



TRINITY TRUMPETER

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

March/April 2017

Volume 16, Issue 2



**ONE
CONCERT
LEFT for 2017**



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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Sunday Worship



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

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Leadership & Staff



Rev. Scott Fritz	Pastor
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Larry Rice	President
Trevor Wolter	Vice President
Kathy Glendening	Church Secretary
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Bob Pedder	Property Manager
Dalerond Smith	Sexton
Arline Walter	Choir Director
Trevor Wolter	Organist

Conversational Learning

In the Gospel of Matthew, the primary role that Jesus plays with his disciples is that of teacher. The gospel takes the reader on a journey beginning with a prologue that includes the birth and infancy of Jesus before moving through a series of five narratives and teaching discourses. Ultimately the Gospel concludes with the passion, resurrection, and the Great Commission. Jesus' teaching style is relational and dialogical. He "sees" the crowds before him and he is moved with compassion as he heals them, feeds them, and teaches them.

Jesus teaches his disciples and others through conversation. People feel comfortable coming up to Jesus and asking him questions. Jesus often responds to their questions with a question of his own. The dialogue continues until there is a deeper understanding or revelation. The lecture style doesn't seem to have the same effect as Jesus engaging in meaningful conversation or dialogue with those who are curious as to whether he is the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets, or whether he is the Messiah.

When Martin Luther was trying to share his deeper understanding of God's grace as revealed in the scriptures, he put together a teaching tool for parents to use in the home. It was a simple way to teach curious young minds how to think about ancient laws, creeds, prayers, and sacraments.

The way that Luther structured his catechism was by a list of questions pertaining to the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the sacraments of Baptism and

Holy Communion, confession, and how and when to pray when we wake up to when we lay down to sleep. These questions and answers should spur on curiosity and provoke deeper questions for ongoing discussion that deepens our faith.



As the season of Lent approaches, we at Trinity will be continuing our Midweek Lenten Devotions by looking at Martin Luther's Small Catechism and engage the questions of "What is this? What does this mean?" It will be a time of prayerful conversation and dialogue with others who may have more questions than answers.

When it comes to understanding the mind of God or questioning what God wants us to do as members of the church, we often have more questions than answers. We might find that we are not alone and that there are many others who are seeking answers, asking questions, and engaging in a lifelong journey of learning through conversations and dialogue.

This Lenten season we invite you to join us at Trinity as we participate in a conversation to deepen our faith. We invite you to bring your questions and share your responses in a transformational dialogue with other seekers on a journey of faith.

—Pastor Scott



JANUARY 29, 2017

Annual Meeting Highlights

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church held its Annual Congregation Meeting Part II following worship

Sunday, January 29, 2017. A major purpose of the meeting was discussion and acceptance of **Trinity Lutheran Church Annual Report 2016**. Acknowledging that the report contains much financial information/details, Financial Secretary Marilyn Bohl summarized 2016 operating finances.

Ms. Bohl stated that the \$26,969.84 deficit is about \$6,000 less than projected when the congregation approved the 2016 budget. She showed that the deficit could be offset by 2016 income received from three special sources if Council elected to do so.

See January 17, 2017 Council Highlights on page 8 for a printed financial summary.

The figures show that Trinity is in a strong financial position, thanks especially to the work of Bob Pedder and Dalerond Smith in relationships with the tenants of our properties, groups using the church, and special uses as listed above. Ms. Bohl stated that the 2017 congregation-approved budget is about \$220,000.00. Some rentals have been increased to help address the anticipated 2017 deficit. Ms. Bohl encouraged people to increase their giving if possible.

Parish Administrator Kathy Glendening noted that the **“Trinity Lutheran Church Endowments Received and Invested 2016 Report”** item 2 on page 1 of the report is not complete. She provided a replacement page. Hearing

no additional comments, **President Rice asked for a motion to accept the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Annual Report 2016 as amended. The motion passed unanimously.**

Trevor Wolter referred to the writeup **“Organ Console Restoration Project”** included in the Annual Report 2016, noting that by year-end 2016 more than \$57,900 was available in the Organ Fund. The Discipling Committee continues to recommend that Trinity accept the bid from Manuel Rosales to build a new organ console specifically for Trinity. The anticipated cost is \$61,500 + tax + sweat equity by Trevor Wolter valued at \$3,500. If the project is approved now, work could begin as soon as the contract is finalized and the expected completion date would be end of August. Trinity would not have access to the organ for services for only 3-4 weeks during the project time frame. **Motion to accept the bid from Manuel Rosales to build a new organ console for Trinity Lutheran Church passed unanimously.**

Jim Young expressed a concern that the cost of the organ project should not be allowed to exceed the expectations set at this congregation meeting. Others concurred. The following motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously: The cost of the organ renovation project shall not be allowed to exceed \$70,000.00 without a comprehensive review by the Church Council and subsequent Council decision as to how to proceed.

(Continued on page 6)

Monthly Community Meal

Third Saturday of
each month
at Noon

The
monthly
community
meal is for all:
members, friends,
and those with no link
to Trinity at present.

This is an opportunity for us
to get to know our neighbors as
well as show them the blessings our
church has to offer.

There's no need to sign up, **JUST COME!**

(Continued from page 4)

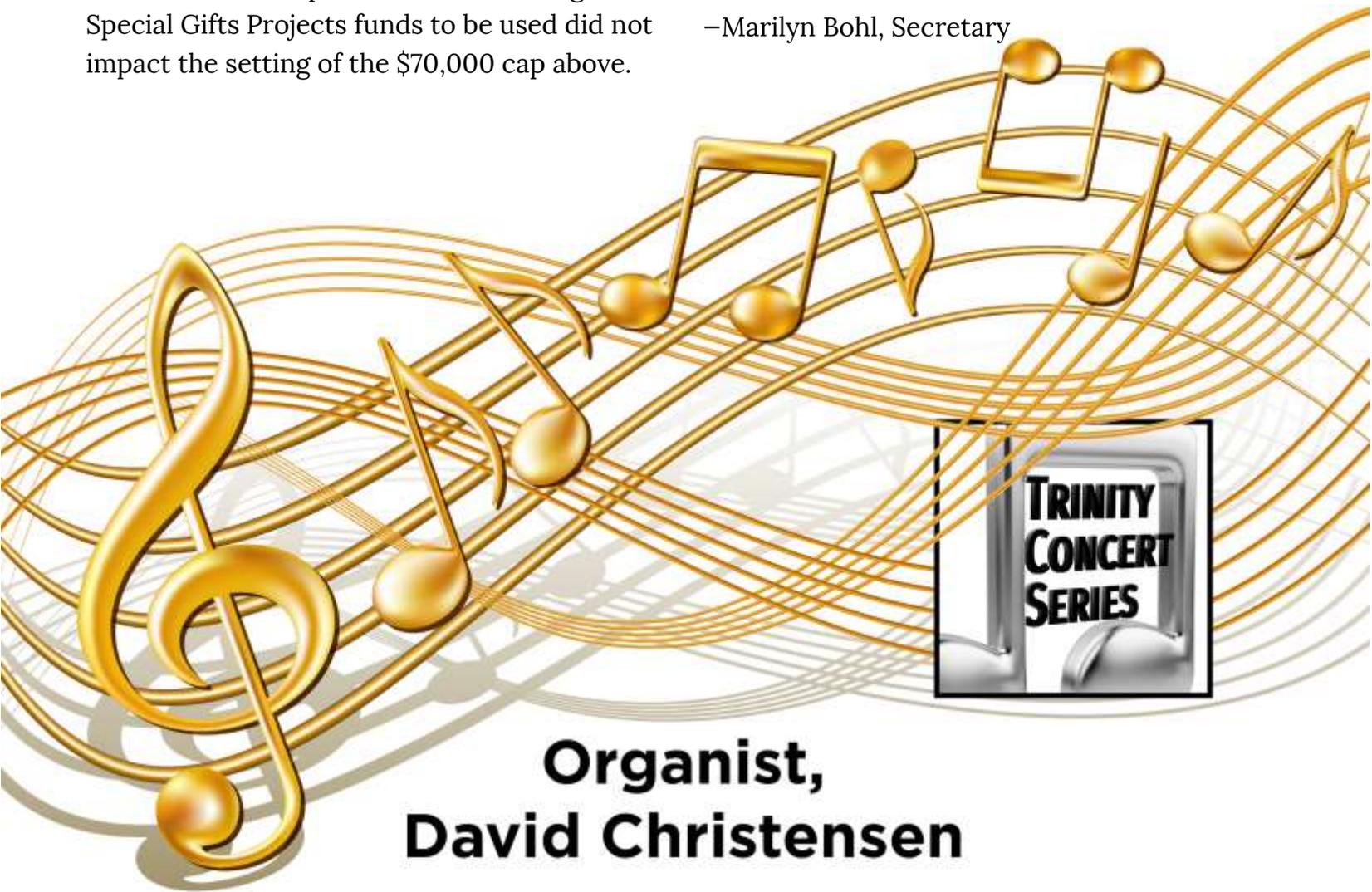
Ms. Bohl reminded attendees that the Special Gifts Projects fund contains \$11,176.34 at YE 2016 that was identified as a possible source of additional funding for the organ project at the November 2016 Annual Congregation Meeting Part I. **Motion was passed with one nay vote to allow the remaining Special Gifts Projects funds to be used for the organ project if necessary (i.e., after all Organ Fund resources have been spent).**

President Rice emphasized that allowing the Special Gifts Projects funds to be used did not impact the setting of the \$70,000 cap above.

The \$70,000 cap remains in place.

President Rice directed attention to the schedule of coming events. Arline Walter asked for whom the community meal is intended. Pastor Scott stated that the Community Meal is an attempt to reach out to the neighborhood, and to all groups using our church as well. He encouraged Trinity members to attend, again emphasizing that the intent is a community meal, not a food program. Our outreach is to extend kindness and generosity to the people of the neighborhood, and from there to the broader surrounding community.

—Marilyn Bohl, Secretary



Organist, David Christensen

March 18, 2017 4:00 PM
Trinity Lutheran Church
Long Beach, California

Free Admission • Refreshments to Follow • Final Concert of the Season

Walk with Jesus to Calvary



Ash Wednesday Worship: March 1, 7:00 PM

Midweek Worship: Wednesdays, March 8 - April 5

Soup Supper at 6:15 PM, Service at 7:00 PM

Maundy Thursday Worship: April 13, 7:00 PM

Good Friday Worship: April 14, 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday Worship: April 16, 10:30 AM



JANUARY 17, 2017

Council Highlights

The 2017 Council membership includes Jim Young and Fenton Glendening who were elected by the congregation to serve a second term on Council, Roland Johnson who was elected to serve a first term, and returning members Marilyn Bohl, Jan Laser, Larry Rice, Pastor Scott, and Trevor Wolter.

1. The questions following the deaths of Bryan Gaffney and Jack Simmons have yet to be resolved. Though Trinity is not directly involved, Pastor Scott and Bob Pedder have been attempting to move both situations toward closure.
2. A 90-day review of Kathy's work in her expanded position as a Parish Administrator will be held Wednesday, January 25, with Kathy, Pastor Scott, and President Larry Rice participating.
3. Trinity will host the Pastor's Collegium in March. However, Our Savior's Lutheran Church [not Trinity, as once proposed] will hold the Easter Vigil on the Saturday evening before Easter Sunday.
4. Trevor Wolter and Erica Park led a QUICK-BOOKS training session for Kathy and Marilyn, who focused primarily on entering bills and entering offering receipts, respectively. A next step is to get Jan Laser aboard, and also to obtain paper for printing checks. We may do payroll eventually. We are going to be doing double work for awhile.
5. President Rice noted that an ad hoc committee is to be formed to review the ELCA-proposed changes to all church constitu-

tions. Thus far, President Rice, Pastor Scott, Marilyn Bohl, Trevor Wolter, and Kathy Glendening have agreed to serve. President Rice asked Ms. Glendening to include an announcement in the Sunday bulletin of this committee/opportunity. He established a deadline of end of the second quarter of 2017 to be in position to present a proposed amended constitution to the congregation.

6. At last Council meeting, members of the Outreaching Committee be formed to study the demographics of the neighborhood of Trinity, and President Rice agreed. President Rice asked Ms. Glendening to include an announcement in the Sunday bulletin inviting people to join an ad hoc committee to understand the demographics/ characteristics of Trinity's neighborhood.
7. Financial Secretary Marilyn Bohl summarized 2016's budget outcome as follows:

\$46,934.89	Member Giving
\$153,597.26	Other Income
<hr/>	
\$200,532.15	TOTAL 2016 Budget Income
(\$14,663.25)	Building Fund Reserve and Church Use Donation Reserve
<hr/>	
\$185,868.90	Adjusted TOTAL 2016 Budget
\$212,838.74	Total 2016 Budget Expense
<hr/>	
(\$26,969.84) 2016 Budget Deficit	

(Continued on page 11)

March 2017

April 2017

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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						

March 2017

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	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3	4
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property Committee			Ash Wednesday 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am Bible Study		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive Committee			5:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	10:00am Bible Study		9:00am Discipling Committee
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive Committee			5:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	10:00am Bible Study		12:00pm Community Meal 4:00pm Concert
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	5:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	10:00am Bible Study		
26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Committee			5:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	10:00am Bible Study		

April 2017

April 2017							May 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	1	7	1	2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13	14	8	14	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	15	16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	22	23	24	25	26	27
							29	23	24	25	26	27	
							30						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property			5:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	10:00am Bible Study		9:00am Discipling Committee
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Palm Sunday 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship				Maundy Thursday 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Worship	Good Friday 7:00pm Worship	Newsletter Submissions Due 12:00pm Community Meal
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Easter Sunday 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship		7:00pm Council Meeting	5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am Bible Study		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship			5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am Bible Study		
30	May 1	2	3	4	5	6
9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship						

In Memoriam

We remember our members and friends who have recently entered eternal life:

Chris Iverson

Bryan Gaffney

Don Bissing

Jack Simmons

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God. –Job 19:25-26 (NRSV)

