



# TRINITY TRUMPETER

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
November/December 2017 Volume 16, Issue 6

# Building Community

*One Meal at a Time*





# 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](mailto: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

## Contact Us



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## Leadership & Staff



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

# Responding to the Good News of God's Grace with Thanksgiving & In Loving Service

**T**he year is coming to an end. Before we know it, we will be ringing in the new year. But before we can do that, we have an opportunity to pause, take a little breather, and give thanks to God. We have just marked the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation this October 31st. As we study the Reformation and the confessional heritage that claim we find ourselves reminded of God's grace and that we are justified by God's grace through faith. And what do we do with this free gift of grace that God has offered us? Should we put it on the shelf? Put it in the bank? Save it for a rainy day? Or do we first give thanks to God and then go out and share the good news of God's grace through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus?

At Trinity, we are studying "Together by Grace: Introducing the Lutherans" which is a collection of essays by leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran

Church in America. We are looking at our Lutheran theology, history, and the practice of faith. We recognize that through God's grace we have been gathered, claimed, called, and sent into the world to proclaim the good news. There are many opportunities to proclaim the good news at Trinity. The way that we share the good news includes worship, music, and the arts but it also includes listening to our neighbors and engaging in loving service to our neighbors in need.

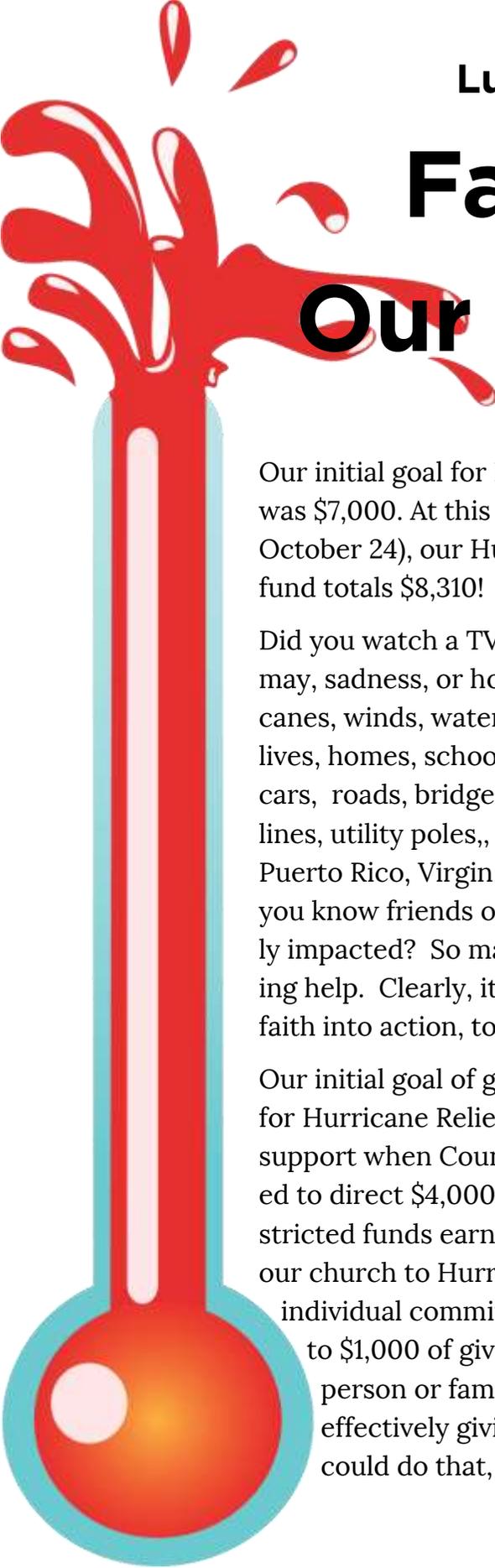
As we wrap up 2017, we will gather our neighbors for a Thanksgiving Community Meal on Saturday, November 18th at 12PM. It's an invitation for neighbors to sit down and break bread together. It's an opportunity to share stories and to express thanks for our neighbors. It is an opportunity to listen to the needs, hopes, and gifts of our neighbors and to be open to journey of faith that the Holy Spirit may be leading us.

*There are many opportunities to proclaim the good news at Trinity.*

In December, we will continue some of our holiday traditions with our Midweek Advent Devotions, singing Christmas Carols around the neighborhood, and as we welcome God's incarnate love for the world at celebration of Christmas. We do all this with thankful and generous hearts knowing that God has called each of us to a life of love and service throughout our neighborhood and to the ends of the earth.

With a Thankful Heart,

Rev. Scott Fritz



## Lutheran Disaster Response

# Faith at Work: Our Love in Action

Our initial goal for Hurricane Relief was \$7,000. At this time (Sunday, October 24), our Hurricane Relief fund totals \$8,310!

Did you watch a TV screen in dismay, sadness, or horror as hurricanes, winds, water,...., destroyed lives, homes, schools, businesses, cars, roads, bridges, communication lines, utility poles,, in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands,..? Do you know friends or relatives directly impacted? So many people needing help. Clearly, it is time to put our faith into action, to love one another!

Our initial goal of gathering \$7,000 for Hurricane Relief received strong support when Council members voted to direct \$4,000 of Trinity's unrestricted funds earned by filming at our church to Hurricane Relief. An individual committed to match up to \$1,000 of giving 1 for 1: any person or family giving \$1 was effectively giving \$2. If we could do that, we would have

$\$4,000+1,000+1,000 = \$6,000$ . We've done that and more: \$8,310 at this writing! Trinity and 18 individuals or families have contributed. We will continue to accept gifts through October 31, then send a check for our total amount as aid through Lutheran Disaster Response.

Since we began assembling funds, California wildfires have destroyed thousands of homes and killed more than 40 people in northern California. Lutheran Disaster Response is again in action. Giving intended for Hurricane Relief will be used for Hurricane Relief. If you wish to direct funds for CA Wildfire relief, please simply give for that purpose or contact me via the church office to discuss it further. Sincere thanks to each and every one of you who has given to help those in need through this fund raising project.

—Marilyn Bohl, Financial Secretary

# Christmas at Trinity

## Advent

Midweek services  
December 6, 13, & 20

Soup supper: 6:15 pm  
Worship: 7:00 pm

## CHRISTMAS EVE

Candlelight service  
December 24

Music: 6:00 pm  
Worship: 7:00 pm





# SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

## Council Highlights

1. Pastor Scott Fritz asked members to consider Word and Sacrament – what is their meaning to you? Council members were advised to regard them as means of grace—how and where grace happens. Worship in community is vitally important to Lutherans. Word is how God speaks to us, written or oral; protects us against false teachings; and helps us to know when God is talking with us and when he is not. Word and Sacrament are how God works in the world (albeit he is not limited to that). We are encouraged and nurtured in and through the church to reach out to the world.
2. Minutes of the prior month’s Council meeting and of the Special Congregation Meeting of Sept. 24 to approve the changed **Constitution of Trinity Lutheran Church of Long Beach, CA** were approved.
3. Pastor Scott is going to lead a Reformation book study Together by Grace, a holistic, global perspective of what makes us who we are, following the completion of the study of the Book of Romans. However, he is experiencing post-concussion symptoms. The neurologist advised Pastor Scott to rest—perhaps work only half days for awhile. Pastor Scott asked that Council members keep him in prayer.
4. Financial Secretary Marilyn Bohl noted that operating expense for the month of August roughly equaled operating income for the month. She noted that the end of August is about 2/3 of the way through the calendar/fiscal year and directed atten-

tion to the following numbers:

	Income	Expense
<b>2017 Budget</b>	\$200,757	\$220,271
<b>2/3 of annual projection</b>	\$133,838	\$146,847
<b>Actual at 2/3 of the year</b>	\$136,231	\$130,535
<b>10% building &amp; church use reserves</b>	(\$10,364)	
	<b>\$125,867</b>	

These figures indicate that our operating deficit at 2/3 of the year is slightly less than \$5,000 which is far less than we anticipated when the budget was approved. Ms. Bohl attributed the higher than expected income primarily to having no vacancies in the church’s rental units though 2% of total rental fees had been allowed for possible vacancies in 2017 planning. She emphasized that the rental income had helped to offset lower than expected member giving throughout the year. Ms. Bohl attributed the lower than expected expenses primarily to far less spending for Property line items in the budget than anticipated at this point in the year. Council members appreciated that the financial situation appears more positive than was anticipated at the start of the fiscal year.

5. Trevor Wolter stated that he has received responses indicating about 20 persons will

join in the combined choir for the Reformation 500 Celebration. He has ordered the music for the event and will personally deliver it to the churches from which singers are participating and attempt to recruit additional singers. The Synod staff can print the programs for the Reformation 500 Celebration after we provide a master copy and will provide binders for participants as desired. Anticipated costs include the music and the purchased food, drinks, and paper goods for the fellowship that follows the service. Pastor Scott hopes to get financial assistance from the Synod, which budgets funds for special events. He will also raise the topic of funding at the next Pastors' Collegium, to be held October 12th. Mr. Wolter has advised the Fellowship Committee members to plan for 175 attendees at the fellowship. Light refreshments need to be provided. Other organizations will be asked to bring desserts.

6. Attendance was more than 20 at the last Community Meal. Volunteers are needed for the next Community Meal.
7. Property Committee Chair Bob Pedder noted that the computers upstairs except two kept for possible use have been donated to LSS. The security room and teen room downstairs are partially organized. Three 6-foot tables have been purchased for use in the Fellowship Hall. In response to requests, Mr. Pedder has obtained estimates and, where appropriate, bids for certain projects:
  - Dropped ceiling and new lights in the education building hallway. Painting of the front entryway and a new welcoming sign. Estimate of cost is \$1100.00.

- Termites in the church last four pews and above the piano, in the crawl space and going to the organ chamber in the education building. Mr. Pedder has obtained three bids for tenting and use of gas to eradicate the termites; one-year warranty of the work; same footage for each bid; can be done in a three day (Tues/Wed/Thurs) period. The estimates are: \$12,263; \$17,860; and \$28,116. Pastor Scott will call a Special Congregation Meeting to be held following worship Sunday, October 15, to allow this information to be presented to the congregation for a decision on whether to proceed and with which vendor. The meeting must be announced on two consecutive prior Sundays and/or by regular mail to all voting members.
- Remove carpeting in the church building except for on the two stairs leading up to the balcony; strip the floors, reseal, and varnish. Mr. Pedder currently has bids of \$9,270 and \$16,222 from Kerr Flooring and Carter Wood Floors. He has also requested a bid from California Hardwood Floors. Since the anticipated cost of this project is also over \$5,000, it requires congregation approval to proceed. It may be discussed at the Annual Congregation Meeting Part 1 in November 2017.
- Paint the interior of the church building, except for the panels above the altar. Some minor repair work would be required. Mr. Pedder recommends Edwards Navajo White,

maybe the narthex a little brighter. He has obtained bids of \$6,700 from Parks Painting, \$7,500 from Universal Painting, and \$8,900 from Triple J. Here again, approval of the congregation is required to proceed.

8. President Rice asked Jan Laser, in her position as one of three members of the 2017 Nominating Committee, to be prepared to present potential candidates for the three 2018 Council seats to be filled to Council at its October 24th meeting.
9. Ms. Bohl stated that \$1,255 has been contributed by people at Trinity thus far as aid to hurricane victims through Lutheran Disaster

Response. Motion passed unanimously as follows: \$4,000 of Trinity's unrestricted funds in designated line items from filming done at Trinity should be given through the Southwest California Synod to Lutheran Disaster Response Hurricane Relief. It was further agreed that the offer of a person to match up to \$1,000 in contributions to the relief should be emphasized in announcements and people encouraged to give to this cause. Trinity will continue accepting donations through October.

—Marilyn Bohl, Secretary

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## Help Keep Kyle's Dream Alive

Kyle was 6 when diagnosed with cancer and when asked by the Make-a-Wish Foundation what his wish was, he said for no one to go hungry.

Kyle started collecting food and donating it to local shelters. After every chemo appointment he would take a load of food to donate.

Unfortunately Kyle lost his battle to cancer but his dream continues today. The program that Kyle began is a major source of food distributed by Trinity's very own food pantry.

You can help keep Kyle's dream alive as well by donating non-perishable food items. Just drop them off in the church office.



# November 2017

December 2017

November 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
31						

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		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 29	30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4
9:00am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property Committee 7:00pm Alanza Club	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm Serenity Circle	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm 2 Be Free 7:30pm Round Robin	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 10:00am Bible Study	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 6:00pm Men to Men in Recovery	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 9:00am SIA
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive Committee 7:00pm Alanza Club	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm Serenity Circle	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm 2 Be Free 7:30pm Round Robin	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 10:00am Bible Study	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 6:00pm Men to Men in Recovery	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 9:00am Discipling Committee 9:00am SIA
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive Committee 7:00pm Alanza Club	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm Serenity Circle	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm 2 Be Free 7:30pm Round Robin	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 10:00am Bible Study	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 6:00pm Men to Men in Recovery	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 9:00am SIA 12:00pm Community Meal
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Outreaching Committee 7:00pm Alanza Club	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm Serenity Circle	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm 2 Be Free 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:30pm Round Robin	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	Thanksgiving Day 6:30am Eastside Early Birds	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 6:00pm Men to Men in Recovery	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 9:00am SIA
26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2
9:00am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Committee 7:00pm Alanza Club	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm Serenity Circle	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm 2 Be Free 7:30pm Round Robin	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 10:00am Bible Study		

# December 2017

December 2017							January 2018						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
31													

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Property 7:00pm Alanza Club	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm Serenity Circle	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm 2 Be Free 7:30pm Round Robin	6:30am Eastside Early 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Advent Worship	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 10:00am Bible Study	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 6:00pm Men to Men in Recovery	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 9:00am SIA
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Executive 7:00pm Alanza Club	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm Serenity Circle	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm 2 Be Free 7:30pm Round Robin	6:30am Eastside Early 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Advent Worship	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 10:00am Bible Study	Newletter Submissions Due 6:30am Eastside Early 6:00pm Men to Men in Recovery	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 9:00am SIA 12:00pm Community
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Outreach 7:00pm Alanza Club	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm Serenity Circle	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm 2 Be Free 7:30pm Round Robin	6:30am Eastside Early 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Advent Worship	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 10:00am Bible Study	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 6:00pm Men to Men in Recovery	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 9:00am SIA
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30am Worship 12-15pm Fellowship 6:00pm Special Music 7:00pm Christmas Eve	Christmas Day 6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm Serenity Circle	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 7:00pm 2 Be Free 7:30pm Round Robin	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 5:00pm Choir Rehearsal	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 10:00am Bible Study	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 6:00pm Men to Men in Recovery	6:30am Eastside Early Birds 9:00am SIA
31	Jan 1, 18	2	3	4	5	6
9:00am Education Hour 10:30am Worship 7:00pm Alanza Club						



# OCTOBER 15, 2017 Congregational Meeting

A special congregational meeting was called by Pastor Scott Fritz for Sunday, October 15, 2017 to address the issue of termites in the Sanctuary and Education buildings.

Bob Pedder, on behalf of the Property Committee, explained that the presence of termites in both the church building and the education building have been recognized for some time. Spot treatments have been done to control the spread of termite damage for about two years. There are both above-ground termites and subterranean termites. The Property Committee states that now is an appropriate time to have the church tented, since that is what's required to eradicate the termites.

Three bids were presented:

1. Total Pest Solutions **\$12,265**
2. Terminex **\$17,860**
3. Orkin \$28,116

All three firms would use the same type of gas and provide the same warranties: one year for subterranean termites and two years for termites in other areas. All three firms would act as general contractors and hire subcontractors/specialists to do the actual work. All three could get the work done within the time frame preferred by the Property Committee. The Property Committee recommends that the firm submitting the \$12,265 bid be offered the work.

With 20 voting members present, the assembly approved the Property Committee recommendation to proceed with contracting Total Pest Solutions.

The work was carried out October 17-19.





# Thanksgiving Community Meal

Join us for a very special community meal on Saturday, November 18 at Noon.

If you're able to support this ministry by volunteering to help prepare or serve food, please see Pastor Scott.