

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity LCMS



Holy Trinity Christian School

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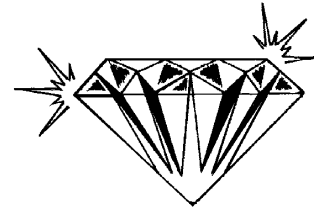
Pastor Lee Stisser



March 2010 Newsletter

Many churches today ignore the blessed season of Lent because they think it is too “sad and somber.” “We’re all about praising God and feeling good about Him,” is the clamor of many today. Yes, we all recognize that Lent is a “penitential” season in which we reflect on our sins; but in doing so, we also recognize the great love the Trinity has for us. I would like to talk to you about God’s love for us. To do this I am following Jesus’ model by using a modern story as a “parable” to teach us about the love of God that is always with us.

“We were hiking in the mountains out West when I saw the stone – a small one, about the size of a half-dollar, with jagged edges. Ordinarily I would have passed it by, not being a rock hound. It would have remained there for another thousand years perhaps, a mere pebble among the larger stones on the trail. But this one instantly caught my eye. It was special. Glinting in the sunlight, it seemed to reflect all the surrounding colors, as though trying to mirror nature. Into my pocket went the rare find.



“All the way home to the East Coast I thought about where I should display it so its beauty could be most enjoyed. I finally placed it in a curio cabinet, next to some jade and carved ivory. I forgot it for a while.

“Then one day, while dusting, I was surprised to see that the stone had completely lost its luster. It sat on the shelf among the other lovely objects, a hard, gray chunk of nothing, downright ugly. I was shocked. What had happened to the prize I had so carefully brought back with me across the continent? Where were the sparkle and the colors that had attracted me so much? Disgusted, I snatched it up and started for the trash can in the backyard.

“Then, just as I opened the kitchen door, a beam of light struck the stone. As though by magic, it began to shimmer, to glow again. In an instant the beautiful jewel tones shone brilliantly. Had they returned? Or had they always been there, dormant, waiting to be released? Wondering, I glanced up at the sky. Sunlight? That was the answer. The rays from the sun were all my stone needed to come alive.”

How much like each of us! Of ourselves our lives are empty, colorless, without meaning. Only when we are touched by the glory of God is our inner beauty revealed.” Let us not give up meeting together as some are doing. Lent is the perfect time to journey, in faith, to the cross – and then on past it to Easter. There the light of the Risen Christ touches us and gives our lives color and meaning. I pray that you will make this journey with me.

Finally, please note elsewhere in this newsletter that we are planning a special Easter celebration together. An **Easter breakfast, 7:30 – 8:30 am**, in the Fellowship Hall is being offered for all to begin the day of celebration together. This year we will have **one worship service at 9:00 am** for all of our family of Christ to gather in worship, celebrating the victory over sin and death Jesus has won for us.

In Christ's love,

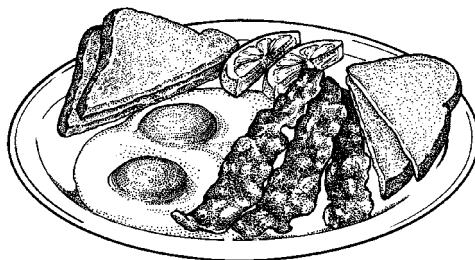
Pastor Lee



New Schedule of Easter Celebration!

Easter Service

Breakfast at 7:30am - 8:30am, Fellowship Hall.



Come join us early for breakfast and worship afterwards

**One Easter Worship Service only at
9:00am**

February 22, 2010

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The crisis in Haiti has become less newsworthy in the last few weeks, and yet remains critical. We are actively involved with LCMS World Relief and Human Care, as well as other organizations that are helping people in Haiti who remain in desperate conditions.

Among those who have been on the front lines is our own Mission Haiti, based at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Davie, Florida, who has done a tremendous job in ministering to the people of Haiti. You can read the report of their February 7-13, 2010 mission trip by clicking on the link below, or copying it and putting it in your browser.

<http://www.flga--lcros.org/missionhaitipix/report20090222.pdf>

We praise God for the great work they are doing on behalf of us all. May God continue to bless their efforts, and as you are able I encourage you to promote and support this effort. We are a blessed people of His grace called to care for others in the name of Jesus!

Thank you for the powerful witness you are giving at this time, and for your partnership in the Florida-Georgia District. We will keep you updated as we learn additional information or about specific needs!

Peace in Jesus,
Rev. Gregory S. Walton, President
The Florida-Georgia District, LCMS

Remember Holy Trinity in your will.

The Pregnancy Care Center of Tampa is happy to announce our first fashion show to benefit the center. We have worked with Model4Jesus to put on this exciting show, "LIFE IN FASHION: A vision of compassion."

WHEN: Saturday March 6, 2010.

WHAT TIME: doors open @ 6:00 p.m.;
show starts @ 7 p.m.

WHERE: Wesley Memorial UMC (Family Life Center)
6100 Memorial Highway Tampa, Fl.
33615

Let us keep these people in our prayers because at this time they are experiencing life challenges, difficulties, illness, or surgery.

*Phillip Ripper
Geri Small
Aaron Stisser
Colleen Everhart
Martha Black
Myrtle Jennison
John Creech & family
Laverne Myers
Art Coutts*

Shut-ins:

Gordon Icheldinger
Ann Corbisier
Sam Lockwood
Margaret Olson
Betty Johnson

Reminder to parents: Children's Message is always on the third Sunday of the month.

Bible classes for people of all ages!
8:55 am every Sunday
3-5 year old children in Pre-K3 classroom
1st thru 5th grade children in Kindergarten
classroom
Teens: 2nd grade classroom
Adults: 3rd grade classroom and
Church Office (next to playground on
Kensington)

“In Memory of.....”

A fund has been created for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and School to be used for fulfilling memorial tributes requested by our members. All monies received will go into a combined fund and used in an appropriate manner as requested by the donor. However the money is to be used must first be approved by Church Council.

Three tributes have recently been approved and the projects completed. They

are in memory of the following people:

1. Kathy Naumann – A beautiful garden setting has been planted in front of Fellowship Hall.
2. Everett Donoho – All monies went to the school to be used where needed.
3. Pat Ernst - A new sign was purchased for the front of the Church Office.

Easter Lilies - It's time to order your Easter flowers; the plants are \$5.00 each. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex, cut off date for ordering is Palm Sunday, March 28th. Make it a point to order your flowers today and give the money to Dorothy Ripper

Lent Services

Midweek Lent Vesper Services

Lent Vespers For the following Wednesdays: March 3rd, March 10th, March 17th and March 24th. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm for Vespers and a fellowship meal.

Holy Week Services

March 28th, Palm Sunday – 10:30am service with Communion in the sanctuary
April 1st, Maundy Thursday – 7:00pm service with Communion in the sanctuary
April 2nd, Good Friday Tenebrae Service - 7:00pm service in the sanctuary.



Mardi Gras Madness

Get out your masks and beads and join us for a night of shopping and good times at our annual Auction. We have a lot of great items this year for you to choose from. Mardi Gras Madness will be held at TECO Plaza on Saturday, March 13th. The doors will open at 6:30 P.M. See the school office for tickets. We look forward to seeing you there!



The U in JesUs



Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God stuck U in the name of His Son...

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
And this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His Upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.

"Go into the world and tell them it's true
That I love them all - Just like I love U."

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know,
But it all starts with U.



**When Jesus died on the cross
He was thinking of you!**

March Events

1	Mon	6:00pm	Cub Scouts
		6:30pm	Catechism Class
3	Wed	8:30am	HTCS Chapel
		6:30pm	Lent Vespers – Fellowship Hall
5	Fri	HTCS	Spirit Day – Early dismissal Pastor’s day off
7	Sun	8:55am	Sunday school for all ages, adult Bible class
		10:00am	Choir Practice
		10:30am	Worship – All School Sing
8	Mon	6:00pm	Cub Scouts
		6:30pm	Catechism Class
10	Wed	8:30am	HTCS Chapel
		6:30pm	Lent Vespers – Fellowship Hall
12	Fri	8:00-10:00am	Ladies Fellowship & Devotions Pastor’s day off
13	Sat	6:30pm	Mardi Gras Madness TECO Plaza
14	Sun	8:55am	Sunday school for all ages, adult Bible class
		10:00am	Choir Practice
		10:30am	Worship with Communion Elders’ Meeting following service
15	Mon	6:00pm	Cub Scouts
		6:30pm	Catechism Class
17	Wed	8:30am	HTCS Chapel
		6:30pm	Lent Vespers – Fellowship Hall
19	Fri		Pastor’s day off
20	Sun	8:55am	Sunday school for all ages, adult Bible class
		10:00am	Choir Practice
		10:30am	Worship
24	Wed	8:30am	HTCS Chapel
		6:30pm	Lent Vespers – Fellowship Hall
26	Fri		Pastor’s day off
28	Sun	8:55am	Sunday school for all ages, adult Bible class
		10:00am	Choir Practice
		10:30am	Worship with Communion – Palm Sunday
31	Wed	8:30am	HTCS Chapel

March Birthdays

JayAnn Wallace – 3/2

Shelby Harris – 3/3

Dawn Higgins – 3/7

Donabe Milne – 3/8

Adrienne Timmel – 3/8

Ronald Battistone – 3/11

Susan Ripper – 3/11

Carol Arrowood – 3/12

Mary Nessler – 3/13

Laura Roake – 3/13

Anthony McCarthy – 3/16

David Snyder – 3/16

Maxine Williams – 3/20

Amy Harris 3/28

