



VISIONS

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
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EDITOR'S APOLOGY

With so much going on at Trinity and so many new programs, it has been hard to keep abreast of the newsletter. This edition will try to summarize many of the events that took place during the last year, but our goal is to send out a shorter newsletter more frequently in the future!

Jennifer Graves

Pastor's 2004 Annual Report

By Pastor Heidi Neumark

Amidst what is often a cluttered office, there is a space where I like to stand and pray and reflect on our life together. I keep an open Bible there, candles, crosses, photographs of my immediate family and some of our global family, names of people who have requested prayers and other items that help me to focus on what seems to matter most in this life. Some might call it an altar, others would see it as the laden top of a gray file cabinet! One of the things I have there, where I can see it and remember what I am really supposed to be doing here, is my Letter of Call from Trinity to be your pastor.

It is humbling to read that letter and realize both how wonderful and how impossible such a call is. I will share with you in bold print the actual words of the letter (not written by Trinity but by our national church body, the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and in regular print my thoughts in looking back over the past year. Frankly, it is difficult to remember everything about last week, so I doubt I will really cover the year...

We call you to exercise among us the ministry of Word and Sacrament which God has established and which the Holy Spirit empowers:

to preach the Word of God in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions; This I try to do each week. It is a tremendous gift to be called to do something that I so much love to do! It is a little like paying my son to eat pizza and play video games... I especially appreciate the gift of being able to preach in such a responsive and diverse community. Preaching of course requires not only a study of the Biblical text but of our human context. I realize that after a year and a half, I still have much to learn about this particular context ...and I thank you for your patience in walking with me and helping me to learn. Please know that I welcome any help in understanding *your* life and *your* view of the world we live in and bear witness to.

