



TRINITY TRUMPETER

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
July/August 2017

Volume 16, Issue 4



OPEN DAY
9 AM - 7 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

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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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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

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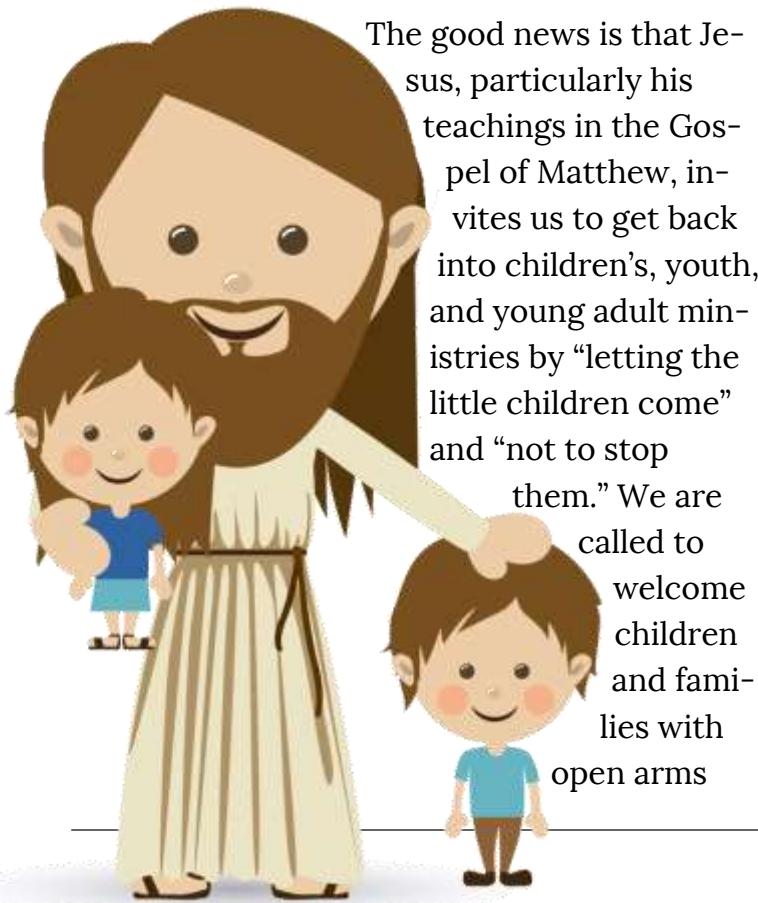
Trevor Wolter

Organist

A Holy Place for Children

“...Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” Matthew 19:14

When we think of successful and growing congregations we often think the glory days of a full Sunday School classrooms, a large Vacation Bible School programs, Christmas Pageants, Kids' Choir, and lots of other activities. What happened that we lost our children? Where did our families go besides the fact that they grew up and some of them moved away? As the number of youth and young adults begin to wane, we stop emphasizing those aspects of our ministry and instead we focus more on who is in the congregation instead of who is in our neighborhood. It is perfectly natural for churches to go through this phenomenon and almost all small congregations go through this season.



The good news is that Jesus, particularly his teachings in the Gospel of Matthew, invites us to get back into children's, youth, and young adult ministries by "letting the little children come" and "not to stop them." We are called to welcome children and families with open arms

and to create a space for children to be children. Children are curious beings with lots of questions and quite a few wacky yet insightful answers. They are discovering who they are and we are here to remind them of "whose they are"- that they are

beloved children of God. Children and their families are invited and welcomed as heirs of the kingdom of heaven and as members of the family of God.

Some of the ways that we can be more inviting is by opening and creating space for children to learn and play. Children often learn best through creative play and having toys, art supplies, crayons, paper to draw on, and coloring books. These resources open a child's creative ability as she or he learns to celebrate the One who created the heavens, the earth, and them. There are ways that children can re-create the stories that they hear in worship and in Sunday School through art, song, and play and they are more than happy enough to share their projects and abilities with their family and others.

At Trinity, we have created a holy space in our narthex and other holy spaces for children and families to learn, play, and explore, and still be able to participate in worship. We also have some exciting opportunities this Summer to reach out to other families and young

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APRIL 18, 2017

Council Highlights

1. Pastor Scott will complete his teaching of Matthew this coming Thursday and has decided he will continue to teach Bible Study on Thursdays, but he will not teach Sunday mornings. He wants to "try some things" like being out on the 8th Street corner with donuts on Sunday mornings. Kathy Glendening will lead Bible Study on Sundays.
2. Habitat for Humanity is doing a major service project on the weekend we had proposed as Trinity's service weekend. President Rice suggested maybe we organize groups to work 8-1 and 12-5 at the re-store Saturday, June 10. Another Habitat for Humanity information sharing meeting will be held Monday, April 24, 7 – 8:30 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 6500 Stearns, Long Beach.
3. The Greater Long Beach Spring Assembly will be held Thursday, April 27, at 6:00 p.m. also at Christ Lutheran Church.
4. Pastor Scott is still intending that Trinity hold an open forum with knowledgeable speakers about sanctuary in late May or early June.
5. A Reformation celebration will be held at Trinity on Sunday, October 29, with other congregations participating. A potluck will complement the festivities.
6. Pastor Scott is preparing to memorialize both Jack Simmons and Bryan Gaffney during a worship service in May.
7. Financial Secretary Marilyn pointed out that the completion of March marks $\frac{1}{4}$ of the calendar and fiscal year. YTD (year to date) Member Receipts of \$9,940.66 are considerably less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the 2017 projected Member Receipts ($\$48,040 / 4 = \$12,010$). YTD Total Budget Receipts of \$49,591.31 are closer to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the 2017 projected Total Receipts ($\$200,756.60 / 4 = \$50,189.15$).
8. The sign announcing the free Community Meal on the third Saturday of April was not posted in a timely manner; only 6 persons from Trinity and three guests were present. Kathy Glendening pointed out that some or all of the work of meal preparation has fallen on her, month after month. She is physically unable to continue doing so. Either other meal preparers have to be found or the meal must be discontinued. The Outreaching Committee will discuss this situation at its meeting next Sunday.
9. A new heating system has been installed at 754 Elm. Parish Administrator Kathy Glendening produced additional invoices showing the total cost of the furnace installation is \$3140 for the installer and \$250 for Bob Pedder's team, or \$3390. Since only \$2400 was approved previously by Council, President Rice asked for a motion to approve the additional spending. The following motion was passed unanimously:
The Church Council authorizes the financial officers to transfer an additional \$990 from Building Fund Reserve in Trinity's primary savings account at F&M Bank to its primary checking account at F&M Bank, and specifically, to the line item Furnace 754 Elm so that the invoices can be paid.

10. Trevor Wolter pointed out that we need better controls over when other groups use our church and impact our services. He proposed expectations be set that no other group uses our facilities after 8:30 a.m. Sunday morning or within one hour of our worship services at other times of the day. President Rice agreed to discuss this topic with other members of the Property Committee. Mr. Wolter requested an updated schedule of all contracted regular use of the church facilities by other groups. Pastor Scott agreed that such a schedule should be posted and available to all.
11. The Property Committee continues to target implementation of its Parking Pass procedure May 1. Financial Secretary Marilyn Bohl again stressed that a written proce-

dure must be written, reviewed, approved, and presented to all persons who park in our lots before implementation occurs.

Mrs. Glendening pointed out that people attending St. Luke's need to be reminded not to park in our lot.

12. The following motion was passed unanimously: **The Church Council authorizes Parish Administrator Kathy Glendening to close the American Christian Credit Union (ACCU) account or accounts and to pursue obtaining a relationship and credit card through the ELCA Credit Union. The signers are to be Larry Rice, Bob Pedder, and Kathy Glendening as noted above.**

—Marilyn Bohl, Secretary



APRIL 18, 2017 Council Highlights

1. Noting Pentecost was approaching, Pastor Scott read from Acts 2, then posed two questions: Where is the Spirit leading you? and Where is the Spirit leading Trinity? He suggested that as part of figuring out direction for Trinity a written survey might be useful. Council agreed that the Outreaching Committee assume responsibility for such a survey and present a proposal to the Council at its June meeting.
2. Pastor Scott stated that a diverse Trinity group being out on the 8th Street corner with donuts and fellowship on Sunday mornings is creating a buzz in the neighborhood. He distributed copies of the only two resolutions being provided for consideration in advance of the Southwest Cali-

fornia Synod Annual Assembly. The first of these proposes "that the Southwest California Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America be declared a Sanctuary Synod." The second includes a RESOLVED clause "that the Southwest California Synod become a Jubilee Synod." Pastor Scott has talked with Jon Paulvino, a member of the SCIC Board of Directors, about participating in a town hall meeting about sanctuary considerations at Trinity in late June or July.

3. President Rice commented that the ad hoc Constitution Review Committee will hold its second review meeting the following evening, May 24, 2017. He expects the Commit-

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You Can Help with the Festival!

- ⌚ **Volunteers to run game booths**
- ⌚ **Volunteers to help cook hot dogs and hand out food**
- ⌚ **Setup**
- ⌚ **Cleanup**

- ⌚ **Small donations for a “kids only” raffle (school supplies, small toys, etc.)**
- ⌚ **Donations for main fundraising raffle**

- ⌚ **Monetary donations**

- ⌚ **Loan your E-Z Up tent for the day**

MOST IMPORTANTLY: Be There!

Trinity's Second Annual

Family Festival

Saturday, August 5, 2017

Noon - 4 PM

FREE ADMISSION

759 Linden Avenue

Family Resources

Games

Prizes

Raffles

Food



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
YOUR DOWNTOWN SPIRITUAL HOME



June 10 Workday Photos



(Continued from page 3)

people including a Summer Festival on Saturday, August 5th that will be filled with fun, games, prizes, and show our neighbors that all of God's children and families are invited and welcome at Trinity. We will once again collaborate in a Vacation Bible School (VBS) with our fellow Long Beach congregations- Christ Lutheran and Our Savior.

There are no 5-step plans to attract young families or 6-ways to grow the church and attract young people. All we can do is prepare ourselves to welcome and invite children and families. We are called to remind them that they are

indeed loved by God, created in God's image, and invited to participate as full members of the family of God. We are called to let the little children come to us and do not stop them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

Let them come, make noises that children make, and be curious as children. It's also okay if they bring their parents, guardians, grandparents, and friends because a growing church isn't just one that has children. A growing church is one that all generations feel invited, welcomed, and valued. That sounds like a healthy and growing Trinity to me!

Rev. Scott Fritz
Trinity Lutheran Long Beach

July 2017

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|--------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|
| JUN 25 | | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | | | | | | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property | 5 9:00am Independence Day | 6 10:00am Bible Study | 7 | 8 9:00am Discipling Committee |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 10:00am Bible Study | 14 | 15 12:00pm Community Meal |
| 16 | 17 | 18 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive | 19 7:00pm Council Meeting | 20 10:00am Bible Study | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 10:00am Bible Study | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | Aug 1 9:00am Bible Study 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

August 2017

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

| August 2017 | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
| 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 | 1 | 2 |

| September 2017 | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |

- tee to share its recommendations with the Council and at a special congregation meeting, called with at least 30 days advance notice for that purpose.
4. Financial Secretary Marilyn Bohl informed the Council that a gift of \$7,655.30 has been received this month from the estate of Bernice Michelsen and that Bob Pedder has obtained another \$3,000 from filming at Trinity.
 5. Trevor Wolter and Sean O'Neal of O'Neal Pipe Organ Services have finalized details for a contract totaling **\$54,285.00**, which includes refurbishing of the existing organ console, is about \$15,000 less than the project as formerly discussed with Mr. Rosales, and is well below the congregation-approved ceiling of **\$70,000.00** established at the January 29, 2017, Annual Congregation Meeting. The Church Council authorized an initial payment of \$25,000 as committed in the signed contract, to be taken from our Organ Fund.
 6. The Church Council authorized \$685.00 of the designated McKenzie Mortuary unrestricted funds be used to cover part of the expenses for organist Trevor Wolter to attend an Organ Workshop August 1-4, 2017, in Utah.
 7. Trevor Wolter noted that 13 guests and 5 Trinity persons attended the Community Meal last Saturday at Trinity. Getting the banner up earlier certainly seemed to help. Ms. Bohl and Mr. Young thanked Mr. Wolter for doing the preparation for this meal and noted that many of the guests seemed to come for fellowship as well as for food. Mr. Wolter encouraged others to sign up to help

provide the food, noting that documented expenses will be reimbursed.

8. Mr. Wolter reminded Council members of Trinity's Habitat for Humanity weekend June 10-11. He stressed that all contributions will be used directly for building materials and encouraged participation by people of Trinity and friends in multiple ways.
9. Kathy Glendening directed attention to the draft "Parking Space Agreement" and highlighted changes from the Agreement currently in use. She stated that copies of the Agreement will be provided to all renters of parking space at Trinity and must be signed and returned by them. The Council authorized the Property Committee to implement the procedures described in the Parking Space Agreement, including the issuing of parking permits and the towing of cars not showing the required parking permits.
10. Pastor Scott has contacted the Bishop to ascertain whether he or someone he recommends will participate in our Reformation Anniversary Celebration at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 29. Mr. Wolter intends to get save-the-date memos to other churches before next month's Council meeting.
11. The Council selected Cheyenne Williams to serve as the youth delegate and Erica Smith to serve as the female delegate to the Southwest California Annual Assembly June 2 - 4 at California Lutheran University. No male delegate was identified. Pastor Scott will attend in his role as pastor. [It was later determined that Erica cannot get off work; Kathy Glendening will attend as the female delegate.]

Marilyn Bohl, Secretary

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759 Linden Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90813



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!