

**Director of Learning Ministries
Council Report
May 2009 (for the June meeting)**

In May, we finished the school year for Trinity Preschool Playgroup with a carnival and picnic. Because of rain, the event had to be stretched over two days. Both days, however, were well-attended. As part of the carnival, a professional Christian children's entertainer was hired. He was willing to cut several hundred dollars from his usual fee in order to accommodate the preschool budget. He was great with the children, so we'll have him again next year as part of what will hopefully be a single-day closing event.

The Women of Trinity held their final general meeting for the school year in May. I gave the invocation for the dinner and program and led the installation of new officers for the Women of Trinity board plus the receiving of blessing boxes. The blessing boxes are kept throughout the year by the women (small w—all women) of Trinity. The proceeds from the boxes are given to an outreach ministry.

Secret Church was held in May. I thank Becky Enney, Pastor Brock, Jim Fox, Joyce Roy, and Jayme Cashman for the parts they played in providing this experience for our sixth- and seventh-graders. As it turned out, Jim, playing a Roman centurion, was at one point shouting outside the library, "Are there any Christians here?" There was the new members' class meeting inside the library, which I happened to be teaching that day. It was a great opportunity for me to make it clear that joining Trinity really means something.

Part of Secret Church is having the portrayal of an orphan in the Chapel narthex. Again, as it turned out, inside the Chapel was a special class on New Hope Ministries, a local organization that feeds the hungry.

I met in May with Jack Bush and George Enney on behalf of Lutheran Men in Mission to plan for next year's men's retreat. For the past two years, the retreat has been held at the church. While those have been fine programs, the men have generally expressed now an interest in going off-site. So we're considering the possibilities for locales and have selected our theme for the 2010 retreat, which is prayer.

I also had a conversation regarding Third Saturday, the men's study group that over this past year has been meeting Saturday mornings (monthly on the third Saturday) to study various aspects of our Lutheran tradition. Each session has had a different teacher from the congregation leading presentations and discussions on the Reformation, Luther's Ninety-Five Theses, and other topics related to our Lutheran heritage. We decided for the coming year that we'd ask teachers again to come to the group's meetings, this time to discuss special passages of Scripture from the Lutheran perspective. For instance, I will be leading a session called "What is Wrong with James?"

The month of May ended with my taking part in conducting interviews for a new preschool staff position, teaching the John Bush Bible Study Class, and completing arrangements for Trinity's hosting of the safe driving class sponsored by AARP. I also went through part 1 of the annual review process for myself and for those I supervise.

Respectfully and gratefully submitted,

Christopher