

A Newsletter for members of Trinity Lutheran Church
to promote communication of information in the congregation.

A Message from Interim Pastor, Rev. Roger Prehn

18 August 2019

Dear Members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,

After prayerful discernment, and in consultation with the Office of the Bishop, I hereby submit my resignation as interim pastor effective following worship on September 15, 2019.

I sincerely thank you for your hospitality, love and support while serving as your interim pastor since I began my work with you in June of 2018. You have many great strides in your ministry with me in this transition process these last several months as God has blessed the congregation in many ways.

We continue to look to God who will lead you as you discern the call of a pastor to guide and shepherd you in the years to come and I will keep you in my prayers. May God bless and keep you as you remain faithful to your calling as the people of God in this place, striving to serve our Risen Lord in word and deed.

Peace,

Pastor Prehn

A Message from Our Council President

August 19, 2019

Dear Trinity Church Family,

Pastor Roger Prehn arrived a little more than a year ago to Trinity to serve as our interim pastor. Having served once before, we were happy to welcome him once again. He has been a true blessing to our congregation in so many ways. His powerful sermons are always based on the gospel message and have been thought provoking and inspiring. He has taught several bible studies which have helped us to grow spiritually and to bond with each other through our lively and interesting discussions. He has supported and encouraged us in our ministry, and he has an amazing sense of humor which we have enjoyed tremendously. Bringing healing to a hurting congregation. he was definitely the right shepherd for us at just the right time.

Pastor Prehn has always said that he loves our congregation to the point where if he were 20 years younger, he would accept the call to become our fulltime pastor!

If you have already read Pastor's letter you are aware that he is resigning effective September 15, 2019. He has reached the point in his ministry where he desires to enjoy full time retirement. While we are sad to see him go, we are grateful for his dedication, pastoral care and all the many gifts he has shared with us at Trinity over the past 15 months.

The Call Committee is well into the call process and should be receiving names in the near future. The Synod is working diligently to find a new interim pastor to serve our congregation and I will share that information as soon as I receive it. Please continue to be in prayer for the Call Committee, our congregation, our new interim pastor and our future fulltime pastor.

Again, we thank Pastor Roger Prehn for all he has done in his ministry at Trinity during the two times he has served our congregation. We thank his dear wife Andrea for her willingness to share him with us and for her warm and loving presence among us. We wish them a fun, relaxing and fulfilling retirement together. They are truly loved and will be missed by all of us.

God's Peace be with you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Hopkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary Hopkins

**“We believe that the holy act of singing together shapes faith,
heals brokenness, transforms lives, and renews peace.”**

The guiding stance of *The Center for Congregational Song*
of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada.



+ **Lutheran church musicians lead the church's song.** In the Lutheran tradition we are often known as cantors. This includes the roles of choir directors, organists, instrumental leaders, praise band leaders, song leaders, composers, arrangers, and worship planners. This month we continue to look at the “Called to be a Living Voice” statement of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) which describes how Lutheran church musicians *proclaim, lead, celebrate, challenge, and grow and change.*

Lutheran church musicians challenge. We respond to cultural changes by finding ways to engage people of all ages and backgrounds in the church's music. We creatively develop new ways to involve children, youth and adults in choirs and instrumental ensembles as integral leaders.

It is the voice of the Church that is heard in singing together.

*It is not you that sings, it is the Church that is singing,
and you, as a member of the Church, may share in its song.*

*Thus, all singing together ... serves to widen our spiritual horizon,
make us see our little company as a member of the great Christian Church on earth,
and help us willingly and gladly to join our singing, be it feeble or good,
to the song of the church.*

--- Dietrich Bonhöffer, *Life Together*

+ ***Leading the Church's Song: Doing Common Things Uncommonly Well*** was the theme of the biennial conference of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians held at Concordia University in Portland, Oregon in June. It was good to be with church musicians and pastors worshiping and learning together, to talk with colleagues from across the country, and to see the next generation of cantors assuming leadership roles. Most important to me was the strong affirmation of the style of worship experienced weekly at Trinity. We do what the conference theme describes!

+ **Thank you** to everyone who has sung in our summer choir. It is wonderful to have a choir at every service!

+ **Choir rehearsals** will resume on Wednesday, September 4 at 7pm. We are always happy to welcome new singers to the choir.

Please talk with me or any choir member if you would like to sing or for more information.

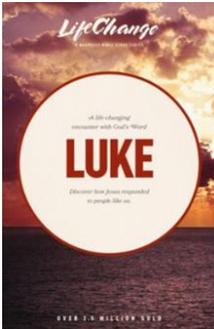
+ **Handbell rehearsals** will also resume each Wednesday at 6pm. If you are interested in ringing, please let me know.

Cantate Domino! (Sing to the Lord!)

Brian Larson

Christian Education

ADULT FORUM: Coming in October - an exciting new "Adult Forum" between services on Sunday mornings! Come and share stories about "The Church of My Childhood." Explore each other's beliefs on "Evolution, Creation, and Intelligent Design." Retrace of life of Martin Luther in Germany through the travels of our members. Enjoy an artist's perception of God's beautiful creation. Share your family's creche with others before Christmas. Explore selected books of the Bible. These and many more topics are in the planning stages. Come, enjoy a cup of coffee, and add your voice!



Monday Night Bible Study will start back up on **September 9th**, from **7 – 8:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall, led by Grace Kellermeier. We will be studying the book of Luke, in alignment with the Lectionary and in preparation for the March 18-25 journey to the Holy Land that some of our congregation members will make with Pastor Prehn. Regardless of travel, all are welcome. Workbook costs \$8.00

Care Team help Request – If you drive a car and are willing to assist other members of Trinity (who do NOT drive) by “taxi” assistance occasionally, please call Kathy Barrick at 856-506-5546 to offer your assistance.

And, if you are homebound and have no car to get to the doctor, dentist, lab, grocery store, church, etc. – please call Kathy also.

If you volunteer to drive someone, please make sure your vehicle insurance and liability is up to date.



Communion for Homebound: Anyone wishing to have communion brought to them at home, please call Colleen Sumner at **386 427-6167** or her mobile **386-871-0220**.



I am sure everyone realizes that it takes many hands to do God's work within the Church. Our dedicated staff does an outstanding job but there are many other people who serve in various capacities in our congregation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who minister and serve in so many ways. We could not function effectively without all your dedication, sharing of your talents and offering of your time. As Pastor Prehn said, we are not simply volunteers, but ministers! We salute you for making our congregation one in which we share our love with each other and with those outside of our walls in our community and in distant lands!

Gary Hopkins, Council President



Elizabeth Circle will meet on Tuesday, September 10th at 11AM in the Trinity Church Fellowship Hall. Any women interested are welcome to join us for Bible Study and fellowship! Bring your own lunch or a snack - dessert and beverages will be provided. Looking forward to seeing everyone after the summer break. Marie Smith, Circle Leader

Mary Maier Circle begins their FALL schedule Thursday, September 12th at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All women of the Church are invited to join us for our monthly meeting and share in our fellowship. Everyone is asked to bring a bag lunch which we eat together. Dessert and beverages are provided.

One of the projects our Circle is working on is making covers for the tissue boxes in the Sanctuary out of plastic canvas and yarn. We meet on a regular basis with other interested women of the Church in this project on Mondays. Check the Church announcements and weekly bulletin for dates and times. Thanks. Judy Driesbaugh, Circle Leader

Library News - As I was looking for a book in the church library, a title really caught my attention. That title was "A Slow Walk in a Sad Rain" by John P. McAfee. It is a fictional novel based on the true-life experiences of the author during the Vietnam War. The story follows a platoon of Special Forces soldiers on a clandestine operation into Cambodia. At times the language is a bit rough, but the author tells a vivid story about life and death during the operation into a dangerous and off-limits country. If you would enjoy a good historical novel, I highly recommend this book! Gary Hopkins



FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED FOR GIFTS OF LOVE

Let's Fill Our Cart!

Gifts of Love is our local food bank. They need non-perishable food donations to help the poor struggling in our community. Many are working families with children. GOL donations such as peanut butter, canned fruit, vegetables, meats and cereal will help these families. Please share what God has given to you and be a blessing to others.

Thank you so much for the enormous gift of school supplies! Trinity has been very gracious to Chisholm and we certainly do appreciate it!
Marla Griffin, Student Counselor
Chisholm Elementary School, NSB



Churchwide Assembly Declares the ELCA a Sanctuary Church

You may have heard on the news about the action of the Churchwide Assembly declaring the ELCA a sanctuary church and wondered what this means. As Bishop Suarez states, many news agencies have put their own spin on this. Below are 2 sites that have a good explanation of what this means. The first is from the ELCA and the second is from Bishop Suarez. You will be able to click on the link or you may need to copy these addresses into your browser. You could also look at ELCA.org. If you can't access them and are interested, please feel free to contact me and I'll figure another way to get it to you. Thank you, Raeann Purcell.

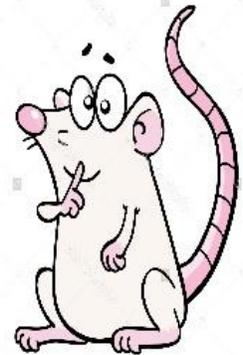
https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA_SanctuaryDenomination_TalkingPoints.pdf

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/From-Bishop-Suarez--Re--ELCA-as-Sanctuary-Church-Body.html?soid=1122269859941&aid=IFx3UGPYxm>

Annie Mouse is Coming!

Who is Annie Mouse?

Annie Mouse stands for Anonymous. **She shall remain anonymous as she begins sharing news from the members of our congregation, beginning next month!** It will be fun to share, and even more fun to read about what your church family friends are doing!



What will we share? Anything you would like for us to know! Are you retiring? Did your great-grandson just graduate? Did you just celebrate an anniversary? Annie wants to know these things and anything else you would like to share! **Please do NOT be shy!**

How will I share? Annie will be living in a little mouse house in our church Narthex, which will have an opening. Nearby will be paper and pens. **Please write your news and put it in Annie's house. Be sure to include your name(s)!** Annie will be sure the news is shared with our amazing office administrator, Phyllis, who will put it in the Beacon.

How long should it be? Please keep it brief. Examples: Joe Blow just moved to a new condo on the beach where he is enjoying the beautiful view from his living room window! **Ethel and Ed Grundy** welcomed a new granddaughter last month! Her name is Sally and they hope to see her in 2 weeks! **Pippy and Paul Longstocking** just returned from an Alaskan cruise where they had a great time and would love to share their pictures. Just ask!

Questions? You may write them down and put them in the house as well! You will receive an answer ASAP!

Annie is looking forward to hearing from YOU!

*“Even when we feel like lost and dusty coins –
 rusted from others’ indifference, misspent and misused –
 God picks up a broom and sweeps every corner of creation to find us.”*
 Rachel Held Evans

The above quote was taken from the Florida Bahama Synod E-Spirit dated 6-25-19.
 How will we respond with thanksgiving to God and show the same love and commitment toward His other children that he shows to us? This will involve stewardship of time for reflection and prayer; stewardship of resources for an offering back to God; and stewardship of talents to help others.
 Think about it – then act.
 Have a blessed day – each and every day!

STEWARDSHIP – Something to think about and consider.

What is a QCD? Qualified Charitable Distribution. A Tax-Effective Way to Donate Money to Charity

A QCD is a distribution made directly to an eligible charity, by passing the owner of the account. Owners of IRA’S who are at least 70 ½ years old can contribute from their IRA directly to a charity TAX FREE.

Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) – You must begin taking RMDs when you reach age 70 ½ if you have a traditional IRA even if you don’t want or need the money at that point in time. These distributions are taxable at ordinary income rates – whatever tax bracket you are in that particular year.

A QCD withdrawal does not add to your taxable income keeping it lower, it may reduce the impact to certain tax credits and deductions, including Social Security and Medicare. Also, QCD’s don’t require that you itemize, which due to recent tax law changes, means you may decide to take advantage of the higher standard deduction, but still use a QCD for charitable giving.

The bottom line? If you are 70 ½, with an IRA and not using QCD’s, you have just found a way to give more money to your church or other charity, instead of the government. And the GOOD NEWS is, you still have the same amount of spendable income. The BAD NEWS? You can only donate up to \$100,000 per year.

Hope you are interested. Need to check in with your financial people who have your IRA for details in how to execute this great way of giving. Bob Horak and The Stewardship Committee

September Birthdays



1	Rich Lipinski	22	Andrea Prehn
3	Barb Fortney		Darian Tucker
8	Shirley Niemeyer	25	Gladys Bachman
9	Sherry Coons		Linda Roemer
10	Marilou Spencer	26	Louise Jacobsen
17	Roger Prehn	28	Phyllis D’Alessio
22	Arthur Larson	29	Don Smith

TRINITY FINANCIAL UPDATE

JANUARY - JULY FINANCIAL REPORT

- General Fund Balance: we started the year with a general fund balance of \$16,320.82. Even though our General Offerings have not covered our Expenses year-to-date, we still have a positive General Fund Balance due to the grand start.
- Expenses: note that we paid our Property and Liability Insurance in full at the beginning of June. This was a total of \$10,458.94. In past years we have financed this payment which spread the expense out evenly over each month. This is partly why there is a bigger than normal difference between the Offering and Expense year-to-date.

Month	General Offering	Expenses	Difference Offering/Expense	General Fund Balance
July	\$19,538.83	\$22,784.15	(\$3,245.32)	
Year-To Date	\$159,461.52	\$174,814.90	(\$15,354)	\$966.44

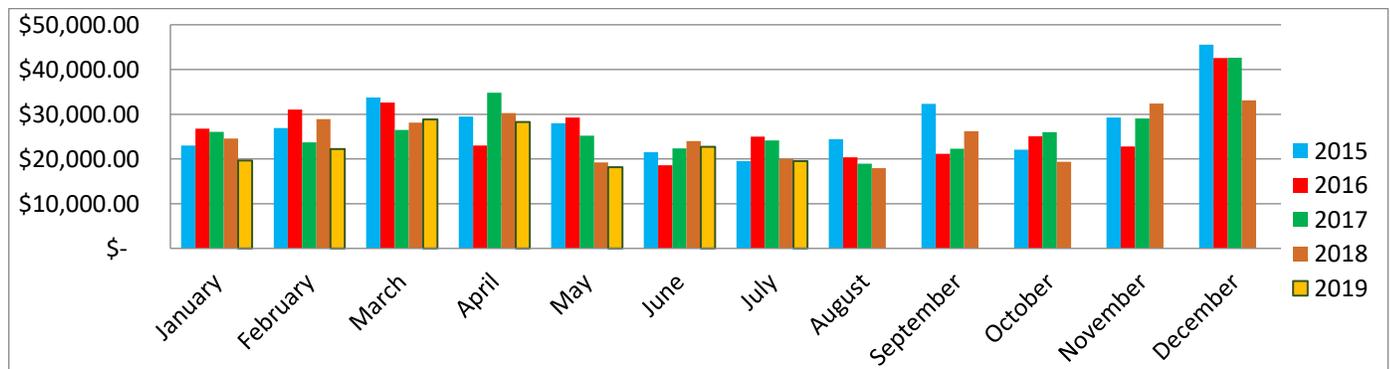
SUMMER SLUMP

- Yes, indeed, it does exist!! Every year, we experience a decline in General Offerings during the summer months. Some folks travel north to a cooler climate and others take vacations. Included in our report this month is a copy of the Contribution Trend Report. The summer decline is quite obvious. If you've returned and need to catch up on your giving to Trinity, please try to do so in the next couple of months.

2020 SPENDING PLAN

- Our budget process for 2020 has begun! Committees will be reviewing their expenses and planning for next year. We've received notice from Portico that Health Care coverage is increasing by 4% and will be receiving additional information soon. The Finance Committee will be looking at all of our expenses and income and calculating a proposed budget to submit to Council by October 24th in preparation for the Congregation Phase I Meeting December 8, 2019.
- Questions?? If you have questions or concerns about our budget and finances, please call or email Paula Bernbaum to set up a meeting at church. We can sit down together and go over the budget line by line so that it is clear and understandable! 386-405-6668 or nsbide@aol.com
- If you're interested in Trinity's finances, please consider joining the Finance Committee. Contact Paula Bernbaum.

Contribution Trends



“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18

September Worship Schedule

		Aug 31/Sept. 1	Sept. 7 & 8	Sept. 14 & 15	Sept. 21 & 22	Sept. 28 & 29
Assisting	5 pm	Paula Bernbaum	Colleen Sumner	SueEllen White	Mary Mathews	Paula Bernbaum
Minister	9:30 am	Bill Hinkle	Bob Horak	Bob Horak	Dave Faller	Joe Kellermeier
Lectors	5 pm	Linda Roemer	Linda Roemer	Kate Mingle	Dave Fasanello	Nancy Hopkins
	9:30 am	Dave Faller	Chris Weinrich	Mary Mathews	Bob Horak	Cheryl Tucker
Ushers	5 pm	Hope Bauman Mary Parada				
	9:30 am	Kathy Barrick Kevin Bockus Bob Evans John King	Kathy Barrick Trevor Corina Rosalie Kalman John King	Bob Evans John King Barbara Reilly Sandi Wirth	Ann Horak John King Kerry & Sandi Wirth	Kevin Bockus Trevor Corina Rosalie Kalman John King
Altar Guild	5 pm	Henrietta Eckert Mary Parada	Gary & Nancy Hopkins	Hope Bauman Mary Parada	Paula Berbaum, Kate Mingle, Don Smith	Linda Roemer Colleen Sumner
	9:30 am	Joe & Grace Kellermeier				
Flowers Memorial/Honor		Memory of Homer Spencer by the Spencer Family	Memory of Robert Gleim by Carolee Gleim	Memory of Robert Haugen by Bachman family	Memory of Frank Riley by Betty Still	Honor of Brian & Mary Mathews 31 st Anniversary
Flower Distribution		Mary Maier Circle Members	Mary Maier Circle Members	Mary Maier Circle Members	Mary Maier Circle Members	Mary Maier Circle Members
Eternal Candle		Memory of Frank Riley from Betty Still	Memory of Frank Riley from Betty Still	Memory of Frank Riley from Betty Still	Memory of Frank Riley from Betty Still	Memory of Frank Riley from Betty Still



Making Christ known to our neighbors and the world through Word and Deed

Council 2019

Gary Hopkins – President
Kate Mingle – Vice President
Grace Kellermeier – Secretary
Rosalie Kalman – Treasurer
George Cramer Bob Horak
Jean Haughwout Raeann Purcell
Al Schroth Colleen Sumner
Marie Smith Doris Will

Administrative Information

Location: 485 Turnbull Bay Road,
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
Office Hours: 9am to 1pm (Monday - Thursday)
Office Phone: (386) 428-4307
Office E-mail: trinitylutheran485@gmail.com
Trinity www.trinitylutherannsb.org
Florida-Bahamas Synod www.fbsynod.org
ELCA www.elca.org

Interim Pastor: Rev. Roger Prehn
Cantor: Brian Larson
Office Assistant: Phyllis D'Alessio
Custodian: Laura Jones

Worship Schedules
(through September 29)
Saturdays – 5 pm
Sundays – 9:30 am

September 2019

