



TRINITY TRUMPETER

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
January/February 2016

Volume 15, Issue 1

Thy word is a
light unto my
feet

and a lamp
unto my path.





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

In this Issue

Pastor's Message	3
The Catechism for Today	4
Monthly Calendar	5
Council Highlights	8
Serving Us in Worship	9
Annual Meeting Highlights	10
Seasonal Worship Opportunities	12

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.

Subscribe to the electronic version on our website or call the church office to receive the print edition.

COPYRIGHT © 2015 Trinity Lutheran Church. All rights reserved.
Icons designed by Freepik.



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

Contact Us



Address: 759 Linden Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90813
Office Phone: (562) 437-4002
Email: info@trinitylclb.org
Web: trinitylclb.org

Leadership & Staff



Rev. Scott Fritz	Pastor
	scott.fritz@trinitylclb.org
Larry Rice	President
Kistyn Gritney	Vice President
Kathy Glendening	Church Secretary
	kathy.glendening@trinitylclb.org
Bob Pedder	Property Manager
Dalerond Smith	Sexton
Arline Walter	Choir Director
Trevor Wolter	Organist



Pastor's Message

“Be Still and Know that I am God!”



Another Christmas has come and gone and a new year is here. We welcome 2016 with hope that this year will be filled new opportunities to grow in faith, hope, and love. Before we know it the season of the Lent will be here. That's right, Lent is coming!

This year Ash Wednesday is on February 10th, just three days after the Super Bowl. Time does not slow down. Time marches on but we need to take the time to slow down. We need to take time to rest, recharge, and rekindle.

Our bodies, minds, and spirits need rest. We cannot go non-stop even in this fast paced, dog-eat-dog, non-stop world. The scripture reminds us to “Be still and know that I am God!... the God of Jacob is our refuge” (Psalm 46:9-10).

When we take time to sit still, to rest, and to listen to God's word for us it gives us the time to begin a process of recharging ourselves. It allows us to feed on the spiritual food that fuels us to live out our baptismal calling to love and serve our God and our neighbors. The word of God is the spiritual food that fuels but we need to ignite that fuel to really

get going.

Many of us may feel like we don't have time to rest. We find ourselves 'running on empty'. Or perhaps we find that our igniter or our pilot light is out. But we need to learn to take time to rest, recharge, and rekindle.

This year's lectionary text follows the Year C and it focuses on the Gospel of Luke. Luke is the longest of the Gospel texts but it is also a whirlwind of stories and events moving from one story to another in a constant succession. Luke's gospel is filled with non-stop action that reads, “Then Jesus went... Then Jesus said... Then the disciples... After Jesus had finished his sayings... Soon afterwards Jesus went through cities and villages...” and so on. Jesus is on a mission.

Immediately after his baptism by John in the Jordan, he was filled with the Holy Spirit and led by the Spirit to the wilderness to be tempted. After this event, “Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee... and he began to teach in their synagogues” (Luke 4). In Luke's Gospel, the Spirit of God is always with Jesus and is one with

Jesus.

Although the gospel may not specifically say that Jesus took time to rest in between the 'and thens' and 'soon afters', Jesus did pause to pray to God, be fed by the Spirit, and rekindle himself for the journey to Jerusalem and the Cross.

Trinity is a spirit-filled place that offers a

place for people to rest, recharge, and rekindle. It is a downtown spiritual home that reflects God's love and grace by welcoming everyone to share their gifts, and care for those in need as we witness to Christ as our Savior. Come and join us at Trinity and find some rest, recharge, and rekindle your faith in 2016!

-Pastor Scott



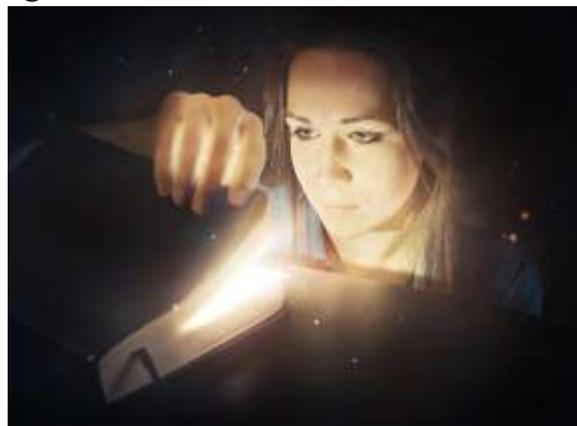
The Catechism for Today

The following is an excerpt from Martin Luther's Large Catechism on the Seventh Petition, "But deliver us from evil."

In the Greek, this petition reads, "Deliver or preserve us from the Evil One, or the Wicked One." It seems to be speaking of the devil as the sum of all evil in order that the entire substance of our prayer may be directed against our archenemy. For it is he who obstructs everything for which we ask: God's name or honor, God's kingdom and will, our daily bread, a good and cheerful conscience, etc.

Therefore at the end we sum it up by saying, "Dear Father, help us to get rid of all this misfortune." Nevertheless, this petition includes all the evil that may befall us under the devil's kingdom: poverty, disgrace, death, and, in short, all the tragic misery and heartache, of which there is so incalculably much on earth. For because the devil is not only a liar but a murderer as well, he incessantly seeks our life and vents his anger by causing accidents and injury to our bodies. He crushes some and drives others to insanity; some he drowns in water, and many

he hounds to suicide or other dreadful catastrophes. Therefore, there is nothing for us to do on earth but to pray without ceasing against this archenemy. For if God did not support us, we would not be safe from him for a single hour.



Thus you see how God wants us to pray to him for everything that attacks even our bodily welfare so that we seek and expect help from no one but him. But he has placed at the end this petition, for if we are to be protected and delivered from all evil, his name must first be hallowed in us, his kingdom come among us, and his will be done. In the end he will preserve us from sin and disgrace and from everything else that harms or injures us.

January 2016

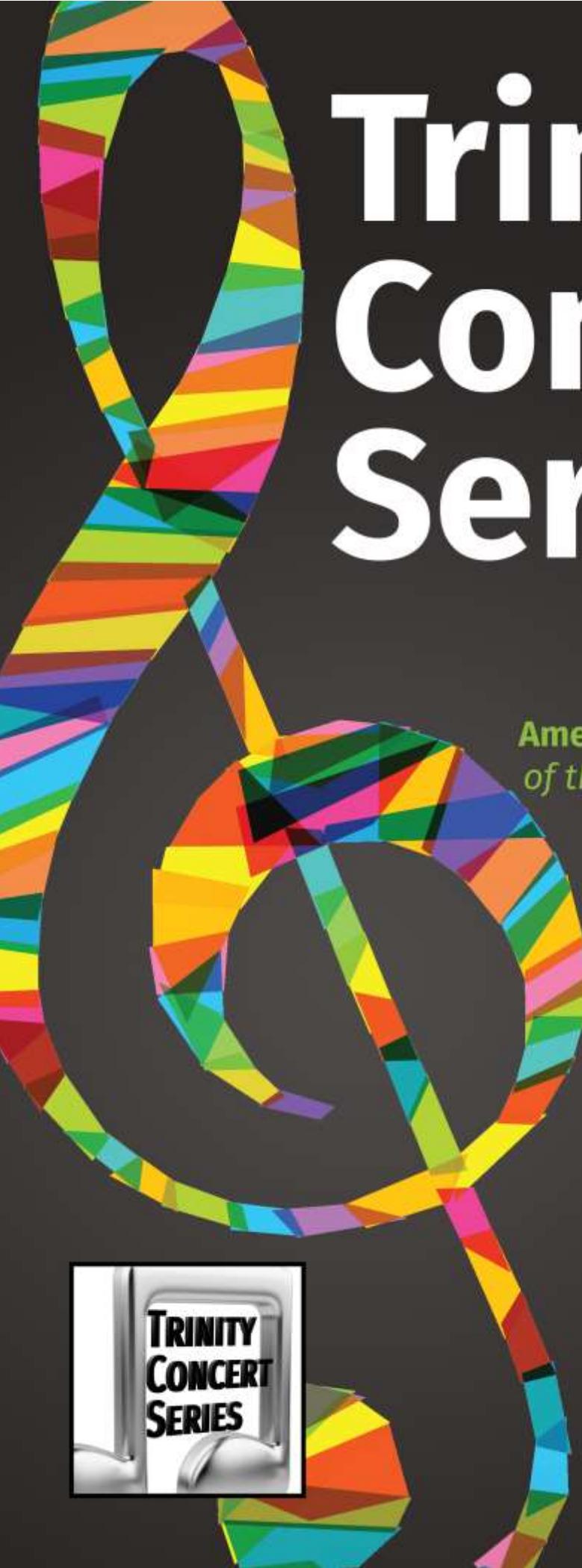
February 2016

January 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 27	28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 16	2
3 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property	4	5	6 Epiphany	7 10:00am Bible Study	8	9 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Discipling 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
10 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive	11	12	13	14 10:00am Bible Study	15	16 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
17 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Outreaching	18	19 7:15pm Council Meeting	20	21 10:00am Bible Study	22	23 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
24 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	25	26	27	28 10:00am Bible Study	29	30 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
31 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship	Feb 1	2	3	4	5	6



Trinity Concert Series

Hymn Festival

Saturday, February 13 at 4:00 p.m.

American Choral Directors Association of the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music IN CONCERT

Saturday, March 12 at 4:00 p.m.

Pacific Bells

Saturday, April 9 at 4:00 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION

759 Linden Avenue
Long Beach, California
trinitylcb.org



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
YOUR DOWNTOWN SPIRITUAL HOME



OCTOBER 20, 2015

Council Highlights

1. Pastor Scott led devotions, encouraging members of the Council to share thoughts of what gives them joy. Many did, then the devotions were closed with prayer.
2. The young people of Holy Ground continue to discuss their future, given Rev. Sean Lanigan's departure November 1. Pastor Scott believes the young people could decide to affiliate with a church and suggests Trinity could and would indeed welcome the young people as individual, contributing members.
3. President Rice and Pastor Scott attended the Greater Long Beach Conference Fall Assembly held at Christ Lutheran Church, October 15, 2015. ELCA Southwest California Synod Bishop Rev. Guy Irwin is personally attempting to attend all fall assemblies, and this was the 11th of 12. The Bishop showed examples of a graphic way to present a church's budget and encouraged those attending to explore the software available on the Synod's website to present their budgets to their congregations in a similar manner. A gentleman from Habitat for Humanity spoke of its project to build 40 homes in the Long Beach area over a 5-year period. Both monetary and physical labor help will be needed; 10% of the funding is to come from the area faith-based community. Christ Lutheran Church has pledged \$5,000 per year for 5 years to the project.
4. Business Manager Hermine Burg asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the September financial reports. Marilyn Bohl directed Council members' attention to members' envelope giving for the entire month of September: \$2,893.00. Kirk Olsen observed that a part of the problem may be that we lost some people when Pastor Josh left. Others agreed. Actions to invite attendees were discussed. Pastor Scott encouraged Council members to read an article in the current issue of *The Lutheran* that deals with what happens in a church when pastors change. (See "5 things that happen when you get a new pastor," pages 12 and 13 of the October issue of *The Lutheran*.)
5. The Discipling Committee continues to plan for three Wednesday evening Advent meals and services. The Committee is proceeding with interviewing CSULB candidates to participate in Trinity Choir's Cantata on Saturday, December 19. The following day, Sunday, December 20, is the date of Trinity's Caroling and Las Posada celebration/observance of Mary and Joseph's search for a place to stay in Bethlehem. Other groups are being invited to join us. Trinity's Christmas Eve service will start at 7:30 p.m. rather than 7:00 p.m. as in prior years to allow more time for people to get to church from their jobs since the day is a work day.
6. On behalf of the Discipling Committee, Marilyn Bohl asked for approval of the child care position description distributed

(Continued on page 10)



Serving Us in Worship

January

Altar Care: Kathy & Fenton Glendening

3:

Greeter: Cheyenne Williams

Liturgist: Amy Lee Duprey

Reader: Amy Lee Duprey

Ushers: Kathy & Fenton Glendening

10:

Greeter: Joy Fritz

Liturgist: Kirk Olsen

Reader: Kistyn Gritney

Users: Erica Park & Cheyenne Williams

17:

Greeter: Erica Park

Liturgist: Cheyenne Williams

Reader: Arline Walter

Ushers: Kathy & Fenton Glendening

24:

Greeter: Amy Lee Duprey

Liturgist: Erica Park

Reader: Roland Johnson

Ushers: Kathy & Fenton Glendening

31:

Greeter: Kathy Glendening

Liturgist: Amy Lee Duprey

Reader: Trevor Wolter

Ushers: Roland Johnson & Chris Iverson

February

Altar Care: Marilyn Bohl

7:

Greeter: Erica Park

Liturgist: Amy Lee Duprey

Reader: Mike Walter

Ushers: Kathy & Fenton Glendening

10 (Ash Wednesday):

Greeter: Larry Rice

Liturgist: Cheyenne Williams

Reader: Marilyn Bohl

Ushers: Kathy & Fenton Glendening

14:

Greeter: Cheyenne Williams

Liturgist: Kirk Olsen

Reader: Patsy Sampson

Ushers: Roland Johnson & Chris Iverson

21:

Greeter: Amy Lee Duprey

Liturgist: Cheyenne Williams

Reader: Joy Fritz

Ushers: Erica Park & Cheyenne Williams

28:

Greeter: Joy Fritz

Liturgist: Erica Park

Reader: Kathy Glendening

Ushers: Kathy & Fenton Glendening

earlier. Kirk Olsen and Larry Rice asked that the following item be added to the job requirements: Attend training as required by Trinity's insurance carrier. Ms. Bohl explained that the person will be needed each Sunday from 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and that we expect to pay the person \$20-\$30 per Sunday. That figure leads to up to \$1560 per year in expenses. Pres. Rice pointed out that workmen's compensation will have to be paid for the employee. A motion to approve the position description as modified and the hiring of a person to fulfill the position was made, seconded, and passed with one abstention. Trevor Wolter is going to post the description where potential candidates may see it.

7. Ms. Bohl and Mrs. Burg presented the income projections and budget expenditures for the remainder of 2015 and for calendar

year 2016 as dealt with by the Finance Committee. Current figures displayed in "Figure A" below. Council members were not asked to approve the 2016 budget because the Finance Committee must deal with the employee performance reviews before presenting its final 2016 budget recommendations to Council.

8. Because final 2016 budget figures are not yet available for review, the following schedule was proposed, and a motion to adopt it was approved unanimously:
- Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, November 10, 2015
 - Proposed Budget available to congregation for review – Sunday, November 15, 2015
 - Annual Congregation Meeting, Part 1 – Sunday, November 22, 2015

–Marilyn Bohl, Council Secretary



NOVEMBER 22, 2015

Annual Meeting Highlights

Trinity's Annual Congregation Meeting, Part 1, was held following worship Sunday, November 22, 2015. Twenty-four voting members of Trinity confirmed their attendance by signing the roster. Council/Congregation President Larry Rice declared that a quorum was present for the purpose of conducting official business of the church.

Marilyn Bohl and Trevor Wolter were elected to serve three-year terms on the Church Council, beginning January 1, 2016. Marilyn is a "repeat performer," having served consecutive terms on Council previously. She is currently serving as Financial Secretary and Secretary, is active on nu-

merous committees at Trinity, and sings alto in Trinity Choir. Trevor will be serving his first term on Council. He is active on both the Visibility and Discipling Committees, is editor of the church newsletter and numerous church brochures, and is the church pianist/organist.

No candidate to fill the additional one-year term on Council was identified. The Council may appoint someone to fill this position if it desires to do so.

No candidates to fill the three positions on the 2016 Nominating Committee were presented. The

matter was referred back to the 2015 Nominating Committee, with a request that candidates be presented at the Annual Congregation Meeting, Part 2, in January 2016.

Financial Secretary Marilyn Bohl presented 2015 projected year-end income and expense budget numbers and 2016 income projections and proposed expense budget numbers. *Figure 1*

The major factor behind the increase in the budget expenses is the employment of a full-time pastor for all of calendar year 2016, rather than only from July 17 onward as in 2015.

Member Envelope Giving is the part of the projected income above contributed directly by people of Trinity. Ms. Bohl has reduced her initial estimate of 2015 Member Envelope Giving from \$48,000 to \$44,000, and has included only \$45,000 as 2016 Member Envelope Giving. She encouraged people to give what they can to God's work through Trinity.

Other Income within the projected income comes primarily from two sources: rental of church properties and fees for use of the church buildings and facilities. All units are rented, and notices of

Figure 1

	2015	2016
Proposed budget	\$192,404.58	\$214,187.06
Projected income	\$177,096.00	\$181,758.60
Projected deficit	(\$15,308.58)	(\$32,428.46)

Figure 2

\$45,000 C (Cash in the F&M Bank checking account)
12,262 Filming done at Trinity by professional film companies
5,900 McKenzie Mortuary client use of Trinity sanctuary and fellowship hall
138,902 Oil income accumulated monthly in an F&M Bank savings account
\$202,064

rent increases effective January 1, 2016, have been presented to all tenants who have lived in Trinity rental properties for at least one year. Bob Pedder, who serves as property manager, and Ms. Bohl monitor closely all collections of rent and fees for use of the church buildings and facilities.

Because the comparisons of income versus expenses for both 2015 and 2016 result in projected deficits, Ms. Bohl shared a chart of available unrestricted funds that can be applied to pay ongoing costs if necessary. *Figure 2*

While deficit spending is not an acceptable long-term approach, Trinity has the resources to function effectively while income is built, over time. Motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the 2016 expense budget as presented.

Pastor Scott directed attendees' attention to Trinity's mission statement: "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." He asked attendees to consider the statement and to reflect on where God is leading us as individuals and as a business. He stated that after the first of the year we will meet to discuss

how we make certain we are implementing each of the four actions included in the statement.

President Rice declared the meeting adjourned, and Pastor Scott led closing prayers.

—Marilyn Bohl



TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH 759 Linden Ave.
YOUR DOWNTOWN SPIRITUAL HOME Long Beach, CA 90813

Special Worship Opportunities

Epiphany (observed)

Sunday, January 10 at 10:30 a.m.

Transfiguration

Sunday, February 7 at 10:30 a.m.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Hymn Festival

Saturday, February 13 at 4:00 p.m.

Lent Midweek

Wednesdays starting February 17
Worship at 7:00 p.m.