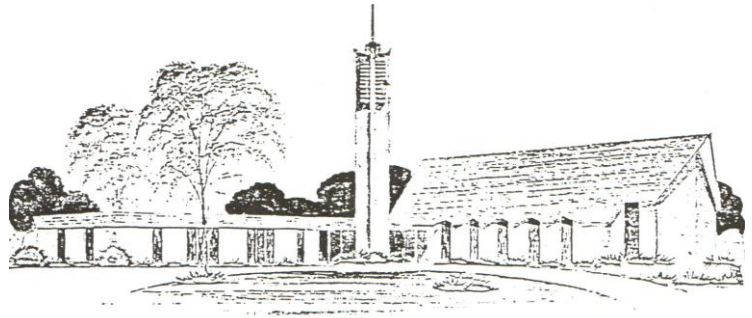




March 2007



Impressions

One of God's promises that we seek to live by goes like this: "He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents" (Malachi 4:6). The promise is associated with the prophet Elijah, the fiery man of God who prayed for rain when there was none, and God answered his prayer. I will refer to the promise as the promise of Elijah. This promise, like all God's promises, is for you and for me. It is fulfilled in our midst in a variety of ways.

A beautiful way for your heart and the heart of someone you love to be on the same page is to worship God together. If two people pray together – father and daughter, husband and wife, grandma and grandson, a connection is created that is not easily broken. When I see parents and children together in worship, I know something important is happening. Sometimes the benefits of doing so will be immediately obvious. More often they become clear in the course of a lifetime.

Whatever we do in the name of the Lord can

become a means for the promise of Elijah to become reality. I saw it happen these past months in the family of Erna Luebke as they surrounded her with love in the time they worked side by side to care for her before God took her home. I saw it happen on the Lake Lucerne retreat, as teenagers, young adults, and slightly older young adults enjoyed each other's company and drew closer to God together in a safe and relaxed environment.

I see it happen in the Sunday school, Logos, and confirmation programs, as teachers, mentors, parents, teenagers, and children learn about God together and praise God's name. The Logos love feast this year was a magnificent occasion, with over 130 people attending. The food was marvelous and the air crackled with joy. The hearts of parents and grandparents turned in the direction of the children and youth, and vice-versa. You could feel the love that night.

May the promise of Elijah become reality in your lives. May God bless you in every

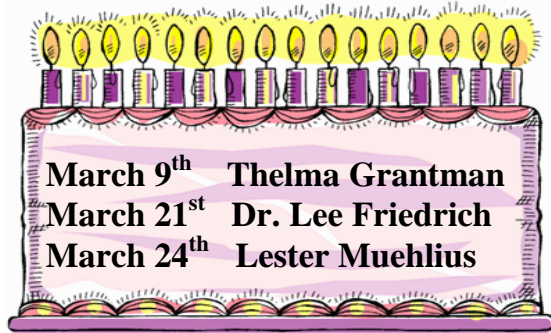
way.

~ Pastor John Hobbins

TRINITY NEWS

80+ BIRTHDAY CLUB

**Happy Birthday to the following who
celebrate March birthdays:**



REQUESTS
FOR
PRAYER

Prayer concerns beginning the month of March:

Ed Faber, Cathy Steele, Carlene Cardenas, Roger Lindgren, Jane Klein, Howard Hayes, Syd Henke, Eunice Guell, Bradley Beck, Sharon Dworschak, Madeline Rens, Tony Sabel, Gordon Strassman, Tom Morgan, Mabel Ziegler, Charlie Bast (son-in-law of Nancy Andrews), Kristina Stuart (sister-in-law of Pastor John), Jennifer Baudry (friend of Will & Diana Jewson), Loa Bosserman (Dorothy Bosserman's daughter-in-law), Ned Thompson (relative of Gene & Marge Junger), Jodi Meisenheimer, Chris (Buerger) Sitter, and our members and friends in nursing homes.

The Luedtke Seminary Fund

This fund can be used for students going into Seminary or the Christian Education field. Applications are made to the Education Committee. This fund can also be used to pay for church-related seminars. Again, as with the other funds, only the

interest is used – the principal is not touched.

~ Lois Towne

We would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, and gifts we received through our mother's illness. Special thanks to Pastor John for his visits and singing hymns (Mom really enjoyed that) and also to the many visits from Bob Coulter – Mom talked about them all the time. And thanks to Lois and Marlin Towne for all of your help.

~ *The family of Erna Luebke*

To my family & friends of Trinity, I want to thank all of you for your prayers, cards, telephone calls and concerns while I was in the hospital and home. I also want to thank Pastor Hobbins for his visits. I am not 100% but I am doing much better. I believe someone was watching over me that day. Thank you again for your prayers.

~ *Carlene Cardenas*

Dear Trinity United Methodist Church, Thank you for the wonderful scholarship. It has really helped me out. I am now in my second semester at school and I love it. I have a lot of wonderful classes and can't wait to continue my schooling. Thank you again for the wonderful scholarship and for being a wonderful place for me to worship and retreat to. Thank you.

~ *Stacie Cobb*

Thank you to all who made the LOGOS LOVE Banquet so special. To Cheryl and the cooks' helpers – awesome work! Thanks.

~ *The LOGOS Team*



World Day of Prayer 2007

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women and men of many faith traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer on the first Friday in March each year. Throughout the day, we collectively pray all over the world, beginning with the first sunrise and ending at the last sunset. Our prayers follow the sun's path around the globe. On Friday,

March 2nd, you are invited to Salem United Methodist Church at 1:30 p.m. to join others in prayer. Child care will be provided.



One Great Hour of Sharing March 18th

Our 2007 offering on Sunday, March 18th is essential to UMCOR.

On the Gulf Coast in Sudan in Eastern Europe, 81 countries in all, our church is there to alleviate suffering through our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Please give to this vital cause – you’ll find special envelopes in your bulletin on March 18th, or send a check to the church written out to Trinity UMC and write UMCOR on the Memo Line. Thanks for your help!

Trinity Handbell News



WOW! What a Handbell Festival! For those of you who came, you know what I mean. For more insight into this, read Gwen's review. Thanks Gwen.

On March 11, Trinity Bells will be headed to Mayville to perform at their service at the invitation of Pastor Jane. We are excited to once again take our bells on the road. Our next opportunity to play at Trinity will be on March 25 at the 9:30 a.m. service. Jimmy will be accompanying us on the clavinoava using its trumpet mode. See you on Sunday.

Keep on ringing,

Diana Jewson

Bell Choir Director

Handbell Festival

If you missed the Handbell Festival on Sunday evening, February 11, you’ll want to read this. If you were there, you’re glad you went. Modesty will probably prevent Diana or Will from “bragging” about the event, so I’ll do it for them.

The *Immanuel-Trinity Family Life Center* in Fond du Lac is the first phase of a building project. The main room is a gymnasium, which converts almost effortlessly to an auditorium or a sanctuary. Covering about a third of the floor space, eighty bell ringers from eight churches were seated behind their padded tables on which lay 320 bells. Long rows of chairs covered the rest of the floor and as far as I could see, every chair was occupied.

The first number was, to use the current vernacular, awesome! All eighty ringers and our own *Trinity Brass Quartet* (plus one) performed together. I had not been prepared for the full sound of the music as it filled the huge room. Both tears and chills overwhelmed me.

As each choir took its turn, new sounds from new techniques intrigued us. Trinity Handbells did, of course, shine. Playing “Variations on an Old Irish Aire” and “Pirates of the Caribbean”, they executed the only non-sacred compositions in the program, confirming that they worked doubly hard to prepare for the festival, learning material they would not use in their Sunday offerings. Every ringer was focused, following Diana’s precise direction. Diana could have used a clone. She not only directed *Trinity Bells* and *Saviour Bells* (the bell choir from *Church of Our Saviour* which she directs regularly) but also conducted the final mass-choir piece and, of course, played her horn in the brass quartet, which performed without bells during the free-will offering for *Habitat for Humanity*.

You may not be aware that she has brought *Trinity Bells* from its shaky beginnings to its present level of excellence through the gift of time and effort without monetary compensation. Our hats are off to you, Diana, and to all you hard-working ringers. Thanks!

~ Gwen Hinz

Attention UMW Members

The 2007 Reading Program books are all catalogued and in the church library waiting for you to check them out. I do hope you find the selection interesting!

~ Lorraine Zastrow



What's New In The Church Library?

~ Lorraine Zastrow

Book Title: The Hospital By The River, A Story of Hope

Author: Dr. Catherine Hamlin with John Little

Category: Education for Mission – 2007

“Dr. Hamlin is the new Mother Teresa of our age.” – The New York Times

“These are the women most to be pitied in the world. They’re alone and forgotten, bearing their injuries in silent shame.” – Dr. Hamlin

Gynecologists Catherine and Reg Hamlin left their comfortable life style in Australia in 1959 on a short contract to establish a midwifery school in Ethiopia. Over 40 years later, Catherine is still there, running one of the most outstanding medical programs in the world. Thousands of women have been able to resume a normal

existence after living as outcasts. This was because of the lack of skilled doctors and medical knowledge.

The Hamlins, both active Christians, dedicated their lives to women suffering the catastrophic effects of obstructed labor. The awful injuries that such labor produces are called fistulae and those suffering women were neglected and forgotten; thereby a vast number of women faced a lifetime of incapacity and degradation. The Hamlins improved that situation after receiving dried plasma from the Red Cross Blood Bank in Sydney, Australia, which saved many lives. The author goes on to say they developed some unusual ways to save lives. Many women were saved by putting their own blood back into them, thus avoiding any risk of incompatibility.

Catherine and Reg, with their team of dedicated fistula surgeons, have successfully operated on over 25,000 women, and the hospital they opened in 1974 has become a major teaching institution for gynecologists from all over Ethiopia and the developing world. Since Reg’s death, Catherine and her team have continued this work.

Just to show how dedicated the Hamlins were in their work, before their three year term was over and they were making plans to return to Australia for a six weeks leave, they were both close to exhaustion; but at the airport, the airline official said to Reg, “You’re not leaving are you, doctor?” “No,” replied Reg, “but if I don’t have a holiday, I will die.” “If you don’t come back, many will die” was his reply. “There was never any question about not coming back. It was wonderful to visit friends and family and to enjoy luxuries like ice creams and milkshakes, but while we were on holiday, our thoughts often turned to Ethiopia and the fistula pilgrims whom we know would be waiting for our return.”

The author was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999 plus received other medals. This book is her story, a very moving and utterly compelling account of an extraordinary life.



Gwen's Pen

Several of our *Trinity Harvest Newsletter* readers have shown an interest in my mom following last month's article, which offered a glimpse of her. Borrowing from Pastor John's occasional format of preaching a series (i.e. the Beatitudes and now the Apostle's Creed), I plan to write a series of monthly articles describing some of Mom's "rearing" techniques.

As an introduction to the "series", let me state here that the products of her method (my brothers and I) did not exactly "turn out" to be perfect adults, but I know we benefited tremendously and she provided a foundation for our own parenting a generation later.

Biting

I was stubborn, headstrong, impatient, loud, and a lot more. I had a brother 18 months older than I, and one 16 months younger. I had no intention of being left out of my older brother's activities and was continually proving I was as fast, as strong, as agile, and as smart as he was. I never achieved the latter, but did earn the status of monumental tomboy.

Mom hoped to find a balance. Her dilemma was in controlling my anti-social behavior without "breaking my spirit" as she put it. She recognized that the can-do attitude I was born with could be a good thing if channeled properly.

I didn't bite timidly. I left teeth marks for hours. I don't know how many times I bit my "big" brother, but I doubt that Mom let it go on very long. He, being gentle in spirit, and taught to respect his "defenseless" little sister, could only cry and put as much space between us as he could.

Mom's discipline was not what you might expect. She did not bite me. That, she reasoned, would simply turn my anger toward her. Her logical mind brought her to the cure, and it took only one episode. She took me on her lap, held my arm tightly and told me to bite myself. Hesitantly, I bit down, barely making contact. "Harder," she said, "bite harder." I bit a little harder. Once again she said firmly, "Bite harder or I'll spank." (It was okay in those days to spank with love although never in anger.) And so she commanded repeatedly that I bite harder until she could see the deep teeth marks in my little arm.

For the first time, I understood the pain I had been inflicting. And, I'm guessing, I was smart enough to know that I didn't want to bite myself ever again. As I said, it was a cure. She loved me enough to hurt me.

MISSION: POSSIBLE+

Mission Trippers Update

Our current mission trip team consists of Marlin & Lois Towne, Lee & Kay Oestreich, and Bill & Nancy Hammock. They left for New Orleans on Thursday, February 15th and safely arrived there on Friday evening. On Saturday, Pastor Walter Baer suggested that they see one of the many parades that are taking place there right now because of Mardi Gras. Little did they know that the parade would last for three hours!

Although the weather isn't as warm as they would have liked, their focus is on their work at the Cortez House. The ladies began by painting the kitchen while the guys installed the new cabinets and laid the kitchen flooring. Next on the schedule: painting the living room. There's a lot of work to be done there, and they won't know

until week's end what they will succeed in accomplishing. Please keep them in your prayers!



Fond du Lac Community Theatre Presents
 "Come Blow Your Horn"
 Broadway's Great Farce Hit
 March 8, 9, and 10 at 7:30 p.m.
 March 11 at 2:00 p.m.
 Goodrich Little Theatre

Hilarious 1960's comedy featuring a bachelor's life which is more appealing than the family's wax fruit business... Uproarious series of misunderstandings and humorous encounters! Tickets are available at Wegner's Office Supply and at the door.



Lomira Community Theatre Presents
 "When In Rome"
 A musical comedy
 March 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m.
 March 18 at 2:30 p.m.
 Lomira Middle School Auditorium

Many of our congregation members are involved on stage and off (Roger Kittelson plays the Emperor of Rome) – a must-see performance. Tickets go on sale February 23rd at Brasch's Piggly Wiggly. Don't miss it!



**40TH ANNUAL
 PANCAKE
 BREAKFAST**

Sunday, March 11th
 Serving from: 8 AM – 1 PM
 Lomira American Legion Hall

Adults - \$6.00 – Door
 \$5.50 – Advance
 Ages 5-10 - \$3.00 – Door

Children Under 5 - \$2.50 – Advance
 Free



"Westphalia Holsteins Focus on Sound Type, Solid Production"

AGRI-VIEW, February 15, 2007

Chuck and Darlene Westphal's farm was recently highlighted in Agri-View – Wisconsin's largest farm newspaper. Westphalia Holsteins has been in the Westphal family for 102 years, and is located in the town of Byron. The article tells of the high quality of Holsteins that they breed there. The farm is run by Chuck and his sons. You can read more about the farm's operation in the article that is posted on the church bulletin board.

"Trio collecting supplies for refugees of Sudan conflict; Hayes planning mission trip"

ACTION SUNDAY, February 11, 2007

Paul and Patty Hayes, along with their brother-in-law Ron Bohlman are planning to help the children of Sudan by distributing "I Care Packages." This is a mission that weighs heavy on their hearts. Because of the violence and terror in that area, people "are forced to abandon food, water and medical attention to get away from becoming more victims of the conflicts ravaging their country."

We can help the children of Sudan by purchasing a 12-quart plastic container and filling it with unused items including:

- * Hygiene and dental products;
- * Shoes;
- * Underwear;
- * Small toys;
- * Enclose \$10 to defray shipping costs

You are invited to bring to the church office

care packages with the contents above, or supplies from them. We will see that the packages arrive at destination.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 *Dan Michels*
Kaitlyn Oechsner
- 3 *Casanna Cowles*
Stephanie Singh
- 4 *Lorraine Zastrow*
- 5 *Judy Bialk*
Amy Johnson
Michael Jordan
Ryan Wantz
- 6 *Tyler Scharschmidt*
- 7 *Jessica Kindschuh*
Rebecca Michels
- 9 *Andrew Dahlinger*
Thelma Grantman
Molly Rienbrandt
Zachary Schmid
Alexis Stuebs
- 10 *Alexander Green*
- 11 *Michelle Wroblewski*
- 15 *Leon Brasch*
Steve Bryant
Shelly Schaefer
- 16 *Ryder Towne*
- 17 *Cheryl Meyer*
- 18 *Alexander Faber*
Brandon Faber
Judy Renderman
Dayne Zingsheim
- 19 *Elaine Muehlius*
Theran Springstead
Anne Ullius

- 20 *Gary Jesse*
James Klintworth
- 21 *Dr. Lee Friedrich*
Kim Gellings
John Will
- 23 *Aubrie Brown*
Amanda Flury
Peggy Jo Flury
Jacob Stuebs
Kasey Todl
- 24 *Les Muehlius*
- 25 *Jackie Scharfenberg*
- 26 *Sherrill Haefs*
Emma Towne
- 27 *Marge Junger*
Joshua Marschie
Francis Michels
Stephanie Schultz
- 28 *Debbie Unferth*
- 29 *Steve Faber*
- 30 *Victor Jewson*
Alex Kittelson
Jonathon Luedtke
Joseph Luedtke
Tab Schwartz

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 *David & Kim Resheske*
- 9 *Wayde & Faye Beck*
- 13 *Steve & Amy Unferth*
- 30 *Russ Wendt & Mary Muehlius*

◆ *Attention High School Seniors* ◆

*Scholarship Applications
are available in the
church office*

*Deadline to hand them in is:
April 17th*