

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

January 2024

Dear Trinity Lutheran Family,

As we embark on a new year together, I would like to thank those who continue to serve at Trinity. Ushers, Choir, Bell Choir, Altar Guild, Technology, Lectors, Fellowship volunteers, Communion Assistants, Property, Assistant Ministers and Communion Visitors, your time and participation are greatly appreciated. Trinity would not be able to function without your efforts. I know that I have heard from some members that what Trinity needs are younger people to join so that they could participate in areas where participation is lacking in our ministries. In the most humble and respectful manner, I beg to differ in this thought. I have pondered about this, and I see so many limitations. For a prospective member, or perhaps a visitor, hearing that could be a bit off putting. The first question that comes to mind is what is young? This answer is most likely different to each person. What if someone does not quite “fit the mold” in terms of their age and ability? I know that no one means any harm when they say this, but it seems that perhaps they are not considering the impact of their words. Ask. Believe. Receive. If we are asking for the wrong thing, then we are not going to get the desired results. Age is not proportionate to ability. I know the real desire is help. Many hands make for lighter work. We have faithful servants at Trinity, but at times it can feel overwhelming because there are not always enough hands to make for lighter work. Even when we do our work in the name of the Lord, it can sometimes feel heavy.

What is the ‘lighter’ solution? Perhaps we can be more thoughtful in our prayers for help. Pray that God puts people in our path that have a heart for serving. The age range of people serving at Trinity is from 6 years old to 101 years old. There is something here for everyone’s ability! No one should discount their value based on age, limitations or perhaps another factor.

I believe that God is and will continue to attract people to come to Trinity. Some of our newer members have come into Trinity willing to serve in many different areas. I know that God brought them here. As existing members, we should be warm and welcoming to our visitors because we never know when someone walking into the church for the first time could be our next helping hand or perhaps a hand that we can help.

I wish you a happy and healthy new year. I pray that 2024 holds many blessings for you and your loved ones. I pray that we as a congregation continue to make a difference in our communities, both locally and globally, while also remaining rooted in God’s word.

Blessings,

Mary



Transition Questions?



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Do you have questions about the Call process? The Florida Bahama Synod has an incredibly detailed guide that provides information about every step of the process to finding a new pastor. You can read more at the Florida-Bahamas Synod's website:

<https://fbsynod.com/resources/transitions/>. *We have a Call Committee!*

To the Congregation of Trinity

Thank you to all that donated towards a Christmas gift for the staff. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. It is a pleasure to serve you. We look forward to another year of worshiping with you. In Christ, Pastor Mark, Brian, Laura and Mary

Thank You

Thank you for all the monetary donations received towards the Women of the ELCA Giving Project for the gifts for the children at Chisholm and other children we provided gifts for. Thanks to friends and members of Trinity's generous contributions, we were able to reach out and provide gifts for an additional 9 children bringing our total to gifts purchased for 23 children this year! In addition, we provided gift cards to 6 families for food for Christmas. We will be providing gift cards for food to families in need at Easter and Thanksgiving 2024 also thanks to these monetary gifts. The generosity of the congregation is truly appreciated.

Thank you to Rebekah Sawyer for making Christmas quilts again this year, which were given to 18 of these children. Also, thank you to our TLC quilters from Tuesday mornings for their contribution of 5 Christmas quilts for children this year. Thank you to the Outreach Team for having our Giving project as their mission of the month in November and December. Thank you to everyone for helping this year's project a huge success! I especially want to thank you for all your help with this project! - Judy Driesbaugh

Thank You

I would like to thank Rebekah Sawyer and Judy Driesbaugh for making and delivering a beautiful quilt to my husband, Matt, as he recovered at Beachside Rehab facility. Your kindness is greatly appreciated! – Penny McKeever

Thank You

Thank you to Brian, the choir and the bell choir for the beautiful music that you provided for us throughout Advent season and Christmas Eve. Your hard work and dedication are evident in your performances. Thank you for all that you do!

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Evy's Art Class- 1 pm Bell Choir- 6pm Choir- 7 pm	4 Praise Meeting 9:15 am	5 Linda Muchow Memorial- 9 am	6
7 Worship Service- 9:30 am Council Installation	8 Caregiver Support Group 10:30 am	9	10 Evy's Art Class- 1 pm Bell Choir- 6 pm Choir- 7 pm	11 Mary Maier Circle- 11:30	12	13 WELCA Brunch- 10:30 am
14 Worship Service- 9:30 am	15 Stewardship Meeting- 6:00 pm	16 Executive Council Meeting- 10 am	17 Evy's Art Class- 1 pm	18 Elizabeth Circle- 10:00 am	19	20
21 Worship Service- 9:30 am	22	23 Council Meeting- 6 pm	24 Evy's Art Class - 1pm	25	26	27
28 Worship Service- 9:30 am Phase II Congregational Meeting- after worship	29 Halifax Urban Ministries- 8:15 am	30	31 Evy's Art Class- 1 pm			

Dates to Remember

Phase II Congregation Meeting

The Phase II Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday January 28th after worship. You are welcome to attend in person or via Zoom. An invitation to attend via Zoom will be sent out during the third week of January via email. Please contact the office with any questions.

The Hospitality Committee needs YOUR help.

Those who attend fellowship and partake of snacks following worship are increasing each week however- those who are willing to set up the food and drinks are slim.

This is a wonderful time for newcomers to meet our congregation and members to introduce themselves to someone new. Call Mary Mathews at 386-690-4987 for more info.

There will be a brunch hosted by **WELCA on Saturday January 13th at 10:30 am**. All women are invited to attend! On Sunday January 14th, we will have someone from WELCA speak about the Thankoffering program.

Giving Thanks to God

- All Day, Every Day

The daily practice of giving thanks to God for blessings received is at the heart of our lives as women of faith. Even the ordinary blessings of daily life call us to gratitude.

Lutheran women have a time-honored way to practice giving thanks — Thankofferings. Some women keep the practice of setting aside daily Thankofferings throughout the year, and then joining all those daily offerings into one with those of other women in the community — well, it's powerful.

In ordinary times — and some of us may be able to hold Thankoffering services just as we always have in ordinary times — our treasurer gathers up all the offerings given at the Thankoffering service and forwards the total amount to the churchwide expression of Women of the ELCA. (See our 2020-2021 Thankoffering service at welca.org/thankofferings.)

But things are different this year, so many among us will be making our Thankofferings differently. Many of us will pray in private and make our Thankofferings in private, too (Jesus told us that God hears us when we pray privately: Matthew 6:6). Others of us will pray together on the phone or via internet and make our Thankofferings that way (Jesus told us that where two or three are gathered in his name, he is there among us: Matthew 18:20. He didn't rule out phones or the internet!)

You can learn more about Thankofferings and their long history at welca.org/thankofferings.

About this resource

This resource suggests short prayers of thanksgiving that you can use any time during the day as you set aside your Thankofferings. If you like, you might decorate an envelope or jar to receive your daily Thankofferings.

When you are ready, gather your Thankofferings and forward the total amount to the churchwide expression of Women of the ELCA as women have done for so many years.

1

Giving by Mail

Make out your check to Women of the ELCA and write "Thankoffering" on the memo line. Then mail it to:

Women of the ELCA
c/o ELCA Gift Processing
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield VA 22116-8009

Giving online

Make your Thankoffering with a credit card at welca.org/give. Simply choose the amount of your gift and specify "Thankoffering" in the dropdown list. After you've filled in all your information, make sure to scroll down to the bottom and click the "I'm Not A Robot" square before clicking "Donate Now."

Giving by Phone

Call 800-638-3522 or 773-380-2700, and press 0. The operator is authorized to charge your Thankoffering to your credit card.

Mission of the Month

For the month of January, Trinity will highlight the Women of the ELCA and their "Thankoffering" Program. The founders of Women of the ELCA decided back in 1988 that Thankofferings are to support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization. The ongoing ministries include many online and printed communications channels (including the website, justice and advocacy work, training and development for elected leaders throughout the women's organization, the constant work in support of congregational and synodical women's organizations, the administration of grants and scholarship programs, all that goes into the triennial convention (the business meeting), and so much more.

Cantor's Notes

**“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.

The Enduring Role of the Cantor.

Martin Luther famously said, “Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise.” The central role of assembly song in Lutheran worship was established early in the Reformation. Luther and his fellow reformers—assisted by the printing press and a growing supply of locally produced hymnals—helped popularize this practice. He entrusted the teaching of music and leadership of assembly song to the cantor.

Originating from the Latin verb *cantare* (to sing), specific mentions of the cantor’s office in the Christian tradition can be traced back to the fifth or sixth century, depending on how sources have been dated and translated. The office itself, however, is much older: Israelite musicians who led the singing of psalms were known as *hazzān*, the plural in Hebrew for cantor.

During and after the Reformation, Lutheran cantors were established in cities and towns of various sizes, both in full- and part-time capacities. Their sense of vocation wasn’t limited to a particular occupation or skill set but was rooted in a desire to serve both God and neighbor, and to form God’s children of all ages in faith. To be a cantor meant—and still means—to enter into a theological, musical and pastoral relationship with one’s community. Lutheran cantors who serve today’s congregations continue to bring a diversity of gifts and experiences to their respective assemblies and communities. Although some may be known as directors of music, keyboardists, ministers of music, deacons, band leaders or song leaders, all are stewards of the assembly’s voice. Regardless of title or hours allotted per week, all such roles are cantors and practice the crafts from centuries past: they teach children and adults; compose new music; arrange existing music according to local needs; develop instrumental proficiencies; bring the gift of music to their assemblies and communities; adapt to new contexts and circumstances; and steward a vast treasury of music for the church—songs that are a few months, decades or centuries old might be heard in the course of a single service.

Cantors are often asked to balance inherited wisdom and practices, individual particularities of spaces and instruments, prevailing cultural attitudes and tastes, and more. They simultaneously serve as professionally trained musicians, pastoral leaders, administrators, bulletin designers, writers, historians, ethnomusicologists, and linguists, and carefully attend to the texts and the rhythms and seasons of the church year.

The gifts and duties of today’s cantors are as diverse as the contexts in which they serve. They take seriously their long-standing heritage to love and serve the gathered assembly and the church’s song through God’s magnificent gift, which Luther described as the “noble art” of music.

Thanks to Cantor Chad Fothergill for sharing these thoughts recently in *Living Lutheran* magazine.

Cantate Domino! (Sing to the Lord!)
Brian Larson

Thanks to the generosity of friends and members for all donations towards Christmas gifts for Chisholm Elementary and gift cards for holiday meals.



Peak Sherry amazed us with her singing talents during the Christmas Eve service.

Candid Moments of December





January Birthdays

3	Peak Sherry	16	Karen Weinrich
7	Kevin Rose	17	Hope Bauman
8	Ronnie Still	17	Mary Dalleska
10	Raeann Purcell	21	Candyce Wolfe
11	Jacob Still	22	Benjamin Weinrich
11	Lewis Zimmermann	31	Chris Weinrich
13	Corinne O'Brien		

A NEW BIRTHDAY SONG

Using the tune KREMSER, *We Praise You, O God*

We celebrate with you the life that God gave you.
 We thank God for letting us share in your joy.
 God bless you and keep you and shine Christ's light upon you.
 With love we sing together happy birthday to you.

TRINITY COLUMBARIUM



Administrative Information

Office Phone: (386) 428-4307
 Office E-mail: trinitylutheran485@gmail.com
 Trinity website: www.trinitylutheranannsb.org
 Florida-Bahamas Synod www.fbsynod.org
 ELCA www.elca.org

COLUMBARIUM NICHE SUBSCRIPTION FEE

MEMBER: \$2000.00
 NON-MEMBER \$3000.00

Includes one niche which will hold two urns, a faceplate (to cover the niche) that is engraved with name of deceased, plus year of birth and death.

APPLICATION AVAILABLE

Contact one of the following:

- Marilyn O'Connor (386-402-4304)
- Jean Haughwout (386-478-9650)
- Church Office (386-428-4307)

Interim Pastor: Rev. Mark Winkler
Cantor: Brian Larson
Office Administrator: Mary Parada
Custodian: Laura Jones