



# Trinity Tidings

May 6, 2008

## Worship Services

Saturdays - 5:00 p.m.

Sundays: 8:15, 9:45 a.m. (Traditional)

Sundays: 11:15 a.m. (Contemporary)

Gerald M. Ferguson, Pastor  
Nancy K. Young, Pastor  
Kirk J. Havel, Pastor  
Bernard Philabaum, Pastor Emeritus

(989) 631-0692

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517-321-5066  
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## New Email Addresses

Pastor Gerald	<a href="mailto:gferguson@tlcmidland.org">gferguson@tlcmidland.org</a>
Pastor Havel	<a href="mailto:khavel@tlcmidland.org">khavel@tlcmidland.org</a>
Pastor Young	<a href="mailto:nyoung@tlcmidland.org">nyoung@tlcmidland.org</a>
JoDee Hacker	<a href="mailto:jhacker@tlcmidland.org">jhacker@tlcmidland.org</a>
Chris Brown	<a href="mailto:cbrown@tlcmidland.org">cbrown@tlcmidland.org</a>
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Stephanie Gann	<a href="mailto:sgann@tlcmidland.org">sgann@tlcmidland.org</a>
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Carol Kuhlman	<a href="mailto:ckuhlman@tlcmidland.org">ckuhlman@tlcmidland.org</a>
Ryan Max	<a href="mailto:rmax@tlcmidland.org">rmax@tlcmidland.org</a>

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Sympathy to Sue Havers, whose husband Bill, passed away Saturday.

Congratulations to Ellie Goddard who received her first communion last Saturday.

## Mother's Day

This Sunday we are honoring mothers. We pray for continued guidance, patience, love and understanding for our mothers as they give so much to their loved ones. A special reception honoring our mothers will be in the lobby between services.

## Celebration of Pentecost

May 10th & 11th

"We are a Spirit filled church"

Pentecost is the day that the church celebrates its birth and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Scripture reveals to us many stories of the coming of the Holy Spirit. At the very beginning of the Gospel of Luke we have those words spoken to Mary, the mother of Jesus, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you." Luke 1:35

As fulfilled in the prophecy of John the Baptist we read "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." Luke 3:16.

And as Jesus said to his disciples "Stay here in the city until you have been clothed with the power from on high." Luke 24:49

Jesus began his ministry spirit-filled (Luke 4:1) and so does the church (Acts 2:4, 38).

This weekend in our worship we will celebrate the power that comes when we are spirit-filled. The power to be disciples who are worshipping, praying, learning, giving, building Christian community and sharing the good news of God's grace in Jesus Christ. Let us join together in giving thanks for this gift from on high, the gift of the Holy Spirit in our lives given and received in our baptism. We are "spirit-filled"

Come and join us this weekend and bring a friend and or a family member. To help celebrate everyone is encouraged to wear the color "Red".



Guess what's swinging up ahead?  
Rainforest Adventure VBS!

Join us at Trinity Lutheran Church  
Monday, June 16 - Friday, June 20  
9:00 am to 12 noon

All kids between the ages of  
3 years (by 12/31/07)  
and just completed 4th grade  
are invited to swing on in!

Great stories about Jesus, crafts, fun songs, zany games and a jungle of friends!

Stop by the VBS registration table in the Church Lobby or go to [www.tlcmidland.org](http://www.tlcmidland.org) and click on the VBS link to sign up today!

We need adult and teen help for Adventure Guides, Adventure Assistants, Tour Crew Members, Canopy Team Guides and Assistants. Please help make VBS a success...sign up at the VBS Table.

Also needed are VBS supplies, please sign up at the VBS table!

## Our Weekly Stewardship

Last Week's Attendance: **544**

Saturday Evening - **53** 8:15 - **124** 9:45 - **226** 11:15 - **141**

**Last Sunday's Offering: \$20,587**

## XYZ EVENT

XYZ members! The pastors would like to invite you to another Progressive Dinner at the Parsonages. It will be on Wednesday, May 14th beginning at 5:30 pm. We will do as we did before - limit the reservations to 60 persons so that there will only be 15 people at each home for all four of the 1/2 hour periods. If you intend to share a ride with someone, please mention that when you make your reservation. The menu will follow a Mexican theme. With Scandinavian pastors and cooks the "Mexican" won't be too spicy. To make a reservation e-mail [bphilabaum@chartermi.net](mailto:bphilabaum@chartermi.net).

## TRINITY PRESCHOOL

**Trinity Preschool has openings for the 2007-2008 school year.** Applications are being accepted for the 2 & You's program on Monday s and Fridays , Tuesday/Thursday morning 3's and afternoon 3's/4's and Monday/Wednesday/Friday Older 4's/Young 5's afternoon classes. Stop in and see why Trinity Preschool is one of the best preschool's in the area! Call Andrea at 631-0692 for more information and applications.

**Preschool Community Service Project...**The children and families of TLC Preschool would like to invite you to join us in a community service project. As many of you know, many local children enter foster care homes each year. This is a devastating time for children, and many have nothing to comfort them when they leave their homes. Trinity Lutheran Preschool, in conjunction with the Midland Police Department and the Kiwassee Kiwanis Club of Midland, will be donating tote bags and a teddy bear for each child in need. We are asking for your help in donating additional items to fill the bags. A toothbrush, toothpaste, underwear, coloring book, crayons - anything a child might want or need would be greatly appreciated! A more detailed list of needed items is available and a drop box is located in the lobby—contact Andrea at 631-0692 for more information.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

The complete scripture readings for the week are available on our website [www.tlcmidland.org](http://www.tlcmidland.org).

The layreader readings for each weekend are available on our website, [www.tlcmidland.org](http://www.tlcmidland.org) on the volunteer tab.

## OUR KITCHEN....

Do you know that Trinity's kitchen is a State Licensed kitchen? We have inspections from our County Health Inspector, Robert Dullock. Things checked: that items in the refrigerator are labeled with date in and date out; foods are properly stored; refrigerators, stoves and ovens are clean and all drip trays are cleaned; hand washing sinks are clean and in working order with instructions on how to wash your hands; and the dish washing area is all in order. They also check the sink to make sure no dirty dishes are in the sinks and dishes are put away correctly. Do you know that each time you use the kitchen you are responsible to clean up, wash and put away all dishes you have used for your event? Please help us keep this kitchen in good standing with our inspections. We are looking for a person to coordinate the kitchen. This person would make sure that when the kitchen is used, it will be put back to suitable standards. If you could do this, call JoDee Hacker at the church office at 631-0692.

## THE SPECIAL NEEDS FUND

Our Special Needs Fund has touched 8 families this past month. We assisted with rent, a mortgage payment, a water bill, consumer's bills and extra groceries. One of the families needed help due to the father losing his job and mom's job was down-sized to part time. They were three months behind with their mortgage payment. We coordinated with Midland Area Homes along with two other churches to get the family caught up on their mortgage. The family is working with budgeting and other services through Midland Area Homes. Trinity's Special Needs Fund helps people in need within our community.

**The pink envelopes** will be used this quarter for the Special Needs Fund. There has been a rise in needs for medical bills, house payments and utilities due to the current economic situation in Midland. Your generous support brings hope to those in need.

**LAST SUNDAY WAS THE LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS. THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND VOLUNTEERS FOR A GREAT YEAR. SEE YOU NEXT FALL ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2008 FOR RALLY DAY.**

### **OPEN DOOR SOUP KITCHEN**

Volunteers are needed to prepare, serve and clean up meals at the Open Door. Trinity has a commitment to help on May 14 and 28. Three or four people are needed each day. Volunteers meet at Trinity at 9:30 a.m. Work time is 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If this is one of your gifts, sign up at the Welcome Center.

### **Mobile Food Pantry**

There will be a Mobile Food Pantry on Thursday, May 22, from 11 am to 3 pm, sponsored by the Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. The Mobile Pantry will be held at Trinity. We need your help to distribute food. If you'd like to help, there is a sign-up sheet in the Volunteer Notebook at the Welcome Center. If you know someone who needs food, please tell them about the Mobile Pantry. No proof of income or need is required. Call Judy Enger at 835-7211 or the church office if you have questions.

### **SUMMER GRIEF RECOVERY GROUP**

A Grief Recovery group will start on Wednesday evenings June 4th - July 30th from 7:00 - 8:45 p.m. at Memorial Presbyterian Church. This for all types and stages of grief, death, job loss, divorce, care giving, health issues and other losses. Topics include the nature of the grief process, handling holidays and anniversaries, recognizing and validating losses, coping with anger and depression, grief and one's relationship with God, guilt and forgiveness and redefining one's self. There is no fee, group size is limited. Register at 835-6759 Monday - Friday from 9 am - 4 pm.

### **Men's Softball**

Softball season has started. Our Trinity soft ball team lost its first game Monday to United Methodist by the score of 13-12. Come out and cheer our team on to victory next week on Monday, May 12th at 8:45 pm against Calvary Baptist at the Redcoats Complex fields. (formerly the St. Charles Complex)

### **Men's Ministry**

**Trinity's Men's Ministry** is organizing a Charity Golf Outing on May 17, 2008 at 9:00 am using a shotgun scramble format at Sandy Ridge Golf Course in Midland. Sign up is required by May 12 by calling 989-486-1457. Check out the Men's bulletin board for more information.

**Sunday, June 15th: "Save the date".** Father's Day with the Great Lakes Loons, brought to you by the Men's Ministry. Over 100 members from Trinity attended last year! We hope this year brings an even larger group. New to 2008 - Children 12 and under will be just \$12 - the Men's Ministry will supplement the balance.

### **Current Worship Volunteers Needs**

#### **Ushers**

Ushers are still needed for the 8:15 a.m., 9:45 a.m. and 11:15 services. Please call the church, Carol Kuhlman (689-4280), or email ([ckuhlman@tlcmidland.org](mailto:ckuhlman@tlcmidland.org)) to sign up.

#### **Coffee Help Still Needed!**

We still need a few volunteers to prepare coffee on Saturday for Sunday mornings for our Coffee Café. If you are interested please call Carol (689-4280) or the church (631-0692).

#### **Try Something New**

How about assisting the ministers at the 11:15 service? We could really use you! Training provided. If you have questions please call Carol (689-4280) or email ([ckuhlman@tlcmidland.org](mailto:ckuhlman@tlcmidland.org)).

#### **Hot Dogs!**

Summer is coming and we need volunteers to cook hot dogs following our contemporary service on Thursdays. You can sign up at the Volunteer Bulletin board or contact Carol Kuhlman by phone (689-4280 or 631-0692) or email ([ckuhlman@tlcmidland.org](mailto:ckuhlman@tlcmidland.org)).

**Friday Noon Bible Study...**A Friday Bible Study meets every Friday at noon. We are studying the gospel of Matthew. Please join in and bring your lunch and a friend! If you haven't had a chance to join us, check us out!

**Wednesday Bible Study...**Are you an early riser? If so, why not join us at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Coffee Café for Lectionary Bible Study. The upcoming Sunday readings are discussed and there is always plenty of coffee. Next week's readings are Acts 2: 1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, I Corinthians 12:3b-13 and John 20:19-23. The readings are also available on our website, [www.tlcmidland.org](http://www.tlcmidland.org).

# Just Wondering

Just wondering about hospitality...

Have you ever thought about how hard it would be to just walk into a church for a service knowing no one? Maybe you've done it. I have only on occasion and then I usually had an "official reason" to be there. But when we do go into a new place where there are only strangers it is rather easy to feel either welcome or not – there is a certain atmosphere that the stranger either finds welcoming or not.

I have been meeting with a man with a rather difficult past – a past that includes a rather lengthy prison sentence. He told me he has been to a couple of churches and once they found out about his past, the hospitality stopped. He didn't go back. I told him he was welcome here, but then I wondered – would the hospitality stop if his past were known?

This situation reinforces what I recently read – that, *"strangers to churches don't fear God as much as they fear our judgment, our scorn, our closed ranks."* It is hard for many in the community (because of a difficult past, a sad present, or an uncertain future) to just walk into a church – even though they are in desperate need of forgiveness, love and care. "Church" is pulling them in but they are hesitant.

Pentecost is next Sunday. We will celebrate the giving of the Holy Spirit to thousands in Jerusalem. We will see how St. Peter was emboldened to publically proclaim Jesus. Now, at that outpouring of the Holy Spirit, I doubt that there was any sort of litmus test given to see who qualified and who didn't. Simply put, "the Spirit was poured out."

Just wondering...can we get past the surface judgments, the fear of the unknown, the tendency we sometimes have to seem superior to others? We must, or there is no real hospitality.

Pastor H.

**JOYFUL JUBILEE MUSIC AND ARTS CAMP will be held August 3rd-August 7th at Trinity Camp for 3rd-8th graders. Watch for the registration brochures!**

## YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH NEWS from Chris Brown, Youth Director...

**SR LYO...**There is no youth group tonight because of Mother's Day. Do something with or for your mother! Next week, May 18th we will go to the *Prince of Caspian* movie. Meet at the Youth Center at 6 p.m.

### **Cedar Point**

We will be going to Cedar Point on June 12<sup>th</sup> and sign-up will be going on between services Sunday. The cost is \$60.00 and we are asking you to pay the day you sign up to ensure your spot. If you have money in your youth account you can use it, call Sandy Schlesinger to make arrangements. You are allowed to invite one friend but you must pay for them at that time as well.

**Youth Support Team Meeting:** May 13<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm in the Conference Room.

**May 18<sup>th</sup> Tools Meeting** for mission trip participants at the Youth Center at 5 pm.

### **TRINITY TEENS SAVE MAY 16th FOR KOKOMOS!!**

Friday from 11pm-4am The cost is \$20.00 not including food or the arcade. We will return to the Youth Center with an 8 am pick-up. This is a special time set aside for church groups. I will need two teams of chaperones for at Kokomos and at the Youth Center. There will be a sign-up on the Youth Board for grades 6-8.

### **Joyful Jubilee**

We are still looking for high school students to help out as counselors for Joyful Jubilee, August 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> at Wixom Lake. It is an overnight camp for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We will be giving out scholarships to individuals who are willing to help us out this summer. Check your calendars and get back with me as soon as you can because we will need to set up a meeting to iron out the details and expectations of this year's camp.

### **Leadership Training Seminar**

LTS is taking place at Michi-Lu-Ca July 27<sup>th</sup>-August 1<sup>st</sup> and typically the church pays to have two individuals from grades 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> to attend. If you are going into 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade and are interested in this opportunity please let me know as soon as possible so we can get you registered.

## SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> is the day that we will celebrate Pastor Havel's retirement. Plans are under way for one Celebrative Worship Service at 9:45 am with a reception to follow. There are opportunities to help with the celebration, stop by the Welcome Center to sign up today.