



Trinity Team

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
 10014 81 Avenue
 Edmonton, AB T6E 1W8
 Phone: (780) 433 1604
 Email: trinityedmonton@uniserve.com
 Website: www.trinity-lutheran.ab.ca

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Sudden Death Overtime

Dear members of 'Team Trinity'

The score is 2:1 for Canada. It is down to the last seconds in the gold-medal game at the Winter Olympics. Team Canada is up by one goal over the United States. The U.S. team has pulled their goalie and is pressing hard on the Canadian goal. Suddenly the game stops, just 20 seconds before the end, as Canada calls for a time-out. A short breather, everyone on edge, hoping, praying probably, cheering certainly, and then.... With a face off in the Canadian zone and the opposite side with one extra player and just seconds on the clock, the Americans score. And we Canadians almost despaired! How could Team Canada come back now?

The game went into overtime. An expression I learned for this situation: "sudden death". The clock ticks away for the duration of another period, but whichever team scores next wins. Sudden death. Sudden life for the winner.

If you weren't following the live coverage that afternoon, you no doubt heard it on the street, in school, on the radio and everywhere else the next day: Sidney Crosby scored the winning goal for Canada, "we" won the gold medal, the game and the Games were over and Canada owned the podium as far as gold was concerned. Party time!

Sporting events are time limited. Time is of the essence: Years of training count. Months of preparation, days of competition, minutes of play time, seconds, even small fractions of a second count in the battle for Olympic gold.

We are in the final days of Lent now and

fast approaching Good Friday and Easter. We have observed time as we followed the events of Jesus' life from Advent and Christmas through Epiphany. We read about his life in the gospels. Now we follow what happened to him in the days leading up to his death. We recall what he did, what he said, how he suffered, how he bled. On the Friday we call Good it's the final event, the gold medal competition so to speak. Through the liturgy we are drawn into the events of Jesus' last hours. We relive his final battle against the powers of evil and the forces of death. We gather as church that day to hear the story, to mark the time between life and death.

And this is what Jesus' death means: The battle between Jesus and Satan happened in overtime

"At noon the whole country was covered in darkness, which lasted for three hours. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud shout, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why did you abandon me?" (*Mark 15:33.34*)

It's the final countdown. The last hours, minutes, even seconds of his life. Will he win or will he lose? Will evil prevail over humanity, or will Jesus defeat the enemy? It's all or nothing. There are no consolation prizes here.

Some called for a time out and said: "Wait! let's see if Elijah will come and bring him down from the cross!" And they gave him some vinegar to drink. But seconds later: "with a loud cry Jesus died". And then time stood still. Christians hold their breath. The battle for life goes beyond regulation into overtime. And this is what Jesus' death means: The battle between Je-

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Jesus and Satan happened in overtime, it is 'outside time', a battle of cosmic proportions and of eternal consequences. It's all or nothing, 'sudden death' in the fight between good and evil, and on Friday those first disciples were not at all sure what it would be.

We mark this time too, this overtime period between Good Friday and Easter. The vigil of Easter on Saturday is the waiting, the reliving, the praying, the watching, the grieving, the hoping for what will come out of all this.

We Christians belong to God's team, we are Jesus' people. We are baptized into his death and we go with him through the intensity of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. We are still on this side of our resurrection. We still deal with betrayals and denials, with death and graves and burials and tears. We mark this 'over time' on Saturday with the Vigil of Easter. Sometimes we want to despair over sin and grief, sometimes we wish to just 'call it even' with evil and death. But Jesus went for the final face-off with the opponent. Jesus did not give up. Sometimes the waiting seems too hard for us, the suffering too long. But Easter is the surprise of God's golden victory, his sudden

life. Easter announces the final score, the eternal outcome. Sudden death for God's enemy, sudden Life for us! Christ has risen! The battle is done, the medal is won, we celebrate the victory. It's "party time"!

We celebrate it as "our" victory over sin and death, "our" victory over the forces of darkness and despair, "our" resurrection and new life, which is sure to come because Jesus Christ has won. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Won't you join us for the final event?

Come for the battle. Stay for the celebration!

Maundy Thursday:

6 pm Seder Passover Meal with Holy Communion

Good Friday:

10 am German Communion Service

3 pm English Liturgy at the hour of Jesus' death

Holy Saturday:

7 pm - 10 pm Vigil organized by Trinity Youth

Easter Sunday:

7 am Sunrise Service

9:30 am German Worship Service

11:00 am English Worship Service

Thoughts from Across the Lane

by Nowlane Milner

"Life Isn't an Emergency!" This statement reminded me of when my father died, I felt like there was no tomorrow and no matter what I did I had to get it done that day. Sometimes there are never enough hours in a day to get whatever list or plan you have made, done! You end up not knowing what end is up or what direction you're supposed to go. Either you're checking an appointment book or you're making a mental list of all the things you need to do. For me, this is how I dealt with my grief, and I just burned out with exhaustion. I realized I did have more than enough time to deal with that never ending list.

For example: Monday, you get up, shower, get dressed, get ready for work, make your lunch, and then out the door. But wait, did I remember to take out something for dinner? A quick call to my life partner Bill, to ask him to make dinner that evening, then comes the list:

- Check your personal and business emails
- Work: start on the weekly bulletin
- Doctor's appointments: Check for prescription renewal - then you drop off and pick up
- Home
- Dinner
- Get ready and go to dance class (Ballroom)
- Home: Finally you have a little time to make those calls or return your emails and spending time catching up with your partner to find out about their day. Finding out that you have 3 different events for the same night, so you need to decide what the plan for that night is going to be

- Read my planned devotions and spend time in prayer
- Time for bed

And of course there is helping out on Tuesday for the Food-bank and bring home food for the angel project. It's also laundry day, making time for my fitness routine, cleaning my apartment, and with that particular Tuesday is soup night where I enjoy the fellowship. At the end of each day is my time for devotion and prayers of thanks for everything I forgot to do during the day. There is also the unexpected meeting that came up during the week. This will be my new routine for the next 6 weeks as Monika will be on holidays and I'll be filling in during the time she's away.

Finalizing holiday plans for spring break, some days I feel as if my brain is a constant list of reminders. Never mind the papers that cover my desk of things that need to get done. How did life get so out of balance over the last couple of weeks.

When it comes to making a list we ask ourselves, "How am I going to get everything done?" As a human race we do like our routines and we seem to live by our must do list. Then you receive a phone call asking you stop whatever you are doing and help out a friend and you say "Give me 10 minutes and I'll be there!" So you stop making that list and you begin to focus on helping your friend just because you are friends. At that moment I asked myself will my entire list be important from a year from now, and the answer was **NO**, this is not that important.

...see *Small Stuff* - page 3

Small Stuff - continued from page 2

This year I began to read *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff and its all small stuff*, by Richard Carlson PH.D. as my personal daily devotion. And as I read it each day, add a personal prayer and write my own reflection, I've discovered that I need to learn to be more patient with myself. It's okay to give yourself a time out. I just might learn not to let the small stuff drive me crazy or frustrate me at times, to enjoy a greater inner peace. As a person who likes to be organized I'm hoping to give up my daily list of what must get done and what I can do later. I have been told to stop planning or making plans, just go with the flow. I have some ideas that I would like to share with you on what I hope will stop you from being controlled by that never ending list of things that need to get done. Matthew 6:21 Jesus tell us "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

When I find myself thinking of a friend, I send them a note just to say "I was thinking about you and how much I appreciate your friendship." It puts a smile on my face and theirs.

I've told Bill that I'm going to invoke our date night, due to the fact that we both have busy schedules for the next couple of months. We need to spend quality time together. For us we like to just sit and talk, allowing each other 20 minutes to review the day's events, and time to change the topic. You could make this your family evening. For me this is a reminder to live in the present moment.

A few months ago we watched the "Bucket List" starring

Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman as two cancer ward patients who compose a bucket list of things they wished to do before they die. The movie moved the two of us to do our very best in living each day as if it was our last day. What I mean by that is; if there is an event or movie or something special we want to do we try to find a way to make it happen. It also could be as simple as our deciding that we both wanted to learn ballroom dancing on our second date and doing it. We are both learning how much fun it is, and we hope to continue to take class again in the fall.

I need to learn to slow down and allow myself to become bored (I don't have to plan my evening and weekend). I can hear almost every child saying sometime in their lives, I'm bored, I have nothing to do. I read the greatest answer from *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff and its all small stuff*. Tell your children it's okay to be bored, who knows (they) you just might find inner peace. (Don't give them ideas on what they can do, let them figure it out for themselves)

As for the paper pile up on my desk; first, most of it can go into my blue recycle bag, and some just needs filing. I learned to place it in a priority list and take some time each week to clear it off the list and file if away.

I find the time each day, as my quiet time, to read or write, spending time in prayer. Wednesday evening service 7:00 p.m. is a part of that quiet time. Both give me that inward peace with God. Somehow it just brings life back into balance and all the outside noises seem to fade away. Let's learn together to find an inner peace as a child of God. Hope to see you at this holy week's services.

Movies Worth Watching

by Andrea Wilhelm

Up (2009) A family movie from Pixar. That means it is all computer-animated, but let that not detract you. You will be wonderfully entertained by a story full of adventure, surprises, and fun. What I find remarkable about this movie is that its hero is a senior citizen whose life seems to be over. His love and dreams have died, and he is hanging on to the only thing he has left, a little house full of memories. But then things take an unexpected turn and he ends up in the South American jungle—with a young stowaway. The movie shows that there is hope in every situation, and that life is worth living at every age. It reminded me of Abraham, who believed against all odds that God would give him a son and a future. (Rated PG)

Fantastic Mr Fox (2009) I have not yet seen this one, but it gets fantastic reviews (pun intended). Like "Up", it is animated and rated PG, but, as stated in one review, the true issues brought up in the film may not be understood by younger children. So perhaps it's one for

adults and teens and preteens. One of the topics is identity: Mr. Fox struggles with what it means to be a fox – for himself and for his very different son. His choices impact not only him, but his family and the entire community. I

think this sounds very interesting and I can't wait to watch and discuss it with my family.

Precious (2009) The protagonist of this film, Precious, is 16, illiterate, lives with an abusive mother, and is pregnant for the second time from her mother's boyfriend. Disturbing. Horrible. And yet this is a film filled with hope. Although she's constantly told that she is stupid and worthless, is treated like a burdensome servant, and is only exposed to a perverted form of love, Precious dares to hope that there's a different truth, and she overcomes. This is a secular film, and yet the message to me is deeply Christian: "You are precious and beloved." (I would add: "by God".) The film shows the slow and difficult process of one person coming to believe this. (Rated 14A in Canada)



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Bishop's Message for April 2010

The Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord is the high-point of our liturgical life together. The mystery of the faith finds its clearest expression at Easter: "Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again." So profound are these truths of faith, and so earthshaking is Jesus' resurrection, that we celebrate Easter over seven consecutive Sundays this year.

Indeed, even as we embrace the mystery of Easter-faith we also cry out for the resurrection of our lives, and for the renewal of our life together as congregations, synod and national church. In our life together, we are experiencing lethargy and apathy. And we are not alone. The mainline denominations in general are experiencing a drift into what National Bishop Susan Johnson recently referred to as "Christianity Lite". She noted in the March issue of *Canada Lutheran* that God is calling us to "a deeper discipleship as expressed in our prayer life, study of scripture, generosity in giving money and time, service to those in need, and sharing our faith" (pg. 34).

George Barna founded the Barna Research Group in 1984 and helped it become the leading marketing research firm focused on the intersection of faith and culture. One of the themes that emerged from his research regarding religion in 2009 had to do with biblical literacy – or more correctly, the lack of it. He noted that the problem facing the Christian Church is not that people lack a complete set of beliefs; the problem is that they have a full slate of beliefs in mind, which they think are consistent with biblical teachings, and they are neither open to being proven wrong

nor to learning new insights.... By the time most people reach the age of 13 or 14, they think they pretty much know everything of value the Bible has to teach, and they are no longer interested in learning more scriptural content. We Lutherans are not immune to this trend; and that is a puzzlement considering that one of our faith-pillars is *sola Scriptura* – the Word alone.

So I have been heartened this Lent and Easter season to hear reports from a number of our congregations and pastors who are making concerted efforts to engage God's Word in Scripture. The resources to do this abound, and Augsburg-Fortress Publishing is happy to provide them. Not least of these is the *Book of Faith* initiative undertaken by the ELCA and approved by the ELCIC. Foundational courses include *Opening the Book of Faith* (an excellent way to prepare new and seasoned lay leadership to teach Scriptural interpretation), *Rediscovering the Book of Faith* (a shorter course that introduces how the Bible came to be our book of Faith), and *Making Sense of Scripture* (a great way to bring your group into conversation around seven big questions about the Bible.) As your bishop, I commend these materials to you and encourage you to re-engage the Scriptures personally and in your congregational life. And I invite you to live out your life under the banner of God's love. Christ is risen!

+Ronald B. Mayan, Bishop
Synod of Alberta and the Territories
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Called into Worship

Come, praise the Lord - Psalm 134:1-2

Edmonton's 30th Annual Good Friday Outdoor Way of the Cross



Good Friday, April 2, 2010, 10 AM
9515-104 Avenue (Boyle Street Community League)

The Outdoor Way of the Cross is an ecumenical and interfaith prayer event commemorating the suffering and death of Jesus. It invites noticing how gospel values of Jesus are important to individual and social life today.

People of all faith traditions are warmly welcomed. The walk begins and ends at the same location, with street parking conveniently available. Participants should dress for weather conditions but the walk is reasonable for most ages and levels of fitness and ability.

Full walk takes about two hours. Light refreshments are available after the final station. Donations of non-perishable food and toiletry items are invited.

"Even now there is hope. Take action, for it is your duty, and we are with you; be strong and do it."

Ezra 10:2,4

Be Bold in Our Hope
Edmonton's 30th Annual Good Friday
Outdoor Way of the Cross

Called into Worship

Special Worship Opportunities

Maundy Thursday - Seder Meal
April 1st at 6:00 - 8:00 pm *(English)*

Good Friday
April 2nd at 10:00 am in German and
3:00 pm in English

The Easter Vigil
Saturday, April 3rd from 7:00 - 10:00 PM *(English)*

Easter Sunrise Service
Sunday, April 4th at 7:00 am

The Easter Breakfast is at 8:00 am

German Easter Service - 9:30 am
English Easter Service - 11:00 am

Sunday School leads worship
Sunday, May 2nd at 11:00 am

Ascension Day Service
Thursday, May 13 at 12:00 Noon *(German)*



ALL ARE WELCOME

Make Holy Week and Easter Extra Special

On Thursday, April 1st 6:00 PM (Maundy Thursday) we will gather to eat and drink in remembrance of the Passover meal Jesus ate with his disciples. With the Jewish people of God we will remember the Exodus and celebrate the freedom we have as God's people. We will retell the ancient story and share a full meal according to the Jewish order (Seder) for Passover. We will learn about the roots of our own communion practice, what it means to eat in remembrance of Jesus, and recall his words and actions at the last Passover he celebrated with his disciples in Jerusalem.

To help us cover the cost of the meal and to know how much food to prepare tickets will have to be purchased in advance. Tickets are available after church until March 28 and from the office until March 29. Tickets cost \$10 per person and \$25 for a family.



Were You There? Easter Vigil 2010

Saturday, April 3, 7-10 pm

This year's theme: „Were You There...?“

Hour 1 - „... when they crucified my Lord?“

Hour 2 - „... when they nailed him to the tree?“

Hour 3 - „... when they laid him in the tomb?“

Easter Sunrise Service

Sunday, April 4, 7 am

„Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?“

A unique and engaging worship experience for everyone led by Trinity Youth.



WILL YOU BE THERE?

Called into Worship

Reflections on Trinity's Easter Vigil

You often hear people comment that “Christmas just wouldn’t be the same without...” We all might fill in this blank a little differently, perhaps with... “participating in a singing of *The Messiah*,” or “an outing to the woods with family to choose the perfect Christmas tree” or “the candlelight service at Trinity on Christmas Eve.” I have a similar thought about Easter – Easter would not be the same for me without spending some time at Trinity’s Easter Vigil. Initiated by Pastor Lisa many years ago, the Easter Vigil continues to be an inspiring, very personal, reflective evening. It has become much like Christmas Eve for me, in the sense that as Christmas Eve prepares me to celebrate the birth of Christ, the Vigil (or *Easter Eve* as I have come to think of it), prepares me to contemplate Christ’s rising.

Have you ever attended our Easter Vigil? Do you know what it is all about? A three hour event led by our youth with direction from our youth leaders and pastoral staff, the vigil is an evening of modern song accompanied by a band, scripture readings, monologues, dramas, prayer and interactive activities. For many of our youth and confirmands, it is a highlight of their youth group experience, as is the sleep-over and preparation for the sunrise service that follow.

And it is not difficult to see why. These teens are experiencing valuable leadership and ownership in terms of their faith and their church. Encouraged to write their own skits based on biblical themes, to be themselves, to ad lib when they like, to laugh out loud, to clap to the music, to dress

how they please, to not worry about mistakes, to hold hands, to give each other the bread and the wine, our young people learn that this can be a church for them as well, that there is no one way to be a Christian and no right way to worship. It is exactly their originality, their unique characters, their acceptance of each other and their *free-ness* that I appreciate, and their fresh expression of faith that prepares me so well for Easter morning. Easter is about new life after all and part of that for me means seeing things from a different, new, and in this case, young perspective.

Though my work with teens on a daily basis, I have come to see clearly that they have so much to give, to say and to teach the rest of us. It is no different for the teens in our church. The Easter Vigil is one way of bridging the gap that sometimes exists between the generations and of reminding us that we have God in common. At the end of each vigil when we all - children, teens, adults and seniors - form a circle at the front of the church and together experience the gift of communion, there is peace, understanding and unity.

My Easter experience has been blessed for many years by the young people of my church along with their youth leaders. Thank you, youth of Trinity, for strengthening my faith and giving me the gift of seeing the Easter Christ through your eyes and hearts.

Sylvia Becker

Partners in Faith Sundays

We are all partners in faith-laypeople and clergy, parents and children, young adults and older people, singles and couples and families. Church and home are partners in practicing and nurturing faith. To be true to our mission our congregational worship should engage all groups within this partnership.

On the fourth Sunday of every month the Sunday School children join us for the worship service. We have received feedback from a number of sources over the last few years that our traditional worship simply does not work for most families with younger children. We often receive very positive feedback when we use alternative worship styles for special Sundays, and we know from feedback and from the experience of other congregations that using a variety of worship styles helps to effectively speak to many different generations. Our Worship committee has appointed a task group to look at ways to make our services on the fourth Sunday more effective in reaching all generations. The task group has called these Sundays “Partners in Faith

Sundays.”

We want to make a special effort to practice partnership on these Sundays by providing a worship experience that offers something for all age groups and stations in life. Lutheran worship involves several standard elements: Greeting/welcome/invocation, Readings = the word of God, Interpretation/Teaching, participation in the sacraments, the prayers and the Lord’s Prayer, and the blessing/sending. We are working to create worship opportunities that are participatory and experiential, but are still faithful to the elements of Lutheran worship. They will incorporate traditional as well as modern elements, all in the service of growing closer to God and to each other. We also hope that you (the worshippers) act as our partners by providing constructive feedback to the planning group, or by getting directly involved.

To help us learn what works and what does not work we need your feedback. The task group is committed to using

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Called into Worship

Partners in Faith from page 6

the feedback from those who worshipped with us. There will be a feedback box set up in the atrium – please take the time to tell us what worked for you and what didn't so that we can improve the worship experience for everyone.

Our first Partners in Faith Sunday will be April 25. The theme for that Sunday is the Good Shepherd and the foundation bible verse is Psalm 23. Our second Partners in Faith Sunday will be May 24, which is also Pentecost Sunday. We are eagerly seeking people to help plan and lead these worship experiences. If you have a gift & interest in music, drama, puppetry, audiovisual media, computers, visual art, word art, crafts, ... and would like to contribute, please contact a member of the Partners in Faith task group listed below. Then come and join us on April 25 for what we hope will be a very engaging worship experience.

The Partners in Faith task group: Eileen Hay, Pastor Ingrid, Jordan Van Biert, Andrea Wilhelm, Ygaen Hansen, Frank Thede

Singing the Psalms

Have you ever wondered why the hymns in the new Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal start with number 151? In fact, they start with number 1; the first 150 hymns are the oldest hymns in our worship tradition – the old testament psalms. Jesus himself would have been raised to recite and sing the psalms, a tradition that was already a thousand years old when he was born. Jesus often responded to questions about himself and his mission through reference to the psalms, most poignantly in his last words on the cross: in Matthew, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" (Psalm 22:1); and in Luke, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" (Psalm 31:5).

Martin Luther consider the psalms the summary of all scripture, speaking to many situations and allowing the expression of a wide range of human response, such as adoration, praise, thanksgiving, lament, confession, intercession, and teaching. The psalms proclaim hope and faith, yet make room also for deep distress and questioning.

In many Christian traditions the psalms are regularly sung as part of worship. Psalms are intended for singing. Their meaning can certainly be communicated when spoken or read silently, yet this ancient poetry is inherently musical.

The psalm versions in the ELW are "pointed" for singing. Each psalm verse is divided into two parts, the second half verse is indented. Each has a point (·) within it which indicates when the singer moves from the single reciting note and continues with the rest of the melody. As we enter the seasons of Easter and Pentecost we will begin using the psalm tunes to sing the psalms in our regular worship. Whenever a new psalm tone is introduced the choir will help the congregation learn to sing it before the service begins. Singing the psalms is a wonderful part of worship tradition that goes back thousands of years to the time of King David. Enjoy.

Frank Thede

Called into Learning

As I learn your righteous rulings, I will praise you with a pure heart. - Psalm 119: 7, 15, 130

Vacation Bible School - VBS WILL BE HELD MONDAY TO THURSDAY JULY 12TH TO 15TH FROM 9:30 AM-12:30 PM.

BAOBAB BLAST

What is a Baobab? It is a gigantic tree found in Africa that creates its own ecosystem and is one of the world's oldest life forms. A Baobab tree's hollowed-out trunk, leaves, foliage, nectar, fruit and bark provide basic life needs for many different creatures. The baobab tree serves as a meeting place for many people to gather, discuss, and share stories.

Baobab Blast is an open invitation to be a part of God's Great Get Together. Set under the impressive baobab tree, kids will have the opportunity to hear the word, be amazed at God's wildlife creations and be a part of a supportive community.

This will be a life-changing experience for your kids as you gather together as a community and grow in faith. As the sun rises and sets on the savannah so too will faith and relationships grow as kids explore connections with God, family, friends, and others around the world. Get ready to experience the most amazing community get-together under the sun.

VOLUNTEERS

Become part of the Baobab Team. On a sheet in the atrium is listed all the positions that are required for this program. There will be **KALAHARI CRAFTS**, the **SERENGETI SCIENCE**, **MADAGASCAR MUSIC**, **SAVANNAH STORYTELLING AND GRASSLAND GAMES**.

We need Child Care Safari Members, Decoration Co-ordinator, Preschool Safari Members, Middle School Safari Members, Snack Leaders, Music leaders, Science Leader, and VBS Photographer

We also need people to distribute leaflets to the neighbourhood. Let's make VBS a chance for **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**. Then we can gather under the Baobab tree and share our stories together.

Please contact Karen and check out the atrium for the volunteer sheet if you are interested in this adventure.

Please come together to discuss this new venture on **APRIL 15TH AT 6:30** in the Social Room

Called into Giving

Happy is the person, who is generous - Psalm 112: 5 & 9

Bulletin: Trinity has donated over \$5000 to the relief effort in Haiti

National Update - Winnipeg, 11 March 2009 (ELCIC)-- In a message to members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC), ELCIC National Bishop Susan C. Johnson and Canadian Lutheran World Relief Executive Director Robert Granke thank members of the church for their prayerful and generous response to assist financially with relief efforts following the devastating earthquake in Haiti. Canadian Lutherans have donated over \$1 million dollars for the appeal that was issued after the January 12 earthquake.

A video message from the leaders may be viewed on the web at: <http://elcic.ca/From-the-Bishop/default.cfm>
The following is the text from the message to ELCIC members:

Dear friends in Christ:

We are writing to you as the National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) and Executive Director of Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR).

As National Bishop of the ELCIC, I want to thank you for the incredible generosity that you have shown in response to the disaster in Haiti caused by the earthquake. The incredible, generous support that you have displayed through both your prayers and through the gifts of your

financial resources has been overwhelming. It proves to me that we are indeed a church *In Mission for Others*. The way that we have been able to work in effective partnership with Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) to provide compassionate justice to those in need is a true sign both of our partnership and our commitment to God's mission in our world.

And as the Executive Director of CLWR, I would also like to offer my thanks to all congregations who supported the appeal to assist financially with relief efforts for Haiti. **To date we have raised more than \$1 million dollars**, the majority of which has come from ELCIC congregations. Funds will be used to carry out relief efforts in Haiti primarily through the work of The Lutheran World Federation and ACT (Actions by Churches Together) Alliance. These efforts will include providing temporary shelters, as well as water and sanitation facilities. This will help as we work towards the long term, which will include the building of earthquake resistant houses.

It's the time of Lent. And in Lent we reflect on our relationship with our God and think about how we are doing in our personal discipleship. The way that you have shown generosity in responding to the disaster in Haiti shows that you know what it means to walk closely with our God.

May God bless you and continue to watch over you during this Lenten journey.

Rev. Susan C. Johnson
National Bishop, ELCIC

Robert Granke
Exec. Director, CLWR

A Word about Stewardship

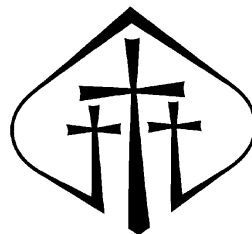
Celebrate Easter!

Chocolate candy. Easter egg hunts. Getting a picture taken with the Easter bunny. Buying new spring clothes. Chances are these are the responses most children would give if asked how they were preparing for Easter.

Like children, we would rather concentrate on the positive, happy things like spring, bunnies, chicks, candy and colored eggs, than the suffering and sacrifice Jesus made for each one of us on the cross.

Crowds flock to church on Easter Sunday, where only a few days earlier, congregations were sparse on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. People like to hear good news. Easter declares the good news that Christ is Risen!

During Lent, we are called to deepen our spiritual lives



through prayer and reading the Scriptures - to examine how we are using our talents and skills in the service of others and our giving to the poor. We are called to live as true disciples of Christ. We could look at Lent as a 40-day crash course in how to live a life as a steward of God's gifts.

As a steward entrusted with such gifts and good news of a risen Christ, what might we do in response. In St. Paul's 2nd letter to the Corinthians he writes, "He will always make you rich enough to be generous at all times."

Will we take the many opportunities to share our gifts of money, our talents and our time? Is it time to take God's promise of abundance seriously and be generous stewards of his gifts?

Happy Easter!

Stewardship Committee of the Synod

Our Church Family

How wonderful it is, how pleasant, for God's people to live together like brothers and sisters - Psalm 133:1

News from Trinity's Youth: the Triniteens

by Nathan Hay & Andrea Wilhelm

Youth Room Has New Look

After a major cleanup in the fall, we were ready in the new year to paint the west wall of the youth room. We came up with our own design—come upstairs and check it out! It still needs some finishing touches, but we like it already. Perhaps we can paint the other walls as well?!

National Youth Gathering 2010: CLAY

As some of you may know already, nine of us are going to the Canadian Lutheran Anglican National Youth Gathering (CLAY). The Gathering is from August 19th to the 22nd in London, Ontario, and will include between 1500-1800 youth. The theme this year is "Hands on", based on the Bible verse Isaiah 64:8 "Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand." At the gathering participants will

explore how God's hands shape and mould our lives, and how God works through our hands to reach out to others. This is the first ever joint Lutheran-Anglican gathering (CLAY= Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth).

I (Nathan) have never been to the National Youth Gathering before. But I'm looking forward

to finding out what it is all about. The other youth may be looking forward to atmosphere, the chance to see London Ontario, and/or all the events and workshops. I'm personally looking forward to the whole experience and all the opportunities it offers to learn and deepen my faith.

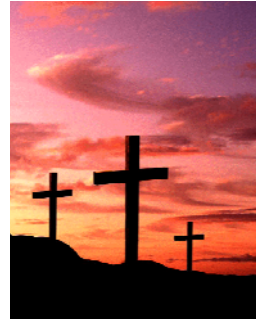
In the coming weeks and months, we will be asking for your financial support through multiple fundraisers, as well as for your spiritual and emotional support, i.e. your prayers and encouragement.

Easter Vigil 2010

At the moment we are busy preparing the Easter Vigil and Sunrise Service. Our theme is "Were you there". We are planning an awesome evening and morning with music, activities, drama, prayer, special guests, and...sorry,

no spoilers! We pray and believe that it will be a lively, personal and transformative event which deepens our relationship with God and with each other. Please join us for this very special journey into Easter. Don't think you're too old—all ages are welcome!
Vigil: Sat, April 3, 7-10 pm (or drop in any time)

Sonrise: Sun, April 4, 7-8am



April Showers bring May Flowers (on Mother's Day – May 9th)

by Elaine Watson

As we gear up for planting this year, please save room in your gardens for the Mother's Day Flower Sale the youth will be hosting on Sunday, May 9th. It was a huge success last year, so we're bringing it back again by popular demand! This is a fundraiser for our youth to attend the National CLAY Gathering this summer from August 19-22. There's sure to be a flower pot or two that will add to the beauty of your home. Also, stay tuned for details on an upcoming Golf Tournament youth fundraiser at Trinity for all our avid golf fans. This is sure to be a lot of fun. On behalf of the youth, thank-you for all your support!

Parent Coffee Talk Update

by Elaine Watson

During the past year, there has been an opportunity for parents and caregivers to get together the first Sunday of every month at 10:00 am to support each other in our lives as Christians and Christian families as we care for and are interested in young people, parenting and family life. We discuss a wide range of topics; some of which are how to strengthen parent-child relationships and most recently bullying and suicide. Led by one of the Pastors, we explore the bible as it relates to the topic followed by thoughtful discussion. We look forward to continue sharing our time together as we build our faith and trust in the Lord. Won't you join us? Babysitting is provided.

Please talk to us if you have questions about what we are doing, or if you want to get to know us. We know you care for us, and we thank you for your wonderful attitude and support.



Our Church Family

URGENT: Foodbank Helpers Needed

Trinity's Foodbank Depot is in desperate need of more volunteers. Our hamper requests have increased and we need to respond by adding a few more positions to support our current volunteers. Please help us out! The commitment is just one hour once a month, either on a Monday evening (6:00 - 7:00 p.m.) or a Tuesday evening (7:00 - 8:00 p.m.). You would be working with at least two other people on your designated day. Please call Sylvia Becker (780 433-9216) or e-mail her at smlotz@telus.net to get more information

NEW: Resource for Little Worshippers

The activity stand has bags of toys for children of all ages. Parents are welcome to use them during the worship service. Any toys that need to be cleaned can be put in the bin and will be cleaned for future use. Thanks to everyone who contributed by bringing toys or making bags. A special thank you to Louise Clarke and Karen Goldstone for their work on this project.



MINUTES

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 108TH ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Luther Centre, Edmonton, Alberta February 21st, 2010

Chairperson Frank Thede calls the meeting to order at 1:02PM
Attendance: 76

OPENING DEVOTION – led by Pastor Ingrid Doerschel

AGENDA

TACM 10-01 MSC That the Agenda be accepted as amended.

MINUTES:

Question under new business from AGM 2009 that the interest accumulated from the organ fund be moved over to the Legacy Fund. We will move this under old business on the agenda to discuss further.

TACM 10-02 MSC That the minutes from AGM 2009 be approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

Visitation Committee – There is a concern that there is a true lack of a visitation committee at Trinity for those who are in need of visits.

TACM 10-03 MSC To establish a visitation committee to visit those who are unable to participate regularly in the life of our church.

Under membership statistics – it was brought forward to start putting the names into the membership statistics rather than just have numbers. Ex. Who was baptised, married, confirmed etc.

TACM 10-04 MSC That the following reports be accepted as information:
-Letter from Bishop Ron Mayan

-Church council report
-Pastoral Staff Report
-Music Directors Report
-Membership Statistics

Nominating Committee:

-That Dorothea Phalz, Sieg Donadt, David Milne and Wilma Gwinner have completed their terms and are either ineligible for a new term, or have declined to let their names stand for re-election

-That Chris Neitsen, Will Shaffrick and Paul Ellison allow their names to stand for nomination.

-That Dieter Gruenberg(E), Talita Klingbeil(G), Barbie Onyschuck(E) allow their names to stand for a second term.

-That Guillaume Morency(E), Frank Thede(E), Dan Precht(E), Rainer Karge(G) and Roland Mischke(G) continue to serve their terms.

TACM 10-05 MSC That the nominations cease.

The following members are elected to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Council by acclamation for their first term:

-Will Shaffrick

-Paul Ellison

-Chris Neitsch

-That John Meyer is elected by acclamation as a representative to the Northern Convention Conference Convention (October 2010)

-That Megan Broomhall, Darlene Schindel and Monika Donadt-Milne are elected by acclamation as representatives to the Mulhurst Camp Congregational Association.

-That Elsie Sommers is elected by acclamation as a representative to the Lutheran Institutional Ministry of Edmonton.

Our Church Family

(Ballots distributed) That Darlene Schindel, Talita Klingebeitl, Rosanne Thede and Ursula Meyer are elected as representatives to the Synod Conference.

III) MINISTRY REPORTS:

-Suggested that we have a picture board to show the congregation who are the members of council so that people who are perhaps less active in the church committees and such can see who are the council members so that they know who they can approach.

-Suggested that the minutes from the TACM be distributed to the congregation in the next issue of the TEAM.

TACM 10-06 MSC That the Ministry Reports be accepted as presented.

TACM 10-07 MSC That the Auxillary Ministry Reports be accepted as presented.

2:18PM meeting adjourned

V) TRINITY SENIOR CITIZENS HOME SOCIETY OF EDMONTON

The 31st Annual Meeting of the Society called to order at 2:18 Pm by chairperson Dieter Gruenberg.

Amendments to the Report:

-total excess expenses should read \$10,802.00

-total expenses = 202,092

Note: Financial statements have not yet been audited. The audited report will be available March 23rd, 2010.

More information can be found at

www.ansgarlutheranhousing.com. This is a very detailed website.

Any excess revenue is held in trust until it is assessed and then given to senior homes in dire need.

TSHSC 10-01 MSC That Nancy Jeske and Ursula Meyer be elected by acclamation for a three

year term (2010, 2011, 2012).

TSHSC 10-02 MSC That the nominations cease.

TSHSC 10-03 MSC That the report of the Senior Citizens Home Society be received as information.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30PM

Note** (Manfred Jürgeleit was appointed by the board as a director or Trinity Seniors Home Society of Edmonton)

2:31 The 2010 Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Annual Congregational Meeting called back to order

TACM 10-08 MSC That the ballots be destroyed.

Special thanks to the outgoing members of church council.

Thank you so much for all of your help!

TACM 10-09 MSC That the Property Committee Report be accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report:

David Milne would like to give special thanks to the Finance Committee, Church council and the congregation for all their help and support while he was treasurer for Trinity.

-Suggestion to send out a Christmas invitation with an envelope in the invitation if they cannot attend they can perhaps give.

TACM 10-10 MSC That the financial statements be accepted as presented

TACM 10-11 MSC That the 2010 budget be accepted as presented.

New Business:

TACM 10-12 MSC To table the discussion on approving the movement of the interest accumulated in the Organ Fund to the Legacy Fund to the next annual congregational meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:41PM with a closing prayer led by Pastor Markus Wilhelm.

Respectfully submitted by Guillaume Morency

The Wider Community

For the Lord takes pleasure in his people - Psalm 149:4

Four New Camp Songs

Campus Pastor Richard Reimer used his sabbatical to write four new camp songs for our church, grounded in our Alberta context. "I thought it would be fun and meaningful for kids to see what a biblical metaphor such as "the vine" would look like in something closer to home, right under our feet, which you'll hear in "The Potato Song." He adds, "It became an 'underground' hit." In "God Created a Lake," Reimer sought to address a gap that he had noticed over several years as Resource Pastor at different church camps, namely "lyrics that reflect the gorgeous lakefront setting staring us in the face (!), and our calling to be stewards of that gift." By drawing a comparison with gambling, "New Game in Town" provokes a fresh take on the gospel by turning the rules of our 'casino cul-

ture' on its head. Finally, for "A Voice in the Night," Reimer wanted to explore what the prayer of a young Samuel might be in a world where "sirens" deafen us and tunes "written for somebody else" divert us from discerning the voice of God. "I would like to thank Mulhurst Lutheran Church Camp for the opportunity given me as Resource Pastor at MADD (Music, Art, Drama and Dance) Camp, July 27th to 31st, 2009 to write and test these four new camp songs," says Reimer. "But most especially I want to express my gratitude to Darryl Dewalt, Minister of Music at Camrose United Church, for the fruitful collaboration that resulted in the tunes." *Texts and chords, and MP3 recordings, are posted as a resource for individual camp and other faith community settings at:* <http://www3.telus.net/jamdkd/MADD.html>

The Wider Community

2010 Mulhurst Spring Women's Retreat

It takes place at the camp on the weekend of April 30-May 2. The theme is "Abide With Me" - Jesus invites us to live abundantly and to reconnect with Him, the only One who can give us the abundant life we long for. To register or to get more information, call David Bragg at (403)734-2144 or (780)389-2174 or email director@mulhurstlutherancamp.ca



**He is not here,
He has Risen!**
Luke 24:6

Mulhurst Lutheran Camp Update

Trinity Team – March 2010

A warm hello to all, from Your Place in the Son, Mulhurst Lutheran Church Camp. Trinity will have three representatives working with the camp and keeping us all informed over the coming year; Megan Broomhall, Monica Donadt-Milne & Darlene Schindel.

The camp brochures for 2010 are available for you to pick up in the church atrium. Get one now so you can plan numerous trips to the lake, winter or summer, where you can relax, have fun, volunteer your time and talent, or get some peace and recreate.

Here are just some highlights to look forward to in the coming months:

Women's retreat April 30 – May 2: take time to nurture your own balance and wholeness, promote the harmony of spiritual, emotional and physical health.

Spring clean-up Saturday May 8: work is fun when you do it with friends. Bring your energy, rags buckets and mops and join in the brigade at 10 am. Lunch and coffee provided.

Annual Bike-a-thon, Beach Volleyball, Golf Tournament Silent Auction and supper Saturday May 29. This is our annual fund raising event and a good time for all, any age, there is something for you.

Summer program kicks off with Mini-camp June 30. Want to go to camp but don't know if you can fit it into the budget? The Campership Fund is there for you.

Check out all these events and more and get registration forms and information on our website www.mulhurstlutherancamp.ca or call the camp at 780 389-2174.

Don't forget that you can call and book your special occasion or family function at the camp.

Darlene Schindel

Looking Ahead

Palm Sunday

March 28 at 9:30 am in German
11:00 am in English

Maundy Thursday - Seder Meal

April 1st at 6:00 pm (*English*)

Good Friday

April 2nd at 10:00 am in German
3:00 pm in English

The Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 3rd from 7:00 - 10:00 PM

Easter Sunrise Service

Sunday, April 4th at 7:00 am

The Easter Breakfast is at 8:00 am

German Easter Service - 9:30 am

English Easter Service - 11:00 am

Ascension Day Service

Thursday, May 13 at 12:00 noon (*German*)

The Trinity Team is a publication of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Edmonton, Alberta. The Team is published 3-4 times a year - in August, in December, in February, and in May under the auspices of the Communications Committee. Next publication date: May, 2010. Deadline for submissions for next issue - May 12, 2010. The Team is intended to serve the members of Trinity Lutheran Church as a comprehensive communications tool. The editors welcome your comments or questions. Please submit all Team articles, information, comments or questions to: TrinityTeam@shaw.ca or drop them off at the church office - Attn: Trinity Team © Trinity Lutheran Church, 2010. Source should be acknowledged if material reproduce in whole or in part.