

TRINITY CHIMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH

OCTOBER 2010

Holy Calling

“...relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to God’s own purpose and grace.”

-from 2 Timothy 1:9

Do you realize that **you** have a holy calling?

Some times I think we misfocus and perceive faith as nothing more than personal beliefs. We at times comprehend our religious life, particularly our church involvement, as a kind of volunteerism. But faith is so much more than merely a personal belief. And responding to the call of faith is much more than simply volunteering. Rather, it is about answering a holy call and entering into this divine dance and becoming more fully the person you were created to be. It also draws one out of the purely personal and private and melds you into a community of others who become your family. And this community becomes an instrument for transformation and healing.

Recently, I attended an Installation Service of a Minister colleague as the pastor and teacher of a neighboring congregation. An Installation Worship Service is usually very inspiring and this one certainly turned out to be so. It begins with these words in our liturgy:

Beloved in the Lord, we have come to ordain a minister of Word and sacrament (or Elder or Deacon) in Christ’s holy church. Christ alone is the source of all Christian ministry, through the ages calling men and women to serve.

By the Holy Spirit all who believe and are baptized receive a ministry to witness to Jesus as Savior and Lord, and

to love and serve those with whom they live and work.

We are ambassadors for Christ, who reconciles and makes whole. We are the salt of the earth; we are the light of the world.

Following his resurrection and ascension, Christ gave gifts to the church. These gifts were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

We stand within a tradition where God calls and empowers deacons, elders, and ministers of Word and sacrament to enable the whole mission of the church.

I hope you didn’t miss the parts above about equipping the saints—that’s **you**—for the work of ministry. Sure, not everybody is called to be a pastor. And not everybody is called to be an elder or deacon. But everyone who has been baptized, who has received the gift of faith, and is called a follower of the Christ has been called to minister God’s love, grace, peace, and justice, to proclaim the good news in word and deed and to live into the coming reign of God. This my friends is a holy calling.

So I ask again my original question, do you realize that **you** have a holy calling? I hope you do. And here’s my follow-up, are you answering it?

Christ is calling you to follow him in ministry and mission in a broken world that is so loved by God. May we answer this holy call.

In Christ’s Grace & Peace,

Pastor Tom

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Our vision is
to help
people find
New Life in
Jesus Christ!

Congratulations to the Klaars

Congratulations to Fritz and Elisabeth Klaar who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by renewing their vows during the Sunday worship service on September 19. We wish them many more years of happiness together.

Couples and Friends Club

The Couples and Friends Club will meet on Oct. 16 @ 6pm @ the China Buffet in Glendale.

Building Repair Fund Drive

As of the end of September we have collected \$11,035 towards our goal of \$20,000 for the Building Repair Fund Drive. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations. Additional offering envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Lay Readers

We are in need of lay readers to assist us in the worship service. If you are interested, please speak with Liz Burzynski.

Paint Party

We would like to paint the fellowship hall and possibly the kitchen and save the church some money by doing it ourselves. If you like to paint and would be willing to help out or want more information, please speak with Bob Bambach or Bill Voges.

Church Office Renovations Complete

The church office renovations are complete! Below is the view from the main office looking through into Pastor's Study.



Verses from the German Evangelical Hymnbook #380

by Jochen Klepper

God's promises to His people according to the prophecies of Isaiah, specifically Isaiah 40:31 "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Ja, ich will euch tragen bis zum Alter hin
und ihr sollt einst sagen, dass ich gnaedig bin.
Ihr sollt nicht ergrauen, ohne dass ich's weiss;
Muesst dem Vater trauen, Kinder sein wie Greis.

Ist mein Wort gegeben, will ich es auch tun;
will euch milde heben; ihr duerft stille ruhen.
Denkt der fruerehen Jahre, wie auf eurem Pfad
euch das Wunderbare immer noch genaht.

Lasst nun euer Fragen, Hilfe ist genug.
Ja, ich will euch tragen, wie ich immer trug.

Stewardship and Finance Report

<u>Expenditures for Month of</u>	<u>August 2010</u>
Personnel Expenses	6,566.00
Utilities	1,219.00
Ministry/Supplies	24.00
Maintenance	688.00
Spiritual Life/Outreach/Advertising	0.00
Other Disbursements	24.00
Total Expenditures	8,521.00

<u>Receipts for Month of</u>	<u>August 2010</u>
Weekly Envelopes	4,627.00
Weekly Plate	257.00
Benevolences	395.00
Memorial Fund*	580.00
Special Offerings	180.00
Other Receipts	175.00
Total Receipts	6,214.00

*Includes donations to Memorial Fund and Building

Worship Schedule for October

October 3, 10, 17, 24—Regular Worship Service

at 10:00 a.m.

* Communion will be celebrated on October 3