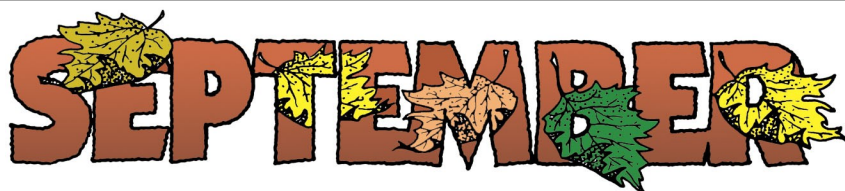




Trinity Topics

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 8, September 2023



“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday



September 10, 2023

Join us for our Sunday of Service!

“God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday is an annual day of service in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We will have one worship service at 9:30 am on September 10, followed by these service projects that will be set up in our fellowship hall:

- Fill “blessing bags” with food for the homeless
- Fill personal hygiene bags
- Sort and fill plastic bags with donated stationery that will be sent to people who are incarcerated at the California state prisons in Chino
- Tie quilts made by our Quilting Bee
- Sign greeting cards for members of our church who are homebound or live far away

If you have a yellow “God’s Work, Our Hands” t-shirt, be sure to wear it to church that day!

Later that Sunday, you can also visit our local Lutheran camp, Luther Glen Farm in Oak Glen, for an afternoon workday and the dedication of the new camp director’s house. Lunch will be served at noon, and work projects at the camp will begin at 12:45 pm. The building dedication will be at 3:00 pm. If you would like to attend the lunch, please RSVP to office@lrcchome.com or call (909) 797-2513.



Progressive Dinner

Saturday, September 23

Starting at 4:00 pm

Celebrate the beginning of fall by gathering with your friends (and friends-to-be!) at Trinity for a progressive dinner. This time, instead of traveling from house to house, it will all take place at the church. Each course will be served in a different room — hors d’oeuvres will be served in one room, the main course in another, and dessert in another. Volunteers are needed to help provide a part of the meal. Contact Kim Root-George or sign up at church to let us know you’ll be coming and if you can help provide something to eat.

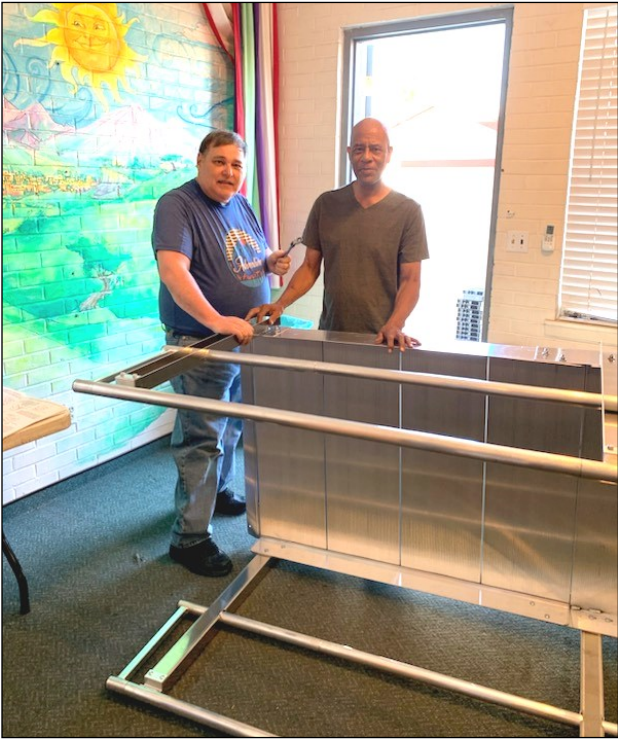


Join the Choir!

Trinity’s choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 6, at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. New singers are welcome!

Let Us Work for the Good of All

Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. — Galatians 6:9-10



Pete Lussier and Larry Dodson recently assembled a new ramp for the Hope Food Pantry, which was purchased with help from a Thrivent Action Team grant. The finished ramp is shown below.



Trinity Scholarship Recipients

Trinity's Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of this year's scholarship awards. Each of our recipients will receive \$1,550. Here they are, listed as they appear in the photo above (from left to right):

- **Jarett Guillow** will continue his studies at the University of California Riverside School of Medicine, with the intent of becoming a physician in Hematology and Oncology.
- **Luke Hamilton** will continue studying music and general education at Riverside Community College, and plans a career in music education.
- **Zoë Minter** will be attending Riverside City College, majoring in Education. She hopes to teach, perhaps in the sciences.
- **Joseph Dadlez** plans to attend the University of California Santa Cruz, majoring in Engineering Design and Development. He hopes to work in the field of game design.

Congratulations to each of our scholarship recipients! We wish them every success in their academic pursuits.



← In July, a group of high school youth came to help out in the Hope Pantry. They were participating in a high school camp at Luther Glen.

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

September 3: 14th Sunday after Pentecost
Romans 12:9-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Matthew 16:21-28

September 10: 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Romans 13:8-14; Psalm 119:33-40; Matthew 18:15-20

September 17: 16th Sunday after Pentecost
Romans 14:21-35; Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13;
Matthew 18:21-35

September 24: 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Philippians 1:21-30; Psalm 145:1-8,
Matthew 20:1-16

October 1: 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Philippians 2:1-13; Psalm 25:1-9,
Matthew 21:23-32



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

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

9/3 Carol Haffter
9/10 Karen & Michael Myers
9/17 Available
9/24 Carol Haffter & John Collins



Pastor's Paragraphs

Ten years ago, the ELCA initiated an annual event called "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. The ELCA's first dedicated day of service, in September 2013, was held to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the merger of three Lutheran church bodies that formed the ELCA. Over the years, thousands of ELCA congregations have embraced "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday as a way to show our commitment to be church together — one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor.

Of course, our congregation demonstrates this throughout the year, by caring for our neighbors in need and working to improve our community. These acts of service allow us to express one of our most basic Lutheran convictions: that all of life in Jesus Christ — every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life — flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace. God's grace inspires us to reach out to others with love.

In his commentary on the book of Romans, Martin Luther wrote, "Oh, it is a living, busy, active, mighty thing, this faith. And so it is impossible for it not to do good works incessantly. It does not ask whether there are good works to do, but before the question rises, it has already done them, and is always at the doing of them."

One of the members of our church family has been moved by God's grace and felt a special call to service in God's church. Brenda S. Lussier has been taking classes from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in order to become a diaconal minister in the ELCA. The ELCA describes this as a ministry of Word and Service — similar but distinct from the ministry of a pastor, who is called to a ministry of Word and Sacrament.

As part of her studies, this fall Brenda will be completing a semester of Contextual Ministry at Trinity. She will be working on identified learning goals intended to broaden her experience and prepare her to serve in multiple ways as a diaconal minister. In addition to meetings with me as her Ministry in Context Supervisor, a Lay Committee made up of Gary Goldberg, Connie Fortier and Sue McConnell will meet several times with Brenda to give her feedback.

Please join me in praying for Brenda and for our whole congregation, that we may continue to grow in grace and love as we care for our neighbors and for one another.

— Pastor Kent

And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight. (Philippians 1:9)



TRINITY'S GIVING REPORT (1/1/23 through 8/31/23)

Goal for regular offerings to date: \$ 171,700.90
Regular offerings received to date: \$ 167,032.69
Difference: - \$ 4,668.21

Your faithful giving will help us reach our goal!

Scrip income received in 2023: \$ 707.91

Century Club donations received in 2023: \$ 360.00



PRAYER LIST

Changes and additions to the prayer list are included in the weekly Sunday bulletin. Please contact the church office with updates or new requests.

Out of respect for privacy, the names on our prayer list have been omitted from this online edition of our newsletter.



THE PRAYER OF THE RIGHTEOUS IS POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE.
JAMES 5:16



Dear Members of Trinity Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your very generous donation of \$1,028 to Family Promise of Riverside.

Your donation is being used to help combat the problem of homelessness in Riverside. We are a nonprofit organization committed to helping low-income families acquire lasting independence in their own home. They need temporary shelter, time, and support to get back on their feet again, and our donors make that happen.

We are thankful for your gift. We know you have many giving choices, so we are humbled and honored you chose to give to Family Promise of Riverside.

Respectfully,
Claire Jefferson-Glipa
Executive Director,
Family Promise of Riverside



Loren Boese (74) died on July 31, and a celebration of his life was held at Trinity on Saturday, August 26. Memorial donations will benefit the Norte Vista High School tennis program, where Loren coached for many years.

Carol Wallior (85) passed away on August 16; a celebration of her life will be held at Trinity on Thursday, September 7, at 11:00 am. Lunch will be served following that service. There will be a viewing on Wednesday, September 6, from 6 to 8 pm at Pierce Brothers Crestlawn Mortuary, 11500 Arlington Ave., Riverside.

Kathryn Powell (96) entered eternal life on July 31; a celebration of her life will be held at Trinity on Tuesday, September 12, at 3:00 pm. Refreshments will be served after that service.

If you are unable to attend these services in person, they are also available to watch on Trinity's YouTube channel. Please pray for God to comfort the family and friends of these members of our congregation.

Weddings



Congratulations to these newlyweds!

Andrew Thompson and **Kelley Morgan** were married on Saturday, July 22, 2023, in Pacific Palisades.

Abraham and **LylaClare Kosobucki** were married at Trinity on Sunday, July 23, 2023.

Rejoice with those who rejoice;
mourn with those who mourn.
Romans 12:15



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.

September Birthdays

(1) Mike Finn; (3) Carol Savage; (5) Jay Farrand, (9) Sandy Rodriguez; (11) Patty Farrand; (12) Samantha Timothy; (13) Dennis Rogers; (15) Garrett Rowe; (16) Rusty Gilbreath, Christina Reza; (18) Amy Stager, Mark Wheeler; (20) Julie Boyes, Dana Krahin; (23) Cindy Wheeler; (24) Connor Colacchio, Judy McMichael, Stephanie Steele; (26) Joshua Hill, Tim Mott, (27) Anthony Baroldi

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



Council Meeting Summary

The Trinity Council met via Zoom Tuesday 8/15/2023. Members present: Pastor Kent, Mary Kantola, Karyl Robinson, Mike McMichael, Stacy Wheeler, Gary Goldberg, Wes Krashin, Theresa Husted, and Larry Dodson. Pastor Kent led a devotional from Luther Seminary based on Psalm 67 and an opening prayer.

Pastor Report Highlights:

- Pastor enjoyed his time off and noted the great job done by Glenn Pickett and Michael Meyers leading worship on Sunday, July 30, when Pastor Berg was unable to attend.
- Donations from Trinity resulted in \$1,028 being given to Family Promise. Pastor also spoke to them about our interest in helping with birthday celebrations for children.
- Pastor and Mike McMichael met with AMS Solar Power regarding an estimate for installing solar panels on the church and are waiting for a proposal.
- Memorial Services were announced for Loren Boese on August 26 at 11 am and Kathryn Powell on September 12 at 3 pm.
- Synod Gatherings. The Inland Area gathering will be held at First, Redlands, on Saturday, May 11, 2024. Instead of an in-person assembly, there will be a synod “azoombly” to handle elections and other business on Sat., June 15, 2024.
- A request was approved to use Heinecken Hall on November 18 from 5pm-10pm for Transgender Day of Remembrance, sponsored by the Transgender

Health and Wellness Center of Riverside.

Treasurer’s Report:

- The month of July was completed with \$19,685.20 in envelope giving and \$4,411.18 in unrestricted income for the month. For the first seven months in the quarter, we have \$149,251.19 in envelope giving, \$2,471.81 under projections.
- We finished January through July with a net income of \$32,688.15.

Old Business

- Repair work remains to be completed in the LSS office.
- Approval of loan from the Sandra Hendrick Memorial Fund.

New Business:

- Approval of contextual education proposal for Brenda Lussier to serve at Trinity this fall.
- Introduction of online media proposal from Joanna Waterfall.
- Discussion of the need for A/C unit replacement for the kitchen in Heinecken Hall.
- Highlighted information about the prison ministry project for “God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday.
- Discussion of ideas for a progressive dinner.

The next council meeting will be held via Zoom on September 19, 2023, at 6:30pm.

Day Camp Report

This summer’s day camp at Trinity took place July 17-21. We had 20 children attend, and they all reported that they had a wonderful time. It was a week of fun-filled activities, including singing, creating, learning, and making new friends or returning to camp to reunite with old friends. The children stayed busy, and if you walked by, you would see smiles on everyone’s faces and an incredible amount of energy coming from the children and the camp staff. The children worked on four service projects, including making a quilt for Lutheran World Relief, creating first aid kits and blessing bags, and bringing school supplies for our social concerns project in July. Each day we heard their voices singing joyfully, and the campers shared these songs at the family barbecue on Wednesday. Each day also included time to learn about the Bible verse for the week. The camp staff from Lutheran Retreats Camps and Conferences (LRCC) were incredible; their energy supply seemed endless as they led each day of camp.

Our day camp was also successful because of the support of volunteers from our congregation, so I want to thank Marlene DeFrese and Karen Myers for their support of the families, children, and camp staff from check-in to check-out each day. I want to thank Kim Root-George and Sue Rogers for making snacks, serving the children, and cleaning up after snack time. I want to thank Kelly Krashin, Michael Myers, and Karen Myers for organizing the service projects. And finally, thank you to all who contributed meals and/or gift cards to support the LRCC camp staff. – Brenda S. Lussier

Buy Scrip and Help Support Our Church

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™

LSSSC Color of Hope Gala & Awards

Saturday, October 7, 2023
Mission Inn, Riverside

Join with supporters of Lutheran Social Services on Saturday, October 7, at the historic Mission Inn in Riverside for the 2023 Color of Hope Gala & Awards. The gala promises a wonderful evening of fun, food and entertainment in support of Lutheran Social Services of Southern California.

The evening will include a reception, silent auction, gourmet dinner, Hope Awards, live auction and program featuring artist Brian Peterson from the Faces of Mankind project.

Purchase your ticket by September 10 to get the early-bird price of \$150/person. Go to <https://www.lsssc.org/color-of-hope-gala-2023/>



Pray For and Support Hawaii

In the aftermath of wildfires that destroyed the historic town of Lahaina and other areas of the island of Maui, we want to help those who have lost loved ones, homes and businesses. Pacifica Synod Bishop Dave Nagler flew to Hawaii in August to assess the damage and determine the best ways to help.

After visiting Lahaina, he said, "The devastation is an emotional and spiritual wound in the heart of this community. Yet, you can see God already working in and through the hearts and hands of this community to knit this island back together. We are deeply grateful for the outpouring of aloha from people around the country who have reached out and contributed to the recovery." Financial donations to help with recovery efforts can be given through our church, or sent directly to the Pacifica Synod office at this address:

Pacifica Synod
1801 Parkcourt Place, Bldg. C
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Please include a note or write on the memo line of your check that it's for "Hawaii Relief." 100% of your donation will be used to help those affected by the fires.



Taizé Service

Several churches in Riverside take turns hosting a Taizé service on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm.

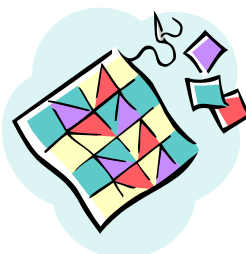
It's a contemplative style of worship featuring simple but beautiful songs, inspiring readings, and prayerful silence. On Sept. 11, it will be held at:
Eden Lutheran Church
4725 Brockton Avenue

The service will also be available to view online. For more information, visit [facebook.com/taizeriverside](https://www.facebook.com/taizeriverside) or contact Nicolette Rohr at nicolette.rohr@gmail.com.

Daily Devotionals

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

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!

Join the Brigade!

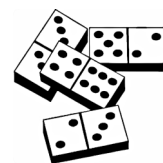
Trinity's "Hairnet Brigade" prepares dinner for the men at Central City Lutheran Mission on the third Sunday of the month. They are always very appreciative of these meals!

Volunteers are needed for this ministry. If you are interested, contact Ann Herring at aehlaw@gmail.com or (909) 380-2710. There's a hairnet waiting with your name on it!



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.



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.



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.



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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>