



TRINITY TRUMPETER

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

November/December 2015

Volume 14, Issue 6

Thankfulness at the Manger





Trinity at a glance

To reflect God's love and grace by welcoming everyone, sharing our gifts, caring for those in need, and witnessing to Christ as our Savior.

—Trinity's Mission Statement

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The *Trinity Trumpeter* is a bimonthly publication of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Article submissions should be submitted to trevor.wolter@trinitylclb.org by the 15th of even-numbered months.

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Sunday Worship



9:00 am Sunday School & Bible Study
10:30 am Worship with Communion
11:45 am Fellowship

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Dalerond Smith	Sexton
Arline Walter	Choir Director
Trevor Wolter	Organist



Pastor's Message

Giving Thanks, Preparing for Christ

As we get closer to the end of the calendar year we come across two major national holidays: Thanksgiving and Christmas. Stores start displaying and selling Christmas decorations, wrapping paper, candy, and toys just after Labor Day, if not sooner. American holidays are often marked by our excesses and our almost civic obligation to consume.

Thanksgiving is seen more as a day to watch football and to consume enough calories to endure standing in long lines at Best Buy, Wal-Mart, Target, and more. There are Black Friday sales, Cyber-Monday sales, and for the charities there is Giving-Tuesday. But how much more can we buy? How much more can we eat and drink?

What often gets lost in the commercialism of our holiday seasons are the themes of these sacred and holy days. Some of our most beloved holiday television specials (think *Miracle on 34th Street* or *A Charlie Brown Christmas*) hammered on the effects of commercialism and our exuberant consumption of

stuff rather than focusing on strengthening our relationships with family, friends, neighbors, strangers who might one day become friends or family, and God.

The hustle and bustle of the season may keep us from taking the time to give thanks to God for all of the truly important relationships that we have. Each day we should be thankful for the relationships we have with one another.

The Advent season reminds us of God's promise that God has not abandoned us nor forsaken us. God continues to pour out God's love and grace into the world through Christ whose birth we prepare for as we welcome Christ into our hearts, our minds, our homes, our congregations, our communities, and our world.

- We invite you to join us as we offer prayers of thanksgiving at our Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 25th.
- We invite you to join us as we pray, worship, and reflect on the themes of hope, justice, and love during our Wednesday evening Advent Suppers and Devotions.



- We invite you to join us for our Concert series that will begin Saturday, December 19th and our Caroling and Las Posadas event on Sunday evening, December 20th.
- We invite you to join in our Christmas Eve celebration on December 24 at 7:30 p.m.

thanks to God as we prepare ourselves and our Church to welcome the Christ who inspires hope, brings forth God’s reign of justice, and fills the world with his redeeming love.

–Pastor Scott

All are welcome to join us at Trinity in giving



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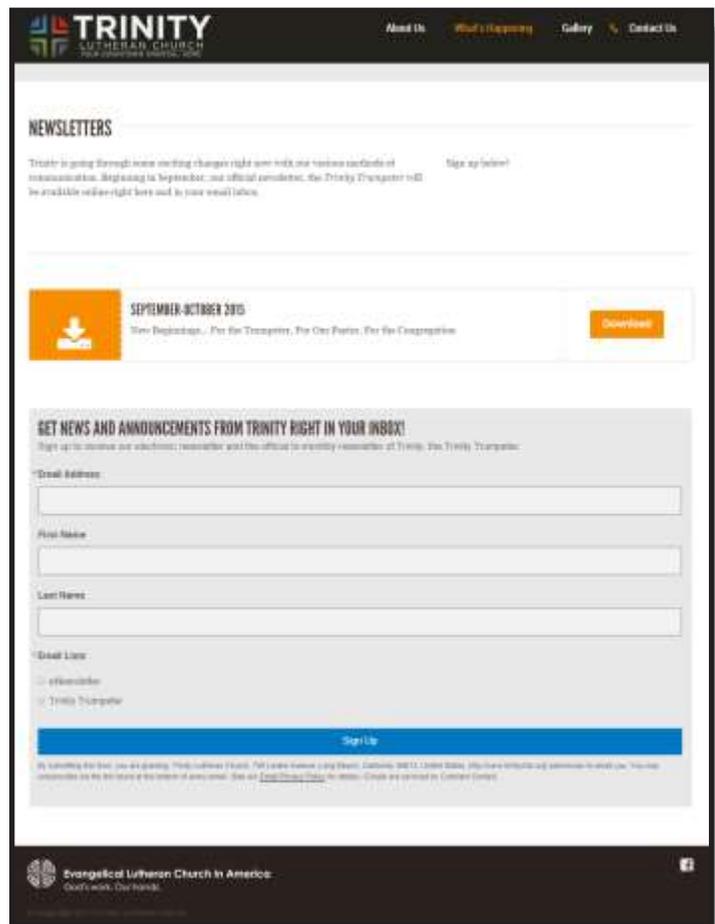
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4. Click Sign Up and you’re done!

The newsletter is shared via our email mailing list the day before it’s available for pickup in church.

You can also find the latest edition and issues from August 2015 and later on this same page.

P.S. While you’re signing up for the Trumpeter, sign up also for our monthly eNewsletter, *The Trinity Trumpet Blast*, written each month by Pastor Scott.



November 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 1 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property Committee	2	3	4	5 10:00am Bible Study	6	7 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
8 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive Committee	9	10 7:15pm Council Meeting	11 7:00pm Visibility Committee	12 10:00am Bible Study	13	14 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Discipling Committee 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
15 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Outreaching Committee	16	17	18	19 10:00am Bible Study	20	21 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
22 Christ the King 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:45am Congregational	23	24	25 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship	26 Thanksgiving	27	28 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
29 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Committee	30	Dec 1	2	3	4	5

December 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 29	30	Dec 1	2	3	4	5
<p>9:00am Bible Study</p> <p>9:00am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>12:00pm Property Committee</p>			<p>6:00pm Soup Supper</p> <p>7:00pm Advent Worship</p>	<p>10:00am Bible Study</p>		<p>9:00am Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>12:30pm Meal</p> <p>1:00pm LSS Tutoring</p>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>9:00am Bible Study</p> <p>9:00am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>12:00pm Property Committee</p>			<p>6:00pm Soup Supper</p> <p>7:00pm Advent Worship</p>	<p>10:00am Bible Study</p>		<p>9:00am Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:00am Discipling Committee</p> <p>12:30pm Meal</p> <p>1:00pm LSS Tutoring</p>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>9:00am Bible Study</p> <p>9:00am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>12:00pm Visibility</p> <p>12:15pm Executive</p>		<p>Newsletter Submissions Due</p> <p>7-15pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>6:00pm Soup Supper</p> <p>7:00pm Advent Worship</p>	<p>10:00am Bible Study</p>		<p>9:00am Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>12:30pm Meal</p> <p>1:00pm LSS Tutoring</p> <p>4:00pm Choir Concert</p>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>9:00am Bible Study</p> <p>9:00am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>12:15pm Outreaching Committee</p>				<p>Christmas Eve</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study</p> <p>7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship</p>	<p>Christmas</p>	
27	28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 16	2
<p>9:00am Bible Study</p> <p>9:00am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>12:15pm Fellowship Committee</p>						



SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

Council Highlights

1. Pastor Scott led opening devotions, reading from Psalm 119. He noted that many of us may feel lost sometimes or experience peaks and valleys, but God seeks us out and never leaves us. Individuals and congregations need to remember that God is present in this place—wherever that place may be.
2. Pastor Scott noted there have been incidents involving senior members of the congregation and young children and families. He recommends that he and a member of the Council, preferably the Council President, meet with these people to discuss appropriate behavior in a loving way, to provide pastoral care and encourage communicating grievances in a calm manner. There have been incidents of conflict and open arguments. He also recommends that a training session on nonviolent communication/conflict resolution be offered through the Synod or with himself as trainer.
3. Pastor Scott stated that Rev. Sean Lanigan, Pastor of Holy Ground Long Beach, is leaving, effective November 1st. Many Holy Grounders are planning to continue together as a Christian community, but a time of transition will ensue. The community wants to affiliate with a church and congregation. Fenton Glendening insisted strongly that we must understand more about the overall situation at Holy Ground before we make decisions or recommendations of any kind concerning them.
- Other Council members concurred. Pastor Scott asked that Council members be in prayerful support of the young people who come together as a Holy Ground worshipping community.
4. President Larry Rice informed all members of the Greater Long Beach Conference Fall Assembly to be held at Christ Lutheran Church, October 15, 2015, beginning with a light dinner at 6:30 p.m. ELCA Southwest California Synod Bishop Rev. Guy Irwin and others of his staff are expected to attend. All Council members and anyone else who is interested are encouraged to attend.
5. August budget receipts were \$15,275.41. August budget expenses were \$15,214.49. Expenses were about in line with receipts primarily because Property expenses for the month were very low.
6. The Discipling Committee is planning for three Wednesday evening Advent worship services to be preceded by light meals to be prepared by Pastor Scott and family, Arline Walter, and Trevor Wolter.
7. The Outreaching Committee reported that the school supplies “God’s Work, Our Hands” project was carried out successfully. Jacqui Nicholson expressed the Committee’s thanks to all who donated supplies or otherwise assisted in this effort.
8. The Property Committee reported that the water blasting of the church’s apartment

(Continued on page 10)



Fellowship Notes

On November 25, 2015, Thanksgiving Eve Trinity will offer a worship celebration giving thanks for all God has given and done for us. Fellowship Committee will be sponsoring a fellowship time after the worship service in the fellowship hall. We are asking for donations of cheese and crackers, fruit trays, and cookies/bars for this event. Please let the church office know if you are donating something, 562.437.4002.

On Christmas Eve, following our Candlelight worship Trinity will offer a time of fellowship. The Fellowship Committee will be offering pulled pork sandwiches, a Christmas punch, and other goodies. We are asking for donations of your favorite candy, Christmas cookie/bar. Watch for a sign-up list posted in the fellowship hall beginning in December. Thank you for all donations.

–Kathy Glendening, Fellowship Committee



The Trinity Concert Series is kicking off a month earlier this year with a concert by our very own Trinity Lutheran Church Choir! They will share with us a concert of Advent and Christmas music on **Saturday, December 19 at 4:00 p.m.** See the information on the next page for more information. Be sure to invite your family, friends, and neighbors. Details about the other events in the series will be coming soon.

The Trinity Concert Series is an invaluable ministry for our congregation. It provides additional opportunities to welcome the community through our doors and it bears witness to our neighbors of our gospel-centered commitment to the arts.

We have worked hard to limit the financial impact of this ministry on our congregation but naturally some limited expenses are to be incurred.

For the upcoming concert in December, our choir will be joined by four professional musicians. Each musician will be paid \$225 for their time and talent. If you are interested in sponsoring a musician, please see Marilyn Bohl.

Donations of \$25 or more will be noted in our concert programs unless you prefer that your contribution remain anonymous. Your generosity and support of this ministry is sincerely appreciated!

–Trevor Wolter

How Great Our Joy!

A Christmas Choral Celebration

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 4:00 P.M.

Trinity Lutheran Church
759 Linden Avenue
Long Beach, California
trinitylclb.org

FREE ADMISSION

Presented by the Trinity Lutheran Church Choir
joined by special friends and guests
Text and music by Lloyd Larson and Douglas E. Wagner



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
YOUR DOWNTOWN SPIRITUAL HOME

building has been done. Priming will be done next. The paint should last 3-5 years, but no warranty greater than 1 year will be provided. An electrical outage at 750 Elm destroyed the functioning of the electrical panel for the property. Repairs will cost \$1200 and will be taken from the Repairs line item in the budget. Renters are responding to our emphasis that rents must be paid, and 3-day notices are being issued to any tenant whose rent is overdue.

9. Three 2016 Council positions must be filled: two three-year terms and one one-year term. Kistyn Gritney, Jan Laser, and Sande Rice constitute the Nominating Committee.
10. Arline Walter reported that she and organist Trevor Wolter met with Jonathan Talberg, CSULB Professor of Vocal Music, to inquire about the potential availability of students to sing with Trinity Choir in preparation of a Christmas cantata to be presented Saturday afternoon, December 19, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. at Trinity. Mrs. Walter identified a need for one soprano, one alto, one tenor, and one base for three practices and the performance. The potential cost is \$45 for each of 3 practices and \$100 for the performance, or \$225, for each of four musicians. Mr. Wolter would also like to pursue the possibility of hiring up to four instrumentalists at a similar price.

Mrs. Walter and Mr. Wolter also talked with Professor Talberg about Trinity's Concert Series. Professor Talberg stated that the University choirs are in high demand and expensive, but a student club of

talented singers performs twice a year in the community and asks only that any offering go to a nonprofit of their choice. The possibility that the group be one of our three groups in 2016 will be explored.

Mrs. Walter informed the Council that she would like a small reception after each of the concerts. She also stated that she will look for people who are willing to sponsor one or more of the paid musicians (just as paid musicians are sponsored in many professional musical performing groups).

The Council passed unanimously the following motion:

The Council expresses strong support for Choir Director Arline Walter's proposal for use of CSULB talent to enhance Trinity's musical strengths for a Christmas cantata and offers a financial guarantee of up to \$2,000 in support of the activity.

11. The Council passed the following motion: *The Council directs the financial officers to gift \$300.00 to South Coast Interfaith Council (SCIC) and to take the money from the oldest F&M Bank Grant(s) in designated funds.*

The Council further asked that an announcement be made by President Rice and included in the bulletin the next two weeks telling people of this gift to SCIC and inviting them to contribute personally to augment this gift if they wish to do so.

—Marilyn Bohl



Serving Us in Worship

November

Ushers: Kathy & Fenton Glendening
Altar Care: Kathy & Fenton Glendening

1:

Liturgist: Amy Lee Duprey
Reader: Amy Lee Duprey

8:

Liturgist: Kirk Olsen
Reader: Kistyn Gritney

15:

Liturgist: Cheyenne Williams
Reader: Arline Walter

22:

Liturgist: Erica Park
Reader: Trevor Wolter

25 (Thanksgiving Eve):

Liturgist: Amy Lee Duprey
Reader: Kathy Glendening

29:

Liturgist: Amy Lee Duprey
Reader: Roland Johnson

December

Ushers: Kathy & Fenton Glendening
Altar Care: Marilyn Bohl

6:

Liturgist: Amy Lee Duprey
Reader: Mike Walter

13:

Liturgist: Kirk Olsen
Reader: Patsy Sampson

20:

Liturgist: Cheyenne Williams
Reader: Joy Fritz

27:

Liturgist: Amy Lee Duprey
Reader: Kathy Glendening

Have you noticed our new sign?

Through a cooperative effort between the Visibility and Property Committees, several signs have been updated around our church property, including a new backlit marquee on the informational sign by the main entrance.





Seasonal Worship Opportunities

Thanksgiving Eve

Wednesday, November 25, 7:00 p.m.

Advent Midweek

Wednesdays, December 2, 9, & 16

Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m.

Worship at 7:00 p.m.

How Great Our Joy

An Advent/Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 19, 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24, 7:30 p.m.