



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 27, Issue 5, May 2024

Our Grateful Praise

A Pentecost Celebration

presented by the Trinity Choir with orchestra
directed by Dr. Glenn Pickett
with Special Guest, Jon Byron
Sunday, May 19, at 6:00 PM



Trinity's choir will present a varied selection of inspirational music accompanied by a chamber orchestra. Our guest soloist will be singer/songwriter, Jon Byron. Jon has been a good friend of Glenn Pickett's since 1989. Glenn has helped Jon produce five albums, and together they have presented concerts in places as far flung as Greece and Turkey, and as close as here in Riverside.

There will be a freewill offering, but admission is free. Invite your family and friends to attend this special concert as we sing our grateful praise to God!



There will be a two-session class on May 5 & 12, for anyone interested in becoming a member of our church. Both class sessions will begin at noon with lunch in the fellowship hall.

Please let Pastor Kent or the church office know if you plan to attend. We plan to welcome new members on Sunday, May 19.

Women's Tea

Saturday, May 11, at 2:00 pm



All women and girls are invited to gather for tea and refreshments on Saturday, May 11, at 2:00 pm in Heineken Hall. Please bring a sweet or savory treat to share (with serving dish, if possible). RSVP to Ann Herring: (909) 380-1710 or aehlaw@gmail.com

Apply Now 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!

Donate Blood on May 26

If you are able to give blood, please sign up to donate blood when the bloodmobile is at Trinity on Sunday, May 26, 10 am to 2 pm. To make an appointment, call 800-879-4484 or visit LStream.org/cityriverside.



Church Work Day Saturday, May 18

Our next date for cleaning and maintenance will be Saturday, May 18, starting at 8:30 am. Please come for part or all of that morning to help keep our church beautiful and ready for ministry!



What's Been Happening at Trinity?



Out with the old... thanks to very generous donors, the old air conditioning compressors on the roof of Heinecken Hall were removed on April 23, along with the gas furnace inside the building.



In with the new... a quieter, more energy-efficient heat pump system was installed to provide heating and cooling in the fellowship hall, along with an improved air filtration and purification system.



Heavy duty steel tables were recently purchased for the Hope Food Pantry using a Matthew 25 grant from the Pacifica Synod.



Led by Pastor Stephanie Lape, several members of Eden came to visit the food pantry at Trinity on April 17 to see how it operates and volunteer to help.

Underwear Donations

Thank you for your generous donations in April of underwear to help the people who come to Trinity on Thursdays for showers. We have received 341 pairs of underwear, 428 pairs of socks, and \$350 to help purchase additional items. Your donations will be greatly appreciated by our shower program guests!



Rummage Sale Results

Our rummage sale on April 27 raised a total of \$1,529 which will be divided between several ministry programs at Trinity. Our thanks go to Kelly Krashin and the other volunteers who helped organize and run the rummage sale, and everyone who donated items to sell!

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 5: 6th Sunday of Easter

1 John 5:1-6; Psalm 98; John 15:9-17

May 12: Ascension of Our Lord

Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; John 17:6-19

May 19: Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 26: Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; John 3:1-17

June 2: 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Psalm 81:1-10; Mark 2:23-3:6



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

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

5/05 Larry & Martha Dodson
5/12 Mickey Ouellet
5/19 Gary & Sabine Goldberg
5/26 Available



Pastor's Paragraphs

In addition to serving as the pastor of Trinity, I volunteer as the dean of the Raincross Conference of the Pacifica Synod, which includes 12 congregations in almost as many cities, from Claremont to Hemet. As a dean, one of my responsibilities is gathering brief reports from each of the congregations in the Conference to include in the book of reports for the annual synod assembly.

Having just completed that reporting assignment, I am once again impressed and encouraged by the commitment of all the ELCA congregations in our region – no matter how small – to not only gather for worship on Sundays but to also make a positive impact on their communities. Just like at Trinity, they are responding to Jesus' call to proclaim the good news of God's grace and love, to help people in need, and to invite others to join them in fellowship and service.

At Good Shepherd in Claremont, Vicar Jenifer Brown reported that their decision to become a "Reconciling in Christ" congregation has helped attract new people to their church. ("Reconciling in Christ" is a term for Lutheran congregations that are intentional about welcoming people who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community.)

At First Lutheran in Ontario, Josefina Ramirez is studying to be a pastor while working full-time. She noted that they have been dealing with a leaky roof in the sanctuary for two years, but in spite of lacking the funds for a thorough repair, they have continued to operate a food pantry and serve a monthly hot meal open to anyone in their community, coupled with a weekly Bible study for adults and Sunday School for children.

Pastor Stephanie Lape at Eden in Riverside highlighted the ministry of their preschool, their outreach efforts, and their partnerships with other congregations and community groups that meet at their church.

Pastor Brian Foxworth at Spirit of Joy in Hemet reported that their congregation, saddled for years with a large mortgage, has negotiated the sale of an undeveloped part of their property to a hotel developer. They expect to be able to pay off their mortgage and use the remaining funds to expand their community outreach.

Pastor Wesley Menke at Grace in Upland mentioned their efforts to foster interfaith discussions involving local Jewish, Muslim, and Christian leaders, following the October 7 terrorist attack in Israel.

These are just some of the ways our sibling congregations are doing ministry. On May 11, Luke Hamilton, Sandy Rodriguez and I will attend a gathering of folks from other congregations in the Raincross Conference to discuss the ministries we each do in our congregations and together as part of the Pacifica Synod. We are part of one family tree of faith, rooted in Christ. As we consider how we and other congregations engage in ministry, pray that we will each abide in Christ and produce "fruit that will last" (John 15:16). – Pastor Kent



Stewardship Report

TRINITY'S GIVING REPORT (1/1/24 through 4/30/24)

Goal for regular offerings to date: \$ 91,094.33
Regular offerings received to date: \$ 95,483.32
Difference: + \$ 4,388.99

Your faithful giving is helping us reach our goal!

Scrip income received in 2024: \$ 271.31
Century Club donations received in 2024: \$ 0.00



PRAYER LIST

Changes and additions to the prayer list are included in the weekly Sunday bulletin. Please contact the church office with any updates or new prayer requests. A "T" indicates a member of Trinity. In order to keep our prayer list timely, please update information for any name you have submitted.

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



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



Birth Announcements

- **Jane Suzanne Dingwall** was born on April 14th to Jason and Amanda Dingwall. She is the granddaughter of Rob and Karen Clarke, and the great-granddaughter of Sue McConnell.
- **Parker June Goldberg** was born on April 20th to Matthew and Imani Goldberg. She is Gary and Sabine Goldberg's first grandchild.



Donations Needed for the Foster Youth Graduation Event

It's time to get ready for the annual Riverside County foster care graduation event! It will be held on Thursday, June 20, at Harvest Christian Fellowship. 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. 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:** equipped with school supplies, backpacks, amazon.com or biblio.com gift cards for textbooks, backpacks, 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 a variety of snacks and/or gift cards, etc.
- **Gift Card Variety Basket:** they love themes such as a "Fast Food Frenzy" with gift cards for 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. Mid-range dining restaurants are also appreciated.

All donations are needed by Sunday, June 9, to give us time to create the baskets before the delivery deadline on June 17. 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 our church! (If ordering cards through our church, please order them no later than Sunday, May 26.)

Please contact Brenda S. Lussier for more information or to answer any questions related to this program.



Congregational Meeting Summary

After determining that a quorum of voting members was present, the meeting was called to order at 10:43 am on Sunday, April 21, by Gary Goldberg, the Congregational President.

An overview of the repairs needed on the church property was presented by Gary Goldberg.

1. Replacement of the existing heating and air conditioning system in Heineken Hall with a new heat pump system is being donated by anonymous donors. The value of this donation is approximately \$30,000.
2. Repair of stucco in the breezeway for an estimated cost of \$9,136 has already been approved by the council.
3. The gutters and fascia boards on the sanctuary need to be replaced at the cost of approximately \$16,500.
4. The 10-year-old roof on the sanctuary needs to be repaired or replaced due to cracks. Since the roofing material has a 20-year warranty, it should cover the cost of the materials, but we will need to pay for labor. The cost could be up to \$25,000. The company that installed the roof is contacting the manufacturer of the roofing material about the warranty.

The money needed to pay for these projects is available in the Property and Sprint Fund in the church's savings.

Two motions were presented for a vote.

Sue McConnel made the following motion and Barbara Beaver seconded it:

"I move to approve the bid from ASMS (American Sheet Metal Specialties, Inc.) for \$16,500.00 to replace the rain gutters on the sanctuary building, and to repair and cover the fascia boards on that same building. The money for this project will be disbursed from the Property & Sprint Fund in the church's savings account."

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Michael Myers made the following motion and Brenda M. Lussier seconded it:

"I move to approve a budget of up to \$25,000.00 for the repair of the sanctuary roof. The exact cost will depend on the amount not covered by the roof warranty. The money for this project will be disbursed from the Property & Sprint Fund in the church's savings account."

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:55 am.

Pacifica Synod Gatherings

The Pacifica Synod has scheduled four in-person gatherings to be held in different parts of the synod over the next several weeks. The Pacific Synod includes ELCA churches located across most of Southern California and in Hawaii. These regional gatherings will bring together church members from many congregations to share what they are doing in their individual churches and to learn about what we are doing as a synod. Pastor Kent, Luke Hamilton, and Sandy Rodriguez will attend the gathering for the Inland Area at First Lutheran Church of Redlands on Saturday, May 11, from 10 am to 2 pm..

This year's synod assembly will be held online on Saturday, June 15, from 12:00 to 3:00 pm. Pastor Kent, Luke, and Sandy will be the voting members from Trinity for this year's assembly. This year's assembly will focus on the essential decisions that need to be made (e.g., electing synod committee members and approving the synod budget). It is being held online to make it easier to attend and reduce the cost to congregations.

LRCC Summer Camp 2024



Based on Psalm 121: 1-2

I Lift my Eyes to the Mountains

Day Camp at Trinity, July 15-19

Registration forms are now available for day camp at Trinity, July 15-19! Day camp is for kids who will be entering K-6th grades this fall. This year's theme is "Moving Mountains," based on Psalm 121:1-2. Camp staff from LRCC will lead a week filled with games and music, Bible studies, crafts and more.

To learn more about the summer camp programs offered by Lutheran Retreats, Camps & Conferences (LRCC), visit their website at Ircchome.com.

May Birthdays

[1] Ann Herring; [2] Willy Miller; [4] Patricia Bayne; [5] Jacob Custode; [7] Sheryl Heth; [8] Lou Pfeifle; [9] Lynn Baggett, Glenn Pickett; [11] Gretta Merwin; [12] Owen Shelton, [14] Danielle George, Miranda George; [17] Wes Krashin; [22] Nancy Irwin; [24] Jim Miller; [26] Mo Nekoonam; [29] Ava Custode; [30] Rande George; [31] Abby Brunka, Robbie Clarke, Christopher Gallego, Brandon Medvec, Mark Ramos, Juliette Rodriguez



Quilting Bee

Trinity's Quilting Bee meets on the first and third Saturday of each month from 9:00 am to 12 pm in Cooper-Burkhart House. You are invited to come and join them! There are many different tasks involved in quilt-making, and you don't even need to know how to sew. Contact Kelly Krashin for more information.

The Quilting Bee also needs used sheets, curtains, and other large pieces of fabric to use for quilt backs.



Sunday School Teachers Wanted

We are seeking one or two qualified teachers for our multi-age Sunday School program. This paid position involves preparing lessons in advance as well as teaching our wonderful group of children. Interested applicants should contact our church office or Brenda S. Lussier.

We also need volunteer helpers!



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.



Help Support Trinity with Scrip

We sell scrip cards as a way to help support our church. They are the same gift cards you can buy elsewhere, but when you buy them through our church, a percentage of your purchase is returned to the church. Cards are available for over 700 stores and restaurants. Visit raiserright.com to see all of the brands available.

To place an order, talk to Michael Myers or Judy McMichael on Sunday morning, or call or email Michael in the church office on weekdays. 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 is submitted on Sundays at noon, and we usually receive the cards on Friday, in time for you to get them on Sunday.



RaiseRightTM



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 May 13, it will be held at:

Eden Lutheran Church
4725 Brockton Avenue

Most of the services are available to view online. For more information, visit facebook.com/taizeriverside or contact Sandra Soares at fccucc@sbcglobal.net.

Daily Devotions

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. A few large-print copies are also available.

Volunteers Needed

Your help is needed! There is a sign-up sheet in the church narthex to volunteer to read the Bible lessons and the prayers of intercession for a Sundays, and another sign-up sheet to help with coffee and refreshments. We also need volunteers to help with Sunday School. Think about which of these you can help with.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace. — 1 Peter 4:10

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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RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92506

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<p>TRINITY TOPICS is published monthly by: Trinity Lutheran Church, 5969 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506</p>
<p>Sunday Worship Schedule 9:30 am — Contemporary Service (in person and on YouTube) 9:30 am — Sunday School 11:00 am — Traditional Service Church Office Hours: open 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, Monday-Friday Phone: (951) 682-1350 • Email: office@trinityriverside.org</p>
<p>Ministry Staff Kent Tuohino, <i>Pastor</i> • Gary Goldberg, <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>