

Council President's Report

April 20, 2009

Much like the roller coaster of experiences for our Savior Lord Jesus Christ between the time He entered Jerusalem so triumphantly on Palm Sunday through His pain, suffering, and death later that same week, the past month as your Congregation Council president has been one of highs and lows.

1. Thank you to the third year Council members (Class of 2009) that hosted the Garden of Eatin' on Sunday, April 5th. There was 100% participation of those members both in terms of contributing goodies and helping provide Christian hospitality to our brothers and sisters.
2. Regrettably, the attendance of Council members was no way near 100% at the Holy Week services leading up to Easter. I must admit to great disappointment that the elected leaders of our congregation were not in the forefront of setting the example by their personal worship attendance during these holy days of very special services.
3. Easter Sunday was a glorious celebration of Christ's resurrection here at Trinity. All of our four worship services that day were filled with worshippers, the sounds of rousing music and inspiring messages, and the sharing of the Lord's Supper. It was my personal pleasure to prepare and provide an appreciation breakfast on March 31st to our staff for their hard work fulfilling the extra duties of the Lenten and Easter seasons.
4. Our opening devotional study at Council in April will be a particularly timely topic "Faith in Economic Strife". I will serve as the study leader since no Council member has volunteered to do so. Again, I encourage Council members to also participate in a more in-depth period of study on this topic on Sunday, April 26th at 9:30 a.m. in Rooms 232-234. Please consider accepting the responsibility to lead the May study "Prayer – It Doesn't Have to be so Difficult" from the April 2009 issue of *The Lutheran* magazine.
5. I will be part of a small group of Trinity members traveling to Columbus, Ohio, April 25-26, to visit Upper Arlington Lutheran Church (UALC). This church operates under the "discipleship model" that we studied in preparation for our leadership retreat in early March. Some UALC members came here to Trinity several years ago to provide training for our "Christ Renews His Parish" initiative. The purpose of our visit to UALC is to gather ideas and observe first hand how a large mainline congregation can encourage and support true Christian discipleship as we seek to move beyond the "membership model" to the "discipleship model" here at Trinity.

Peace,

Doug Bonsall
Council President