



Trinity Topics

The Newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church, Riverside CA
Sharing God's love, hope and forgiveness since 1893



Trinity Lutheran Church
Since 1893
Kent Tuohino, Pastor
Volume 26, Issue 5, May 2023

Mother's Day Tea

All mothers, daughters, grandmothers and granddaughters are invited to join us for a Mother's Day Tea on **Saturday, May 13**, at 2:00 pm in Heinecken Hall.



Please bring a treat to share. Please RSVP to Ann Herring: call (909) 380-1710 or email aehlaw@gmail.com



We were able to take photos of many members of our church family in April. But if you haven't had your picture taken yet, there's still time to include your photo!

Contact Kim Root-George or the church office to schedule a time for your photo session.

Apply for a Trinity Scholarship!

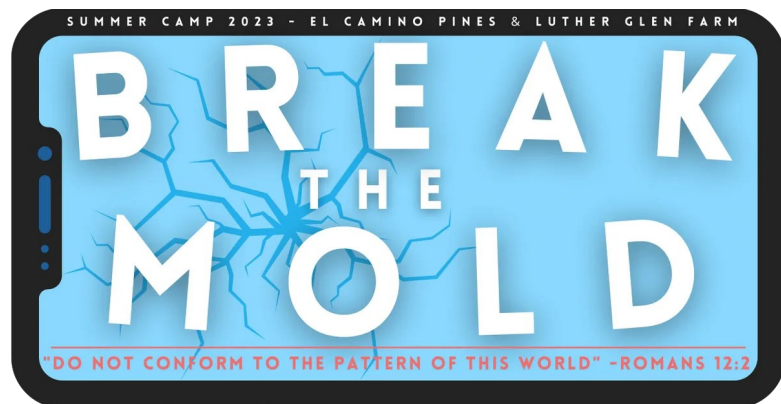
It's time for eligible students to apply for a Trinity Educational Scholarship. This scholarship is for any student who is a member of Trinity or an active participant in our church and plans to attend a secondary educational institution this fall (community college, university, trade school, graduate school or seminary). There is an application that needs to be completed, along with a letter of recommendation and a short essay. Application forms are available from the church office. Don't delay – the deadline to apply is May 31st!

Christian Music Concert at Eden

On Friday, May 12, at 7:00 pm, Christian Lape and some of his musician friends are offering a free contemporary Christian music concert at Eden Lutheran Church. It will be in Eden's fellowship hall. Christian is the son of Pastor Stephanie Lape.

Register Now for Day Camp at Trinity: July 17-21

The excitement will begin on July 17, 2023, as Day Camp starts here at Trinity! Day camp is like going to summer camp without leaving home. Lutheran Retreats Camps and Conferences (LRCC) will send enthusiastic and energetic staff to Trinity from July 17-21 to provide a week of day camp at Trinity. The team will lead kids in games, music, Bible studies, crafts, and more for a week of faith-focused, community-building activities. The participants will need to bring their own lunch, but we will provide snacks. This year's theme is Break the Mold, and we will explore Jeremiah 18: 5-6 and Romans 12:2. These two verses remind us to break away from the patterns of the world and see God working in our lives. When



we do this, we make room for God to mold us into the perfect creations we were meant to be. Enrollment is limited, so be sure to register soon! This camp is for children entering K-6th grade this fall. The registration fee is \$25 for one child and \$10 for each additional child from the same household (up to a \$50 maximum). You can pick up registration forms in the church office or call (951) 682-1350 to request that one be sent to you. Please share this information with other families who would be interested in this wonderful program!

Easter Sunday at Trinity



A pancake breakfast on Easter Sunday brought together new and familiar faces for a lively time of fellowship.



Children decorated a cross with flowers to symbolize new life and the resurrection.



Donations Needed for the Foster Youth Graduation Event

It is time to get ready for the annual Riverside County foster care graduation event! It will be held on Thursday, June 22, at La Sierra University. This event serves to propel the youth forward and engage them in services and resources leading toward success in adulthood. This event also provides them an opportunity to celebrate this major milestone in their lives. The Riverside County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and local churches working together as Faith in Motion would like to congratulate them with a gift basket and gift cards. This event lets the young adults know their community is thinking about them and wants them to be successful in their transition into young adulthood.

DPSS is asking for our help to make this graduation party an important and fun event in their lives. They are requesting donations of gift baskets and gift cards. Trinity's Social Concerns Committee will create several baskets for these young adults. Each basket will have a theme and will have gift cards and other items in them. Here are examples of the gift basket themes:

- **College Study Success:** with school supplies, notebooks, pens, pencils, stapler, calculator, ruler, hole puncher, amazon.com or biblio.com gift cards for textbooks, backpack, printer paper, etc.
- **Dorm Move-In:** with extra-long twin sheets, comforter, pillowcase, hamper, desk lamp, shower supply caddy, plastic storage bins, towels, washcloths, laundry detergent, hangers, etc.
- **Activity Baskets:** such as Trip to the Beach with beach chair, beach towel, mats, reusable water bottle, sunblock, etc. or Movie Night with movie tickets and variety of snacks and/or gift cards, etc.
- **Variety Gift Card Basket:** they love themes such as a "Fast Food Frenzy" variety with Subway, Del Taco, McDonald's, Cold Stone, Panera, Starbucks, Jack in the Box, etc. – or a "Supermarket Sweep" with gift cards for Vons, Stater Brothers, Ralphs, Albertsons, etc.
- **Gift cards** for Wal-Mart, Target, Game Stop, Best Buy, Forever 21, Amazon, movie theaters, fast food or mid-range dining restaurants are also appreciated.

All donations are needed by Sunday, June 11. If you would like to help in this endeavor, you can purchase gift cards, provide items for the baskets, or provide a complete basket of items. And remember, you can buy gift cards through the church! (If ordering cards through our church, please order them no later than Sunday, June 4.)

Informational flyers are available in the church office. Please feel free to contact Brenda S. Lussier for more information or to answer any questions related to this program.



Examples of graduation gift baskets.

Thursday Night Bible Study

This weekly Bible study meets online at 7:00 pm each Thursday and discusses the upcoming Sunday Gospel reading. If you'd like to participate, let Pastor Kent know. He will email you the discussion questions along with a link to the Zoom meeting.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. — Psalm 119:105



Sunday Bible Readings

May 7: 5th Sunday of Easter

1 Peter 2:2-10; Ps 31:1-5, 15-16; John 14:1-14

May 14: 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; John 14:15-21

May 21: Ascension of Our Lord

Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; John 17:1-11

May 28: Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; John 7:37-39

June 4: Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1-10, 26-27; Psalm 8; Matthew 28:16-20



I was glad
when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house
of the Lord!"

Psalm 122:1

Sunday Coffee Hour

Volunteers are needed to help with the coffee hour. If you would like to host and serve a simple treat on a Sunday, please sign up or call the church office.

Altar Flowers

The Flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please consider signing up to donate the cost of the altar flowers for a Sunday worship service. The price is \$34 for one bouquet or \$68 for both (make checks payable to Trinity).

This Month's Flower Donors

5/7 Dan Brizendine
5/14 Mickey Ouellet
5/21 Lou Pfeifle
5/28 Shannon Minter



Pastor's Paragraphs

One of the Bible readings on a recent Sunday was the story of the two disciples who met the risen Christ while they were walking from Jerusalem to the village of Emmaus (see Luke 24:13-35). It took place on the afternoon of the first Easter, when the disciples still didn't understand that Jesus had been raised from the dead.

As they were walking and discussing what had happened on Good Friday, and the amazing story that Mary Magdalene had told about finding Jesus' tomb empty earlier that day, Jesus came and began to walk with them. They didn't recognize him at first — maybe because they still thought he was dead! But as they walked and this stranger began to expound on the meaning of Scripture and the prophecies regarding the Messiah, they felt their hearts begin to burn within them. Later, when they sat down for dinner and Jesus blessed and broke the bread, their eyes were finally opened to recognize him. Then they hurried back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples what they had seen and heard, and how they had met Christ along the way.

This week I am preparing to attend our annual synod assembly, which will be held at Hope Lutheran Church in Palm Desert on May 5-6. Carl and Shawn Lowell, Larry Dodson and Brenda S. Lussier will also be attending. The word "synod" comes from two Greek words that mean "together" and "way." It refers to people who are walking the way of Christ together. The synod assembly brings together Lutherans from many different congregations to make important decisions about our work together.

When I think of those two disciples walking to Emmaus, they were also walking together along the way. They were a synod of two. They began their journey feeling sad and discouraged, but after spending time walking together with Christ, they had a renewed energy, joy and hope. I have attended many synod assemblies over the years, and the highlights I remember of those gatherings are the times when it felt like we were walking together with Christ. That often happens during the inspirational times of worship that are part of a synod assembly, but sometimes it happens when the gathering tackles difficult issues or makes important decisions. At those times, I have felt my heart burning within me and my spirit renewed, a bit like those two disciples who were walking to Emmaus.

We can certainly encounter Christ in many other places and circumstances, but I'm glad to be able to spend time each year at the synod assembly walking together with my brothers and sisters in faith. Please pray that Christ guides us along our journey, and that his Spirit renews us and fills us with hope and joy.

— Pastor Kent



Stewardship Report

TRINITY'S GIVING REPORT (1/1/23 through 4/30/23)

Goal for regular offerings to date: \$ 88,303.32
Regular offerings received to date: \$ 92,671.06
Difference: + \$ 4,367.74

Your faithful giving will help us reach our goal!

Scrip income received in 2023: \$ 460.18

Century Club donations received in 2023: \$ 280.00

James Guillow entered eternal life on April 21st. Jim died at home peacefully, ending a long battle with cancer. A celebration of life service will be held at Trinity on Saturday, May 20, at 11:00 am.



There will be a reception for family and friends at the Guillow's home after the service. If you plan to attend the reception, please RSVP to:

JamesGuillowService@gmail.com

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live." — John 11:25

Rummage Sale Results

Our rummage sale on April 29 has raised a total of \$1,869.10 so far! Our thanks go to Kelly Krashin and the other volunteers who helped organize



and run the rummage sale, and everyone who donated their unwanted household items.

Inland Master Chorale Concert

The Inland Master Chorale will perform Carl Orff's choral masterpiece "Carmina Burana" on Sunday, May 7, at 4:00 pm in the University of Redlands Memorial Chapel. The music is beautiful, bold, mysterious, and bawdy. It will be presented with a full orchestra and children's choir.

To purchase tickets, go to:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/inlandmasterchorale/>



This month's book is *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*, a novel by Ocean Vuong. The story is written as a letter from a son to a mother who cannot read. When the son, Little Dog, is in his late twenties, he

unearths a family's history that began before he was born — a history whose epicenter is rooted in Vietnam. The letter serves as a doorway into parts of his life his mother has never known, all of it leading to an unforgettable revelation. At once a witness to the fraught yet undeniable love between a single mother and her son, it is also a brutally honest exploration of race, class, and masculinity.

The book club will meet via Zoom at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, May 23. Contact Brenda S. Lussier for the Zoom meeting information.



Taizé Service

Several churches in Riverside take turns hosting a Taizé service on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 pm.

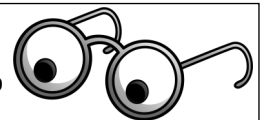
It's a contemplative style of worship featuring simple but beautiful songs, scripture readings, and prayerful silence. It will be held at Trinity this month on Monday, May 8, at 7:00 pm.

The service will also be available to view on YouTube. For more info, visit facebook.com/taizeriverside or contact Sandra Soares at fcucc@sbcglobal.net.

Daily Devotionals

Copies of the *Christ in Our Home* daily devotional booklet are available at Trinity. Pick one up when you come to church, or contact the church office and we will be happy to send one to you. Large-print copies are also available.

Eyeglasses Wanted



We make used eyeglasses available to those who cannot afford them. If you have readers or prescription reading glasses you do not need, please bring them to church and place them in the donation box in Heinecken Hall.



If you are healthy and able to give blood, consider donating blood for the Trinity Donor Club. We thank those who have donated recently. For more information, visit www.LStream.org or call the church office.

May Birthdays

(1) Ann Herring; (2) Willy Miller; (4) Patricia Bayne; (5) Jacob Custode, (7) Sheryl Heth; (9) Lynn Baggett; (11) Gretta Merwin, (12) Owen Shelton; (14) Danielle George, Miranda George; (17) Wes Krashin; (22) Nancy Irwin; (24) Jim Miller; (28) David Beaver; (29) Ava Custode; (30) Rande George; (31) Abby Brunka, Robbie Clarke, Keira Colacchio, Christopher Gallego, Brandon Medvec, Mark Ramos, Juliette Rodriguez

If we missed your birthday, please let us know so that we can add you to our list!



Council Meeting Summary

The Trinity Council met via Zoom on April 18, 2023. Members present: Pastor Kent, Mary Kantola, Karyl Robinson, Mike McMichael, Stacy Wheeler, Gary Goldberg, Wes Krashin, Theresa Husted, and Larry Dodson. Please feel free to contact any of the council members if you have any questions. Pastor Kent led an opening devotion from Christ in Our Home.

Pastor Report Highlights

- The photo directory is progressing and quite a few photos have been taken.
- \$377 was raised for Shower of Hope from the Easter breakfast. Thank you to the hard-working crew who made breakfast. It was a wonderful fellowship gathering!
- Lenten offerings received on Ash Wednesday, at soup suppers, and on Good Friday totaled \$781 for World Hunger. The Lenten Food Drive received 82 bags of groceries.
- The next monthly reunion for Cursillo participants will be held at Trinity on Sunday, May 7, starting at 2:30 pm.
- Trinity is part of the rotation of churches that take turns hosting a monthly service Taizé in Riverside. The next service will be held at Trinity on Monday, May 8, at 7:00 pm.

Treasurers Report

- We completed March with \$20,550.24 in envelope giving and \$6,268.63 in unrestricted income.

- The month of March finished with a negative net of \$5,795.51 due to maintenance and gas costs; however, the first quarter as a whole ended with a net income of \$35,317.14.

Old Business

- No Trespass signs were approved, and 8 new signs are being made. Installation soon.
- Concrete repairs are progressing, and two estimates were received. Voted to move ahead with the scheduling of the repairs.
- Narthex door closers were installed and we are now working on options for door stops.
- Security Camera installation is complete and all 8 new cameras are working.
- Search continues for a Choir Accompanist.
- Discussions on additional handicapped parking options for services, especially for 11 am.

New Business

- 24 new folding chairs are being ordered for Heinecken Hall.
- Discussions on options for a summer worship schedule. No decision yet as we are still looking at options.

The next council meeting will be held on May 16, 2023, at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

Zoë Minter Receives Prestigious P.E.O. STAR Scholarship

Zoë Minter, a senior at Ramona High School, was selected to receive a \$2,500 STAR Scholarship from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. She was recommended by P.E.O. Chapter OH, many of whose members attend Trinity Lutheran Church. Chapter OH has been a part of the Riverside, California community since it was organized in 1953.

The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship was established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional women in their final year of high school to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year. The competitive STAR Scholarship is for women who exhibit excellence in leadership, academics, extracurricular activities, community service and potential for future success.

Ms. Minter is on the water polo team, the student council, various school clubs, and writes for and produces the student daily television broadcast, while maintaining more than a 4. GPA in her advanced placement courses. We know Zoë at Trinity as the Sunday school teacher. She will attend Riverside City College in the fall to prepare for her pursuit of a Bachelor of Science degree. Her ultimate goal is to become a physician to serve the local community.

Help Support Trinity by Using Scrip

We sell scrip cards as a way to help support our church. Cards are available for over 700 stores and restaurants. To place an order, talk to Michael Myers or Judy McMichael on Sunday morning, or call or email Michael in the church office. You can pay when you order or when you receive your card(s); any checks should be made payable to Trinity Lutheran Church. The weekly scrip order goes in on Sunday at noon, and we usually receive the cards on Friday.



RaiseRight™

Go to raiseright.com to see what stores and restaurants are available. You can also order scrip cards online, reload cards, or download scrip directly to your phone. If you order online, be sure to choose our church as the organization to benefit from your scrip purchases.

Congratulations, Zoë!

Congratulations, Zoë,
We are proud of you
And the amazing things
That you always do.

You teach our Sunday school,
Sell Girl Scout cookies too,
And you'll graduate from high school
On May twenty-two.

Then you'll start at RCC
With the water polo team
In order to accomplish
Your next exciting dream.

Our entire congregation
Is wishing you well.
Your future will be very bright,
All of us can tell.

We know that God will bless you
And we'll be sure to pray
That you will feel His awesome love
Every single day!

By Carolyn Bolz

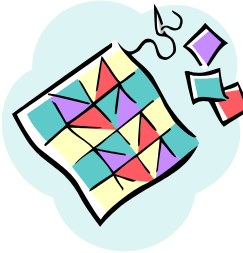
Congratulations to Our Graduates!



- **Danielle George** will graduate from the Rochester Institute of Technology on May 12 with a Master of Fine Arts in Medical Illustration.
- **Joseph Dadlez** will graduate from Martin Luther King High School on May 22 and plans to attend UC Santa Cruz this fall.
- **Zoë Minter** will graduate from Ramona High School on May 22 and plans to attend Riverside City College this fall.

Please let us know of any other graduates, so that we can list them in next month's newsletter.

Quilting Bee



Trinity's Quilting Bee meets in Cooper-Burkhart House on the first and third Saturdays of the month at 9:00 am. New helpers are welcome, and you don't even need to know how to sew! Contact Kelly Krashin for more info.

Also, if you have any old bed sheets that you don't need, the Quilting Bee would love to have them!

Game Fellowship Group

This monthly fellowship group for adults meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10 am in Cooper-Burkhart House. All are welcome. Contact Karyl Robinson for more information.



Hope Food Pantry

The Hope Food Pantry is open at Trinity from 9:00 to 10:30 am every Wednesday. Volunteers are needed to help with the food pick-up on Tuesdays and food distribution on Wednesdays. (You don't need to help every week.) Contact Larry Dodson to volunteer.



Work was completed in April to repair and extend some of the concrete block walls in our parking lot, and a low wall in the parking lot near the church office was removed to make the handicapped parking spaces more accessible.



Hope Lutheran Church's food pantry program was honored at Feeding America's "Million Meals Gala" on April 22. Bill Brethauer and Mickey Ouellet attended, along with Brenda S. and Pete Lussier.

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<p>Ministry Staff Kent Tuohino, <i>Pastor</i> • Mary Kantola, <i>Congregational President</i> Glenn Pickett, <i>Director of Music Ministries</i> • Michael Myers, <i>Administrative Assistant</i> Rev. Hitoshi & Satoko Adachi, <i>ELCA Missionaries in Japan</i></p>
<p>Vision & Mission Statements The vision of Trinity Lutheran Church is to provide a community of faith where all people are challenged to reach their full potential in Christ. Our mission is to <u>represent</u> our Lord Jesus Christ in this time and place. We will do so by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• INVITING people to know God and His message of grace, love, hope and forgiveness.• ASSISTING people to grow in their relationship with God.• EQUIPPING people to serve Christ's church.• ENABLING people to share their faith through what they say and do. <p>KNOW, GROW, SERVE AND SHARE</p>