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Trinity Lutheran Church  
**Trinity Tidings**  
June / July 2011

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### Hidden Gifts

Although it's the month of June, I am opening up with a Christmas illustration. Back when I was growing up Christmas, as you might expect, was a big deal for us Foote kids. And although I was a fledgling Christian who would eventually become a pastor, the celebration of the birth of Christ was probably not the foremost thing on my mind as Christmas approached. Like many kids, my expectation was to see those gifts underneath a tree that had my name on them. As the years passed, we discovered that those gifts were oftentimes harbored in mom and dad's closet. And in our more sinister moments we would venture in there looking for gifts that might possibly be ours. The potential dilemma that this created was if we saw a gift that we liked, we weren't always sure that it was going to end up being a gift we received, after all, there were 5 Foote children running around, close enough in age that many of the gifts could've been equally distributed to any of us.



As an adult and a pastor, I don't think I have shaken this practice of looking for hidden gifts. And quite often I'm surprised to find out where those gifts reside – they're not always with the people that I would expect.

This year the month of June takes in three Christian celebrations the Ascension of our Lord, the Festival of Pentecost (celebrating the sending of the Holy Spirit and with His gifts), and the Festival of the Holy Trinity (Holy Trinity Sunday). In a way each of these festivals has a lot to do with the distribution of Gods gifts.

The Ascension of Jesus occurred in the village of Bethany, right outside of Jerusalem. The expectation of Jesus disciples was that He would walk right down into Jerusalem and show those men who crucified Him, who was boss! It seemed like the perfect time. But this was not God's plan, instead Jesus would ascend to heaven and it would be His disciples who would take the lead and bear witness to the resurrection. Jesus' answer to His disciples was, **but you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth.** In my Bible I have the words **but you** underlined.

When it comes to receiving the gifts of forgiveness of sins, the Holy Spirit, and faith, its all about God. But when it comes to exercising that faith and living out what we believe, it is a cooperative experience between the Holy Spirit and each one of us. In order to do this, God has gifted us with spiritual gifts. I am constantly amazed at the wonderful gifts that we have in the people at Trinity Lutheran Church. Recently I was interviewed by one of our youth (a 6<sup>th</sup> grader), who planned on showing the videotaped interview to his classmates at school. He was a gifted interviewer, but after the interview. He got out a guitar and played beautifully! You can expect to hear him in church soon. But the unseen guest in the interview was his teacher, (who is also a member here at Trinity). Using the public high school curriculum she was able to -- at the same time -- challenge the students to think about eternal things in a creative way ... that's what led to the interview; and hopefully, those kids will be exposed to the Gospel. The Gospel is something they may have never heard before. That's a true liberal (freeing) education.

Even after 14 years of ministry at Trinity, I'm still discovering new gifts that God has decided to give His people which He has assembled here at Trinity; a wonderfully gifted group of people. What's your gift(s)?

When people are trying to figure out their gifts, I usually ask them, "*What do you like to do?*" Usually our gifts are the very same things that we enjoy doing. And I am almost certain that whatever you enjoy doing, has a ministry application. If we don't have a ministry that fits with your gifts, then think about *creating* one that fits with your gifts!

Vacation Bible school is quickly approaching. VBS is a most powerful time when we really see God's Holy Spirit working through his people. This year more than ever, we are going to need to access all of the gifts of God's people in order to carry off an effective Vacation Bible School. Last year we had 160 kids; and this year we can anticipate just as many. But honestly, as it appears right now we are a little short on help. If you have never participated in a VBS, consider participating this year. We'll take one day, or even one hour. Speak with Lisa Thompson about this 273 4927. Peace in Christ,  
*Pastor Foote*

## Ithaca Festival Parade

### March in the Ithaca Festival Parade

We have been approved to walk in the parade on Thursday, June 2, to showcase our FMSC event! We will wear T-shirts announcing our event and hand out postcards with information about how people can contribute and volunteer to help us pack. Please let us if you would like to participate in the parade!

## Men's Prayer Breakfast

The men's prayer breakfast group will meet at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, **June 4**. We will conclude our study of Islam. We will not meet during the months of July or August.

## Vacation Bible School

### Big Jungle Adventure June 27 – July 1

Join us for a week of Bible stories, songs, crafts, recreation, fun!!



**This year's theme:** We will be going on a **Big Jungle Adventure: A Faith Journey with Jesus!** On this adventure,

children will learn about Jesus and how He cares for His people of all times and places. As kids hear the stories from Scripture, they learn to relate these Bible truths to their own Faith Journey.

This Faith Journey with Jesus begins with a dramatic rescue and ends in eternal glory. Five Bible stories focus on Jesus' work for His beloved children:



### Big Jungle Adventure Overview:

- Day 1: God takes care of us through Jesus, our Savior (Big Basket Beginning: Baby Moses Rescued, Exodus 2:1-10)
- Day 2: Jesus rescues us from our enemies – sin, death & the devil (Rockin' Red Sea Rescue: Crossing the Red Sea, Exodus 14:10-29)
- Day 3: Jesus is the Light of life that we share with others (Mighty Mountain Mission: Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5:14-16; John 8:12)
- Day 4: Jesus rose from the dead to save us (Resurrection Race: Peter & John run to the empty tomb, John 20:1-21)
- Day 5: Jesus, our Savior, prepares our heavenly home (Jeweled Journey's End: John's Vision of Heaven, Revelation 21:10-22:5)

## We Need Your help!

Vacation Bible School Help Needed – If you could only give a day, or even an hour, we'll take it! This year because of various key people's schedules, we are going to be hard-pressed to fill all of our spots; please consider helping out for a day, or the whole week of Vacation Bible School. Vacation Bible school runs Monday June 27 – Friday, July 1, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Every year Vacation Bible School is a place where children and families learn more about God's kingdom and help to do some good work. This year's chosen benevolence is once again Feed My Starving Children and we will again host a clothing drive for Orphan Grain Train. (See following article)

Ways that you can help: we need help in almost every area: the classroom, snack time, recreation, security (ensuring that the children are safe and picked up by the right people), set up, clean up, and just about anything else you can imagine. Please speak with Lisa Thompson of our VBS director to see where you can help out: (273 – 4927), or call the church. (273-9017)

## Orphan Grain Train Returns

Save your gently used clothing, shoes, and bedding! Again this year, we will yoke an Orphan Grain Train clothing drive with our VBS. Beginning June 26 we will have collection bins available in the



narthex. PLEASE deposit your contributions according to the label on the bin (separating by gender, season, and size)! This

must be done before we give it to OGT, so your help as you contribute saves us a lot of time as we prepare the shipment! Thank you! Orphan Grain



Train is a Christian organization that focuses on relief for human need worldwide... from Joplin to Kyrgyzstan, flood victims to drought victims. The clothing we collect is earmarked for Kyrgyzstan. For more info about OGT their website is OGT.org.

## Matt at Camp Pioneer



Matthew Foote, Sharing in the Ministry of Camp Pioneer.

This summer Matt will be a counselor at Camp Pioneer on the shore of Lake Erie. If you have the opportunity, try to attend one of the many camp weeks they offer. And please keep Matt, and all of our young folks, in your prayers this summer.

## LWML Rally at Trinity

Gals, save the date of Saturday, **August 6<sup>th</sup>**, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) will be having their summer celebration at Trinity on Saturday, August 6th. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at noon. The dress is casual and comfy shoes are a must; no, no hiking involved! There will be music, dance, earthly food, spiritual nourishment and door prizes. All women and girls from 13 to 130 are sure to benefit from this day of Fun in the Sun. For more information, call Martha Clark 607-227-2681 and watch the Sunday bulletins.



## Feed My Starving Children Update

### Ithaca MobilePack at Trinity: Sept. 9-11

So far Trinity has exceeded the base goal of 100,000 meals by raising in excess of \$19,000. The ultimate goal would be to pack 225,000 meals, (a full truckload). In order to achieve this we need to raise \$42,750. Our goal is to raise all of our money by mid July, before we have to place the order for food. If you would like to pledge or give money, you may do so two ways: you can give directly to "Trinity Lutheran Church," and memo your check for "Feed My Starving Children." You may also give directly online at FMSC.org, making sure when you give your money online that you specifically give it to our MobilePack event (#1109-55) – There will be a prompt online to make sure that it goes in that direction, but you must select it.

We are currently reserving 2-hour shifts to groups, and will open the schedule up to individuals and families mid-July. If you are part of a group that might be interested in packing, please let us know as soon as possible. The group could be Scouts, your reading club, exercise club, neighbors, etc. Any group of 6 or more! We are planning to reserve a "Trinity member" slot for Sunday, September 11, from 1-3 pm (after church). A sign-up sheet will be posted soon.

**Next Feed My Starving Children planning meeting will be July 7, 7:00 pm at Trinity!**

*Please remember Trinity in your estate planning.*

## Lutheran Booth at NY State Fair

Every year Trinity and other Lutheran churches in central New York take turns hosting the Lutheran Laymen's League Bible distribution booth at the New York State Fair in Syracuse. This year Trinity will staff the booth on Friday, September 2, from 10 am to 10 pm. At this time the opening and closing shifts are filled, but there are several afternoon shifts needing volunteers. It involves simply handing out Bibles, children's activity books, and other items to passers by. The booth is located in an air-conditioned building. Volunteers are given free tickets to the fair for the day they are working the booth. For more information or to sign up, see Henry Radke.



## Christy's Corner

Christy Dendis' gift shop is open! She offers hand-made gifts, produce, and baked goods. It's open Monday through Saturday, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm. See her beautiful hand-painted furniture, saw blades and sap buckets, crayon bags, bibs, quilts, pillows, and much more! She is located just north of Trumansburg. Call 607-387-3024 for directions.



## News from the Trustees

Thanks to all who helped with Spring Cleaning on April 16! It went smoothly and we had some helpers from the Reformed Church join in our effort.

The lawn mowing schedule is up. Thanks to all who are helping with the lawn mowing this summer.

Adopt-a-garden is doing well, but there are still spaces available. See Bob Terry or Pastor Foote if you are willing to "adopt" a space on our property to beautify and maintain.

ADA grab rails were installed in the women's restroom near the back door.

The piano in the fellowship hall has new casters and the piano bench was repaired.

Lights throughout the building are regularly checked and replaced.

We have a new family living in our Refugee House. They moved in on May 5 and are a family of six from Burma. Cleaning and repairs were done in preparation for their arrival.

## Holly's Big Day

Humble Holly Hollingsworth, a guy who prefers to simply do a whole lot of work underneath the radar screen, was found out! Nancy Krook turned him in as being one of the most probable suspects to receive the Tompkins Trust Company Award for Excellence. It was very difficult for Holly to go incognito. He is simply too involved in the community: Working with Veterans – along with his wife Pat he puts together their newsletter, and he connects us with the troops through his "Project We Care," (members of Trinity and the community helped to send care packages to troops overseas). He has been a tireless worker at the Memorial Park in DeWitt Park in downtown Ithaca, serving as Chair of the DeWitt Park Restoration/Rededication Committee. He is one of the veterans who speaks at the high school.

Last year Holly was co-chair of the Logistics Committee for our Feed My Starving Children food packing event, making many contacts for the effort, arranging for material & equipment donations, and recruiting volunteers for set-up and tear-down. He is a regular sight for our pre-schoolers and after-schoolers as he makes sure the sidewalks are safe, free of snow and ice during the cold winter months.

We are very happy to have Holly as one of our members, who shows forth his faith in the community whenever he gets a chance to help out. Way to go Holly! We're glad that they found you out!

And important PS to this article – Holly received a \$1500 award in conjunction with this recognition. He chose to have part of it designated to Feed My Starving Children, another selfless act – why are we not surprised?

## Richard Curtiss—Officer of the Month

Congratulations to Richard Curtiss, Janet's son! He is a Cornell University Patrol Officer, who was named Officer of the Month. His quick-thinking while responding to a student suffering cardiac arrest helped save the student's life. The event happened in Kroch Library, and Richard realized there were no landlines, no emergency phones, no radio signal, and no cell phone coverage where he was. A by-stander was performing CPR on the student, so Officer Curtiss ran through the library until he regained a radio signal and then informed dispatch of the emergency. More emergency workers responded and gave aid. The student was taken to the hospital and survived.

Congrats to Richard!

## Kitchen Cupboard

On the third Wednesday of every month from 1:15 to 3:00 a couple of Trinity volunteers distribute food to those in need at the Salvation Army Kitchen Cupboard. Folk get to choose what they want from what is available on a particular Wednesday. Generally there is an assortment of what would constitute the main part of a meal, a wide variety of canned vegetables (and often a few fresh vegetable), often a selection of frozen packaged meats; a wide variety of canned fruit, desserts (Jell-O, pudding cookies), a wide variety of soup, crackers, tuna, PB&J; a fair selection of cereal, drinks, and a fair selection of dairy. In addition, there is always soap and TP, and often personal care items (available also at Catholic Charities). There is usually a good selection of baby food, diapers, and wipes. This is not a giving experience – it is a getting experience. Most all the clients are so appreciative that the volunteer is high for the day. How wonderful to be able to do just a tiny portion of the Lord's work. Please contact Pastor Foote or Sally Aluisio if your interest has been piqued!



## Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Trinity Lutheran Church

Next year (July 16th, 2012) we are planning on celebrating the 50th anniversary of Trinity Lutheran Church. That weekend we will host several events, but part of the discussion has also been to offer up a menu of events to present and former members. Some of these events include: gatherings for different confirmation classes by decade, a lake cruise for couples who were married at Trinity, or a wine tasting tour, possibly a guest organist or the builder of our organ John Brombaugh. If you would like to help with planning this event, please speak with Pastor Foote or our stewardship chairman Pat Hollingsworth. We also would encourage any of you who have contact with former members to let them know about the date. We will be sending out "save the date magnets" so that people know, July 16, 2012 is our scheduled 50th anniversary. So far Ppastor Cario has agreed to be one of our speakers. The leaders are also discussing whether or not we would like to do a special thank offering for missions in conjunction with the National Lutheran Church Missouri Synod mission effort called Ablaze! Ablaze is trying to reach 100 million people with the Gospel by the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, October of 2017.

## Preschool News

On May 12 & 13 Trinity Preschool held their annual Trike-A-Thon fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Hospital. This year they raised \$765.00 for this great cause! Cornell Police officers came to talk to the children about bike safety and to help conduct the "bike rodeo" to reinforce the bike safety rules!



Getting ready to ride



Preschool teachers Hope Allnatt, Amanda Tinker, and Charmaine Fields invite everyone to our Preschool Closing Program – Friday, June 10, at 6:15. "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" is the theme. The children will sing the songs they have learned under Sandy Hintz' direction.



## Afterschool News



Working hard on the resurrection egg project done by both Afterschool and Preschool. They filled 12 eggs with the details of the Easter story. This photo shows some of the After-school children working on the Resurrection Eggs.



You are welcome to come to our After-school Closing Program on Tuesday, June 21, at 5:30 p.m. The kids will perform a skit about Jonah and the Big Fish. Hope Allnatt and Amanda Tinker are our After-school teachers.

## Membership Changes & Moves



On Mother's Day, May 8<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated the baptism of **Nicole Min Christodoulou!** Nicole is the one-year old daughter of Mike and Stacey Christodoulou, and little sister of Zachary! Stacey's sister Susan LaRose is Nicole's godmother.



We thank God for His blessings and welcome Nicole into the family of God and the baptized community at Trinity!

We welcomed **Robert Chapman** into the communicant membership of Trinity on May 22. Robert and his wife Barbara Jean live in Brooktondale. They have four children and a grandson on the way.



We also received a transfer for **Karla Terry**. We are excited to have her back in Ithaca after ~12 years in Texas. She is transferring to Trinity from Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Carrollton Texas. We will publicly acknowledge her transfer during a fellowship hour this summer!

**Herb Israel is moving to Missouri!** Long time member, Herb Israel, who arrived in Ithaca with his wife Ruth, from Florida State University way back in 1964 and raised all of his children here, will be moving to Liberty, Missouri, to join his son Will.

Herb's wife Ruth died this past November, and all things considered, Herb felt it was time to move closer to his family. Over the years Herb has served in almost every capacity at Trinity: serving as chairman, Mission Board director, Sunday School director, a teacher of Sunday school, catechism, and Bible studies. Herb and Ruth delivered food for many years with Meals on Wheels. Herb also assisted Pastor Foote in teaching adult instruction class. Recently, Herb's grandson Daniel – who is planning on becoming a missionary to people of the Muslim faith – joined our men's breakfast via Skype. Herb's and Ruth's faith lives on in their children and grandchildren!



Upon leaving Herb, was able to support Trinity by giving away many of the accoutrements that he and Ruth had procured throughout the years. He gave the refugee house upgraded furniture, and Trinity received a number of furnishings and equipment to enhance our ministries.

Herb will celebrate his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Attendance & Worship Assistants

	Worship	Communion
Sunday, April 3, 10:30 am	82	59
Wednesday, April 6, 7:00 p.m.	25	
Sunday, April 10, 10:30 am	68	
Wednesday, April 13, 7:00 pm	19	
Palm Sunday, April 17, 10:30 am	88	58
Maundy Thurs., April 21, 6 pm	75	49
Good Friday, April 22, 7 pm	70	
Easter Sunrise, April 24 8 am	65	
Easter, April 24, 10:30 am	116	81
Sunday, May 1, 10:30 am	95	57
Sunday, May 8, 10:30 am		
Sunday, May 15, 10:30 am	80	59
Sunday, May 22, 10:30 am	91	
Sunday, May 29, 10:30 am	72	

**Altar Care for June:**

Anita Brenner, Pat Hollingsworth, Dianne Santana



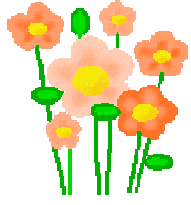







**Altar Care for July:**

Janet Curtiss, Marcia Harding, Mary Harding

Date	Elder	Acolyte	Ushers	Lay Deacon
Sunday, June 5 *	Clif Pollock	Anna Johnson	Kwang Yul Kim & David Thurston	Sue Schattschneider & Myrth Guest
Sunday, June 12	Lindsey Milbrath	Christine Milbrath	John Brenner & Olan Forker	Karen Grover & Emm Smith
Sunday, June 19. *		Chester Pollock	Steve & Jean Pawlak	Bill & Mary Brodie
Sunday, June 26	Skip Hintz	Volunteer	Volunteer	Sheila Foote
Sunday, July 3 *		Quinn Bedore	Volunteer	Blanche Smith & Pat Hollingsworth
Sunday, July 10		Elsa Brenner	Walt Reimers & Robert Chapman	Emm Thurston
Sunday, July 17 *		Christine Milbrath	Bill & Mary Brodie	Sue Schattschneider & Myrth Guest
Sunday, July 24		Chester Pollock	John Brenner & Olan Forker	Karen Grover & Emm Smith
Sunday, July 31 *		Anna Johnson	John & Becky Feuerbach	Dick & Peg Burlew

\* indicates with communion

## Calendar For June 2011

			<b>WEDNESDAY 1</b> 9:00 a Preschool class 1:00 p Prayer & Pie at Milbrath's 2:30 p After School	<b>THURSDAY 2</b> 9:00 a Preschool class 2:30 p After School 6:30 p FMSC march in Ithaca Festival Parade	<b>FRIDAY 3</b> 9:00 a Preschool class 2:30 p After School	<b>SATURDAY 4</b> 8:00 a Men's Prayer Breakfast
<b>SUNDAY 5</b> 9:15 a Worship with Holy Communion 4:00 p Ithaca Reformed Church at Trinity	<b>MONDAY 6</b> 9:00 a Preschool class 2:30 p After School	<b>TUESDAY 7</b> 9:00 a Preschool class 2:30 p After School	<b>WEDNESDAY 8</b> 9:00 a Preschool class 2:30 p After School	<b>THURSDAY 9</b> 9:00 a Preschool class 2:30 p After School	<b>FRIDAY 10</b> 9:00 a Preschool class 2:30 p After School 6:15 p Preschool Closing Program	<b>SATURDAY 11</b>
<b>SUNDAY 12</b> <b>The Day of Pentecost</b> 9:15 a Worship Service 4:00 p Ithaca Reformed Church at Trinity	<b>MONDAY 13</b> 2:30 p After School	<b>TUESDAY 14</b> Flag Day 9:30 a Circuit Pastors' meeting/ Wellsboro 2:30 p After School 	<b>WEDNESDAY 15</b> 12:00 n Bible Study at Myrth's 1:15 p Trinity staffs Kitchen Cup'd 2:30 p After School 6:30 p Cello group at Trinity	<b>THURSDAY 16</b> 2:30 p After School	<b>FRIDAY 17</b> 2:30 p After School	<b>SATURDAY 18</b>
<b>SUNDAY 19</b> <b>Holy Trinity Sunday</b> <b>Father's Day</b> 9:15 a Worship with Holy Communion 4:00 p Ithaca Reformed Church at Trinity	<b>MONDAY 20</b> 2:30 p After School	<b>TUESDAY 21</b> 2:30 p After School 5:30 p After School Closing Skit & Picnic	<b>WEDNESDAY 22</b> Summer Begins 2:30 p After School	<b>THURSDAY 23</b> 2:30 p After School	<b>FRIDAY 24</b> 2:30 p After School	<b>SATURDAY 25</b> 
<b>SUNDAY 26</b> 9:15 a Worship Service 4:00 p Ithaca Reformed Church at Trinity	<b>MONDAY 27</b> 9:00 a Vacation Bible School 	<b>TUESDAY 28</b> 9:00 a Vacation Bible School 4:00 p East Lawn Assoc. Mtg. 	<b>WEDNESDAY 29</b> 9:00 a Vacation Bible School 	<b>THURSDAY 30</b> 9:00 a Vacation Bible School 		

**Calendar For July 2011**

Vacation Bible School June 27 –July 1! Jungle Journey								FRIDAY 1 9:00 a Vacation Bible School 11:30 a VBS closing program	SATURDAY 2
SUNDAY 3 9:15 a Worship with Holy Communion 4:00 p Ithaca Reformed Church at Trinity	MONDAY 4 <b>Independence Day</b> 	TUESDAY 5	WEDNESDAY 6 1:00 p Prayer & Pie at Milbrath's	THURSDAY 7 7:00 p Feed My Starving Children planning meeting	FRIDAY 8	SATURDAY 9			
SUNDAY 10 9:15 a Worship Service 4:00 p Ithaca Reformed Church at Trinity	MONDAY 11	TUESDAY 12	WEDNESDAY 13	THURSDAY 14	FRIDAY 15	SATURDAY 16 			
SUNDAY 17 9:15 a Worship with Holy Communion 4:00 p Ithaca Reformed Church at Trinity	MONDAY 18	TUESDAY 19	WEDNESDAY 20 1:15 p Trinity staffs Kitchen Cup'bd	THURSDAY 21	FRIDAY 22	SATURDAY 23			
SUNDAY 24 9:15 a Worship Service 4:00 p Ithaca Reformed Church at Trinity	MONDAY 25	TUESDAY 26	WEDNESDAY 27 1:00 p Prayer & Pie at Trinity	THURSDAY 28	FRIDAY 29	SATURDAY 30			
SUNDAY 31 9:15 a Worship with Holy Communion 4:00 p Ithaca Reformed Church at Trinity									