

October 2011

Dear Friends of Trinity,

How do you know when you've forgiven someone? Do you know what forgiveness really is?

Forgiveness is not excusing, approving, or allowing the bad things other people do to you. These are trivial cultural expressions of forgiveness that are actually parodies of the real thing. They simply won't do.

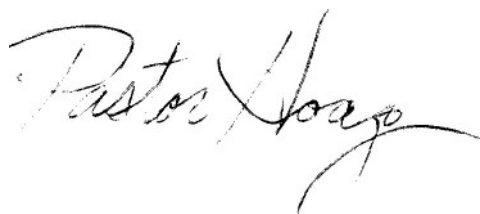
Real forgiveness demands more from you. Contrary to popular opinion, forgiveness is definitely not designed to benefit the forgiver, but the forgiven. It's costly because it's sacrificial and, dare I say, humiliating. It takes a humble stance to practice real forgiveness.

In the Scriptures, forgiveness is spoken of in terms of "cancelling a debt". It means to release the offender from any and all obligations toward the offended. When you tell someone you forgive them, you are saying that they don't owe you anything. That is, if you are really and truly forgiving that person. The debt can come in different forms: monetary, physical, emotional, spiritual, or mental. While still acknowledging the pain that was inflicted on you, you choose not to retaliate in kind because you have cancelled the debt owed to you.

We were indebted to God because of our sinful and rebellious ways against Him. We owed Him our very lives. In love for us, God paid our debt Himself by the death of Jesus on the cross. That is good news! This serves as the template for forgiveness as it is played out in our lives. We cancel the debt of others by assuming the debt ourselves! We do this simply because we have been forgiven by God beyond measure and imagination. Forgiving others is the appropriate response to the forgiveness we receive through Jesus Christ.

We receive the gift of forgiveness won for us by Christ's death and resurrection through Word and Sacrament. Come often to receive these wondrous blessings God gives to us freely.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Hoag". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name below.

Pastor Hoag

OCTOBER 2011

SALAD LUNCHEON

The annual Fall Trinity Chancel Guild Luncheon is being held on Wednesday, **October 5th from 11:30-1:00**. Carryouts are available.

Come and enjoy the delicious salads provided by the Trinity Chancel Guild. In addition, homemade desserts are being provided by the Trinity Women's League.

Tickets are available from any Chancel Guild member for a donation of \$7.00.

CHANCEL

- 2 – Lois Dobbs & Denise Buchanan
- 9 – Denise Buchanan & Allene Bachmann
- 16 – Allene Bachmann & Christine Stark
- 23 – Doris Bay & Jeri Sandt
- 30 –

Due to our Fall Salad Luncheon our October meeting has been rescheduled for **Tuesday, October 4th** at 6:30 p.m. in the gym. We need all our members to help set up. Hostesses are Lois Dobbs and Robin Krol.

Please bring a double batch of two different types of salads (4 bowls) on Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning. Your help at the luncheon, and for set up, is needed and very appreciated.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Our October meeting will feature Pastor Bacon. The meeting date is Tuesday, **October 25th at 12:30 PM**.

MORNING STAR SERVINGS:

Our serving dates for October are on Monday, **October 3rd and 17th**. If you are able to serve, please sign-up on the appropriate sheets in the hallway or contact Judy at 815 462 1374.

TRINITY PRAYER CHAIN

Trinity Lutheran has a Prayer Chain that is available to anyone for prayer support by fellow members. These prayers may be for personal, congregational, community, governmental, and all other needs. All requests are kept confidential. Please call Ginny DeCarlo (815) 485-2001 to request a prayer. The Bible says, "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5:16b.

If you are interested in being part of the Prayer Chain, or would like more information please give Ginny a call. You can also call the office at (815) 485-6973). We would be happy to provide you with all the information. Please consider being part of this worthwhile endeavor. You can make a difference.

BIBLE STUDIES:

SUNDAY MORNING

Adult Bible Class begins at 9:30 and the following topic will be discussed in October:

- 10/2: Navigating Change
- 10/9: Moving Through Suffering
- 10/16: Receiving Joy
- 10/23: Maturing in Service
- 10/30: Re-Imagining Life

WEDNESDAY MORNING

Join us on Wednesday mornings at 8:30 in the church library. Pastor Hoag is leading a discussion on the Book of Revelation.

If you have questions on either of these classes, please call the church office.

PAPER CRAFTING GROUP

The next meeting of this group is Friday, **October 9th, from 5:00-11:00** p.m. in the gym. All are welcome. No experience needed. We'll be working Christmas cards. (Yikes!) Please bring scissors and adhesive. And as always, bring other projects you would like to complete. Please bring a snack to share. Suggested donation is \$2. We hope to see you there. Please call or e-mail Kim Alfano with questions. (708) 478-5627 or KimHuntingtonAlfano@comcast.net

Vendor/Craft Fair!!!!

Save the date: Saturday, 10/29 from 9-3 and come and shop right here at Trinity for some unique Christmas presents for those loved ones on your list.

Youth, you need to be here Friday evening to help set up too!

As of this printing, here is the list of crafters and vendors, including several new crafters and vendors:

Scentsy Candles
Gold Canyon Candles
Doll clothes/bedding
Handcrafted unique items
Embroidered wearables
Pampered Chef
Tastefully Simple
Wooden Items
Avon
Homemade scarves and jewelry
Wildtree healthy foods

Chiro One
Longaberger
Premier Design Jewelry
Tupperware
Homemade dog treats
Christmas & holiday arrangements
Children's bows
Thirty-One purses/bags

Pumpkins & Pizza!

Join us on Sunday, **October 16, 3:00-5:00** p.m. at the church for pumpkin carving, harvest games, and pizza. Open to all youth 2nd grade through high school. Sign up on the youth bulletin board.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

The New Lenox Area Historical Society invites you to their annual dinner fundraiser and Silent Auction on Wednesday, October 12th from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the VFW Hall, 323 Old Hickory Road, New Lenox. This is a family event to help raise funds for the preservation and restoration of Schmul School and student programs. Numerous auction items have been donated by local businesses and friends of the historical society. Bring the family for the "all you can eat" dinner. Tickets are available from historical society members or may be purchased at the door. For information please call (815) 485-5576.

CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICES

The following offices are up for election on the Church Council. Won't you consider serving the congregation and your Lord by filling one of these vacant posts? Please contact Pastor, Sheldon Klemm or any Council member. Elections will be held the weekend of **10/22-23**. The positions up for election are: Council Secretary, Treasurer, Spirit & Worship Life Directors (2), and Property Directors (2)

SCRIPTURE READERS

We are looking for opportunities for our congregational members to become more involved in our worship services. Now is your opportunity to read The First and Second Lessons on occasion!! To do so, place your name and telephone number on the Sunday you would like on the sheets in the hallway. The actual readings are in this newsletter or you can contact Pastor or Kim at (815) 485-6973.

Blood Drive

Thanks to all who came out for the blood drive. We had 23 people come out with 21 donations, which resulted in the saving of 63 lives! That's more than are in attendance at some services! IF we keep up with that great level of participation, we will be able to get the big coach and the incentives will continue with each drive. Well done, good and faithful servants!

CHOIR TIME!!!

It's that time again! Time to raise our voices in praise and song to our Heavenly King. Won't you come out and join the choir and make some new friends? This year you can consult the schedule (posted in the bulletin and on the calendar) and just join us for rehearsals for the dates you know you can sing!

Sunday School!!

Come and get 'em! Get your home made (ok, not really) Dan's Taffy Apples. Come and get 'em on Sunday, **October 30**, Reformation Sunday, and stay for the 10:30 service when the kids are singing.

There is a Sunday School Teacher's Meeting following the 10:30 service in the library on **10/16**.

KONOW'S HAYRIDE

With last years' being such a success, we are again planning a hay ride at Konow's Farm on Cedar Road in Lockport.

The cost will be \$7 a person or \$35 a family (2 adults and children). The date this year is Sunday, **October 9 at 1 o'clock**.

There is a sign up sheet on the table and an envelope on the table as well to put your checks in.

Please come and join us for an afternoon of fun.

We will take a hayride as a group and enjoy a weenie roast when the ride is complete. Mark your calendars and come and join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

BONHOEFFER'S COST: What is a moral person to do in a time of savage immorality? That question tormented Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German clergyman of great distinction who actively opposed Hitler and the Nazis, His convictions cost him his life. Bonhoeffer, a highly regarded Lutheran minister who could have kept his peace and saved his life on several occasions, instead paid the ultimate price for his beliefs. This is a play **not suitable for those under 12**. We are going to try and get a group together to go see this at Provision Theater in Chicago on **10/23** at 3pm. Tickets are \$27 each. In order to get seating together, please get cash to Daniel or Susan by **10/2**. Parking is free and there are plenty of opportunities for dining in the area either before or after the play. For more information, please contact Daniel or Susan Willenborg at 815 462 3592 or danielandsusan@clear.net.

VIRGIL SWITZER: WE RECEIVED A LETTER!!!!!!!!!! The letter is hanging on the bulletin board outside the church office. The envelope is there too – take a look at the beautiful artwork as well!
Please **print** all greetings, as Virgil can't read cursive. (He does receive the bulletin, newsletter, and portals of prayer, so you don't need to send those). His address is:

Virgil SWITZEK (County records spelled his name wrong, so it stands with a "K")
ID #20110629010
P.O. Box 089002
Chicago, IL 60608

October

Birthdays

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| Brian Thompson | 1 |
| Tracy Tomany | 1 |
| Christopher Kosel | 2 |
| Leah Pour | 2 |
| Natalie Loucks | 5 |
| Kristin Rogan | 6 |
| Ashley Norton | 6 |
| Ashley Evans | 7 |
| Pam Burke | 9 |
| Pat Fuerst | 9 |
| John Leahy | 9 |
| Dave Nick | 9 |
| Michael Wajchert | 9 |
| Dominic Prospero | 10 |
| Braiden Rogan | 10 |
| Cameron Jablonski | 11 |
| Madison Forsythe | 12 |
| Jeffrey Puttkammer | 12 |
| Angelle Minett | 13 |
| Eric Zielinski | 13 |
| Ethan Garrison | 14 |
| Marilou Lerner | 14 |
| Maxine Pavlovich | 15 |
| Al Prospero | 15 |
| Christopher Sanders, Jr. | 16 |
| Tanner Simon | 16 |
| Claire Anderson | 17 |
| Elena King | 17 |
| Sarah Krol | 17 |
| Aubrey Bird | 18 |
| Rita Larson | 18 |
| Jeff McDonald | 18 |
| Riley Jeffries | 19 |
| Amanda Norton | 19 |
| Andrea Zielinski | 19 |
| Lori Hilger | 20 |
| Zak Pavlovich | 21 |
| Kathy Sigrist | 21 |
| Jan Toepke | 21 |
| Courtney Schrank | 22 |
| Brody Wajchert | 22 |
| Maggie Wajchert | 22 |
| Ryder Wajchert | 22 |
| Justine Kavanagh | 23 |
| Katrina Prospero | 23 |

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Karen Tatro | 23 |
| Elijah Ziebell | 23 |
| Sandy Jeffries | 25 |
| Luke Ryan | 25 |
| Tracy Doerrer | 26 |
| Shirley Walter | 26 |
| Emily Backhus | 27 |
| Isaac Torkelson | 27 |
| Logan Beaudry | 29 |
| Patricia Reithel | 29 |
| Grace Stokes | 29 |
| Deanna Anderson | 30 |
| Robert Stark, Jr. | 31 |

October Anniversaries

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Jim and Nina Dyer | 1 |
| Steve and Rita Tinker | 1 |
| Charles and Barbara Baxa | 4 |
| Joe and Andrea Farneti | 5 |
| Mike and Liz Lyman | 5 |
| Scott and Patricia Cruise | 8 |
| David and Linda Hubrich | 14 |
| Daielle& Tim Ryan | 16 |
| Anthony and Barbara Adochio | 17 |
| Brian and Linda Thompson | 17 |
| Paul and Pat Fuerst | 19 |
| Stuart and Loretta Renwick | 19 |
| Jeff and Sharon Lorenz | 20 |
| Scott and Heidi Evans | 22 |
| Mark and Bonnie Norton | 26 |
| Brian and Colleen Delcorio | 28 |
| Gary and Lea Rae Marcolina | 29 |
| Robert and Christine Stark | 31 |

The People of Trinity

Visitors

Ardell Rosenwinkel from New Lenox
Ellie & Jim Mueller from Lockport
The Opiolas from Mokena
Laurie Baldwin from Linde, MI
Jim & Julie Wandersee from New Lenox

Baptized

+ Ralph Anderson Teare September 9

READINGS

October 2

Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

October 9

Isaiah 25:6-9
Philippians 4:4-13
Matthew 22:1-14

October 30

Revelations 14:6-7
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

October 16

Isaiah 45:1-7
1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

October 23

Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18
1 Thessalonians 2:1-13
Matthew 22:34-46

GREETERS

We come as friends, a family of believers, greeting one another with a warm welcome, thankful for the gifts of a community in which we can live out our relationship with God through our relationships with one another. There are sign-up sheets located on a table near the gym if you would like to extend a warm welcome to your fellow members and visitors. **Greeters are needed now, more than ever, thanks to the addition of the Saturday service. Won't you please consider signing up?**

October 2011

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | 1 Men's Network Breakfast 8 AM Country Charm 5 PM Contemporary w/ COMM |
| 2 8 am Worship 9:15 SS/ Adult Ed 10:30 Commw/ Baptism | 3 Morningstar 3:45 | 4 Pastor at Circuit Conference Chancel set-up 6:30 | 5 Bible Class 8:30 am Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm (for 10/16) Salad Bar 11:30-1 | 6 Contemporary Rehearsal 7pm Property 7 pm | 7 Wedding Rehearsal | 8 Wedding 5 PM Contemporary |
| 9 8 am Comm 9:15 SS/Adult Ed 10:30 Worship Council 7pm | 10 | 11 | 12 Bible Class 8:30 am Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm (for 10/16) | 13 Contemporary Rehearsal 7pm | 14 TPCG 5-11 | 15 5 PM Contemporary w/ COMM |
| 16 8 am Worship 9:15 SS/ Adult Ed 10:30 Comm SS Teacher's meeting Youth 3-5 pm | 17 Morningstar 3:45 Social Ministry 7 pm | 18 | 19 Bible Class 8:30 am Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm (for 10/30) | 20 Contemporary Rehearsal 7pm | 21 | 22 5 PM Contemporary |
| 23 8 am Comm 9:15 SS/Adult Ed 10:30 Worship | 24 | 25 Women's League 12:30 | 26 Bible Class 8:30 am Confirmation 6 pm Choir 7 pm (for 10/30) | 27 Contemporary Rehearsal 7pm | 28 | 29 Craft/Vendor Fair 9-3 5 PM Contemporary |
| 30 8 am Worship 9:15 SS/Adult Ed 10:30 Worship | 31 | | | | | |