



First Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church



July/Aug.
2009

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!” 1 John 3:1

Dear Children of God,

I really love the above passage which John wrote in His first letter. Just think about what John is saying about us! He emphatically declares that we truly are children of God! In other words, we literally belong to God. He is our God and we are His people. We have a person, intimate, relationship with Him. Thus, He is constantly with us. He will never abandon or forsake us. We can bring anything and everything to Him in prayer. He will hear and answer every prayer. Not only that, His answer will always be what is right for us. When we stray from Him, which we often do, by rebelling and sinning against Him, He comes after us to bring us back to Himself. He showers us with complete and total forgiveness. He is always active in our lives, working all out for our good, especially our eternal good. He will never let anything or anyone take from us the great gift of eternal life with Him in heaven. How great, how wonderful it is to be children of God.

However, it must be noted that John is saying something most important about the Father. He loves us! He even lavishly bestows His love on us. He does by making us His children. Because of our rebellion and constant sin against Him, we were under His punishment of death, physical death, spiritual death, which ultimately is complete separation from Him, and worst of all, eternal death which is suffering eternal torment in hell. To make matters hopeless, there was absolutely nothing we could do to make things right with Him and escape this terrible plight. However, He loves us. He loves us so much that He is compelled to save us even though we constantly rebel and sin against Him. He takes the initiative and saves us by doing the unbelievable, sacrificing His only begotten Son Jesus Christ on the cross. That sacrifice paid the punishment of sin for mankind. By simple faith in Jesus as the Savior, there is new life. Our sins, all of our sins, no matter how great they may be, are completely forgiven, completely washed away. We are now holy in God’s sight. We are reconciled to God. We are children of God. We receive all the benefits of being His children. Above all we will have eternal life in heaven. Truly there is no greater love than His love. As I have said so many times, there are no words that describe how great His love is for us.

What is so distressing to me is the large number of people in our communities who are not children of God. They are not because they do not know and believe in Jesus as the Savior. Oh, the Father loves them. He loves them so much that He wants them to be His children as we are. He loves them so much He wants them to know and believe in Jesus as the Savior. Thus, they need to hear the Gospel—the good news about Jesus—for, as Paul says, faith comes from hearing.

Children of God, our heavenly Father graciously invites us to witness the Gospel. Because of the love He has so lavishly bestowed upon us, we cannot help but be compelled to do so. We cannot help but be compelled to do all that we can as individuals and as a congregation to witness Gospel. Of course, the question that often arises is “How?”. So often we believe that we have to be “certified theologians” to witness the Gospel as individuals. Or we believe that our congregation has to do miraculous programs. Nothing could be further from the truth. I truly believe we make witnessing too difficult. As a matter of fact, this summer our congregation is doing a number of things to reach out with the Gospel. As we participate, we will be witnessing the Gospel. What am I talking about? Well, here is a list of what we will be doing and how you can participate.

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ANNIVERSARY NEWS

The Anniversary committee would like to thank every one that has made the first six months of our 150 year celebration successful. It is hard to believe that it is half over, but there is still another half to come. The pinnacle of our anniversary events will be a week long open house and special evening service the beginning of September, climaxed with a banquet dinner on Sept. 14. Because July and August Telco is a combined issue, we will try to keep you informed in the church bulletin. There is so much going in Wellsville during the summer months, the County Fair, the balloon rally and family reunions we hope you will invite those who are here for these events to come and worship and celebrate with us during our 150th anniversary.

1. **Fun-tastic Carnival Fundraiser for Julie Shaver:** It will be held on July 11th right after the Balloon Rally Parade from Noon to 3 at the vacant lot by Pizza Hut. There are going to be games, and food for young and old. We need individuals to help set-up and tear-down, and supervise the games. By participating, we will be witnessing the Gospel. We will be sharing God's love by helping a fellow sister in Christ. We will also be doing so by distributing information about our VBS, Sunday School and church. CD's of our services will also be available for free. Please help! Please sign-up! See the sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex.
2. **Allegany County Fair:** We will once again have a booth at the fair which runs from Monday, July 20th through Saturday July 25th. At the fair we distribute information about our congregation and CD's of our services. Last year we distributed over 80 CD's. Certainly we are sharing the Gospel. We need individuals to sit at the booth during the fair. Very easy and yet we are sharing the Gospel. Please help! Please sign-up! See the sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex.
3. **Vacation Bible School:** This year's VBS theme is "Gadget's Garage". It will run from Monday, August 17 through Friday August 21 from 5:30PM-8:00PM. Every year 60 to 70 children learn about Jesus as the Savior. We need individuals to take the children to the different learning stations. We also need kitchen help as well as donations of cookies and juice. By participating, we are sharing the Gospel. Please help! Please sign-up! See the sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex.

Children of God. That's what we are for God has lavishly bestowed His love on us. May that love move us to share the Gospel.

Pastor Morris



A from your DCO.

Did you ever think about how you can share your faith with those around you? I am sure you have. In fact, it should be a question that we constantly ask ourselves. However, for some of us, before we can actually decide how, usually fear and panic take over. Right away, we feel threatened, inadequate, unsure of ourselves, maybe even a little embarrassed and we start to come up with all kinds of excuses. Maybe you think it means reciting Scripture verses or making profound theological statements. We even think that it shouldn't be fun. That's what I use to think. Well I thank God for being very patient with me, and over the years I have learned that sharing my faith comes in numerous, simple, everyday deeds. For example, listening to someone share their problems and saying, "I will pray for you", or calling a shut in, or getting involved in a fundraiser. You knew this was leading to something, didn't you!! Here are some wonderful opportunities to consider, and they can be fun ways to share your faith!

On Sat. July 11th, we will be having a FUN-TASTIC CARNIVAL to help raise funds for Julie Shaver and family. The event will be held at the vacant lot next to Pizza Hut here in Wellsville from noon to 3, right after the Balloon Rally Parade. Tell all your friends and neighbors to come down for an old-fashioned family affair. Much help is needed to "man" the children games. Please contact Kay McCulloch if you can volunteer.

Watch the bulletin for details on a July Anniversary celebration dinner. Also in August on Sunday the 16th will be the Outdoor Worship Service followed by a picnic.

Starting Monday, July 20 through Saturday, July 25th, we will be sponsoring a booth at the Allegany County Fair in Angelica, NY. We are looking for people to "man" the booth. If you can spare some time, please consider signing up on the sheet in the lounge. Day passes are available and will admit you to the Fair.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is scheduled the week of Aug 17 – 21st. Kristen Crawford is once again serving as Director. Kristen has done a wonderful job in the past and I know this year will be no exception. If you would like to help, please contact Kristen as soon as you can.

In closing I would like to request that you pray for our outreach ministries, both here and around the world. Please remember Sheba and the children in her care. They are currently working on clearing the land and hopefully by the time you read this, they will have electric and water. Sheba will be returning in October, and we will have the opportunity to hear more about her ministry in Hyderabad, India. Also remember Robin Efang and the work she is doing in Mexico.

Continued from DCO . . .

Malachi 3:3 says: 'He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.'

This verse puzzled some women in a Bible study and they wondered what this statement meant about the character and nature of God. One of the women offered to find out the process of refining silver and get back to the group at their next Bible Study. That week, the woman called a silversmith and made an appointment to watch him at work. She didn't mention anything about the reason for her interest beyond her curiosity about the process of refining silver.

As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest so as to burn away all the impurities.

The woman thought about God holding us in such a hot spot; then she thought again about the verse that says: 'He sits as a refiner and purifier of silver.' She asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit there in front of the fire the whole time.

The man answered that yes, he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed. The woman was silent for a moment. Then she asked the silversmith, 'How do you know when the silver is fully refined?' He smiled at her and answered, 'Oh, that's easy -- when I see my image in it.'

If today you are feeling the heat of the fire, remember that God has his eye on you and will keep watching you until He sees His image in you.



Senior Citizens

Six members and four guests attended our meeting on June 4 in the Dorcas Room. It was a treat to have Gary and Jean Rushmore and Fred and Sally Dannheim join us.

After the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports, June entertained us with readings which are always enjoyable. Cards were signed for 7 shut-ins. **Our next meeting will be at noon on October 1, 2009.**

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.



Ladies Aid

We began our meeting with devotions read by Edna Lehman entitled "The Love Letter" - a letter from Jesus.

After the secretary & Treasurer's report we enjoyed a talk by Jane Pinney entitled Tanbark City—The slide show was all about the three tanbark plants and their impact on our town. Her husband ran the computer for the talk and guest Mary Rhodes also presented her input on this interesting subject.

President June read a card from camp Pioneer inviting grandparents & their grandchildren to a week or weekend at the camp.

We enjoyed tasty desserts, brought by June, while the talk by Jane was being done.

Respectfully,
Sally Dannheim, Sec'y.





Trinity Christian Daycare ... **All is Well with the Tots**

Summertime is fast approaching – the time of year that several school-agers will be joining us full time. We are fortunate to have two summer interns, Leah Gallman from Angelica, a senior at Brockport, and Tiffany Cline of Wellsville, a senior in early childhood education at St Bonaventure.

The staff honored the children on June 11th with a special parent program. The teachers made personalized photo-memory booklets for each child. The toddlers and preschoolers sang songs; “Miss Betty” (aka Betty Wood) did a replay of one of the children’s favorite Wednesday-Church sermonettes. It was quite the entertaining program with the natural, cute, expected-unexpected antics of the young children.

TCD is pushing for fall enrollment. An Open House happened on June 18th giving prospective families a chance to meet head teachers, see our facility, and learn about our curricular activities. Anyone interested in possible enrollment should contact the daycare office or phone 593-3820 for more information.

The excitement for the playground is building, right along with the coming building of the playground itself. Much work, study, visitations, and consultations have gone into the planning. All requirements will be met for safety codes and for insurance liability. By the time this newsletter reaches you, the actual construction will be in progress, first at the Bears Playgrounds location in Lima, NY, and then in early July on site here at the church. Dick Kling and Fran Lanphier are to be thanked for their recent trip to Lima to size up the playground design and other particulars. All who have contributed with anonymous gifts and with fundraisers over the past year are once again greatly thanked.

A Daycare Story as Related from a Toddler’s Mother

Chloe has a wonderful, caring mother. Leaving her daughter at daycare is a bit anxious for her, but daughter Chloe has no qualms. She just gets involved in whatever activity and really has a great time.

Chloe’s mom calls frequently to find out how the day is going, what her daughter is doing, etc. During one call this week, Mother spoke about the new practice at mealtimes at home. After being at daycare for approximately one month, Chloe now insists she and Mom pray before each meal. Chloe’s prayer, a short version of the daycare toddler prayer, is “God, thank you for the food. Amen.” Chloe always makes a point of folding her mother’s hands before she folds her own.

In small “big” ways a difference is being made in the spiritual lives of our daycare children.

July Birthdays

- 2 Linda Hurd
- 3 June Gensamer
- 4 Jennifer Patrick
- 5 Pastor Robert Morris
- 6 Shelly Dunne, Dena Helms
- 8 Nikki Helmer, Rich Shear
- 9 Steve Hand
- 10 Allison Helmer
- 13 Joanna Schmitt
- 14 Carol Wagoner
- 17 Eleanor Wesche
- 18 Henry Jedraszczak, Reita Lynch
- 19 Brad Cornelius, Dan Graham, Zachary Merrick
- 21 Christina Wightman
- 24 Pete Farwell
- 25 Kristen Kruger, Tyler LeVasseur
- 26 Bill Fahs
- 27 Pam Duttweiler

August Birthdays

- 1 Meredith Dunne
- 3 Tom Hand
- 4 James Helms, Jr.
- 8 Don Stevens
- 12 Clifford Ackley, Tyler Scutt
- 15 Michelle Boissenin
- 16 Amanda Bledsoe, Sally Dannheim, Linda Turner
- 18 Laura Link
- 21 Jon Chisholm
- 23 Lauren Bledsoe, Jim Helms
- 25 Jimmy Joyce
- 26 Gladys Sobeck-Murphy, Dan Vossler
- 27 Brandi Dice, Bruce Hand
- 28 Christy Rech
- 30 Anna Graham

July Anniversaries

- 1 Dave & Jackie Sweet
- 3 Terry & Reita Lynch, Paul & Deb Vossler
- 4 Fred & Sally Dannheim
- 5 Richard & Gladys Murphy
- 6 Darren & Carol Fanton
- 9 Ben & Marilyn Cornelius, John & Janet Vargo
- 12 Duane & Dot Cornish
- 18 Tom & Judy Brainard
- 24 Marv & Betty Wood
- 29 Charles & Kelly Miles
- 30 Kelly & Mary Monroe

August Anniversaries

- 5 Pastor Robert & Karalee Morris,
Bruce & Vickie Hand
- 7 Max & Mary Eldridge
- 10 Steve & Sue Hand
- 18 Carl & Marilyn Osgood
- 20 Brad & Tracy White
- 22 Gary & Nancy Link
- 23 Carl & Arlene Leave
- 27 Gary & Jalea Graham
- 30 Richard & Ruth Kling,
Larry & Marge Vossler

**First Trinity Ev.
Lutheran Church**

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**WE'RE ON
THE WEB**
**www.trinity
wellsville.org**



Minister: Reverend Robert S. Morris (585) 593-4439

Director Of Christian Outreach: Betty Wood (585) 593-2405

(DCO)

Daycare Director: Carol English (585) 593-3820

Director Of Music: Carole A. Aldrich



Stepping Stones to the Future

Continued reach-out is our plan
Doing for all, all that we can.

Here at Trinity for many years, present and past
Many have been helped with efforts tried-true and fast.

Your time, talents, and treasures – kindly assess,
Helping our stones make that much needed progress.

Outwards and onwards our stones do lead
Planning for the future many a new deed.

To you goes much appreciation,
For upholding our firm foundation.