

Grapevine – July 2010

Trinity Lutheran Church

612 Main Street

Westbrook, Maine 04092

Pastoral Care – Karen Indorf (awaiting ordination)

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Elsie Reese – Editor

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Summer Worship Hours are Sunday at 9:00am. Sunday School and Confirmation Class will resume the Sunday after Labor Day.

WE HAVE A NEW PASTOR!

On June 19th and 20th 2010 Trinity Lutheran of Westbrook, Maine completed the Pastoral Call process of candidate Karen Indorf. The candidate had previously been interviewed by the Call Committee and the Church Council, then recommended to the Congregation. Approximately 60 members participated in a Saturday evening potluck and informal “meet and greet” with Karen. The formal proceedings occurred on Sunday morning. Karen presided and preached at the Sunday service, with Pastor Tim Roser assisting.

After the service, Pastor Roser moderated a question and answer session. Immediately following the Q & A, Karen was excused and Pastor Roser call the special congregation meeting to order. After discussing the motion, introduced by the Church Council, to call Karen, a ballot vote was taken. Of the 79 votes cast, 56 were cast in favor of the call, surpassing the required 2/3 requirement. A subsequent motion to approve a compensation package, also introduce by the Church Council, was approved 48-2. Pastor Karen will begin on June 30, 2010.

Karen Indorf is a lifelong Lutheran, who obtained her Bachelors degree at Valparaiso University, and a Masters degree at San Diego State University. After a career as a Counselor, Karen attended ELCA’s Trinity Seminary in Columbus, OH to acquire a degree in Lay Ministry. She worked as an Associate in Ministry at Holy Cross Lutheran in Kennebunk, ME from 2004 until she received her Master of Divinity from Bangor Theological Seminary in 2010. This will be Pastor Karen’s first call.

We wish Pastor Karen the best as Trinity Lutheran’s new spiritual leader.

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YOU CAN NOW SPECIFY THE PERCENTAGE OF YOUR GENERAL FUND CONTRIBUTION THAT WILL GO TOWARD SYNODICAL APPORTIONMENT

If you want to specify the percentage of your General Fund contrinbution that is designated toard the Synodical Apportionment, simply write that amount on one of youe General Fund envelopes. It will remain in effect until you change the designation. It can be higher or lower than the default 10%. If you do not specify a percentage on the General Fund envelope, than the default 10% Synod Apportionment will be calculated.

REASON TO REJOICE

The Foundation of Faith Renovation Project was paid in full at the end of April. Since the beginning of May, all contributions designated for this project have been credited to the General Capital Fund. Please label future capital contributions as “Capital Fund” rather than “FOF.”

NEW SUMMER ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP SERVICE

To be held Saturday evenings June 19 through August 14 at 6pm here at Trinity either outside or in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a more relaxed simpler service of about one half hour followed by a potluck meal. The service will be led by volunteers either doing parts or the whole of a service which will include: 1 or 2 Bible passages, a homily, and prayers. We will, of course, open and close with hymns perhaps accompanied by guitar. Volunteers would find "Sundays and Seasons" a great inspiration for this outreach opportunity. Signup sheet is posted in music room and office door.

CONGRATULATIONS!

go to Molly Creedan and Patrick Crocker as they were confirmed on May 23. Pastor Rinell stepped in to conduct the Rite of Confirmation that day as we were saddened by the sudden passing of Pastor Paul Horn.

PASTOR HORN

had prepared a sermon for Molly and Patrick on their confirmation. Following is the sermon he prepared now printed posthumously.....

I ASK GOD TO HELP ME

Matthew 16: 13-16

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples. "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say that I am? Simon Peter answered. "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

Exodus 3: 1-3, 13-14

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Median, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire, it did not burn up. So, Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight, why the bush does not burn up. When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I Am." *(Then later on in Verse 13 we hear these words.)* Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: "I am has sent me to you."

This past Mother's Day, May 9th, it was my pleasure to place my hand on the head of my grandson, Hunter, as he like you Molly and Patrick before us this morning also reaffirmed his baptism. The reason I did this was not because I, being his grandfather, was also a pastor. Rather, it is a tradition in that particular congregation for each of the confirmands to select a mentor. Our job as a mentor was to meet weekly with our confirmand and go over the material that the pastor taught them during the week. We as mentors also met once a month with the pastor and the confirmand to go over various teachings of the Bible and the church. We even spent some time on a weekend retreat. For me, as a pastor, this was indeed a rich experience. I also grew in my own personal faith. I believe it is important for you young people to know that your faith life doesn't end today as you are confirmed. In fact, you will be asked certain questions to which you will answer, "I do, and I ask God to help and guide me." But you will not be alone for this question will also be asked of your parents, guardian, sponsors and the rest

of the congregation. "People of God, do you promise to support this sister and brother and pray for them in their life in Christ?" They will also answer, "We do, and we ask God to help and guide us." As all of us look at these answers one thing stands out, at least to me, are these words "I ask God to help and guide me." You see, we are not alone in our faith life. Today, it seems as though many people would rather do it themselves. They don't want any help. My 4 year old grandson, Alex, whenever I ask if I can help him, like put on his socks or some other things, he always says to me, "Pop Pop, I do myself." How true that is. We don't want any help even from God. Well, maybe that's not entirely true. For when we are in trouble, when we find ourselves in bad situations, we do cry out for God to help us.

Today is Confirmation Sunday as well as Pentecost Sunday. It is on this day we remember the birthday of the Christian Church. The liturgical color is red symbolizing the tongues of fire that were seen on that first Pentecost. Perhaps you as a congregation are not aware of the fact that the stole that I am wearing is not mine. Rather, it is a gift from this year's confirmation class to this congregation, along with a green stole. This red stole is particularly significant because it depicts the flames of the burning bush as well as the tongues of fire on Pentecost. On that first Pentecost, we are told that along with the disciples there were people from all over, Parthians, Medes and Elamites each spoke in a different language. They did not understand one another until the Holy Spirit, the Great Host, came upon them. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit provided space to these people. They heard God and therefore they began to hear one another. They were crowded into the tiny world of their own culture and language. They were members of the larger family in the world, the Christian Church, the Hallmark of which is "They understood one another." But, what makes a person a Christian?

During your time of instruction you young people have covered many subjects from studying scripture, Luther's Small Catechism and various doctrines of the Lutheran Church.

In his book "Future Shock," Alvin Toffler explains how in this modern world of rapid change, confusion over choice, we all need a "stability zone" of regular habits, rituals, beliefs and reference point that keeps us grounded.

We and these confirmands before us this morning live in a time that is surrounded by biotechnology, genetic engineering, artificial life, bionic medicine technology, nanotechnology and they are outrunning our theology and ethics. Issues of abortion, genetic engineering, euthanasia, designed babies, corrective surgery on infants yet to be born are all part of the biotechnology. If any of you have, as I do, have an implant to aid the heart, then we are already part human and part machine.

We also live in a pluralistic culture where many different religious voices clamor for our allegiance. It is a culture that tells its youth...."There is no Truth." Satan has managed to take truth out of the culture so that people now believe that one point of view is just as valid as another... You and I have arrived back at Pilate's question to Jesus, "What is Truth?"

This is the culture we are living in. This is the culture these confirmands are living in. And so, as parents, and grandparents, sponsors, Sunday School Teachers and Pastors, we are rightly concerned about their spiritual formation. That is why they, under the capable teaching of Marilee Bryant, have spent time delving into the scripture, studying the history of the church and learning how to truthfully answer the question posed in Matthew's text for this day, "And who do you believe that Jesus is?" Molly and Patrick, as I said earlier, you chose the story of Moses and his encounter with the burning bush as your confirmation scripture. Through studying God's word, you have come to know the God who said, "I am who I am."

Today you two young people will stand before this congregation to confirm your faith or as the order of worship states The Affirmation of Your Baptism. Today you will affirm the commitment and promise your parents, guardians or sponsors made the day you were baptized.

You know that today is not your graduation day from the life of the church. Instead, it is just one segment of the life long commitment to your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is the start of a life long journey in the real world and adulthood.

In this world culture, God is still seeking to connect to those who are drifting in a cultural sea of religious pluralism without a rudder. People do want to know what gives life value.

God created every human being with a desire to be connected to Him. God is sending you and me. We live in this culture, but we should not be a "Gated Community." And Trinity Lutheran Church is not to be a "Gated Church" isolated from the world. God is at work in the hearts and minds of our irreligious, non-Christian, unbelieving friends. You and I are the vessels God uses to communicate His love and to clarify His truth to people He cared enough to die for.

As disciples we know that we have been reconciled, accepted by God. He is our Friend. Scripture tells us that God has justified us, He sees us just as if we had never sinned because of our faith in Jesus Christ who died on the cross and rose from the grave.

How can the unchurched, non-believing, irreligious person know and experience this love of God? How can they believe in God if they don't have a true picture of God? How can they know this God who says, "I am Who I Am." How can they hear about God's love without someone telling them. Someone has to be sent. Today, we are sending Molly and Patrick into the world where they live, work, and play....so that the Holy Spirit can use them to lead others to Jesus.

Your parents, guardians, sponsors, grandparents, and this congregation have encouraged and worked with you in your study of God's word so that someday your own children and grandchildren will look at your confirmation photo's and say "That's my Grandmother, that's my Grandfather."

May God grant you the wisdom to pass on your faith in Jesus Christ as Savior to the next generation. Amen.

SOCIAL MINISTRY UPDATES

Here is the latest report from our last committee meeting. As we head into summer we will be taking a break to enjoy some "down" time with friends and family. We will resume committee meetings at the beginning of September.

The Parish Care and Social Ministry would like to thank all those who contributed their special baking talents and provided goodies for our booth in the park and also volunteering at Westbrook Together Days on June 4th & 5th.

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|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| • Mary Christensen | Barbara Henry | Deborah Knight |
| • Cheryl Connolly | Thomas McIntyre | Shelly Michaud |
| • Alice Deschambeault | Carla Mitchell | Shirley Patten |
| • Cathie Bunk | Joyce Perrey | Dorothy Rush |
| • Marilyn Crosby | Honor Sanville | Betty Schaefer |
| • Jane Sinclair | Krista Weidman | Sue Sheloski |
| • Cleo Sherman | Greta Wallace | Elsie Reese |
| • Myrna Orach | Jeannie Knight | Tom Perrey |
| Ted Deschambeault | Priscille Young | Joleen Moreshead |
| Merilee Bryant | George Baron | Ginny Christiansen |
| JoAnn Graffram | | |

If we've forgotten anyone—please let us know so we can acknowledge your support!!!!!!

Your efforts make a difference in what Trinity does with Social Ministry as a whole.

A special offering along with proceeds from Westbrook Together Days totaling \$953 with the addition of upcoming monies from Thrivent will be sent to the Westbrook Food Pantry.

On another note.....

Westbrook's Interfaith Community of Churches will be providing support with volunteers to help with their "Summer Lunch Program". Each of the 4 to 5 churches involved will support the free lunch program for low income neighborhoods and on selected Tuesdays---will provide the volunteers to help for 2 hours at the Reserve St. location near St. Hyacinth's church on Brown Street. Trinity along with Westbrook Warren, the Vineyard, Pride's Corner and possibly the First Baptist church--- have already spent time refurbishing the old head start building on Reserve St. The program will begin on June 21st through August 20th, Mon-Fri. See Joyce Perrey or Jane Sinclair if you would like to provide "stewardship" for this program.



on behalf of Social Ministry and Parish Care

CHANGE FOR THE ALTAR FLOWER COMMITTEE FROM JOANN GRAFFAM

I will now be taking care of the altar flower memorials. I will be calling to inform and confirm or change the information on the Floral Calendar, and ask for new information. The cost for a bouquet is \$13.00 which you can send to me, JoAnn Graffam, 134 Haven Rd., Windham, ME 04062. Please note the date of the memorial on your check. At the present time, I have an open date for memorial flowers on July 18th. You can reach me at 892-2139 or leave a message. Thank you. PS: If flowers are not picked up after services, they will be left on the table by the office door for your pick up at your convenience.

Thank you to JoAnn Graffam.

Thank you to Pat Becker and Joyce Perrey for taking over the ministry of Altar Care.

LUTHERAN WINNI WEEK – July 10th - 17th 2010

As most of you know, Camp Winni is a great vacation week of enrichment, renewal, recreation and Christian Fellowship on beautiful Lake Winnepesaukee in central New Hampshire. David Trobisch is the featured speaker this year. For more information or to register, contact Ellen Bartlett, registrar, 161 Mason St., Westbrook, ME 04092, - email: LutWinni@maine.rr.com, or phone (207) 854-1684.

GREETINGS FROM CALUMET!

Summer is fast approaching and we at Calumet are busy getting ready for campers to arrive. Please make sure that people in your congregation know that all sessions, except for July 18-24, have openings for children. Blessings, Paula Kent

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR COFFEE HOUR IN JULY

If interested, please sign your name on the list posted on the kitchen wall. Any questions, call Alice Deschambeault at 839-5333.

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF:

Rev. Paul Horn who passed away on May 22, 2010.

Debora King who passed away on May 29, 2010.

Mother of Pastor Thorp who passed away the end of May.

A LETTER FROM EDNA QUINN AND TOM ERSKINE

What a blessing to receive the Grapevine online. I print it out for Tom and we enjoy it together. We miss our church family and are sorry we are not able to attend. You are very much in our prayers, especially during this time of upheaval and confusion. We pray with Jesus: "That they may be one..." and hope you

will soon have the pastor you need to lead. We do believe that God will strengthen the faithful called to that special ministry in Westbrook that we have enjoyed for so long. Keep the faith.

On the homefront, we continue to deal with issues of pain and mobility and sleep, but are grateful that we are blessed with caring friends and family and a deepening of our relationship and faith. We marvel every day at the medical resources we have in the Portland area. The physical therapist, home health aide, occupational therapist from VNA have kept us going. Tom is walking short distances with a walker and able to get out a few times a week in his transport chair. We have great medical and staff support from MMC. A recent referral to MMC pain clinic has helped tremendously. Dave Thorp's ministry has meant so much. Visits from family and friends from away - son Jeff and his family from MD and daughter Jennifer from NJ, Tom's Bowdoin classmate from WA, Edna's goddaughter from England- have provided much support.

We'd love to see more of friends from Trinity--if you're in our neighborhood, feel free to drop in for coffee or "happy hour " on our deck.

LETTER FROM PEG MAXWELL

Thank you all for your phone calls, cards and prayers. My appreciation for God's grace and protection has increased daily as I walk, talk, sing and smile at family and friends who have surrounded me with their love and care. I am happy to be alive and enjoy my days as the colors and glitter from the car and injuries continue to subside. While going to Dr.s visits I met up with Pastor Chittick and Nicki, and Edna and Tom Erskine, all who are doing well and happy to share their time and best wishes to all. They remind me of our Blessed fellowship at Trinity.....see you all soon. Peg Maxwell

Message from Elsie: I started working in this position as secretary of Trinity Church after Pastor Chittick left. It has been almost one and a half years. I thoroughly enjoyed being your interim secretary. At this time, retirement is once again an enticing thought. I am, therefore, giving my notice and July 15 will be my last working day at Trinity. Thank you for the opportunity of serving you.

PRAYER LIST

Pray for those among us who ask for our intercessions

MEMBERS

Enid Smith, Rena Wynn, Karen Griffin Kilmer, Tom Erskine, Carol Henigan, Barbara Henry,
Emma Estes, Sena Herbert, Mary Ann Gagnon, Irma Magnusson, Russ Jensen,
Ruth Mickus, Peg Maxwell

FRIENDS OF MEMBERS:

Taja Sieber, Joe Hakanson, Natalie Hakanson, Pat Milligan, Fatuma Boru, Natalie Swain,
Michael Walton, Vin Corwin, Carol Blake, Joyce Cole, Belfe, Joe McGonagle, Patricia
Welker, Phyllis Medeiros, Judy May, Dan Mjolsness, Theresa Morrison, Joyce McGee,
Catherine Pappas, Ray Thorp, Martin Jensen

JUST FOR LAUGHS

James, age 4, was listening to a Bible story. His dad read: "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt." Concerned, James asked: "What happened to the flea?"

FOR YOUR INFORMATION – 2010-2011 ALTAR COMMITTEE

January 2011 - Jane Sinclair 854-2174
February 2011 - Hazel Maloney 591-7028
March 2011 - Joyce Perrey 854-5411
April 2011 - Joleen & Doug Moreshead 829-6036
May 2011 - Peg & Ralph Maxwell 625-3714
June 2010 - Pat Becker with the exception of 6/13 which will be done by J & M Christensen
883-2069
July 2010 - Alitza & Jennie Wildes 929-6237
August 2010
September 2010 - Marilyn Crosby 591-5041
October 2010 - Betty & Charlie Schaefer 929-8832
November 2010 - Sue Sheloske 854-9857
December 2010 - John & Mary Christensen 671-5902; 727-3965

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting – May 10, 2010

Present: John Christensen, Beverly Grant, Andrew McIntyre, Carla Mitchell, Joyce Perrey, Ken Schoepf (Vice Pres.), Thomas McIntyre (youth Rep.), Jane Sinclair (Treasurer), Roberta Smith, Dave Thorp (Pastor), Dennis Wildes (President).

Excused: Abera Desta, Kevin King

Opening Devotions: Andrew McIntyre

Pastor's Report – A written report was submitted by Pastor Dave Thorp for April 2010. Registration for Synod is on line; Sturbridge hotel has to be called directly –Nesynod.org. Pastor suggests a service of healing. Pastor Meyer is willing to continue through the end of the summer if needed.

Committee Reports –

Education – Doug is not present. No report.

Endowment – Meets once a year in September.

Evangelism/Social Ministry – report (5/3/10) is submitted by Brenda Orach. There were approximately 35 people at the Westbrook litter clean-up. Plans are underway for Westbrook Together Days.

Memorial – No report.

Parish Care – The committee met; bean supper went well. The committee had a visit from someone associated with the sister's keeper program.

Property – The hallway in the Education building has been painted. Please keep hands off the walls.

Stewardship/Finance – No report.

Worship – Issue of Altar committee is addressed. Thomas is to address with the youth group if they are willing to help set up the altar. Joyce will communicate with John and Mary Christensen about the altar. (Following this meeting Joyce and Pat Becker volunteered to co-chair the altar committee).

New Orleans – they are considering going to Mississippi or RI.

Youth Group – they will have a boating/picnic day in July or August. They may be getting together with other youth groups in Gorham or Scarborough.

New Business – AA wants to have another meeting at the church (Friday). 8 vote in favor (passes); no one is opposed.

Joyce Perrey