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North Branch, MN 55056

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### Partners in Ministry: The People of Trinity

Church Office 674-7047 Fax 674-7048  
Church Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.  
Summer Sunday Worship: 8:00am & 9:45am  
Church E-Mail [office@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:office@trinitynorthbranch.org)  
Church Web Site: [www.trinitynorthbranch.org](http://www.trinitynorthbranch.org)  
Gary Guptill, Pastor  
[gguptill@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:gguptill@trinitynorthbranch.org) Ext. 14  
Suzie Hischer, Administrator  
[shischer@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:shischer@trinitynorthbranch.org) Ext. 30  
Sally Hanson, Youth and Family Ministry Director  
[shanson@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:shanson@trinitynorthbranch.org) Ext. 13  
Deb Aulich, Director of Worship and Arts  
[daulich@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:daulich@trinitynorthbranch.org) Ext. 37  
LuAnn Stelter, Admin Asst.  
[lstelster@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:lstelster@trinitynorthbranch.org) Ext. 11  
Cathy Hufford, Financial Recorder & Admin Asst.  
[chufford@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:chufford@trinitynorthbranch.org) Ext. 10

Roger Anderson, Head Custodian  
Tom Hals, Council Chair; Doug Fisher, Council Vice-Chair  
Missionaries: Alison (Lindberg) Haupt, Krista & Justin Anderson  
Our Sister Congregation in Tanzania ~ Pawaga

### Volunteer Coordinators:

Office Help - Judy Weiss 674-2710  
Sharon Fairbanks 674-7311  
Worship - 8:00 - Eileen Fisk 674-7136  
9:15 -  
10:45 - Syl Marking 674-2394  
Custodial - Vern Weiss 674-2710  
Dale Fairbanks 674-7311

### Trinity Christian School

[school@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:school@trinitynorthbranch.org) 674-7042  
[www.tcsnb.org](http://www.tcsnb.org)  
Mary Grote, Early Childhood Director  
[mgrande@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:mgrande@trinitynorthbranch.org) Ext. 23  
Julie Morgan, Office Manager  
[jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org) Ext. 15



# TRINITY TIDINGS JULY 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

**E**ncourage and Forgive. These two words are loaded and they were the two most circled words describing what members of Trinity thought the church should be about. Encourage and Forgive. Let those words sit for a minute. What do they really mean? If they were the heart and soul of the energy that drives the ministry of Trinity Lutheran, what would our church look like? If they were to drive your own personal life, what would they look like for you? Let me throw out some questions and see what kind of answer you give yourself.

Is there anybody from your past you hold a grudge against?

When you speak to people in your family, to you seek to build up or belittle to get results?

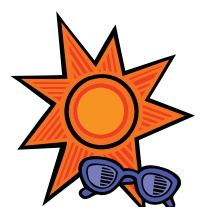
When you look at the ministry of your church, do you automatically see what is not right?

Have you felt frustrated and judgmental towards others in the church who seem to do less to support the ministry than do you?

Are there poor choices that somebody in church has made which keeps you from becoming more active?

Encourage and Forgive. In the days ahead for us, these two themes will make their way into my preaching and teaching to help us discover God's preferred future for us. They are filled with life. They are what you have said we should be about. And so it will be. We will discover together the deeper meaning behind the power to encourage and to forgive.

See you in church,  
Pr. Gary Guptill



# JULY 2010

## Scripture Readings

July 4 -

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 66:10-14  
Psalm 66:1-9  
Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16  
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 11 -

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-14  
Psalm 25:1-10  
Colossians 1:1-14  
Luke 10:25-37

July 18 -

Eight Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-10a  
Psalm 15  
Colossians 1:15-28  
Luke 10:38-42

July 25 -

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:20-32  
Psalm 138  
Colossians 2:6-15 [15-19]  
Luke 11:1-13

## GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD IN HONOR OF:

- ✦ Phyllis Lindbergs 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the Heritage Room Time line Frames from Allen & Delores Engmark and friends of Phyllis.
- ✦ Phyllis Lindbergs 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Radio Ministry from Family of Frank & Dorothy (Hammerstrom) Maack, Saneda Deming & Friends of Phyllis.
- ✦ To Radio Ministry from Barb Charpentier.

## High School Leadership Team 2010-2011 - Applications Available

Are you interested in helping plan **AJIVE** and other High School events? Are you will to take an active role in our congregation for a one year commitment? Then this is the team for you. This team of 12-16 students (3-4/grade) will be trained on a retreat in August and asked to serve their peers from August 2010-August 2011. Applications deadline **JULY 15**. Contact Sally with questions.

## Summer in the Son Donation Board

Summer in the Son is underway and we're having a great time! Please continue to pray for our ministry and support us by watching the donation board for weekly items. Some will be perishable and needed that week and others needed in a few weeks. Please help if you can!

## Us'again Donation Box to Support New Youth Scholarship Fund

Coming Soon! Soon you will be seeing a green and white donation box in the parking lot at Trinity. When you're cleaning out your closets, please consider donating your unused goods to the box. You're welcome to bring clothes, shoes, bedding, or anything else you would like recycled, donated or reused that are of a household nature. The box is a fundraiser where the church is paid per pound for the donations given. All proceeds from the box will be placed in a youth scholarship fund.

**Fall will be here before you know it! Watch for fall programming registration forms.**

**WE NEED YOU!** Please consider volunteering to help with Sunday School, Confirmation or JIVE.

## Hospitalization Privacy laws

Trinity Lutheran Church is not automatically notified that a congregation member has been admitted to the hospital. In the event you are hospitalized, and you would like the pastor to know, you or a family member should inform the church office directly, or give the hospital permission to release this information to the church. If you are transferred to transitional care or another care center, please let us know that as well. In addition, we do not list names in the printed announcements unless a request has been made by the individual or a close family member.

Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup>  
Root Beer float Sunday served by the Fellowship Team in-between services.

## Financial News

As we move through the summer months, our regular giving tends to drop off. If you are one of the many who travel a lot during the summer,

please remember that there is an envelope for mailing in your giving included in your envelope packet. Thank you for your faithful support of Trinity and our ministries.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE YTD thru May 2010

Pledged/Non-Pledged  
Needed \$ 149,755.42  
Received \$ 146,112.04  
BEHIND \$ (3,643.38)

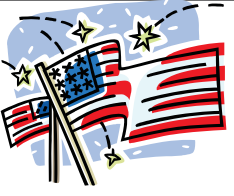
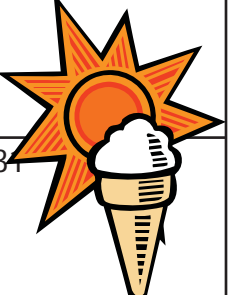


2010 Relay For Life of Chisago County  
July 23-24, 2010 at Almelund Threshing Grounds



Serving for the month of July:  
Irma Ekstrom  
Janelle Mork

# JULY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00am Men's Bible Study @ Oak Inn 7:30am Women's Bible @ Perkins 9am Y.E.S.S. Program 1pm Prayer Team	2 Church Office Closed High School Youth leave for Montana Mission Trip	3 High School Youth Montana Mission Trip
4 Independence Day Worship Service/ Intinction 8:00 & 9:45 High School Youth Montana Mission Trip	5 Church Office Closed High School Youth Montana Mission Trip	6 High School Youth Montana Mission Trip 9am Y.E.S.S. Program 6:30pm Fellowship Team 7:00pm TCS Board	7 High School Youth Montana Mission Trip 8am till 5pm Summer in the Son - Helpers 9am till 12pm Summer in the Son - Kids	8 High School Youth Montana Mission Trip 7:00am Men's Bible Study @ Oak Inn 7:30am Women's Bible @ Perkins 9am Y.E.S.S. Program	9 Church Office Closed High School Youth Montana Mission Trip	10 High School Youth Montana Mission Trip Returns
11 Worship Service/Table 8:00 & 9:45	12 Church Office Closed 9:30am Quilters	13 9am Y.E.S.S. Program	14 8am till 5pm Summer in the Son - Helpers 9am till 12pm Summer in the Son - Kids	15 7:00am Men's Bible Study @ Oak Inn 7:30am Women's Bible @ Perkins 9am Y.E.S.S. Program 7:00pm Church Council	16 Church Office Closed	17
18 Root Beer Float Sunday Worship Service/ Intinction 8:00 & 9:45	19 Church Office Closed	20 9am Y.E.S.S. Program 4pm Christian School Board Mtg. 6pm Relay for Life	21 8am till 5pm Summer in the Son - Helpers 9am till 12pm Summer in the Son - Kids	22 7:00am Men's Bible Study @ Oak Inn 7:30am Women's Bible @ Perkins 9am Y.E.S.S. Program	23 Church Office Closed	24 
25 Staff Reception Worship Service/ Intinction 8:00 & 9:45	26 Church Office Closed 9:30am Quilters	27 9am Y.E.S.S. Program	28 6pm Mission Trip Reunion	29 7:00am Men's Bible Study @ Oak Inn 7:30am Women's Bible @ Perkins 9am Y.E.S.S. Program	30 Church Office Closed	31

Dear Trinity Friends in Christ,

Trinity Lutheran Church and School are in the midst of staffing/personnel changes. I believe it is important for you to know directly what those changes will look like, the reason for the changes and how it will affect our church and school ministry.

Nichole Laven, the principal at Trinity Christian School has received and accepted a new position in the Mora school district. Nichole is a gifted energetic person of faith who will continue to, I am certain, use her life as a reflection of God's grace. Mora school district will be blessed.

The transition gives us the opportunity to creatively discover new ways of being good stewards of our resources and use the collective gifts of our faith community. An early plan, which I believe contains much wisdom is to have Suzie Hischer, the congregation's administrator and Julie Morgan, the school's office manager take over the financial responsibility of the school administration and to hire a Superintendent part-time to handle all other School administration duties. This is the first official notice to the congregation of this new position. If you believe your gifts may meet the needs of Trinity School as a part-time Superintendent and are interested in exploring this opportunity, please speak with me as soon as possible.

The church office will begin late summer/early fall to transition back to full office hours, open Monday through Friday. It is critical that we change the mindset that financial restraints are keeping the office closed on certain days. What is needed instead, in this and all things, is a better understanding of stewardship of time and resources. The recommendation from the church personnel committee and approved by church council is to combine the current two positions of administrative assistants into one position of Office Manager to increase productivity and stability.

Just like in the Superintendent position for the school, this is the first official notice to the congregation of this new position. In order to be responsible to the congregation and fair to the current administrative assistance - Cathy Hufford and LuAnn Stelter - specific office hours and responsibilities have been created for their review to see how this new office position might work for their life schedule and personal gifts. In addition, a hiring process open to anyone interested will begin in July. I have encouraged both Cathy and LuAnn to explore their schedule and their gifts and to strongly consider applying for the new position.

Who will fill these future staffing positions is uncertain. What is certain is the responsibility we as a church have to formally thank Nichole, Cathy and LuAnn for their past ministry. A reception is scheduled Sunday morning July 25<sup>th</sup> between services to thank them for their ministry, which has not only positively impacted our church but the world.

In addition, two other smaller positions related to youth ministry and a volunteer/gift ministry will begin in September. More information concerning those positions can be found in next months Tidings.

If you have any questions concerning these transitions, please speak with me, Suzie Hischer or Tom Hals. Our purpose during this time is clear and direct; to more effectively serve Jesus Christ and his church. We pray for the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit for help us become the church of God's preferred future for us.

In Christ's love and grace,

Pastor Gary L. Guptill

Dear Trinity Lutheran Church Families and Friends:

Last summer as many of you have heard, my family went on an adventure everyday! I have shared with you many of our adventures including trips to the emergency room, yet there is one I would like to share with you that many of you were not aware of.

Alexander and Natalie Lucille had a great opportunity to go to Wisconsin Dells for an entire week alone with Grandma and Grandpa! Before leaving Natalie and Alexander worked extremely hard to earn "dollars" to bring along on their exciting journey to Wisconsin Dells.

Early one morning, the children anxiously discussed what they will do first when they get to Wisconsin Dells, where they would eat, and what they would see. Alexander said the very first thing he must do is "Find the fudge shop mom loved as a kid when she went to Wisconsin Dells!" After locating and looking all throughout the town, Alexander found the special fudge shop. Next, he wanted to find just the right gift for his dad, so back in the car to search for the perfect t-shirt.

The gift of giving is priceless. My children learned giving and love through the teachings of people around them, including wonderful teachers and staff at Trinity.

Throughout the past five years, Trinity has taught my family and I so much about giving, love, faith, family, dedication, and teamwork. I have been so blessed by the people around me at Trinity who provide me with encouragement, grace, and forgiveness for mistakes. It is this I thank you for.

Upon the children's return from Wisconsin Dells, Alexander excitedly handed over a package looking like a Chinese take out

container. He said smiling, "Mama, I found the special fudge shop for you and picked these out special for you!" Alex helped me open the package. To my surprise, in the container I found fudge dipped Chinese fortune cookies! I wonder if they really have a fortune in them?

My first fortune read:  
*You never hesitate to tackle the most difficult problems.*

Isn't that the truth! Tackling the most difficult problem is not easy when you are alone, but as a team working together, I know we have done our fair share of the tackling together as a church and school. It is this I thank you for.

Well who can stop with just one chocolate dipped cookie? So the next fortune read:

*Good beginning is half done.*

Over the next week, Alexander and I would open and share Chinese cookies. Looking into his eyes, I realized how each fortune, every detail, and bite was so important to take in as something we share together. Family. Little did I know his growing up and my Wisconsin Dells fortunes would invite me on a challenging journey for the beginning of summer in 2010. Not only a journey of raising my children and them getting older, but also about the future and what it holds for the Laven's.

Last summer's adventure also included looking at what God's journey is for me and what is the path of the future for my family. The past year has been one of reflection, conversation, and opportunities. Reflecting back at my journey with Trinity Christian School, we together began as two sections of education, merged into one, relocated, and grew together in space and talents. The program at Trinity over the past five years is a fortune no one could've

every written and fit into a cookie! I truly am the most fortunate person to have worked with such wonderful staff, families and children.

As of June 30, 2010 my fortune at Trinity Christian School will come to an end and you will continue to move forward. The programs will continue to grow as you have the vision, will, and drive to continue to provide the families at Trinity with the best Christian-Education around.

As I read the last fortune from the fudge shop, it reads:

*There is a true and sincere friendship between you both.*

I now see this is truly God talking with me through a fortune. Fortunes come and we often don't know how or what it will mean at the time,

but later recognized how and what it meant. As my eyes swell with tears, I am confident the future of Trinity Christian School doesn't need a printed "fortune" to read to know what God has called it to be. I know it will continue to prosper through the exemplary staff and congregation support, which created a fountain of love and foundation for the future providing many children and families with opportunities and fortunes! It is this I thank you for!

May you be as fortunate to have such friends in your life as I have made at Trinity Christian School! This I thank you for.

Many Thankful Blessings!

Nichole Laven

DRÉʌʌM ɪNSPɪRE ʃɒND ɪʃʌRɒN  
Wɪʃ ɔDz GRʌʃCE!

