the other containers.

The lists below explain what gets disposed of where. Garbage pails in the kitchen and all classrooms and offices have been labeled and color coded for “paper only”, gelber Sack (recycleables), “bio” (biodegradable) and “restmüll” (for all other garbage). Lists and photos have also been posted on and near the garbage containers for easy reference. Please familiarize yourself with this information and refer to the photos/lists before you toss something into the trash.

bags, plastic bottles (not bottles for deposit), plastic wrap, plastic corks, bottle caps, plastic liquid soap containers, fruit juice and milk containers, coffee packaging.

BIO – BIODEGRADABLE (brown lid) – use the special opaque “Bio” plastic 10 liter bags (found in the kitchen drawer) to line the receptacles marked “Bio” - bread, food, coffee grounds and filters, nut shells, tea bags, flowers, soil from flowers, grass clippings, leaves, small branches, pine cones. This garbage should be emptied into the container outside on Sunday after coffee hour and after any other activity where food is served. (Note: do not put any other plastic garbage can liner in the Bio container outside)

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Table Talk

Have you ever wondered why Trinity's newsletter is called Table Talk?

The term "table talk" refers to informal statements made during the course of a meal. It was Martin Luther's practice to have seminary students join him for dinner each night and to engage them in conversation. While there were always students present at the Luther table, there were also many influential scholars and theologians of the time who participated in these discussions.

Luther's statements during these lively meal-time conversations were frequently written down by his students and were later collected and published as Luther's "Table Talk". Much of Lutheran and Protestant doctrine developed from Luther's "Table Talk".

Read more:

Google Books (<http://books.google.com>)

Altar Flowers

One of the things we may take for granted when we come to church on Sunday mornings is that there are always fresh flowers on the altar. Why do we do this? Where do they come from?

We offer flowers — created by God to delight our senses — to glorify Him and show our gratitude. Traditionally, members donate flowers to mark special occasions, such as honoring the memory of loved ones who have passed on, celebrations of birthdays and anniversaries, or simply as a way to thank God for His mercy and blessings.

If you would like to donate a bouquet, for whatever reason, the process is simple. All you need to do is:

- Locate the sign-up sheet on the left side of the "mailboxes" in the narthex;
- Enter your name next to the date of your choice;
- Fill out the envelope (found in the pocket next to the sign-up sheet, top left);
- Indicate the purpose (in memory of someone, to give thanks for a new baby, in recognition of a birthday or anniversary, etc.) and the name of the person or persons you are honoring, so that it can be listed in the bulletin properly;
- Place your payment in the envelope (13 €), seal it and place it in the offering basket.

Flowers are delivered by Blumen Zwingel, a local flower shop near the church.

Be Stewards...

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ALTPAPIER – OLD PAPER (green lid) - old bulletins, newspapers, catalogs, card board (flattened or torn into manageable pieces), paper back books, telephone books, gift wrap, post cards. (Note: do not put the plastic garbage can liner in the Altpapier container outside.)

GLASS – ALTGLASCONTAINER – OLD GLASS CONTAINER - Glass items should be disposed of in the

containers on the median at Nibelungenallee & Richard-Wagner-Str. separated by color: white, green, brown. Blue or other colored glass goes in the green glass container.

It takes just a few minutes to separate garbage, but helps save our environment through recycling. Disposing of our garbage properly also avoids incurring unnecessary fines. "Thanks for pitching in!"

For further information in German or English go to: <http://www.fes-frankfurt.de/>

Worship

Caring for God's Children

by Anita Waldner, Jenna Myrczik

Worship is a precious invitation to come before the King. Kids are included in that invitation and are most welcome to worship God together with all His “children.” Please do bring your young ones to the services – we love having them there, and more importantly, God wants them there. Every Sunday there is a time during the service where children come to the altar for a special message from the Pastor or a layperson. When they return to their parents, they may take an activity sheet with them to work on quietly during the “adult’s sermon.” Crayons can be found in the back of the church for children to use; we just ask that you return them before leaving church.

We have nursery care for very young children (infants to 4 years) during the worship hour. Our paid, bilingual nursery workers provide all of our members the chance to give God their full attention on Sunday mornings, in the confidence that Trinity’s little ones are being cared for by professionals. The nursery is a cheerful room and staffed by two caregivers. It is upstairs near the pastor’s office in the Gemeindehaus, which is to the left of the sanctuary. Some parents like to bring their children to the nursery before church starts, while others bring them to the nursery after the children’s sermon.

The Nursery is open during the Sunday School hour for parents whose children are too young for Sunday School. Parents usually stay there with their child. Parents arrange among themselves to volunteer on a rotating basis so they can occasionally attend the Adult Bible Class.

There is also the option if you need to take your child out of the sanctuary at any time if they are getting noisy or “antsy”, and take them to the Z-room (Zwischenzimmer: the room between the sanctuary and the Gemeindehaus). This “cry room” is outfitted with speakers so parents can stay there while they bounce fussy babies or allow toddlers to let out some energy and still be able to continue listening to the service.

If you have any questions concerning worship or the nursery, please contact Worship Deacon, Brenda Reckelburg (reckelb@yahoo.com) or Nursery Coordinator Kristen Ruesges (kruesges@hotmail.com).

Evangelism Deacon

How Good Is a Timely Word!

by Dale "Dee" Wanner

Proverbs 15:23: *A man finds joy in giving an apt reply and how good is a timely word!*

Galatians 6:2: *Carry each other’s burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.*

We can share the joy of Christ’s love for us in so many ways! A kind word or a thoughtful gesture goes a long way in conveying what hope and faith do for our character.

Here’s a thought — SHARE HOPE AND FAITH THROUGH E-CARDS!

Lutherans Online (www.lutheransonline.com) has free e-cards for all occasions. You can choose from a variety of suggested appropriate Bible verses and music and you can personalize the card in other ways, too. The card can be delivered immediately or sometime in the future.

Outreach and Concern Deacon

Our Mission

by Peter Brinkmann

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? ... Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say: "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. (James 2:14-18)

Sharing is an important part of Trinity's congregational life and its Outreach and Concern Committee. Sharing means bringing into use our talents, our time, and our wealth in support of spreading the Gospel and helping to satisfy basic physical and spiritual needs of the poor and the deprived. To this end, Trinity devotes about 10% of its income to missionary and charity activities, domestically and world-wide. In addition, many members give designated offerings to causes throughout the year. Moreover, we provide opportunities for members to participate in the decisions and deliberations of this committee as well as to physically help in some of the domestic assistance groups.

How do we assist?

We are financially supporting a few major projects and activities – as well as a number of smaller ones. Selection is carefully made by the Outreach and Concern Committee with “due diligence” and is based on a set of criteria and standards. There is no “automatic” approval of funding, even for causes supported in the past. We need to be satisfied that our funds are really used efficiently and for the intended purpose.

Whom do we assist?

Our present core projects are:

1. Evangelical Lutheran Church in Georgia /Caucasus. Trinity has had a partnership with this sole Lutheran Church in the Caucasus region (the church serves the

area from the Black Sea to the Caspian Sea) for eight years now and the church is flourishing. Our support comprises, first of all, of our prayers during Sunday worship. Secondly, we assist the church financially in its mission. Their deaconic work is impressive, especially the feeding and medical care they provide for their poor members, as well as their home for the elderly.

2. Tuamoyo Street Children, Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania). This project was developed during the missionary time in East Africa of our former pastor, Sam Wolff. This program provides food and shelter for abandoned street children or kids at risk. This work is carried out by devoted volunteers and helpers, many from the expatriate community in Tanzania. One of the “highlights” is the “Christmas Party” for the children.

3. School Stipend for Six Children in Kenya. For the past three years, we have been sponsoring the education of six children of a Kenyan couple, both of whom are HIV positive. Our former pastor, Sam Wolff, is monitoring the proper usage of these funds. Even though it seems like a drop in the bucket (“ein Tropfen auf den heißen Stein”) – for these young people the support means a decisive difference in their lives. An education gives them increased opportunities for their future. (Read the thank you letters from these young people which are posted on the Outreach and Concern bulletin board in the back of the church.)

Other causes we presently support:

CAHD – Christlicher AIDS Hilfsdienst (Christian AIDS Service), Frankfurt. The staff of this organization works with people from the street– reaching out to the most vulnerable groups, such as drug addicts and prostitutes – to providing intensive physical care to people afflicted with AIDS. This devoted group serves with a distinctly Christian outlook.

Christoffel Mission for the Blind. This interdenominational organization, which has been in existence for many years, specializes in the treatment of eye diseases, especially in third world countries.

Bahnhofsmision. The Frankfurt branch of this ecumenical organization is located at the Main Train Station (Hauptbahnhof) and is staffed around the clock. It's original purpose was to help travellers in need of assistance. Today it reaches out beyond its original task and has become a safe haven for people in distress and in need of protection. A skilled staff provides counselling and temporary shelter. We support their Emergency Fund.

How is the Outreach and Concern Committee organized?

The O & C Committee is headed by the Deacon of Outreach and Concern. The committee is to carry out and fund outreach and charity projects in keeping with Trinity's mission. Our major responsibility is the administration of our Outreach Fund. The Committee thus devotes much of its efforts on funding decisions. The committee has the authority to decide on disbursements to a particular cause/organization up to € 700; for disbursements above and beyond this amount, Church Council approval is needed.

Participation in the Outreach Committee is open to all members who are willing to become involved on a continuous basis. "Ownership" by the congregation members and new ideas are essential to effectively reach out to the poor and needy. We usually meet after worship a few times a year for an hour or so. Information about our activities is communicated through "Temple Talks" during worship services, flyers and articles in the church newsletter, 'Table Talk'.

If you have further questions or are interested in working with me on this committee, please contact me at: peter-brinkmann@gmx.net.

Peter Brinkmann
Deacon for Outreach and Concern

Youth Deacon

Trinity Youth "Hang Out" in Kelkheim

by Donette Reis

After a relaxing summer vacation, the Trinity youth are ready to get back into the swing of things. To kick off the new school year, they have planned a retreat on Saturday, September 4 in Kelkheim. While climbing through the trees at the ropes course in Kelkheim, the kids will have lots of time to visit and reconnect with friends and hopefully make a few new friends as well. Stacey Crosson will be leading a morning devotion as well as a Bible study on trust and faith. Then the group will have a chance to brainstorm and plan activities for the coming months.

The AICEME Youth Conference is being held in Stockholm from November 4-7 and we hope to once again send a delegation of youth from Trinity to this inspiring, fun event. The conference is for high school students (ages 14-18). This is an annual gathering of youth from international churches in Europe and the Middle East.

Our youth activities are generally aimed toward teenagers in grades 7 through 12 (ages 13 to 18). If you have any questions or are interested in getting involved with the youth program, please contact the youth leader, Zenobia Sathish or either one of the youth deacons, Cosi Roesch and Donette Reis, for more information.

Christian Education Deacon

Christian Education

by Paula Fears-Fischer

WHY send your children to Sunday School?

“All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten” is the well-known title of the bestselling book first published in 1989, about the “stuff” of life. The author, Robert Fulghum, who is now a pastor, humorously lays down his „Life Credo“. He based this credo on the rules he learned in Sunday school, which later became a Christian kindergarten. In his book he emphasizes that these rules are elemental to life.

In Sunday School, the 10 Commandments are taught and are fundamental to our Christian faith. In Sunday School, we also teach that through faith we have the eternal love of Jesus Christ, and that we receive forgiveness of our sins through Jesus’ crucifixion.

As Christians, therefore, it is important that our children know that they are walking in God’s light. They will learn this, as well as many other things, in Sunday School. That is why Sunday School is such an important part of Trinity’s ministry, and why we want our children to attend. We want them to carry God’s light with them throughout their lives and, as the favorite Sunday school song “This Little Light of Mine” states, to let that light shine so they may share their faith with others.

Sunday School Kick-Off - September 5, 2010

Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m., all Sunday School students meet in the Utatu Room, which is in the Gemeindehaus next to the sanctuary, through the Z-room and across the hall. There Kristin Ruesges, our Sunday School Music Leader, will lead the children in singing and prayer together. After this opening, students will go to their respective classrooms. They are organized as follows:

Kindergarten 3-5 year olds

Tea Room (upstairs, next to Pastor Flohr’s office)
Christopher Nordvall

1st-2nd Grade 6-7 year olds

Conference Room (upstairs) - Danita Waterfall-Brizzi

3rd-4th Grade 8-9 year olds

Utatu 1 (ground floor) - Dörte Walter

5th-6th Grade 10-12 year olds

Utatu 2 (ground floor) - Paula Fears-Fischer

Younger children and infants will be cared for in the Nursery during the Sunday School hour by Anne Powers-Nordvall and volunteer parents.

Classes run until 10:40 a.m. This year we will be using the “Growing in Christ” curriculum from Concordia Publishing House. Confirmation Instruction (grades 7 - 8) will be held on Saturdays and Sundays, on a schedule to be determined. Please speak with Pastor Flohrs for more information.

The Youth Discussion Group for post confirmation students will be led throughout the year by Pastor Flohrs, Stacey Crosson and a few other adults. This group will meet in the church office.

Adult Bible Class meets during the Sunday School hour in the Doris Jacoby room (ground floor, Gemeindehaus). We end around 10:35 a.m. so parents can pick up their kids from Sunday School before the church service begins.

We are still in need of Sunday School volunteers to co-teach in ALL grades and to serve as substitutes. If you would like to register your children for Sunday School or if you would like to volunteer as a teacher/substitute, please contact the Deacon of Christian Education, Paula Fears-Fischer (paula.fears-fischer@bt.com).

Trinity's Sanctuary Ringers are Looking for more Ringers and more Bells!

Sanctuary Ringers

by Sabine Janowitz

Every season brings change. Every summer Trinity loses a significant number of its members. The same is true for the bell choir. Ringers come and ringers go.

Why not consider becoming part of this musical group? We will be glad to have you join us whether you:

- are an experienced bell ringer;
- have never rung before, but have always wanted to;
- or
- you simply want to try it out.

We will be happy to teach you everything you need to know about ringing bells! Adults as well as children are welcome. We meet on Monday evenings from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm in the Z-room. Besides making a joyful noise to our Lord, we have a lot of fun, too.

If you would like to contribute to Trinity's bell choir in another way, please consider supporting our purchase of the additional 3rd octave. We have already collected over three quarters of the purchase price. No matter

how large or small your donation might be, it will be much appreciated.

On the Worship and Music bulletin board in the back of the church, you can find donation forms and envelopes. Fill one out, insert your donation (cash or check) and place it in the offering basket. If you choose to make your donation via Trinity's Postbank account, (Konto Nr. 59 98 95 607; BLZ 500 100 60) please mark it (Verwendungszweck) "Handbell Fund 2009/2010".

If you donate funds toward the purchase of half a bell (\$150 or € 105) or a whole bell (\$300 or € 210), you may have it inscribed in memory of loved ones, in honor of someone or in celebration or remembrance of a special occasion.

Please contact me via email at SabineJanowitz@t-online if you have any questions.

Tintinnabulatingly,
Sabine Janowitz, Director of Sanctuary Ringers

Komen Race for the Cure Against Breast Cancer

by Sabine Janowitz, Church Secretary

This year's race (a 2 km walk or a 5 km run) will be held at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, 26 September 2010. As in past years, Trinity's team will meet at 9:00 a.m. in Trinity's sanctuary for a short devotional service led by Pastor Flohrs. We will then take the U-Bahn as a group and find our way to the South bank of the Main River.

This event takes place on the same day as the annual Newcomers Festival (see article page 17). However, the Newcomers Festival doesn't start until 1:00 pm, so if you wish, you will be able to participate in both events on that day. In fact, those participating in the Komen Race could go to the Festival afterwards as a team and help man Trinity's booth.

The Race for the Cure not only needs participants to make a visual impact in the fight against breast cancer, it also needs our financial support. Whether you are participating in the race/walk or not, anyone can make a donation to help fund research for a cure for breast cancer. Please go to: <http://www.komen.de> or make a bank transfer to: Susan G. KOMEN Deutschland e.V., Verein für die Heilung von Brustkrebs, Bank für Sozialwirtschaft, Konto 56636, BLZ 550 205 00.

Please consider walking/running in support of all those we know who have been touched by breast cancer...Anita Waldner, Cindy Wolff, Cindy Wolff's niece, Alex; Barbara McCown's mother, Joan Marino; Sabine's friend, Ellen; Ron Jenisch's mother, Inge; and for many, many others. Last year twenty-five Trinity members registered. Let's top that!

Thank you for considering.

Coming November 20th

"Active Relationships" Retreat

by Stacey Tasler Crosson, Associate Member of Trinity

With the start of school and the focus again for students to “make the grade,” I’d like to pose some questions to all of us, no matter if we’re going back to school or not.

- What grade would you give yourself in the subject and practice of relationships? In other words, “How are you doing in your relationships...especially with those closest to you?”
- What if those closest to you had to give you a grade (like a spouse or child or friend or work colleague), what grade would they give you?
- Would the grades look the same?

Would you give yourself the grade of “A+”? Or are you more of a middle-performer in the “B” range? Maybe you’re like a lot of people today and are barely keeping your relationships afloat and a “C” would be your mark. Or are you just failing miserably and need to re-take the class?

I’d like to think of myself as someone pretty good at relationships. I mean, I have all the degrees, the training, and the experience. Growing up in a family of nine and surviving childhood as the last of seven

children made me feel like I had already earned a masters degree in relationships before I ever entered college! However, that bubble soon burst when my husband returned from a 15 month deployment in Iraq. All the training and experience flew out of the window and the anger, yelling, resentment, fear, and fatigue took over. I quickly realized I needed a tune-up in the relationship department.

How many of you regularly service your automobile? Maybe you mark the date on your calendar. Maybe your mechanic puts a nice little reminder on the inside of your windshield which reminds you to call him when the odometer reaches a certain number. Maybe you have a really awesome mechanic (or spouse) who calls you to remind you that the car needs a tune-up? Or maybe you’re like me and it’s only when your car begins to make sounds, you know it’s time to take it in.

Wouldn’t it be great to have a regular relationship tune-up set on your calendar? It doesn’t matter what kind of relationship we’re talking about, maybe it’s a tune-up with your spouse or a friend or a child or work colleague. Wouldn’t it be great if someone would just call to remind you and say something like, “It’s time to come in for your tune-up Mrs. Crosson. Take some dedicated time and focus on your relationships. We’ll discover what’s working and what areas need some attention. I promise you that after you leave, you’ll feel a lot better.”

About six months after Jeff returned from deployment, we attended our first relationship retreat together. It was the exact tune-up we needed. We re-learned valuable knowledge and skills that over time had been lost or pushed aside because life had taken over. We acquired new tools which have allowed us to regularly make tweaks and fix things along the way. Since then, we’ve grown in ways we never imagined and we’re still growing.

About the author

Stacey Tasler Crosson attended Concordia University, St. Paul, MN and received her Director of Christian Education degree in 1995. She has served parishes in Minnesota, Florida, Colorado, Virginia, and Germany. Stacey earned her Masters Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy in 2001 and is a Certified Family Life Educator(CFLE) through the National Council of Family Relations, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Stacey is married to MAJ Jeff Crosson and they have two girls, Ella and Ava.

Someone once asked Jesus what is the greatest commandment. Jesus replied, "Love God and love your neighbor." What a task, wouldn't you say? I don't know about you, but I have a hard time loving. I need a lot of reminders (and tune-ups!) to get the act of loving right.

We're all in the process of loving better (or worse) each day. I invite you to join me in a relationships retreat at Trinity on November 20 (more information on the sidebar). Think of it as a much needed tune-up or a chance to learn how to love your neighbor and God better. I promise you, our Lord will grow you, and your relationships, in ways you never imagined. You'll bump up your relationship grade for sure!

Active Relationships Retreat

Saturday, November 20

9:00AM – 3:00PM

Cost: \$10.00 (collected on day of event)

Topics covered:

Good Communication

Managing Emotional Triggers

Resolving Differences

Learning to Forgive

Materials, lunch, and childcare are included.

Recommended for youth and adults –
married or single.

Please invite your family, friends and
colleagues!

The day will include a lot of interaction and fun! The retreat will be facilitated by Jeff and Stacey Crosson, both Certified Family Life Educators. To register, please contact Stacey Crosson at crossontasler@hotmail.com.

Welcome to Frankfurt-Rhein-Main

Newcomers Festival

by Anita Waldner

Frankfurter Römer (City Hall)

Sunday, September 26, 2010 from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Attend the 10th annual Newcomers Festival, Hessen's largest event for the international community. Whether you've just moved to the Rhein-Main region or have lived here for a number of years, this event is a fun way to learn more about life in Germany and about living in our region.

This is a family-oriented, informative event organized by Communication Solution GmbH, (Trinity member, David Hart's company). Trinity will have a table there to let the community know where we are located and who we are. We would like two or three people for each time slot to be able to hand out materials and talk to people about Trinity. If you would like to know more, speak with Dale Wanner or Anita Waldner. Sign up for a time slot on the sign up sheet in the back of the church to help man our booth!

Write A Soldier

Dale and Colin Wanner's son, Eric, is currently stationed in Afghanistan. Eric spent much of his teenage years here in Germany and many of you know him as he was very active in church and youth group. Why not drop him a card or letter? He would certainly appreciate it!

SPC Eric C. Wanner

525 BFSB / 586 NSC

FOB Spin B

APO AE 09355

Church Council

Officers

President	Jenna Myrczik
Vice President	Bernd Steinbach
Recording Secretary	Barbara McCown
Treasurer	Claus von Campenhausen
Financial Secretary	Astrid Kastening

Deacons

Christian Life	Bob Colvin Lorenz Vasanth
Education	Paula Fears-Fischer
Evangelism	Dale Wanner
Outreach & Concern	Peter Brinkmann
Pastoral Support	Angie Petersen
Property Trustee	Greg Petersen
Stewardship	Dia Martin
Worship	Brenda Reckelberg
Youth	Donette Reis Cosi Rösch
Alternates	Carolin Johnson Zenobia Sathish

Weekly Activities at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday	
9:30 a.m.	Christian Education classes (3-5 yr-old, K to Adult)
11:00a.m.	Worship Service
Monday	
6:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Ringers Handbell Choir
Tuesday	
7:30 p.m.	Church Council (3rd Tues of the month)
7:30 p.m.	Worship & Music Committee (quarterly)
Wednesday	
3:30 p.m.-5:00pm	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	
7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary (Adult) Choir
8:15 p.m.	The Messiah Project Choir Rehearsal
Friday	Office closed

Trinity's Mission Statement

Our mission is given by Jesus Christ in the Gospel according to Matthew:

Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

We seek to bring people to faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God; the One who, through His death and resurrection, offers us eternal life with God.

We are a family which strives to walk ever closer with the Lord, showing His love to each other and those around us.

In Memoriam

Dr. Richard E. Imm

October 14, 1942 – August 1, 2010

Dr. Imm, a resident of Chassell, MI, passed away suddenly from injuries received in an automobile accident near Bena, MN. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Kjostad Imm of Chassell; his children: son, Jeremy Imm of Fairfield, CA; and daughter, Jerrin Imm Mordew of Grand Forks, ND. The Imms were members of Trinity in the mid-1980's when Dr. Imm was stationed at Rhein Main AB.

<http://miningjournal.net/page/content.detail/id/547241.html?nav=5007>.

Worship

All worshipers at Trinity can help prepare and participate in the leadership of the services each week. Each person has a talent or ability that can be offered as an act of love to God and His family. Please take a look at the sign-up sheets in the narthex by the “mailboxes” as you enter the church – and consider volunteering for something at least once a month! This will help you get to know people and help you feel like a part of this community. Here are some of the ways you can easily get involved:

Ushers

A friendly smile, a warm welcome and assistance with finding a seat, the bathrooms or the nursery is appreciated more than you might think. Helping out as an usher helps us all prepare ourselves to come together in worship, and it’s also a great way to meet people! If you wish more info, please contact: Lynn Monreal (monreal24@yahoo.com)

Lectors

Clear, strong voices read God’s Word during the services for all to hear. For native and non-native English speakers alike! For more info, call the church office.

Altar Guild

Loving hands fill the communion cups and set out the bread to be broken each week in remembrance of Him. We like to tag-team this, with either a whole family working together or different people signing up for preparation and clean-up. Not sure what to do? We will team you up with someone with experience who can show and help you. Speak with Angela Petersen.

Acolytes

Younger members of Trinity light the candles on the altar and assist during services. This is for boys and girls alike. Speak with Angela Petersen.

Assisting Minister

Help the pastor in leading the congregation through the liturgy and in administering communion. It’s not hard, Sabine will show you what you have to do. Speak with her at 069 -956 31066 or e-mail: info@trinity-lutheran.de.

Sound System

You don’t have to be a techie type – just make sure the microphones are turned on and loud enough during the services! E-mail: Lorenz Vasanth at: vasanth_Ld@hotmail.com

Coffee Hour

Our time of worship is solidified through fellowship with each other afterwards, facilitated by those faithful helpers who appreciate the role coffee and cookies play in promoting good conversation. Speak with Sabine Spitzl if you would like to be a coffee host/hostess: e-mail: spitzl@stud.uni-frankfurt.de

Music

We lift our hearts to God with the aid of an abundance of musical talent at Trinity, including choirs, handbell choir, vocalists and instrumentalists. Want to get involved musically? Then speak with Dr. Jerrode Marsh, Director of Music and Choirs, e-mail: pjvcmarsch@gmx.net. Interested in playing handbells, or trying it out? Contact Sabine Janowitz: info@trinity-lutheran.de

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Dominic Kneeshaw for his IT support to the office staff for the past several years. Dominic, Shanon and Robert moved to the UK and we wish them God’s blessings for this new chapter in their lives.

And thank you to Henry Sathish who has volunteered to be Trinity’s new IT support person. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!

Pastor Flohrs, Sabine Janowitz and Anita Waldner