

WHEN TO CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE...

**REV. WILLIAM MAINS
CHURCH OFFICE: 762-6626**

When there is a birth in the family.

When there is a death in the family.

When someone close to you is ill or in the hospital, or in need of spiritual help.

When someone in the family is going off to college or joining the armed forces.

When there are marital problems and before you call the lawyer.

When someone in the congregation has done something to anger you.

When you have a suggestion for the congregation.

When you have a question about the Bible, Christianity or Lutheranism.

When something in your life is troubling you.

When alcohol or drug dependency is a problem for you or someone close.

When you move to a different area.

When you just plain want someone to talk with.

When you want to be specifically remembered in prayer.

The pastor of a congregation does more than lead worship and preach on Sunday morning. A pastor is concerned with the lives of people and unfortunately the pastor is often times the last to know about major events in people's lives because people forget to tell them. Whenever you need the pastor's help or care....don't hesitate to call, stop by or leave a note.

Pastor Bill is not in the office on Fridays.

The office is open from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

William Mains, Pastor	262-681-3368
Becca Mains, Youth Director	
Thomas Reifenberg, Organist	303-3515
Tammy Woodbury, Saturday Keyboard	483-2815
Sharon Piastowski, Secretary/Education Coordinator	764-4066
John Jones, Custodian	
Jana Larson, Music Director	

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED AND RECOVERING

Margo Kullmann
Angela Belter

Lyle Hannemann
Ann Good

BAPTISMS

Jack Earl Danes, son of Christopher and Genavieve (Hay) Danes on November 29.

Kenli Grace Andrzejewski, daughter of Steven and Laine (Fassbender) Andrzejewski on November 29.

FUNERALS

A funeral service was held on December 11 for Mary Ramstack who died on December 9 at the age of 82.

A funeral service was held on December 15 for Dorothy Schaefer who died on December 11 at the age of 92.

A funeral service was held on December 17 for Arlene Vad who died on December 13 at the age of 75.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Mike Zingsheim

Evelyn Lokken

Marion Hansen

Roger Malcolm

Pam Cooper

Dagne Domino

Wanda Sjoblom

Margo Kullmann

Margaret Jones

Fern Christianson

Gina Lorentzen

Barb Meyer

Pastor Jim Niederloh

Bill Tillman

Barb Jones

Tom Immel

Lyle Hannemann

TRINITY EVENTS IN JANUARY

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 PM, Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Education Hour - Sunday: 9:15 AM

Contemporary Service the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month at 10:30

The 4th Sunday of the Month at 8:00 AM

January 1	NEW YEARS DAY – Church Office Closed
January 3	9:15 Education Hour 9:15 Youth Team Un-Trim the Trees following 10:30 Service
January 4	6:00 Property Team 6:30 Catechism Leader Huddle
January 5	9:00 Quilting 6:30 Congregational Life at Judy Page's 7:00 Education Team at Sharon Schraith's
January 6	EPIPHANY
January 7	9:00 Dorcas Circle Cleaning Church Kitchen 10:30-11:30 Adult Bible Study 6:30 Caring Ministry Team 7:00 Worship/Music Ministry Team
January 9	1:00-3:00 Saturday Stitchers
January 10	Blood Pressure Checks between Services Elementary Movie Day
January 11	6:30 Catechism Class 7:00 Stewardship/Finance Team
January 12	Sarah Circle
January 14	10:30-11:30 Adult Bible Study 7:00 Council Meeting
January 15	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
January 17	9:15 Outreach Ministry Team Middle & High School Movie Day 6:30 First Communion Class (also 1/24 & 31)
January 18	6:30 Catechism Service/Fellowship
January 19	9:00 Quilting
January 21	9:00 Food Preparation
January 22	MEATBALL SUPPER
January 23	7:00 Appetizer Social at Jacobson's
January 25	6:30-8:00 Catechism Class
January 28	10:30-11:30 Adult Bible Study 7:00 Service of Prayers for Healing
January 31	11:45 TRINITY ANNUAL MEETING

**ANNUAL MEATBALL
SUPPER AND
BAKE SALE**



FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2010

SERVING FROM 4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

THE TRADITIONAL MENU FOR THE POPULAR EVENT

Scandinavian Meatballs and Gravy
Parsleyed-Buttered Potatoes
Corn in Butter Sauce
Cranberry Relish
Choice of Home-Made Pies
Coffee or Milk

Lefse and Rolls
Coleslaw
Bars for the Kids

SUPPER TICKET PRICES

Age 11 and over	\$9.00
6 through 10 years	\$4.00
5 and under	Free

FUNDS ARE BEING MATCHED BY THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS

Serving begins at 4:00 PM and take-out orders are available. Our Fellowship Hall is Handicapped Accessible.

BAKE SALE – We will again be having a bake sale featuring lots of home-made treats at reasonable prices.

FOOD PREPARATION – Thursday, January 21, beginning at 9:00 AM. We need lots of people to peel potatoes, roll meatballs, etc. The more people we have, the more quickly we complete the job.

Dear Friends in Christ,

I think we're beginning to understand what it means to wait.

We've been waiting for the economy to turn around for a year now. There seem to be some positive signs, at least according to people a whole lot smarter than I am, but we're also still feeling the effects of unemployment, the mortgage crisis and healthcare burdens. We're waiting for a change.

We've been longing for an end to the wars we're involved in. Sometimes we catch a snippet of something hopeful, but mostly the news is bad. It seems more like a tar-baby that we can't let go of, but that still needs to be brought to a constructive conclusion. We're waiting for a change.

We've seen an unusual number of people, members and neighbors, who have diagnosed with a severe health problem. Everywhere we turn, we're confronted with someone else with cancer, heart disease, lung disease, whatever. We're waiting for a change.

Was this what it was like for God's ancient people? Was it a deep longing for change, for peace, for hope? Was this why God's people waited for the coming of the Messiah?

I think we're beginning to understand what it means to wait. We wait for better times; we wait for better news; we wait for better health.

I think we wait for release from our own sinfulness, even though we might not call it that. Wouldn't it be great if we could do the things we know are right without being caught up in the things we know are wrong? Wouldn't it be great to avoid the things that tempt us away from God and breaks our relationships?

Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God's presence in our world in new and creative ways. We wait for the coming of God into our world as the Christ-Child. We wait with deep longing for God's wholeness and healing and peace.

In God's time, God acted to redeem the world. We have God's forgiveness in the life, death and resurrection of this Christ-Child. We have God's deep and abiding love for us in the Anointed One so long awaited.

God has given us one more gift: we have been called to faith in Jesus Christ. We have one another to share the waiting while knowing all the while that God-Is-With-Us, Emmanuel, has already come into the world and claimed us for God's very own. What a relief! What a blessing!

Happy Advent! Blessed waiting!

Yours in Christ's Service,
Pastor Bill



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 31, immediately following the 10:30 worship service has been set aside as the date for our 2010 Annual Congregational Meeting. At this meeting, we will hear reports by the eight Ministry Teams, elect candidates to our Church Council and other committees, and decide on our ministry plan for 2010.

Printed copies of the 2009 Congregational Annual Report should be available in the narthex on Sunday, January 24.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is my last Tidings message to you, and I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to serve as your TLC president. I have had the chance to interact with many in the TLC family, in a number of different situations and events. I've also talked with people from other congregations in the area, and I am consistently impressed with the vibrancy and spirit in our church. Consider yourself to be blessed by being part of this family.

I have more personal stories to share (like the Bible in the toilet story), so feel free to stop me and ask. I hope the rest of you share your stories with one another, and continue to build relationships with the people you have chosen as your faith partners.

I encourage all of you to give of your time to serve the church, to worship in the church, and to play in the church. There are many other things in life we can all partake in, but your church is the number one place where you can get your faith affirmed and your spirit renewed.

Peace and blessings to you in the New Year!

~Sandy

Caring Ministry Team

This Christmas will be a little brighter and more magical for some children thanks to your generosity. We had a great response from you donating gifts to children in foster care through Children's Services. We received 16 gifts for 8 children in our area. We hope to help out even more children next year. Thank you so much!

The Guest House: Our next scheduled breakfast for the Guest House is in January. Due to a scheduling conflict, we do not have a date set at this point. When we have a date confirmed we will update you through the weekly bulletin.

The month of January we will be collecting "white" items for Human Concerns. These items include toothpaste, tooth brushes, facial tissue, toiletries. Place your donations in the Human Concerns barrel in the narthex. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

NEWS FROM THE CONGREGATIONAL LIFE TEAM

Upcoming Events

January 3 - 11:30 a.m. Un-trim the Trees

January 23 - 7:00 p.m. Appetizer social at Jacobson's

February 17 - 5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Simple Supper at church

March 21 - 5:30 p.m. Diner's Club at Carleton Grange Pub

Trim the Trees Breakfast

We hope you enjoyed the beautiful Christmas decorations put up by members of the congregation on Saturday, November 28. Breakfast was served at 9:00 and no, we didn't have turkey. We're very grateful to all who helped! We'd also like to ask for your help with **Un-trimming the Trees** right after the 10:30 service on January 3rd. If everyone helps out, the work will get done very quickly.

Carthage College Christmas Concert

On Saturday, December 5th, 52 people attended the wonderful Christmas concert & dinner at Carthage College. The food was good and the concert was spectacular! Many thanks to everyone who attended. We hope to do this again next year, maybe we'll need two buses next time!

Appetizer Social

January can get pretty dull. The holiday get-togethers are just memories. The work you put off is now staring you in the face. So how about some fun? The appetizer social is a chance to relax and talk with friends from church. We're inviting everyone to bring a favorite snack either homemade or purchased and whatever they like to drink to a Saturday night social at the Jacobson's house, 8830 S. Elizabeth Dr. in Oak Creek. We'll start at 7:00 p.m. so you can come after church if you like. Sign up in back of church or email Chris Jacobson at jacobsongcl@yahoo.com . You know you'll need a break by the end of January!

Fair Trade Sale

Our next fair trade sale will begin in January, with orders due February 28. There will be order forms in the February *Tidings* as well as in back of church. We participate in fair trade sales because it helps farmers and artisans use their skills and expertise to break out of the cycle of poverty. Turning a simple exchange of goods into a human connection that benefits all participants, Fair Trade values the livelihoods of artisans and small-scale farmers. In particular, Fair Trade increases children's access to education.

Ash Wednesday Simple Supper

We offered a simple supper one Wednesday in Lent last year and it was a great success! This year we will offer a chili dinner on February 17th starting at 5:30 p.m. before the Ash Wednesday service. This gives you a nice opportunity to stay out of the kitchen and enjoy a tasty dinner with your family before attending church. We'll offer two types of chili, vegetarian & meat, plain noodles, corn bread, and dessert. If you think you'd like to come, please sign up on the sheet in back of church so we know how much food to prepare.

Diner's Club at Carleton Grange Pub

Our first Diner's Club of 2010 will be on Sunday, March 21st, at 5:30 p.m. at Carleton Grange Pub, 3807 South Packard Ave. in St Francis. Don't forget to mark your calendar & watch for a sign-up sheet in February.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

If you have a child in 5th grade or older who has not taken the First Communion class, please mark your calendars now!! First Communion classes for 2010 will be offered on three Sunday evenings in January starting January 17 at 6:30 pm.

Parents of students we know are in 5th grade or older who have not taken the class will receive a letter with details short after Christmas. Please note: *Parents are required to attend the classes with their children.* More information will be in the letter. Please check with the church office if you haven't received a letter by January 6th.

Class Schedule:

Sunday, January 17, 6:30 pm

Sunday, January 24, 6:30 pm

Sunday, January 31, 6:30 pm

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Thursday morning Adult Bible Study will be continuing our look at the Gospel for the upcoming weekend. Please feel free to bring a friend and take part in digging deeper as we prepare for worship.

Thursday, Jan 07 - Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Thursday, Jan 14 - John 2:1-11

Thursday, Jan 21 – No Class (Meatball Supper Preparation)

Thursday, Jan 28 - Luke 4:21-30

Thursday, Feb 04 - Luke 5:1-11

SERVICE OF PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Our next Service of Prayers for Healing is scheduled for 7:00 PM on Thursday, January 28. Come for your own opportunity to experience the healing presences of our Lord, or come to pray for the Lord's healing of a loved one.

TLCW (TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN) CIRCLES

Trinity currently has two active circles that meet monthly, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. All women of Trinity are invited to be a part of one of them.



Dorcas Circle will meet on Thursday, January 7, at 9:00 AM at church to clean the kitchen.

Sarah Circle will meet Tuesday, January 12, at 7:00 PM.

NOTE FROM THE CARING MINISTRY TEAM

A BIG THANK YOU for your support of the Guest House breakfast. On Saturday October 24th five volunteers brought your donations of juice, English muffins, fresh fruit, ham and multiple egg bakes to the Guest House to serve some very hungry gentlemen. They were very appreciative of your delicious food and generosity. We will host another breakfast on January 23, 2010. We will give you the details as the date draws closer. Thanks again

Be sure to check out Trinity's website at www.tlcsm.org

THE SATURDAY STITCHERS

The Saturday Stitchers, will get together again on Saturday, January 9, from 1:00-3:00. Bring your latest project and a friend. New Stitchers are always welcome.



Stewardship/Finance
November 2009 Ministry Team Report



Project Uplift:

Reserve funds account

\$ 15,211.70	Month's beginning balance
818.00	Contributions for month
832.00	Month's payments
\$ 15,197.70	Ending balance

(Includes \$528 for front access ramp)

Thank you to everyone who continues to generously support our properties ministry.

Operating Budget Summation		
	For the month of NOVEMBER, 2009	Year-to-date
Income	\$27,474.18	\$273,736.74
Expenses	\$24,991.71	\$270,999.05
Net Income (Loss)	<u>\$2,482.47</u>	<u>\$2,737.69</u>

SIMPLY GIVING

Just a reminder for those of you who want to use Simply Giving as a direct charge from your account in 2010, or need to **change** your amount for 2010, there are forms in the Narthex on tables and on the counter outside the church office. Please complete and return to church office.

Starting in 2010, the church will be charged a fee for each Simply Giving transaction. If you currently have a weekly deduction for Simply Giving, or are thinking of doing a weekly amount, we ask that you consider doing a deduction less often; monthly or twice a month. This will help keep our expenses down. Thank you.



TRINITY CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE



The Outreach Committee would like to thank all who donated cookies for the M&I Bank Christmas Cookie Sale. We raised \$253 for Gifts That Grow and reached out to many in the South Milwaukee community. Thank you for your support!

PONY EXPRESS UPDATE

All saddlebags and most mailings have been turned in from our 2010 Stewardship drive. We want to thank everyone who participated in Pony Express. It was another good run. We had 198 families turn in Estimate of Giving cards totaling \$270,000. Trinity is blessed with many generous and joyful givers. This will provide Trinity a very solid base for the 2010 budget.

A special thank you to Pastor Bill for generating the 24 routes for our saddlebag runs; Sharon P for her administrative help with labels, bulletin inserts, and mailing advice; and Jan Hahn for entering all the pledges in our data base. Also, thank you for all the help the Station Agents (Amy Pinkos, Denise Herr, Daryl Klute, Ray Bergwin, Walt Reichelt) and Trail Bosses (Ronald McMullen, Amy Pinkos, [Janel Balistreri](#), Stephanie Truckenmiller, Bill and Kari House, David Hahn, Jeff Jagler, Kari Lawien, Jason Woodbury, Aaron and Patty Johnson, Ann Good, Michelle Janusiak, Greg Crump, Jim English, Cyndi Bruneau, Greg Buck, Margie Fischer, Sharon Schraith, Ray Bergwin, Becca Mains, Bob Olson, Walt Reichelt, Bob Kilby) provided in keeping the horses and saddlebags moving; Carolyn Onsager and Bernie Klute for feeding us that great chuck wagon breakfast to jump start us; Nate Keller for the marketing help; and Janine Kaczmarowski and Lori Mijokovic for their personal inspiration messages of giving. Trinity is blessed with many talented volunteers.

David Hahn, General Manager



JANUARY YOUTH NEWS

Happy New Year!

2009 was a great year for the youth groups. We had a lot of fun events such as bowling, skating, going to Noah's Ark, participating in the ELCA National Youth Gathering, and auctioning off Pastor Bill. No one can forget his purple hair! We also did a lot of servant projects and helped those in our community. We made blankets for homeless teens in Milwaukee, provided Easter Baskets for children living with their mothers in domestic abuse shelters, participated in the 30 Hour Famine which helped feed three children for a whole year and helped clean up the church. We also experienced great fellowship with other youth and adults in our church by providing nights out for parents, sharing Christmas music, and providing breakfast on Easter morning.

I want to thank everyone who made the past year such a great experience. Without your help, the youth groups would not have had such an amazing year. I can't wait to see what this next year brings us!

Becca

Upcoming Events:

January:

10th-Elementary Event-Movie

17th- MS & HS Event-Movie

February:

6th/7th- "Souper Bowl" Weekend

7th-Elementary Ice Skating, 1-3

8th-Culver's Day

21st- MS & HS Ice Skating, 1-3

March:

7th-Elementary Servant Event, 1-3, Easter Baskets

14th- MS & HS Servant Event, 1-3, Easter Baskets

27th- Preparation for Palm Sunday Breakfast, 1-4

28th- Palm Sunday Breakfast, 9:15-10:30

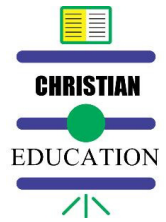
April:

1st- Seder Meal, 6pm

11th- Elementary Event, Bowling, 1-3

18th- MS & HS Event, Bowling, 1-3

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Hat, Sock, and Mitten Tree

Many thanks to all of you who donated items of winter warmth to our Hat, Sock, and Mitten Tree. Your gifts more than engulfed our tree in the Narthex, and we will have to think about getting a bigger tree and providing more space for it next year. We emptied the tree on December 14th to reach Human Concerns before their Christmas closing. However, we will make another delivery to them shortly after the new year so continue to bring any items you may have and again thank you for your generous support.

Christmas Program Riser Setup/Takedown

This year due to a funeral at church, we delayed the setup of the risers for the Christmas Program until Saturday morning December 19th. The takedown is scheduled to occur right after the conclusion of the program. Thank you to all who have assisted with this task.

Sunday School Christmas Program

Thank you to all who are planning, participating in, and attending our annual Sunday School Christmas Program, "The Christmas Story", presented at 4:00 PM on Sunday, December 20th. It is another wonderful event in our Christmas tradition. This year, offerings received from the Christmas Program and the children's Advent Boxes will be given to South Milwaukee Human Concerns and Feeding America Southeastern Wisconsin.

Sunday School Break

With Christmas falling on a Friday this year, there will be no Education Hour or Sunday School classes on Sunday, December 27th. We ask all of our Sunday School children to attend our Christmas Eve, Christmas, and Sunday Services with their families. Sunday School classes resume Sunday, January 3rd and continue through May 23rd.

Ray Bergwin and Sharon Piastowski

TRINITY SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

In order to continually promote the Scholarship Program we wish to promote the guidance for awarding Church Scholarships:

1. Applicants are active in the life of the congregation through worship, receiving the sacraments, continuing education (Sunday School, Bible Study, Campus Ministry programs), youth events, and volunteer work.
2. Applicants are accepted or enrolled as a full time student to attend classes on a campus of a Lutheran seminary, Lutheran college, or other accredited colleges and universities.
3. Applicants are seeking a degree at one of the following levels:
 - Associate Degree
 - Bachelor Degree
 - Master Degree
 - Ph D
4. Applicants may receive one scholarship from Trinity Lutheran church for each degree he/she is pursuing. If an applicant is not successful in receiving a scholarship in a given year, he/she may apply the following year.

We appreciate the generosity of all those who have given to the Scholarship Program and ask for your continued support. Donations to the Scholarship program should be made using the blue designated fund envelopes or a plain envelope. Please indicate Scholarship Fund on either envelope.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Pastor Bill: pastortlcsm@sbcglobal.net

Sharon: officetlcsm@sbcglobal.net

Becca: youthtlcsm@sbcglobal.net

Tom: organisttlcsm@sbcglobal.net

Jana: choirstlcsm@sbcglobal.net

A WINNING PATTERN FOR THE NEW YEAR

Some anonymous wise person penned the following directions for living without bringing pain to others or oneself: “You will never be sorry — for thinking before acting, for hearing before judging, for forgiving your enemies, for being candid and frank, for helping a fallen brother, for being honest in business, for thinking before speaking, for being loyal to God and the church, for standing by your principles, for refusing to participate in gossip, for holding your words when tempted to demean another, for not entertaining impure or hateful thoughts, for sympathizing with the afflicted, for being courteous and kind to all.”

NEW HOLIDAY REVIEWS FROM YOUR TRINITY LIBRARY

These books of the month focus on the Christian principles of charity & forgiveness.

They Are Us: Lutherans and Immigration

by Stephen Bouman, Augsburg
Fortress Publishers, paperback, 160
pages

Love thy neighbor is a commonly trumpeted virtue of Christianity, and this book echoes the sentiment. This viewpoint on immigration calls for Lutherans to take these lost souls under their wing and help them to the best of their power, stating that charity and generosity is the Christian way of life.

"They Are Us" is a different and optimistic look at immigration. By virtue of Lutheranism's spiritual heritage and identity in America as an immigrant church, Lutherans are specially placed to give hopeful leadership about the controversial issue of immigration in the United States today. This book explores the biblical, historical, theological, and cultural foundations for Lutheran participation in a public conversation that has important implications for the future of this nation.

Stephen Bouman is director of Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and former bishop of the Metropolitan New York Synod ELCA.

Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy

by Donald B. Kraybill, Steven M. Nolt, & David L. Weaver-Zercher,
publisher Jossey-Bass, hardcover,
256 pages

When a gunman killed five Amish children and injured five others in a Nickel Mines, Pa., schoolhouse, media attention rapidly turned from the tragic events to the extraordinary forgiveness demonstrated by the Amish community. The authors, who teach at small colleges with Anabaptist roots and have published books on the Amish, were contacted repeatedly by the media after the shootings to interpret this subculture.

In response to the questions why—and how—did they forgive? Kraybill and his colleagues present a compelling study of Amish grace. The authors establish that forgiveness is embedded in Amish society through five centuries of Anabaptist tradition, and grounded in the firm belief that forgiveness is required by the New Testament. The community's acts of forgiveness were not isolated decisions by saintly individuals but hard-won countercultural practices supported by all aspects of Amish life. Common objections to Amish forgiveness are addressed in a chapter entitled, What About Shunning? The authors carefully distinguish between forgiveness, pardon and reconciliation, as well as analyze the complexities of mainstream America's response and the extent to which the Amish example can be applied elsewhere. This intelligent, compassionate and hopeful book is a welcome addition to the growing literature on forgiveness.

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OUR NEED TO GIVE

By Rev. Dana Reardon

When we speak about stewardship, we often wind up discussing the difference between wants and needs. This exercise is not always as clear-cut as it first seems. Certainly, we need oxygen, water, food, clothing, and shelter. But beyond that, on a very basic level, most things could be classified as wants and not needs.

Yet there are things that we also need because of our culture. In a society where everyone has a phone, a car and a computer, it may be difficult to earn a living without these things.

In all our discussions of needs and wants, though, we never seem to talk about our need for God. For too many of us, a relationship with God has been relegated to the "wants" category. Maybe our churches are partly to blame -- when we sing hymns like, "Oh for a closer walk with thee." We want people to want to be closer to God.

Over the years people have come into my office struggling because they want to feel closer to God. I don't always know what to tell them other than to pray, come to church and commune.

But I found an answer last week at a conference. We heard about how people frequently get one of Jesus' teachings wrong. They erroneously quote Jesus as saying, "Where your heart is, there will your treasure be." In fact, what Jesus says, in both Matthew and Luke, is, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

The teaching tells me that our giving to God belongs in the "needs" column. There is no room for saying that we will give generously to God only after we have enough of our wants met, or when our salary reaches some arbitrary figure. That kind of thinking puts our relationship with God in the same category as the new car -- or whatever dream that must wait until we have more.

Perhaps we believe that because God is patient and loving, we can put off looking seriously at what we give to God. God is, indeed, patient, but that's beside the point. The need to give to God is not because God needs, but because we need to give. It opens our hearts and changes our relationship not only with God but also with everyone around us.

Lord, who gives so generously to us, help us to give that we might find our treasure in you. Amen

The Rev. Dana Reardon is pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Warwick, R.I.

She draws from her parish experiences to write about generosity, giving and gratitude for all God's gifts. Used by permission

SOUTH MILWAUKEE/OAK CREEK INTERFAITH

Is looking for **volunteers to drive** and to help older adults in our community. Even if you can spare as little as 1 hour per month, we could use your help. A great opportunity for retired people to help in our community! Please Call: **762-1998**.

HUMAN CONCERNS

The first weekend of each month is designated as Human Concerns Day. Please bring some non-perishable food items to place in the bin under the coat rack. The emphasis for January is boxed dinners, coffee, tea, hot cocoa mix, fruit juice, and any other non-perishable food items you could donate.

HOSPITAL STAYS

Federal law greatly restricts the disclosure of patient information by hospitals. As a result, the pastor and church office may not know that a church member has been admitted to the hospital. If you are hospitalized and would like to notify the pastor, it is important that you (or a family member) inform the church office as soon as possible. Call us at 762-6626. Remember, hospitals can no longer provide this information for us.

PICK ‘N SAVE “WE CARE” PROGRAM

Trinity is still part of Pick ‘n Save’s “We Care Program”. If you have Trinity’s account number **838900** listed on your Advantage Plus Savers Club card, we will automatically be credited with purchases from any Pick ‘n Save store included. Proceeds are used to help fund our Youth Group.

STEWARDSHIP: SM RECYCLING/YOUTH FUND

South Milwaukee Recycling, 1200 Minnesota Ave. (762-1700) will take your aluminum cans and other metal and send a check to our Youth Fund. All you need do is tell the worker that you would like your “earnings” to be donated to the Trinity Lutheran Youth Fund and they will do the rest.

This
Month's
Birthdays



SUNDAY SCHOOL BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

January 01	Will Haeger
January 01	Nick Schultz
January 10	Aly Pinkos
January 17	Molly Mains
January 28	Brandon Gaidosh

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE MAKERS

January 03	Joyce Warwick
January 10	Karl Weinberg
January 17	Kathryn Swanson
January 24	Sharon Piastowski
January 31	Jerome Zylka
February 07	Dan Soddy

ACOLYTES

January 02	5:00 PM	*
January 03	8:00 AM	*
	10:0 AM	*
January 09	5:00 PM	Josh Janusiak
January 10	8:00 AM	*
	10:30 AM	*
January 16	5:00 PM	Emily Anderson
January 17	8:00 AM	*
	10:30 AM	*
January 23	5:00 PM	*Victoria Fischer
January 24	8:00 AM	*
	10:30 AM	*
January 30	5:00 PM	Hannah Fischer
January 31	8:00 AM	*
	10:30 AM	*

TAKING BLOOD PRESSURE

January 10	Liz Keller
February 14	Jeff Crogan

ALTAR FLOWER SCHEDULE

THE 2010 FLORAL CHART CAN BE FOUND NEXT TO THE OFFICE. FLOWERS ARE \$15.50 PER BOUQUET.

ALTAR GUILD

January	Doris Mueller and Eunice Draeger
February	Bernie Klute and Carolyn Onsager

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

January 02	5:00 PM	Linda Iversen
January 03	8:00 AM	Margie Fischer, Amy Pinkos Lori Mijokovic
	10:30 AM	David Hahn, Betsy & Emily Baranek
January 16	5:00 PM	Karen Claffey
January 17	8:00 AM	Esther Immel, Brian Zysk, Jill Wilcheck
	10:30 AM	Jeff Jagler, Becca Mains Steve Krueger
February 06	5:00 PM	Jay Kullmann
February 07	8:00 AM	Gary & Ann Zander, Margie Fischer
	10:30 AM	Steve Mueller, Adrienne Mueller Bob Olson



COMMUNION
Assistants

SCHEDULED READERS

January 02	5:00 PM	Bob Iversen
January 03	8:00 AM	Les Touve
	10:30 AM	Patty Rosek-Johnson
January 09	5:00 PM	Ann Buck
January 10	8:00 AM	Ann Zander
	10:30 AM	Adam Malcolm
January 16	5:00 PM	Jake Anderson
January 17	8:00 AM	Walt Reichelt
	10:30 AM	Bob Olson
January 23	5:00 PM	Mark Draeger
January 24	8:00 AM	Jill Wilcheck
	10:30 AM	Emily Baranek
January 30	5:00 PM	Clare Huck
January 31	8:00 AM	Phyllis Henriksen
	10:30 AM	Sharon Schraith

NURSERY SCHEDULE

January 02	5:00 PM	Ramona Peterson
January 03	8:00 AM	Lori Fassbender
	10:30 AM	Tiffany Malcolm
January 09	5:00 PM	Donna Huck
January 10	8:00 AM	Lelia Haeger
	10:30 AM	Emily Baranek
January 16	5:00 PM	Janna Dalecky
January 17	8:00 AM	Ann Janz
	10:30 AM	Kayla Jagler, Maddie Baranek
January 23	5:00 PM	Clare Huck
January 24	8:00 AM	Janine Kaczmarowski
	10:30 AM	Genavieve Danes
January 30	5:00 PM	Ramona Peterson
January 31	8:00 AM	Holli Cieczka
	10:30 AM	Katie Immel

GREETERS

January 02	5:00 PM	Scott & Julie Kubasa
January 03	8:00 AM	Ron & Phyllis Henriksen
	10:30 AM	Dan & Laurie Soddy
January 09	5:00 PM	Bill & Jan Tillman
January 10	8:00 AM	Denise Herr, Jill Wilcheck
	10:30 AM	Steve & Chris Krueger
January 16	5:00 PM	Carolyn Marks, Jay Kullmann
January 17	8:00 AM	Ed & Doris Mueller
	10:30 AM	Nicole Lentz, Becca Mains
January 23	5:00 PM	Bob & Linda Iversen
January 24	8:00 AM	Amy & Aly Pinkos
	10:30 AM	Adam & Tiffany Malcolm
January 30	5:00 PM	Greg & Ann Buck
January 31	8:00 AM	Al & Shirley Czysh
	10:30 AM	Jim & Ashley Onsager

USHERS

January 03	8:00 AM	*Ray Bergwin, Debra Grahovac Julie Thiel, Bill Elmore
	10:30 AM	*Steve Jagler, Steve Krueger Justin Jagler, James Jagler
January 10	8:00 AM	*Ed Mueller, Les Touve Linn Walloch, Kevin Dathe
	10:30 AM	*Ken Peterson, Debra Moss Jim & Sandi Rogosienski
January 17	8:00 AM	*Bruce Warwick, Stan Druckrey Lori Fassbender, Jake Pinos, Bill, Bill House
	10:30 AM	*Dan Carrion, Martin Kachigan Mike Danes, Elisabeth Carrion
January 24	8:00 AM	*John Wawrzyniak, Dick Schaefer Greg Crump, Al Czysh
	10:30 AM	*Bob Olson, Mike Radtke Bonnie Aron, Ken Ahler
January 31	8:00 AM	*Russ Bruneau, Greg Buck Tom & Gayle Barbian
	10:30 AM	*David Hahn, Dan Soddy, Sean Sieg, Ben & Darleen Owen