

Trinity Tidings

May
2015

Trinity Lutheran Church, 1010 Sill St, La Crosse, Wisconsin



Erik Feig
Lead Pastor

In light of our congregational conversation on April 19th about the Church in the 21st century, I find it fitting that we re-visit my newsletter article of one year ago, now viewed within the context of that informational meeting. I pray the eyes of our hearts are enlightened, and we're open to the realities of being the Church in our culture today.

"And they devoted themselves to the apostle's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2:42

Such began the life of believers in Jesus. No buildings. No programs. Just gathering together to live this new life in Jesus. They gathered together in their homes, in the places they worked, at the places they played – wherever they were together. They met at different times too.

No set schedule, no 'one hour' requirement. Time and place weren't the important features of this new found life. Being together, praying, breaking bread, fellowship and attending to the Apostle's teaching, then living that in their everyday life, that's what mattered. Christians were known as 'Followers of The Way', a way of living that made a difference in their lives and in the world. That hasn't changed. But we sure have!

We now have come to believe that going to a building we call 'The Church' is the same thing. Going to church has become the hallmark of Christianity and the Christian faith life. Good Christians go to church, right? Ever felt guilty for not going? Ever been given a hard time by your friends for missing church? For centuries now, ever since Constantine made Christian worship legal in 313 A.D. and made it a hallmark of the culture, we've been encouraged to consider going to church as the mark of Christian faithfulness. While going to church is a great thing, over the years it's had some devastating effects on our world. Many people now simply go to church and call it good. They're satisfied with church attendance, and not concerned at all with living their faith in the world in which we live. Churches applaud this, by the way – Churches make attendance figures the measure of their success – the more people in church, the more successful they are as a church. But this kind of success, whether for the individual who attends or the church that marks attendance has led to a culture where Christians no longer make disciples. Christianity in America is in decline, and those who claim no religious preference is on the rise. The Church has been going to church for way too long! The call of Jesus is for us to make disciples, not simply go to church. As long as we're satisfied with going to church and not being the church, the future of the Church is in jeopardy. It's time for a change. It's time to be the church. It's time for you and me to be faithful in our lifestyles, loving our neighbors as Christ has loved us. It's time for Trinity to stop using numbers of people who went to church on a weekend as the measure of success, but rather use the number of growing relationships with people who are not Jesus followers as our measure of whether we're a successful church or not. Do you see the difference? Do you see God's call to you to live your faith and make a difference in this world? This is Kingdom work. This is what we're called to do and to be.

Going to church is great. Being the church is better, and our call from Jesus. Over the next months and years we'll be making the shift to this kind of understanding of what it means to be the church in the 21st century. The life of the greater church is at stake. It's that serious. Here we go!

In Christ,
Pastor Erik

Inside this issue:

Worship	2
Service Groups	3-4
Congregational Life	4
Children, Student & Family Ministries	4
Calendar	5

Worship



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Summer is approaching and the worship of our God who has created this beautiful place of our dwelling continues! Services of worship will be 5:30 Saturday evenings and 8:30 Sunday mornings in the Sanctuary.

Summer Worship Schedule (May 31 - Sept 6)

Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend

Saturdays 5:30pm (indoors)

Sundays 8:30am (indoors)

Sundays 10:30 Every 2nd Sunday of the month (June 14, July 12, Aug 9 outdoors)

This summer there is another opportunity for worship..."SECOND SUNDAYS OF SUMMER"! Come Praise, Relate, Confess in community on June 14th, July 12th, and August 9th. The second Sundays of the summer months, for worship and fellowship, are created as a special time of God's community. These will be held **outdoors at 10:30 on Trinity's lawn if weather permits (Please note that there is no weekly 10:30 service for the summer).** This will be a time of thanksgiving, praise, music, and fellowship. What do you mean by fellowship? Why conversation and good food with friends of course! Keep watching as more details will be provided in the bulletins, website (www.trinitylutheranlax.org), and Facebook (Trinity Lutheran Church—ELCA) in the upcoming weeks. Warm up your lawn chairs, it is going to be a sensational summer!



The Choir Anniversary Tour will be at: Trinity Lutheran Church on May 5
1010 Sill Street, La Crosse, WI 608-782-6200 7 p.m. show.

Tickets are free at the door!

Come and Celebrate Pastor Erik's Birthday!

GRAMMY®-NOMINATED BAND THE CHOIR TO CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF ICONIC ALBUM *CIRCLE SLIDE* WITH ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME TOUR *joined by Michael Roe of the 77s on bass and opening set featuring music from the classic 77s album, Pray Naked.*

The Choir is a Nashville-based acclaimed indie rock band that originated in Los Angeles 30 years ago. Since then, the band – still with its original members - has released 15 studio albums for Best Alternative Album.

Circle Slide released to widespread critical acclaim. Its moody, dreamlike sound comes alive on memorable tracks like "Restore My Soul," "A Sentimental Song" and "About Love."

Service Groups



Gene Rochester: 608-780-1283

Pat Rochester: 608 780 8520

Love Thy Neighbor Jar? What's that? A unique giving basket provided at each weekend worship service with money gathered going to different ministries outside of the church each month!

From the Heart Food Pantry

The food pantry was very busy in March. We provided for 483 guests, which is the most people we have served in a month.

Gene and I have been running the pantry for 3 1/2 years and it has been so awesome! Before we started being open every Monday I prayed that we would be successful. God is faithful and has shown us the great need in our neighborhood. We are doing our best to meet those great and continuous needs with the resources provided. Food donations may be put in the box in the narthex, and monetary donations may be mailed or brought into the office. Have a wonderful Blessed Day!! PAT

Item of the month: PASTA (excluding spaghetti - we have lots)

Serving the World

Monday Meals

On April 13th a wonderful group from Trinity greeted our guests and served a delicious and nourishing meal to over 100 people from our neighborhood. Would you like to be involved? Please call Kathi Volden at 783-1184 or come to Monday Meals, served at Trinity every Monday 5-6pm.

Toy Drive for Foster Care

We're having a summer toy drive for children in the foster care program. A kiddy swimming pool will be in the narthex for us to donate toys such as sidewalk chalk, jump ropes, Frisbees, or any toy for outdoor summer fun. Please consider bringing a fun toy to put in the pool!

From the Heart Food Pantry

Have you visited "From the Heart" food pantry in our fellowship hall? This month we ask you to donate pasta (but not spaghetti, which we have in abundance). Pasta or any other non-perishable food may be dropped in the box in the narthex. Also, monies from the "Love Thy Neighbor" jar in May will be donated to this cause.

Blood Drive

Trinity will be hosting the Northside Blood Drive on May 20th from 1-6pm. Please consider participating if you are able. For your convenience, you can make a reservation by calling Julie Thoftne at 783-0443; however walk-ins are always welcome!

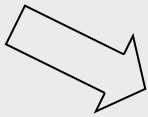
Little Free Library

Have you ever passed by or gotten books from a "Little Free Library"? We are going to have one right here at Trinity. Could you build it for us? Lisa Caya has a "floor" plan and you can contact her at 792-4721.

Coming attractions

Personal hygiene item drive for The Salvation Army, Trinity Chicken-Q, and Habitat for Humanity build. More info to come!

Service Groups, cont.



Open to the
public!

Invite a friend and
plan to attend!



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Karla Korish
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Live Traditional
& Celtic music!

Spaghetti Supper

to benefit

From the Heart Food Pantry
(Supported by Hunger Task force)



Thursday, May 7, 2015

Trinity Lutheran Church

4:30-6:30pm

Spaghetti
Garlic Bread
Salad
Beverage
Dessert
\$8

Annual Northside Neighborhood Block Party!

Plans are in motion for this year's Block Party, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2105 on Sill street in front of the church. The planning team is meeting on Wednesday, May 6th at 6:30 pm at Pastor Erik's house (1636 Loomis), and anyone who'd like to help with the planning of this awesome event is encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Pastor Erik. See you on the 6th!

Congregational Life

After a very busy spring with Lenten Lunches and Dinners and Sunday Brunches, we are taking the month of May off but are planning some fun events for summer that we hope you will participate in!

- ◆ Wednesday, June 17, Loggers game, we'll be getting a block of tickets. Great family night out!
- ◆ Wednesday, July 8 (Rain date July 15), Concert In The Park at Riverside Park. Let's meet early, bring the whole family and a bagged lunch. We'll provide water, soda, and cookies.
- ◆ Sunday, July 26, Golf, Bowling, Cards (something for everyone) at Coulee Golf Bowl, eats to follow!

Be watching for more details, but mark your calendars now!

Children, Student & Family Ministries


JOLT Youth Group

With the busyness of spring schedules, we will not be meeting in the month of May.



May 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:30 Men's Bible Study Office Closed	2 5:30 Worship (C)
3 Confirmation 8:30 Worship (C) 10:30 Worship (C)	4 9:00 TOPS 4-7Kids' Clothes Closet 5-6 Monday's Meals 5:30 From the Heart 7 Women's Bible Study	5 7 The Choir in concert 7 Boy Scouts	6 6:30 Block Party mtg	7 4:30-6:30 Spaghetti Supper fundraiser	8 Office Closed	9 5:30 Worship
10 Mother's Day 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship	11 9:00 TOPS 4-7Kids' Clothes Closet 5-6 Monday's Meals 5:30 From the Heart	12 5:30 Social Ministry 7 Boy Scouts	13	14	15 6:30 Men's Bible Study Office Closed	16 5:30 Worship (C)
17 8:30 Worship (C) 10:30 Worship (C)	18 9:00 TOPS 4-7Kids' Clothes Closet 5:30 From the Heart 5-6 Monday's Meals 7 Women's Bible Study	19 7 Boy Scouts	20 1-6p Blood Drive	21 1:30 Prayer Shawl	22 Office Closed	23 5:30 Worship
24 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship 31 8:30 Worship	25 Memorial Day 9:00 TOPS 4-7Kids' Clothes Closet 5-6 Monday's Meals 5:30 From the Heart	26 7 Boy Scouts	27	28 6pm Council mtg	29	30 10-2 From the Heart 5:30 Worship

Trinity Tidings is a monthly newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church, 1010 Sill Street, La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603. All visitors are welcome to worship with us each Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 8:30 & 10:30. Communion is on the first and third Sundays of the month and the associated Saturday. Erik Feig, Lead Pastor. The church office telephone number is (608) 782-6200.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1010 Sill Street
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sundays 8:30 & 10:30am

Radio Service Broadcast at 8:30am
on WKTY AM 580

Summer Schedule—beginning May 23

Saturday 5:30pm (indoors)

Sunday 8:30am (indoors)

Sunday 10:30 on 2nd Sundays (June 14, July 12, Aug 9, outdoors)

Website: www.trinitylutheranlax.org
Church Office: office@trinitylutheranlax.org
Pastor Erik: Pastorerik@trinitylutheranlax.org