

## From Pastor Shawn

Dear Friends in Christ,

In last month's newsletter, I was thinking about church-life essentials. This month and next month, I would like to develop those essentials in more detail. In Christ, we have become part of God's family. The Bible tells us that *"God's family is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth."* (1 Timothy 3:15, GW) and in the book of Ephesians the apostle Paul develops that idea further with an analogy to building. He describes God's family, the church, as a building that being joined together.

Ephesians says, that "the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord." In the original Greek text, both "joined together" and "rises" are present tense, which means that God is doing a wonderful work in the world, *right now*, and, you and me, we're part of it! Talk about purpose! You may feel small, and your life may seem insignificant; but you are useful to God. He has chosen you, joined together with Christ, and joined together with your brothers and sisters in Christ, to be built into a temple where He, himself, lives. He's building us into that temple right now as we live out our lives in this world. God is with us. God is working in us. How can we recognize his working in our lives? How we can encourage one another with these words?

Just as every building needs a good foundation, the church's foundation is based on what God has already told us in the Old and New Testaments. Some people aren't too sure that the Bible is reliable, but God thinks it is. Jesus concluded his famous Sermon on the Mount, with a story. He said two guys go out and they build houses. One builds his house on the shaky foundation of sand. The other builds his house on the solid foundation of a rock. When the storms come along, the guy who built his house on the shaky foundation of sand loses everything; but the guy who built his house on the solid foundation of rock remains safe. (continues on p 2)

"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,<sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.<sup>21</sup> In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.<sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit." Ephesians 2:19-22, NIV

## Trinity Mission Trip to Haiti

Four members from Trinity Urbana, Marianne, Cheryl, Dee Dee, Jan, and Dan Tappendorf from St. John's are joining with members from Trinity Bloomington to provide an Eye Glasses Clinic for the people of Jacmel, Haiti. January 7-15 the team will be providing news about the Gospel while also providing sight to people in need. Prayers are requested for the team as they



## Paw Print Ministry-Comfort Dogs

Mark your calendars! During Bible Study on January 31, Trinity Urbana will host a special visit from Paw Print Ministry, Central Illinois District. Jennifer Dahn will share the ministry of how her comfort dogs bless the people they come in contact with. She will also tell us how we and our canines can get involved. Jennifer will speak briefly at the end of each of our services that weekend, as well.

The point is that you're going to either build your life on what God says, or on popular opinion, and in either case, the storms will come. When spiritual storms, financial storms, relational squalls, moral tornados, health disasters, and the like, hit you, they're going to shake you to the core. If your foundation is not solidly built on truth that doesn't change, if it's built on popular opinion, or if it's built on how you feel at the moment, you're not going to have the assurance and strength that God provides. Even if we can't see the foundation of a building, we can tell if the foundation is not sound, because it will show somewhere in the building. When King David wanted to build a temple for God, but God said, no, He would build a house for David instead. God has given us a good foundation, and he intends for each of us to be part of His building on that foundation. Let us not be tempted to think there is any other foundation that will not be blown away. Let us determine not to waste our lives building sand castles, but instead to give our lives to a greater purpose—to our Father's eternal good purpose and plan.

Next month, I'll continue on this theme ...



## Trinity Events

- ♦ Tuesday Morning Bible Class will meet every Tuesday in January at 9:30 AM. The group meets in the Conference room at the church. Pastor Ehlers leads the discussion.
- ♦ Couples Sunday Evening Bible Study The group meets the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. A new six week session beginning January 10, 2016 will focus on the book *Daniel: Pursuing Integrity*. Email Rise Lange at [riselange@comcast.net](mailto:riselange@comcast.net) for information about the group and how to get a book.
- ♦ Living Alternatives During church services on January 16 & 17 (Sanctity of Human Life Sunday) a representative from Living Alternatives will speak for a few minutes about their ministry to women. Please join us.

## Wee Disciples Preschool News

Happy New Year from Wee Disciples Preschool! School resumes from two weeks of Christmas Break on January 4th. The focus the first week back to school will be to celebrate Epiphany and the Wise Men's journey to meet and worship Jesus. We also begin our study on space. We will learn lots of information about stars and planets. As the month continues we will focus on Jesus as a boy, Jesus getting baptized, and Jesus calling his disciples.

On January 13th, we have our second reading buddy activity where several volunteers from the church come and read with our MWF class. This will be a monthly activity thru May and a great opportunity to promote reading with our preschoolers.

We will observe Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 18th with no school for the day. Then on January 25th, the MWF class will have a parent and child activity night starting at 6:30 pm. Then on January 26th, Wee Disciples will have a Monical's Community Night as a fund raiser for our program. Watch for more information about how you can participate by either ordering Monical's Pizza or eating at Monical's Pizza on the 26th.

At the end of 2015, Wee Disciples adopted a new logo which is shown above. We are excited to use this logo as we update the website and prepare for registration for the 2016-17 school year.

Have a wonderful start to 2016 and May God Bless the work we do at Wee Disciples Preschool and Trinity Lutheran Church.

Karen Rohrer, Director and Teacher



## Community Missions



### Sharing Hearts

**Salvation Army Canteen Run:** Our current needs are socks, medium, large, and 2 XL men's underwear, size 6 women's underwear, winter coats, blankets, and water. We always need volunteers and we would like to find a coordinator. Contact [cucanteenrun@gmail.com](mailto:cucanteenrun@gmail.com) to learn more about this position. We are gearing up for our warming centers. They will be located at The Salvation Army Church, Savoy United Methodist Church, and Free Methodist Church on Mattis. When it reaches zero or below we will open up the doors to give those people living on the streets shelter. This is what we do to further show the love of Christ. If you are interested in volunteering for The Salvation Army Church or Savoy UMC you can

contact [cucanteenrun@gmail.com](mailto:cucanteenrun@gmail.com). For the Free Methodist Church contact Frank Thomas at [frank.thomas1150@gmail.com](mailto:frank.thomas1150@gmail.com).

**Our Daily Bread:** Serving food from 11AM to 12:30PM seven days a week is looking for volunteers. Shifts start at 8AM. If interested, call Cathy at 359-6500.

**Volunteer Recruitment Event:** Jan 20th from 9AM-11AM at the Stevick Center. Participants will be making crossword cards for veterans at the VA hospital and US Armed Forces overseas. RSVP requested by calling Cathy 359-6500.

## Human Care

### Making Your Resolutions Stick: How to Create Healthy Habits

New Year's resolutions—they're easy to make but easier to break. Why is it so hard to make the healthy changes that we know can help us feel better and live longer? And why is it so hard to make them last? NIH-funded scientists are learning more about how we can make healthy changes and, even more important, how we can sustain them.

"Change is always possible," says Dr. Linda Nebeling, an expert in behavioral change and nutrition at NIH. You're never too out-of-shape, too overweight or too old to make healthy changes.

Some of the most common New Year's resolutions are losing weight, getting more physical activity, eating more nutritious foods, quitting cigarettes, cutting back on alcohol, reducing stress and sleeping better. But no matter which healthy resolution you choose, research suggests that some common strategies can boost your chance of making the change a habit, a part of your daily lifestyle.

### Making Healthy Changes

- Set realistic goals. Write down the steps that will help you achieve them.
- Plan for obstacles. Figure out how to overcome them. Don't give up just because you've slipped.
- Track your progress. A journal or diary is one of the best tools for helping you stay focused and recover from slip-ups.
- Get help. Ask friends and family for support. Consider enrolling in a class or program.
- Reward yourself. Give yourself a healthy treat when you've achieved a small goal or milestone.
- Add variety. Keep things interesting by adding new activities or expanding your goals to make them more challenging. NIH



## To You Who Bring Small Children to Church:

There you are sitting in worship or Bible study. Your child, or toddler, is restless. Perhaps they're even a little rowdy. You try to silence them, and nothing. You try to pacify them with food or toys, and nothing. Eventually, you resort to the last thing you wanted to do: you pick them up, and before a watching audience, you make the march out of the auditorium. All the while, you're feeling a little embarrassed. Maybe you're a little frustrated too. You might even think to yourself, "There's no point in coming to church. I get nothing out of it because I have to constantly care for my child."



I want you — you mothers and/or fathers — to know just how encouraging you are to so many! The little elderly woman who often feels alone beams with a smile at the sight of you wrestling with your little one. She's been there before. She knows how hard it can be, but she smiles because to hear that brings back precious memories. To see young parents and their small children brighten her day, and she may have just received bad news this week about her health, but seeing the vitality of young ones removes — if but for a moment — her fears.

The older man who always seems to be grouchy notices you too. He's always talking about how children in this day have no respect or sense of good. But, he sees you — a young family — in church, and you don't miss any gathering. Like clockwork, he can depend on the sight of you and your young family. You give him hope that maybe the church isn't doomed after all, because there are still young parents who love God enough to bring their restless children to worship.

The family who's unable to have children notice you too. They'd love to be in your shoes, but for whatever reasons, they are unable to bear children. They've thought about adopting, but they're not sure if that's what they want to do or if they will keep on trying to have children of their own. They'd love to talk to you for a little while about the joys of your children. They need you!!

Then there's everybody else. Yes, some people will honestly become frustrated by noisy children in church. They have this WARPED idea and notion that reverence includes absolute silence. IT DOESN'T!!

When parents brought their children to Jesus, the disciples rebuked them (Matt. 19.13-15), but Jesus rebuked His disciples. He said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." The term translated "children" in Matthew and Mark is *paidon*. The root of the word "pedagogue" is from this word. It defined children of either an infant state, or more particularly, it was with reference to those who were half-grown and could be either males or females.

When Luke wrote his account of this narrative, he used the word *brephos*; which means "infants." Luke wasn't contradicting Matthew and Mark's account, because Luke wrote that they brought the infants "also" (Luke 18.15-17). They would have squirmed, maybe even cried. This was likely why the disciples rebuked the parents; as well as that they might have thought that the children were too young to understand the blessing Christ pronounced over them.

Bring your children to church. IF YOU DON'T HEAR CRYING, THE CHURCH IS DYING!! As hard as it might be for you as a parent, keep on doing what you're doing!! I love you and your crying children! You are an encouragement, and you're starting off your children's lives as you should!

Submitted by: Chris Roegge  
President, Trinity Lutheran Church



## 2016 Trinity Council Slate of Officers and Contact Information

Officer	Phone	Email
<b><u>President</u></b>		
Chris Roegge	217-384-7073	croegge@gmail.com
<b><u>Vice President</u></b>		
Rick Winkel	217-649-7753	rwinkeljr@live.com
<b><u>Secretary</u></b>		
Marianne Whitacre	217-840-0826	wuwei2652@me.com
<b><u>Treasurer</u></b>		
Pete Sauer	217-344-6556	psauer@illinois.edu
(asst treas) Sylvia Sauer	217-344-6556	s-sauer@illinois.edu
<b><u>Board of Elders</u></b>		
Kevin Donoho	217-586-5865	kevincca95@gmail.com
<b><u>Board of Education</u></b>		
Sandy Burt	630-699-0662	sandymc@juno.com
<b><u>Board of Trustees</u></b>		
Dan Roney	217-328-5336	gdroneys@sbcglobal.net
<b><u>Board of Evangelism</u></b>		
Ken Rott	217-384-6873	k.rott@comcast.net
Mary Jo Rott	217-384-6873	mary.rott@comcast.net
<b><u>Board of Human Care</u></b>		
Ruth Benton	217-328-4944	rabenton1@comcast.net
<b><u>Board of Stewardship</u></b>		
Dee Dee Williams	217-217-337-6601	ddwlmz@gmail.com

## Thank You From King School

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School

Mrs. Dionne Webster, Principal

dwebster@usd116.org

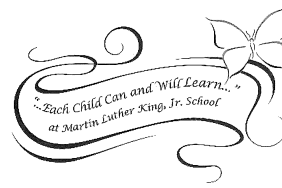
www.usd116.org/king

1108 W. Fairview Avenue

Urbana, IL 61801

Phone: (217) 384-3675

Fax: (217) 344-5610



Monday, December 14, 2015

Dear Pastor(s) and Members of Trinity Lutheran Church,

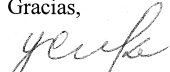
#### **For a child is born to us, a Son is given to us. Isaiah 9:6**

That child is not only a Son, He is a Father, Counselor, Savior, King and most of all a Servant who came to show us how to serve. Christ gave up His heavenly position and privileges to show us how to serve each other.

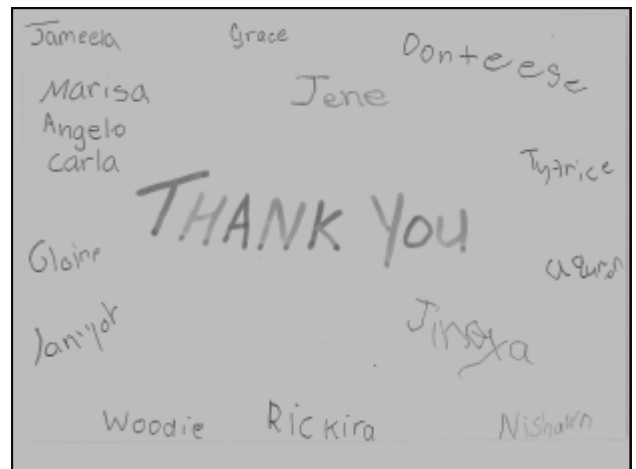
"Thank You" to the pastor (s) and members of Trinity Lutheran. I pray that as you serve some of our families here at King School, that others may serve you, and in this way the service of God reaches all in need...Amen.

A Merry Christmas  
and a  
Blessed New Year!

Gracias,



Mrs. Yolande Cooke  
School Social Worker  
Martin Luther King Jr. School





## Those Who Serve

### USHERS

Fred Holhubner &amp; John Steer

### ELDERS

Saturday: Larry Seggebruch

Sunday: Wayne Schmidt (e) Jim Rossow (l)

### ACOLYTES

1/2

1/3 Brynn Tsiakals (e) - Lizzie Stremming (l)

1/9 Blake Burr

1/10

1/16 Miller Calhoun

1/17 Gus Rossow

1/23 Miller Calhoun

1/24 Yosef Stifanos (l)

1/30 Miller Calhoun

1/31

### COFFEE HOUR

1/3 Marianne Whitacre

1/10

1/17

1/24

1/31 Larry Brown

### AUDIO/VISUAL

1/3

Chris Roegge

1/10

Jennifer Holhubner

1/17

Wayne Schmidt

1/24

Jennifer Holhubner

1/31

Jennifer Holhubner

### ALTAR GUILD

Jennifer Holhubner

### CANTORS/READERS

1/2

1/3

Denny Kane (e) Brent Burr (l)

1/9

Steve Calhoun or Kathy Mueller

1/10

Doug Bull (e) Phyllis Johnston (l)

1/16

Steve Calhoun or Kathy Mueller

1/17

Kevin Donoho (e) Randy Niemann (l)

1/23

Steve Calhoun or Kathy Mueller

1/24

Fred Holhubner (e) Chris Roegge (l)

1/30

Steve Calhoun or Kathy Mueller

1/31

David Kuehn (e) Marianne Whitacre (l)

## December Financial Report

Date	Weekly Totals	Weekly Budgeted Amount
		\$ 6,680
12/06	\$ 11,147	
12/13	\$ 6,870	<b>YTD Budget Amount</b>
12/20	\$ 4,237	\$ 347,369
12/27	\$ 16,452	
		<b>YTD Receipt</b>
		\$ 333,248

## December Attendance

Date	Attendees	Date	Communion
12/06	184	12/06	164
12/13	189	12/13	157
12/20	184	12/20	151
12/24	304	12/27	94
12/27	123		

## January Birthdays

“So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.”  
Psalm 90:12

Jan 1	Richard Kubetz Viola Strom
Jan 6	Mary Ellen Dorner Mary Ann Luedtke
Jan 7	Linda Murphy Brent Burr Roy Messmann Brynn Tsiakals
Jan 9	Melvyn Skvarla
Jan 10	Mabel Clemens
Jan 12	Kerry Rossow
Jan 13	Karl Strater
Jan 14	Mary Jo Rott Skeeter Summers Mary Williams
Jan 17	Kay Cook Mark Williams
Jan 18	Norma Strater Kamryn Suits
Jan 19	Kathy Mueller
Jan 20	Bethany Dodd Carol Niemann
Jan 21	Ingrid Ristic
Jan 22	Joyce Bell
Jan 23	Elizabeth Stremming
Jan 24	Bailee Burr Christine Renshaw
Jan 25	Rebecca Kane Terry Keister
Jan 26	Kenneth Rott
Jan 27	Sherri Voges
Jan 28	Shaun Noe
Jan 29	Phillip Bell Wanda Werner
Jan 30	Larry Brown Mark Wetzell
Jan 31	Ryan Earley Aidan Tsiakals

## January Anniversaries

“Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Jan 21      Vernon & Doris Meier (65)

*If your birthday or anniversary has been omitted, please let the church office know.*



### Pastoral Care

Pastor Shawn Boylan  
 cell: 217.379.7443  
[pastorshawn@trinity-urbana.org](mailto:pastorshawn@trinity-urbana.org)  
 Pastor Donald Ehlers  
 cell: 703.472.3624  
[ddehlers@comcast.net](mailto:ddehlers@comcast.net)

### Ministry Team

Marianne Whitacre, Secretary  
 Office Hours (M-F): 8:00-2:00 PM  
[marianne@trinity-urbana.org](mailto:marianne@trinity-urbana.org)

Brenda Donoho, Organist  
 home: 217.586.5865  
[knbdonoho@gmail.com](mailto:knbdonoho@gmail.com)

Addison Youngblood, Choir Director  
 cell: 815.494.3070  
[Youngbl1@illinois.edu](mailto:Youngbl1@illinois.edu)

Ruth Benton, Parish Nurse  
[rabenton1@comcast.net](mailto:rabenton1@comcast.net)

Jean Sexton, Caring Friends Group  
 cell: 217.840.1532 / [jsexton67@yahoo.com](mailto:jsexton67@yahoo.com)

### Sunday School

Pre-K: Jenni Gergely  
 K-3: Jill Boylan  
 4-6: Alison Allender  
 7-8: Nick Tsiakals

### Wee Disciples Preschool

[weedisciplespreschool@yahoo.com](mailto:weedisciplespreschool@yahoo.com)

Karen Rohrer, Director/Teacher