

JULY 2012

CONNECTIONS



Acoustic Coffee House

When? Friday, July 27 @ 7:00PM

**Where? Trinity Church, 712 Apple Avenue,
Holland (616)396-6526**

What? Live entertainment, coffee, tea, snacks

Artists information: If you would like to share music, dancing, visual arts, poetry, drama/dramatic reading or any other creative talent you can imagine, we'd love to have you! Please arrive at Trinity Church at 6:30PM to sign up for your time slot.

Equipment provided will be:

microphones, keyboard, piano and a small sound system. Please bring your own instruments. We are asking that all content be "family-friendly" so please be aware of that as you choose your material.

**You can sign up in advance at the church
Welcome & Information Center.**

**If you have any questions, please contact
Becky Bierma at becky@trinityrc.org or in the
church office (396-6526).**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ♦ July 1 - Worship & Communion *9:30am*
- ♦ July 2 - Camp Rock *9am-4pm*
Consistory Meeting *7pm*
- ♦ July 3 - Camp Rock *9am-4pm*
Worship Planning Meeting *11am*
- ♦ July 4 - Independence Day
- ♦ July 5 - Camp Rock *9am-4pm*
Community Kitchen @ Western Seminary, *11am*
- ♦ July 8 - Worship *9:30am*
- ♦ July 9 - Camp Rock *9am-4pm*
Spiritual Growth Meeting *7pm*
- ♦ July 10 - Camp Rock *9am-4pm*
Prayer Group *10am*
Worship Planning Meeting *11am*
- ♦ July 11 - Area 51 Mission Trip to Benton Harbor
Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Care Closet *4:30-6pm*
- ♦ July 12 - Area 51 Mission Trip to Benton Harbor
Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Men's Softball Game *8:05pm*
- ♦ July 13 - Area 51 Mission Trip to Benton Harbor
Concert at Kollen Park *6:30pm*
- ♦ July 14 - Area 51 Mission Trip to Benton Harbor
- ♦ July 15 - Area 51 Mission Trip to Benton Harbor
Worship *9:30am*
- ♦ July 16 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
- ♦ July 17 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Worship Planning Meeting *11am*
- ♦ July 18 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Care Closet *4:30-6pm*
- ♦ July 19 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Women of the Word *9:30am*
People Care Team Meeting *7pm*
- ♦ July 22 - Worship *9:30am*
- ♦ July 23 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Lydia/Ruth Circle *9:30am*
Mission Team Meeting *7pm*
- ♦ July 24 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Prayer Group *10am*
Worship Planning Meeting *11am*
- ♦ July 25 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Care Closet *4:30-6pm*
- ♦ July 26 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Worship Team Meeting *7pm*
- ♦ July 27 - Connection Café Live *7pm*
- ♦ July 29 - Worship *9:30am*
- ♦ July 30 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Finance Team Meeting *7pm*
- ♦ July 31 - Camp ROCK *9am-4pm*
Worship Planning Meeting *11am*

Looking for Something Inexpensive to do with Family and Friends this Summer?



Check out one of our Trinity parties!

Invite your friends, family, neighbors, co-workers!

All ages are welcome!



Concert in the Park featuring Post530 (<http://www.myspace.com/post530>) @ Kollen's Park: Friday, July 13, from 6:30 – 8:30pm.

Bring your lawn chair or blanket and a dessert to pass for a dessert potluck! We'll enjoy grooving to Blues/Classic Rock tunes and filling our bellies with some sweets.



Holland Sailboat Races @ Holland State Park: Wednesday, August 8,

6:00pm – ? We'll order sub sandwiches and you bring a dessert or side item to pass! We'll enjoy the goodies, sun and beach, then get ready to watch the races which start at 6:45.

Sign up sheets are at the welcome center.

Questions? Call Teresa Harrington (395-9439).

**Transportation is available –
simply check the box when you sign up!**

SEE YOU AT THE PARTY!!!

Pastor Chris DeGraaf



I participated in an event called the National 24 Hour Challenge over Father's Day weekend. The n24hc is a bicycling endurance event for participants to challenge themselves to ride as many miles on their bikes as they can in 24 hours. This event began for me at 8am on Saturday, June 16 and continued until 8am on Sunday, June 17. Now most of you that I have talked to about this event have looked at me in a way that makes me wonder if I should get my head checked. Despite your concern for my wellbeing both physically and mentally, I found the event to be very rewarding. I would like to share some of my experience with you as a way to help us together explore some spiritual truths.

So my journey began with anticipation, adrenaline and 326 other riders. As we began, the lead group of elite riders soon accelerated out ahead of the rest of us "normal guys and gals." We began our ride with controlled excitement, knowing that conserving energy for the long road ahead was not only strategy but necessity. I settled into a comfortable pace averaging about 18 miles per/hour with a group of about 20 other riders. We enjoyed the benefits of drafting off one another and each taking our turn in the lead position. When it is your turn to lead, a sense of purpose, determination and responsibility comes over you for a variety of reasons. As the leader, you must choose a good line to ride by avoiding potholes, pointing out road kill and avoiding gravel & glass. These are all important tasks as you can imagine. Hitting a hole in the road could have disastrous effects on the rest of the group behind you. As the lead rider you have to pay attention and chart the course.

Having Jesus as my leader brings me comfort and confidence in the path that he is leading me down. I believe that he is charting a good course and even though there may be difficulties along the way, he is worthy of my trust.

Some one asked me what I thought about while I was doing this event. I could tell they were thinking "what is wrong with your head." I answered by telling them that those 24 hours provided me many opportunities to give thanks to God for his blessings in my life. Here are a few blessings that were evident to me:

- Thank you Lord for giving me a strong body so that I could complete this challenge.
- Thank you Lord for all these other riders and the determination you have given them.
- I saw an amazing cloud formation with the sun bursting through and this reminded me of God's strength and care for me as his child.
- I saw a rainbow and was reminded of God's promise to Noah.
- I saw fields of corn ablaze with thousands upon thousands of fireflies. (You should ride your bike at dusk and see the beauty of this).
- I was able to watch a beautiful sunset and darkness cover the landscape and then 8 hours later see the sunrise proclaiming God's faithfulness.
- I felt the strength of God through mighty winds and threatening storms.
- I was washed by the cool early morning rain that fell upon dry and sun soaked earth that was crying out for the blessing of water.

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All these thoughts and more crossed my mind as I peddled along my route. I was blessed by God in so many ways during this time. It reminded me to make sure that I am taking intentional time away from the routines of life to do something different and in that space, to listen to the voice of God. We all have plenty of opportunities to seek after the Lord, but often we don't take the time that he gives us and use it wisely.

You may not seek to listen for the voice of God in the way that I did, but find some way to look for God in the unexpected places. And when you hear from God, when he speaks to you, then acknowledge his voice and be grateful.

Too many times I find that people are rushing through life without taking time to reflect on where God is at work in their lives. My little bike ride reminded me of how important this is for me and for every follower of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I would ask you to commit to making some time out of your normal routine in this coming month. Listen to God and what he has to teach you, remind you or inspire you to do. I would love to hear how God is working within you.

Perhaps this can be a little test for you to see if you are actually reading these newsletters. Email me your story at chris@trinityrc.org or place something in my church mailbox.

Blessings,
Pastor Chris

Oh by the way, for those of you who are curious, I rode 280 miles and averaged 16.9 mph for the time that I was riding. To put that in perspective, the guy who rode the most completed 472 miles in those 24 hours. A good lesson for my own humility!

Upcoming Sermons

July 1	Judges 6-7	Unlikely Leaders: Gideon
July 8	Jeremiah 1:1-10	Unlikely Leaders: Jeremiah
July 15	Special Guest: Kayla Borgman	
July 22	Special Guest: Janelle Lopez Koolhaus	
July 29	Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic	

ROCK

URBAN YOUTH MINISTRY

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Sign up at the information counter to provide lunch for the 15 members of the Rock Staff. Lunch can be as simple or extravagant as you wish. You are invited to serve the lunch on the day you bring it (food should arrive at church by 11am), or you may drop the food off & the Trinity staff will take care of serving. Questions? Give the church office a call (396-6526).
- PRAY!!! Pray that God will move in the lives of students and staff. Pray that the gospel would go forth in each of our lives. Pray for the health and unity of the staff. Pray for safety and protection.
- Volunteers are always welcome, either for a morning, an afternoon or all day. Mornings consist of worship, small groups, Bible study, etc. The campers typically go on fun outings in the afternoon. You are welcome to join them!

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

- Provide lunch for Camp Rock Staff (see above for details)
- **PRAY** for Camp Rock Students and Staff
- Monday Morning work group
- Wednesday Night Dinners (through the summer)
- Community Kitchen at Western Seminary(1st Thursday @ 11am)
- Trinity Care Closet (Every Wednesday 4:30-6:00pm)
- Provide Gatorade for Tuesday night Basketball
- Help in Leading Worship
- Start a Small Group based on your favorite hobby

For any of these and a variety of other opportunities contact the church office.

No Cost!

WORSHIP ON THE WATERFRONT 2012

Grand Haven Waterfront Stadium – Rain or Shine

No Tickets!

1 N Harbor – Downtown Grand Haven, MI
Sunday Evenings 7:30-8:45 p.m.

A free-will offering will be taken. Come dressed for the weather. Bring a folding chair if you choose.
 Check us out at: www.worshiponthewaterfront.org Questions? (616) 842-6600

JULY 1

TOMMEE PROFITT

One of today's up and coming Christian artists from Grand Rapids Michigan with a unique piano-driven worship style.

JULY 8

PHIL STACEY & BAND

This 2007 American Idol finalist has the rare ability to inhabit a song, delivering the lyrics with an intensity that brings the message to life.

JULY 15

BRIGITTE DONOHO & BAND

An Ypsilanti native with a desire to see lives changed and truly touched by the amazing love of Christ through worship.

JULY 22

RICK HOPKINS & BAND

Through his singing and songwriting this west Michigan worship leader desires to share how God shows Himself in amazing ways throughout life.

JULY 29

PRAISE – APELLA

Through inspirational music, rhythmic vocal percussion coupled with pristine vocal harmonies, this group leads in powerful worship.

AUGUST 5

BEBO NORMAN

A favorite on contemporary Christian radio who appeals to worshippers of all ages.

AUGUST 12

GAITHER STYLE HOMECOMING SING-A-LONG with the DOWN HOME HORNS & CHOIR

Come ready to sing those hymns and gospel songs we all love with this toe-tapping band and inspiring choir under the direction of Chris Hansen.

AUGUST 19

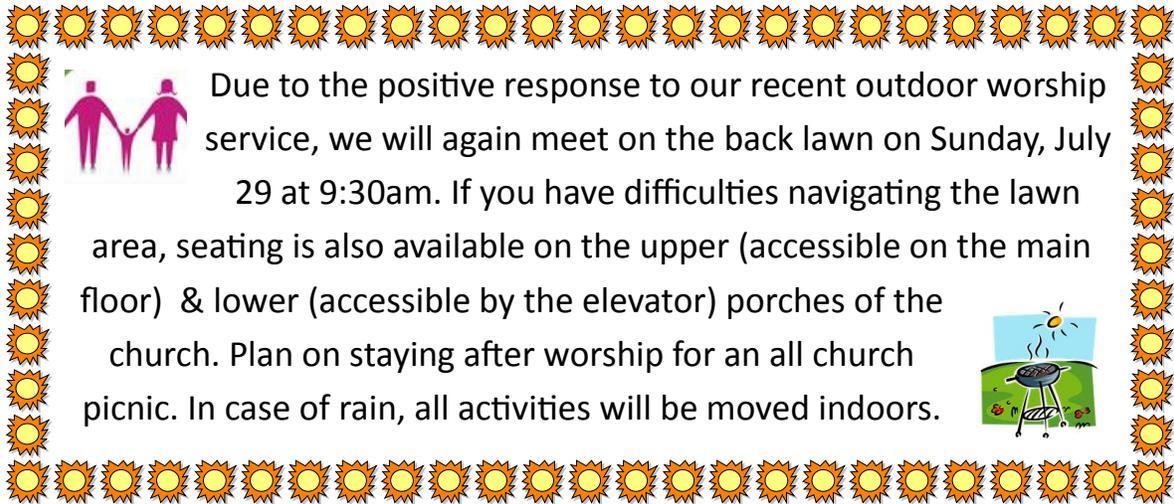
PEDER EIDE

Always a crowd favorite, Peder leads in celebrative and creative worship that excites, energizes and draws audiences closer to God.

AUGUST 26

ZION BIBLE COLLEGE WORSHIP TEAM

These talented college students are studying to be the next generation of top-flight worship leaders and will present a wonderful evening of worship.



 Due to the positive response to our recent outdoor worship service, we will again meet on the back lawn on Sunday, July 29 at 9:30am. If you have difficulties navigating the lawn area, seating is also available on the upper (accessible on the main floor) & lower (accessible by the elevator) porches of the church. Plan on staying after worship for an all church picnic. In case of rain, all activities will be moved indoors.
 



Happy Birthday!!



Karen DeBoer	7/1	Steven Alvarez	7/13	Rick Fisher	7/22
Gregg Harper	7/1	Tabitha Wolters	7/13	Barb Jacob	7/22
Barb Schulze	7/1	Jack Welton	7/15	Stan Sal	7/24
Doris Lundy	7/2	Chuck Arends	7/16	Amanda Schurman	7/24
Sally Timmer	7/4	Rob Dannenberg	7/18	Kaitlin Bronkema	7/25
Emma Butterworth	7/5	Dianne Moker	7/20	Mary Kooyers	7/28
Evelyn Oosterbaan	7/6	Cassie Kooyers	7/21	John Houting	7/31
Roger Langeland	7/8	Eli Wolters	7/21	Bob Hoving	7/31

Happy Anniversary!!

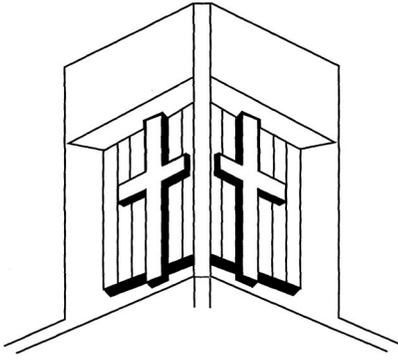
Eric & Mary Libby	7/4		Kevin & Carla Brower	7/20
Don & Karen Kane	7/7		Bill & Jan VanAuken	7/24
Rick & Gretchen Fisher	7/7		Al & Alice Kooyers	7/28
Roger & Marge Kleis	7/13			



THANK YOU!



Thank you to the many volunteers who so faithfully help serve funeral luncheons throughout the year. Special thanks to Marge Rycenga for coordinating this service!



Trinity Reformed Church

712 Apple Avenue Holland, MI 49423

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Website: www.trinityrc.org E-mail: info@trinityrc.org

Pastor: Chris DeGraaf Email chris@trinityrc.org

Director of Youth Ministry: Jon Wolters Email jon@trinityrc.org

Worship Coordinator: Becky Bierma Email becky@trinityrc.org

A photograph of a white life preserver with red stripes floating in blue water. The text "Jesus Saves!" is written in blue, curved letters across the bottom right of the image. The text "Rough Waves?" is written in white, curved letters across the bottom left of the image. The entire image is framed by a thick blue border.

Save the dates!!!
AUGUST 13-17
6-8:15PM
TRINITY REFORMED
CHURCH—Holland, MI