



# The Messenger

Trinity Lutheran Church



Pastor Ken led the adult VBS class.

## Southern District Convention

Pastor attended the 72<sup>nd</sup> Convention of the Southern District – LCMS in Baton Rouge, LA on June 18-20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 as a member of the LCMS from Meridian, MS. Mike McWhirter was chosen to represent Trinity, as our congregation is a member of the Synod, but due to health issues was regrettably unable to accompany me. The convention met for opening worship including communion and heard the message delivered Rev. Dr. Paul Maier.

One of the first purposes of a Convention is to elect the leadership for our region. The Rev. Kurtis Schultz was re-elected to a third term as president of our District and will likely continue to serve on the Board of Presidents as chair of the Call Placement Committee as well. He had a moment later in the convention to thank everyone especially for the outpouring

of support and prayer during his recovery from the car accident. He also recognized the support of his wife Becky for him publicly praising God and thanking her. The full slate of elected officers are available in packets on the library table but just to mention the positions that were ratified or elected we have; District President (as was mentioned), District Secretary and Treasurer, and the Board of Directors for the District which included the Vice Presidents which are now elected by region, along with regional lay and ordained representation. The Concordia Selma Board of Regents was elected, the District Nominations Committee, and the Synodical Nominations Committee. The Circuit Counselors were all received and ratified by convention with our elected counselor being the Rev. Warren Pellom of Prince of Peace, in Olive Branch, MS, and an appointed counselor

the Rev. Stephen Koenig from Our Redeemer, Clinton, MS.

Full minutes of the convention are also available in packets in the church library as well as some detailed information about proposed changes to the organizational structure of the Synod. Two sessions were dedicated to becoming acquainted with the rationale and purpose of the proposed general changes as led by the Dr Wil Sohns a member of the the Synod's Blue Ribbon Task Force. Delegates had the opportunity to offer opinions on the proposed changes and the direction of those changes by questionnaire and also by voice during a question and answer session that we took part in. Some of the changes are a bit controversial, chiefly because we haven't done things that way before, but also because for instance they could impinge on the doctrine of the call as we now understand it (specifically point 19 in the questionnaire was frequently referred to in discussion), or because such changes have a lot of detail left to be worked out. Three circuits in New Orleans were reduced to two and several voting exceptions for circuits were granted for our District.

The delegates were greeted by 2<sup>nd</sup> Synodical Vice President Rev. Dr. Paul Maier on behalf of President Kieschnick and presented the President's message by DVD as well as offering his own thoughts. Rev. Dr. Paul Maier hoped for a solid centrist Lutheran Church as a

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God  
Bless  
America



vision for the future of our church body in the future (meaning rather than bickering factionalized parties who discount the strength of the doctrine and practice we all do have in common). Many other organizations and officers extended their welcome, presented reports and encouraged the delegates. Some highlights were that Concordia Selma is currently in negotiations for the purchase of property adjacent to the campus from another church denomination. This property could triple the size of their current campus. The Southern district Fan into Flame Program is nearly half-way to meeting the \$100,000,000 goal with \$48.2 raised so far. In the Southern District 48 congregations have given \$644,677 and individuals \$102,500 when our goal is a minimum of \$1,575,000. Rev. Ted Richter exhorted us to think of the overwhelming support that could be had on just \$1.00 of loose pocket change a week for the duration of the drive. Recovery Assistance Incorporated (RAI) is continuing to help many and looks forward to the release of funding from the federal government to aid in their efforts. LINC became a ministry effort independent of RAI recently and is continuing in their effort to help and bring people together, introducing Jesus to many and collaborating on efforts to cooperate between religious organizations and individuals.

The convention held a Southern style banquet of barbecue and shrimp on Friday night and that was preceded by a memorial service for all the former rostered workers of the Southern District who passed away since the last meeting of the convention. Rev. Ivory Cameron was memorialized and members of

his family were present for the occasion as well.

Again many other details are available including a listing of elected officer and information concerning the restructuring of Synodical organization in packets on the table in the Library.

Pastor

### **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES** May 20, 2009

Attending -Dennis Florreich, Pastor Boudreau, Lynn Florreich, Carolyn Bielefeld, Jeff Fuller, Huey Griffis, Melissa McWhirter, George Meyers, and Trina Wilson.

Dennis opened the meeting with a word of prayer. He updated Council on the RAJ ministries and its operation of Camp Biloxi in Mississippi and Camp Restore in New Orleans, which has relief efforts that aid those impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

April minutes were reviewed. Melissa made a motion to approve the minutes as written - seconded by Huey and passed unopposed.

Board reports:

Elders: Kelly Miller

left a written report from the April Elders meeting. See Attachment 1. Council reviewed the report. Two elders will need to be replaced in the next congregational election. Dennis asked if there was a motion to accept the report as written. Lynn made a motion- this was seconded by Melissa. The motion passed.

*An Elder's rotation schedule for the month of June was created at the May meeting.*

Christian Education: Carolyn mentioned that Sunday school teachers are getting prepared for the summer.

Materials for the classes are available. Also, Vacation Bible School will soon begin and supplies are being requested for the event. Anyone willing to purchase materials needed may choose an item from the "Wish List" posted.

Stewardship: Jeff commented on the fact that the communion clean up list still has slots to be filled. He will review the submitted Time and Tally sheets to find volunteers for the task. He will also inform Pastor

and Bob Hermetz of any person who listed a willingness to serve as an elder.

Church Properties: Huey reported the weather has prevented certain yard work from being performed on the premises. One of the older air conditioners had gone out a while back and a service call was placed to repair it.

The lawn has been fertilized and the shrubbery continues to grow. Both Dana Cockrell and Bob Westendorf have been helping with church clean-up.

Also, Huey will get an estimate for painting certain areas of the church that could use some updating.

Dennis stated the church recently received an invoice of \$2,490.96 for the elevator bill. This covers the cost of the service agreement for the elevator for the year.

Financial Secretary: Lynn submitted her written report. See Attachment 2. No activity occurred with the savings account. The numbers matched the bank's and Treasurer's monthly and year to date reports.

Dennis stated the report will be remanded to the

audit committee.

Treasurer: George Meyers submitted his written report. See Attachment 3. Council reviewed the report and compared the year-to-date church expenses to the money that's being brought in. Year-to-date expenses seem to still exceed year-to-date receipts. This has become a concern for the church. The treasury report will be remanded to the audit committee for review. Loan balance: after May payment is \$332,998.40.

Evangelism: No report.

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported to Council that the May conference he attended went well. Some discussion followed on the district election and the candidates who will be running for office. He also informed Council that it is not too late for a representative to attend the Southern Convention with him in June.

President's Report:

- Dennis mentioned a recommendation had been made to move the Congregational meeting back a week since a lot will be going on in the church on May 31<sup>st</sup> due to confirmation. Council agreed that the Congregational meeting would be moved to June 7<sup>th</sup>

- Dennis went over the list of suggestions made by the congregation for the Knabusch Charitable Trust #2. The congregation had the following ideas for the funds:

1. Replace/update the church signage
  2. Foods go towards the youth/evangelism
  3. Ad in the newspaper
  4. Make a contribution to Karen Miller's sister
  5. Hire a secretary for Pastor
  6. Furnish youth room
  7. \$500 for kitchen supplies
  8. 10% of the funds go to Ablaze, 10% towards the building fund, and 80% to the Lutheran Hour Ministries
- Discussion followed among Council on how to use the funds, with various suggestions being made for its use.*

- Jeff Fuller offered the following uses for the funds:
  - o \$2,000- Coral Rose (Karen's sister working with missions)
  - o \$5,000- set aside for the elevator bill
  - o \$5,000- painting designated areas of the church
  - o \$6,000- go towards the loan repayment
  - o \$2,000- for the youth (the church will match up to \$2,000 of the funds raised by the youth)

*Dennis opened the floor for discussion.*

- George made a motion to present Jeff's recommendations for the funds before the congregation. The motion was seconded by Melissa. These figures will be presented to the congregation at the next Congregational meeting.

- The following positions will need to be replaced for the upcoming term:

- o Elder (two positions will be available)
- o Financial Secretary
- o Vice President

Youth: Melissa informed Council the Youth will be having a lock-in this upcoming Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

- The next day, as part of their service event, they will be working in the Daum's yard.

For a fundraising event to earn money for the National Youth Gathering next year, Subway discount cards will be sold. The cards will sell for \$5 each and the youth will receive \$4 for each card sold.

Robes have been ordered for the confirmands and are ready for their first communion. The confirmation ceremony

will be held during the second service on May 31<sup>st</sup>. LWML have supplied corsages for the girls and the boys will wear boutonnières.

Pastor closed the meeting with prayer. Respectfully submitted,  
Trina Wilson, Recording Secretary

## Financial Report

Utility	amount.	year to date.
water	119.63.	599.09.
gas	48.12.	1,140.42.
electricity	not deducted till June.	1,381.32.
phone	186.73.	931.20.
May total income		13,410.48.
May total expense		16,499.75.
May Receipts to Expense		( 3,089.27 )
Budget year to date		78,063.45.
Expense year to date		78,452.41.

Budget year to date variance ( 388.96 )

Income year to date 68,795.80.

Expense year to date 80,091.56.

Variance year to date ( 11,295.76 )

*NOTE: The May Receipts amount shown is (3,089.27). Of this amount, \$2,490.96 was the elevator repair paid during May, however, the Knabusch money expenditures had not been approved as of May so it could be noted if you have room to mention this the actual negative amount for May is \$598.31.*



VBS was a great success. Thank you to all the planners, teachers, helpers, donars and students.



**Caring about People  
Sharing about God**

Trinity Lutheran Church

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