



trinity
Lutheran Church



love
everyone

transform lives
through Jesus

serve the world



Annual Report 2007

Trinity Lutheran Church • 115 N. 4th St.
Stillwater, MN • 651-439-7400 • www.trinitylc.org



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**137th Annual Meeting of
Trinity Lutheran Church
Stillwater, Minnesota**

Sunday, February 17, 2008
11:45 a.m.

This Annual Report is submitted to you, the members of Trinity Lutheran Church, in the hope that it will be a valuable and informative tool for your use.

As you read through this report, it is our hope that you have an understanding of what has transpired at Trinity Lutheran Church during the year 2007.

It is also our hope that this will serve adequately to inform the future congregation about what transpired this year. Please read the report in its entirety before the meeting, as the reports will not be read at the meeting.

Trinity Lutheran Church • 115 N. 4th St. • Stillwater, MN 55082
651-439-7400 Fax: 651-430-2935
On the web: www.trinitylc.org

137th ANNUAL MEETING OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Stillwater, Minnesota
February 17, 2008, 11:45 a.m.

Meeting Agenda

1. Meeting Called to Order – President Jolene Patterson
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Introduction of Parliamentarian
5. Approval of Procedures
6. Introduction of Congregational Council Members
7. Approval of Minutes of 2007 Annual Meeting
8. Report of the Church Treasurer for 2007
9. Reports of the Ministry Team and Congregational Council
10. Report from the Trinity for Tomorrow Task Force
11. Report of the Nominating Committee
12. Election of 2008 Nominating Committee
13. Appointment of Tellers
14. Election of 2008 Congregational Council
15. Approval of Proposed Budget for 2008
16. Recommended Motion for Nomination of Synod Delegates
17. Other Business
18. Adjournment

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of
Trinity Lutheran Church held February 18, 2007**

1. Congregational Council President John Weyrauch called the meeting to order at 11:55 a.m.
2. Pastor Dan Poffenberger opened the meeting with prayer.
3. The Annual Meeting agenda was presented to the Congregation by John Weyrauch. John asked for a motion to amend the agenda that was printed in the annual report. The motion was to move item 14, Congregational Authorization for Additional Long-Term Borrowing and Approval of Proposed Budget for 2007 to come in order on the agenda after item 9, Reports of the Ministry Team and Congregational Council. A motion was made and seconded to amend the agenda. A motion was made and seconded to approve the amended agenda. Both motions passed and the modified agenda was approved.
4. Dan Wilson was introduced as the Parliamentarian for the annual meeting.
5. Dan reviewed the procedures for the annual meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the procedures and the motion passed.
6. The members of the 2006 Congregational Council were introduced.
7. The minutes of the 2006 annual meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made and seconded to approve the annual minutes as presented, and the motion passed.
8. The Church Treasurer, Jeff Anderson, was introduced to present a Treasurer's report for 2006. There was an opportunity for members to ask questions on the report that was presented.
9. Pastor Dan then reviewed the highlights of 2006 ministries at Trinity as well as a highlight of items that are included in the 2007 proposed budget. This includes the addition of a Missions Director that would be responsible for global, metro and local missions that would start July 1, 2007. He also discussed a high level view of potential capital expenses that are required to improve Trinity and how the approval of the additional long term funding is required in order to accomplish these capital projects. Pastor Dan also reviewed a new team that is being formed at Trinity that will be responsible for Facilities and Finance planning.

This includes properties such as the Croix Center, the Post Office, the proposed Parking Ramp, as well as current space needs in our facility. The roles of this team include:

- a. Interviewing and selecting an Architect and develop a “campus” plan
- b. And work on a strategy to approach Trinity’s long-term debt.

The Reports of the Ministry Team and Congregational Council as presented in the annual report were presented for questions. No questions were asked and John Weyrauch accepted the reports as presented.

10. Congregational Authorization for Additional Long-Term Borrowing and Approval of Proposed Budget for 2007. Bob Eiselt was introduced to discuss the proposal on the authorization for additional long-term borrowing. Bob reviewed some of the capital expenses that are required in order to make additional improvements at Trinity. Bob discussed the process that he went through in order to prepare for the borrowing of additional long-term finances. Trinity’s Constitution (12.05b) requires Congregational approval to authorize borrowing of funds that would encumber (mortgage) Trinity’s property. John Weyrauch asked for a motion to authorize the Congregational Council to obtain up to \$300,000 of additional long-term financing in the form of a second mortgage on Trinity real property to finance upkeep and renovations to Trinity’s facilities. A motion was made and seconded and the motion was opened for discussion. John Weyrauch, Jeff Anderson and Bob Eiselt then responded to questions from the Congregation. The motion passed.
11. Jeff Anderson was re-introduced to present an overview of the proposed budget for 2007 for approval. Following the presentation of the proposed 2007 annual budget, a motion was made and seconded to approve the budget as proposed and the motion was opened for discussion. After a brief question and answer period, the motion was put to a vote to approve the 2007 budget as presented and the motion passed.
12. John Weyrauch reviewed the report of the Nominating Committee that was in the annual report.
 - a. The Nominating Committee was charged with providing candidates to fill one opening for the Congregational Council. They used the guidelines that are identified in the Constitution. After announcing the opening in the church bulletin and on the announcement screen in the Worship Center and receiving no candidates to serve, the committee recommended one candidate, Sheila-Marie Untiedt run for a three-year term and recommend she run

unopposed.

Election of 2007 Nominating Committee – A motion was made to elect Judd Orff, Dave Borg, Tom Collins and Judy Laabs-Foss to serve as the Nominating Committee for 2008. The motion was seconded and passed. The option of nominating from the floor was given by John Weyrauch in compliance with the Bylaws B1.03. There were no candidates from the floor nominated.

A motion was made and approved to close the nominations to Council.

A motion was made and approved to waive the paper ballot and proceed with a voice vote due to only one candidate on the ballot.

A motion was made and approved to elect Sheila-Marie Untiedt to a three-year term to the Congregational Council.

13. A motion was made and seconded to delegate authority to the Congregational Council to select delegates to attend the Synod Assembly on June 1-2 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Burnsville, MN on behalf of Trinity. The motion passed without discussion.
14. Other Business – Pastor Dan talked about upcoming anniversary celebrations for Phil Kadidlo and Craig Koehnen in honor of their 20 years of dedicated service at Trinity. The date will be announced in the near future.
15. There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the annual meeting, and the motion passed. Pastor Dan provided a closing benediction and the annual meeting concluded at 1 p.m.

**Reports of the
Congregational Council,
Staff & Organizations**



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Love

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

– Romans 12:9-13

W

hen I reflect on the past year and the Trinity mission statement of loving others, transforming lives and serving others, I continue to be amazed at the incredible things that are happening at Trinity! We are so blessed

with amazing gifts and talents and the willingness of people to give their love away and share with others who are in need. This is evident in so many of the ministries that are going on all around us.

Global Missions: This past year Trinity has continued to focus on transforming and serving lives in Tanzania, through our partnership with the Mwatasi Lutheran Church, the on-going support of the village water project as well as supporting the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. We are also actively involved with missions in the Yucatan, Mexico, supporting Operation Christmas Child, Feed My Starving Children and Hurricane Katrina rebuilding.

Metro and Local Missions: In addition to the global missions that we support, there are many metro and local missions that are also the recipients of the love and selflessness of so many Trinity members. Some of these missions include Loaves and Fishes, JESUS Delivers, Valley Outreach Food Shelf, Angel Tree Prison Ministry, Joseph's Coats and many more.

The sharing of love with others within Trinity is evident everyday when you walk through the facility. Some of the many areas include the incredible team that give to and grow our Children, Youth and Family Ministries, the beautiful music that is shared, the inspiring art, the adult education classes, or the sharing of Jesus' message to help us grow in our lives. These are just a few of the areas that so many people give of their time and talent to love others.

How will you support Trinity as we continue on this journey of growth and love? Whether it's involvement in one of the many ministries, giving financial support, growing in faith, or one of several other areas that are available to participate in, the opportunities are endless! I think of Jeremy's recent sermon about "What time is it?" and reflect upon what time is it for Trinity and for each of us. I'd challenge each of you to reflect on where you are, how you want to be involved, and ask what time is it for you. So many people are waiting to be loved, transformed and served through you; lots of partners with endless gifts at Trinity are waiting to help you make it happen!

*God's Blessings,
Jolene Patterson*



Jolene Patterson
Council President

W

“Love, Transform, Serve”

Whenever we reflect back on a year of ministry, mission and life together, we must focus on these three words. For the past two years, we have been using these words to describe how it is that Trinity will uniquely live out its call to follow Jesus. We have spent much time and effort these two years embedding the meaning of these three words in everything we do. I see Trinity making these three words serve as a part of our “DNA” – the concepts of loving people, witnessing to the transforming love of Jesus and serving the world in God’s name, are becoming a constitutive part of who we are and what we do. I believe that this is true not only of us as a whole, but also as individuals – many Trinity people have now begun to see their lives and ministry as a call to love, transform and serve. This is powerful and exciting.

This Annual Report is an attempt to talk about the ministry lived out in 2007. We all know that it can only report on a small piece of the ministry actually accomplished by the people of Trinity in 2007. Much, much more ministry is done every day in your homes, offices, schools, neighborhoods and families that we can never track or report on. The ministry of all of us together is much bigger than this report can ever hope to capture. That is an exciting realization, and I hope that you see this report for what it is – only a small reporting of that mission that we do together as a congregation.



Pastor Dan Poffenberger

Lead Pastor
dpoffenberger@trinitylc.org

On behalf of the people of Trinity, thank you for your personal sense of call and your willingness to live life as a follower of Jesus. Your story of ministry would also make a good read, and would be a compelling story of faithfulness and witness. Please take time to celebrate the ministry you have accomplished this past year, and also the ministry of everyone at Trinity whose work goes unreported, but not unappreciated.

Following are a few items of ministry that I wish to reflect on in this Annual Report:

- **The emerging role of the Trinity for Tomorrow Team**
Chartered by the Council, this team is creating a vision for how Trinity should handle some of its physical assets, such as the Post Office site and the Fourth Street property where St. Croix Preparatory Academy is leasing space. Also in the team’s sights are the proposed parking ramp the city will build on our Third Street side, and the Drive-In site in Houlton. In addition, the team will be creating a process to evaluate our current facilities. As their work progresses, they will be engaging the congregation in a long conversation

about the future, and helping the Council and the congregation plan strategically around these assets. This team will be making a presentation at our Annual Meeting; please come and participate in that event and in the other public events this team will host. This is important and exciting as we look forward to ministry for the next decades.

- **Growth in participation in the worship life and ministries of Trinity**
Have you noticed? Worship attendance, adult learning and small group participation, children’s ministry, missions projects – all are reporting increasing numbers of people participating. This all results in people growing in faith, knowledge, confidence and mission. I am thrilled to see our efforts to help people grow in faith taking such good root. If you are still wondering if there is anything here for you – jump right in! There are many, many opportunities for anyone to grow. I am particularly excited about how many people are learning more about the Bible, about their unique design and call to ministry, and are stepping out in mission to love and serve the world.
- **The spirit within the congregation**
A clearer sense of mission, a growing community, and the discoveries and learnings of actually engaging the world through hands-on mission has revitalized the core of this congregation. You will also notice that our new member classes are numerous and are getting younger and younger each year – a sign of our reconnection with young families. Trinity is also becoming a congregation with some self-confidence. More of us are inviting others to join in the growth, the learning, the worship and the mission – a great sign of vitality.
- **Leadership Development and the Cultivating Spiritual Leadership Retreat**
Trinity has recently conducted its second Cultivating Spiritual Leadership retreat. This retreat is a working experiment in leadership development, and the results have been wonderful. These retreats are targeted toward people who have demonstrated

leadership in the congregation or out in the world. We hope to give these leaders an opportunity to grow deeper spiritually, and to integrate their faith with their leadership out in the world. This event has been well-received, and it is thrilling to see how many leaders Trinity is sending out into the world. We hope that as a result of this experience, they feel well-supported by their church, and have some vital, important relationships and tools to count on in their daily lives.

- **The evolving role of the Congregational Council**

Over the past year, the Congregational Council has developed a set of working documents that have put them on the path of policy-governance. This style of council self-definition and governance is shared with many non-profits, including the St. Paul Area Synod and Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota. The Council has worked hard at re-purposing its work, and at defining the relationships between the Council, the Lead Pastor, the congregation and the staff. The major change for the Council is the unique role it has in the congregation to define the outcomes for our ministry. This work will allow Trinity to more clearly focus its ministry on very clear goals and outcomes. This work will begin to bear fruit as we move forward in ministry this coming year.

- **The addition of a Director of Missions**

This position allows Trinity to take a wonderful impulse for mission and maximize it so that Trinity can support a variety of lay-led mission efforts. Trinity is so involved in mission, that this position was needed to provide leadership and support to the wonderful work already established, and for many more missions that are simply dreams. Tom Thiets has been a perfect match, and has quickly moved into this role. His leadership has allowed many new initiatives and leaders to step forward.

- **The mutual care of small groups, and the ministry of Kris Linner**

One of the major changes in Trinity over the recent past was the move away from Pastoral Care to Mutual Care. This reflects an understanding of how care is expressed in the congregation. Trinity is now best understood as a community

of many small communities (groups) who work, learn, grow and care together. In these small communities, the care of Christian people flows organically. Trinity has also created teams of people to visit and share communion with others. Over time, these efforts will continue to grow. Pastor Kris has provided wonderful leadership, training and equipping for these ministries. In this proposed budget, Pastor Kris will see an increase in hours as the Mutual Care Ministry continues to grow and multiply.

- **The re-casting of Stewardship Ministry as Gratitude Ministry**

You have no doubt noticed the switch in title – and hopefully you have caught the change in emphasis as well. The Gratitude Team is encouraging Trinity to become more intentional about thanking people for their investment of time and money in support of Trinity ministry. They are striving to build a culture of gratitude and generosity, and their work is felt in all corners of our ministry.

- **The leadership and staff of Trinity**

I need to thank all the wonderful ministry leaders here at Trinity. I have such great partners in ministry; both the lay ministry leaders and the staff of Trinity. All of them are highly motivated to share their best with the world for the glory of God. It is a joy to work together, and I am personally grateful for all of them.

I believe that 2008 will be a wonderful year of ministry. I expect to see a continued pattern of growth, in all ways that can be measured. Trinity has an excellent foundation of ministry; it is now time for us to invite and welcome others as partners in the Gospel.

Enjoy this Annual Report; many exciting things are reported on, and many challenges laid out for us. I look forward with great joy in serving with you in the Gospel again this year.

Peace,
Pastor Dan Poffenberger

As I think back over the past 12 months, we have much to be excited about and thankful for here at Trinity, as we sought to love, transform and serve!

We experienced some exciting changes in staffing in '07, welcoming Tom Thiets, as Director of Missions, Karen Gieseke, Director of Middle Childhood Ministries, Rebecca Christiansen, Director of Early Childrens' Ministries; Cory Jones, Youth Programs Director; Mary Peters, Children's Ministry Coordinator, Tom Hosek, Lead Custodian, Victoria Parnell, The River Worship Leader, Jill Sundberg and

Laura Wood-Nerison, Mom's Day Off caregivers. We also welcomed Jeremy Johnson and Lindsay Stolen as Seminary Interns assigned to Trinity. We bid a fond farewell to Allen Oswald and celebrated his 24 years of custodial service to Trinity as he announced his retirement in December. Allen has been a solid, dependable, steady influence at Trinity, keeping things operating mechanically and serving as a hospitality ambassador in the process. Al, you are already missed – we wish you all the best in your retirement. We also bid a warm farewell to Kristine Anderson, Susan Bakken, Janice Blaisdell, Julie Cohrs, Chris Dahl, Karen Elowson, Carole England, Delzie Hodler, Christine

Lande, Bob Minor, Deb Orff, Marie Saterbak, Sara Stenstrom, and Susan Thueson. We thank them for their many contributions to the ministries at Trinity, and wish them well.

A special thank you to Jeff Anderson, for his tireless energy in the role of Treasurer over the past six years! As he “retires” from that role, we owe him a debt of sincere gratitude for his leadership and guidance, assisting with the financial management of Trinity. At the same time we welcome our new treasurer KC Kidder and her years of experience in financial management.

Through the use of proceeds from the renovation loan and several designated, special gifts, we tackled and completed four significant projects in 2007. A long-overdue renovation of the main bathrooms above the Commons was completed – adding additional capacity to both spaces, bringing them up to current ADA codes, updating countertops, floor and wall surfaces and fixtures, and turning them into bright, welcoming spaces. A refurbished Nursery on the lower level with fresh paint, new flooring and lighting and modern, yet functional furniture, provides an inviting space to young families with children. A new Children's Ministry Center on the lower level in the Luther Hall

Annex provides efficient work space for the Children's Ministry staff, as well as a welcoming space for families of children in our community. An update to the sound booth and audio-visual capabilities will help enhance worship. A special thank you to the Facilities Maintenance Team, under the direction of Lowell Saterbak, for contributing over 1,000 hours of volunteer labor maintaining and renovating our facility. The Facilities Maintenance Team was also instrumental in completing a multitude of other projects and repairs in 2007. A huge thank you to this team for their generous donation of time and expertise.

Endowment Fund

Since its inception in 1997, Trinity's Endowment Fund has been a very useful addition to the financial resources that make it possible for the many and varied ministries of Trinity to do their important work. The Endowment Fund is made up of endearing and enduring gifts from dear, departed and living people supporting Trinity. These gifts are invested with the ELCA Endowment Fund and earnings from these gifts are distributed back to Trinity for use in the areas designated by the donors. The fund's market value at the end of 2007 stands at \$863,000, a \$9,000 increase over 2006. Earnings of just over \$34,000 were distributed back to Trinity in 2007, used in part to finish the Commons facelift, the remainder to be used in 2008. Over \$28,000 of fund earnings were used to support ministry at Trinity in 2007. Members of the Endowment Committee are: Kerry Evensen, Ken Olson, and Andrea Jungmann. Ex-officio members are Pastor Dan Poffenberger, Bob Eiselt, Parish Administrator and K.C. Kidder, Treasurer.

Thank you to all who contribute in an administrative way to make ministry happen! I am energized each and every day by the opportunity to serve Trinity in my role as Administrator and am humbled by the abundance of talented, dedicated “disciples” that I have the honor to work with – Thank you!

*God's peace to you all,
Bob Eiselt, Parish Administrator*



Bob Eiselt
Parish Administrator
beiselt@trinitylc.org

Lifelong Learning Ministries support the overall mission of Trinity by providing learning experiences for adults that stimulate their minds, engage their hearts, deepen their faith, and equip them for leadership in the world.

The four most important ministry goals I set out to accomplish in 2007 were:

- 1) To recruit and lead a Learning Team that would help cultivate a culture of adult learning at Trinity
- 2) To nurture and support the Hearts of the Home Moms Ministry

3) to explore the possibility of online learning as a way to engage learners who need a more flexible learning community

4) to continue to build on the success of Bible 101 with more classes for adults

I am excited about the progress of all four of these important goals.

The eight people I recruited for the Learning Team have been wonderful partners in teaching, learning and planning. Some of them have moved into teaching roles of their own, and others are beginning to explore that possibility. The Hearts of the Home Moms Ministry has strong leadership and the confidence to grow at Trinity. I have also enjoyed leading small group studies for moms. Trinity's first venture into online teaching and learning started out strong with a

small group of committed learners. I learned how much of a time investment online learning is both for teaching and learning. It was a good pilot experience; we will continue developing online learning at Trinity in 2008.

The Bible and Hot Topics (Spring 2007) and *Jesus 101* (Fall 2007) thrived because Bible 101 had already captured people's attention and sparked their curiosity and imagination. Both of these classes challenged people to think, to question, and to examine their faith from new angles. *The Bible and Hot Topics* class was a great example of people's willingness to examine controversial topics from multiple viewpoints, to listen to new intellectual ideas, and to hold other's views in tension with their own.

We had great conversations about tough issues. *Jesus 101* improved on both classes by having members of the Learning Team serve as table discussion leaders. Lifelong Learning also supported a wide variety of other classes and discussion groups led by people within the Trinity community. I am continually impressed by the talent and commitment of our many teachers and learners in this community.

The measure of success for Lifelong Learning is that people who have been in classes have moved from feeling isolated and embarrassed about their own ideas, to feeling excited and energized to be in a community of faith where there is real freedom to participate in honest conversations with pastors and peers about life, theology and the Bible. I invite everyone to join in this learning journey.



Pastor

Siri Erickson

Lifelong Learning Ministries
serickson@trinitylc.org

W

“What’s that buzz? Tell me what’s a-happening!”

hat IS that buzz? Whether you’ve been around Trinity for two months, or 20 years, one can’t help but notice there is a palpable energy building to a crescendo at all of our worship and music events.

We believe that God is the source of the creative arts, and a holy presence in music and art. Trinity continues to inspire new and magnificent expressions of love for God and for all people, through our voices, our instruments, the camera lens, the computer, the brush and the pen, the sewing machine, and the Word.

In 2007 Trinity hosted (and occasionally sponsored) over 25 music concerts and art exhibits, with over 5,000 people in attendance. These occasions are often people’s introduction to Trinity; the better we do at inviting and welcoming people to these events, the more likely they are to return and connect in other ways to our community.

Worship attendance continues to grow as well; and the completion of the upper level Commons projects has made Trinity a more inviting place to host community fellowship between services. Our next challenge will be

to upgrade the sound, lighting and seating in the Worship Center, so that all events held at Trinity will be enhanced through top-notch technology.

Traditional music is an important expression in the life of our congregation. From our adult and children’s choirs, to four St. Paul Chamber Orchestra concerts annually; from the inaugural White Pines Music Festival, to our own hymn festival, featuring renowned organist, Aaron David Miller and our brand new pew hymnals—Carol Carver, along with directors Gretchen Perkins and Sonia Esch, and organists Dave Goulette and Laura Edman, provide musical and spiritual leadership to more than 100 worship leaders each week.

Contemporary music also plays a large role in worship and inspiration for people of all ages at Trinity. Worship leaders Phil Kadidlo, Zanny Johnson and Craig Koehnen, and many others, blend favorite hymns with modern styles and songs at the Saturday evening, Sunday 10:30 a.m. and Summer Drive-In services. Trinity also sponsored a summer concert with contemporary artist Lauren Redpath and Friends at Pioneer Park.



Phil Kadidlo
Director of Worship &
Music Ministries
pkadidlo@trinitylc.org

AV Coordinator Jake McBroom ably leads a team of Audio-Visual (AV) staff, including Harrison Koehnen, Pete Stauner, and Mike Forbess, who perform multiple set-ups and tear-downs each week to help make the music and video production excellent. We have expanded staff training and support for our growing AV needs, which include the River youth service on Wednesday nights, and the forthcoming alternative Young Adult worship service, set to begin in 2008.

Because we rely increasingly on visual resources, we continue to upgrade the video capabilities of most every gathering space at Trinity. This fall we debuted a larger, clearer wide-screen projector in the front of the Worship Center, and repositioned the prior system on the back wall for the choir and worship teams to see during worship.

You may also have noticed how visually splendid the Worship Center looks each Sunday. Thanks to the Fine Arts Team, our breath is taken away each time we come to worship.

As for our worship planning, we are devoted to working as a team to develop themes for worship that are relevant and urgently needed in our world. As worship becomes more and more in competition with other activities, we desire to make that time with God and community so special—so sacred—in our busy lives, that word will spread about what God is doing in people’s lives, and new people will arrive to enrich our experience of the one true and loving God, through the image and spirit of the holy trinity.

Our prayer is that the coming year of worship will stir in us such passion that the glory of God will shine through all our lives, and that the world might be transformed by our mission to find joy in serving.

In your service,

*Phil Kadidlo and Carol Carver
Directors of Worship, Music and Arts
Ministries*

Equipping Team's purpose is to:

inspire, create and nurture a community ON PURPOSE.

Love ourselves and others by understanding and claiming our unique design and respecting all of God's designs.

Transform lives by discovering our call and intentionally aligning our lives with our purpose.

Serve the world with our strengths and as we are called.

2007 Highlights

- In 2007, our On-Purpose process continued to evolve. (See diagram below.)
- One of our key goals was to integrate 'Living Your Strengths' content across all ministry areas. This included: Club 5/6 Strengths Explorer Sessions and parent orientations, ninth grade confirmation sessions, the sr. high leadership team completed a Living Your Strengths session, and another 100 adults experienced Living Your Strengths.
- This past year we offered a six-week series on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and introduced a class titled *Called to Service*; we also introduced the Living Your Strengths 2: Marcus Buckingham Discussion small group.
- The On-Purpose Team, Dick Dunnigan, Deborah Gillis, Tim Gillis, Eric Jackson, Amy Karlstad, Judy Laabs-Foss, Walt Ogburn, Karen Remington, Jim Untiedt and myself, continued to lead and facilitate small groups and learning experiences based on our strengths and passions.
- The Adult Ministries Team, Siri Erickson, Julie Jolivette, and myself, designed and facilitated the first Adult Ministries retreat titled, "Cultivating Spiritual Leadership." It was a tremendous success in beginning to support the growth of spiritual leaders in this community.

Looking Forward

The Vision: *A congregation that knows their strengths, passions and call.*

I am excited about more leaders being supported and launched into this world confident and grounded in their spirituality and aligned with their call. I look forward to designing and facilitating more retreat experiences for adults and creating additional resources for individuals and small groups to explore and claim their strengths, passions and call.



Jody Thone
 Director of On-Purpose Ministries
 jthone@trinitylc.org

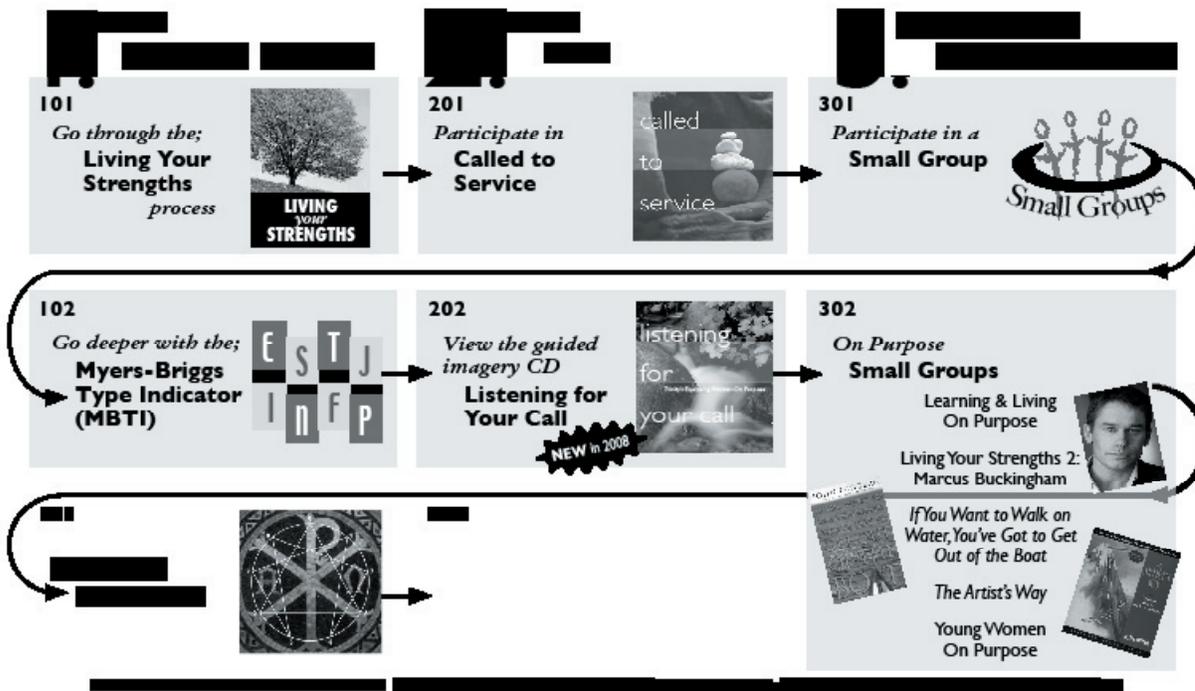
The Vision: *A community supporting one another in their call.*

I envision small groups challenging and supporting one another to live their life in alignment with their strengths and passions. I'm excited about leaders and coaches having the tools to support this community in claiming their call and living On Purpose.

The Vision: *Integration of On-Purpose concepts across all ministry areas.*

I am excited about children of all ages, parents, adults, seniors, worship, and missions all reflecting our belief in the transformational power of alignment between our individual strengths,

passions and our call from God.



“God comes alongside us when we go through hard times, and before you know it, God brings us alongside someone else who is going through hard times so that we can be there for that person just as God was there for us.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

God cares for us in every part of the life cycle. God cares for the dependent infant, for the searching teenager, for the restless mid-lifer, for the dying elder and for everyone in between. God’s care comes in many forms, but most frequently God’s care comes through God’s people.

It has been a delight to see God’s people walk alongside members of their small group who have been dealing with a difficult life transition. Mutual Care is becoming woven into the very fabric of Trinity as small group members support one another in prayer, listen to each other’s heartaches, provide a supportive presence or offer hands-on assistance in time of need.

CareGivers are walking alongside Trinity members who are 75 years and older

by sending cards, making phone calls and hosting a Senior Communion Worship and Lunch three times a year. It has been exciting to see the role of the CareGivers expand. CareGivers have been helping the transition to a nursing home easier through their visits. The loneliness of grief has been lessened as CareGivers check in on the grieving. The warmth of God’s love can be tasted in the hotdish delivered to the home of someone recovering from surgery. Thank you to all the CareGivers who make God’s presence felt in concrete ways.

Home Communion Friends walk alongside people who are homebound by bringing Holy Communion and companionship to them on a monthly basis. Those who have a Home Communion Friend are grateful that church comes to them when they can no longer get to church. Thank you to the Home Communion Friends who feed God’s people with a meal of grace and the gift of friendship.

God’s care to new parents is expressed by the Child Welcome Team which provides a caring connection to new parents and welcomes new babies or adopted children into the world with a gift bag, meal and resource link.

Thank you to the Child Welcome Team who welcome God’s little ones into the world.

The Bereavement Comforters walk alongside those who are grieving. Healing comes through telling the story of one’s grief and Bereavement Comforters offer a listening presence. Bereavement Comforters have provided support to 78 families this year. The Funeral Hospitality Committee also surrounds the grieving with God’s love by serving a meal to people who gather for a funeral. In 2007 there were 13 members who died and an additional 16 funerals were done for non-members. Thank you to those who are a part of this important ministry.

Those in the Knitting Ministry wrap people in God’s love as they make prayer shawls that are given to those who are sick or grieving. Knitted hats, mittens and sweaters are used for missions near and far. Baby hats are used in the gift bags for new babies. Thank you to all who click needles for missions.

TLC Caregivers is a group of people who walk with each other through the transitions that being a caregiver for a loved one can bring.

The Disability Ministry Leadership Team is exploring ways that Trinity can walk alongside people with disabilities and their families. We look forward to the development of this new opportunity in mutual care.

Jesus had a wonderful ability to meet people where they were at and to care for them with love which brought healing and wholeness to the broken places of their lives. Mutual Care, through formal and informal ways, is following Jesus’ model of meeting people where they are at and caring for them with love.



**Pastor
Kris Linner**
Care Ministries
klinner@trinitylc.org

In the New Testament, faithful living is still the condition of the covenant relationship, but it is Christ who brings the people of God into a new covenant. The new covenant is participation in the transforming mission of God in Jesus. It is a privilege of the Christian to be called into a covenant relationship with the Creator of the universe who invites our help with the unfinished work of the world. The covenants we make with one another help us keep our covenant with God. (Taken from Small Group Leader Toolkit.)

Allow me to celebrate and share just a few of the many ways some of you have decided to change your busy schedules and covenant with one another:

Several singles have formed a leadership team which provides opportunities for single adults in the valley to connect in Christian fellowship two times each month.

As a result, many single people have enjoyed making new friends while getting together for potlucks, games, picnics, eating at restaurants, and worship.

After attending the Cultivating Spiritual Leadership Retreat held last fall, several people were moved to act on their passion for spiritual well-being. They have since banded together and written a covenant to create and integrate a wellness model at Trinity which accepts

peoples' brokenness and encourages movement toward the wholeness God longs for in each of us.

About a year ago six retired men began organizing monthly opportunities for men to come together for fellowship and enrichment. This December they added a seventh member, rotated leader, and covenanted with one another that they would lead and facilitate monthly activities for men through December 2008. Any men looking for opportunities to connect, make new friends, and support one another in faith are encouraged to find details in the brochures found in the Commons.

And after doing another great job helping 64 new members feel welcomed and integrated, members of the New Member Leadership Team have put their hands in the middle and agreed to renew their covenant for another year. As they evaluated and assessed, they decided to restructure so interested people will soon be able to enter into the membership process anytime throughout the year.

You are partnering with God and walking side-by-side, step-by-step, day-by-day with one another, to help create atmospheres where people are loved, transformed and served.

What wonderful small groups and task teams Pastor Kris and I have described! Small group and task team structures are popping up in other areas as well: Council, Trinity For Tomorrow, On-Purpose, Hearts-of-the-Home, Children's Ministry, Confirmation, Life-Long Learning, Missions, Gratitude, Worship, Staff – more than 25 groups/teams have written covenants!

God's abundance is received and God's people are responding! I am grateful to God for you! And the question continues into 2008, what will YOU change your busy schedule for?



Julie Jolivette
Director of Mutual Care &
Small Group Ministries
jjolivette@trinitylc.org

Communications Ministries strives to reach all people through print, electronic and visual messages to communicate Trinity's mission to love people, transform lives through Jesus and serve the world. The messages and identity that we communicate through newsletters, brochures, bulletins and the website encourage and enable people to make the connection that will lead them to a life in Christ.

The debut of Trinity's new website in late 2006 led to an exciting year of challenges in fully developing and maintaining the website to reflect all that happens here at Trinity. To keep it up-to-date, user-friendly and always fresh kept the communications department on our toes! We were able to add online registration and payment options for all ministry activities, from childhood through adults. This has made registration easier for web users, as

well as made it easier for the support staff at Trinity to keep organized. As I write this, we are working on creating a new design for the home webpage, so that it better serves those who come to our site looking for specific links.

With the addition of an on-site color printer in late 2006, we have stepped up and brightened our communication efforts with postcards, brochures and other mailings. Some of these mailings target specifically those who have expressed an interest in certain ministries while others go to larger groups who may have interest in educational and fun activities for all ages. Finding increased response and participation with this approach, we are continuing our targeted mailings, and have cut back our publication of the *Trinity Today* to a monthly basis. We found that with a biweekly production schedule we were still repeating publicity for several consecutive issues which at

times seemed to make the newsletter not as fresh and interesting as we thought it could be. So watch that publication over the next year as it includes more personal faith stories and features on missions and events that are changing lives.

One of the goals in 2007 was to communicate Trinity's mission more to the St. Croix Valley community. Trinity became the only area church to be part of the Welcome Wagon book that is given to all new residents that move into the St. Croix Valley. Trinity purchased large newspaper ads to promote special holiday services, and appeared in the St. Croix Valley residents guide, which is mailed to the entire valley and visitors who request it via the Chamber of Commerce. Trinity's name could also be found on the poster promoting Pony football this season!

So much of what the Communications Ministry has done in the past year is in support of all ministry here at Trinity. In an Annual Report it is difficult to summarize that, because a lot of what we do just seems like what we have always done – support and promote all Trinity ministry. But in that support, I hope we make it easy for anyone, anywhere to know Trinity's ministry and make that path to God's love and grace easy to find.

*In Christ,
Mary Steffl*



Mary Steffl
Director of Communications
msteffl@trinitylc.org

M

y desire in my ministry is to affirm that all acts of service are mission and to equally support all acts of service no matter where they happen.

The Trinity community has stretched their faith by using their strengths,

assets, and skills to serve others. An incredible number of hearts have been touched and lives transformed through acts of kindness and service. Trinity has truly earned the reputation of being a loving, serving, and compassionate congregation.

Here are just a few highlights from the in-house, local, state, national, and international mission projects at Trinity.

Within the walls of Trinity, people serve as worship and communion assistants, ushers, drivers, and counters.

The Helping Hands group is always on-site doing building projects, making repairs and other tasks to make Trinity a safe and inviting facility.

Here in the valley Trinity members played a major part in helping the Valley Outreach Food Shelf move to their new location on Curve Crest Boulevard. Trinity also supports the Food Shelf every month with volunteers and funding that allows Valley Outreach to serve their clients with respect and dignity.

Trinity missions spread west toward St. Paul and across the nation through the hard work of many members.

A dedicated painting crew has once again made affordable housing available in Oakdale by painting a home that is part of the Two Rivers Community Land Trust. It doesn't matter if the need is interior or exterior. This wonderful crew is prepared to make a home a brighter place to live.

A very exciting new ministry gaining strength is the Bethlehem-Midway Outreach program. Trinity has joined

hands with Pastor Joy Johnson and the members of Bethlehem Lutheran in St. Paul to open new service opportunities to serve the poor and homeless of St. Paul. Pastor Joy's enthusiasm, strong faith, and love for her community create an inviting and energizing atmosphere to serve.

Trinity's Loaves and Fishes ministry continued for its twenty-fifth year of providing a warm meal for families living in the Frogtown area of St. Paul. The best way to describe the impact of this program is that the money saved by these meals allows families to pay their mortgages.

This past January the second adult Katrina mission group went to the Gulf Coast to assist families in rebuilding their homes and lives.

Trinity continues to improve living conditions, and educational opportunities, and spread the Good News through long-standing international mission programs.

This March the Senior High Mexico Mission trip marks the twenty-fourth year of this ministry. What an incredible testimony about Trinity's commitment and dedication to provide a faith-building experience for thousands of students and adults. Over the past 15 years this ministry has had many students return to the program as adult leaders to minister to the youth of the valley.

Trinity's dedication also continues in Tanzania with a variety of programs. Please see the article on pages 20-21, *Pedaling Toward Great Things*, for a complete update on all of the projects that are taking place in Tanzania.

We have been richly blessed through our Tanzanian partnership. It is humbling to know that they hold us in prayer every week.

This coming year promises to be another fruitful year as long-term programs continue and new doors are opened. Keep your eyes and hearts open as new opportunities arise. Watch for information about Last Sunday Supper here in Stillwater, the Giving House Refugee program in St. Paul, and Guatemala Medical/Construction mission.

I am looking forward to serving with you in another productive year of missions.



Tom Thiets
Director of Missions
tthiets@trinitylc.org

Blessings, Tom

Journey: trip, voyage, passage.

God has provided us a life rich with opportunity for journeys.

As children we use benchmarks of birthdays, trikes, bikes and new pets to mark the passage of time. As youth, groups of friends, first driver's license and graduations signal new chapters in life. As adults, changing journeys include new jobs, homes, marriage, parenthood and grandparenthood.

All of these events mark new experiences that allow us to further explore God's amazing gifts.

Baptism is often a significant early experience on a faith journey, but this is only one of thousands of experiences we will encounter as we grow in and struggle with our faith. At Trinity, the Children

Youth and Family Team is committed to supporting individuals and families on their faith journey, creating partnerships for growing relationships with other people and God.

Trinity's journey continues as we welcomed several new staff to the CYF Team.

- Rebecca Christiansen, Early Childhood Ministries Director, supporting children and families from birth through grade 2.
- Mary Peters, Children's Ministry Coordinator, supporting the Sunday/Wednesday Learning opportunities.

- Karen Gieseke, Middle Childhood Ministries Director and CYF Coach, supporting grades 3-6 families, and acting as a coach/mentor for CYF staff and Trinity families.
- Cory Jones, Youth Program Director, supporting worship, mission and youth programming for jr. and sr. high youth and families.

Our Team is passionate about children, youth and families and works to support faith journeys with relevant, life application opportunities through classes, small groups, camps, worship, mission and service. Recent opportunities include:

- Several new camp/retreat experiences were introduced, or re-introduced, for elementary, confirmation and high-school-age groups, with a resounding "Yes!" from the students and families upon their return home. Bay Lake Camp (grades 3-6), Confirmation Camp (grades 7-8), grade 9 Confirmation Retreat and Florida Beach Camp (grades 9-12) changed lives and faith journeys for 175 children, youth and families.
- The TLC Nursery received a facelift! This included fresh flooring, paint, cabinetry, and new wood toys to keep our littlest ones safe and welcomed at their earliest experience with Trinity on their faith journey.



**Pastor
TJ Anderson**
Family Ministries
tanderson@trinitylc.org

- **Wednesday night is family night!**
We listened to families who wished to have learning opportunities for all ages on Wednesday night, including a pizza and salad supper for families to enjoy together before heading off to activities and worship throughout the church, from nursery-age to senior high. Families participating in Wednesday opportunities have grown significantly.
- **Sunday/Wednesday Learning**
Curriculum for pre-K through grade 6 is being written especially for our community of children and families by staff and lay leaders. Support of family faith journeys includes weekly "church to home connections" (take-home activities and discussion) for pre-K through grade 2.
- **FED devotions**
Family Engaging Devotions is e-mailed weekly. This devotion is written by people within our faith community, is based on themes and Bible text from the children's curriculum and allows individuals and families to pause and reflect on faith and life.
- **The River**
The senior high worship service, The River, moved to Wednesday night in an effort to be more accessible to youth schedules.

At the center of these journeys is a God who invites us to experience unconditional love through Jesus. Jesus desires for us a life that is connected to him in our joy, pain and celebrations. In all of life Jesus wants a growing, passionate, shared relationship with us. Just as we measure our journey with a birthday, a driver's license or new job, we use experiences on our faith journey to move us forward in our relationship with Jesus Christ.

It is our desire as a Children, Youth and Family Team to be in partnership with families to nurture and support faith journeys and transform lives.

In partnership and service,

TJ Anderson

Karen Gieseke

Director of Middle Childhood Ministries



Saint Paul Area Synod

105 West University Avenue St. Paul, MN 55103-2094
651.224.4313 Fax 651.224.5646 www.spas-elca.org

A synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

January 2008

Dear Partners in Ministry:

On the floor below my office in Christ Lutheran on Capitol Hill, newly arrived immigrants from places like Burma, Ethiopia, and Cambodia gather in classrooms to learn English, one word at a time. In the office down the hall from me, a staff member meets with a council president to plan for the transition caused by the retirement of a beloved pastor.

Across the street at the State Capitol, people in this synod who are part of “A Minnesota Without Poverty” advocate for the needs of children with legislators and other community leaders. Just down I-94 to the west, recent college graduates and second career adults gather in classrooms at Luther Seminary to study for ordained ministry or other careers in the church. A few more miles to the south, in Farmington, Light of the World Lutheran Church holds its first worship services under the leadership of the Rev. Deb Stehlin.

Further away, in southeastern Minnesota, volunteers from Lutheran congregations in this synod and beyond gather to assist in rebuilding lives and communities devastated by floods. And even further to the south, along the Gulf Coast, people in this synod and in congregations throughout the ELCA have traveled to repair 8,400 homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina. In all directions, in all parts of the United States, young adults gather at Lutheran camps tucked away in mountain valleys and nestled beside lakes to shape the lives of young campers and share stories of faith and witness.

And even further away, Dana Nelson, a spring graduate of Luther Seminary and a member of Arlington Hills, St. Paul, serves as an ELCA missionary for Iglesia Luterana Evangelica Peruana, Lima, Peru. Amanda Olson, ordained at our synod assembly last year, continues her ministry to the marginalized as a pastor of the Augustinian Lutheran Church of Guatemala. And scores of pastors and evangelists supported by the prayers and financial support of 60 congregations in this synod lead worship in Tanzanian villages throughout the Iringa Diocese.

Through the mission support you direct to the collective efforts of the ELCA, you and your congregation are part of all these—and countless others—widening circles of ministry. These ministries form in the stories, relationships, and prayers in your local congregations and ripple out to communities and far reaching corners of the world. And you are a part of it all. You make it happen.

I could fill your whole annual report book with more and more stories like these—all ministries that happen and lives that are touched because you are part of the life of this synod and church body. From thousands of people near and far—deep thanks!

Grace and peace,

The Rev. Peter Rogness, Bishop

Mission Tanzania: Pedaling Toward Great Things

The simplest way to understand Trinity's Mission Tanzania project is to picture a tricycle: Each wheel follows a slightly different path and has a slightly different role, but all three work and move together to help create a better Tanzania. The three wheels are community, education and health, with Trinity providing the framework for holding the three together. Tom Thiets, Director of Missions, and Michele Hermansen, Project Leader, have hold of the handlebars.

In 2007, two groups from Trinity—summer and fall teams—visited Tanzania to continue the work in progress, and explore new opportunities and partnerships. Here is what's happened in the past year.

Community

Mwatasi Lutheran Church has been Trinity's companion church for the past five years. During this time Trinity has supplied matching funds to help build a new church and three satellite "preaching points." We've also helped supply motorbikes to assist evangelists in spreading the gospel quicker and to a larger number of people. We are excited about the future with our companion congregation as we make plans for 2008 and beyond.

The Mwatasi water project continues to move ahead, with two-thirds of the village having access to clean, healthy water. The operation of the water system is a work in progress. Since the village has few procedures in place for collecting revenues for general services, the water system currently functions on an intermittent basis. In October 2007, visiting members of Trinity met with village leaders to explore options for creating an equitable, on-going way to fund and maintain the system. As progress is made, the final leg of the water system will be tackled.

Trinity continues to move ahead on a number of other economic initiatives. In conjunction with Tumaini University and the Lift Kids organization, Trinity is working toward establishing a poultry farm at Bomalang'ombe Secondary School; means for producing feed are also part of the project. A small-scale tree nursery continues to grow and operate. The long-term goal is to increase production to the point where surplus eggs, chickens, feed, vegetables and wood can be sold to generate income to allow the school to become self-sustaining.

Education

There are a great number of spokes in the education wheel. In the summer of

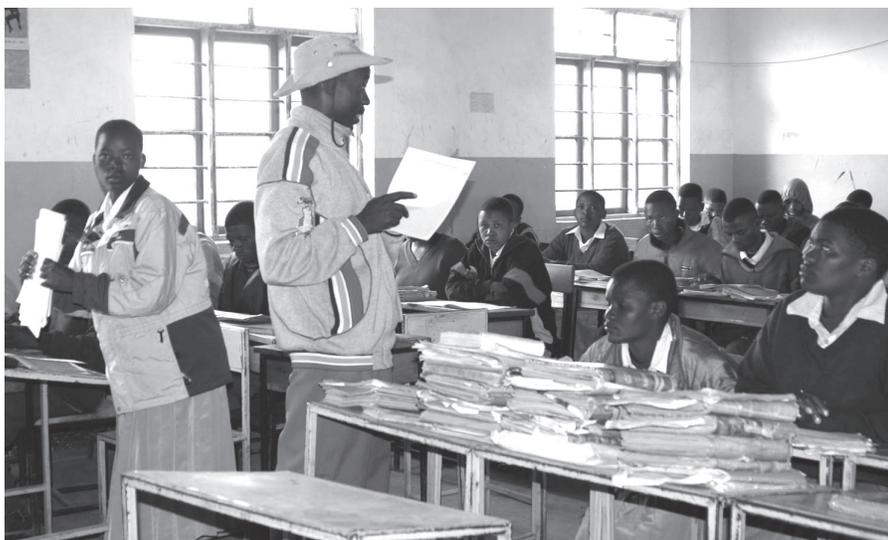


2007 volunteers from Trinity, along with 26 students from Long Island Lutheran High School and residents of the Mwatasi area, extended the water system from the Italian CEFA factory, one-and-a-half miles away, to Bomalang'ombe Secondary School. For the first time, students and staff were able to access clean, safe water with the turn of a handle rather than by hauling and purifying water from a nearby surface pond. The group also laid the foundation for the new dining hall-kitchen facility.

In the fall, a group of 11 volunteers, in conjunction with students and staff from the school, installed one-and-a-half miles of power poles, trenched in underground wiring, constructed a building to house transformers and installed lights and outlets in the school buildings. Power is being supplied on an interim basis via an on-site generator until the primary wire and transformer are installed early in 2008.

Another fall project involved installing a high-efficiency, wood-burning "rocket stove," designed and fabricated by members of Trinity and the Stillwater community. The stove reduces lung-debilitating smoke emissions by 75%, while consuming one-third the amount of wood compared to traditional "three-stone" fires. Two additional stoves will be installed in 2008.

Organizational and fund-raising initiatives conducted in 2007 will result in big changes in 2008. Through efforts initiated by Trinity, the Stillwater Rotary Club is providing a grant of \$25,000 for



supplying materials for a new science lab at Bomalang'ombe Secondary School. Funds (\$75,000) are currently being raised at Trinity to help build a boys' dorm to replace the overcrowded, "rustic" structure now in place. A group of 30 volunteers scheduled to visit in June of 2008 will help set up the lab and begin constructing the dorm.

Scholarships provided through Trinity continue to provide educational opportunities for students at the secondary and university levels in nursing, vocational, teacher education and other fields.

A final project in the planning and funding stages involves converting the old Mwatasi Lutheran Church building into a preschool for area children.

Health

Selian Lutheran Hospital in northern Tanzania is the most visible component of the third wheel. Headed by Dr. Mark Jacobson, a Stillwater native and Trinity member, Selian provides health care for 50,000 patients a year in the areas of pediatrics, orthopedics, obstetrics and other areas. Treating children with bone deformities caused by excessive fluoride in the drinking water has become a focus of the Orthopedic Institute; through corrective surgery over 200 children a year are able to walk, play and resume a normal life. Another focus is providing HIV and AIDS education and treatment. While the hospital is largely self-sustaining, Trinity continues to supply financial aid.

The Arusha Lutheran Hospital, a 120-bed facility also overseen by Dr. Jacobson, will open in spring of 2008. The hospital, in conjunction with the now-operating Arusha Lutheran Medical Center and Town Clinic, will offer medical services to many of the nearly one-million residents of the area.

Trinity helps support these two vital medical institutions along with several other smaller clinics around Tanzania.

Members of Trinity, by volunteering their time, support, prayers and resources, provided the pedal power in 2007 to keep this tricycle not just moving, but gaining tremendous momentum. There are exhausting uphill struggles and exhilarating downhill glides; flat tires to patch and obstacle courses to negotiate—but together with our Tanzanian brothers and sisters, we will pedal forward to fulfill Mission Tanzania's motto: To think big, start small, move with urgency and purpose.



Since 1977 Trinity has sponsored Dr. Mark Jacobson (above) in his medical mission in Tanzania. This medical mission now includes two hospitals and a hospice program that serve an ever-widening community in the Arusha area.

Trinity has also formed a strong partnership with the Iringa Diocese. It is through this relationship that we continue to be part of the Mwatasi community and our companion congregation. Trinity members had the joy of worshipping four times with the Mwatasi congregation in 2007. We will continue to work with them to provide worship opportunities in the Mwatasi area.



2007 Service, Benevolence & Outreach

This is a most exciting report that outlines the variety and scope of mission work that Trinity engages in and is typically not highlighted in our financial statements or budgets in this manner.

The Ambassadors in Mission team, along with others, assembled this very rough approximation of the dollars, hours and donations that were given in love and service during the year 2007. These efforts have no doubt had a tremendous impact on our community and throughout the world.

On behalf of the leadership of Trinity, a huge thank you to everyone who gave of themselves in these wonderful acts of stewardship. Often, these ministries go underreported, but we want to take notice and celebrate them.

Also, for all the accountant types out there, this is not part of our financial reports, and it is an approximation. In many cases, values and dollars are estimates, generally conservative ones. In other cases, some information that appears on this report may also have been reported in the budget or elsewhere.

Thank you to all who gave – it was an all-congregation effort, from children on up. The blessings abound!

Pastor Dan Poffenberger

Outreach Opportunity	Hours	Dollars	Donated Items
Angel Tree	225	\$1,340	12 volunteers, 1500 miles driven, 150 children served, \$5,500 in gifts
Bethlehem Lutheran - Midway - Furniture collection distribution & street ministry to the homeless	130		20 volunteers, 4 van loads of clothing & furniture
Helping Hands - Trinity facility - Mission work - Two Rivers Comm. Land Trust - Car Care - Global Health Ministry	639 106 276 100 124	\$750 \$176	153 volunteers, 47 jobs 24 volunteers, 8 jobs painting 24 volunteers 29 volunteers crate building & container packing
Eco-Ministry - Clean up & buckthorn removal	200		30 volunteers
Feed My Starving Children	103		22 volunteers went on 3 New Member trips
JESUS Delivers	1280	\$5,441	175 volunteers, 50+ collection bin loads of sleeping bags, blankets, backpacks, clothing, gasoline
Adult Missions - Border - Yucatan - Guatemala - Katrina - Tanzania	1440 7512 576 3864 8244	\$20,430 \$18,790 \$4,460 \$3,505 \$89,995	Many adults volunteered their time in international service
Kid's Winter Wear	75		Numerous items, gloves, jackets, hats
Loaves and Fishes	400	\$2,146	45 volunteers, 900 meals
Military Family Support League	20	\$1,080	Veterans' Day Worship Service
Other Tanzanian Projects - Jacobson Hospital (Orthopaedics Unit) - Student scholarships - Clergy Gifts - Bible Study - St. Paul Partners - Tanzania Student Support - Ilula Hospital - Tumaini Agricultural Project - Crossing Bridges	50	\$12,794 \$7,254 \$90 \$1,000 \$632 \$1,000 \$1,000 \$10,000	
Valley Outreach Food Shelf	489	\$2,007	4063 lbs.
Valley Outreach Capital Campaign		\$1,060	

Outreach Opportunity	Hours	Dollars	Donated Items
Senior High			
- Mexico Mission	20,712	\$120,160	20 bags of household goods, tools, 50 Bibles, roofed 16 homes
- Day Camp counselors	350		
- Youth Worship	600		
- Senior High Leadership Team	400		
- Junior high events	400		
Junior High			
- Confirmation (guides)	1908		group time & service project time
- Confirmation (students)	1200		worship help & service projects (include: Giving House, JESUS Delivers, leaf raking, Lutefisk dinner helpers, ushers)
- Summer Stretch	150		
Children's Ministries			
- Giving House	60	\$1400	65 gifts for families
- Quilts for Mexico Mission	200	\$500	40 made
Direct Trinity Benevolence			
- ELCA Synod		\$24,000	
- Lutheran Social Services		\$2,000	
- Mark Jacobson		\$3,000	
- Seminary scholarships		\$7,310	
- Iringa Diocese		\$1,000	
- St. Croix Chaplaincy		\$1,000	
- St. Croix Valley Emergency Fund		\$3,000	
- Miscellaneous Synod Benevolence		\$1,200	
- Pastor Juan Mauricio		\$900	
Memorials to various charitable organizations		\$445	
Lutefisk Dinner:	Approx. 2000		
- Widow's Mite		\$1,000	
- Last Sunday Supper		\$500	
- Tubman Family Alliance		\$1,000	
- ELCA Hunger Appeal		\$1,000	
- Loaves & Fishes		\$1,000	
- JESUS Delivers (St. Paul Evangelistic Association)		\$1,000	
- Valley Outreach		\$1,000	
- Feed My Starving Children		\$500	
- Bethlehem Lutheran - Midway		\$688	
- Car Care-St. Croix Valley Christians in Action		\$500	
Women's Circles Small Groups		\$3,120	

Over 53,730 hours + \$365,766 = Priceless!

Please note these numbers are approximate, and we have put this list together as representative of Trinity's response to needs outside our walls!

2007-2008 Trinity Congregational Council

Jolene Patterson, 651-433-2356
President
Terry Arnesen, 651-439-2515
Vice President
Sheila-Marie Untiedt, 651/-439-6476
Secretary
KC Kidder, 651-439-2178
Treasurer
Dale Evensen, 651-275-0994
John Weyrauch, 651-439-3108
Council reports are posted on Trinity's
website at www.trinitylc.org, or copies
can be picked up in the Church Office.

2007 Statistics

Total number of baptized members at the beginning of 2007	4164
Number of members received through baptism	47
Number of members received through confirmation	16
Number of members received through transfer, affirmation of faith or reinstatement of membership	74
Number of members received as associate members	1
Number of members removed through death	13
Number of members removed through transfer, request, etc.	130
Total adjusted number of baptized members at the end of 2007	4158
Non-member funeral services conducted by Trinity pastors	8
Weddings conducted by Trinity pastors	12

Average Worship Attendance

5 p.m.	96
9 a.m.	350
Drive-In	344
10:30 a.m.	254
Easter	
7:30 a.m.	228
9 a.m.	862
10:30 a.m.	774
11:45 a.m.	229
TOTAL	2093
Christmas Eve	
1:30 p.m.	454
3 p.m.	491
4:30 p.m.	634
9 p.m.	350
10:30 p.m.	295
TOTAL	2224

Trinity Staff

Core Leadership Team

Pastor T.J. Anderson Director of Family Ministries
Bob Eiselt.....Parish Administrator
Pastor Siri Erickson..... Pastor of Lifelong Learning
Julie Jolivette Director of Mutual Care & Small Group Ministries
Phil Kadidlo Director of Worship and Music Ministries
Pastor Dan Poffenberger Lead Pastor
Mary Steffl Director of Communications
Tom Thiets Director of Missions
Jody Thone Director of On-Purpose Ministries

Staff Members

Kristine Anderson.....Mom's Day Off Staff
Karen Bosmoe Wedding Coordinator
Susan Carr Food Services Manager
Carol Carver..... Worship Director, Temple Choir Director
Rebecca Christiansen Early Childhood Ministries Director
Karen Elowson Family Ministries Administrative Support
Sonia Esch Cherub Choir Director
Karen Gieseke Middle Childhood Ministries Director
Dave Goulette Organist
Thomas Hosek..... Lead Custodian
Jeremy Johnson..... Young Adult Ministries Intern
Susan Johnson.....Mom's Day Off Staff
Zanny Johnson..... Worship Leader
Cindy Jones..... Youth Discipleship Director
Cory Jones Youth Programs Director
Craig Koehnen 5 p.m. & Drive-In Worship Leader
Harrison Koehnen Audio/Video Technician
Pastor Kris Linner Pastor of Care Ministries
Larry Loyer Hospitality Ministries
Jake McBroom..... Audio/Visual Director
Anne Mikesch..... Custodian
Rick Minichillo Custodian
Ellen Neseth..... Accounting Coordinator
Victoria Parnell "The River" Worship Leader
Gretchen Perkins Elementary Choirs & Elementary Bell Choir Director
Mary Peters.....Children's Ministry Coordinator
Karen Remington.....Receptionist, Weddings
Diane Rollie Receptionist/Adult Ministries Coordinator
Amy Shalles Publications Specialist
Lindsay Stolen Family Ministries Intern
Jill Sundberg Mom's Day Off
Eric Trosdahl..... Financial Secretary
Jennifer Tuma.....Mom's Day Off Staff
Denise Voran Youth Administrative Support
Angela Watt.....Mom's Day Off Staff
Jeannie Wendorf..... Office Admin. Support
Laura Wood-Nerison Mom's Day Off Staff

2007 Pastoral Acts by Trinity Pastors

BAPTISMS

Russell William Rousu
 Charles Dugan Kern
 Derek Lee Hernandez
 Emily Marie Lee
 Jace Preston Coy
 Brynne Anne Klancher
 Anders Ryan Riesselman
 Ella Grace Knudsen
 John Mason Heinemeyer
 Ginny Laine Pederson
 Charlotte Victoria Husten
 Augustus Lee Kraft
 Samuel Ukura Schilling
 Shale Steffen Hornig
 Emma Marie Nordeen
 Johnathan Richard Abbott
 Brody Alan Funk
 Frank William Lombardi
 Talon Michael Lane
 Jonathan Estuardo Lande
 Benjamin Clayton Stoffer
 Lucy Kathryn Noah
 Addison Kay Teply
 Carson Bo Granberg
 Alexander Kenneth Bush
 Jaxon Charles Joseph Benson
 Isabel Ella Bates
 Ella Naomi Amborn
 Emma Louise Olson
 Maxwell Nolan Bobrowski
 Dawson Glen Clymer
 Addison Elizabeth Charpentier
 Donovan Brian Weiss
 Mackenzie Ann Slachta
 Linnea May Topper
 Ave Ruth Pierre
 Alaina Brooke Lenarz
 Savannah Staceyann Hagen
 Aliana Danielle Nordquist
 * Lori Jean Babcock
 Jada Jo Bero
 Porter Michael Johnson
 Maxwell Andrew Rucker
 Madylyn Elizabeth Richert
 Auden Jeanne Pederson
 Regan Tyler Christensen
 Dominic Michael Gresafe

TOTAL = 47

* ADULTS = 1

CHILDREN = 46

CONFIRMED

Ryan James Amos
 Hannah Marie Anderson
 Kallyn Elizabeth Appleseth
Sarah Ann Asmus
 Jennifer Ann Bolstorff
 James Robert Brownson
Emily Mae Cabel
 Samuel Richard Carolan
 Amanda Elizabeth Cartony
 Christopher Michael Casto
 Tyler Jeffrey Chilson
 Alec Mitchell Clark
 Elizabeth Anne Curley
 Carolyn Marie Dahlquist
 Ana Marie Damsgard
 Amanda Lynn Dixon
Emily Marie Donovan
 Chelsea Joyce Dornfeld
 Patrick Daniel Dziuk
 Alexandra Lela Ehret
Matthew Marek Fredericks
 Laura Leigh Frost
 David Alexander Galloway
 Connor Michael Geary
Kevin Logan Gedatus
 Benjamin Mark Gieseke
Ryan Timothy Grady
Muriel Claire Perrin Grubb
Alexandra Ann Hanson
 Taylor Lauren Hein
 Magdalena Katharina Hoelmer
 Allyson Christine Hoffbeck
Emma Merritt Ide
 Margaret Mae Keefer
 Kaitlyn Jo Kidder
 Cody James Kroening
 Anthony John Kufner
 Shannon Alyssa Lahr
 Kirsten Louise Lande
 Samuel Theron Lynott
 Maria Gabriella Malik
 Andrew Douglas Nepp
Aric Ian Okerman
 Andrew James Otto
 Ian Mikel Pommer
 David Arthur Quarberg
 Jeffrey Leighton Randall
Kristine Marie Reier
Derek Lee Rogers
 Cassandra Elizabeth Salmen
Tim Steiger Scallon
 Anthony Alan Siewert
 Johanna Rennie Smith
Mark Robert Steinke
Stephen Thomas Steinke
 Krista Tholen Swedenberg
Adam David Swenson
 Erik Andrew Thompson
 Holly Nicolle Wendling
 Emily Caroline Wohlfeil
 Ciera Rose Wood

TOTAL = 61

New Members through
 confirmation: 16

WEDDINGS

Kathryn Flodin &
 Steven Aronson
 Lynn Winter &
 Jesse Madison
 Michelle Lundequam &
 Joshua Stillwell
 Monique Hess &
 Todd Weiss
 Jennifer Keller &
 Ryan Sherley
 Krista Johnson &
 Nathan Gossai
 Trisha Martin &
 Mark Pohl
 *Sara Odell &
 Marc-Andre LaLande
 Kathy McIntyre &
 Paul Rydel
 Kristin Glas &
 Robert Shanley
 Julie Lutters &
 Dale Hauptert
 Jill Schumann &
 Chris Oswald
 Leah Felsenthal &
 Daniel Reiter
 Nora Scribner &
 Joe Zywiec
 Erin Pearson &
 Doug McClean
 Jina Terry &
 Russell Galvan
 Jill Nelson &
 Brandon Kuykendall
 Jennifer Wattnem &
 Mark Duronio

TOTAL = 17

FUNERALS

Arthur Morris Pederson
David L. Ahlgren
 Julie Ann Hawkinson
 Ingeborg Bieging
 Kenneth Judell Nordgren
Joseph Kohout
 Angela A. Brama-Kengis
David Edward Swanson
 John Woltman
 Donna J. Lassen
 Donald M. Roettger
 Catherine G. White
 Richard F. Cool Sr.
 Robert Andrew Anderson
 Richard Dennison Hooley
 Irene L. Wardrum
Douglas W. Amos
 Lawrence (Larry) J. Kraft
Sonia Caudle
 Evelyn Victoria Annette Herdine
 Roger B. Seim
 Inez J. Schrader
Marguerite E. Olson
Edith Jeanette Johnson
Donald Eugene Madsen
Joyce Gail Arones
Ruth Ann Hawkinson
Kenneth Edward Hinz Sr.
Clara Ida Theresia Nelson

TOTAL = 29





2007 Financial Reports

Welcome to the Financial Section of this year's Annual Report! As Trinity Lutheran Church embraces God's vision for the future as stated in our mission statement, we recognize the need for strong financial support for our ministries and also for faithful stewardship of the resources placed in our care.

We are grateful that God has blessed us, and we pray that our ministries continue to reflect our commitment to reach out within our congregation, to our local community and to the world beyond.

Part One of the Financial Section includes a letter from the CPA firm retained to review our financial data and their reports on Trinity's financial activity for the past two years. Part Two of the Financial Section includes a recap of the past year's budget and a breakdown of actual income and expense. A Balance Sheet summary is also included. A detailed listing of ministry goals for the upcoming year and the proposed budgets to support our ministries concludes the report.



foley kalseim
and company, ltd.
certified public accountants
and consultants

Robert M. Foley, CPA/PFS
Janci J. Kalasin, CPA
Katherine T. Rolf, CPA
Dustin J. Moeller, CPA

Mary K. Balder, CPA
Jason L. Fredrickson, CPA
Martha A. Kalmon, CPA

ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

Church Council
Trinity Lutheran Church
Stillwater, Minnesota

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial position – modified cash basis of Trinity Lutheran Church as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets and cash flows – all on the modified cash basis, for the years then ended in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the management of Trinity Lutheran Church.

A review consists principally of inquiries of Church personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an examination in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, with the exception of the matter described in the following paragraph, we are not aware of any material modification that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting, as described in Note B.

As disclosed in Note B to the financial statements, the capitalization of property and the recording of depreciation over the estimated useful lives of the assets is a generally accepted modification of the cash basis of accounting. Management has informed us, however, that the Church has stated property and equipment in the accompanying financial statements at the November 1, 1995 replacement cost, which is not a generally accepted modification of the modified cash basis of accounting. Capital additions after that date are being recorded at cost or fair market value if received as donations. The effect of these accounting departures from the modified cash basis of accounting on the financial statements has not been determined.

Foley Kalseim Company, Ltd.

January 23, 2008

1751 tower drive west, suite 200 • stillwater, mn 55082
phone: 651-430-3635 • fax: 651-430-9326 • www.foleykalseim.com

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Statements of Financial Position - Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2007 and 2006

ASSETS	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Cash	\$ 153,635	\$ 134,249
Investments	863,361	654,256
Prepaid expenses	2,644	-
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>5,473,708</u>	<u>5,443,754</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 6,493,568</u>	<u>\$ 6,432,253</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Payroll liabilities	\$ 7,000	\$ 4,569
Program deposits	1,120	-
Security deposits	1,171	725
Funds held for others	63,237	37,635
Mwatasi water project	8,943	93,687
Refundable advances	11,121	92,966
Line of credit	206,000	117,000
Long-term debt	<u>2,184,212</u>	<u>1,940,457</u>
Total liabilities	<u>2,490,814</u>	<u>2,186,055</u>
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	3,059,700	3,191,179
Temporarily restricted	79,673	220,159
Permanently restricted	<u>833,361</u>	<u>654,256</u>
Total net assets	<u>4,002,754</u>	<u>4,255,594</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 6,493,568</u>	<u>\$ 6,432,253</u>

See accountants's review report and notes to financial statements.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

	2007			Total
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	
REVENUE AND SUPPORT:				
Contributions	\$ 1,549,874	\$ 227,578	\$ -	\$ 1,777,452
Rental income - church property	16,096	-	-	16,096
Rental income - post office building	20,563	-	-	20,563
Rental income - Croix Center	271,200	-	-	271,200
Rental income - 3rd Street	14,400	-	-	14,400
Fees and other payments for program activities	219,145	-	-	219,145
Interest income	724	34,208	-	34,932
Miscellaneous income	1,918	-	-	1,918
Unrealized gain on investment	-	-	9,125	9,125
Net assets released from restrictions upon expiration of proposed restrictions	402,272	(402,272)	-	-
Total revenue and support	<u>2,496,192</u>	<u>(140,486)</u>	<u>9,125</u>	<u>2,364,831</u>
EXPENSES				
Pastoral salaries and benefits	349,504	-	-	349,504
Staff salaries and benefits	1,033,130	-	-	1,033,130
General operating expenses	339,707	-	-	339,707
Building maintenance expense	39,984	-	-	39,984
Interest expenses and other borrowing costs	131,649	-	-	131,649
Missions and benevolence	223,074	-	-	223,074
Family ministries	156,612	-	-	156,612
Discipleship ministries	14,687	-	-	14,687
Equipping ministries	5,300	-	-	5,300
Worship and music	68,545	-	-	68,545
Mutual care/small groups	13,522	-	-	13,522
Depreciation expense	211,957	-	-	211,957
Total expenses	<u>2,627,671</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,627,671</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(131,479)	(140,486)	9,125	(262,840)
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>3,191,179</u>	<u>220,159</u>	<u>854,256</u>	<u>4,265,594</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 3,059,700</u>	<u>\$ 79,673</u>	<u>\$ 863,381</u>	<u>\$ 4,002,754</u>

	2006			Total
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	
REVENUE AND SUPPORT:				
Contributions	\$ 1,520,220	\$ 324,085	\$ -	\$ 1,844,305
Rental income - church property	17,251	-	-	17,251
Rental income - post office building	20,583	-	-	20,583
Rental income - Croix Center	271,200	-	-	271,200
Rental income - 3rd Street	12,750	-	-	12,750
Fees and other payments for program activities	123,484	-	-	123,484
Interest income	996	85,477	-	36,475
Miscellaneous income	978	-	-	978
Unrealized gain on investment	-	-	63,737	63,737
Net assets released from restrictions upon expiration of proposed restrictions	369,368	(369,368)	-	-
Total revenue and support	<u>2,336,782</u>	<u>(9,806)</u>	<u>63,737</u>	<u>2,390,723</u>
EXPENSES:				
Pastoral salaries and benefits	281,108	-	-	281,108
Staff salaries and benefits	993,895	-	-	993,895
General operating expense	327,694	-	-	327,694
Building maintenance expense	42,346	-	-	42,346
Interest expenses and other borrowing costs	125,938	-	-	125,938
Missions and benevolence	219,124	-	-	219,124
Family ministries	190,023	-	-	190,023
Discipleship ministries	12,141	-	-	12,141
Equipping ministries	6,026	-	-	6,026
Worship and music	46,262	-	-	46,262
Mutual care/small groups	13,190	-	-	13,190
Depreciation expense	269,150	-	-	269,150
Total expenses	<u>2,528,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,528,900</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(192,108)	(9,806)	63,737	(138,177)
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>3,363,267</u>	<u>229,985</u>	<u>790,519</u>	<u>4,403,771</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 3,191,179</u>	<u>\$ 220,159</u>	<u>\$ 854,256</u>	<u>\$ 4,265,594</u>

See accountants's review report and notes to financial statements.

CPA Report

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Statements of Cash Flows - Modified Cash Basis
For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Change in net assets	\$ (270,677)	\$ (138,177)
Adjustments to reconcile the change in net assets to net cash flows from operating activities:		
Depreciation	211,957	289,150
Unrealized gain on investments	(9,125)	(63,737)
Prepaid expenses	(2,844)	-
Payroll liabilities	2,421	(587)
Program deposits	1,120	-
Security deposits	446	75
Funds held for others	33,379	12,626
Mwalasi water project	(26,944)	9,936
Refundable advances	(21,245)	12,904
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>(81,452)</u>	<u>102,320</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of property and equipment	<u>(241,911)</u>	<u>(110,396)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities	<u>(241,911)</u>	<u>(110,396)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from issuance of debt	389,000	117,000
Payment of debt	<u>(46,245)</u>	<u>(42,418)</u>
Net cash flows from financing activities	<u>342,755</u>	<u>74,582</u>
Net change in cash	19,392	66,506
Cash at beginning of year	<u>134,243</u>	<u>67,737</u>
Cash at end of year	<u>\$ 153,635</u>	<u>\$ 134,243</u>
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Interest paid	\$ 151,649	\$ 125,938

See accountants's review report and notes to financial statements.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

NOTE A - ORGANIZATION

Trinity Lutheran Church (the Church) located in Stillwater, Minnesota was organized in 1871. The Church is a constituent of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The Church is a nonprofit organization and is dedicated to engaging as many persons as will share its confession of faith in the fellowship of worship, learning, witness, service and support, so that the Word of God may become effective in their lives together and individually. This includes relationships with other Christian fellowships and with social institutions at home and throughout the world. The Church is supported primarily through contributions of the congregation.

NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting: The financial statements have been prepared on the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. Under the modified cash basis, revenues are generally recorded when cash is received and expenses are generally recorded when cash is disbursed. Modifications to the cash basis of accounting include recording:

1. Property and equipment purchased as assets
2. Accumulated depreciation and depreciation expense on property and equipment
3. Liabilities arising from the receipt of borrowed cash
4. Employee FICA and withholding taxes not deposited with the IRS
5. Permanently restricted net assets at fair value

The modified cash basis of accounting does not give effect to account receivables, pledge receivables, inventories, accounts payable, and accrued expenses.

Financial Statement Presentation: Revenues and support are classified on the presence or absence of donor restrictions and reported in the following net asset categories:

- Unrestricted net assets represent the portion of net assets that are not subject to donor restrictions.
- Temporarily restricted net assets arise from contributions that are restricted by donors for specific purposes or time periods.
- Permanently restricted net assets arise from contributions that are permanently restricted by donors for specific purposes.

Concentration of Credit Risk: The Church places its cash with one banking institution. At times, the amount on deposit exceeds the insured limit of the institution and exposes the Church to a collection risk. Additionally, the investments in the Endowment Fund Pooled Trust of the ELCA are not insured and consequently expose the Church to a collection risk. The Church has not experienced any losses.

Property and Equipment: The Post Office property purchased in May 1991 is valued at the Church's purchase price. All other property and equipment on hand at November 1, 1995 is valued at the replacement cost on that date. Additions to fixed assets after November 1, 1995 are valued at actual cost if purchased, or fair market value at date of donation for donated property. Valuation of fixed assets at current replacement cost is not in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

Depreciation has been computed on the straight-line basis, beginning with the 1997 financial statements.

Cash Equivalents: For the purposes of statement of cash flows, the Church considers all short-term debt securities purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Notes to Financial Statements
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Contributions: Contributions received are recorded as unrestricted, temporarily restricted, or permanently restricted support depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions. When a restriction expires or is fulfilled, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets. Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets if the restrictions expire in the fiscal year in which the contributions are recognized.

Investments: Investments are reported at fair value. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are included in the statement of activities.

Income Taxes: The Church is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is also exempt from state income taxes.

Reclassifications: Certain reclassifications have been made to the 2006 financial statements to conform with the 2007 presentation.

Use of Estimates: Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and the reported revenues and expenses. Actual results could vary from the estimates that were used.

NOTE C - INVESTMENTS

Cost and fair value of investments held for permanently restricted purposes consist of the following:

	2007		2006	
	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value
Endowment Fund Pooled Trust - ELCA	\$898,553	\$ 863,381	\$ 898,553	\$ 854,256

NOTE D - PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consists of the following:

	2007	2006	Depreciation Lives
Land	\$ 806,438	\$ 806,438	-
Church Building	4,040,000	4,040,000	40 years
Croix Center	330,000	330,000	10 years
3 rd Street Rental Building	227,889	227,889	40 years
Post Office Building	127,276	127,276	20 years
Remodeling	895,307	724,620	5-25 years
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	988,473	838,506	2-25 years
Computers	97,254	84,650	5 years
Music equipment	513,539	513,539	5-25 years
Vehicles	26,672	26,672	5 years
Work in progress	553	-	-
	<u>8,061,401</u>	<u>7,819,480</u>	
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(2,587,693)</u>	<u>(2,375,736)</u>	
Total	<u>\$ 5,473,708</u>	<u>\$ 5,443,754</u>	

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

NOTE E - LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt consists of the following:

	2007	2006
Mortgage payable in the initial amount of \$2,024,947, bearing interest at 8%, payable in monthly installments of \$12,230 (principal and interest). Matures June 1, 2022. Secured by Church building and land.	\$ 1,829,356	\$ 1,866,180
Note payable in the initial amount of \$100,000 bearing interest at 6.25% payable in monthly installments of \$1,073 (principal and interest). Matures December 10, 2013. Unsecured.	66,135	75,277
Note payable in the initial amount of \$300,000 bearing interest at 6.19% payable in monthly installments of \$1,971 (principal and interest). Matures August 1, 2032. Secured by Church building and land.	298,721	-
	\$ 2,194,212	\$ 1,940,457

Future maturities of long-term debt are as follows:

2008	\$	52,960
2009		56,178
2010		59,575
2011		63,176
2012		66,996
Thereafter		1,895,327
		\$ 2,194,212

NOTE F - LINES OF CREDIT

The Church has a line of credit in the amount of \$100,000 bearing interest at the prime rate, which was 7.25% at December 31, 2007. Interest is payable monthly. Principal is due on demand. The line of credit is unsecured. The Church owed \$81,000 and \$42,000 on the line of credit as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

The Church has a second line of credit in the amount of \$200,000, bearing interest at the prime rate, which was 7.25% at December 31, 2007. Interest is payable monthly. Principal is due on June 2, 2008. The line of credit is unsecured. The Church owed \$125,000 and \$75,000 on the line of credit as of December 31, 2007 and 2006 respectively.

NOTE G - PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

During 1997, an Endowment Fund Committee was started by the Church Council. The committee has established policies and procedures for the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is invested in the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust. Earnings on the Endowment Fund are temporarily restricted for one year after they are earned. The Endowment Fund Committee waived this requirement for \$18,872 and \$19,087 in 2007 and 2006, respectively to finance building improvements.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Notes to Financial Statements
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

NOTE H - PENSION PLANS

The Church makes monthly contributions to two pension plans on behalf of benefits eligible employees. Benefits eligible employees are those employees who work 32 hours or more per week. During 2007, pension contributions for 17 benefits eligible positions were funded at a cost of \$174,445. In 2006, 16 positions were covered at a cost of \$101,230.

NOTE I - TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Temporarily restricted net assets are for the following purposes:

	2007	2006
Endowment Fund	\$ 40,343	\$ 28,601
Seminary Scholarship Fund	-	75,080
Designated Facility Fund	-	43,965
Memorials to be Designated	15,712	32,029
Working Capital Reserve	-	15,000
Organ Fund	2,372	4,485
Worship Technology	7,777	3,217
Hymnal Fund	1,469	9,405
Church Furniture and Fixtures	12,000	7,367
	\$ 79,873	\$ 220,159

NOTE J - LEASES

Post Office – The Church owns and leases to the United States of America, the building and land for the current Stillwater Post Office. The lease may be renewed at the option of the Government for six five-year terms. The lease is currently in its fourth five-year period and the Government has exercised its option for the fifth five-year period. The lease will expire June 30, 2012 if the Government does not exercise the sixth five-year option. The Government has the option to buy the land and building at the fair market value of the property at any time within the lease term. Rent collected under this lease was \$20,563 in 2007 and \$20,563 in 2006.

Croix Center – Beginning on January 1, 2008 the Church entered into a new lease with St. Croix Preparatory Academy for use of the Croix Center. The lease terminates December 31, 2008 and requires monthly rent payments of \$21,000. St. Croix Preparatory Academy has the option to extend the lease for six months to June 30, 2009 during which time the required monthly rent payments will be \$21,500. Rent collected under the previous lease with St. Croix Preparatory Academy for the Croix Center was \$271,200 in 2007 and \$271,200 in 2006.

The Church has leases for other space on a month-to-month basis.

Future minimum lease payments to be received on operating leases are as follows:

2008	\$ 272,583
2009	20,563
2010	20,563
2011	20,563
2012	10,282
	\$ 344,534
Total	

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

NOTE K - LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Church leases computers and copiers. Rental expenses under these leases totaled \$47,488 in 2007 and \$48,074 in 2006. These leases expire from February 2008 through May 2011.

The minimum future lease commitments are payable as follows:

2008	\$ 48,354
2009	32,684
2010	23,478
2011	9,553
Total	\$ 114,069

The church also leases a storage unit. Rental expense under this lease totaled \$2,400 and \$2,207 for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. This lease is on a month-to-month basis with rent of \$200 due monthly.

NOTE L - PROGRAM SERVICES AND SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES

Program services and supporting activities are summarized below:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Program services	\$ 2,102,137	\$ 2,023,120
Management and general	<u>525,534</u>	<u>505,780</u>
	<u>\$ 2,627,671</u>	<u>\$ 2,528,900</u>



trinity

Love. Transform. Serve.

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Financial Report Overview

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stillwater, Minnesota

The following pages include various reports related to the financial operations of Trinity Lutheran Church for the years 2006 and 2007.

Ministry Area Goals for 2008 and the Proposed Budget for 2008 are also shown.

A “Balance Sheet Summary” on page 40 compares assets, liabilities and equity for the years ending 12/31/06 and 12/31/07. It presents more detail than the Balance Sheet included on page 29 of the CPA report.

The “Year-End Summary of Income and Expense,” on page 41, shows budgeted and actual amounts for income and expenses for the year 2007. The total change in net assets matches the amount shown as unrestricted change in net assets on page 30 of the CPA report.

The “2008 Ministry Budget” on page 46 reflects the dollar value of the “2008 Ministry Goals” shown on pages 42-45. The budgets are prepared by our staff and reviewed by the Finance Committee and Congregational Council.

The operations portion of the budget now recognizes contributions to mission trips and certain fees collected during the year related to ministry activities as income (prior to 2007, most of these income dollars were subtracted from ministry costs, showing only a net cost amount).

This revision has the effect of stating both our true income as well as the true cost value of our programs.

The Trinity Congregational Council has approved the proposed budget to be submitted to the congregation for adoption at the Annual Meeting.

Balance Sheet Summary

ASSETS	12/31/07	12/31/06
Current Assets		
Cash Accounts		
Checking & Money Market Accounts - General	\$ 57,604	\$ 104,111
Savings Account - Facility Loan Reserves	55,689	530
Savings Account - Current Year Endowment	40,342	29,602
Investment Account - Trinity Endowment (ELCA Fund)	863,381	854,256
Total Current Assets	\$1,019,860	\$ 988,499
Fixed Assets		
Land	\$ 806,438	\$ 806,438
Buildings	5,620,472	5,449,685
Work in Progress	533	0
Furniture & Fixtures	1,505,938	1,536,695
Passenger Van	26,672	26,672
Accumulated Depreciation	(2,486,364)	(2,375,736)
Total Fixed Assets	5,473,708	5,443,754
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 6,493,568	\$ 6,432,253
LIABILITIES	12/31/07	12/31/06
Current Liabilities		
General Funds Held For Future Disbursement		
Designated Gift Funds	\$ 23,618	\$ 143,529
Memorial Funds (Not Yet Designated)	15,712	47,026
Temporary Funds:		
Misc donations for non-Trinity ministries	70,180	71,523
Program funds carried forward from prior year	11,121	32,366
Payables (including payroll liabilities)	9,302	5,314
Operations Cash Flow Line of Credit (US Bank)	206,000	117,000
Endowment Earnings Available For Current Year	40,342	29,602
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 376,275	\$ 446,360
Long Term Liabilities		
Unsecured Note (Croix Ctr Impr) - Thrivent Financial	66,135	75,277
Mortgage – Thrivent Financial	2,128,077	1,865,180
Total Long Term Liabilities	2,194,212	1,940,457
EQUITY		
Investments – Endowment Fund	863,381	854,256
Net Assets	3,191,179	3,383,289
Current Year Change in Net Assets	(131,478)	(192,109)
Total Equity	3,923,081	4,045,436
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 6,493,568	\$ 6,432,253

Year-End Summary of Income and Expense – 2007

INCOME	2007 Actual	% of Budget	2007 Budget
Contributions-General & Designated	\$ 1,549,874	96%	\$ 1,620,000
Released from Restricted Funds	373,843	135%	277,000
Released from Endowment Fund	28,428	95%	30,000
Facility Loan Proceeds	170,210	170%	100,000
Rental Income	322,259	100%	322,000
Fees and Payments	219,145	108%	202,200
Misc. Income	2,641	88%	3,000
Total Income	\$ 2,666,400	104%	\$ 2,554,200

EXPENSES

OPERATING EXPENSES

All Personnel Expenses	\$ 1,382,635	100%	\$ 1,379,600
Finance, Facilities, Operations	494,573	105%	472,530
Communications	16,764	92%	18,150
Missions & Benevolence	223,074	179%	124,500
Children/Youth/Family	196,612	88%	223,900
Discipleship Ministries	14,687	100%	14,700
Equipping Ministries	5,300	39%	13,500
Mutual Care/Older Adult Ministries	13,522	94%	14,450
Worship & Music	68,545	94%	72,730
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 2,415,712	103%	\$ 2,334,060

CAPITAL EXPENSES

Debt Reduction-Mortgage Payments	\$ 46,245	78%	59,060
Facilities/Furnishings Improvements	241,911	151%	160,000
Total Capital Expenditures	288,156	132%	219,060
Total Operating & Capital Expenses	2,703,868	106%	2,553,120
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ (37,468)		\$ 1,080

Adjustment to tie to CPA Report: (Page 30)

Total Income (from above)	\$ 2,666,400
less: facility loan proceeds	(170,210)
Total Operating Expenses (from above)	2,415,712
Depreciation Expense Annual allocation	211,957
Total Expenses	2,627,669
Change in Net Assets	\$ (131,479)

2008 Ministry Goals

Love everyone

Transform lives through Jesus

Serve in the world

Ministry Area: Lead Pastor

Mission: To articulate the mission of Trinity. To lead the Core Leadership Team in embodying love, transform and serve; and to partner with the Congregational Council to serve the congregation as it lives out its mission in our community and the world.

1. Continue to articulate the vision of Trinity – Love, Transform and Serve
2. Work with the Council and complete the installation of a “Policy Governance” model of council work.
3. Increase the stewardship of the congregation
4. Work with the Trinity for Tomorrow Team to develop a long-range facilities development plan
5. Support the work of the Core Leadership Team and nurture its sense of community and mutual work.
6. Continue to grow as the main preacher, proclaimer, and communicator of the congregation.

Ministry Area: Worship and Music Ministry

Mission: “Gathering to worship God is a unique activity of the Church. It is an outward expression of our love for God and a reflection of the Creator’s love for us. Our love for one another is likewise evident as we gather as a community to worship. In this fellowship we are transformed by a sense of belonging to all of humanity, and by an awareness that God knows each of us by name. As we respond to the word of the Spirit in our hearts, we re-orient our lives to serve those with whom we worship, and see beyond our immediate community to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the whole world.”

Worship Gatherings

- Support Jeremy Johnson (Luther Seminary intern) and Children, Youth and Family Ministries’ launch of new Young Adult worship service in 2008

AV Ministries

- Increase staffing and equipping for AV support in all ministry areas (Jake McBroom will direct AV ministry)
- Plan and complete audio and lighting improvements to the Worship Center that will benefit all worship, concert and fine arts events held at Trinity
- Prioritize the advanced use of video and electronic media to convey the message of Jesus, in worship and on website

Fine Arts

- Maintain popular concert/art show series to increase community presence
- Reschedule congregational musical for mid-winter 2009

Equipping

- Work regularly with Children’s Ministry to develop interest in kids for worshiping and leading worship, and offer music leadership resources for Sunday/Wednesday children’s programming
- Jake McBroom will assemble and train AV technical team (small group) to provide AV support for events not currently staffed by Jake or other AV staff

Administrative

- Develop a five-year plan for new directions in worship at Trinity

Ministry Area: Children and Family Ministry (prenatal – Grade 6)

Mission: To be a partner with families in their home and the world in supporting opportunities for a growing, passionate relationship with Jesus Christ.

Ministry Assets Focus:

- Bible use
- Family Worship
- Equipping families on their faith journey

Family Equipping Tools & Resources

1. Team with the communications department to create and maintain effective communication tools
2. Pursue an emphasis on hospitality with families and children to engage the entire family in ministry opportunities
3. Support family worship opportunities and partnerships
4. Design ministry opportunities which provide continuity across all age groups
5. Expand focus on family Bible use

Goals:

1. Launch new Early Childhood faith-based learning ministry (formerly Mom’s Day Off)
2. Continue development of church to home connections that reinforce learning and application of faith to everyday life
3. Continue partnership with On Purpose Ministries to support the Living your Strengths program for students in grades 5-6 and their families
4. Continue partnership with Small Group Ministries in developing a small group leadership and coaching support system
5. Continue partnership with Adult Ministries in offering opportunities for adult learning in the areas of self care, parenting, and other requested interests
6. Provide both large group and individual opportunities of service for children to share with their circle of influence
7. Further develop the inclusive relationship with the Hearts of the Home Mom’s Ministry
8. Develop children and family camp experiences

Ministry Area: Grades 7-12

Mission: To be a partner with families in their home and the world in supporting opportunities for a growing, passionate relationship with Jesus Christ.

Ministry Assets Focus:

- 1) Equipping Parents and Families
- 2) Worship
- 3) Bible

Goals:

1. Staff
 - Work toward doing ministry through teams
2. Confirmation
 - Improve leader training
 - Grow Confirmation camp attendance to 90%
 - Become more family-focused
 - Determine a plan for ninth-grade students' future involvement
 - Plan for recruitment for incoming seventh-grade class
3. Junior High
 - Create program through the year that balances both "come and see" type events with "come and grow" events
 - Develop a ninth-grade Mission Experience during June, 2008
4. High School
 - Mexico Mission
 - a. Grow the mission trip experience to include a more personal engagement with the people and culture
 - b. Equip students to understand larger poverty issues.
 - c. Equip students with a theology about serving in Christ's name
 - d. Equip students with a life-long perspective of serving and loving in Christ's name and power
 - Grow senior high small groups
5. Recruit more leaders
6. Help small groups from mission trips stay connected
7. Carry over more confirmation groups into high school
 - Expand The River worship service
 - Recruit student leadership team
 - Grow worship teams in number and depth
 - Have a consistent group of students
4. Carry over at least 50 percent of the ninth-grade students into next year's River worship attendance
5. Missional Youth Ministry
 - Create student teams to reach youth with the Gospel
6. Increase outreach to all area public schools
7. Be creative in developing Family-Centered Ministry
8. Improve internship program

Ministry Area: Lifelong Learning

Mission: To provide learning experiences for adults that stimulate their minds, engage their hearts, deepen their faith, and equip them for leadership and service in the world.

Lifelong Learning

1. Grow a community of learners
 - a. Finish and evaluate "Meeting Jesus through the Gospels" Trinity-wide reading program/bulletin inserts
 - b. Continue planning and teaching classes for adults on Sunday mornings and Tuesday evenings
 - c. Continue to develop Tuesday evening as a time for adult learning with multiple class options
 - d. Coordinate additional Lifelong Learning events and classes taught by other Trinity members, pastors and staff
 - e. Support adult learning opportunities at the Sunday 9 a.m. hour
 - f. Continue growing the number and scope of adult learning opportunities, including guest teachers from seminaries and other churches
 - g. Partner with On Purpose Ministries, Small Group Ministries, Worship Ministries, and Family Ministries to identify key teaching and learning themes and areas of emphasis
 - h. Continue to expand online learning options
 - i. Encourage learning through the sale of books that link to learning themes
2. Communicate learning opportunities: Oversee the development of the Winter 2008 and Fall 2008 Adult Ministries brochures
3. Develop leaders: Continue investing in Lifelong Learning Teams

Ministry with Women

1. Manage and nurture our partnership with Hearts of the Home Moms
2. Coach the Gal's Getaway Team
3. Encourage connections among Business and Professional Women through lunches, small groups, and other intentional gatherings
4. Continue building relationships in one-on-one and small group settings with women at Trinity and with female pastors and leaders in the St. Croix Valley

Retreats

1. Work with Adult Ministries Team to plan and lead retreats for adults
2. Recruit other Trinity people to help lead and plan retreats for adults

2008 Ministry Goals (cont.)

Ministry Area: Mutual Care and Small Group Ministry

Mission: Trinity's Mutual Care and Small Group Ministry is about helping people walk with others through life transitions as well as everyday life. Everyone is encouraged to be a part of a small group. Small group leaders are equipped, coached, and supported to help create atmospheres in their groups where all people are loved, where Jesus has an opportunity to transform lives, and where people are sent into the world to serve.

Goals:

1. Equip and support leaders
2. Equip and support coaches
3. Nudge people into small groups
4. Intentionally develop systems to help inform and encourage groups to mutually care for the members in their group. Work with Kris Linner to recruit, equip, and support teams to help administer mutual care in areas not addressed through small groups, specifically a team of people to make hospital calls
5. Intentionally develop systems to evaluate and measure the health and effectiveness of small groups associated with Trinity and use this information to determine training and support plans as well as to make adjustments
6. Restructure Trinity's new member process with the New Member Leadership Team

Ministry Area: Missions

Developing Missions Ministry

- 1) Develop new mission/outreach ministry possibilities for all interest and comfort levels
- 2) Better publicize and support existing ministries through use of multiple media venues
- 3) Promote the idea that mission is possible wherever you find yourself called

5 Year / + Goals and Outlook

- 1) Mission /Outreach projects operating at all age levels.
- 2) Cross-generational teams working together
- 3) Members rotating through a cycle of learning in all of Trinity's ministry areas multiple times as they travel in their faith journey with each ministry area acting together to provide faith growing experiences
 - a) Worship experiences
 - b) Bible study or other faith-building educational opportunity
 - c) On-Purpose education (self reflection / exploration of one's call to service)
 - d) Mission/Outreach experience
 - e) Small group participation and learning
 - f) Mentoring of youth or peers through new programs

Ministry Area: Administration

Mission: Administration's role is to create and administer policies and procedures, including Trinity's staff benefit programs and practices, that foster a caring atmosphere for our congregation, its leaders and staff, transforming the generous financial resources invested in Trinity into ministry opportunities and to serve the ministries of Trinity in a supportive role.

Financial:

- Improve availability and delivery of timely, meaningful financial information and reports to CEO
- Re-structure financial staffing to provide for a more reliable reporting structure and efficient daytime handling of receipts
- Analyze Trinity's fiscal year
- Review/create financial investment policy
- Automate Accounts Payable system through use of EFT/bill payment, electronic receipt of invoices, paperless filing

Personnel:

- Complete work on development of standard job description format
- Staff evaluation process
- Salary administration basis and procedure
- Policy development & staff (paid & unpaid) training
 - CPR/First Aid/AED/First Responder Training
 - Emergency preparedness/fire/tornado/evacuation procedures
 - Harassment/discrimination policy awareness, prevention and response training.
- Development of periodic Administrative staff meeting or information exchange
 - Introduction/review of procedures
 - Periodic Training – systems or equipment
 - Update/question and answer
 - Ministry program updates

Planned Capital Projects/Expenditures:

- Complete 4th Street sign/other outdoor signage
- Office area renovation
- Technology upgrade to Luther Hall
- Fire suppression system – kitchen hoods – mandatory fire dept. inspection
- Door hold opens/closures - mandatory fire dept. inspection
- Door locks - security

Ministry Area: Equipping Ministry

Mission: To create and nurture a community On Purpose

- Love ourselves and others by honoring and claiming our unique design while respecting all of God's designs
- Transform our lives by discovering our call and intentionally aligning our lives with our purpose
- Serve the world with our strengths and as we are called

Goals:

Integrate call content across all ministry areas

- Offer the congregation multiple-learning options on Call Design and produce a guided imagery CD on Call
- Expand the number of small groups working with the *Called to Service* materials
- Work with ninth-grade confirmation to integrate Call content into their program
- Living Your Strengths congregational offerings are led by On Purpose Team members
- Deliver the MBTI
 - Offer expanded analysis MBTI in 2008
 - Offer couples workshop on MBTI and relationships
- Introduce the Enneagram
 - Attend training for certification on the Enneagram in 2008 and 2009
 - Introduce the Enneagram to the On-Purpose Learning and Living Team
 - Link the Enneagram Institute to our web page
- Develop Small Group experiences
 - Create and co-lead "Young Women On Purpose"
 - Develop Dick Dunnigan and Tim Gillis as leaders of Living Your Strengths 2: Marcus Buckingham
 - Coach & develop Amy Karlstad as facilitator of *Walk on Water*
 - Pilot *The Artist's Way* with an external facilitator
 - Lead On-Purpose Learning and Living Team
- Link Practices
 - Introduce The Tree of Contemplation model and practices for listening to God and aligning actions to purpose
 - Integrate into retreat experiences

Leadership Development

- Offer four adult retreats in 2008 that introduce or expand the concepts of strengths and call as a key part of spiritual leadership
- Develop a Trinity Leadership Competency Model with input from the Core Leadership Team and Council
- Develop Purpose Partner training content with modules on coaching, spiritual guidance principles, On Purpose curriculum and the emerging competency model

Ministry Area: Communications

Mission: To communicate Trinity's mission and identity through all forms of media.

1. Begin printing *Trinity Today* cover in color, and move to a once-per-month newsletter beginning in Jan. 2008
 - This will increase readership with the use of color, and each issue being all new content. Moving to a monthly publication will increase the size of the newsletter, probably to the bulk and feel of a magazine, give it a bright vibrant, eye-catching cover, and make people more drawn to it and more inclined to keep it around.
2. Supplement all ministries with brochures, posters, postcards, booklets, invitations, etc. directed at more specific audiences to make up for exposure that may be lost in a less-frequent *Trinity Today*. We are already doing this to a great extent, with positive results.
3. Implement a minor redesign of Trinity website homepage to allow for a way to have more vital, up-to-date, frequently-sought links on home page.
4. Work with volunteer consultant to do an audit of all communication and marketing materials within each ministry area.
5. Develop a plan to reach new residents from the list we receive from Welcome Wagon each month.
6. Develop panels behind Information Center with photos/art of the heart of Trinity.

2008 Ministry Budget

INCOME:

Proposed 2008 Budget Amounts

Contributions – General & Designated	\$ 1,740,000
Release from Restricted Funds	302,000
Release from Endowment Fund	71,650
Facility Loan Proceeds	34,000
Rental Income	302,650
Fees and Payments	295,265
Misc. Income	5,100
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	\$ 2,750,665

EXPENSES:

OPERATING EXPENSES:

All Personnel Expenses	\$ 1,554,571
Finance, Facility, Operations	510,355
Communications Ministries	17,400
Missions & Benevolence Ministries	189,600
Children, Youth & Family Ministries	262,384
Lifelong Learning Ministries	27,500
On-Purpose Ministries	13,500
Mutual Care Ministries	17,060
Worship & Music Ministries	55,125
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 2,647,495

CAPITAL EXPENSES:

Debt Reduction-Mortgage Payments	51,780
Facility/Furnishings Improvements	51,000

TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

\$ 102,780

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 2,750,275

Projected Surplus

\$ 390

Report of the Nominating Committee

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

February 17, 2008

Judd Orff, chair

Dave Borg

Tom Collins

Judy Laabs-Foss

The Nominating Committee consulted with Council leadership, the Pastor and current staff members in regard to three openings for Congregational Council. Based on these consultations, the committee recommends the following:

We present Terry Arnesen for a second three-year term; Eric Jackson as a candidate for a three-year term, and Todd King for a one-year term.

In addition, the committee recommends the following names to be elected to the 2008 Nominating Committee:

Judy Laabs Foss

Tom Collins

John Weyrauch

Dale Evensen

Council Election Procedures:

1. Nominees, whether by the committee or from the floor, are expected to be in attendance at the Annual Meeting.
2. Each nominee will be given up to one minute to introduce him/herself, tell why he/she would like to serve on the Council, and give other information including areas of interest, in order to help the voters choose Council members.
3. Nominees, whether by the committee or from the floor, will be expected to have completed the requested information forms ahead of time or, in the case of nominees from the floor, at the meeting.
4. Endorsement speeches or questions of the candidates will not be a part of the Annual Meeting agenda.
5. After all nominated candidates have been identified, a sample ballot will be projected onto a large screen at the front of the sanctuary. The names of all candidates, whether nominated by the committee or from the floor, will be listed alphabetically.
6. A motion to approve the ballot will be made, seconded, and approved.
7. Ballots will be handed out by authorized tellers. The ballots will include pre-printed names of the candidates placed in nomination by the Nominating Committee and blank lines available to write-in names of the candidates nominated from the floor, using the names projected onto the screen as a reference.
8. Voting will be by written ballot.
9. To be elected, a candidate must receive a majority vote of the number of valid ballots cast.
10. In the event a run-off election is required, all candidates not receiving a majority of the votes will be entered on a second and succeeding (if required) ballots. Voting will continue until all council vacancies are filled by candidates elected by a majority (as described in #9).

Nominees for Congregational Council

Terry Arnesen

9750 Lansing Ave N Stillwater

Occupation: Veterinarian

Years at Trinity: 17

Describe your qualifications: Small business owner. I am also on several professional oversight committees. I also have experience in youth ministries.

Involvement at Trinity: Regular attendance at worship. Small group leader for WNW and SNL for two years. Assisting small group leader with field trips. Council member for two years.

State briefly why you would like to serve on the Congregational Council: I believe in being involved in the things I feel passionate about, and I am passionate about Trinity. My vision for TLC is one of involvement of the members, of active faith of the members and a vibrant youth program.



Eric H. Jackson

422 West Pine Street
Stillwater

Occupation: Entrepreneur, Consultant

Years at Trinity: 2.5

Involvement at Trinity: Member of Trinity for Tomorrow team; member of On Purpose team; Friday morning mens' group; participate in several book studies, workshops, etc.,

State briefly why you would like to serve on the Congregational Council: Despite our short tenure at Trinity, it has quickly become our family's church home. The staff and volunteer leadership at Trinity are a talented group of people with whom I look forward to serving. The members are generous and caring. Trinity has many opportunities to serve the Valley, the region, and the world and I hope to do my little part in that service.

Todd King

10551 Penfield Ave. Circle N.
Stillwater

Occupation: I am currently in "practice retirement." In September of 2007, I sold the stock in my company, Green Mill Restaurants, to my business partner of 17 years.

Years at Trinity: 3

Involvement at Trinity: In addition to attending worship at Trinity, our family has been involved in volunteering as ushers, communion assistants and with many of the outside volunteer opportunities the church has offered. My son, Drew, spent the summer as an intern, helped with the "River" youth service and assisted with music and video projects. I was a small group leader with Mission Mexico for two years.

State briefly why you would like to serve on the Congregational Council: I am honored to be considered for this position. I think it is important and appropriate for me to give something back to the church that has given so much to my family and me. When I was involved with Mission Mexico, we used a Bible verse from 1 Peter (4:10) as a rallying point: "Serve one another with whatever gifts you have received." I believe that God has given me certain talents and gifts which I want to share. I think I have some financial, marketing and relationship-building skills from which Trinity may benefit.



Sample Ballot

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Stillwater, Minnesota
February 17, 2008
NOMINEES FOR CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

BALLOT

VOTE FOR (3)

- Terry Arnesen (3-year term)

- Eric Jackson (3-year term)

- Todd King (1-year term)

Nominated from the floor

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

SAMPLE



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