



TRINITY TRUMPETER

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

May/June 2016

Volume 15, Issue 3





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

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Sunday Worship



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

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Pastor's Message

Continuing the Apostles' Mission

There are three important Church holy days that are coming soon. The first is Ascension Day on May 5th and the second is Pentecost, or the 50th Day, on May 15th, which commemorates both the day that Moses received the Law from God and the day that the early Church received the Holy Spirit as recorded in the New Testament. The third is important for us at Trinity because it is our namesake Sunday, Holy Trinity Sunday on May 22nd.

Ascension Day, otherwise known as Ascension Thursday or, Holy Thursday is celebrated on the 40th Day of Easter. It marks the bodily ascension of Jesus into heaven to be seated at the right hand of the Father. Together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, the Son makes up the Holy Trinity that we have come to worship and praise. Ascension Day has been celebrated and commemorated since the early days of the Christian Church with Church Fathers such as Eusebius and St. Augustine commenting on its Apostolic origins and universal observance. In much of Western Europe, Ascension Day is a national holiday with many workers having the day off. The biblical text of the Ascension story comes from Acts 1:6-11. The apostles wanted to know when the time will come for Israel to be restored but instead of answering their question about the

restoration of Israel, Jesus tells them that they will receive power from the Holy Spirit to continue the work of being Christ's 'witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth'. The apostles have a new mission that goes beyond Israel and to the ends of the earth.

We are Christ's witnesses today and with the help of the Holy Spirit we continue to testify to what God is doing in the world through the Holy Trinity. We continue the tradition of being part of the long line of witnesses in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We continue to proclaim that God's love and grace are more powerful than fear and death and that God's love and grace has overcome death and the grave as Christ has ascended to be one with the Father.

The summer months are full of many secular celebrations that await us. It starts with Memorial Day picnics, parades on the Fourth of July and, cookouts on Labor Day. Many of us will find ourselves at weddings and family reunions celebrating with family and friends and



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FEBRUARY 16, 2016

Council Highlights

1. Pastor Scott attended the Holy Ground young adults kickoff meeting for their year. The group continues to meet at Our Savior's but also continues to look at where they might meet and get involved.
2. We have a 3-page position description for our Business Manager position that can be posted and emailed. President Larry Rice has reached out to the Pacific Gateway Investment Board to inquire as to how to get on that group's website. He has a contact at EDD [for State of CA] also.
3. President Larry Rice noted that he was asked by the Executive Committee to investigate why our monthly CA Resources oil revenue checks are so much smaller than they used to be. His contacts at the City of Long Beach are not aware of any problems or rumors of problems with the company. Trevor Wolter asked that specific examples of the revenue and cost documentation we receive from the company be shared with Council. Pastor Scott observed that we need to look at the big picture of fossil fuels and renewable energy.
4. January budget expenses were \$15,509.92, and January budget receipts were \$19,457.01. That means we started the year with about \$4,000 more income than expense. M. Bohl pointed out \$2,250.16 of 2015 unrestricted funds from designated were transferred as Miscellaneous Income to apply to 2016 operating expenses as approved by Council at its January meeting. Item 27 Repairs expenses for January were only \$178.15, rather than the typical \$1200-1800 range we might expect. Neither of these happenings is likely to be recurring.
5. The Discipling Committee has chosen to include a more formal liturgy in our Sunday worship services during Lent. The choir and organist Trevor Wolter have practiced the liturgy, and she asked Council members' positive support of the change, which will continue during Lent.
6. Trevor Wolter noted that we have had no external responses to our Child Care position description, even though we provided it as CSULB suggested. Pastor Scott noted that the problem is at least in part resolving itself: The children are learning to participate in our worship services.
7. Each Council member is a member of at least one committee.
8. "Congregational Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2015." Pastor Scott directed attention to item 5, Total Confirmed Membership, end of 2015 - 52. He reminded Council members that interim pastor Rev. Donald Koepke had done most of the work determining which persons desired to remain members of Trinity Lutheran Church. All removals of names from membership were presented to Council after Rev. Koepke, Ms. Bohl, and President Rice had worked to establish the list, and were approved by Council before the removals happened. A total of 36 members were removed. A total of 7 members were

added during 2015: three from a family dealt with by Rev. Koepke and the four members of Pastor Scott's family. Item 10.4 of Trinity's *Constitution* states: "Twenty percent (20%) of voting members as reported in the last Parochial Report shall constitute a quorum." President Rice concluded that 11 voting members must be present to make decisions at a congregational meeting while this parochial report is in force.

Attention was then directed to item 7 Average Weekly Worship Attendance in 2015 - 30. Pastor Scott stated he derived that number as an average of usher-determined attendance totals at Sunday worship services since his arrival July 17, 2015.

—Marilyn Bohl, Secretary



MARCH 15, 2016 Council Highlights

1. Pastor Scott noted that planning for Palm Saturday events in cooperation with LSS and other Greater Long Beach groups is well underway. A Palm Saturday procession around the neighborhood of Trinity will occur about 11 a.m. Worship and a meal fixed by volunteers will follow. Trevor Wolter will create an updated brochure and a flier publicizing our April 9 Pacific Handbells Concert for handout at the Trinity table to be set up at 4th and Linden in connection with the Cyclevia to be held that day. Pastor Scott and Joy will obtain water bottles with Trinity labels attached to offer to walkers and cyclists. All at Trinity are encouraged to join the event and wear Trinity t-shirts in doing so.
2. A resume has been received in response to our posting of the Business Manager position. It is being reviewed.
3. A plan to handle visitors who cause disturbances or unease at Trinity is being made.
4. President Larry Rice noted that our second concert of this year's Winter Concert Series—by the student chapter of the American Choral Directors Association at CSULB—was well attended and a major success.
5. Business Manager Hermine Burg stated that Trinity has three CDs at US Bank that mature 3/22/2016. Marilyn Bohl explained that the three CDs cannot be combined because the funds serve different purposes: "old money" endowment, "new money" endowment, and an amount donated to the church for a specific purpose but not needed for that purpose at the time of Pastor Bank's departure from Trinity. A motion to deposit the funds in CDs at US Bank for 21 months at an interest rate of .75% was made by Trevor Wolter, seconded by Fenton Glendening, and passed unanimously.
6. February budget expenses were \$16,608.33.

(Continued on page 11)

Trinity Concert Series



Pacific Bells Handbell Ensemble
Saturday



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

Saturday, March 12



emble
April 9





The Catechism for Today

The following is an excerpt from Martin Luther's Large Catechism on Baptism

We must above all be familiar with the words upon which baptism is founded and to which everything is related that is to be said on the subject, namely, where the Lord Christ says in the last chapter of Matthew:

“Go into all the world, teach all the heathen, and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Observe, first, that these words contain God's commandment and institution, so that no one may doubt that baptism is of divine origin, not something devised or invented by human beings. As truly as I can say that the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer were not spun out of anyone's imagination but are revealed and given by God himself, so I can boast that baptism is no human plaything but is instituted by God himself. Moreover, it is solemnly and strictly commanded that we must be baptized or we shall not be saved, so that we are not to regard it as an indifferent matter, like putting on a new red coat. It is of the greatest importance that we regard baptism as excellent, glorious, and exalted... What is more, it is performed in his name. So the words read, “Go, baptize,” not “in your name” but “in God's name.”

To be baptized in God's name is to be baptized not by human beings but by God himself. Although it is performed by human hands, it is nevertheless truly God's own act...

What is baptism? Namely, [it] is not simply plain water, but water placed in the setting of God's Word and commandment and made holy by them. It is nothing else than God's water, not that the water itself is nobler than other water but that God's Word and commandment are added to it...

Baptism is a very different thing from all other water, not by virtue of the natural substance but because here something nobler is added, for God himself stakes his honor, his power, and his might on it...

In the second place, because we now know what baptism is... we must also learn why and for what purpose it has been instituted, that is, what benefits, gifts, and effects it brings. Nor can we better understand this than from the words of Christ, “The one who believes and is baptized will be saved.” This is the simplest way to put it: the power, effect, benefit, fruit, and purpose of baptism is that it saves... To be saved, as everyone well knows, is nothing else than to be delivered from sin, death, and the devil, to enter into Christ's kingdom, and to live with him forever.Ω



May 2016

June 2016

May 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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		

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	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 1 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property Committee	2	3	4 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	5 Ascension 10:00am Bible Study	6	7 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	11 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	12 10:00am Bible Study	13	14 10:00am Discipling Committee 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
15 Pentecost 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Outreaching	16	17 7:00pm Council Meeting	18 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	19 10:00am Bible Study	20	21 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
22 Holy Trinity 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30am Trinity Fest	23	24	25 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	26 10:00am Bible Study	27	28 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
29 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	30	31	Jun 1	2	3	4

June 2016

June 2016							July 2016						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 29	30	31	Jun 1	2	3	4
			5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am Bible Study	Southwest California Synod Assembly, Los Angeles	12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property Committee			5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am Bible Study		10:00am Discipling Committee 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive Committee			Newsletter Submissions Due 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am Bible Study		12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Outreaching Committee		7:00pm Council Meeting		10:00am Bible Study		12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
26	27	28	29	30	Jul 1	2
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Committee				10:00am Bible Study		

and February budget receipts were \$15,469.58. That means we spent about \$1200 more than we received for budget purposes. Once again, Item 27 Repairs expenses for the month were less than reasonably anticipated or the deficit would have been greater.

7. The Discipling Committee intends to use white grape juice (rather than purple) when its current supply is used, to make it easier for communicants to distinguish between the grape juice and the purple wine. Financial Secretary Marilyn Bohl has ordered the offering envelopes for 2017 to take advantage of a 10% discount in March. Our new Trinity logo in color will be placed on the envelope packet cover at no additional cost to us.
8. A music group called Quintessential Wind will join us for services on Easter Sunday. Ms. Bohl urged all members to attend.
9. Pastor Scott noted that the Fellowship Subcommittee is considering a Mother's Day breakfast fixed by the men of the congregation May 8, starting at 9:00 a.m.
10. Trevor Wolter expressed sincere thanks to President Larry Rice and Seaside Printing for its printing of the newsletter at no cost to Trinity. A motion was made by Jim Young, seconded by Marilyn Bohl, and passed unanimously to recognize Seaside Printing's contribution in each issue of the newsletter.

—Marilyn Bohl, Secretary

Easter Memorials & Honors

Donna Fleming - Craig Fleming, Vern Waters and Barry Waters.

Rev. Scott Fritz - A. Grace Fritz and Grace Kaczmarczyk.

Bryan E. Gaffney - Bryan E. Gaffney.

Kathy & Fenton Glendening - George Bateman, William Bateman, Carol LaFever and Mark Plummer, and Nancy and George Bloomberg.

Cooper Hundertmark - Ferris and Virginia Hundertmark.

Roland Johnson - Nadine Johnson.

Janice Laser - Mr and Mrs. Paul Laser and Mary Lorntz.

Virgil Munch - Vivian Munch.

Suzie O'Brien - Lilian Chase.

Robert Pedder - All Military personnel.

Trevor Wolter - Arthur and Luella Wolter.

Jim Young - Elizabeth Young, John Young, Barbara Young, Marilyn Young and Margie Conover.

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enjoying the warmth and sun of the outdoors. But we need to remember our religious traditions and holidays too. The Holy Spirit is still with us and reminds us to we still have work to do as witnesses to the life-giving Gospel of Jesus Christ. As you gear up for summer come join us at Trinity as we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus, the unity of the Trinity, and continuing work of the Holy Spirit among us.

—Pastor Scott



10:30 AM Festival
Worship Service

11:45 AM Community
Service Project

12:15 PM Picnic-style
lunch