

Dear Holy Trinity Family and Friends,

This year's "Concerts at 4" series began in September with organ performances by four musicians, including Ned Perwo, our Holy Trinity Director of Music. The final piece Ned played was *Carillon de Westminster* by Louis Vierne. Ned explained that he had been working on the piece for a full year, not long, really, since it will probably take a lifetime to perfect. "But at some point you have to play it with someone listening. Here goes!" Then he played the piece – beautifully.

I admire the honesty, courage, and pluck Ned showed by playing that difficult work and inviting us to be part of his learning process. Most of life is like that, isn't it? How many things do we do perfectly? Any? Certainly not many! I've sometimes been guilty in my life of not cultivating new interests and talents because I couldn't imagine myself ever doing them **well**. Mary the perfectionist got in the way of Mary the person. What's that old saying? "Better to have tried and failed than never to have tried at all." Why? Because we can learn from every experience, despite the outcome! Also we can **enjoy** the process, pan for and find gold in the moment, look back with gratitude on experiences that didn't last forever but contained goodness.

I'm thinking along these lines because at this year's annual meeting we made the painful decision not to renew the contract of our Director of Youth & Family Ministry. Financial realities drove us to that conclusion, because we simply didn't have enough money to pay Karen Astrom's salary. Many changes have occurred in the meantime. Giving is strong, our investments are profitable, we have successfully lived within a lean budget, and with Pastor Leitzke's departure our expenses are down. As you hopefully heard in the recent temple talk and adult forum, we are now envisioning a change in staffing for the future: a full-time Director of Youth & Family Ministry and a part-time second pastor.

Included in this *Lampighter* are proposed ministry descriptions for myself as lead pastor and for the other two positions mentioned above. (A proposed salary break-out for the Director of Youth & Family and part-time pastor is also included.) These descriptions are not all-inclusive, but will give you a good idea of the division-of-labor-in-the-vineyard which would occur if we were fully staffed in this way.

Council members, Chris Ed team members, and I have reflected long and prayerfully on what the Holy Spirit is calling us to do with the richness of children and youth in this faith family. Those of us who work with the young people believe that a full-time staff person in this area will enable our congregation to plough new ground in youth and family involvement in faith, fellowship and service. Additionally, a staff person specifically responsible for youth and family ministry will help to ease the heavy load many of our volunteers carry, not by doing the work they now do, but by providing constant staff support, enrichment opportunities and coordination.

Our first venture into this form of youth and family ministry was of only eighteen months' duration, but provided us with the first-hand experience we needed to refine how we want to shape the position and how we need to fund it (i.e. as a protected line item in the budget rather than through the ever-fluctuating Staffing Challenge Fund). We are much further "ahead" in

wisdom and practice now than we were three years ago when we initially approved the addition of a part-time Director of Youth and Family Ministry.

Your prayers are requested and your input is welcomed as we continue this discernment and planning process. Our congregation's heartfelt thanks go to **all** of our volunteers who nurture families and children in the faith, to our Christian Education Committee members who shepherd our vast and multi-faceted educational program, to Finance members who help us

figure out how to pay for it all, to Council members who have accepted the responsibilities, joys and occasional headaches of leadership among us, to the parents who are the children's teachers in "the first church, the home," and to each of **you** who recognize these children as "ours" to raise in the faith, despite the fact that most or none of them live under your roof!

In Christ, who pointed to the children and said, "It is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs,"\*

Pastor Mary

\*Luke 18.16

**☞ COUNCIL CORNER ☞**

The Church Council asked Pastor Mary to develop a list of duties that she, as the Pastor, does and would continue to do, and those she would like the part time Pastor and the Director of Youth and Family Ministries, to do. This is the list:

Pastor Mary:

- Preach ¾ of the time, preside weekly
- Preside at member weddings and funerals.
- Do home and hospital visitation, in partnership with PT pastor and our devoted laypeople!
- Cultivate new members by reaching out to visitors.
- Serve as pastoral liaison for Stephen Ministry (but send at least two more laypeople to Stephen Ministry Leader Training to assist Nancy Sabo and Ruth Walsh in leading/teaching/ /supervising).
- Lead Weekday Spirituality.
- Serve as pastoral liaison with Worship & Music, for worship planning purposes.
- Coordinate daily with Office Manager; meet weekly with staff at staff meeting; biweekly with Part Time pastor, Director of Music and Director of Youth & Family.
- Maintain involvement with Ministerium and cluster.
- Continue writing monthly religion column, Fresh Winds, pastoral blog, etc.

Part-time Pastor:

- Share home and hospital visitation responsibilities.
- Be available to do non-member weddings/funerals.
- Possibly teach Confirmation Connection.
- Preach an average of once a month.
- Preside at the 7 a.m. Wed. service every other week.
- Help to foster Men’s Ministry.
- Coordinate Adult Forum schedule of outside speakers and internal series; lead the latter.

Director of Youth and Family Ministry:

- Coordinate Confirmation Connection logistics. Teach some of the large groups.
- Assist (hands-on) with Breakfast Club
- Serve as staff liaison with Christian Education (e.g., attend Chris Ed meetings and support our Sunday School staff).
- Nurture Coffeehouse Christians and Faith & Film.
- Support Luthermania activities (currently headed up by Allison Morgan) and initiate junior high school fellowship events as well.
- Develop youth and intergenerational service opportunities –link us up with Ministerium and synod-sponsored servant trips.
- Work with Director of Music to maximize benefit of children’s choir involvement.
- Help to lay the pathway between the parking lot and the sanctuary for Sunday School parents.
- Take the lead in scheduling children’s messages, by various people, including herself/himself.

We have the following resources available in the 2008 Budget to fill the positions of Part Time Pastor, and Director of Youth and Family Ministries:

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Salary                        | \$ 28,030         |
| Housing Allowance             | 20,000            |
| Auto Allowance                | 4,000             |
| Pension                       | 5,640             |
| Disability Costs              | 1,504             |
| <u>Life &amp; health Ins.</u> | <u>10,152</u>     |
|                               | \$69,326 for 2007 |

With inflation to 2008 dollars = \$ 72,000

These are the “dollars” we have to spend. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church can hire a part time Pastor and a part time Director of Youth and Family Ministry in any combination of hours and salary as long as the total doesn't exceed \$72,000.

## ☞ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ☛

### LIBRARY

Holy Trinity will be celebrating Children's Book Week at coffee hour on Sunday, Nov. 18, with our Adopt-a-Book program and a very special one-half price sale of "Books for Holiday Giving."

Books will also be available for adoption and for sale immediately before and after the 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 17.

### Children's Book Week

This national celebration of the pleasures of reading was first observed Nov. 10 through 15, 1919, with the theme, "More Books in the Home," and a poster designed by Jessie Willcox Smith, known for her Good Housekeeping magazine covers featuring mothers and children.

Now in its eighty-eighth year, Children's Book Week came about through the combined efforts of Franklin K. Mathiews, then chief librarian of the Boy Scouts of America, book editor Frederick G. Melcher and Anne Carroll Moore, the First Superintendent of children's work at the New York Public Library. These three dynamic leaders recognized the importance of introducing children to "good" books and the parents' role in encouraging reading. This year's theme is "Rise up Reading" and the poster is designed by Edward Koren.

The Holy Trinity Adopt-a-Book program is a way to support the Sunday School Library, which, in turn, supports the Sunday School curriculum and introduces children to the pleasures of books. All books "adopted" are immediately added to the library collection for everyone to enjoy. A book plate with the name of the donor and the name(s) of the person(s) honored or memorialized is placed at the front of the book. With the past support the library has grown from approximately 100 books to 800 library items including books, audio books, CDs, videocassettes and DVDs. We gratefully look forward to your continued support.

### Books for Holiday Giving

As many of you know, the WELCA Christmas Bazaar will not be held this year. In lieu of the book table at the Bazaar and in honor of Children's Book Week we will have a special table with a selection of new books to be sold at 1/2 price. The books will be appropriate for the very young child to the teenager on your shopping list. As you look forward to the holidays, think of a child you know who would love to receive a beautiful book of his/her own. That child will thank you, especially if you read the book aloud to a younger child, or talk about it with an older child.

### Give the Gift of Reading

Proceeds from the book sale will be donated to two non-profit literacy organizations: Reading is Fundamental (RIF) and Beginning with Books. Since 1966, RIF has provided over 100 million books to over 2.4 million children, from infancy through high school, at no cost to their families. Beginning with Books, founded in 1984, is an affiliate of The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and was strongly supported by Fred Rogers of Mr. Rogers Neighborhood during his lifetime. Beginning with Books works with agencies that offer an early-intervention literacy component to their work with low-income families. By purchasing a book from our sales table you will not only be giving the gift of reading to a child you know, but you will be supporting two outstanding literacy organizations that are bringing the gift of reading to millions of children. If you would like more information about any of the above programs, please call me.

*Ellin Greene*

### Library Book Review

#### EAT, PRAY, LOVE

By Elizabeth Gilbert

Book Review by: Anne Kurzenberger  
Weekday Spirituality Participant

Several weeks ago, I attended a potluck dinner and discussion about the best-selling book, Eat, Pray, Love. Everyone was to bring a dish from one of three countries featured in the book – Italy, India,

or Indonesia. Instead of the expected over-representation of pasta, tomato sauce and cheese, nearly everyone was inspired to experiment with the unfamiliar cuisine of Southeast Asia. Together, our intrepid group took a culinary journey while discussing and debating one woman's spiritual journey – satisfying our palates and our souls.

Eat, Pray, Love is a true tale about a year in the life of Liz, who has collapsed under the weight of her seemingly wonderful life and, later, a failed love affair. Despair becomes her constant companion. We are mercifully spared the details, recriminations and accusations about her past. The story is about Liz accepting personal responsibility for her emotional growth and taking action even if the path is radical. Liz embarks on an adventure to lands and cultures that she believes best represent what she wants most to learn about: pleasure, spirituality, and the balance, if possible, between these two forces.

Liz journeys first to Italy—where else to rediscover pleasure? She eats (with a capital E!) her way through pizza and gelato, studies Italian, and makes new friends. By the end of her visit, she begins to appreciate beauty and experience joy again—and to lighten just a little the load of her emotional baggage.

Next, our heroine moves to India in a quest for spiritual devotion. Liz lives and works in a remote ashram. In spite of the reverent atmosphere, she is frustrated by prayer, meditation, her sense of helplessness and her chronic preoccupation. She perseveres with the help of some notable mentors. Later, in the midst of deep prayer, Liz finds herself for just a moment in “the center of God's palm.”

Last, Liz travels to Bali where she learns how to integrate pleasure and spiritual devotion. She meets numerous and colorful locals and ex-pats who become her guides. Then the unexpected occurs – that which she has denied with purpose and determination. I would be a rat to tell you.

Eat, Pray, Love relates a terribly funny, painfully honest and intensely personal odyssey. It is rich in spiritual self-

revelation, vivid cultural details, and ingratiating characters. I was delighted to hitch a ride on Liz's quest; I think you may enjoy the trip, too. A word about language. This book, like most popular adult fare, is not immune to four-letter words, and there is an intimate scene or two. These infrequent and brief moments are written with a deft and graceful hand and will not be a distraction.

By the way, following is the recipe for the Indonesian dish I brought to the party. After some initial trepidation, I thought it was pretty good, and it will be a nice addition to my kitchen repertoire. I hope you enjoy it, too!

Chicken Sate with Spicy Peanut Sauce  
Adapted from Gourmet magazine; courtesy  
of the Food Network

For chicken and marinade:

2 whole skinless boneless chicken breasts  
(about 1 1/4 pounds)

3/4 cup sweetened flaked coconut

2 t chopped peeled fresh gingerroot

2 t curry powder

2 T fresh lime juice

1/2 cup hot water

For sauce:

2 t canola oil

3 scallions, chopped fine

1 garlic clove, chopped fine

1 T finely grated peeled fresh gingerroot

1 cup water

1/2 cup creamy or chunky peanut butter

1/4 cup soy sauce

1/4 cup distilled white vinegar

3 T firmly packed brown sugar

1/4 t dried hot red pepper flakes

Equipment: About 32, 7-inch bamboo skewers

Make the chicken and marinade:

Cut the chicken lengthwise into 1/4-inch-thick slices, and season them with salt and pepper.

In a blender, blend together the coconut, the gingerroot, the curry powder, the lime juice, and the hot water until the mixture is smooth, strain the mixture through a fine sieve into a bowl, pressing hard on the solids, and let the marinade cool. The

marinade may be made two days in advance and kept covered and chilled.

In a large shallow dish, pour the marinade over the chicken, coating the chicken well, and let the chicken marinate, covered and chilled, for at least one hour and up to three hours. (Do not let the chicken marinate longer or the meat will break down.)

Soak the bamboo skewers in water to cover for 15 minutes. Thread the chicken onto the skewers.

Make the sauce: In a saucepan heat oil over moderate heat until hot but not smoking and cook scallions, garlic and ginger, stirring, until fragrant, about 1 minute. Stir in remaining ingredients and bring to a simmer, stirring. Simmer sauce, stirring, until smooth and cool to room temperature. Sauce may be made up to three days ahead and chilled, covered. If sauce is too thick after chilling, stir in one to two tablespoons hot water until sauce reaches desired consistency.

Grill the chicken with the marinade clinging to it on an oiled rack set five to six inches over glowing coals for 1 1/2 minutes on each side, or until it is cooked through, and serve the sates with the dipping sauce.

## ☪ EVANGELISM & STEWARDSHIP ☪

### Walk with Jesus

The Stewardship and Evangelism Committee would like to thank everyone for their participation in our yearly Stewardship drive.

A special thank you to our office manager, Diane Churchman, for efficiently getting everything in print and ready on time. "Thank you" also goes out to our letter stuffers who quickly accomplished a monumental task. Many hands really do make smaller work.

A profound thank you goes to our Temple Talk speakers Cindy Markus, Carol Lee Tieman and Ray Kaden. Their prayerful, heartfelt words were an inspiration to our congregation.

We are grateful to Paul DiCorcia for his confidential accounting of the Estimates of Giving. We are also thankful to Pastor Mary for supporting the work of our

committee and contributing meaningful Stewardship sermons.

Thank you to director of music Ned Perwo for coordinating music during the procession of the offering and pledge collection.

Most of all, thank you to our faithful congregation because without your prayerful consideration and financial support, we would not be able to plan our Mission and Ministries for 2008.

If you have not already turned in your estimate of giving card, it is not too late. Please make it a priority this week so we may bring our program to a successful conclusion. We will be reporting back to the congregation the results of pledges later in November.

Thank you all for walking with Jesus together.

### **Chicks, Honeybees and Rabbits; Oh My!**

A few weeks ago, nine-year-old Jimmy Malta, and I, age?, signed up to do a Coffee Hour together. He and I spoke during the week prior and decided who would bring what. We were pleased that Joy Blazak offered to prepare the coffee for us on Saturday night so when we got to Church early on Sunday, all we had to do was plug it in. She also brought bagels! (Thanks, Miss Joy!) Jimmy enjoyed baking delicious muffins with his Mom and I loved getting a good deal at ShopRite on some wonderful cakes!

Jimmy and I thought about what charity we would like to donate the 'free will' offering to and decided to contact The Heifer Project and get a list of the animals we could buy that would be sent around the world wherever the need.

We collected \$110 and guess what we bought - chicks, honeybees and rabbits!

The point of this story is how much fun hosting a Coffee Hour can be for all ages; how people join together joyously to make it happen; and how nothing but 'GOOD' can come out of it! Many people were touched by one hour of fellowship, coffee, goodies and your generosity!

Thank you and Praise the Lord!

*Cindy Markus*

### **Social Ministry says "Thanks"**

Thanks to all who devoted their time and efforts to our clothing sale. This includes our Property Committee members, the ladies circle members and the "I want to sort" people. We needed all of them to produce \$1690.25 for charity.

"Thrivent", formerly the Lutheran Brotherhood investment company, has been a staunch supporter of our efforts and is enhancing our total by \$800, for a final count of \$2490.25 Please investigate this investment company for your personal needs. They have certainly been behind our efforts!

### **Children of God**

During the month of October, Holy Trinity welcomed the following children into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

Name: Shelby Elizabeth Weingartner

Date of Baptism: Oct. 13

Shelby's parents are Robin and Ed Weingartner. Her sponsors are Nicole Luciano and Justin Benedict.

### **Rest in Peace**

Our prayers and thoughts are with the families who mourn the death of loved ones ...

Harriet Pearce passed away on Oct. 22. Pastor Mary presided at Harriet's funeral at Pable Evertz in Point Pleasant and at the graveside service at Greenwood Cemetery on Oct. 25.

Joyce Newman, passed away on Oct. 24. Pastor Mary presided at Joyce's funeral at Holy Trinity and interment in Momnouth Memorial Park, Tinton Falls, on Monday, Oct. 29.

### **Love and Marriage**

The following weddings took place at Holy Trinity during the month of October:

Jamie L. Schwier and David Emmerich were married on Saturday, Oct. 13.

Amanda M. Carl and John T. Brockwell were married on Sunday, Oct. 14.

### **Sew and Sews**

The Holy Trinity Blanketeers will meet at 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19 in the room behind the kitchen to make blankets for fragile children.

You are cordially invited to join them!

For more information, call Gloria Smith. Her telephone number is (732) 449-1942.

### **W. E. L. C. A.**

Executive Board will meet at 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 4.

Louise Circle will meet on Monday, Nov. 19 at 7 p. m. in church. Members should bring their health kits and snack items for children in RedeemHer. Call Circle Leader Ruth Walsh at (732) 528-7695.

Elisabeth Circle will meet at 11 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 19 at 11 a. m. in church. Please bring lunch to eat after the meeting. The hostess will be Louise Moenke and devotions will be led by Ruth Beers.

The members of this circle have completed six health kits for Church World Service. They will host coffee hour on Sunday, Dec. 2.

### **WELCA to Raise Funds for Non-Profit Group**

The Women of the ELCA have a "No Bake" sale set up for Nov. 10 and 11. The idea of "no bake" is that in lieu of making or purchasing items to sell at a bake sale, you offer the \$5 that you would have spent on ingredients as a donation toward a charity.

A cardboard "cake" will be set up for display purposes, along with envelopes for your donation.

Special No Bake Sale envelopes will also be passed around at church. All proceeds will go to the women's group Redeem-Her.

The Redeem-Her program has been created to prepare incarcerated women for release into the community. Very often the picture seen upon release looks something like this: a woman with the clothes on her back, a plastic bag of personal belongings, a \$20 money order to get where she needs to go, no support system, no place to stay, no car, no job, and

a criminal record to report on every job application.

Sound inviting?

The outside component of this program builds trust by assisting women with practical needs such as clothing & personal hygiene products. They also assist with finding housing, employment & appropriate counseling services. This group is dedicated to preparing the women for reconciliation with God, herself, her family & her community, because when women come home healthy – spiritually, emotionally, physically, & economically – we all benefit in the end.

Please consider assisting us in our mission to help this organization to provide a future for these women in need of a supportive environment and a chance for a fresh start.

For more information about the program visit the website, [www.redeem-her.org](http://www.redeem-her.org), call toll-free 1-(888) 807-2944, or send an e-mail to [info@redeem-her.org](mailto:info@redeem-her.org).

Thank you!

### **Have a Heart?**

Grace Hospice has a place for anyone who has a heart for listening to and caring for others. As a volunteer or a certified home health aide, you will work with Hospice patients and their families in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

Those who have a special call to this unique ministry can obtain more information by calling Holy Trinity member Debbie Cox at 1-866-447-0246 or sending an e-mail to [coxd22@yahoo.com](mailto:coxd22@yahoo.com).

## **✪ WORSHIP AND MUSIC ✪**

### **Notes from the Director of Music**

It's hard to believe that November is here and I'm starting month five at Holy Trinity! The ensembles are up and running, I'm settled into my new office, and I've experienced my first Oktoberfest ☺. I couldn't be happier with how warm and friendly the congregation is and how hard

the members of each ensemble work in order to provide us with the best worship experience possible.

Since my arrival, I have noticed one thing that is common among many churches which is also the trend at Holy Trinity. This trend is the ratio of people participating in ensembles to the number of people sitting in the pews. Currently each ensemble is made up of a small core of dedicated individuals. This doesn't mean that a smaller ensemble isn't as good as a larger one, but it does put the added stress on the individual to always be there regardless of schedule or various circumstances.

Here's where you, the individual in the pew, can do your part ☺. Give one of the ensembles a try. Sing in the Adult Choir; sing or play an instrument in Joyful Noise; bring your children to Children's Choir; spread the word about the concert series.

### **No Previous Experience Necessary**

If you've ever considered participating in Holy Trinity's music ministries but thought –

"I don't know how to sing," it's never too late to learn;

"It's been years since I've played my instrument," you'll get back in shape;

"I don't know if my kids want to sing," have them give it a try, they'll thank you in the long run;

"I have absolutely no musical ability," we can always use PR people for the concert series;

"I can't join an ensemble for an entire year," participate when you can!

The wonderful thing about Music Ministry is the way in which it encompasses all the components that Holy Trinity values –

Music Ministry is Outreach

Music Ministry is Evangelism

Music Ministry is Education

Music Ministry is Social

Music Ministry is Spiritual

Listed below are all the ways in which you can participate in Holy Trinity's

Music Ministries. I hope to see you at one of our ensembles.

*In His Service, Ned Perwo,  
Director of Music  
[NPerwo@holytrinity-nj.org](mailto:NPerwo@holytrinity-nj.org)*

Adult Choir is open to all singers (grade 9 through adult). Rehearsals are Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. and take place in either Fellowship Hall or the choir loft, depending on the church's schedule. The ensemble performs a wide variety of music ranging from Baroque & Classical masterworks to multicultural & contemporary selections. People wishing to be a part of the Holy Trinity Choir are not required to be seasoned singers or be able to read music. A desire to work hard and have fun is the only requirement. Everything else can be learned in rehearsal. A complete anthem schedule and rehearsal Cd's are available through the Director of Music

Cherub Choir (age 3 through 6) meets at 4:45 p.m. on Wednesdays, September through June. Children spend time discovering their singing voices, developing their sense of rhythm, and learning age-appropriate repertoire.

Choristers (grades 1 through 8) meet from 4 to 5:15 p.m. on Tuesdays, September through June. Choristers use the RSCM curriculum Voice for Life, which focuses on age-appropriate vocal training, sight-singing, and music theory. Joyful Noise is Holy Trinity's contemporary worship ensemble. We rehearse from 4 to 4:45 p. m. on Saturday afternoons before the 5 p. m. worship service. The ensemble performs a wide variety of music ranging from Praise & Worship choruses to hymns from our new ELW hymnal. Membership is open to singers of all ages and instrumentalists who are comfortable learning music at a fast pace.

Youth Instrumentalists provide music at the Saturday worship service during the offertory. Interested youth should possess a moderate facility on their instrument and be able to play songs with a minimum of two sharps or flats.

Holy Trinity Concerts @ 4 is a major outreach tool of Holy Trinity's Music Ministries. Concerts are interesting, fun, and feature performers of the highest quality from the Tri-state area. They not only promote visibility within the community but also serve as a no pressure way to invite people to church. People who may never consider coming to a worship service may come to a concert.

The next Concert @ 4 will be on Sunday, Nov. 18, and will feature Jen Sillipino on flute and Ned Perwo on piano. A free-will offering will be gratefully received.

### ✂ MAIL BAG ✂

Dear Pastor Mary, our Holy Trinity family, Intercessory Prayer and to all those who cared to send the very best – their love and their prayers –throughout Bill's surgery, rehab and continuing recovery and the many prayers for our family during this past year. God being all seeing and all knowing has showered His Grace upon us. We are ever grateful for His continuing love and yours. Your faith has been an ever present, uplifting gift.

*Peace be with you,  
June & Bill Gregory*

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Dear Pastor Mary and staff,

Thank you for helping to make Megan's christening such a special day that we will never forget. We feel so lucky to welcome Megan into such a caring and loving church family.

*Sincerely,  
Mark and Susan Liggett*  
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Gloria and all the Holy Trinity Blanketeers:

Thank you all for your support and wonderful donation to Project Linus, N. J. Your 12 blankets will be added to the Jersey Shore University Medical Center delivery.

*Thank you for your generosity,  
W. Jones  
Volunteer Recreation Commissioner*