



TRINITY TRUMPETER

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
July/August 2016
Volume 15, Issue 4



OFFICE OPEN
TUES - FRI
10:00 am - 2:00 pm



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
Synod Assembly Reports.....	4
Committee Members.....	6
Looking Ahead.....	7
May Council Highlights.....	8
Church Calendar.....	9
Ice Cream Social.....	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.

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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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Trevor Wolter	Vice President
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Bob Pedder	Property Manager
Dalerond Smith	Sexton
Arline Walter	Choir Director
Trevor Wolter	Organist

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Pastor's Message

The Transforming Love of God

This July will mark my one-year anniversary since I began as pastor of Trinity. It has been a year of great changes and challenges for me personally and for us as a congregation.

Last June, just before I began my call at Trinity, my Mom was hospitalized and need surgery for a brain tumor. The doctors found that she had lung cancer that had already metastasized to her brain. After going through radiation and chemotherapy for six months she seemed to be in better health and was improving.

At Christmas time my family and I traveled back East to Pennsylvania to spend time with my parents. Not too long after we returned to Southern California from the East Coast, I found myself in the hospital receiving an emergency appendectomy.

After my own short hospital stint, Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent was upon us. Time waits for no one. The first Sunday of Lent was Valentine's Day and on that day I received a call from my Dad. He called to say that my Mom's cancer was back. Two days after Easter Sunday I took a flight back East to spend time with my Mom and to help my Dad as best as I could.

On Sunday, April 10th, 2016, my Mom passed away at the age of 61. Just a few short month earlier, my parents had been making plans for their

future. My Dad was set to retire on June 1st of this year. They were going to travel the country. They were going to take their two grandsons camping. They were going to enjoy the next stage of their life together.

But their plans were forced to a screeching halt. Change came and it was a very painful change for my family and for me.

In the midst of changes, both good and bad, we can lose sight of the fact that we are loved by God. We can lose sight that God does not abandon us nor forsake us in our grief, our sorrow, or our suffering.

God continues to walk with us in our grief, sorrow, and suffering just as God continues to be with us to celebrate our triumphs, our joys, and our milestones. Either way we are never the same.

God's presence and God's love has the power to change us and transform us to be the peo-



(Continued on page 11)



JUNE 3-6, 2016

Synod Assembly Reports

Report from President
Larry Rice

Trinity Lutheran Church, Long Beach elected four delegates to attend the 2016 Southwest California Synod Assembly. I was one of those Delegates and attended all sessions of that Assembly.

Session 1: Thursday, June 2, at 3:30
(Lutherans in the Holy Lands)

We discussed the plight of the Palestinian Christians in the Holy Lands. There are five Lutheran Congregations, two Lutheran Schools, and one hospital. It is hard to move around in Jerusalem because of walls erected by the Israeli occupation forces. The session was led by Lana Norton, Chair of the Synod's Middle East Peace Task Force.

Session 2: Thursday, June 2, at 6:30 (showing and review of the video "Under the Gun")

This video discusses the problems in the United States around gun violence. It was sponsored by Synod Justice Team.

Session 3: Friday, June 3, at 9:30 (re-energize your Confirmation)

A discussion of changing times since we studied for our Confirmation and how those changes affect our young generation.

Opening Worship and Opening of the Assembly: Friday, June 3, 12:00

Anniversaries of Rostered Minister were announced with our Pastor Scott celebrating his 10th anniversary of ordination.

Throughout the two days of the Assembly we heard from nine different immigrants and how the church helped them start a new life, many have become pastors.

The Bishop gave his report stating there have been three congregations closed this last year and ten new congregations have started up.

He is taking a tour this August and in the summer of 2017 to Germany to celebrate Martin Luther's 500 year Anniversary of breaking away from the Church.

Session 4: Saturday, June 4, 7:30, I attended a budget session with the newly elected Synod Treasurer (Michael Metzger).

There was very little interest in reviewing the yearly budget as I was only one of two attending this session.

At the Business Session the final count of attending persons were 352, 289 voting delegates, with 92 of those being pastors. There were 17 voting young adults with one being our delegate.

Throughout the assembly business sessions there were five different resolutions voted on with all passing that vote. The Assembly adjourned at about 1:00 Saturday afternoon. Ω



Photo by Karen Moyer

Report Youth Delegate Cheyenne Williams

At the 2016 Synod Assembly, I was the young adult voting lay representative from our congregation. Sadly, there is not much to report on when it comes to things going on with the youth and young adults in our synod. In each business session of the assembly, there were less than twenty individuals under the age of thirty-one present. This means that this demographic made up less than ten percent of all in attendance. However, very few people seemed surprised by this information. I was extremely saddened by this.

***Youth and young adults
are not the future of
the church. We are the
NOW of the church.***

Right now in the synod, there is a team of youth leaders that meet as a group to discuss and plan events going on, however, most of these events take place on a church wide level, led by individual congregations, rather than on a synod wide level. The synod supports those youth efforts but there is not a great deal of unity among the churches for these events to get together and act as a synod team. Also, there is currently no young adult team acting in the synod at the moment,



however, many people would like to develop one.

Something that came up as a topic of focus during the day of learning was the confirmation of youth throughout the congregations. There is quite a lack of consensus when it comes to how each church runs their confirmation programs compared to other congregations. Some classes last eight weeks, some classes last three years. Many people in the workshop were not quite sure what exactly was taught during confirmation. This is why the synod has begun to develop a new curriculum to be taught throughout the synod. By sharing a curriculum, hopefully the youth of the synod will become more unified throughout the synod and become better prepared to become acting members in their congregations as they age and mature.

Although part of me already knew it, this assembly really solidified the concept that we as a congregation, as part of this synod need to work hard to build our youth and young adult memberships. We need to develop relationships with other congregations to grow as a church. The youth and young adults are not the future of the church. We are the now of the church. It is all of our responsibility, youth, young and older adult alike to build the future of the church, and we need to start now. Ω



Committee Members

Audit

Members elected by the Church Council

- Joy Fritz
- Cristina Santos
- Arline Walter

Executive

Comprised of the church officers as elected by the Church Council

- Pastor Scott Fritz
- President Larry Rice
- Vice President Trevor Wolter
- Secretary & Financial Secretary
Marilyn Bohl
- Treasurer Jan Laser

Discipling

- Marilyn Bohl
- Pastor Scott Fritz
- Arline Walter
- Trevor Wolter

Fellowship

- Amy Lee Duprey
- Tim Duprey
- Kathy Glendening
- Jan Laser
- Sande Rice

Finance

- Marilyn Bohl
- Hermine Burg
- Pastor Scott Fritz
- Jan Laser
- Bob Pedder
- Larry Rice
- Jim Young

Nominating

Members elected by the congregation

- Kathy Glendening
- Roland Johnson
- Jim Young

Outreaching

- Pastor Scott Fritz
- Kathy Glendening
- Jacqui Nicholson
- Trevor Wolter

Property

- Kathy Glendening
- Bob Pedder
- Larry Rice
- Dalerond Smith

If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, your participation is always welcomed!



Looking Ahead

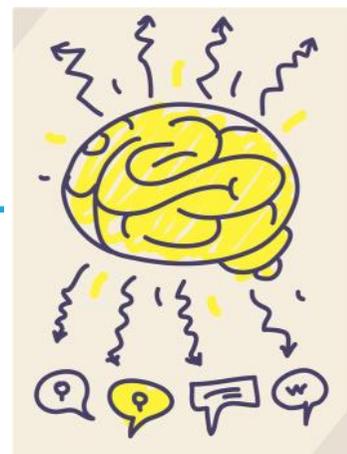
Strategic Planning

Saturday Outreach: Saturday, July 23 at 9:00 AM

Everyone is welcome to join us as we seek to evaluate the goals for this program and work to formulate a viable and sustainable plan for outreach to our changing neighborhood.

Congregational Strategic Planning: TBD

The Church Council is making plans for strategic planning day. Stay tuned for details but we want everyone to be able to attend and share their gifts as we plan for the future.



God's work.
Our hands.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

Please sign up
for Sunday
fellowship and
bring your
favorite treat
to share!

Upcoming Classes & Training

- A new member class is being planned now. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or talk to Pr. Scott if you're interested in attending.
- Training sessions for worship assistants (liturgists, acolytes, readers, etc.) are also being planned. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall to express interest.

Please check the weekly bulletin for scheduled times and locations.



MAY 17, 2016 Council Highlights

1. Pastor Scott shared 1 Corinthians 2:12-16. We can have the mind of Christ through the Holy Spirit within us, to know and live the love that Christ urges us to show.
2. Pastor Scott and President Larry Rice attended the Greater Long Beach Conference Spring Conference at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. An emphasis was preparing for the Southwest California Synod Spring Assembly. A synod-wide evangelistic program to help churches increase their membership is being prepared.
3. Pastor Scott is beginning to brainstorm with other pastors about alternatives on Saturdays, since neither Trinity Lutheran, LSS, nor First Lutheran/the Gathering Church feels the current Saturday Outreach program is effective right now.
4. The April Financial Reports show \$15,000 income from filming by Eve Productions, recorded as a line item in designated. Only \$1290 expenses were recorded for that project. Council members wish to thank Bob Pedder and Dalerond Smith for their support of the project.
5. Members were encouraged to wear their Trinity t-shirts for the service project on Trinity Sunday, May 22. They were reminded to bring picnic fare for the potluck afterwards.
6. The costs to replace the church building gutters was foreseen to be between \$8,000 and \$9,675, so Bob Pedder is going to try and patch and paint the ones we can. The

film crew that was here left numerous plants, and we have made use of some of them. The 4-pane windows at ground level are going to be replaced with Plexiglas windows.

7. Financial Secretary Marilyn Bohl shared a chart update that shows, at a summary level, expense and income year to date (YTD) actuals versus projections as follows:

	2016 Projections	1/3 of 2016	YTD Actuals
Expense	\$214,187	\$71,395	\$65,406
Income	181,759	60,586	64,500
Difference	(\$32,428)	(\$10,809)	(\$909)

Ms. Bohl reminded the Council that the spending below budget is primarily in the Property area. She attributed the \$4,000 income above projections to: (1) designated items from 2015 moved to Miscellaneous Income in January 2016, (2) no vacancies in rentals so far this year, and (3) better member giving than projected.

8. Pastor Scott, President Larry Rice, and Vice President Trevor Wolter will meet to discuss plans for a ½ day strategic planning session, likely in the fall.
9. President Larry Rice presented the verbal resignation of Jacqui Nicholson from her Council position. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept her resignation. Council members expressed their thanks to Jacqui for her service.

–Marilyn Bohl, Secretary

July 2016

August 2016

July 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	30	31			

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	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
Jun 26	27	28	29	30	Jul 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property Committee				10:00am Bible Study		10:00am Discipling Committee 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive				10:00am Bible Study		12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Outreaching		7:00pm Council Meeting		10:00am Bible Study		9:00am Saturday Outreach Planning 12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship				10:00am Bible Study		12:30pm Meal 1:00pm LSS Tutoring
31	Aug 1	2	3	4	5	6
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship						

August 2016

August 2016							September 2016						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	25	26	27	28	29	30	
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

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

(Continued from page 3)

ple that we need to be for the sake of the world and for the sake of our community.

The deadly and horrific tragedy in Orlando this past June reminds us that life and relationships are precious. There have been proclamations that love trumps hate. We are reminded that love isn't a just feeling. It is an action word.

When Jesus commanded us to love one another as he first loved us it was a call to action. When the resurrected Jesus speaks to Simon Peter and asks him, "Do you love me?" Peter responds, "Yes, you know that I love you."

Jesus commands him, "Feed my sheep!" We can say we love God, that we pray, that we read scripture but if we don't put love our God

into action, if we don't 'feed Jesus' sheep, and if we don't share the love of God with others, then we are failing in our mission and our call. Nothing changes.

Love can change things. Love can change us. It can bring us together, strengthen relationships, and build community in whatever we may be going through. At Trinity we are building a community where love is an action verb that is changing lives, bringing people together, and building community.

Come join us as we build a church that loves the Lord our God with all of heart, soul, and mind and our neighbors as ourselves. Come share a love that has the power to change lives and change the world!

—Pastor Scott



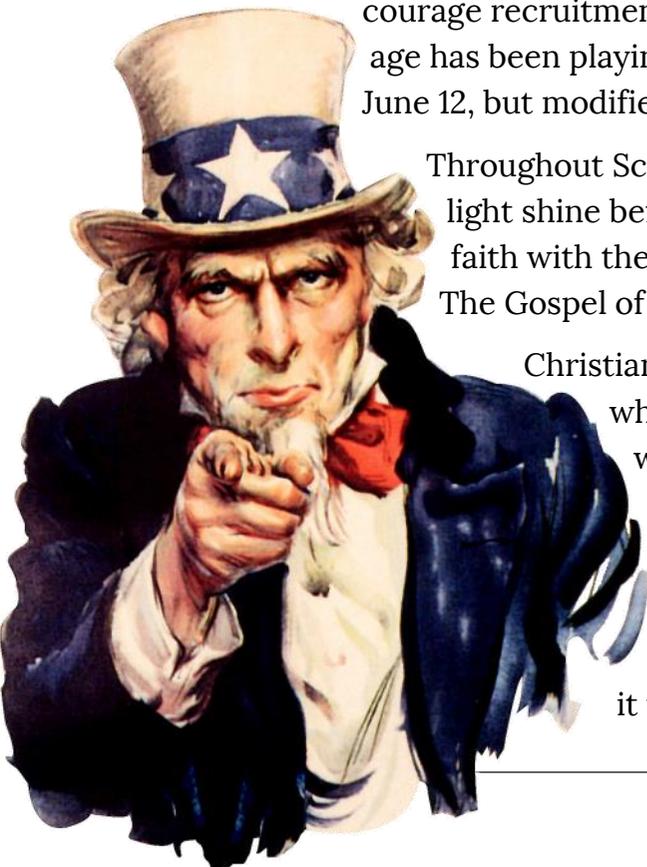
From the Editor

In 1917, James Montgomery Flagg created one of the most iconic images ever as a means to encourage recruitment in the U.S. Army during World War I: I want YOU. This image has been playing in my head ever since the terrorist attack in Orlando on June 12, but modified. It's not Uncle Sam that I see but Jesus pointing at us.

Throughout Scripture – "You are my witnesses" (Isaiah 43:10), "Let your light shine before others" (Matthew 5:16) – we are urged to share our faith with the world. More than ever, we need to respond to this calling. The Gospel of Christ is under attack from inside and out.

Christians are ridiculed for offerings of prayer and sympathy. Meanwhile, some who claim to speak for the church condemn those whose lives were lost and proclaim they got what they deserved.

Just as Pr. Scott said, love can change things. And just as Cheyenne said, we are the church of the now. Opportunities to share this transforming love are everywhere and all it takes is... YOU. Ω





TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH 759 Linden Ave.
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ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sunday, August 21 after worship
Hosted by the Fellowship Committee