

TRINITY CHIMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH

October 2012

Get in the Game

Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

-1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Maybe the recent NFL refs debacle is on my mind because generally I'm not one to usually go for the sports analogy; it's just not in my regular wheelhouse. But allow me one this time and we can blame the apostle Paul and his racing example above. You see, what Paul is essentially trying to express is that the life of discipleship—that is the life of following Christ in mission—takes discipline and focus. It has a goal and purpose. This is perhaps even all the more true for a group of disciples—the Church! It takes discipline and focus. We have a goal and a purpose. Now, whereas Paul's emphasis is placed on the individual, I'd like for us to think sportily on the more corporate and communal aspect of this example: the church as a team.

This isn't much of a leap. The scriptures are full of corporate and communal imagery, of various diverse parts working together for a common purpose. Paul goes in the same direction three chapters later with his body metaphor,

"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ, For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. As it is, there are many members, yet one body. (1 Corinthians 12:13-14, 20)"

The one body—the church—is running the same race, or let's say, playing the same game. This game is all about discipleship—following Christ in mission—and it requires discipline, focus, a goal and purpose. It's about teamwork!

This Fall at Trinity we are exploring the theme of what the game is all about: Following Christ in Mission. And in this Pastor's Page, I'd like us to consider both the goal of the game and your place on the team.

What do you think the goal is? For me, the goal is directly related to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. What all followers of Christ are called to do is love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength and our neighbors as ourselves. We are called to make (and thus be) disciple of all nations and teaching and learning all that Christ taught us. Fleshed out this looks like what Jesus proclaimed in Luke 4:18-19,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" and taught in Matthew 25:35-36, 40,

"for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me... Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

We are invited to follow Christ as he continues to bring the reign of God into our world.

But another question, and maybe it's more important, what is your place on the team? It is invaluable! Or put another way, you are God's MVP—most valuable player. For the team is not a team without you. Every person

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



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at Trinity has a role to play and nobody is a benchwarmer, for as we follow Christ in mission it truly does require a whole team working together to share God's love, to embody Christ's presence, and to respond to the Spirit's leadings.

Maybe sport isn't your thing. That's ok. Doesn't have to be. Perhaps even, church isn't your thing. You know what, that's ok too because even church isn't what it's all about. But what it is about is following Christ in mission! And it is my hope that you—that we—will grow more fully into that calling, into those steps of faith.

In Christ's Grace & Peace,

Pastor Tom

Back to School Sunday



According to the popular adage, it's a good idea for a student to bring an apple to make a good impression on her or his teacher. If every student really took this message to heart, then teachers would have an awful lot of apples to eat! But teachers and students of all ages can never have too many blessings. On September 16th, Pastor Tom offered a special blessing for students and teachers at the start of the Sunday School year as part of what we hope will become a new Trinity tradition: Back to School Sunday. During the Fellowship Hour after the service, a group of talented and enthusiastic young singers joined song leader Jenny Burger in performing a rousing rendition of a Sunday School medley. The musical interlude concluded with piano performances by Theodora Sirghi and Erik Huneke. Many thanks to Jenny Burger, Vicky Wtorkowski, James Wtorkowski, and Kathy Burger for their talents and logistical support and to the rest of the Trinity Church family for being such a wonderfully supportive audience.

Steuben Day Parade



A number of members of Trinity Reformed Church attended the annual Steuben Day Parade in Manhattan on Saturday September 15. The day began with a mass in German at St. Patrick's Cathedral and this year Monsignor Scharfenberger from St. Mathias Church in Ridgewood was the celebrant. Then it was on to the Parade with various colorful floats and marchers. The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all.

Gideons at Trinity

On Sunday September 23, Mr. T. R. Mulligan spoke at Trinity Reformed Church during the worship service. Mr. Mulligan, who is from Alabama, was in New York City working with our own Linda and Lenny Schiefer as part of the annual Gideon's Bible Blitz. He spoke of the Gideon's efforts to supply people around the world with Bibles and of his own experience working with convicts in Alabama. One gentleman in prison started reading one of the Gideon's Bibles and as a result gave his life to Jesus Christ and is now working with other inmates conducting Bible studies and speaking about the Lord.

At the conclusion of the service a free will offering was taken for the Gideons. The benevolent fund supplemented the offering and a total of \$ 400.00 was given to the Gideons.



Trust in the Lord

“Verlasset euch auf den Herrn ewiglich, den Gott der Herr ist ein Fels ewiglich. Jesaja 26, 4

Gottes alte, ewig neue reiche Gnad und Vattertreue,
Oft bewahrt und stets erprobt;
Sei auch heute voller Freude hoch gepriesen und gelobt!

Ueber dir mit gnaedigem Walten moege Gott auch ferner halten
Seine Haende fort und fort
Und dich leiten durch der Zeiten Sturm zum ewigen Friedensort.

“Trust ye in the Lord forever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength” Isaiah 26:4

Joyful praise be to God’s eternally rich grace and faithfulness
Proven to us over and over.
May God continue to hold His Hands over us and guide us through the storms of life to the place of eternal peace.

Stewardship and Finance Report

<u>Expenditures for Month of</u>	<u>Aug. 2012</u>
Personnel Expenses	\$ 4,997.00
Utilities	\$ 346.00
Ministry/Supplies	\$ 0.00
Maintenance	\$ 81.00
Spiritual Life/Outreach/Advertising	\$ 0.00
Other Disbursements *	\$ 1,894.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 7,318.00
<u>Receipts for Month of</u>	<u>Aug 2012</u>
Weekly Envelopes	\$ 4,060.00
Weekly Plate	\$ 268.00
Benevolences**	\$ 1353.00
Memorial Fund	\$ 0.00
Special Offerings	\$ 151.00
Other Receipts ***	\$ 3,988.00
Total Receipts	\$ 9,820.00

*VBS supplies paid

**donation for Soup Kitchen

***donation for hall usage and children ministry transfer

Happy Belated September Birthdays



Daniel Wtorkowski	1 st	Philipp Febel	5 th
Annalee Pfisterer	5 th	Hildegard Febel	10 th
Billy Mohr	10 th	Pastor Tom	17 th
Matthais Adamek	18 th	Hanna Hessenius	21 st
James Hoffman	23 rd	Thomas Goodman	24 th
Merilyn Amoroso	28 th	Sarah Murphy	28 th
Hubert Lehfellner	29 th		

Happy October Birthdays



Eleonora Firneis	3 rd	Karl Kurtz	3 rd
Peter Mark Trautmann	10 th	Billy Stimpfel	12 th
Marie Russell	14 th	Bill Voges	17 th
Margot Groezinger	18 th	Wilhelmina Meyer	26 th
Valerie Popp	29 th		

Prayer List

Please be mindful of the following members and friends of our congregation in your prayers:

Sister Kaethe; Janet Roth; Martha Bauer; Frederick Dalm; Groezinger Family; Philipp & Hildegard Febel; Laura Kurtz; Debra Meraglia; Eleanor Rizzo; Donna Dowd; Doris Church; Chloe Holland-Anderson; United Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood and Pastor Henry Fury; Gideon Abbas; Bill Albanese; Susan Gebhart; Betty Klaar; Maritza Garcia-Castro; Martin Seidl; Elisabeth Roth; Anibal Segarra; Dorothy Keeber; Helga Theocharides; Torres Family; Erika Huneke; Reformed Church in America, Queens Classis, and Regional Synod of New York; Dave & Char Alexander, RCA missionaries in Taiwan; Doug Leonard, RCA missionary in Oman; Peter Mark Trautmann, The Navigators at NYU; Leonard & Linda Schiefer, Gideons International; Pastor Tom and the Consistory.

Worship Schedule for October

October 7, 14, 21, 28 –Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

- Communion will be celebrated on October 7 and 21
- Prayer Meeting each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
- Junior Church each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

October 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 UPC Welcome Kitchen 4:00 pm NA Mtg. 7pm	5 UPC Welcome Kitchen 4:00 pm	6
7 Worship Service 10:00 am <i>Their Daily Bread Collection</i>	8 NA Mtg. 7pm	9 Consistory Meeting 7pm Al-Anon 7:30pm	10	11 NA Mtg. 7pm	12	13 NA Mtg. 7pm
14 Worship Service 10:00 am	15 NA Mtg. 7pm	16 Al-Anon 7:30pm	17 Frauenverein/ Ladies Aid 1:00 pm	18 NA Mtg. 7pm	19	20 Couples and Friends 6:00 pm Last day for newsletter submissions to Bill Voges NA Mtg. 7pm
21 Worship Service 10:00 am	22 NA Mtg. 7pm	23 Al-Anon 7:30pm	24	25 NA Mtg. 7pm	26	27 NA Mtg. 7pm
28 Worship Service 10:00 am	29 NA Mtg. 7pm	30 Al-Anon 7:30pm	31		Prayer Meeting Sundays 9am Junior Church Sundays 10am	