



Trinity Lutheran Church – *Messenger*



EMAIL: *Messenger* – you can contact the church office anytime to have the *Messenger* emailed to you!

Thank you to all who have been able to sign up for the *Messenger* via email. But please remember to check your church mailbox frequently. Other mail is distributed through that means.

WEBSITE: Calendar - The church and school events are printed together on one calendar. This calendar is now available on our website: www.trinitybaycity.org

From: [WELS Evangelism Devotion Service: Daily Devotions](#)

You can receive a WELS daily devotion in your email by going to www.wels.net, clicking on the faith link, then the devotions link, and then the daily devotions link.

Over the next few months prayers written by our 7 & 8 grade catechism class will be published throughout the Messenger.

Dear Lord, thank you for bringing everyone in your mercy here today and getting everyone to school safely. Please help me and everyone else to serve you by listening to you Word in catechism and in church. And help me to share your Word with others. In your name we pray, dear Lord God.

Wyatt Towne, gr 8



**Come,
Lord Jesus!**

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS, beginning September 20th, at 9:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall with Pastor Starr, will be a five week course, entitled, **Come, Lord Jesus!** The purpose of this course is to encourage us to realize and appreciate God's saving presence in all situations of life, particularly when one is aware that help is urgently needed, and to turn to him in prayer for assistance and strength. This is a course that applies God's Word in a practical way to the difficult times many of us are experiencing right now.

10/04/09—*Come, When I Hear Your Word*—a look at King Josiah, 1 Kings 21-23; and 2 Chronicles 33-35

10/11/09—*Come, When I Have Sinned*—a look at Adam and Eve, Genesis 3:1-14

10/18/09—*Come, When I Have Trouble*—a look at Peter in Prison, Acts 12:1-19

10/25/09—*Come, When No One Loves Me*—a look at the Ten Lepers, Luke 17:11-19

11/08/09—*Come, When I Am Afraid*—a look at Jesus Calming the Storm, Mark 4:35-41.

Financial Peace – Dave Ramsey Course – Approximately 50 people are attending the 13 week course. A lot of good material is being shared.

Flu Shot Clinic - A shot clinic will be held at Trinity on Sunday, November 8th from 9:30 – 10:45 am. Flu shots are \$27 each and the pneumonia shot is \$35.

Hand Bell Choir - Handbells will begin Tuesday, Oct 6th at 8 pm. Still looking for more bell ringers. Contact Mr Yerks for more information.

Sunday School – We meet on Sundays, from 9:45 – 10:45 am.

Seniors (SCAT): The next meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 8 at 1 pm in the Parish Hall. Joe Fichtner from Heartland Health Care Center will talk about Medicare and Rehab verses Home care.

Altar Guild – will meet on Saturday, October 10th at 9 am to discuss the Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations and to set next year’s schedule. If you would like to join this group of ladies serving the church, please come to the meeting or call the church office for information. Open to all.

Youth Group September Activity – Scavenger Hunt – Meet at church at 4:00 pm. Take off in cars on the hunt of a lifetime. Meet at Pizza Hut for prizes, pizza, and pop. Discussion on “Liking Yourself.”

The October meetings will be **Rock Night** on Wednesday, Oct. 14th from 6-8 pm in the youth room at the south campus. Discussion topic: If I Only Had a Brain. Learn about making decisions. Food, pop, air hockey, and bumper pool.

Hayride – on Sunday, Oct. 25th from 2 – pm. Discussion topic: Managing My Time and Myself. A look at using our time.

4th Annual Sausage/Sauerkraut Supper – to kick-off the 125th anniversary of Trinity. Dinner will be on Sunday, Oct. 11th from 4-6:30 pm. Take-out available. Cost is adults: \$9 donation; 5-11 \$5 donation; 4 & under free. Tickets will be available after services beginning September 13th and in the church office.

Sign-up sheet for pie donations on the bulletin board.

Advent by Candlelight – It’s time to gather a committee for Advent by Candlelight. We will need a chairwoman or co-chairwomen and 6 ladies for various duties. The date is tentatively scheduled for a Sunday in November. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board for anyone interested in being on this committee or you can contact the church office at 892-5435.

Van Expenses – Funds are needed to maintain and purchase gas for the van. This is not in the budget.

Taped Services – The church service is now being taped on DVD. If anyone would like a copy of the service please contact the church office (892-5435).

Member Hospitalization - When a loved one goes into the hospital, please have a family member contact the church and let us know. One of the pastors will make a visit.

FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED

We want you to know that the sound system includes four special receivers for the hard of hearing. We have outside of the ear headphones available or you may wish to bring your own headphones. The receivers take a 1/8" (3.5mm) jack. Ask an usher if you would like to try one of these special Williams Sound System receivers.

Treasurer's Reports: We do not publish it in the *Messenger* because of the cost of paper. However, one will be provided via your church mailbox if you contact the church office.

End of August 2009 Fund Balances

General: \$(4,700) Missions: \$11,303 Building: \$60,875 Project Share: \$5,244

Membership/Pastoral Activity

Baptism: Madelyn Harder

Communicants: 699

Souls: 878

ATTENDANCE	Early	Late	Mon.	Total
August 23	126	137	60	323
August 30	119	204	72	395
Sept 6	94	114	41	249
Sept 13	141	170	51	362

Schedules **Usher**

Technicians

Oct 4	Team #1	Team #2	S. Heinz	C. French
Oct 11	Team #3	Team #4	A. Ferrio	R. Fawcett
Oct 18	Team #5	Team #6	J. Arrowsmith	P. Kolb
Oct 25	Team #7	Team #8	K. Baeckl	D. Bula

Mon. Oct 5	Barry Schmidt	M. Kaplenski
Mon. Oct 12	George Hausmann	H. Howard
Mon. Oct 19	Earl Jacobs/Everett Jacobs	C..Festerling
Mon. Oct 26	Dustin Gwizdala	C. Festerling

Nursery – The nursery is open for worship services. It will be staffed for the 11 am service only.

Dear heavenly Father, Thank You for this wonderful day and that everyone got here safely. Please help us learn more about you and do well on our memory work. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Charlsey Sayles, gr 8

September Reports

Administrative Report – Pastor Starr

TASKS ACCOMPLISHED BY GOD'S GRACE

1. Amazing Grace Bookstore—More day managers are volunteering and being trained. More volunteers are always welcome! The first year anniversary was celebrated. Story hour continues. The bookstore continues to pay for its utilities and its portion of the LACE loan. Tell your friends about our bookstore. Hold a meeting at our bookstore.
2. Began teaching *Wednesdays in the Word* on *Luther's Small Catechism*. We welcome several new members to this Bible study. Comments have been very encouraging. There is still time to join us.
3. Began preparation of the next Sunday morning Bible class, *Come, Lord Jesus*. This class focuses on Bible characters who experienced similar situations to us today. We ask Jesus to come to us when we hear his Word, when we have sinned, when we have trouble, when no one loves us, when we are afraid. Join us!
4. Assisted with the first phase of "Listening Sunday," gathering information from the congregation to help us determine the direction of the congregation in the coming years. Thank you to all who participated in phase one and especially our listening facilitators. The results of the listening sessions will be published in *The Messenger* as soon as they are compiled. A task force will use that information to formulate a proposed mission plan that will be discussed several times, revised, and eventually adopted by the congregation.
5. Began teaching 7th and 8th grade Catechism class in our LES three days a week. Something new this year: parents can check grades and assignments online.
6. Began teaching 7th and 8th grade Catechism class to our public school students on Thursday afternoons. Sent letters to and telephoned all potential students for both the Catechism class and the 5th and 6th grade Bible history class taught by Susan Patchett.
7. Listed a car donated to Trinity by a member to help with the General Fund deficit on Craigslist. The car is a 1981 Pontiac Trans Am Turbo 4.1 with fewer than 60,000 miles, no rust, maroon with gold Firebird decals, nearly showroom condition inside and out. If you are interested in purchasing, speak with Art Joitke or Pastor Starr.

8. Assisted with benefit spaghetti dinner to assist 2 Trinity families with MLS tuition for 4 students. \$3,144 was raised; thank you!
9. Stacy Burzynski, a member of St. John, Bay City, is a new Project Share counselor, working 10 hours a week. We have two candidates for the position of part-time director. New fund raising ideas are being discussed.

TASKS PLANNED FOR NEXT MONTH ACCORDING TO GOD'S WILL

1. Preach at Sheffield Bay Assisting Living Center and Bay County Jail.
2. Assist with tending and harvesting Trinity's community garden.
3. Complete work on a congregational survey regarding ministry direction.
4. Continue teaching Catechism classes, *Wednesdays in the Word* Bible classes, and begin teaching Sunday Morning Bible class again.
5. Begin 2010 budget process with all boards and Financial Advisory Committee.
6. Continue counseling with several people who need help from God's Word.
7. Attend WLS Symposium on Congregational Health as part of my continuing education.

Outreach Pastor Report – Pastor Mark Schulz

Our Financial Peace University class has 41 participants signed up for the 13 week DVD and discussion class. Ned Kleinke, Mike Neal, Sue Hopfinger, and I will be facilitating the break-out discussion groups which take place after the 1 hour video is watched. This class helps people to get out of debt, save more than ever before, give generously and invest wisely. Over 600,000 people in the United States have taken this course. At the present time, we have 4 unchurched families participating. An opportunity for outreach presents itself to these families. Further, it would be wonderful if more young couples in our congregation would consider taking this class at a later date when we offer it again. I think that money issues can be a great disrupter in families, and to have peace in this area, sure is a wonderful blessing from God.

A schedule for our youth group has been put together for the next 12 months. We have an exciting curriculum for the teens which includes retreats to Traverse City and Tawas, lock-ins, concerts, and worthwhile service projects. Our first youth activity for the fall will be on September 27th at 4:00 P.M. A road rally, pizza, and self-worth study is on the agenda. I plan on calling all the teens on the phone every other Wednesday night to see how they are doing and update them on activities. Eleven parents of our teens have committed to helping us out this year.

Our pre-school, childcare, and Day school has the highest number of unchurched families that I have witnessed in the past 20 years. There are 13 families. The challenge remains for all of us to build relationships with these families. In order to facilitate this goal, we are looking at scheduling family based activities during the year, where these people will have a chance to meet member families and feel more at home with us. It is all too easy for these families to just bring their kids to school and disappear without connecting. May God help us to connect with them.

During the month of August I had a small group leader's cookout and informational meeting at my house. 20 people came to the cookout. After having food and fellowship, I displayed the course curriculum ideas to the group leaders. On September 20th, they will be available in the parish hall during coffee hour, as well as after the 11:00 A.M. service to meet members who are looking to participate, and also to let people know the topics and times.

Letters were sent out and phone calls made to 30 prospects inviting them to our fall New Life in Christ class. I am anticipating from 6-8 people taking the class.

A recruitment letter was sent out to 16 families asking them to consider helping out once every 2 months in our nursery during the 11:00 A.M. service. Cindy Schlosser has agreed to be the head coordinator of our nursery and contact those who received a letter to see if they will be willing to serve in this capacity.

I visited 21 shut-ins during the month of September. It is always a joy for me to visit these members. They are very appreciative when their pastor brings them communion and has a devotion with them. I will complete my PowerPoint Revelation study with the coffee hour participants on September 27th. Then I will begin a Sunday night study beginning on October 4th with my small group. Our topic will be "Dealing with Teens". See you next month.