

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Newsletter, May, 2011



May Activities

Sunday, May 1st - Youth Plant Sale

Sunday, May 1st - Social Concerns Dessert Sunday!
Come, enjoy some homemade desserts and a cup of coffee or two.

Saturday, May 7th - 4:00-7:00 PM, Spaghetti Dinner,
sponsored by Trinity's Church Council. Cost is \$10
per person, children 12 and under, \$5 each.

Saturday, May 14th - 8:30 AM-1:30 PM - Social Concerns
and Youth sponsored Flea Market will be held on
Trinity's parking lot - set up takes place from 6:30-
8:30 AM. The cost for spaces if you have your own
table and chairs is \$15. If you need a table and 2
chairs, the cost is \$20. A sign-up sheet is located on
the Johnson Avenue side of the church. Food will be
available in the church kitchen for breakfast and
lunch. There will be a small charge.

Happy Spring!



As I pulled into a local restaurant near where I live in Turnersville for breakfast one day, I noticed a white R.V. with messages of gloom and doom written all over it. "The world ends in fire!" "Judgment Day is near!" "May 21, 2011 the world comes to an end." I began to think that I should go somewhere else to eat! After all, I would be bringing the notes from a Bible study in preparation for Sunday's sermon with me to read while I enjoyed my breakfast and I was not sure if I wanted to call any undue 'biblical' attention to myself. Being the brave person that I am I decided to go forward with my initial plan regardless

of the outcome. As I entered the driver of the doomsday van was leaving (I recognized him immediately in that he was dressed in white sweats and a headband all adorned with "Jesus is King" in red lettering).

I took my place at the counter and asked the waitress if I had missed anything. "No", she replied, "He usually comes in and has his breakfast and never bothers anyone." At this point I was not sure if I was disappointed or relieved. We had a little discussion about the world ending to which the waitress finally said, "I think the only one who knows when the world will end is God." Was she paraphrasing Matthew 24:36 and Mark 13:32 (But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father)? No, she was Jewish.

I continued to think about the implications of the world coming to an end on May 21, 2011. My birthday is a few days prior on the 18th. On that day I will be 49 years old. I guess I should have a big party this year since I won't be turning fifty according to the doomsday van. The good news is that we won't have to worry about Social Security running out of money. That is if the world comes to an end on May 21, 2011. I believe that we should be prepared to still be here on May 22, 23, 24, etc. Predictions about the world coming to an end are nothing new and have been prevalent since the mid-nineteenth century. Although many dates have been proposed and added to history when the world did not come to an end, most of these prophets make an excuse that they are key dates leading up to the actual date.

Even though I do not believe that any one person can predict the end of the world I do believe we can learn something from this. We are reminded that the original believers expected Jesus to return in their lifetime, in the near future. They lived their lives with this great expectation. They took great risks and made great strides spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to many people. They accomplished all this because they believed they did not have much time. For them, spreading the Gospel was an urgent priority. They believed that they were living at the end of time.

I wonder what risks we would take if we believed we were living at the end of time? I wonder what great strides we would accomplish for the faith if we lived as if each day was our last? Jesus always preached about the immediacy and immanence of God's Kingdom. Shouldn't we also give this same sense of urgency as we proclaim God's Kingdom through the saving acts and grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? Regardless of what may happen today, tomorrow or May 21st we should always take comfort in the final words of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20b, NRSV)

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Andy

SERMON PREVIEWS

May 1 - SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY COMMUNION

Sermon: **"DON'T FENCE ME IN"**
Psalm 16

May 8 - THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

BAPTISMS/SHARE SUNDAY

Sermon: **"JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH
THEE"**
Luke 24:13-35

May 15 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY COMMUNION

JUNIOR CHOIR AND JUNIOR BELLS
Sermon: **"A REAL TEST OF FAITH"**
Psalm 23

May 22 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY COMMUNION-10 AM

Sermon: **"EXERCISE YOUR FAITH"**
John 14:1-14

May 29 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY COMMUNION-10 AM

Sermon: **"A FEW SHORT WORDS ABOUT
MISSION"**
John 14:15-21

*Just
Desserts*

May 1st
Dessert Sunday

Following the 8:30 and 10:00 Services

JOIN US!



MAY 7TH
4:00 PM - 7:00PM

Trinity Council members are raising funds to replace the Narthex (back) of the church carpet with a stone marble floor. At the March Council meeting we decided on a spaghetti dinner.

A free-will offering will be taken. Circle "S" on the pew card and sign your name and the number of people who will be attending.

Thanks in advance,
Trinity Church Council

**FLEA
MARKET**

SOCIAL CONCERNS/Youth Group

MAY 14th
8:30 - 1:30 P.M.

FLEA MARKET will be held on Trinity's parking lot. Set-up from 6:30 am - 8 am. The cost for the spaces if you have your own table and chairs is \$15. If you need a table and 2 chairs the cost is \$20.

All proceeds will go to help repair the 17 Knight Avenue porch. There will also be food available in the church kitchen for a small fee.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

April came in with a bang, and went out with a bang. On April 8 - 10, eleven youth and five advisors braved a wet and rainy New Jersey Turnpike and traveled to Morristown, NJ to attend the Youth Encounter Quake/Zone. The theme for the weekend was "Hope," and was a rewarding experience for everyone involved. The most rewarding experience for the advisors was to see our kids respond so well to the message delivered by the young adults who predominately ran the programs and music.

We ended the month by hosting the Easter Breakfast and assisted with the Sunday School Plant Sale.

T-shirts continue to be on sale to support our ministry.

In May, we will be helping with the Social Concerns Flea Market, and will have a table of our own.

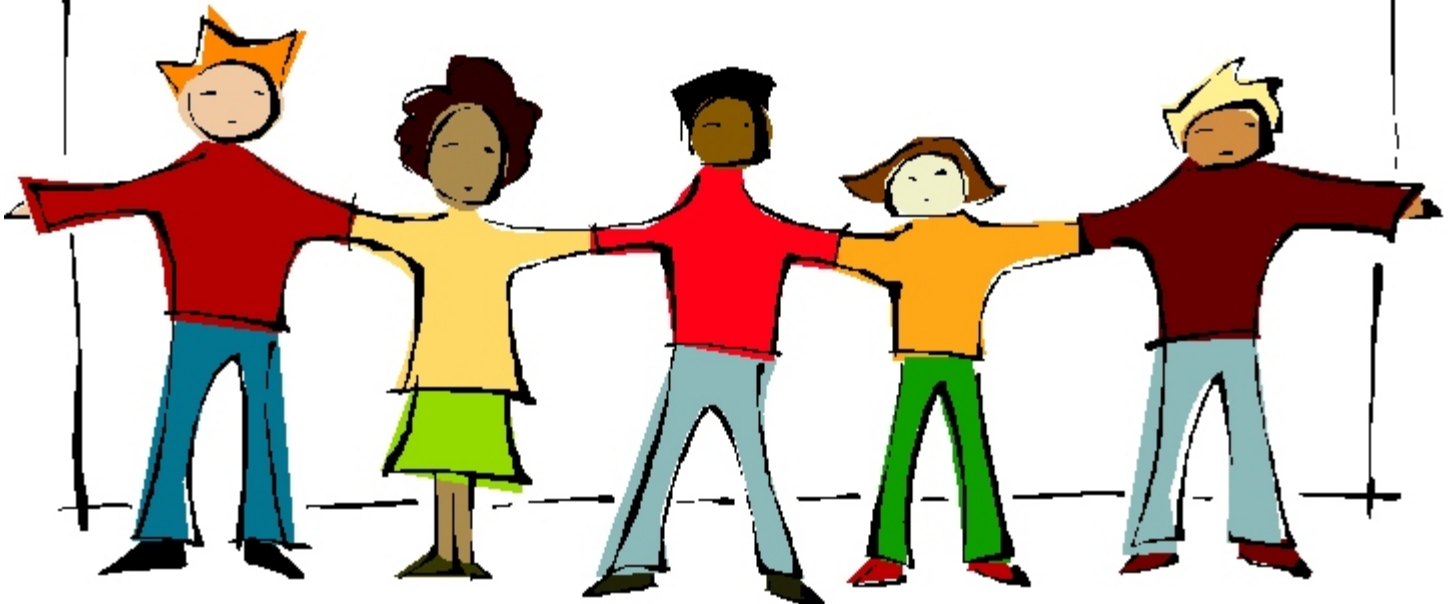
One of our goals this year was to focus on service, and by the end of June, our kids will have sponsored or been part of over 15 service projects. Great job guys!

Food for thought. The speaker at the Quake/Zone made a comment that resonated...he said that most people think of the youth as the church of tomorrow. This is only partially true. They are also the church of today!!!

In His Name....The Youth Ministry Team

NEW! YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Do you like food? Do you like to have fun? Are you a young twenty or thirty-something interested in growing your faith and meeting new friends? Then consider joining Trinity's new ministry for young adults! Whether your single, married, or even have kids, come on out and bring your friends for a time that is sure to be filled with food, fun, faith and fellowship! For more information contact CJ Kochon at cjkochon@gmail.com or 856-939-4411.





Junior Choir Notes



Time has a way of zipping on by and when the Junior Choir sings on May 15th it will be for the last time this season!

The 2010-2011 season has brought out only girls - until the last rehearsals when Joshua Cepero has joined the group. We have had a number of really young choir participants this year but the enthusiasm and good singing has been terrific! Many thanks to everyone.

As a tradition the Junior Choir has gone "out" for ice cream at the conclusion of the season. This year is no exception. We will be going to Anthony's on Evesham Road on Saturday, May 7th at noon, weather permitting. We meet at the church at noon and drive over there as a group and will definitely be back to the church by 1 o'clock, if not before. Everyone may have whatever they want: provided they eat it.


As the year comes to a close, a sincere thank you to Mr. Kraemer for so ably accompanying us. His creativity with the music is exceptional. He relates well to the children and is greatly appreciated by all.

Once again I want to thank "Miss Lisa" for her many years of service as our "choir mother." The time has come for her to do some other things with her family. If any readers of this article would be willing to help robe the choir in the fall, I would like to talk with you at your convenience.

Have a wonderful, restful summer and be sure to mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School which is to be held July 25-29 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Hope to see the present choir members and any other children in grades 1-6 in the fall. The first rehearsal for the 2011-2012 season will be on Labor Day weekend, September 4th.

See you in church! Love to all,
Mrs. Schmidt



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

*"Living by the words of the Bible
is the key to living."*

Do you have some memorized words from the Bible that help you with your living each day? Our Sunday school teachers work with their students on learning Bible verses, as well as helping them to know various Bible stories. By the way, what is your favorite Bible story?

A very big thank you to all the students and teachers who brought canned goods and other items for our Easter baskets. Also, thanks to the congregation who also brought items for the baskets and especially for the purchase of the hams. We helped 80 families who were most grateful for their food baskets.

The Spring session will end on June 12th and our teachers are preparing the new program **"Sunday School Bible Blast!"** We encourage the students to come to Sunday school through the summer, as they will find a most interesting Bible study for all grades! This program will begin on June 19th through September 4th at 10:00 am.

It won't be long before Vacation Bible School time will be here! Save Monday, July 25th through Friday, July 29th from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm to have fun with all your friends at **"Son Rock Kids Camp."**

The next staff meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 10th at 7:00 pm.

Remember: *"Take time to express your love for God and others today."*

To God be the glory,
Pat Henry

INSIGHT ON CONFIRMATION

In May, many churches celebrate confirmation, a practice with biblical roots. For example, Peter and John are sent to "[lay] their hands on" new believers and "[pray] for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit" (Acts 8:15, 17, NRSV).

In the early church, new Christians, most of whom were adult converts, received baptism and confirmation as one ceremony. As more children were brought for baptism, the practice became for pastors and priests to baptize but for only bishops to "confirm" a baptism, or make it official, granting the baptized full membership in the church.

Later, confirmation became a rite by which adolescents, often following intensive Christian education, profess for themselves the faith into which they were baptized. Some denominations prefer the term "affirmation of baptism."

Confirmation serves as a milestone of faith, when young adults begin embracing a life of discipleship with a sense of purpose.



Social Concerns Ministry

A big THANK YOU to all of you for your generosity and time that helped us assist 80 families for Easter.

For our May pantry day, we need the following items: Tuna, spaghetti sauce, paper towels, pancake mix, toilet paper, peanut butter & jelly, kids cereal, saltines and mac & cheese. All donations are greatly appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1.....Dessert Sunday

May 8.....Share Sunday

May 14.....Flea market from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm in the Church parking lot.

May 26.....Pantry open from 9 -11 am & 6 -7 pm

June 4.....Senior breakfast. Tickets are required. Contact Joanne Thornley.

If you can help at the clothes closet on pantry day from 6-7 pm, please contact Karen Bal at kb08012@yahoo.com

" People know what you are by what they see, not by what they hear."

Caring & Sharing
Sharon Feters



**SOCIAL CONCERNS/Youth Group
MAY 14th FLEA MARKET
UPDATES**

Social Concerns is seeking donations for our sale table at the May 14th Flea Market. We will be selling donated items to help raise the funds needed to repair 17 Knight Avenue's porch which among other ministries houses the Clothes Closet.

Any items you would donate to the Social Concerns sale table that are not sold at the Flea Market will be donated to a non-profit group at the end of the day, as we do not have storage space to hold items. Please understand once donated, it will be either sold on the 14th OR will be donated to a non-profit group.

We would certainly appreciate any and all donations and would need them to be dropped off downstairs in the Fellowship Hall between

**Sunday, May 8th and Thursday, May 12th
Hours for drop-off:**

Sunday, May 8 th	8:00 AM til NOON
Monday, May 9 th	7:00 PM til 8:30 PM
Tuesday, May 10 th	10:00 AM til NOON
Tuesday, May 10 th	5:00 PM til 7:30 PM
Thursday, May 12 th	10:00 AM til NOON

Please consider donating:

linens, yard toys, lamps, dishes, glasses, nick- knacks, electrical appliances, jewelry, board games, puzzles, books, crafting supplies, house hold items, sporting goods, pots & pans,"man" tools, yard tools, decorations (Christmas, Easter, Spring, Fall), collectibles, garden supplies

NOTE: Electrical items and equipment need to be in good working order.

Please, **but no thank you,** to:

infant/baby cribs, car seats, strollers, high chairs, play centers, bouncers, walkers, swings, etc. due to manufacturer/government recalls on baby equipment furniture, unless small I. E. chairs, end tables, plant stands, shelving, bins inappropriate books, DVD's, CD's, videos, games, weapons, Ouija boards, any and all occult items, Any and all clothing items should go directly to the Clothes Closet at 17 Knight Avenue.

We are also looking for some helping hands for Saturday, May 14th; an hour or so AND cupcakes, vanilla or chocolate to sell along with the lunch menu. Please do stop by to shop, purchase breakfast or lunch. There will be 17 vendors selling all sort of treasures and crafts, too.

Any questions, please contact: Carol Sheairs @856-939-4411



You will be reading this newsletter in May but when I started to gather my thoughts for it, it was still April. In fact, it was April 24th, Easter Sunday. Because I am a Christian woman I celebrated the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is such a joyous day for Christians.

On another April 24th in 1960, it was also the last Sunday in the month, but it was not Easter Sunday. It was, however, another day of personal celebration for me. I gave birth to my son, Steven.

I really couldn't remember my son's birthday ever falling on Easter before so I googled it. I was actually quite surprised to find out that the last time Easter was on April 24th was in 1859. Are you as surprised as I was? I think this is a good trivia question although Pastor Andy probably already knew the answer.

Sunshine Class held it's last meeting on April 12th with all of us bringing different desserts. We had cookies, a beautiful cake, cream puffs, jello, easter candies, chips & dip. We had 14 in attendance including a surprise visit from a member who moved to North Carolina, Cecelia Carter. We were all happy to see Cecelia and hope that she enjoyed being with us.

Our next meeting will be on May 10th at 12:00 noon. The hostesses were to be Caryl Krupinski and Clara Meyer. Caryl will not be able to act as hostess for May because she has a fractured hip. She said that she went to get out of bed and couldn't stand up. It turned out that her hip was fractured. Please remember Caryl in your prayers and maybe send her a get-well card.

We will be gearing up for June Day at the Moorsetown Lutheran Home which will be held on June 11th. We would love to have more of our Church family attend this wonderful event.

God's Love at Work,
Pass It On!

Linda Brown
President



I hope everyone noticed how nice and clean the sanctuary is now that it has been cleaned. It never ceases to amaze me what we find.

We were blessed with the help of Barbara Anconetani, Doris Smith, Felicia D'Aversa, Jane Kump, Karen Cundiff, Mary Jane Greiner, Sally Miller, Shirley Shannon, and myself.

We'll be asking for more help again in the fall.

In Christ's Service
Terry Paradise

GOD OF THE LITTLE THINGS

Little things matter. When God gets involved in the minutiae of life, unmistakably intervening in the smallest details of our day-to-day dilemmas, it means he cares enough to bother with what's bothering us. The God who created the vast universe works through life's circumstances to bring about his good purposes. That's big.

We know, too, that if God is involved in our everyday lives, he's also working on the more complicated situations — the big things. He might just be working behind the scenes.

When troubles come and God seems not to notice, think of times when he's intervened. Recount and revel in them. Rest assured in God's perfect plan for big and small. "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28, NRSV).



Dear friends at Trinity,

Thank you very much for all of your cards, prayers, phone calls and kind thoughts during my recent hospital stay and recovery.

Also a special thanks to Marie Thatcher for the beautiful prayer shawl and to Pastor Andy for his hospital visit.

Everything was greatly appreciated.

In Christian love,
Nola Speeney

BIBLE QUIZ

In the Old Testament book of Job, the title character suffers many losses. During three separate raids in quick succession, he loses his livestock and servants. While still reeling from that news, Job learns that his children died during a furious windstorm. Later, Job also loses his health, when a skin disease causes sores all over his body.

From the list below, choose the one thing Job did **not** do in response to his great misfortune:

- A. tore his clothes and shaved his head
- B. cursed God and died
- C. sat among ashes
- D. worshiped the Lord

Answer: B (See Job 1–2.)

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

What a wonderful time of year for the Trinity Family. They have risen to the occasion, by working as a team, to give our church membership so much joy for which to be thankful. Aren't you proud to be a member of our Trinity Family?

Our Social Concerns Group and their various committees presented the delicious Soup Suppers and programs, the monthly food disbursements and Easter baskets for the needy, and the breakfasts for all to share and enjoy, assisted by the Youth Group. Our choirs, handbells, vocalists, organists, pianists, and musically talented people have enhanced our lives with their musical endeavors. Kudos to our Praise Band that always leaves our spirits uplifted and our hearts just full of love and appreciation. Pastor Andy, our comedian and fearless leader, & Pastor Ed, teamed up with our church service to see that we are fortified with the spirit of Christ. Our ushers and greeters make us feel welcome. Many members have given of their time, energy, and talents to make these events so fulfilling. We, the members, have benefitted from the caring and giving of everyone involved. Thank you so much for a blessed, holy season. Our faith, hope and love have been renewed. Alleluia! He is Risen Indeed!

Our last PSM meeting was very rewarding and fun. We met on Friday, April 1, 2011. Due to a funeral service and luncheon, we met in the 7th grade room upstairs. 10 members were present: Elaine Alspach, Barbara Anconetani, Beverly Bethany, Val Colasuonno, Cathy Hornibrook, Dolores Keller, Carolyn Lunn, Sally Miller, Mary Raws and Sherri Stroup. We really had an enjoyable gabfest discussing many facets of our PSM work. We received 6 prayer shawls and 7 baptismal blankets. We also received a no-sew blanket which is beautiful.

Our corresponding secretary, Barbara Anconetani, read a thank you note from Cindy Spino for the prayer shawl she received. Barbara will be sending a thank you to Joann DiGilio who sent 3 prayer shawls she made for our ministry. All help is greatly appreciated.

Baptismal Historian, Mary Raws, stated there would be 1 baptism in April.

This chairman reported she had attended a Spring Craft Show sponsored by Hope Men's Group of the Hope United Methodist Church, in Voorhees. They had a Prayer Shawl Ministry table with some lovely ladies displaying beautiful shawls and blankets. Their group has been in existence for 6 years. They were very friendly and helpful. We will be in contact with their group leader, Judy Eavan, for possible discussions of our ministry and theirs.

We also discussed various yarns and how to substitute one for the other. The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 am. Our next meeting will be Friday May 6, 2011, at 10 am. Join us for some interesting chit chat. Questions or suggestions can be submitted to any member of our ministry or just come and meet with us.

"Until We Meet Again, May God Hold You in the Palm of His Hand."

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Family
Carolyn Lunn, President