



TRINITY TRUMPETER

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
May/June 2017 Vol. 10 No. 3



*Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name
of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit*



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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Our Commissioning

Churches, like most organizations, draft and have mission statements. But what is the “commission” of the church? What are we commanded by Jesus to go and do? Why are we really here? It is often pointed out at the end of Matthew’s Gospel that Jesus gave the apostles a “great commissioning”. We are a part of that commissioning tradition as the church in and for the world but sometimes we misinterpret the commissioning that Jesus sends his followers out to do. In fact, this isn’t even the only time in Matthew’s Gospel that Jesus send his students out into the world with a set of tasks.

There are two commissioning stories in Matthew’s Gospel. This year they appear back-to-back in our lectionary cycle. The first one mentioned in the Matthews Gospel takes place in Matthew 9:35-10:42 and it contains Jesus’ famous declaration that, “The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few.” Jesus sends the 12 named disciples with his authority to cast out unclean spirits, cure every disease and every sickness, and to proclaim the good news to the lost sheep of the house of Israel and that the Kingdom of God has come near. He also tells them to work for their food and live off the hospitality of those they help but do not take payment for the work that they are doing.

The second commission is perhaps more famous than the first. It comes after the resurrection as Jesus tells the apostles, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” One of the things we often lose in this great commissioning is that we are to go out to “make disciples of all nations” who adhere to the teachings and the way of Jesus. One of the ways this has been used is to make people ‘believers’ in a

certain doctrine or dogma of a church or denomination.

Church doctrines, teachings and practices can be very helpful and useful but they can also stand in the way and become a stumbling block for work that Jesus is commanding us to do.



Together, these two commissioning narratives give us our identity or sense of purpose in and for the world as the body of Christ. It gives us a commission in and for the world. There is a great deal of brokenness in our world that needs healing and wholeness, grace, and love. How can we as the Church answer the call by the authority of Jesus to cure the sick, cast out unclean spirits, proclaim the good news that God’s Kingdom has come near, while making disciples of the way of Jesus? It is as simple as loving God and loving our neighbor as ourselves. We have the promise that Jesus will be with us in the work we are called to do in and for this world.

At Trinity, we have many opportunities to practice our faith and participate in the Great Commission of Christ in and for the world. All people are invited to participate in our community meals every third Saturday of the month at noon. We have a community service project coming up in June as we renew our partnership with Habitat for Humanity. And we are planning other opportunities for outreach and service through the Summer and Fall as we prepare to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation this October. Please join us at Trinity as we continue to serve God and our neighbors in answering the Great Commission of Christ!

–Pr. Scott



MARCH 21, 2017

Council Highlights

1. **Memorial services** for Bryan Gaffney are still pending. Pastor Scott is working with two other pastors in the area regarding a memorial service for Jack Simmons.
2. A meeting regarding **Habitat for Humanity** was held last night (March 20) at Christ Lutheran Church, but no one from Trinity attended. Chris of Habitat for Humanity asserts that any financial gift we make will be dedicated 100% to materials for Long Beach building projects. Persons can contribute financially, physically at build sites, or by preparing lunches for participants. Marilyn Bohl offered to make a challenge gift of \$1,000, meaning she will match whatever funds others at Trinity contribute, up to \$1,000. Pastor Scott and Trevor Wolter urged that Trinity as a church also direct funds to Habitat for Humanity Long Beach projects. June 11, 2017, is part of the ELCA's service weekend, and Council indicated a desire that the Outreaching Committee take responsibility for organizing a Habitat-for-Humanity service project.
Trevor Wolter offered a motion, seconded by Roland, and passed that Trinity get behind Habitat for Humanity efforts in Long Beach volunteer-wise and finance-wise.
3. President Rice showed samples of **parking permit papers** to be distributed monthly to parking tenants when they pay monthly parking fees, to place on their cars. After discussion, it was proposed that a written procedure be created to document how enforcement of the policy will work before permits are distributed. Kathy Glendening suggested the tenants should sign copies of the procedure to indicate they have been informed of it. The Property Committee will target for implementation May 1.
4. Trevor Wolter noted that about 25 people, only two of whom were other than members or friends of Trinity, attended the third **Trinity Concert** of this year's concert series last Saturday, March 18, 2017. The concert gave him a rare opportunity to just listen to our organ; he declared, "Our organ is a beautiful organ in a beautiful space." He also noted there's room for improvement in publicizing the concert series, and he's determined to get presenters pinned down earlier next year to help provide for that. Ms. Bohl reported that \$202.05 was received as the free will offering.
5. Cooper Hundertmark's suggestion to open the **8th Street doors** on Sunday morning has been implemented, and four persons have entered through those doors on Sunday morning. The lock on the downstairs door has not been implemented but Bob Pedder will get it done this week. The A-frame sign is also getting people's attention and will be used more.
6. The Outreaching Committee proposed that Sunday, October, 29th be observed as **Reformation Sunday** with Trinity hosting a community celebration at 4 or 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Other ELCA and non-ELCA congregations will be invited to help

(Continued on page 5)



Trinity F

Saturday

Saturday; Day of Service



Habitat
for Humanity®
Greater Los Angeles

ReWork Retail Store Volunteer Day

8739 Artesia Blvd., Bellflower, CA

Shift 1: 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM / **Shift 2:** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Activities: Stocking, pricing, assisting customers, etc.

Advance signup required. Invite your friends.

MARK YOUR

est Weekend

Sunday June 10-11

Sunday; Day of Celebration



Celebratory Worship: 10:30 AM

Potluck: 12:00 Noon

Wear your Trinity t-shirt or pick one up before the service if you don't have one. Invite your neighbors.

CALENDAR

Martin Luther Writing About the Trinity



The king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. –Psalm 45:11

If we cannot grasp how God is one and three persons, we should leave that up to Him. We should only incline our ear. He Himself says that our King [Jesus Christ] is God, and He commands us to adore Him. If you reject this King in the foolish superstition that you might break the First Commandment, then you have rejected the entire and true God, as the Arians [fourth century heretics] did.

If they object: “Then you make many gods,” I reply: “I do not make another or many gods, but I say that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one and the same God. There is a unity of substance and one Essence though there are three Persons. I do not want to have many gods, because many gods contend among themselves. Nor can there be many gods. But here is unity. If I do not understand how the Persons are differentiated, it is enough for me that Holy Scriptures say this and call Father, Son, and Holy Spirit by name (Matthew 28:19).

“If I could grasp this with my reason or senses, what need would there be for faith? Or what use is Scripture revealed by God through the Holy Spirit? If I believe nothing but what I can comprehend by my reason, I must reject Baptism, the Sacrament of the Altar, the Word, grace, original sin, and everything. Reason understands none of these things.”

From Luther’s commentary on Psalm 45 (1532)

May 2017

May 2017							June 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	30	
28	29	30	31										

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


June 2017

June 2017							July 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 28	29	30	31	Jun 1	2	3
4 Pentecost 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property Committee	5	6	7 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10:00am Bible Study	9	10 8:30am Habitat Work Day 9:00am Discipling Committee
11 Holy Trinity 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Potluck 1:00pm Executive	12	13	14 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	15 Newsletter Submissions Due 10:00am Bible Study	16	17 12:00pm Community Meal
18 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Outreaching Committee	19	20 7:00pm Council Meeting	21 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	22 10:00am Bible Study	23	24
25 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Committee	26	27	28	29 10:00am Bible Study	30	Jul 1

Monthly Community Meal

May 20 /
June 17
NOON

A photograph showing several people, including a child in the foreground wearing a black baseball cap, working at a long table covered with various food items and containers. The scene is brightly lit and appears to be a community meal preparation area. The background shows more people and a wall with many small photos.

Volunteers
are needed to
prepare the meal
starting with June 17.
Please talk to Pr. Scott
or sign up in the Fellowship
Hall. Food expenses will be
reimubursed.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Trinity will be hosting a special service on **Sunday, October 29, 2017 at 4:00 PM** in celebration of the **500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation**. A potluck will follow the service. Additional details are being planned now. This is a once-in-a-lifetime observance that you won't want to miss!