



# Trinity Ties

## Communication in the Congregation

### September - 2010

Volume: 24      Issue: 1



### *"Your Rod and Your Staff"*

While the rod and staff have many similarities they are distinct items of the shepherd's equipment. While both are slender sticks the rod has a shaped smooth head at one end formed by carving or whittling the base of a sapling where its trunk joined the roots. The staff is the long, slender stick with the recognizable hook or crook at one end. The rod conveys the concept of authority, of power, of discipline, of defense against danger. The staff speaks of all that is long suffering and kind.

The rod serves as a ready club and in the hands of an experienced shepherd is a formidable weapon. It is a projection of the shepherd's power; an extension of his authority. The rod can be compared to the authoritative Word of God with its convicting power and irrefutable impact.

To "pass under the rod" means to be singled out. Being selected for a TSA search at the airport is a parallel that comes to mind. The shepherd uses the rod to part the sheep's wool to examine the condition of the skin and fleece and determine the animal's overall health. This is a picture of our God's discipline, while at times trying it is only done out of concern and compassion for our well-being.

The staff is the symbol of the shepherd's concern and compassion and functions to bring comfort to the sheep. The staff with its hooked end can gently lift a newborn lamb and bring it near its mother if ever separated. This is important because even the odor of the shepherd's hand may lead the mother to reject the newborn. With the hooked end the shepherd can reach out and catch an individual sheep, young or old, and draw it close for examination or free it from a thorny situation that has entangled it.

Jesus promised us just such a source of comfort that would guide and encourage us and draw us close to Him, His Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit and the Word of God are intimately connected though also distinct.

It was the Holy Spirit who carried along the men of God to write the Word of God. And through that same Word of God the Holy Spirit drives us to remember what God has done for us and has promised to do for us. It is the Holy Spirit through the Word of God that strengthens and encourages faith. The Holy Spirit through the Word of God are the rod and staff our Good Shepherd uses to and comfort and guide us through life.

Pastor David Wierschke

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

On August 25, Trinity Lutheran School opened its doors to 117 eager K-8 students to learn and to have fun at school. This year's theme of *Equipping to Proclaim* serves well as a motto, for the children are taught daily the truths of God's saving grace, and in so doing, are being readied – equipped – to share the Gospel message with others.

On Tuesday, September 7, Mrs. Burgess and Mrs. Brug will welcome 28 bright, happy little faces as the Preschool begins its season.

New to the teaching staff this year is Principal David Habeck who comes with a wealth of experience. He will teach grades 6 and 7 in the morning, along with 8<sup>th</sup> grade English and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Catechism. Also new to the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade classroom is Mrs. Cate Free who comes with two years of teaching experience. Her youth and enthusiasm will be found in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade classroom in the afternoon. See their bios later in this issue.

Many, many thanks should be given to Mr. Hertig who served as Trinity Lutheran School's principal for 21 years. Throughout the community, TLS has established itself as a school of high academic achievement. That reputation doesn't evolve unless the school has had a good leadership. This year he will serve as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, a big job just in itself. When you see him, be sure to thank him for his faithful, selfless service to this congregation and to our God.

New this year is a weekly school newsletter entitled *Trinity School Times*. Ask for a copy at the school office, or it will soon be online on the church/school website. The newsletter gives a weekly snapshot of the week's busy school activities.

A favorite Bible passage of mine is Colossians 3:23. Look it up. It is how we go about our business here at TLS.  
To God be the Glory!

### WELCOME, MR. HABECK & MRS. FREE!



**Mr. Habeck** returns to the role of principal after a 23 year stint as a high school teacher, coach, and athletic director. After graduating from (D)MLC, his first Call was to Zum Kripplein Christi, a one room school in rural Iron Ridge, Wisconsin. He served at ZKC from January 1974 to January 1978 when he left ZKC mid-school year to be a principal, teacher, and coach of a one-year-old school, Emmaus Lutheran of Phoenix, Arizona. Mr. Habeck served Emmaus for 9 1/2 years from January 1978 to July 1987.

From 1987 to 1993, he served Arizona Lutheran Academy in Phoenix as teacher and coach for a variety of sports including varsity boys basketball and girls fastpitch.

For the last 17 years, Mr. Habeck served as athletic director, teacher, varsity boys basketball coach, girls fastpitch, and transportation director at

Evergreen Lutheran High School in Des Moines, Washington.

He and his wife **Gretchen** have six children: (son Seth, and wife Connie and son Caden of Puyallup, Wa); (son Samuel of San Francisco, Ca); (daughter Heidi and husband Nathan of Minneapolis, Mn); (daughter Natalie and husband Ben and daughter Arabella of Melbourne, Florida); (son Nicolas and wife Nicole and children Lily, Gabriel, and Rudy of Puyallup); and daughter Angelica of Puyallup.

Dave and Gretchen celebrated their 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this past July.



**Cathryn Free** (nee Zarling) was born in 1985 in Fort Atkinson, WI to Pastor Mark and Colette Zarling. Her family moved to Mequon when her father accepted a call to the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

She graduated from Luther Prep School in 2003 and then from Martin Luther College in 2007. She was assigned to St. Paul's Lutheran School in St. James, MN where she taught fourth and fifth grade for two years.

In July 2009, she married Joel Free, a seminary student and son of Pastor Doug and Mary Free from Rapid City, SD.

This last year, Joel served as a vicar in Sun Prairie, WI, while Cate worked as a nanny for two children in a nearby town. They moved to Mequon in August where Joel will finish his last year of schooling.

## NEWS FROM WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

**Friends of the Seminary Day is October 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Sponsored by the Seminary Auxiliary, *Friends of the Seminary Day* offers a wonderful opportunity to WELS men and women to visit the campus and learn more about the seminary's work. Scheduled for Saturday, October 2, the day begins with a coffee and sweets registration hour at 8:00 a.m. and an opening service at 9:00 a.m. Morning activities include presentations by students and faculty members that share interesting and personal information about our world mission fields. Following a noon meal, guests may visit and view the seminary's beautiful buildings and campus either on their own or with a student guide. To reserve a place send a \$10.00 registration fee to Lori Guse, 11831 N. Seminary Dr., Mequon, WI 53092 or call the seminary at (262) 242-8104.

## NEWS FROM WLC

**Rachel Strutz**, class of 2010, was named Wisconsin Lutheran College's Student Employee of the Year. She worked in the athletic department. Congratulations on this achievement, Rachel!

## HUNTER'S EDUCATION CLASS

The Boy Pioneers will be hosting a Hunter's Education Class in the Fellowship Hall on Mondays from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. beginning September 13<sup>th</sup> through October 18<sup>th</sup>. Participants must be 11 years or older to take the course, and must be 12 years or older when passing the class in order to receive the small game hunting license and antlerless deer tag. The cost of the course is \$10. There is a sign-up sheet in the church entry. You may contact Jon Kassen at 262-681-9165 with any questions.



**SURVEY SAYS!** One year ago, 202 adult members were given a survey of 21 questions about ministry here at Trinity. While the results were shared shortly thereafter, the following are the results of two questions regarding outreach:

**If given the opportunity to participate in training for outreach ministry, I would:**

- 28 Run the other way
- 114 Be cautiously interested
- 38 Be available if asked
- 7 Sign up

When asked to rank the three most important purposes of Trinity congregation, 98 members ranked "Outreach to non-Christians" in the top three.

We have 21 adults and 15 kids signed up to canvass on September 11. Your opportunity to participate is here! We need 32 more adults and 32 more kids to reach our goal! **Will YOU be ONE of the 100?**



**Joint Celebration Service  
Racine Area Congregations  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26  
5:00 p.m.**

snacks and fellowship **before the service**  
starting at 4:00 p.m.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Racine

Celebration Service Offerings  
donated to WELS Walking Together

**WALKING TOGETHER**

**Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

*Celebrating the work we accomplish by God's grace, as a synod.*



**Calvary Academy** is a residential facility for troubled teens. Several years ago they moved from their South Milwaukee site to a campus in Florida from which they could provide year-round care. A quarterly mailing, "*Calvary Connection*," is available to make people aware of the Calvary Academy ministry and how students are responding to their ministry of hope through Jesus Christ. To be added to their mailing list you can personally contact Calvary Academy at [camoffice@calvaryacademy.net](mailto:camoffice@calvaryacademy.net) or inform one of the pastors you would like to be added to their mailing list. Members of Trinity support Calvary Academy through the Calvary Academy envelopes that are part of their yearly envelope packet.

**BE AN ENGLISH CONVERSATION PARTNER**

Do you want to meet some interesting people from another culture? Then here is the *perfect* opportunity for you! Volunteer to tutor adults in English at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 2827 W.Harrison. The next module begins **MONDAY, September 13, and ends on THURSDAY, November 18, 2010**. Classes meet Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, from 6 to 8 p.m. You sign up for the dates that **fit your schedule**.

Requirements: the desire to learn about people from other cultures, patience and empathy, standard English, the ability to follow instructions, the responsibility to show up on the days you signed up for, or **CALL** us if you have an emergency. Spanish skills are not required.

For more information on the volunteering contact: Lori Stankiewicz, Managing Director, WELS Model English Language Program; phone: (414) 645-0492; email: [esllab@onecommail.com](mailto:esllab@onecommail.com).

## THRIVENT CHOICE IS HERE! WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

By now each eligible Thrivent member should have received a letter asking him/her to make a choice where you would like to direct your share of Thrivent's **CHOICE DOLLARS**. We hope that all of you would choose to use them to support Trinity's "Grow in Grace" expansion program. This Choice program replaces the former "Matching Funds". It does not replace regular "first fruits" giving.

This letter indicated an approximate dollar amount that you could direct to various charitable organizations. These amounts can range anywhere from \$25 to \$800, depending on what or how many different Thrivent products you own. These amounts are not available all at one time. They accumulate during the year. In order for Trinity to get any benefit from the Choice Dollars you accumulate **YOU NEED TO DO SOMETHING**.

**What should you do?** You can follow the directions in the letter to either **go online** (if you are computer savvy) to Thrivent.com/choicedollars to begin. You will need to register and set up yourself and any members of your family that are eligible. **Or call** 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice". You will then be connected with an associate who can help you over the phone. (This may be the easiest) If you did not notice what the letter was about and accidentally tossed it out, please call the above phone number to get started.

Regardless, if you go online or make the phone call, please **designate TRINITY EV LUTHERAN CHURCH, Caledonia, Wisconsin** as your designated charity. You will have the option to **make this a reoccurring transaction** which means you will not need to call or go online each time you want to have the available funds in your "account" disbursed. That will be done anytime your balance is greater than \$10.

Trinity will then place all of the funds it receives in the "Grow in Grace" expansion program, similar to where the old Matching Funds went.

If you remember the article in the August Trinity Ties, **SOMEONE ELSE cannot** do this for you. **YOU will need to take action** to insure that all of the available charitable funds from Thrivent are put to good use here at Trinity. Remember **every little bit helps**.

If you have any questions please speak with me or call Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836.

Dave Kopplin

## GOLD and PRECIOUS METAL APPEAL

Last December members of Trinity responded to the Gold and Precious Metal Appeal with contributions that totaled nearly \$2,000. This was achieved through the donations of watches, rings, jewelry and assorted items by a number of members. **Trinity continues to accept these donations!** As you come across items please consider the option of donating them through this ongoing appeal. A member of the Trustees is available to assist you following any worship service. You can meet them at the Ushers Room at the south end of the church hallway. We are very blessed and appreciative to have a member of the congregation in the jewelry business to provide and assist us in the professional appraisal and processing of all donations.

## SHOP WITH SCRIP

### What is Scrip?

Scrip is a program in which you can purchase gift cards for grocery stores, gas stations and much, much more. A percentage of each scrip purchase can be designated toward Trinity's debt retirement / Trinity's Expansion Program, or next year's tuition for your child(ren), or another child you designate who attends Trinity, Shoreland or WI Lutheran High School.

Scrip raised approximately \$9,864.92 during the 2009-2010 school year. We have about 65 families participating at this time; just imagine the funds that could be raised if everyone used Scrip for purchases they make on a regular basis.

**You can visit Trinity's website** [www.trinitycaledonia.org](http://www.trinitycaledonia.org) for updates on any new scrip retailers and any changes to our current retailer list. We will also post holiday schedules to help plan your scrip ordering. Scrip is a great way to do some holiday shopping and is great gift idea!

**A complete list of retailers can be found at the scrip website** [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com). We can order anything off of this retailer list for you. Just write it on your order form.

We are happy to answer any questions you might have regarding this program. We look forward to serving you!

Sara Adams 262-260-8635

## WISDOM

I do not have the wisdom to know just how to pray  
But Jesus says the things I ask  
    are answered right away.  
    He may say "YES, it's yours to have"  
    Or "WAIT till the best time"  
    A "NO means it's not good for you right now"  
The Father hears the Son,  
    and the Son is always passing on.  
When my spirit can't find words to say  
The Holy Spirit knows my heart and sends  
    That yet unspoken prayer  
    Quickly on its way.

Sharing of specific needs  
Facilitates the loving deeds.  
Our Savior's loving hands  
Reach through his love commands.

lls



## A.N.G.E.L. AUTISM NETWORK UPDATES

A.N.G.E.L. has lots of exciting events coming up in the weeks ahead. They hope you can share this with others who have special needs children.

**Saturday, September 11th is the Cruisin' 4 Autism Event.** ANGEL starts out with breakfast at Case High School parking lot at Highway 20 in Racine. Area motorcycle riders, classic cars, regular cars and vans, too, drive up to beautiful Spring Green WI for a fun-filled night with the ANGEL families. Please join them for an enjoyable time. More information can be found on our websites under "events" at:

[www.angelautismnetwork.org](http://www.angelautismnetwork.org)

OR

[www.autismsolutionsjimdo.com](http://www.autismsolutionsjimdo.com) on the home page!

**Tuesday, September 14th Autism Solutions Support Group will resume meetings** with Vera Smith coming to discuss Cranioscarol Therapy. This is a very relaxing therapy that helps many areas of the body. Even if you do not have a special needs child it will be interesting to attend to find out more. Cindy Schultz has been trained in level 1 of CST, and as soon as she purchases a massage table she will be doing it in her home. Contact Cindy if you are interested in having "Hallelujah Moments" 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the hospital on Spring St. The group's brochure is on their website.

**Sunday, September 26th** A.N.G.E.L. will host the **Funtastic Open Gym** at Racine Gymnastic Center at 2501 Golf Ave. in Racine at 2 p.m. for an hour of fun with licensed Occupational, Physical, Speech and Aquatic therapists. Healthy snacks will be provided. Space is limited so sign up early. Find out more information about what Funtastic has to offer us at [www.funtasticgymnastictherapies.com](http://www.funtasticgymnastictherapies.com). Contact Daniel at 224-554-9632 to register. Hope to see you there!

**Sunday, October 3rd** A.N.G.E.L. hosts a **Schwan's Truck Load Sale** from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Kmart parking lot behind McDonalds at 5141 Douglas Ave. Racine, WI. Schwan's has so many delicious products. You can see what they have to offer on their website: [www.schwans.com](http://www.schwans.com). Contact Cindy Schultz if you want to place an order to have ready for pick up; order sheets are available to make sure they have everything you want on the truck that day! Come help a great cause. Autism affects 1 in 91 children. Have you been touched by Autism? 20% of the sales will go to A.N.G.E.L. to help WI families with children in need of therapies and treatment because of this disorder. Help us ~ Help others! Thank you so much for your support. (We are looking for Girl or Boy Pioneers to help make signs & stand out front with the signs to promote the event). Thanks for your help.

## A.N.G.E.L. AUTISM NETWORK UPDATES (Continued)

**Saturday, October 16th – A.N.G.E.L., K12 Education Outreach...** University of WI - Parkside is hosting Brian King's Win - Win Strategies for Working with Children on the Spectrum from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The cost is only \$25 and CEU's are available. You will not want to miss this opportunity to learn more about how to have a winning relationship with special needs children. Cindy Schultz has personally seen Brian King several times and you learn so much from listening to him. He is an amazing individual that also has Asperger's. His three sons and wife also are on the spectrum. This conference is not only for special needs families, as you can use what Brian teaches in every aspect of your life. Sign up early for a special incentive from Brian (below):

"I'm making a special offer right now so spread the word. Everyone who registers for this workshop by Sept 15<sup>th</sup> gets a FREE copy of my *10 Most Effective Social Strategies for the Autism Spectrum* audio program. That's a \$67 program for FREE simply by purchasing a \$25 ticket. You get all of the strategies, networking and benefit of the event, plus the program for only \$25 so register ASAP".

**A.N.G.E.L.'s Common Cents Campaign** - What groups, organizations, churches, schools, and businesses do you know that might help us raise money for families impacted by autism? A.N.G.E.L. and Funtastic Gymnastic Therapy are teaming up to deliver a unique educational program in an effort to raise much needed funds. Helping and showing love towards others makes "Common Cents". Every penny we raise goes to helping families in your community. Please let us know about all of the possible places we might be able to introduce our program to. Please contact Cindy Schultz at 262-639-3041 or email: [angelofautism@hotmail.com](mailto:angelofautism@hotmail.com)

Cindy Schultz

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES August 19, 2010

Meeting opened at 7:10 p.m. with devotion on Haggai 1:12-15 by Pastor Burgess. Pastor encouraged bold leadership – “Leaders Lead!”

### FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report through July 31, 2010 was presented by Kim Schuller. The year to date deficit is \$58,177. The financial report was accepted and approved.

### ELDERS

Transfers in: Dan Scriver

Transfers out: Mike and Carrie Henning (Mollie, Elijah, Jared, Lucie) to Holy Trinity, New Hope, MN

Release: John and Lynne Thierfelder

### TRUSTEES

- Many hours were spent preparing the teacherage for the Habeck's. Some minor repairs were made at a minimal cost. A big THANK YOU to ALL of the members who helped with this.
- The oil tank in the teacherage has developed a leak. Investigating solutions.
- Our Janitor has provided an updated bid to include the fellowship hall floor 5x per week and the kitchen floor 2x per week. The increase was \$80/month. Investigating options to eliminate other services to reduce amount by \$80 to maintain our current budget allocation.
- Investigating option of terminating our contract with AquaPure water purifier in the church narthex as a cost savings measure.
- Church Picnic preparation is underway and includes:
  - o Spraying for mosquitoes
  - o Erecting a tent near the 7 Mile building
  - o Setting up tables
- Leaks in the Fellowship Hall were reported to Ashton-Anderson and repairs are being coordinated by Ashton-Anderson at no cost to us.
- Student chairs that are in need of repair will be fixed prior to the first day of school. Extra parts have been ordered to fix/repair additional chairs that are expected to break down over the course of the school year.

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (Continued)

### EDUCATION

Discussion regarding continuing education for teachers and the amount of educational expenses covered was held. It was agreed that any teacher wishing to pursue additional coursework would initiate the process via written proposal to the Board of Education, which would then go to Church Council.

Co-Athletic Directors Miss Lau and Mr. Schultz proposed establishing a formal athletic budget to be funded with proceeds from concession sales. The monies would be used to purchase athletic equipment, pay referees, and other purposes to further Trinity's athletic programs. Periodic reporting of actual expenses vs. budget would be provided for review. The proposal was approved by the Board of Education at their meeting.

Board of Education is continuing to investigate options for promoting the school.

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Teachers are currently performing home visits. Overall this has been a very positive experience.
- There are a total of 115 students enrolled (with the possibility of enrolling an additional 2 or 3 students). Enrollment numbers by grade are:
  - o Kindergarten: 12 enrolled
  - o 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 12 enrolled
  - o 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 11 enrolled
  - o 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: 11 enrolled
  - o 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 12 enrolled
  - o 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 19 enrolled
  - o 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 16 enrolled
  - o 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 7 enrolled
  - o 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 15 enrolled
- Receiving lots of inquiries from members of the community.
- Working on recruiting program details.

### PASTORS' REPORTS

*Pastor Burgess*

#### **Adult Bible Study**

A new "season" of Adult Bible Studies will begin on Sunday mornings after Labor Day. Additional classes will also be held on Monday evenings and Thursday mornings at 6:00 and 10:00 a.m. A new Bible Class Menu for the "academic" year will be coming out soon. Pastors will switch each quarter. Thank you, as church leaders, for looking for these opportunities to take the lead in corporate spiritual growth with our members!

#### **Bible Information Class**

The Lord has dropped a number of prospects into our laps as of late. Currently, we have 8 souls committed to BIC and others to follow-up with. God is good!

#### **"Your Member Worshipped Here" Emails**

We are now informing fellow WELS congregations when their members attend worship and/or the Lord's Supper at Trinity. This is primarily a courtesy for them, but can be mutually beneficial in regard to communication between congregations.

*Pastor Wierschke*

No report – excused due to travel plans.

### EVANGELISM

Two part "Love and Logic" parenting workshop will be held on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> for our members and the community. Scope is birth through 6 years.

Jennifer Thomas, a Kindergarten parent (belongs to a sister WELS congregation) and vaccinator for Walgreens will be helping us host a flu/H1N1 shot clinic on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, after both services.

## **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (Continued)**

Neighborhood canvassing will be held on Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. This will involve a brief survey and an invitation to attend the parenting classes and Flu Shot Clinic. We intend this to be one of the biggest outreach efforts Trinity has ever done; praying to have 100 volunteers! We are almost ¼ of the way there!

Visitors who belong to a non-WELS/ELS church will receive a “thanks for joining us” postcard. We will not attempt to proselytize (sheep steal) those who belong to another church and already have someone called to care for their spiritual needs. But this leaves the door open, should they heed our warning to separate from false teaching of their church and perhaps show interest in membership in WELS. Our “Sharing Christ” logo and website address will be clearly displayed.

### STEWARDSHIP

January through June giving records were distributed to all members via their church mailboxes. A message encouraging members that “every little bit helps” was included on the back of the statements.

Planning is beginning for the Fall Stewardship Program entitled “Christ’s Love, Our Calling: Love Takes Time”. This is a 4 week program that will begin on October 17<sup>th</sup> and conclude on November 7<sup>th</sup>. WELS Synod is orchestrating this Program across many WELS congregations.

Jeff Davis (Cornerstone Ministry) was planning to provide us with the materials for a fall Stewardship Program. Since we are opting to go with the Synod program, we will ask Jeff to help us arrange a budgeting workshop instead.

### SHORELAND GENERAL BOARD

No report

### SYNOD CONTACT

No report

### FACILITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE

No report

### ORGAN/ACOUSTICS COMMITTEE

A meeting is planned with Riedel and Associates to review their findings from an acoustical test performed at Trinity.

### OLD BUSINESS

Cal Schattschneider presented an updated draft copy of the Ministry Planning Strategy/Action Plan – updated to include Accountability and Responsibility sections. Discussion ensued around adding timeframe and managing overall tasks and expectations. Cal asked for feedback on ownership of tasks by August 31<sup>st</sup> from each Board / Leader. Cal agreed to email list out again so all have the updated copy.

Discussion was held around the concept of a “spending freeze”; specifically how to address questions from groups or individuals on whether they should curb spending and to what extent. Recommendations were to promote frugality. In addition, it was agreed that Council would present information on the current budget situation to the entire congregation on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Proposed concepts / agenda items are:

- Ministry Planning Strategy/Action Plan
- Top Ten List
- Every Little Bit Helps (Time and Money)
- Leadership Examples

### NEW BUSINESS

Board of Education announced they would once again sell water and soda at the church picnic with proceeds to help fund the Tuition Assistance Program.

Discussion was held around whether Board Meetings had to be held on the second Thursday of the month due to scheduling conflicts. No decisions were reached.

Pastor Burgess asked if the content of the Pastors’ Report was meeting the needs of Council and if they would like to see additional information.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m. with a prayer by Pastor Burgess.

## Trinity's Ministry Plan Update

<b>General Fund Financial Statement Month Ending 7/31/2010</b>	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>2010 YTD</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Monies Received to support our Ministry Plan	\$42,447	\$333,364
Less First Fruit Giving to Shoreland and Synod	(\$4,902)	(\$34,310)
Plus Budgeted Monthly Expansion Reserves	\$15,200	\$106,400
Available to carry out our Ministry Plan	<b>\$52,745</b>	<b>\$405,454</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Called Worker Salaries and Benefits Expense	\$31,638	\$294,688
Property & Congregational Expenses Paid	\$18,200	\$168,943
Total Expense	<b>\$49,838</b>	<b>\$463,631</b>
<b>Results</b>	<b>\$2,907</b>	<b>(\$58,177)</b>

For the month of July, we had a surplus of \$2,907 in our Ministry Plan, and **year to date we have a deficit of (\$58,177).**

**A deficit means we have not received enough money to fulfill the commitments of our Ministry Plan.** We have spent or committed to spend \$58,177 more than the receipts we have taken in through July 31, 2010.

**The**

**largest contributing factor to our year to date deficit is a shortfall of (\$63,694) in regular donations.**

**In order to fulfill these commitments, we must either borrow money or take funds out of our savings accounts to cover the difference. Our savings account consists of funds collected through our expansion capital appeals.**

As a congregation, we cannot afford to continue to take funds out of our savings account to cover operating deficits, or we will deplete our cash reserves and be unable to make our monthly mortgage payment of \$15,200.

The only way to correct this problem is to:

- 1) Increase monthly receipts, which consist of regular donations and school tuition.
- 2) Decrease our expenses, which consist of called worker salaries and benefits, property expense and congregational operations.

As a member of Trinity, please review the June 30<sup>th</sup> record of your individual giving you recently received and prayerfully consider if your blessings from the Lord will allow you to increase your regular donations to carry out His ministry in our congregation, high school and synod.

More members making use of **Electronic Giving** for their donations would definitely help our congregation by promoting consistent giving, especially through the summer months. Please also consider enrolling in this convenient, secure, and consistent method for bringing your first fruits to the Lord.

Kim Schuller  
Treasurer