



Serving the
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Upcoming Events

DECEMBER 6
Advent Begins
Advent - Christmas
in Reverse

DECEMBER 13
Advent - He Who
Began a Good
Work in You

DECEMBER 20
Advent-The Lord is at
Hand - Quempas
Carol

DECEMBER 24
Christmas Eve

DECEMBER 25
Christmas Day

DECEMBER 25-30
Campus Lockdown

DECEMBER 31
New Years Eve

Published Monthly
Except July
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of Orlando, Florida
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Trinity Downtown

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

WWW.TRINITYDOWNTOWN.ORG

Volume 10, Issue 11

DECEMBER 2006

Pastor's Page

The Manger

The Christmas story is made for telling. There is a rich cast of characters, an exotic setting, travel, suspense, cute animals, and a touch of the supernatural. Christian or not, people have always been drawn to the Christmas story.

Let me put that another way. People have always been drawn to this story whether or not they know or love Christ. That's a "good news, bad news" truth.

It's bad news because the Christmas story can so easily be turned into several things that it's not. For example, it can be turned into a myth, a legendary folk tale whose meaning is found in some "universal truths" about poverty, hospitality (or inhospitality!), the relationship between government and citizenry, etc.

It can be turned into just a cute story, with cuddly animals, a mean innkeeper who changes his mind, excited shepherds, and the like.

It can be turned into a parable of family, zeroing in on Mary and Joseph and the troubled beginning of their marriage, focusing on the hardships they encounter, and climaxing when they overcome all the difficulties and are recognized, by shepherd and magi, as a special family.

It can be fictionalized, adding in "Amahl and the Night Visitors," or talking animals, or "The Littlest Angel," or "The Drummer Boy," etc. Many of these versions are very well done, and seek to communicate important truths about the coming of Christ into the world, and can, I think, be used well, as when our Kindergarten tells the story of the

by Pastor Jeff Moore

crippled lamb, Joshua, at their graduation each year. Others, though, focus more on the fictional characters than on Christ, and may lead people to cherish heretical teachings, such as those about angels in "The Littlest Angel."

The good news about people being drawn to the Christmas story is that it truly is "Good News," it is "The Gospel," in fact. Told exactly as it happened, the Christmas story is universally attractive, drawing people to the fact that God, in the fullness of time, acted to save sinners by sending his Son to be one of us. The true, full Gospel is there when the true, full story is told, including all of Luke Chapter One as well as Chapter Two, with Zachariah and Elizabeth and John as well as Mary, Joseph, Caesar, and the shepherds, all adoring

(Continued on Page 2)

Pastor's Page, continued

Jesus, the Christ come into the world. Throughout the telling of this whole story we find it pointing to the work that Jesus came to do, pointing to the cross. At the heart of the Christmas story is the Gospel!

How beautiful, that God chose to bring his Son into the world in such a way that the telling of the story would both attract human attention and draw that attention to the Gospel! How sad that we let the world co-opt that story for its own purposes!

So I urge you, as you prepare your hearts and homes for Christmas, to make sure that you tell the true story to all who will listen. Especially I urge you to tell it straight to your children. One key element, I believe, is to make sure you don't mix Santa up into the Christmas story. I know that there's a popular picture of the "Kneeling Santa" that is quite seductive, but I have a deep concern about this. Think about it. What's the key "truth" about Santa? That he is mythical, legendary. What's the key truth about Jesus? That he is very much real, true, alive. When Disney puts cartoon characters in with live actors, we know that the story, the whole story, is fictional, that there is no attempt here to communicate

something that actually happened. Add a fictional character to a real character and you get a fictional story every time. In the picture of Santa kneeling at the manger it's hard to keep the two halves separate, and children especially are going to tend to put the two into the same category as far as reality is concerned.

Jesus really was conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary. He really was born far from the home of Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem, and really was laid in a manger, announced by angels, and worshiped by shepherds. This was all truly foretold by prophets as God's plan to rescue fallen humanity, which angels truly made clear to Zechariah, Mary, and Joseph before his birth, and which the Holy Spirit revealed to Elizabeth, Simeon, and Anna. Magi from the east really saw a special star that, coupled with their readings of the prophets, finally directed them over hundreds of miles to the baby Jesus.

The truth of the Christmas story is the truth that saves. The attractiveness of the Christmas story is a tool that God puts into our hands. Let's use that tool to proclaim that truth to the world!

Merry Christmas

The tradition of Christmas is different for every household. Preparation in spending time with family or friends, party obligations, going to a candle light service on Christmas Eve and even when you open your gifts together. Even in the differences of people's lives and their outlook of Christmas one thing never changes, Jesus enters the world.

Jesus is a constant in our ever changing world even when we choose not to accept it. Now you may be aware of his coming, like the angels who "appeared praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest and on

by Pastor Jon van Sliedrecht

earth peace to men on whom his favor rest." The angels glorified God, praising His name for the birth of Jesus.

Maybe you find yourself like the Shepherds, who after hearing from the angels decided to "go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened". Looking for Jesus, trying to see him and after knowing Jesus they left to "spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed...returning glorifying and praising God".

Project Christmas, continued

No matter if you are living your life like an angel or a shepherd, know you are able to make a difference. If you are looking to impact someone else's life this Christmas season please look in to Project Christmas at Trinity.

Project Christmas is a way for you to share and show Jesus. Project Christmas is filled with different ways to share Jesus with others. In

Project Christmas you can purchase needed materials for an individual or a family so they may have a blessed Christmas just like you.

Look for the Project Christmas Tree in the back of the church for more information on how to participate.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Jon

A Servant's Heart

The end of the calendar year brings four weeks of shopping, baking, decorating, eating and parties. Whew! Doesn't it wear you out just thinking about it all? "And (Jesus) said to them, 'Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest awhile.' For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat." (Mark 6:31) Jesus had sent the twelve in pairs with authority over evil spirits. When they returned from the preaching and healing mission, the men were excited, joyful, and Jesus saw the potential for the disciples' exhaustion. Think about your home at the peak of the holiday rush. There certainly is a potential for exhaustion. Although the parties, gift wrapping, decorating, friends and family visits may be exciting and joyous, your probability for exhaustion is pretty high. Jesus told his disciples to get away to a quiet place and rest. He sent his disciples away by themselves to refresh and escape the demands for their services. For himself, Jesus found a secluded place to pray in solitude. Think about the value of quiet time with God when facing weariness or being stressed and maxed-out. As you reflect on the true reason for the season note that Luke is the only Gospel author who gives us a glimpse of the quiet retreat God arranged for Jesus' birth. Think about this: The town was filled with people related through lineage to a king, and when friends and family get together, especially if

by Liz Borth, Deaconess Intern

years after last seeing each other, it is noisy. But our King, Jesus, God's son and our Saviour, was born in a quiet stall probably surrounded by sleeping animals. No room in a traditional sleeping facility meant taking refuge in a leftover space, but it was secluded. "Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart" (Luke 2:19). Just what does that mean? As you reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, you will see more than a baby in a manger. Ponder what this piece of human history really means to you and to all the world. "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14) Come aside by yourself to a deserted place and rest awhile. Peace in heart and soul are the by products of quiet time with God. Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

**“The Best Cup of
Coffee in Town”
Brought to You by
Your Fellowship Board!
Sundays 8:45-9:30 a.m.
In the Fellowship Hall**

Annual Sunday School Attendance Awards

The following Sunday school students will receive the first annual attendance recognition on Sunday, December 3, 2006. The annual award is presented on the first Sunday in Advent when our focus on God's gift of Jesus Christ heightens. Thank you to the parents who dutifully encourage their children. Thank you to the teachers who faithfully present God's grace and mercy when teaching His Word.

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Jake Anderson | Hallie Krzyzak |
| Sara Barfield | Katie Lange |
| Kaitlyn Beier | Parker Lange |
| Preston Beier | Vanessa Lange |
| Reid Beier | Colin Smith |
| Isabel Bermudez | Caroline Tesch |
| Joy Bourgeois | Cooper Tesch |
| Alesia Cantrell-Lanier | Emma Kate Tesch |
| Sarah Dittmer | Spenser Tesch |
| Thomas Foschini | Sydney Vaughan |
| Joanie Gavin | Mackendrick Zavitz |
| Matthew Hey | Madison Zavitz |
| Erich Krzyzak | Evan Zook |

(This year the annual award is based on perfect attendance for the past six months)

Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.

The following Sunday School students gladly heard and learned God's Word for one month of perfect attendance:

Sara Barfield
Alesia Cantrell-Lanier
Brittney Simonson
Julian Gonzalez
Joy Bourgeois
Hallie Krzyzak
Emma Kate Tesch
Sarah Dittmer

Sunday School Reminder!



The Sunday School Classes will sing "Advent Tells Us Christ is Near" at the 8:00 a.m. service on Sunday, Dec. 3rd. Students should practice their song (many need adult help.)

We appreciate all the Sunday school children and youth coming to sing with us. Thank you, Kids!

We are in need of a Sunday School teacher after the holidays.... a person or couple who would be the Story Teller for our S.S. Rotation. You prepare only one story each month, and present it to a different class each Sunday. You may be interested or know someone else who would enjoy doing it.

We thank Darryl and Stephanie Gavin for being our Bible Story Tellers these months. Ask them about it. Their joy and enthusiasm in sharing Bible stories for our S.S. classes was always evident. You may be just the one to share Jesus' love with our Trinity children! (contact Gladys or Liz with any suggestions.)

Campus Lockdown! All Alarms Are On!!

Starting after the 10:00 a.m. service on Monday, December 25th til the Saturday evening service, December 30, 2006, the entire school and church campus will be closed and the alarm system will be activated. If you open a door and set off the alarm during this time, police *will* respond, and they charge us \$50.00 each time. Please help us avoid unnecessary expenses and make sure that, even if you have a key, you don't enter any buildings during this break time unless you've made special arrangements. Thanks!!

A from Your Music Director

by Lisa Moore, Music Director

The Advantages of an LCMS Hymnal

Did you know that the hymnals we have been using, the green LBW, and the blue WOV, are published by Augsburg, the publishing house for ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)? They were not published by Concordia Publishing House and are not LCMS hymnals. As I try to find out the history of why this happened, it appears that many Lutheran churches in Florida were ready and eager for a new hymnal to replace the red TLH (published by CPH), and did not want to wait for the LCMS's new hymnal published in 1982. As a result, many of our area LCMS churches went with LBW in 1978.

There are two advantages our return to a CPH hymnal will have. First, LCMS visitors from anywhere else in the United States, will find the same book here in our pews as they have at home, or at least the same services they are used to from home in our new book, if they haven't purchased it. Secondly, it means that anywhere you go to visit in a LCMS Church, you should find the same hymnal, or the same services that are in it now, in their racks.

The disadvantage of going from an Augsburg publication to a Concordia one, is that there will be a few text changes to get used to. As you adjust to these, remember that we will be adjusting to the same page as all LCMS churches now, and so in the long run, it will be easier and consistent.

For example, in the sharing of the peace, we already have inconsistencies here at Trinity. The rote Lutheran answer to “The Lord be with you” has always been “And also with you.” We sometimes use that, or “And with your spirit” or our very own made-up version, “His peace also be with you”. Although these would be very minor “mistakes”, you can see how it would be a problem for LCMS visitors, and certainly confuses us at times!

By the way, our AGPS was published by CPH, but was intended as a Sunday School and day school hymnal.

I personally believe this hymnal will be a great asset to our worship here. There will be studies on liturgy and hymns so you understand what you're doing and singing. There are some incredibly powerful new texts in this book, and LSB very clearly shows Jesus Christ. I think the book will help us to grow in our faith and mature in our relationships with the awesome God we attempt to feebly worship here on earth.!

When the Red and Green Books disappear...

Don't worry! Your liturgies are in the new book and the most familiar, well-loved and well-used hymns are too! Red and green books will be up for “adoption” after the new books are in the pew racks, so you can take one home.

December Singing Schedule:

| | | | |
|------|-------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun | 12/3 | 8:00 | Sunday School children 11:00 Parish choir and bells |
| Wed | 12/6 | 8:30 a.m., noon., 7:00 p.m. | School Christmas Program |
| Sat | 12/9 | 6:00 p.m. | Cherubs (1st and 2nd grade) |
| Sun | 12/10 | 8:00 | Men's choir 11:00 Women's choir |
| Tues | 12/12 | 7:00 p.m. | School Band, Choir and Bell Program |
| Wed | 12/13 | 7:00 p.m. | Kinderchoir (PK and K) |
| Sun | 12/17 | 8:00 | Parish choir and bells |
| Wed | 12/20 | 7:00 p.m. | Parish choir and Bells The Quempas Carol |
| Sun | 12/24 | 11:00 | Parish choir and bells |
| | | 4:00 p.m. | Children's Christmas Program |
| | | 6:00 p.m. | New Dim Christmas Program |
| | | 8:00 p.m. | Parish choir and bells |
| | | 11:00 p.m. | Candlelight communion |

Mon 12/25 10:00 a.m. Parish choir and bells
 Sat 1/6 6:00 p.m. Epiphany Cantata A Great Light Butler

A Great Light Epiphany Cantata Saturday, Jan. 6th, 6:00 p.m.
 Join Trinity's parish choir, bells and instrumentalists for this year's Epiphany

cantata, "A Great Light" by Eugene Butler. You'll enjoy singing Christmas carols one last time on this 12th day of Christmas!! With Scripture readings and songs, we'll retell the Christmas story, see the arrival of the wise men, and celebrate the Light to end all darkness! Bring your family, your neighbors and your friends!!

Macau Update

by Anna Moore

My Brothers and Sisters in Grace,

For most of this year, I've been struggling with severe fatigue. Near the end of my final semester at Concordia, I needed to pass a science CLEP test in order to graduate. But when I went to take the test, I found that I literally couldn't keep my eyes open long enough to read through an entire question and its answers. I panicked. I knew that if I didn't pass the test that day, I couldn't graduate and my family had already purchased plane tickets to attend my graduation. So I prayed, "Lord, You said that Your strength is made perfect in my weakness. Well, I am weak now. If I pass this test, I know that it will be entirely an act of Your grace." I more than passed the test.

During session two of my classes here, I ran into a similar problem while taking a phonology test. Only this time I knew that I had stayed up too late the night before and really didn't deserve God's grace.

It was one of those "frying pan on the head" moments. Of course I don't deserve God's grace. If I deserved it, it wouldn't be grace. But God is gracious. When we screw up our lives, when we become entangled in a web of sin, when we are at our most undeserving, that's when He steps in and shows us the true meaning of grace and mercy. He took the punishment for our sins upon Himself and gives us instead His forgiveness and favor and blessings beyond number.

And even though I know I couldn't count all His blessings to me if I spent the whole day typing them, I'd like to share a few of them with you:

- I am currently studying both Mandarin and

Cantonese. My Cantonese language helper is from Hong Kong and has been donating his time three days a week to help me learn Cantonese.

- I have been attending a Cantonese worship service at Arlington Chinese Church every other week, alternating with a deaf-interpreted LCMS worship service on the other weeks. Both congregations have been eager to help me learn and make me feel at home.

- After rooming with Katie for three and a half years, I didn't think I'd survive with another roommate. But I am convinced that God specially chose Brittany Bedford to be my roommate. Our schedules are nearly identical, and I don't know how I would have survived my classes thus far without her help.

- I can't tell you how wonderful it is to be here, surrounded by people who share not only my faith, but also my passion for missions and love of linguistics. Missionaries are always coming in and out from all over the world. It's such a blessing to be a daily witness to the Body of Christ functioning as it was meant to function. And I love my linguistics classes.

- I don't recall ever having done as many fun things as I've done in the past few months. There's always something in the works, whether it's a camping trip, attending "100 Years of Broadway", driving three hours (both ways) to go to a Renaissance Fair, or celebrating a 23rd birthday at Chuck E. Cheese's.

Your support and prayers are a continual source of encouragement to me. I cannot thank God

enough for all of you.

Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I complete my studies in Dallas, continue to learn Mandarin and Cantonese, and raise the \$7,000 I still need in order to leave for Macau in January. Please also join me in a prayer of praise and thanksgiving for God's grace and His innumerable blessings to us all.

And by the way, I passed the phonology test.

Living in His Grace,



mei en (my Chinese name, meaning “beautiful grace”)

Advent/Christmas 2006

December 6th services will feature our School Program “Christmas in Reverse.” December 13th is entitled “He Who Began a Good Work In You,” and December 20th “The Lord is At Hand” will include a celebration of the Quempas Carol.

Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm each Wednesday of Advent. December 6th is hosted by the PTL, December 13th by the Youth and on the 24th by the Elders. Please join us for food and fellowship before the 7:00 pm services.

There will be a free will donation taken at each meal.

Advent Weekday Schedule

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6th

12:10 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13th

12:10 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20th

12:10 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M.

Christmas Worship Schedule

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24th

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

4:00 p.m. Children's Christmas program

6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion

8:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25th

10:00 A.M.

New Years Schedule

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31st

7:00 P.M.

Your Human Care/Social Ministry Board

Your Human Care/Social Ministry Board presents to you an opportunity for evangelism and mercy care this month. On December 15 and December 16 our congregation is working with the Orlando Union Rescue Mission to distribute invitations for their Christmas dinner and a gift bag to homeless or transient persons in the Orlando area. This is a group effort and we will be working in teams under the capable leadership of O.U.R. Mission personnel. The only experience necessary is a heart full of Christian love, kindness and respect. Please contact Rob Stuendel to schedule your availability 407-291-9626.

If you are unable to attend, a box for your donation of new gallon and quart size zip lock bags, and hotel size shampoo and soap is located in the Narthex.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS AND DECORATIONS

Making Trinity Church especially beautiful during the Holy Day celebrations, are provided by Trinity people who wish to remember loved ones, or

simply express special thanks to God. The names of contributors and people remembered will be published in the January newsletter following Christmas. (Donations for poinsettias are \$10.00.)

Name _____

Envelope # _____

Donation \$ _____

In memory of _____

In thanks for / In memory of:

Plants may be picked up after the 11:00 a.m. Epiphany worship January 4th.

A Time of Hope

"For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And

He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 9:6

We have reached the time of the year where we focus on the birth of Our Savior. The Isaiah passage always comforts me as I realize that just as God promised to save the Israelites, so He confirms that promise to me with the birth of Jesus and His crucifixion and resurrection. Each year at this time we reaffirm that time of hope.

That brings me to "wrap up items" for this year. During 2006 we have pinned "hope" on the possible purchase of the Travelodge property. We have raised money, entered into contracts with the property owners and commissioned Church Development Partners (CDP) to advise us regarding purchasing that property. The members of our Development Committee have worked long and hard to keep all of us advised as the project progressed. And now that "hope" seems diminished. Let me explain.

As I write this it is November 20th. On November 19th, the Development Committee was advised by management of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund that obtaining a loan in an amount sufficient to purchase the property is not possible without Trinity agreeing to pledge at least the Ministry Center property in addition to the Travelodge property in order to secure the loan. The voters' caveat to proceeding with the purchase was that only the Travelodge property be the security for the loan. At this point in time, that

by Sandy Ogg, Executive Director

is not possible. Additionally, Phase II of the due diligence process has revealed contaminants on the Travelodge property. This matter would have to be addressed with the property owners before proceeding with the sale. This is the status today. Things may have changed by the time you read this. Keep praying!

A lot of hope was attached to this project this year. I would tell you that hope is not misplaced. As we proceeded down this path we constantly asked God for His guidance and signs that would lead us to a God-pleasing conclusion. For the moment, we have His answer: "Not now maybe later." So, hope is not lost.

Just as God promised the hope of His Son, God continues to promise us that He is in control and will not lead us astray. There is still hope just in a different direction.

More information will be forthcoming regarding the funds collected and pledged for this project once the Development Committee has had the opportunity to meet and consider Trinity's options.

Anyone wishing to address this situation should contact me via e-mail (natlme@aol.com).

Meanwhile, let's continue to rejoice and hope in the gift of Christ as we celebrate His birthday.

Love in Jesus and blessings to each of you for a Christ-filled Advent Season!

Sandy

Seeding Health and Hope

A Monthly Health Ministry Resource
For Congregations
Vol. 8, no. 12 December, 2005



Can't Remember What You Just Forgot?

People love to joke about the changes we experience in the aging process including changes in our memory. Did you hear the one about... While it's great to take ourselves 'lightly' as we grow older, memory loss is a very important issue. Is it possible to do things that will help prevent, or minimize, memory loss? According to the experts at the Mayo Clinic, the answer is YES. Here are eight tips that they offer:

- *Exercise Your Mind* Keep learning new things so your brain continues to make new cells and connections. Learn to play a musical instrument, do volunteer work, read, start a new hobby.
- *Stay Physically Active* Slower mental activity has been linked to decreases in physical activity. Simple movement goals, such as taking the stairs instead of the elevator, can help a great deal. Aim for at least 30 minutes of some kind of physical activity each day.
- *Develop Healthy Eating Habits* Stay faithful to fruits and vegetables. The antioxidants they contain help protect and nourish brain cells.
- *Drink Alcohol in Moderation, If at All* People who drink heavily for many years have a higher risk of

developing memory problems. If you are over 65, keep alcohol consumption under 2 drinks per day.

- *Manage Your Stress* The depression and anxiety caused by chronic stress can interfere with the way your brain processes memories. Learn to take breaks from stressful activities, to use deep breathing techniques, and to simplify your life.
- *Protect Your Head When Exercising* Head trauma can contribute to risks of developing Alzheimer's disease. Wear a helmet when biking and take other precautions to protect your head it's the only one you have!
- *Stop Smoking* Smokers may have twice the risk of getting Alzheimer's disease than do people who have never smoked. Stopping at any time helps so stop now!
- *Talk To Your Doctor* If you have concerns about memory loss, your physician can help you assess the situation and develop strategies to help.

(Adapted from "How to Keep Your Mind Sharp: Preventative Action" MayoClinic.com Tools for Healthier Lives)

SCHOOL NEWS

Writing Assessment

Trinity's Middle School students scored very high on the writing assessment administered last spring. This year all students in Grades 3 - 8 will be assessed on their writing skills.

Students are graded for ideas and development, organizational unity and coherence, word choice, sentences and paragraphs, grammar and usage, and writing mechanics.

Results from last year's Stanford Writing Assessment are as follows:

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Grade Six | Narrative Writing | 87 percentile |
| | Persuasive Writing | 55 percentile |
| Grade Seven | Descriptive Writing | 84 percentile |
| | Expository Writing | 85 percentile |
| Grade Eight | Descriptive Writing | 91 percentile |
| | Expository Writing | 94 percentile |

Fifty percentile is the national average and Trinity scored above the national average on all tests. Persuasive Writing is probably the hardest type of writing and we will be giving our students more opportunities to practice this type of writing. Reports to parents will be sent home with scores for each writing skills.



School Achievement

Did you know that Trinity Lutheran School administers the complete battery (six to thirteen testing sections depending upon grade level) of the Stanford Achievement Test each school year? The Stanford Achievement Test (SAT) is a nationally normed test that is a useful tool for measuring individual student achievement (year to year), measuring grade-wide progress in subject areas, comparing local school progress with national norms, observing strengths and weaknesses in the academic programs of the school, and for many other purposes.

We are proud of our scores on this instrument! While the fiftieth percentile is considered the "norm" on any given SAT testing section, our classes consistently score at or above the seventieth percentile. Last year's graduating class averaged at the 78th percentile. Most students qualified for advanced placement in their high school classes. Most graduates continue to report that they have been very well prepared for high school here at Trinity.

In addition to continued high academic performance, many of our graduates are active in sports, music, and drama activities at their respective high schools. Many are also active in Christian campus activities.

God has truly blessed Trinity with outstanding students taught by consecrated Christian teachers, ever improving equipment and facilities, and faithful church members who continue to foster excellence in Christian education through one of the BEST KEPT SECRETS IN ORLANDO > > > > TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL!

Trinity Downtown Youth News

In the L.I.G.H.T. High School Youth Ministry

October 2006 Report:

Tuesday night's are the place to be if you are a High School Youth. Recently on a Tuesday night - 10/31/06 (Halloween Night) the HS youth had a P U M P K I N CARVING contest / Movie Night. The youth paired up to try and carve the winning design. The pumpkins were judged by



the Trinity School staff and the winners are as follows: Nicole Regan & Amy Cotton along with Trey Poole & Josh Friedel.

November 2006 Report:

Saturday 11/4/06 and Sunday 11/5/06 Fundraiser for the LCMS National Youth Gathering 2007. The High School Youth of Trinity (along with Parent Volunteers) raised over \$2,100.00 by parking cars on the Trinity campus during Fall Fiesta in the Park. This money will be used to help pay for their Hotel stay, meals etc. while attending the LCMS National Youth Gathering in 2007. The Board of Youth Ministry would like to thank all of the Parent volunteers who help make this fundraiser a success. They are: Chuck & Ellen Boogher, Angie Friedel, Glenda

by Wade Regan, Board of Youth Ministry Frazier, Amy Dittmer, Eileen Regan and Gary Schumacher. A special thanks to both David Blackwood and Amy Kushnir who without their hard work on both Saturday & Sunday we would not have be able to pull this fundraiser off.

Watch for our Christmas Cookie fundraiser coming soon to Trinity Downtown. Please help support Trinity's Youth Ministry.

By the way, if you are a HS student or know of a HS students that might be interested in attending the LCMS National Youth Gathering 2007 from 7/28 to 8/1/2007 right here in Orlando, FL. Then give Dan Davies a call ASAP @ 407-422-5704 ext. 129 or e-mail him @ DDavies@Trinitydowntown.org

See below for upcoming HS events in **December 2006:**

- Dec. 5th Pool Party at the Ramiz's House
- Dec. 12th Bible Study w/ Double D
- Dec. 19th Christmas Caroling
- Dec. 26th No meeting CHRISTMAS BREAK

Continue to watch the Triune Weekly &/or your e-mail for more details on these events etc. If you are not receiving e-mails then let Dan know e-mail him at: DDavies@Trinitydowntown.org.

The God Squad Middle School Youth Ministry

November 2006 Report:

11/3 11/5/06 LCMS FL/GA District Middle School Youth Gathering

Youth Ministry, continued from page 9

'REVOLT' - Why fit in when you were made to **Stand Out!** (Romans 12:2)



On Friday
n i g h t
(11/3/06)
18 Middle
S c h o o l
y o u t h
&
4 A d u l t
L e a d e r s
f r o m

Trinity Downtown traveled to the Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center for the annual LCMS FL/GA MS Youth Gathering 2006. The students attended mass events on both Friday and Saturday. The mass events featured the band 'NEVERTHELESS' and Pastor Paul vonWerder from Hope Lutheran Church. The students also attended smaller break-out sessions as well as enjoying some 'free' time Saturday afternoon. Saturday night featured the traditional dance/pizza party for all of the students. The Gathering came to a close with Sunday Worship with our very own Pastor Jon assisting Pastor Paul in the closing service.

The Board of Youth Ministry would like to thank all of the parents/students who donated school supplies for needy students in both Florida & Georgia.

The Board would also like to thank both Catherine Sutrich & Pam Rellstab for being our Female Adult Leaders for this weekend. Thank you both for supporting Trinity's Youth Ministry! And of course thanks to Barb McDonald, our bus driver, for getting us there and back safely.

Just as an FYI the offering that was

collected for this Gathering will be going towards the Sally Serrine memorial scholarship fund. This fund will provide scholarships to students so that they can attend events like a MS Youth Gathering and/or the National Youth Gathering etc..

Sally Serrine went to be with the Lord earlier this year. She was very active in Youth Ministry across the FL/GA District & the LCMS. She was also the Youth Director at Grace Lutheran Church in Winter Haven.



Upcoming MS events/meetings December 2006:

Sunday-12/3-Capture the Flag

Sunday-12/17- 'Barlow Girl' / Movie Night

New in 2007 - starting in January we will start having *God Squad* meetings every Thursday night (except for Holidays, etc.). We will have a 'FUN' activity once a month along with weekly Bible Studies etc. So continue to watch the Triune etc. for more details in regards to this and other Youth Events.

Please continue to check the Triune Weekly, this newsletter and/or the Trinity Downtown Youth web sites for more detailed information about these and other Youth events. Questions about these events or Trinity's Youth Ministry in general please call Dan Davies, DCE Intern @ 407-422-5704 ext. 129 or e-mail him at ddavies@trinitydowntown.org or BYM@trinitydowntown.org.

Wade Regan
Board of Youth Ministry

Prayer List

In order for the Triune prayer list to be up to date and functional, we have started to date the prayer requests and put them in a rotation. After three weeks of prayer, we will automatically take off that particular prayer. If you want us to continue the prayer, call the Church Office and request the prayer be put back on the prayer list for another three-week rotation. The prayer list of the monthly newsletter will consist of prayers that are longer term. If there are any changes on the list below or if you would like them in the Triune prayer list for three weeks, call the Church Office, 407-422-5704, or email tlc@trinitydowntown.org.

During the Month of November we prayed for:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Sharon Anthony | Wendy |
| Mary Barnes | Karen Anderson |
| Robert Paul Burns | Mona Karst |
| Frank Churchville | Kevin Merz |
| Patrick Clark | Ruth Scaletta |
| Kathy Codd | Joe Schaecher |
| Scott Davis | Cliff Schimmelpfennig |
| Lenoir Delehunt | Jackson Ellis |
| Sharon Drake | Joel Jenne |
| Diane Edenfield | Mary Ann & John Seybert |
| Mike Gallo | Gail Tayloe |
| Irma Guth | Leighton Templin |
| Annette Hall | Janet Wolbert |
| Caleb Harris | Brenda Wilson |
| John Heins | |
| Eric Hoagland | |
| Jaro Jezek | |
| Chris Kunze | |
| June Lee | |
| Jerry Morris | |
| Walter Myrick | |
| Lois Raymond | |
| Adele Renner | |
| Archie Seaton | |
| Bob Wilson | |
| Mikael | |

Serving Our Country

Lauren B
Robert J. Kasper
Eddie Rawlings
Jeremy Bickel
Brian Boisselle
Joe Braneky
Matthew Finton
Dave Lucas
Billy Morgan
Cpr. Royston
Lauren Stives
Adam Wilcox

Deaths for November:

Becky Radcliff
James "Jim" F Ricker, Jr.
Dennis Volk
Carol Graham
Robbie Patterson

Please contact the church office if any of the names of the prayer list are wrong or need to be taken off or added.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

The following people who were born or married in December. We thank the Lord for His great gifts of life & love! **If there is a mistake or we have missed you, please let us know so we can update our records.**

| | | | | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|-------------|--------|--------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Dec 1 | Alderman, Andrea | Birthday | Dec 12 | Butterfield, Chuck | Birthday |
| Dec 1 | Blackwood, Robert | Birthday | Dec 12 | Christiansen, Arnold | Birthday |
| Dec 1 | Bourgeois, Joy | Birthday | Dec 12 | Hagerman, Connie | Birthday |
| Dec 1 | Brodeur, Helen | Birthday | Dec 12 | Lee, David | Birthday |
| Dec 1 | Gipson, Cameron | Birthday | Dec 12 | Mielke, Carol | Birthday |
| Dec 1 | Hagerman, Angela | Birthday | Dec 12 | Smalley, Marcy | Birthday |
| Dec 1 | Neff, William | Birthday | Dec 12 | Wegner, Donna | Birthday |
| Dec 2 | Beasom, Jeffery & Diane | Anniversary | Dec 13 | Hahn, Anna | Birthday |
| Dec 2 | Gawron, Eleanore | Birthday | Dec 13 | Reeves, Valerie | Birthday |
| Dec 2 | Kasper, Cody | Birthday | Dec 15 | Blair, Lindsey | Birthday |
| Dec 2 | Rodriguez, Makenzie | Birthday | Dec 15 | Clausen, Donald | Birthday |
| Dec 3 | Giroux, Suzanne | Birthday | Dec 15 | Johantgen, Ken | Birthday |
| Dec 3 | Knapp, Wilma | Birthday | Dec 15 | Lemcke, Dylan | Birthday |
| Dec 3 | Youngless, Helga | Birthday | Dec 15 | Pfantz, Martha & Earl | Anniversary |
| Dec 4 | Brice, Francine | Birthday | Dec 15 | Schwichtenberg, Linda & William Staiger | Anniversary |
| Dec 4 | Schimmelpfennig, Clifford & Janyce | Anniversary | Dec 16 | Arnett, Charles | Birthday |
| Dec 5 | Finger, Thomas & Terri | Anniversary | Dec 16 | Cape, Evan | Birthday |
| Dec 5 | Fisher, Kellie | Birthday | Dec 16 | Dees, Bryce | Birthday |
| Dec 5 | Koch, Robert | Birthday | Dec 16 | Devis, Brandon | Birthday |
| Dec 5 | Meyer, Robert | Birthday | Dec 16 | Espinosa, Ivette | Birthday |
| Dec 5 | O'Brien, Brendan | Birthday | Dec 16 | Koivu, Jean | Birthday |
| Dec 5 | Yuhl, Kathryn | Birthday | Dec 16 | Lerner, Chris & Helen | Anniversary |
| Dec 6 | O'Rourke, Stacey | Birthday | Dec 17 | Barnes, Avery | Birthday |
| Dec 7 | Deinlein, Rebecca | Birthday | Dec 17 | Eckoff, Harvey | Birthday |
| Dec 7 | Hamer, Stephanie | Birthday | Dec 17 | Emling, Katie | Birthday |
| Dec 7 | Lubold, Morgan | Birthday | Dec 17 | Ferris, Lillian | Birthday |
| Dec 7 | Simmons, Catherine | Birthday | Dec 17 | Nicholson, Heather | Birthday |
| Dec 8 | Critcher, V, Murry | Birthday | Dec 17 | O'Rourke, Zack | Birthday |
| Dec 8 | Frazier, Glenda | Birthday | Dec 17 | Rodriguez, Marino | Birthday |
| Dec 8 | Hinton, Kevin & Marietta | Anniversary | Dec 17 | Young, Art & Lisa | Anniversary |
| Dec 8 | Hoctor, James | Birthday | Dec 18 | Brath, Betty | Birthday |
| Dec 8 | Knoblauch, Gretchen | Birthday | Dec 18 | Rawlings, Lucas | Birthday |
| Dec 9 | Hofmann, Michael & Kim | Anniversary | Dec 18 | Scaletta, Emily | Birthday |
| Dec 9 | Kimmel, Ashley | Birthday | Dec 19 | Cobb, Jackson | Birthday |
| Dec 9 | Ramirez, Alexander | Birthday | Dec 19 | Dittmer, David | Birthday |
| Dec 9 | Scott, Elaine | Birthday | Dec 19 | Neubauer, Craig | Birthday |
| Dec 10 | DiBlasio, Kim | Birthday | Dec 19 | Oakley, John | Birthday |
| Dec 10 | Dowdle, Cheryl | Birthday | Dec 19 | Schimmelpfennig, Janyce | Birthday |
| Dec 10 | Ramirez, Nayeli | Birthday | Dec 19 | Shively, Dan & Marcia | Anniversary |
| Dec 11 | Crowell, Neal | Birthday | Dec 20 | Oesterle, Steve | Birthday |
| Dec 11 | George, Brooke | Birthday | Dec 21 | Emling, Rick & Joni | Anniversary |
| | | | Dec 21 | Finnell, Cristian | Birthday |
| | | | Dec 21 | Hamidi, Hedy | Birthday |
| | | | Dec 22 | Barrett, Michael K. | Birthday |
| | | | Dec 22 | Becker, Jason | Birthday |
| | | | Dec 22 | Harris, Lisa | Birthday |
| | | | Dec 22 | Kunze, Christopher | Birthday |
| | | | Dec 23 | Mayer, Patricia | Birthday |

Birthdays, continued from page 12

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Dec 23 Rummells, Melissa | Birthdays | Dec 28 McCaleb, Steve | Birthdays |
| Dec 23 Smothers, Kayley | Birthdays | Dec 28 Springer, Stephanie | Birthdays |
| Dec 23 Zara, IV, Catherine | Birthdays | Dec 28 Van Deest, Nora | Birthdays |
| Dec 24 Earle, Katherine | Birthdays | Dec 29 Dobson, Diane & Gary | Anniversaries |
| Dec 24 Holshek, Shirley | Birthdays | Dec 29 Gatti, Pat Jr. | Birthdays |
| Dec 24 Schoembs, Michelle | Birthdays | Dec 29 Hahn, Christopher | Birthdays |
| Dec 24 Walberg, Jane | Birthdays | Dec 29 Hohman, Mary | Birthdays |
| Dec 25 Boogher, Chuck & Ellen | Anniversaries | Dec 29 Horton, Kris | Birthdays |
| Dec 25 Jezek, Holly | Birthdays | Dec 29 Sanborn, Raquel & Charles | Anniversaries |
| Dec 25 Keene, Jim | Birthdays | Dec 29 Sarubbi, Jonathan | Birthdays |
| Dec 25 Merrick, Carolyn | Birthdays | Dec 29 Thomas, Megan | Birthdays |
| Dec 25 Mills, Judy | Birthdays | Dec 29 Wiley, Dianne | Birthdays |
| Dec 25 Wilde, Holly | Birthdays | Dec 30 Graft, Sherry | Birthdays |
| Dec 25 Yawman, Hannah | Birthdays | Dec 30 Haney, Michelle | Birthdays |
| Dec 26 Boggs, Heather | Birthdays | Dec 30 Lange, Ted & Mary | Anniversaries |
| Dec 26 Boston, Alex | Birthdays | Dec 30 Lyerly, Sandra & Robert | Anniversaries |
| Dec 26 Brink, Mark & Mary Beth | Anniversaries | Dec 30 Munoz, Daniel | Birthdays |
| Dec 26 White, Tom & Roseann | Anniversaries | Dec 30 Rawlings, Ed & Patti | Anniversaries |
| Dec 27 Cape, Karen & Charles | Anniversaries | Dec 30 Reyes, Victoria | Birthdays |
| Dec 27 Engstrom, Dean & Doris | Anniversaries | Dec 30 Ricker, Sara | Birthdays |
| Dec 27 Hagerman, Bob & Connie | Anniversaries | Dec 30 Shultz, Sam | Birthdays |
| Dec 27 Morris, Linda | Birthdays | Dec 31 Barfield, Sara | Birthdays |
| Dec 27 Yeager, Cole | Birthdays | Dec 31 Horton, Dale | Birthdays |
| Dec 28 Boogher, Sarah | Birthdays | Dec 31 Mayer, Jeremy & Nicole | Anniversaries |
| Dec 28 Clark, Ian | Birthdays | Dec 31 Regan, Eileen | Birthdays |
| Dec 28 Diaz, Erika | Birthdays | Dec 31 Ricker, Sara & Jim | Anniversaries |
| Dec 28 Green, Clayton | Birthdays | Dec 31 Tzuanos, Leah | Birthdays |
| | | Dec 31 Yawman, Jonathan | Birthdays |

Those who serve Advent/Christmas 2006

| Date | Time | Elders | Readers | Ushers | Acolytes | Nursery |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|----------|---------|
| Advent 12/6/2006 | 12:10 p.m. | N/A | Liz Borth | N/A | N/A | |
| | 7:00 p.m. | | Tom Thomas | Brendan O'Brien | N/A | |
| Advent 12/13/2006 | 12:10 p.m. | N/A | Liz Borth | N/A | N/A | |
| | 7:00 p.m. | | Heather Bumgarner | Brendan O'Brien | TBA | |
| Advent 12/20/2006 | 12:10 p.m. | N/A | Liz Borth | N/A | N/A | |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Dave Schernikau | Clay Brice | Brendan O'Brien | TBA | |
| Christmas Eve 12/24/2005 | 4:00 p.m. | Dave Schernikau | John Bowen | Teams 2, 3, D | N/A | |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Lo Phillips | Patti Rawlings | Teams 4, 1, B, 9 | TBA | |
| | 8:00 p.m. | VernRetzlaff | Ron Cole | Teams 6, 5, 10 | TBA | |
| | 11:00 p.m. | Gary Schumacher | Wren Aber | Teams 8 & 12 | TBA | |
| Christmas Day 12/25/2007 | 10:00 a.m. | Lance Bell | Mary Gene Carr | Teams H, 11, 7 | TBA | |
| New Year Eve 12/31/2007 | 7:00 p.m. | TBA | Nancy Stentz | TBA | N/A | |



“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring Good News.”

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*OUR MISSION is to proclaim the
Gospel of Jesus Christ through
ministries which strengthen and
equip people for Christian witness
and service in downtown,
metropolitan Orlando
and the world!*

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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