

Look inside...

Page 2

- Update from the Treasurer
- Confirmation Corner
- Job Opening
- Men's Breakfast

Page 3

- Youth Ministry—middle school & high school events
- Children's Ministries—VBS & Church School registration info
- Summer book club & preschool story time
- VBS Dates
- Scavenger Hunt

Page 4

- May Calendar

Page 5

- Seasons for Wholeness
- David m. bailey concert
- Rebuilding Together
- We Can (food drive)
- Blood Drive
- Library news
- Thrivent Builds

Page 6

- Upcoming Events
- Ascension Day events

Holy Trinity Staff

Staff:
 Pastor: Dean Baer
 Pastor: Rick Biedermann
 Pastor: Patti Webb
 Business Manager: open
 Parish Health: Elaine Haugen
 Christian Services: Mike Eason
 Children's Ministries: Jonette Knock
 Youth Director: Anne Williams
 Confirmation Ministries: Laurie McClure
 Church Secretary: Shannon Murray
 Office Associate: Kathy Arndt
 Youth & Family Asst: Penney Wilson
 Clerical Assistant: Myrna Murphy
 Nursery Supervisors: April Soden, Lori Marvin, Nicole Gade, Alyssa Forde, Cindy Kovacs
 Organist: Julie Turner
 Director of Music: Pat Zimmer
 Praise Worship Coordinator: Jeff Hook
 Handbell Choir: Sue Bunting, Lisa Kilmer
 Cherub Choir: Linda Hope
 Celebration Choir: Liz Nilsson-Halder
 Somethin' Spiritual: Pat Zimmer
 Custodians: Tavo Alvarado, Nelida Arias

LIFE AFTER EASTER

So how was your Easter? It's one of those conversation starters we use. And usually we reply with whether we traveled and if had family that got together or the sugar high the kids had or the ham meal or whatever your tradition might be. But I wonder how many people would answer that question with anything that has to do with what Easter really is all about? Maybe we just don't know quite how to say it. But we could say something like, "Easter was great, it's good to know Jesus is alive!" Or, "I was glad I could go to worship and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus." Now I know that these kinds of responses might sound artificial or cause some discomfort. But somehow we as Christians need to speak out loud what it is that really is most important about Easter. I expect, however, that by the time you are reading this article you will no longer be asked, how your Easter was. So are there other ways we can show the difference Easter makes in our lives?

But before we can show/tell/live the difference of being an Easter people we need to ask, "What difference does Easter make in my life?" What does it mean for you that Jesus rose from the dead? It means several things for me. It means first of all that God is more powerful than death. Even though death is an enemy that separates us from loved ones, it is not the end. There will be life beyond death. I sometimes wonder what life will be like in heaven. Jesus rising from the dead also means that God has power not only over my physical death, but over all things that try to take away life. And there are many things that try to suck the life out of us: Anxiety, worries, fear, jealousy, greed, coveting, regrets... God does not want these things to take away the abundant life God intends for us to have. The resurrection of

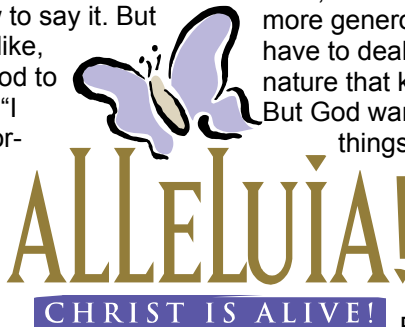
Jesus shows us that God has the power to give life now and after we die. This is the good news that we all need to hear and believe - God forgives us all our sins and gives us life now and forever.

As that good news grabs hold of us, it will change our lives. As we learn to trust in this life-giving God we will become more alive, more thankful, more appreciative, and more generous. Now I realize that we still have to deal with the reality of our sinful nature that keeps sowing seeds of doubt. But God wants to free us from all those things that cause us to doubt and fear. Christ is alive! And because he is alive, he is able to live within us and give us that abundant life.

So what does life look like after Easter? Well, we saw a huge change in those early disciples. They were no longer hiding, locked up in a room in fear. They were out telling people this good news. They were even willing to give their lives for it. They were also generous. They shared what they had with the poor and needy. "All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need." (Acts 2:43)

Life after Easter is a thankful and generous life. We no longer have to worry only about ourselves. We are free from being selfish to being generous. These weeks after Easter are Stewardship emphasis weeks. I hope the resurrection of Jesus gives you a generous spirit as you pray and think and decide what you wish to give to the church for the ministry of proclaiming the good news.

Pastor Rick Biedermann



2009 Rite of Confirmation Worship Services

Confirmation Worship Services will be held on Saturday, May 2 at the 5:30pm worship time and on Sunday, May 3, at 2pm. Those who attend the Saturday service may wish to consider attending a different service on this weekend, as this will be a very full service, but you are welcome to attend if you wish.

TREASURER'S CORNER



From Andy Pollock

This month's report from the treasurer brings good news and bad news. The good news is that through the first quarter of 2009, we are on budget. The bad news is that through the first quarter of 2009, we are on budget.

This is a testament to the forethought of the committee who put together the budget for this year. Their ability to forecast the continued economic challenges of the nation, state, and now our church, has allowed us to proceed through the first quarter, and now hopefully through the second quarter without having to scramble to make budget cuts mid-year.

Unfortunately, the very conservative budget approved for this year was put forth with the goal of restoring a lot of the cuts in the very short future if conditions improved.

Spending for the quarter was \$23,546 under budget. A huge thank you to the staff of HTLC who has tightened their belts, and made many changes and sacrifices to allow our church to continue our mission. We also had lower property costs in the late winter due to little snow-fall, and lower utility costs.

We also have had a number of volunteers lately to help get things done without a cost to the church. If you have a gift or talent that you know can help the church, please don't hesitate to call the office, or contact me by email, pollocka64@yahoo.com, or phone 210-3080.

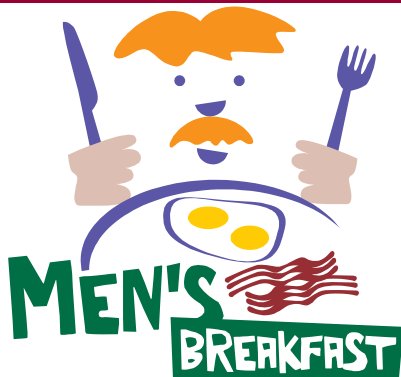
JOB OPENING—BUSINESS MANAGER

Position available – Business Manager (full-time) If you are interested in applying for this position, please send an email to HTLCpersonnel@live.com. The job description is available in the church office.

Ellie Hintz has served in this position for 10 years at Holy Trinity. We wish her the best as she has begun a new career working with Bridges of Iowa in West Des Moines.

Men's Breakfast

May 9, 7:30am, will be the final Men's Breakfast of the season. APD Chief Gary Mikulec will be giving the men a one hour tour of the newly completed Ankeny Police Department Headquarters.



CONFIRMATION CORNER

Another confirmation year is almost over and summer is approaching. Before our year ends we have a few more class times for 7th and 8th grades.

On Wednesday, April 22 from 6:00-8:00pm 7th and 8th grades will be going house to house in parts of Ankeny to collect cans for the food pantry. We are teaming up with social concerns ministries here at church to help them reach their goal of 1,000 cans of food for the "We Can" campaign. Holy Trinity is teaming up with 29 other churches to collect 1,000 cans each to reach 29,000 cans total to combat hunger in the world; because 29,000 children die each day of hunger in the world.

On Wednesday, April 29, 7th and 8th graders will have a night of fun with their small group and guides. They will not meet at the church. The small group and guide together will decide what fun event they will do together.

Wednesday, May 6, will be the last night of confirmation class for 7th and 8th grade starting at 6:00 and ending at 7:30pm. The evening will be filled with a worship service for the small groups and ending with an ice cream party. Thanks be to God for a fun filled year and a safe summer for all. See you in the fall.

Confirmation services are fast approaching for 9th graders. These 54 youth will affirm their faith on May 2 and May 3. Confirmation interviews with the Pastors and Anne are coming to a close. Holy Trinity will recognize these 54 youth on the weekend of April 25 and 26 at all services. On Wednesday, April 29, Jamison Studios will be here at church for pictures of the confirmands along with rehearsal for students and parents.

Even though confirmation class is ending for the year, we still need acolytes for the summer months. Please take note of when you are scheduled and make every effort to be here. This is a vital part of worship and your confirmation experience.

The acolytes for remaining weekends in April and May are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Saturday April 25 | 5:30pm: Jessica Wiedenman |
| Sunday April 26 | 8:00am: Billy Williams, Jamie Yerigan |
| | 9:30am: Niki Snyder and Allison Ware |
| | 11:00am: Cory Jury |
| Saturday May 2 | 5:30pm: Josh Alleman (confirmation) |
| Sunday May 3 | 8:00am: Samantha Austin |
| | 9:30am: Clayton Beck |
| | 11:00am: PJ Carey |
| Sunday May 3 | 2:00pm: David Beech (confirmation) |
| Saturday May 9 | 5:30pm: Eric Johnson |
| Sunday May 10 | 8:00am: Wyatt Johnson |
| | 9:30am: Austin Chipps |
| | 11:00am: Jill Christensen |
| Saturday May 16 | 5:30pm: Evan Beitz |
| Sunday May 17 | 8:00am: Peri Benna |
| | 9:30am: Ryan Bing |
| | 11:00am: Hayley Benson |



WITNESS YOUTH MINISTRIES

Anne Williams~ Youth Director~ anne@htlcankeny.org ~ 964-4348 X23

Youth Ministry Happenings

Middle School

- Middle School Mission Trip Meeting – April 26, 10:30am at the LightHouse! Please note this is a change from the calendar on the bulletin board (which is a typo)
- Confirmation Service at 5:30 on May 2 and Sunday at 2pm
- May 6—Early Out at the Lighthouse (1-5pm). Making military care packages. 7th & 8th grade confirmation students will have a worship & ice cream party at confirmation on May 6.
- May 20—Hang out at LightHouse 3-5pm

High School

- Lock in at the church overnight: Saturday, April 25 starting at 8:00 pm. Meet in the Fellowship Hall.
- May 6—High School Youth Group 7:30pm
- May 10—Cinnamon Roll Sunday, National Youth Gathering meeting at 11am in the Fellowship Hall. (Quick one!)
- May 13—Baccalaureate Dinner at HTLC at 5:30pm for our high school graduates. Baccalaureate service at Our Lady Immaculate Heart at 7:30.
- May 20 HS Youth Group 7:30pm
- May 23 Pizza Fundraiser prep 10am
- May 24 Pizza Fundraiser

Thanks for all your support!

Thanks for all of your support for our spaghetti dinner and auction. We raised about \$8000 for our trip to New Orleans. We are very grateful!



HTLC Holy Trinity Loves Children

Jonette Knock~ Director of Children's Ministry~ jonette@htlcankeny.org ~ 964-4348 X16

Registration materials for Faith Formation programs (**Church School**, Confirmation and Vacation Bible School) were sent to families March 24. If you have not returned your registration form for **Vacation Bible School** (May 15 deadline for CD & t-shirts), **Church School** (May 31 deadline for 1st choice of sessions) and **Confirmation** (grades 7-9) please do so as soon as possible.

Church School and **Confirmation** registrations are on the same form this year; allowing families to fill out one form to register their children for 2009-2010 Faith Formation programs. Another change is the ability for parents to pay for their child's registration online, a part of our effort to meet the needs of busy families. Send or drop off your registration materials to the church and pay with your credit or debit card. Just follow the "fees for programs" directions under the green "Contribute Online" button at the church website: www.htlcankeny.org. We will get an email with your name and a run-down of the program fees paid and you can opt to receive a receipt by email.

You can also volunteer to teach or help with Vacation Bible School, Confirmation or Church School on the registration forms. VBS staffers are encouraged to volunteer be-

fore May 15 so that we can order a t-shirt for them.

Two new programs for the summer are **Preschool Story Time** and **Kids Summer Book Club**. Preschool Story Time, on Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings, will be a half-hour story-/activity event for children and parents. You can invite friends and neighbors to attend with your child. Fourth through 6th graders can participate in Kids Summer Book Club on Wednesday mornings. Pick up a registration form along with the schedule and list of books the kids will discuss in the narthex.

If you have questions about any of the programs call the church 964-4348; contact Laurie McClure (x 33) about Confirmation and Jonette Knock (x16) about VBS, Church School, Story Time or Book Club.

The last day of Church School is Sunday, May 3 or Wednesday, May 6.

2009 VBS DATES

Evening session: June 8 – 12, 6-8:30 p.m.

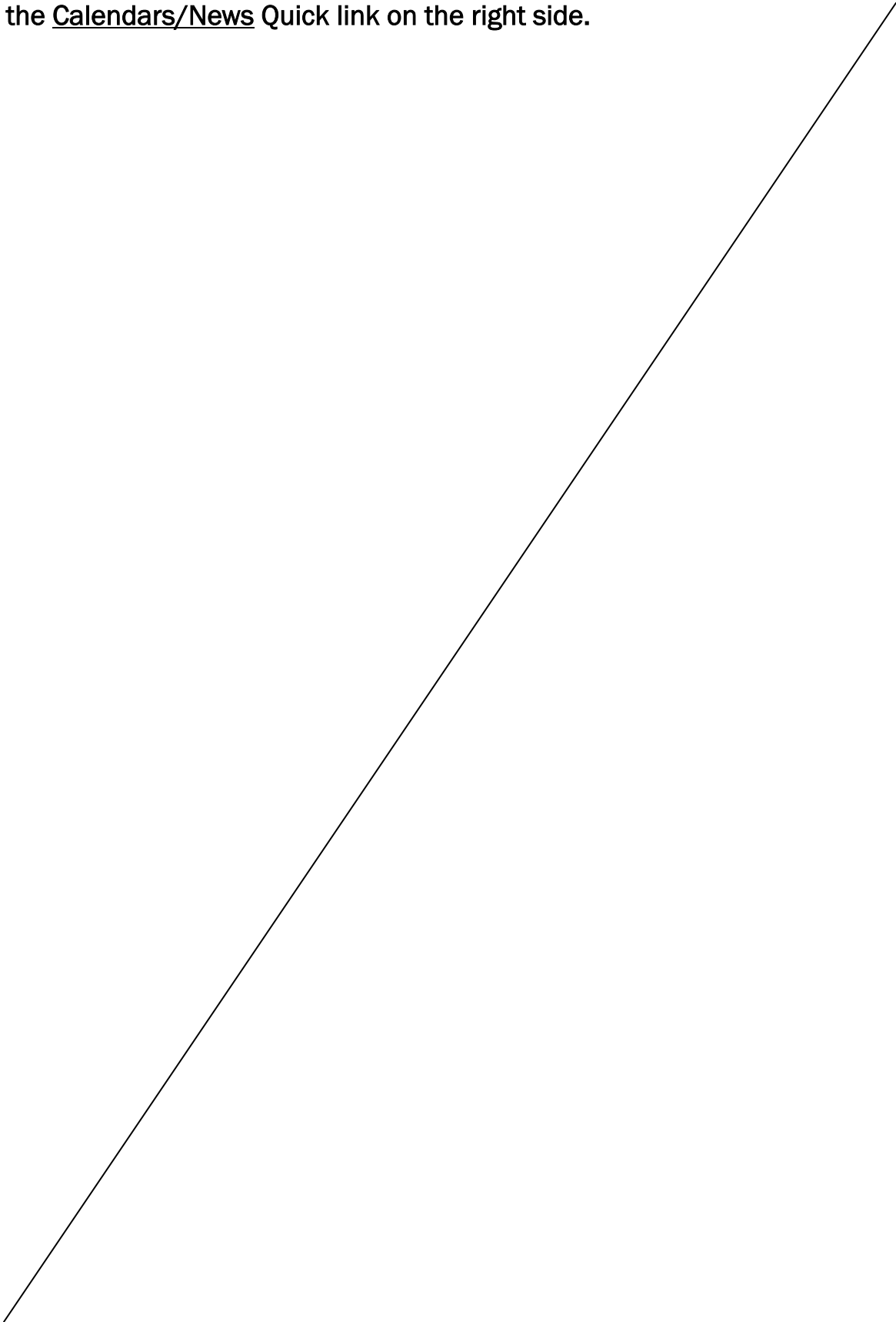
Morning Session: June 9 – 13, 9-11:30 a.m.



3-6 Grade Scavenger Hunt for "We Can" - food for the food pantry. Meet in room 1 at church (lower level) and then we'll head out. Dress for walking (comfy shoes and clothes appropriate for the weather). Let's help the Lutheran churches of the Des Moines area collect 29,000 cans of food for our local food pantries. Call Jonette at 964-4348 x16 to sign up or for more information. (see page 5 for more details about the "We Can" mission.)

MAY CALENDAR

Calendar page—to view the calendar go to www.htlcankeny.org and click on the Calendars/News Quick link on the right side.



PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY

Elaine Haugen, 515-964-4348 x.18, elaine@htlcankeny.org

SEASONS FOR WHOLENESS

Let me introduce you to a whole new and exciting program for Holy Trinity. The health cabinet is promoting a year of learning how to better take care of ourselves. We want to inform you that on April 26 Dr. Deanna Questad will lead a session on **Choices and Changes for a Healthier Lifestyle** and on May 24 Dr. Craig Stevens will present **A Healthy Heart**. The fourth Sunday of each month we will hold an adult forum in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30am featuring a health subject of the month. We will also have cabinet members available to take blood pressures and talk with you about other concerns or needs. We have so many talents here at Holy Trinity and are going to try to tap into them. If you are willing to lead a discussion on your area of expertise in the health field please let me know. Special thanks to Heather Punke for putting this together. She has a degree in health fitness and is willing to provide leadership in this area. Call Elaine 964-4348 or email elaine@htlcankeny.org for more info.

David M. Bailey Concert

On May 17, 7pm, David M. Bailey will be having a concert at the First Presbyterian Church, 220 N 2nd Ave E in Newton. If you would like to attend and want to share rides please let Elaine know ahead of time. The concert is free and an offering will be taken. You may remember him for his time with us last April. Over 10 years ago, the doctors gave him 6 months to live but they didn't know about his music. Come and find out why.



REBUILDING TOGETHER

Rebuilding Together is set for Saturday, May 2. This year we have a home in Bondurant. We still need more volunteers.



Our recipient is a single mother who doesn't have the finances or the ability to make the improvements needed on her home. This home needs a roof and we have a professional roofer to oversee the project.

We will need those who can handle climbing and know something about roofs. It is a single story with no complicated curves or corners. Please let Elaine know immediately if you can help. We will meet at 7:30 at the church. The work needs to be done by 4pm that same day. So, yes we need you!! Your pay—a good lunch and the warm feelings from helping another.

WE CAN

Help us be a WE CAN church. We are joining 28 other churches, each of which will collect at least 1,000 items of food. Collectively, the 29,000 food items represent the number of children who die daily due to hunger and hunger related illnesses. We need to have our collection completed by

April 26. Please pick up an announcement sheet and check the list of needed items. They can be placed on the food shelf or in the green box by the north entry.



BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, April 30, 2:30 – 6:30 we are once more sponsoring a blood drive. You can sign up by going to the Blood Center of Iowa site, visit our HTLC site and link to blood drive, calling Elaine or Kathy at church. You can also come as a walk-in on the day of the blood drive but you might have to wait.

LIBRARY NOTES

We have had some great books donated to our church library. We will feature a few of them each newsletter for the next four to five months.

“God Came Near” by Max Lucado—that's why God came near—to be seen. Sit on the cold floor of the cave where he was born... hear the sandals on the hard trails of Galilee. Christ can rekindle the fire of prayers gone cold and steady your trembling faith. Take a closer look. You'll be glad you did. For once you have caught a glimpse of his majesty, you will never be the same again.

“Opening the Book of Faith” by Diane Jacobson, Stanley Olson and Mark Powell—three authors who have written a book about the Lutheran approach to Bible study, What do Lutherans think of God's powerful word? This book calls us to experience more fully the power of the word.

“Getaways” - four stories in one book. No need to pack your suitcase or make travel arrangements when you can enjoy four separate 'getaways' by four different authors. When the stress of work piles up and stress builds up, we could all use a break. However, God doesn't need holidays and actually works in these individuals lives as they are trying to escape the everyday pressures.

Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity®

Raise the roof—April 29 through May 2, plus additional days this spring and summer. Time: 8:15 am– 4 pm daily—RSVP required.

Help build 2 new homes and rehab a third home in partnership with Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity, members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and local low-income homebuyers. **All skill levels needed!** To reserve individual or group spots contact: Kristofer Orth: ksorth1@msn.com or 963-8917.



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

517 SW Des Moines St. Phone: 515-964-4348
 Ankeny, IA 50023 Fax: 515-963-0830
 Email: info@htlcankeny.org

Worship hours:
 Saturday 5:30 p.m.
 Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.

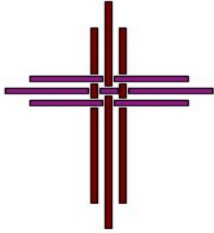
Church School
 Wednesdays 4 and 6 p.m. and
 Sundays, 9:30 & 11 a.m.

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Ankeny, IA 50023
 Permit No. 6

W E L C O M E - E Q U I P - S E N D

Return Service Requested.

View this online at
www.htlcankeny.org.



Address label here

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr 25—Mother Daughter Brunch 9am, High School Lock-in starting at 8pm
- Apr 25-26 Confirmation Recognition at all services
- Apr 26 Seasons for Wholeness (see pg. 5), 3-6 grade scavenger hunt at 2pm. Meet in room 1
- Apr 29 Confirmation Pictures & Rehearsal night for 9th graders 7pm, 7th & 8th graders meet offsite with guides for a fun night (see pg. 2)
- April 30 Blood Drive 2:30-6:30pm
- May 1 Small Discoveries Preschool programs at 10am & 1:30pm
- May 2 5:30pm Confirmation Service
- May 3 Last Day for Sunday Church School, Adult Ed, Confirmation Service at 2pm
- May 6 last Wednesday night for Church School, children's choirs, adult ed and 7-8 grade confirmation.
- May 7 Small Discoveries 3 yr old Preschool program at 10am, Baptism Class 7pm
- May 9 Men's Breakfast, 2 pm Wedding
- May 9-10 Graduation Recognition, Food Pantry Weekend
- May 10 Cinnamon Roll Sunday, NYG Mandatory Meeting at 11am
- May 12 New Member Orientation 7pm
- May 13 HS Senior Baccalaureate Dinner at 5:30 in Fellowship Hall with 7:30pm worship service at Our Lady Immaculate Heart Church
- May 14 Council
- May 16-17 New Member Weekend
- May 17 Ankeny HS Graduation
- May 20 6th Grade Parent & Student Welcome to Confirmation Night 7-8pm
- May 21 Ascension Day Meal & Service 6pm (see below)
- May 25 Memorial Day—office closed
- June 7-12 VBS week
- June 14 Pastor Dean's 40th year ordination and retirement celebration—watch for details!

Ascension Day Picnic

Thursday, May 21, 2009

6:00 p.m.

Please join your HTLC family in celebration commemorating our Lord's Ascension, 40 days after Easter.

We'll gather for a picnic in the fellowship hall (grilled hotdogs, chips, relishes & dessert) at 6:00 p.m. followed by a brief worship/prayer service. We'll close our gathering with a mass ascension of balloons in the church parking lot.

