

Stir up our hearts O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Collect for the Day*

---

*Trinity Lutheran Church*  
*220 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois*  
*Lutheran Church ~ Missouri Synod*      *217-522-8151*

*Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Radtke*  
*Senior Pastor*  
*546-2347*

*Rev. Aaron D. Schnelle*  
*Associate Pastor*  
*787-2323, 670-1088*

*Rev. Donald Garvue*  
*Visitation Pastor*  
*726-6747*

**SATURDAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE 5:30 p.m. Page 285****HYMNS:** 349; 344; 341**SUNDAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:00 a.m. Page 184 10:30 a.m. Page 219****HYMNS:** 8:00 a.m. 341; 344; 347; 338; 349 Trinity Choir  
10:30 a.m. 341; 344; 349 Adult Choir

SCRIPTURES FOR TODAY: Malachi 3:1-7b P. 802

Psalm 66:1-12 P. 480

Philippians 1:2-11 P. 980

Luke 3:1-14 P. 858

**THE PRAYERS**

May the Lord preserve us as a people prepared and increasingly excited for the second coming of our Lord. Dru McCulley & Katie Gilman, wedding 12/5/09. Stephen Richardson (father of Suzette Fahrenbacher), cancer recovery. Carol Boehner, Marge Olsen, Maddie Garvue, hospitalized. The family of Janet Savorgino (sister of Bill Miller) deceased.

**CHURCH AND SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Today:	<u>9:30-10:30 a.m.</u>	Church Library is Open
	<u>6:00 p.m.</u>	Men's Basketball - School
Mon:	<u>6:30 p.m.</u>	Women With Mission Dinner
	<u>6:30 p.m.</u>	Board of Directors - School
Wed:	<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	Chapel - School
	<u>12:00 p.m.</u>	Ladies Aid - School
	<b><u>12:10 p.m.</u></b>	<b>Service - Church</b>
	<u>1:00 p.m.</u>	Ladies Aid Board - School
	<b><u>6:30 p.m.</u></b>	<b>Advent Service - Church</b>
	<u>7:30 p.m.</u>	Adult Choir Practice - Church
Thur:	<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	Quilters - School
Sat:	<b><u>5:30 p.m.</u></b>	<b>Communion Service - School</b>
Sun:	Third Sunday in Advent, December 5/6, 2009	
	<b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>
	<b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>

**GROWING IN WORSHIP BULLETINS** for children are available at the usher's stand.

	Sat:	Sun:	Wed:	Total:
At Worship Last Week:	<u>104</u>	<u>121</u> , <u>151</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>385</u>
Adult Bible Classes:	<u>87</u>		Sunday School: <u>27</u>	
Our offerings for the Lord's Kingdom Work:				<u>\$12,253.60</u>

**FLOWERS** are placed on the altar today with gratitude to God for all His blessings by Wally and Lorna Biermann in honor of their first great-grandson Connor Biermann.

**Today's Sunday School lesson** is the foretelling of the birth of John the Baptist (Luke 1:5–25). The children learned that God in His mercy promised to send John to prepare sinful people for the coming of the Lord. God in His Word calls us (sinful people) to repentance, declaring us righteous because of His Son, Jesus. In your family discussions, ask the children to retell the story they learned. Talk about times when you have doubted God's Word and how because of Jesus, God forgives our doubts, granting us faith to believe through the power of the Holy Spirit.

### FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL UPDATE

	<u>October</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Receipts	77,457.33	291,346.90
Expenses	<u>89,710.91</u>	<u>365,732.60</u>
Over (Short)	(12,253.58)	(74,385.70)

**TRINITY LADIES AID** will meet Wednesday, December 9, 2009 in the Parish Hall. Bring three dozen cookies and packing will be at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be catered – price to be determined later. Program/Devotion “Trinity School Choir” by Laura Fliege. Mission service project is Christmas gifts for Bethesda. Please bring a gift suitable for man or woman – list contents on gift tag. **THE 2010 FLOWER CHART** is now posted in the church Narthex.

**Members of the congregation are invited** to join the Ladies Aid in purchasing **poinsettias** for the altar for Christmas. Price is \$11.00 per plant. You can place your order with Chairman Judy Fliege at 787-9011 or Grace Davis at 787-8433. Pick up will be Sunday, December 27, after late service or Monday, December 28.

**THE TOTAL THANKSGIVING DAY OFFERINGS** for 2009 were \$1,828.75. The anticipated match from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans was \$500.00. Thankfully, Thrivent was able to include another \$350.00 in matching funds. Accordingly, a total of \$2,678.75 will be added to the Synodical School Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all, as well as Thrivent, for this support of Trinity's sons and daughters who are or will be attending synodical colleges, universities or seminaries in preparation for full time service in LCMS ministries.

**THRIVENT GIVING PLUS PROGRAM** – As many of you are probably aware, Thrivent Financial is ending the Giving Plus program at the end of this year. They will be announcing a new program during the first quarter of 2010.

I would like to personally thank all of the members that have participated in this worthwhile program through the year. Your gifts have been multiplied thanks to this Thrivent program.

Some of you have your gifts accumulate through the year until the maximum amount is reached at which time I mail the form in. I have not received forms from some of you and I need them within the next two weeks in order to get them submitted by the deadline. If you are not sure if you have submitted a form, call me at 753-1272 and I will check. Forms are available at the school and in the church office or from me. They can be put in the plate and I will get them. Thanks, Bill Firth

**WOMEN WITH MISSION'S CHRISTMAS DINNER** - at Olive Garden on Monday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m. (note the time change). If you wish to participate, please bring a \$10 gift for a grab-bag type gift exchange. The Mission Project for December ties in with the Ladies Aid "Christmas Presents for Bethesda Residents". Bring your wrapped, tagged packages to either the dinner on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup>, or drop them off in the Ladies Aid kitchen no later than Wednesday noon, December 9<sup>th</sup>, members should have received an e-mail with all the details).

**ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING**, Sunday, December 13, 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The main order of business will be the election of 2010 officers, directors and elders.

**MADRIGAL DINNER** – Lutheran High 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Madrigal Dinner, December 11 & 12, 2009, 6:30 p.m. Dinner and entertainment will be presented at St. John's Lutheran Church, 1225 N. Main Street in Chatham, IL. Menu: roast pork, mashed potatoes, corn, salad, roll, drink & dessert. Adults - \$15.00; children 12 and under - \$7.00. **Reserved Seating.** Call 217-54606363 ext. 100 to reserve tickets.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS RECYCLING** – Don't throw out those old strands of lights that don't work! The Green Team will be recycling Christmas lights. Please bring them to the school and drop them off by the learning center entrance (where all the other recycling goes). Christmas light source will take the lights, have them recycled and take the proceeds from the recycling and use them to buy books! These books will then be donated to the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation. Please feel free to tell your friends and neighbors! Any questions? Please email [tls.greenteam@gmail.com](mailto:tls.greenteam@gmail.com).

**ONGOING AMBASSADORS FOR CHIRST (O AFC)** is celebrating New Years at the Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, IN. Begins 4 pm on December 29 and runs through the morning devotions on January 1, 2010. No O AFC experience needed. Registration deadline is December 12 and costs \$30.00 (T-shirt and meals while at the seminary). Register online at [www.oafc.org](http://www.oafc.org). Contact Nate Ruppert at 217-827-1777 for travel arrangements. Registration and transportation seating is limited so it is extremely important to contact him now if you are going. Welcome all junior high youth through adults. Celebrate the new year with Lutheran youth from around the area whose beliefs and confession are the same as your own.

**ARE YOU DOWNSIZING, REDECORATING?** ... Contact Ministries needs your "left-overs still in good condition". Items needed include beds or sets of bunk beds, bedroom chests, kitchen tables & chairs, couches, kitchen ware and appliances (silverware, dishes, pots and pans, microwaves, refrigerators, high chairs, etc.) Currently in need are 4 shelter families moving into their own homes, consisting of a total of 15 children. If you have any questions, please call LaTrice Nettles, Executive Assistant at 753-3939. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.

## CALENDAR YEAR 2010 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

In an effort to save substantial mailing costs, the Board of Christian Stewardship asks you to please pick up your 2010 contribution envelope packet. All envelope packets are now available, in the Parish Center, on tables located near or against the north windowed wall, and arranged in alphabetical order (reading from the bottom of the table to the top, left to right). The Parish Center is conveniently located and accessible to all. No having to go up and down stairs. Also, if you need assistance in getting your envelope packet, fellow worshipers will be around before and after Saturday evening service as well as before and after the Sunday School hour (after first service and before second service on Sunday). Just ask them for help.

Please note that ***Renewing Our Past – Seizing Our Future*** envelopes are in the 2010 packets. Please use them for your Capital Campaign offerings.

To make things easier for all concerned, the envelope packets for 2010 have been renumbered to match the alphabetical listing of family names. This greatly eases the administration, preparation and distribution of envelopes. Please be assured that all records of past giving (as well as pledges) recorded under (an) old envelope number(s) will be transferred completely to your new envelope number.

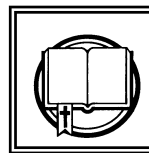
**Please pick up your envelope packet as soon as you can.** Remaining packets will be prepared for mailing on **Saturday, December 12**.

Finally, please do not use your new envelopes until after January 1, 2010. Also, after New Year's Day, throw out any unused 2009 (or previous years) envelopes. Please note your new number. The contribution counters ask that you write it on the memo line of your contribution checks in 2010. Thanks!

**Trinity Lutheran School Blanket Throws** Warm Hearts With School Spirit!!! Trinity Lutheran School custom blanket throws are available for order. The throws commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our school. A sample throw is hanging in the school lobby. Orders can be placed in the school office or by emailing [ksriechers@aol.com](mailto:ksriechers@aol.com). The throws cost \$45 each and payment must be made at time of order. Proceeds from the sale of the blanket throws go towards the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class trip in May. Thank you for your support!

## SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASSES

9:30-10:15 a.m.



**Family Cornerstone** – This class focuses on Christ-centered guidance and encouragement in three areas: priorities, family conflict, and children. Booklets for each area will be available for \$3.50 per booklet (the class may be attended without the booklets). Location: Parish Hall. Leader: Pastor Schnelle

**God's Grace in St. Paul's Letter to the Church of the Thessalonians** – Join us as we discuss Paul's reassurances that we are saved through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit and belief in the truth of God's grace. Location: Parish Hall. Leader: Bill Denham

**I Believe But I Have Questions** – A Bible study exploring some of the more difficult questions all Christians struggle with, such as "Why didn't my problems disappear when I became a Christian?" or "How can I find God's will for my Life?". Location: Science Room. Leader Eric Garvue

[Child care is available for Adult Bible Classes]

## WEEK DAY BIBLE CLASSES

### TUESDAYS:

**LADIES MORNING STUDY** will meet in December at 9:00 a.m. at the home of Terri Cameron, 816 South Park (787-4111). We will continue our study of The Acts of the Apostles.

**SENIOR CITIZENS BIBLE CLASS** Refreshments at 9:30 a.m., class at 10:00 a.m. Studying II Peter. Parish Hall. Leader: Pastor Garvue

**LADIES AFTERNOON STUDY** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Loretta Rodenburg, 12 Turnberry.

### WEDNESDAYS:

**BIBLE AND BREAKFAST** meets at 6:30 a.m. in the Church Library. Studying Mark. Leader Pastor Radtke

**ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER ...** We believe that the Lord's table must be approached with sincere faith and full understanding. We believe that approaching the Lord's table is a declaration of unity of faith with this congregation. Thus, we ask anyone who has not made that declaration of faith or is not a confirmed member in good standing of a Missouri Synod congregation to please refrain from communing until you can be brought into full doctrinal fellowship with us.

## **“THE LORD’S WORKING IS OUR JOY”**

Philippians 1:3-11

Rev. Aaron D. Schnelle

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

- I. Paul’s joy was not so much in specific good works as it was in God’s working in us (vss. 3-6).
- II. Our joy is not so much in specific good works as it is in God’s working in us and others (v. 7).
- III. Our love for others is Jesus’ love through us (vss. 8-10).
- IV. *“to the glory and praise of God”* (v. 11).