

# Trinity Times

Trinity Lutheran Church

August 2017

## **From the Pastor's Desk**

Members of Trinity,

Having met with the elders every month one of their chief concerns is how to reach all the members of Trinity. For what reason? To help them with their spiritual life. I, as your vacancy Pastor, have that same concern. What do we, you and the elders, do to help encourage one another?

The best way to encourage all members is to worship God regularly, every Sunday! In our worship services God brings Himself into our lives through His Word, the Sacraments, and the fellowship of fellow Christians lifting each other up in their faith and their Christian walk. Each ONE is very important, that is why the concern is there. The writer of Hebrews says it better than any of us can. Hebrews 10:22 – 25, "Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching." There are other opportunities God wishes to get closer to us too. There is a Bible Study every Sunday around 10:30 A.M. Please join the others who are already involved and grow with them in faith.

God wants each member to serve one another. There are many ways that this can be done; if you need to know how, speak with one of the elders, a fellow member, or the Pastor. Please encourage one another!

To make it possible for everyone to attend church next Sunday we are having a special "NO EXCUSE SUNDAY!" Cots will be placed in the foyer for those who say, "Sunday is my only day to sleep." We will have hard hats or steel helmets for those who say, "The roof will cave in if I ever attend church." Blankets will be furnished for those who think the church is too cold and fans for those who think the church is too hot. We will have hearing aids for those who think the preacher speaks too softly and cotton for those who think he preaches too loudly. Scorecards will be given for those who wish to list the hypocrites present. Some relatives will be in attendance for those who like to go visiting on Sunday. There will be TV dinners for those who can't go to church and cook dinner too. One section of the church will be devoted to trees and grass for those who like to see God in nature. Finally, the Sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who never see the church without them. (Unknown source)

If you have an excuse not listed, see what you can do about it. Join your fellow member encouraging one another to worship and praise God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. God's richest blessing in our endeavor together to give thanks to God our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. He is counting on you! (Remember, one cannot spell church without "U"!)  
Peace, Pastor Thur

## **Elders**

Elders continue to work on the Inactive List and absent members from Trinity. Personal contact has been made with several families, and a letter is being drafted for approval to be sent to these individuals. We hope to have our Membership List up to date by October.

Duty Elders were reminded to be sure all doors are locked after Sunday Worship. Elder Duty roster is complete through September. We continue to work with Pastor Thur as he gives of his time and talent to keep Trinity going.

The Elders are:

Duane Neal 623-688-6833  
Roland Walter 882-7450  
Ralph Wegner 565-3936  
Dennis Gard 928-379-2191  
Josh Chittick 560-4785  
Mark Johnson 570-7639

Please feel free to contact any of them at any time with comments or concerns.

## **Call Committee**

The Call Committee worked through the call list submitted to us by the Rocky Mountain District and interviewed the top three candidates for a call. The interviews took place June 15 and 16, 2017 and were done via Skype. Based on the written information submitted to us and the interviews, we ranked the candidates as follows:

1. Rev. Adam Hengst, King of Glory Lutheran Church, Williamsburg, VA
2. Rev. Anton Lagoutine, St. John's Lutheran Church, Conover, NC
3. Rev. Kent Schaaf, Grace Lutheran Church, Grass Valley, CA

Pastor Hengst withdrew his name from consideration on June 30, 2017 due to complications with his wife's pregnancy, so the Voters Meeting to decide on a call was delayed a week to July

16, 2017. Information sheets on both Pastor Lagoutine and Pastor Schaaf were distributed on July 2, 2017. Feedback from the congregation was that more information was desired prior to a vote. Based on the interview and additional information collected, the committee felt that Pastor Schaaf should not be recommended to the congregation. Although a majority of the committee favored recommendation of Pastor Lagoutine, it was not unanimous. Therefore, the committee decided to ask for additional nominations from the congregation and additional names from the District.

Nominations from the congregation are due July 31. Names and contact information can be given to any of the committee members. The committee will make the request to the District for additional names

on August 2. We expect a new call list approximately three weeks after that. Review of the candidates' resumes and interviews should take place by approximately October 1.

### **Missions**

As summer comes to a close, don't forget **Operation Christmas Child** when you are shopping. Stores are beginning to clearance out their summer clothes, shoes and flip-flops and summer toys. They are also running specials on Back-to-School items such as socks, underwear, and school supplies. Later in August these supplies will go on clearance and we should be able to pick up lots of items for our OCC boxes that we will be assembling in early October. There will be a box in the narthex to deposit items for our boxes. There will also be plastic OCC boxes available this year and I am looking into purchasing them for our boxes.

Also, please continue to bring in your **plastic grocery bags** to be made into sleeping mats for the homeless.

There are lists of school supplies that are needed for **Trinity Preschool** on the bulletin board by the door. Please take a copy and purchase items when you shop. Thanks!

### **The Bridge Community Yard Sale and Silent Auction**

The Bridge Emergency Shelter and Day Labor Center has been granted permission to continue to use the old Justice Building as a shelter for the immediate future. Thanks to the generosity of this community and surrounding area, we have raised more than \$65,000 towards the building of a permanent new shelter at a nearby location. Meanwhile, we will now be incurring costs for some of the utilities in our current location. Running a shelter in any location is a costly venture. Imagine up to 50 showers, meals and laundry on a daily basis in addition to staffing costs.

How can you help us to meet this vital need in our community? You can help us by making arrangements to donate any of your gently

used items for a county-wide yard sale and silent auction planned for October 6-8 at the Bridge. Calls may be made to either Laurie Knutson or Theresa Wilson at the Bridge (565-9808) or Jackie Snow with the Shepherd's New Staff at Trinity Lutheran Church (565-2615) to schedule a drop off. To ensure that everyone's donation is handled with the care and respect that it deserves, please make arrangements prior to dropping anything off, as the shelter is currently closed until mid-October and there is not always a staff member in the building.

### **Shepherd's New Staff**

Terrylynn and Michael Tito have created a new organization called the Shepherd's New Staff. They would like to unite workers in all of the local churches to care for the needs of the neediest of our neighbors. Currently they are working with the Bridge to raise awareness and funds for the new homeless shelter in the planning stages. They welcome prayers for proper direction from the Lord. They are still members at Trinity, but felt God's calling for this new ministry.

### **Upcoming Events**

- July 30, 2017 – Fiesta Fellowship
- Aug 6, 2017 – Elders Meeting @ 8 a.m.
- Aug 9, 2017 – Sew 'n' Sews @ 9 a.m.
- Aug 23, 2017 – Sew 'n' Sews @ 9 a.m.
- Sept 12, 2017 – Church Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- Oct 6-8, 2017 – Community Yard Sale and Silent Auction

### **Newsletter News**

The newsletter will now be handed out with the bulletins the Sunday after it is published. It will still be e-mailed to those that have signed up for that service. But a number of members have no internet access, so efforts are now to put the newsletter into the hands of any interested party. There will also be a stack on the table in the church narthex.

If you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail, you

can reach Shar Short at [shortstuff1950@gmail.com](mailto:shortstuff1950@gmail.com).

### **Did you know?**

that more than one call from the same location to 911 signifies to the 911 operators that a serious problem is occurring at that location? Of course, speaking to the operator is helpful but if that, for whatever reason, is not possible the alert would be registered that help is needed immediately. Something to keep in mind when in a large gathering.

### **Summer Customs**

Here in the United States, we all have our preferred summer customs. But other countries also have customs that are important.

Japan – Beach bashes, fireworks, festivals, and rock concerts are a part of the program. But so is bug catching, particularly cicadas and rhinoceros bugs.

Sweden & Finland – Dancing around the Maypole is tradition. Bonfires and home decorations are also important.

Switzerland – A yodeling festival is held every three years with 10,000 yodelers participating.

South Korea – The Lotus Festival is famous and involves dancing and tea drinking.

Ukraine - Ivan Kupala festival is Slavic and includes Jumping over bon fires and young women floating wreaths in the rivers, hoping a single man will retrieve it.

Spain – Going to the beach is high on the summer travel plans and joining the Camino de Santiago, a spiritual pilgrimage through the countryside are favorites here.

Russia – The residents of this country spend a lot of time in their parks and there are many activities like dance lessons, language lessons, and family educational adventures.

### **Newsletter Info**

If you would like to submit information to this newsletter or to the website, please put it in Shar Short's box, call her at 970-564-1596, or e-mail her at [shortstuff1950@gmail.com](mailto:shortstuff1950@gmail.com).