

WHAT'S THE BUZZ ?

ANNIVERSARY (2009-2011) & STEWARDSHIP (2009)

Updated - October 28, 2009

Important Trinity Themes

- **Faithful Journey** (Anne's call & ministry emphasis; Emergent Church; called to journey *together*; "I call you *friends*.")
- **All are welcome** (Andre's call & ministry emphasis; ELCIC & E/S: "In mission for others: Signs of Hope!"; called to journey *with others*; "For God so loved *the world*.")
- **Let us build a house** (Trinity's call; Ernie's urging to honour our anniversaries; New Hamburg context; called to celebrate our journey *with God & God's people*)



Important Anniversary & Stewardship Background Notes

- Theme: Let us build a house (action-oriented; present ministry in continuity with past and future)
- Logo: Tree & path/river (evocative of journey; contemporary; open ended)
- Hymn: All Are Welcome (Let us Build a House) Ev. Luth. Worship 641

Anniversary Bible Text

- Isaiah 56: 7b: My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people. (Jesus quoted this text!)

Anniversary Program Notes

- Note: Jacob Seyler: born Nov. 21, 1834; baptized Dec. 17, 1834. 2009 is 175th anniversary of congregation.
- Note: Spring & Summer, 1910, groundbreaking for new church. 2010 is 100th anniversary of construction.
- Note: March 26, 1911 (Lent 4): first worship in new church. 2011 is 100th anniversary of first worship
- Note: Need to take account of both Anchor & Sanctuary Communities.
- Note: Participation of ELW, Quilters, F/A, TYGers, young adults, Adult Learning, Faith in Film, choirs...
- Note: Possible invitations (✓ = confirmed) to bishops (Pryse ✓, Johnson ✓), pastors (Schult, Pfrimmer ✓, Wuerscher ✓, Harris ✓, Nicholds ✓), deaconess (Keffer), missionary (Endress).
- Note: Guest possibilities: preaching / adult learning / meal (pot-luck, BBQ, sandwiches, formal/informal...).
- Note: Letters solicited (✓ = received) from HRH, GG, PM ✓, Premier ✓, MP ✓, MPP ✓, regional chair, mayor, E/S bishop ✓ & ELCIC bishop ✓
- Note: Community interest in creating an anniversary cook book.
- Note: Community interest in looking for historical designation for Trinity property.
- Trinity Choir contemplating Anniversary CD for winter/spring 2010. Looking at options and copyright clearance.
- 2009: (November 22 / Reign of Christ): Bishop Pryse at anchor worship to kick-off celebrations. Worship is the main event. Informal brunch follows.
- 2009-2010: Adult Learning (Nov. - Jan.): Retired pastors Eric Reble, Bill Huras, Vern Cronmiller, Paul Bosch, Syd Hills, Harold Remus to offer witness from past through present into future. *Signs of hope!*
- 2010: Homecoming Year. Confirmed: David Pfrimmer: May 30; Christine (Selbstaedt) Wuerscher: (late July or early August); Judi Harris: Sept. 26; Nadine Nicholds: Nov. 21; Anne Keffer; TBA.
- 2010: On the Streets mission emphasis: Chamanculo (ELW & F/A); Toronto's Sanctuary (TYGers); Dominican Rep. (young adults); Faith in Film VI: On the Streets; Adult Learning & TT@MM: "On the Streets" guests (WFRC, Roof, H. of Friendship, affordable housing groups...)
- 2011: Bishop Johnson confirmed (likely for June 12) in connection with Luther Hostel.
- 2011: Time capsule. Restore old stuff to capsule and add new stuff.

Anniversary Album (Buck Roth *et al*)

- Title: Faithful Journey; Subtitle: Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church / 175th Anniversary Album / 1834-2009.
- Note: Photography completed with on-line registration. Many sittings were booked via the Web.
- Note: Work on album (front stuff) completed. Awaiting proof from Lifetouch.

Anniversary Book (Ernie Ritz *et al*)

- Title: Let Us Build a House; Sub-title: Trinity Lutheran Church: A Faithful Journey.
- Note: Front matter: Hymn 641, verse 1, Isaiah 56: 7b; bishops' greetings; more?
- Note: Last chapter; welcoming in our time; collaboration between Ernie Ritz & André Lavergne.
- Note: Time-line: Work begins summer, 2009 for possible publication in spring, 2010.

Stewardship Bible Text

- Mark 12: 28-31: One of the scribes came near and ... asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Stewardship Task

- To interpret what it means *for us* to love God with our whole being —to put God first (first fruits)— and to love our neighbour as ourselves. How do we participate in God's love? How do we live into / out of God's love?

Stewardship Goals. Invite people to participate in God's love by...

1. supporting our General Fund so that Trinity's ministry is secure.
2. supporting our Capital Fund so that our ministry has a secure & hospitable home. Want to be proactive!
3. joining PAR so that our income stream will be predictable and stable. Great success to date!
4. becoming involved in one or more of our many, many ministries.
5. saying "thank you" to people who provide ministry at Trinity Church. We have much to be thankful for!
6. considering the church in our estate planning. Where there's a will, there's...

Stewardship Program Notes

- Four phases: Planning, Communicate-Educate (June-October), Respond (Nov. 8-29), Follow-up
- Sept 13 - Oct 25: Adult Learning: Faithful Journey: My Life as God's Steward. Use stewardship Bible text as entry point for each session: *How do we participate in God's love?*
- Learning: André Lavergne / Anne Anderson: Faith; Rick Ritz / Peter Schmidt: First Fruits; Dean Clarke: Family; Christine Vanin: Firmament; Dave Buehlow: Finances; Rick Ritz / Peter Schmidt: Framework.
- Beginning October 11 people invited to sign-up at worship for cottage style meetings.
- October 26/27: Training sessions for presenters
- November 8 - 22: Cottage-style program. Response by November 29.
- Small cadre of presenters (c. 7-9) do 2-3 of 23 cottage-style meetings using presentation script.
- Eastern Synod Lutheran "Invitation to Thanksgiving" piece on wills, endowment & ELFEC very well received!
- 2009 Faithful Journey kit (posted at www.telc.ca): 1. Invitation to Bible Study (background); 2. Program introduction letter (background); 3. Invitation to Financial Commitment / Invitation to PAR (background); 4. Invitation to Ministry (response), 5. Financial Commitment / PAR (response); 6. Invitation to say Thanks! (response); 7. Invitation to Thanksgiving (long form of Eastern Synod Lutheran piece)
- Host homes confirmed: Wilson & Gwen Abraham, Ruth & Steve Aho, Lori & Dwane Arnott, Dorothea Butz, Audrey Cook, Kevin & Krista Durrer, Mike & Christine Gascon, Larry & Deb Gravill, Darrin & Judy Gueguen, Anne Hammer, Ken & Jean Hammer, Paul & Cindy Holst, Larry & Mary Ann Keller, Hans & Joyce Lass, Betty Murray, Jim & Gywin Murray, Rob & Carol Murray, Brad & Claire Otterbein, Dee & Kitch Radke, Rick & Janice Ritz, Pete & Angie Scheid, Ken & Judie Seltzer, Ted & Judy Seyler
- Presenters confirmed: Trevor Anderson, Don Jardin, Neil Klaassen, Scott Malloch, Rob Murray, Rick Ritz, Peter Schmidt. Carol Merner will assist.
- Jeff Pym (E/S Stewardship Director): Consider wills & estates. See "Invitation to Thanksgiving."

Second Century Project (2CP)

- These Anniversary and Stewardship directions would support the 2CP if/when it were reactivated. We continue to contemplate two quarters of economic growth as the standard for reactivation. We are not there yet. We would see a separate, 2CP-specific, "fund-raising" drive with a front-end "major pledges" component.