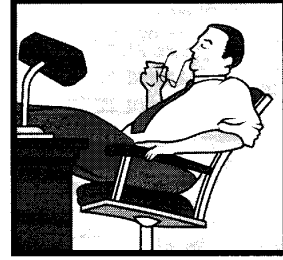


From the Desk of the President: How Blessed We Are

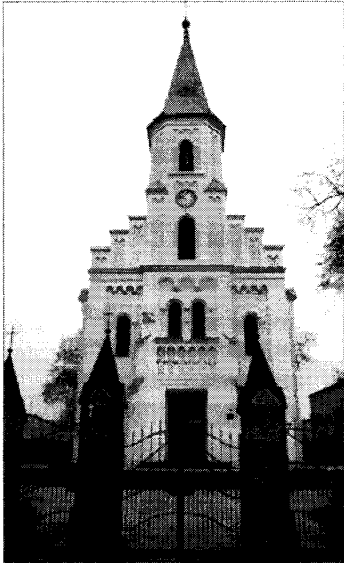
I find myself in a pensive mood as I sit here on Holy Saturday to write this. I guess part of this is reflecting on it being the day before Easter.



For some reason this mood caused me to relook the stories I have of my Manke ancestors. My ancestors came from a region about 100 miles east of Warsaw, Poland along the Vistula River. This was a very volatile section of Eastern Europe in the beginning of the 20th Century. Although my relatives always considered themselves to be German the birth and death records I have seen were written in German, Polish or Russian over the years.

There was little separation of church and state during the Polish and Russian ownership of this region. The pastors and priests were forced to be civil employees. As such, vital records from this period exist in the churches and not town halls because the clergy had to keep the records. The punishment was severe if the records were found to be incorrect.

A number of my relatives, their families and friends immigrated to Bristol, CT at the turn of the century. They formed a new congregation called The German-Evangelical-Lutheran Immanuel Congregation of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession in Bristol, Connecticut based on their remembrance of the Evangelical Lutheran Church they left in Lipno, Poland. The Immanuel Lutheran Church still exists today.



There were other pressures on The Lipno Church through the years. Pastor Erich Buse, who served the congregation from 1923 to 1941 was conscripted into the German Army to serve as a Russian translator. When captured by the Russians he was put into a prison camp where he died in 1945. The Russian occupiers of Poland forced the German residents into East Germany and the church was given to a Polish youth organization. As the years passed the Catholic Church in Lipno eventually returned the church to the few Germans who lived in Lipno.

As I look forward to Easter I can't help but reflect on how the early church formed to spread the Good News. The story of the church's growth is full of adversity and persecution. It continues today in many countries.

The Lipno Church has been restored and is thriving (see the picture). I remind myself every Sunday how blessed we are at Trinity Lutheran Church.

He is Risen. He is Risen Indeed.

Elders Corner

If you live in Connecticut, you might watch News Channel 8. Their slogan is, "Who's got your back?" News Channel 8 exposes all kinds of injustice against people with the hope of achieving a resolution, and most of the time they achieve a favorable result for the victims. So, who's got your back? The answer is quite easy. Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd."

When Pharaoh's chariots were thundering toward Israel, who was trapped at the edge of the Red Sea, Who had Israel's back? The "Angel of the Lord", who had been leading Israel, suddenly went behind Israel coming between Pharaoh's chariots and Israel. Who was this "Angel of the Lord?" The "Angel of the Lord" was a special term reserved for the pre-incarnate Jesus in the Old Testament. So Jesus, himself, led Israel out of Egypt, and cut off Pharaoh's army at the Red Sea. Jesus certainly had the backs of the Israelites covered.

As Jesus led the Israelites out of Egypt and came between Israel and Pharaoh's army, Jesus takes care of us too. Just as he was the Good shepherd of the Israelites, he is our Good shepherd too. We are like sheep, and sometimes we do stupid things or wander away from God. When this happens, Jesus, our Good Shepherd, will come after us himself to bring us back into the flock. Jesus will also go to the unbelievers, the other sheep, to bring them into the flock. Even more importantly, Jesus defeated Satan for us. He laid down his life for his sheep. "There is no greater love than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."(John 15:13) If we hear and follow the voice of our Good Shepherd, we will be guided to the path of eternal life.

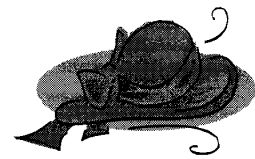
So in this season of Easter remember that Jesus is our Good Shepherd. He gave up his own life so that we could have eternal life with him in Heaven. Jesus defeated Satan for us. If we call on the name of Jesus in a time of temptation, he will not leave us desolate. All we need to do is follow the voice of our Good Shepherd. "Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the father except through him." (John 14:6) So, Jesus has our backs. He is our Good Shepherd!

(article submitted by Rich Hank)

Thank You

***I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THE WONDERFUL ANNIVERSARY SURPRISE ON
PALM SUNDAY. I HAVE BEEN BLESSED WITH TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF JOY AND
LEARNING. - JOHN BENNETT***

TLC LADIES CIRCLE NEWS Dixie Busch



Hello, my friends -- Pack away those winter coats: I do believe that "spring has sprung". Which reminds me: Spring has sprung. The grass has riz. I wonder where the birdies is? Okay -- so poetry is not my specialty.

It's time to recap our activities and see if we can entice some more ladies to join our circle each month.

- After such a successful Valentine's Day Dinner in February, we were especially gratified with the turnout we had for the St. Patrick's Day Dinner. The menu included Corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, Irish Soda Bread, Irish Oatmeal Bread, Pistachio cake and gingerbread. And with quiet Irish music playing in the background, we all felt a little Irish for just one night.
- At our March meeting, we made plans for Lenten pre-service 'soup and sandwiches' for Wednesdays at 6 pm. We finalized our activities for April.
- In April we stuffed eggs for the Easter egg hunt that was held before church on Easter Sunday. The Easter breakfast was super, per usual. The men did a terrific job making omelets and serving us hot food. Thank you, Guys!
- Coming up in May is the annual Ladies' Tea. It's being held on May 7th in lieu of our regular meeting. All of the ladies of the congregation are cordially invited to attend. The Fellowship Room will be set up like an intimate tea room. Come and enjoy the fellowship, the teas and the finger foods.
- In June comes the strawberries! Because of the Golf Tournament on the first Saturday, our meeting will be on June 11th from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. Try to envision all the great desserts made with strawberries!!

Just a short reminder: Donations for our August School Supply program and our Christmas stockings program for Westerly Nursing Home and Golden Years would be appreciated. A list of what is needed for each of the programs will be posted in the narthex. Thank you for your help.

That's all for this month. I hope you all had a wonderful Easter and that the change in weather finds you smiling and getting out in the fresh air.

Yours in Christ,
Dixie

~~~~~  
**Recipe Corner**

Here is the recipe for the white chicken chili that I made for one of the Lenten suppers. It seemed to go over well, so I wanted to share the recipe. Although it is not difficult to make, it is a little time consuming. You could probably save time by using canned beans instead of the dried beans. (I quadrupled the recipe to have enough for everyone.) Enjoy!

½ lb. dried great northern beans  
 ¾ cup diced onion  
 ¼ tbsp olive oil  
 ¼ tbsp ground oregano  
 ½ tsp ground cumin  
 ¾ tsp seasoned salt

¾ tsp cayenne pepper  
 1 1/8 quart chicken broth  
 ½ clove minced garlic (or more)  
 2 boneless chicken breast halves  
 ½ of 4 oz can chopped green chili peppers (Mexican section of store)

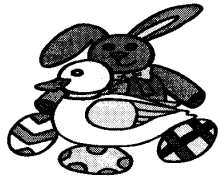


Pour beans in pan and cover with water. Bring to boil and boil for 2 minutes. Remove from heat and soak for one hour. Drain and rinse.

In 2 qt. dutch oven, sauté olive oil and onion until onions are tender. Combine all seasonings and add half to dutch oven mixture. Sauté together. Add beans, garlic, chili peppers and broth. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 2 hours. Cut chicken into cubes and coat with remaining spices. Put chicken pieces on a flat pan and bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes until juices run clear. Add chicken to dutch oven and cook for several hours until thickens.

- Recipe submitted by Patti Mazikas

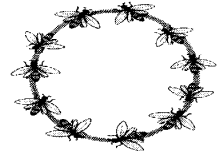
*[If you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share, please contact Patti!]*



After that long cold and snowy winter, spring has sprung! I believe even the children had enough of snow this year! We began this month celebrating Easter with bunnies, chicks, eggs and talking about new life this time of year brings. Pastor Mazikas shared the story of Easter through his Bible stories focusing on the happy ending that Jesus lives! We have talked about how the earth wakes up after the long cold winter and the children planted peas and bean seeds to start their gardens.

During the month of May, the classroom will be "buzzing" as our curriculum will focus on insects and once again we will be watching tiny caterpillars hatch into butterflies. The second half of the month we will be preparing for summer with a sea life theme. The Pre K class will be visiting the Frosty Drew Nature Center to learn about local sea life.

Speaking of buzzing, the theme for this year's closing program for our friends going on to kindergarten in the fall is "Be A 'Beeliever'". This is a take-off of last summer's Vacation Bible School theme. The program will be Friday, May 27th at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend. Preschool will be extended an extra week this year to make up for lost time due to snow days.



In addition to our closing program we will be ending the year with our annual school-wide family picnic and entertainer. Family playground days will also be scheduled.

Our DCYF application is in with all inspections complete!!! We expect to receive our license over the summer. On behalf of the staff, children and families, a *very sincere thank you* to all our supportive members of Trinity who worked so long and hard to achieve this goal!

As you know by now, we are offering a full and half day preschool program in September. We are very excited and confident that this new structure will only enhance what our preschool already has to offer. If you know anyone looking for a preschool, please have them contact the preschool.

Have a fun filled summer and we'll see everyone in July for Vacation Bible School!

God Bless,  
*Lori Calcagni*

**YOUTH NEWS...**

The "Gathering Youth" will again be selling Scrip cards as their main fundraiser this time for the San Antonio 2013 gathering. Following worship service, greet a new youth every week at the table in the parlor. If you wish for your card's credit to go to a different church group, just let them know and JoLynn will make it happen.

We appreciate all your support of our youth,  
*Holly*

**TRINITY'S CHURCH PANTRY**

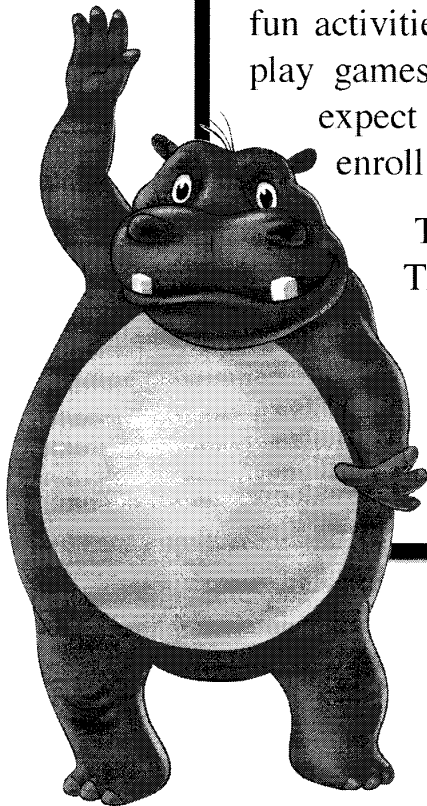
As always, we *thank everyone* for their support of our food pantry ministries, whether by donating food or cash or by participating in our Coffee Hours after worship. Because of the economy, at this time we are seeing more and more families coming to us for help. Even though the first Sunday of the month is designated as "Food Pantry Sunday" food items may be brought in at any time and placed in the baskets in the narthex. Also, if you can help with Coffee Hour, please sign up in the narthex. At this time our shelves are in desperate need of replenishing.

*Thank you all for sharing.*

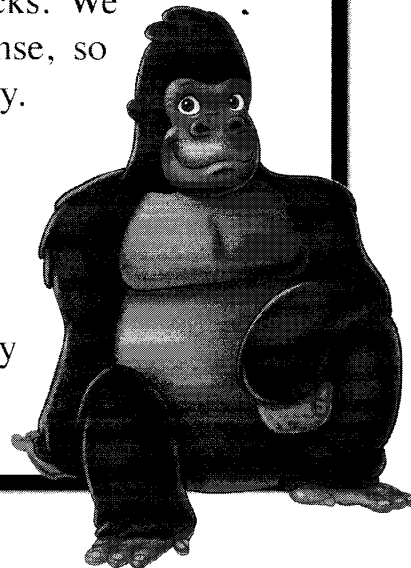


**BIG JUNGLE ADVENTURE  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
JULY 18-JULY 22  
9:00AM -11:30AM**

It's a jungle in here at Big Jungle Adventure. Kids take a faith adventure with Jesus as they learn how He protects and guides them throughout their lives. Registration is open for ages preschool thru 12 who will attend VBS from July 18 to July 22 from 9:00am to 11:30. Kids meet friends, explore Bible stories, do fun activities, sing great songs, make crafts, play games, and eat snacks. We expect a great response, so enroll your child early.



To register call  
Trinity Lutheran  
Church 377-  
4340 or  
Ginny MacCoy  
364-8033.





## We Need Your Help volunteer registration

Our *Big Jungle Adventure* Vacation Bible School needs great volunteers, and we're hoping you will help. Won't you help children know and grow in belief in Jesus by serving as  
teacher, teacher assistant, snack coordinator, craft coordinator

Our VBS will be held July 18 - July 22, 2011 9:00am - 11: 30am

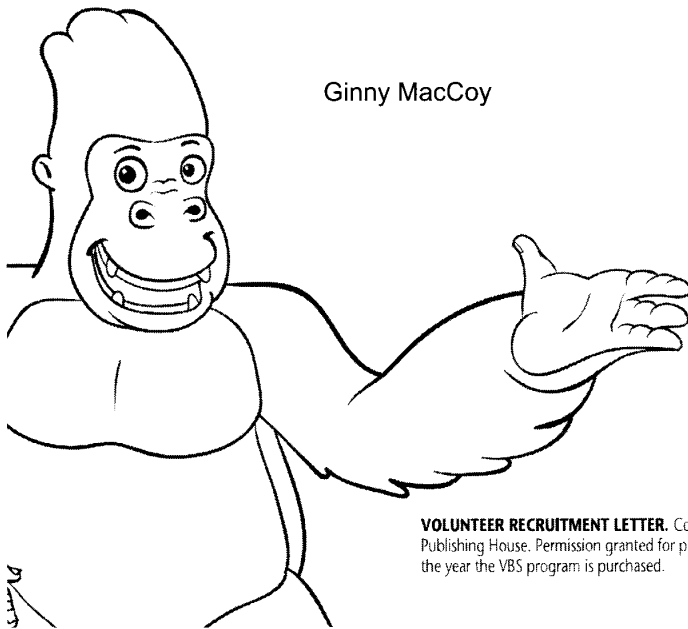
We provide all the resources you need, as well as *Big Jungle Adventure* volunteer training on  
Saturday, June 11 @ 9:30 am

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at  
364-8033.

Thanks for taking time to pray and consider this request. I'll contact you soon to talk with you about this opportunity.

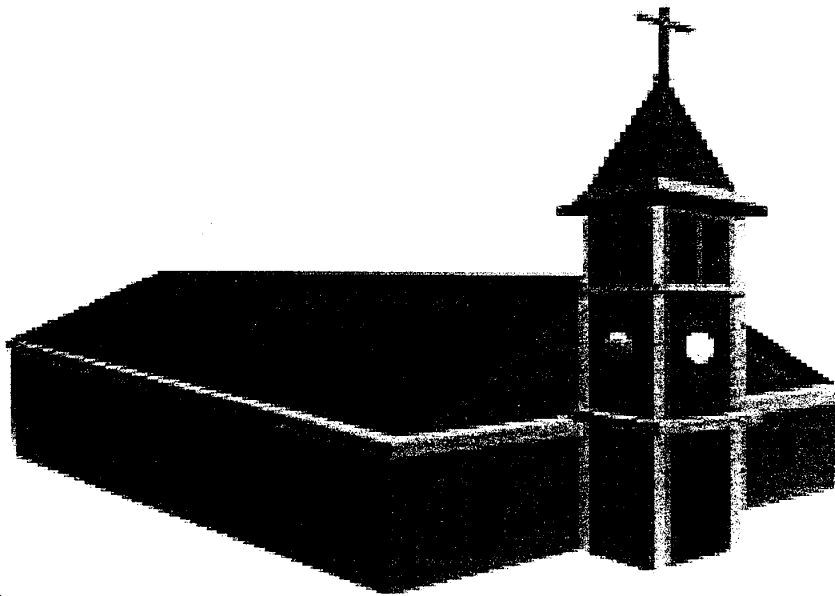
God's blessings,

Ginny MacCoy



**VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT LETTER.** Copyright © 2011 Concordia Publishing House. Permission granted for purchaser to make copies for the year the VBS program is purchased.

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



**JUNE 4, 2011**

**7:30 AM CHECK IN  
8:00 AM SHOTGUN START**

**WOOD RIVER GOLF CLUB  
HOPKINTON, RI**

**\$80 PER PERSON**

**TEAMS of FOUR / SCRAMBLE FORMAT**

**INCLUDES 18 HOLES OF GOLF, CART  
and CHICKEN PARMESAN DINNER**

**PRIZES FOR LONGEST DRIVE ( MEN'S and WOMEN'S ),  
CLOSEST TO THE PIN, and TEAM PLACEMENT**

**50 / 50 HOLE**

**MULLIGANS AVAILABLE**

**RAFFLE DURING LUNCH.**

**Fees due by May 21**

**Contact: Bill Capalbo  
Home: 401-377-2254  
Work: 860-433-2378**

**Ginny MacCoy  
Cell: 401- 364-8033**

