

**October 2018**

## **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

### **AS WE PREPARE FOR ELECTIONS**



Yard signs are popping up, campaign ads seem to be on every television channel and if I understand it right. . . lots of money and effort will be poured into our area trying to get you and I to vote a particular way.

Two years ago, my bishop in Minnesota, Jon Anderson, wrote a letter that has been in my mind these past few weeks. In anticipation of the upcoming midterm elections, I'm sharing it with you. Blessings on your prayers and discernment as you prepare to vote.

Peace,  
Pastor Chris

### **LETTER ON POLITICAL MOMENT** by **Bishop Jon V. Anderson**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we prepare for our election, I want to invite you to join me in prayer for the election. I am praying for our political leaders and candidates for public office. I pray for our media that they will lift up the most important issues and help us understand what is at stake in our decisions. I pray that our political process will not get lost in a wilderness of hyper partisanship or entertaining ourselves with spectacle. We are called to wrestle together to discern the best path forward in our shared life.

As disciples of Jesus who live in a democracy, we are called to engage in and practice good citizenship. As Lutheran Christians, we emphasize Jesus' call to love our neighbors in a world where brokenness marks each of us and our society as a whole in ways we notice and fail to notice.

I want to encourage you to participate in this year's political process and engage in our democratic process. If you have not registered to vote, make the time to do so.

*continued on page 2*

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**New Member  
Informational Meeting**  
Sunday, October 7

**Blessing of the Animals**  
Sunday, October 7  
9:00 AM & 11:15 AM

**Reception of New Members**  
Sunday, October 14  
9:00 AM & 11:15 AM

**Feed My Starving Children**  
Sunday, October 14

**Gateway 180  
Meal & Activities**  
Saturday, October 20

**Council Meeting**  
Sunday, October 21  
6:30 PM

**TOWS**  
Saturday, October 27

**Reformation Fest  
All Church Pancake  
Breakfast**  
Sunday, October 28  
10:15 AM to Noon

### **Trinitell Monthly Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for submitting articles for the November Trinitell is October 15. Email articles or information to [news@tlc-stl.org](mailto:news@tlc-stl.org) or mail to Trinity.

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*continued from page 1*

Normally, a great deal of our energy and focus is on the presidential or statewide races, but our elected leadership of government at every level matters. Reading the papers, checking out web sites, listening to speeches, and participating in forums will help you to be ready to make your best decisions as Christ followers and citizens.

In recent elections, the emphasis has often boiled down to voting for your “self-interest.” Who will best improve my economic situation? Who will give my family and me more of the future we want? Our Lutheran movement has argued we are called to think about who and what would best serve our neighbor whom we love.

Having conversations about what will serve the common good or the greater good of our society is something we want to encourage. Seek out people who see things in different ways than you do. Be curious about their vision, questions, and concerns.

Being in a church is always political. We cannot avoid it. We are always in groups of people. Those groups are political. The decision not to say anything can speak more loudly than words and is equally political. As a church we are political in what we talk about as God’s people and what we don’t speak about in our community and society. We seek to avoid being partisan, where we place a party in front of truth or lock into ways of seeing the world that only acknowledges one party’s vision of the future.

What happens in our national, state, and local political life almost always has an impact in the life of our congregations as well as our society. I often see the behavior and language of the politicians showing up in the way people behave in local congregations who are struggling with important matters. Maturity of our political leaders encourages the maturity of others.

As we approach the observance of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, I have been living with the Small and Large Catechisms. I invite you to do that as well. They are helpful in complicated times. We have a living God who claims us in our baptisms and calls us to follow our Lord Jesus. We are reminded we can kill with actions and words. The catechism calls us to speak to the importance of truth telling. The catechism reminds us to love and not forget the needs of our neighbors.

As you read the Bible, note how God speaks to our current situation, listen to others’ thoughts, and discuss our call to be faithful in all seasons. We are a church that believes in God’s grace deeply and also believes that thinking deeply matters to God and our neighbors. Your church body has a long tradition of creating social statements to help you consider important issues and challenges in our society. Reading and reviewing the work from the past will empower your discernment. These statements were passed by a supermajority in a churchwide assembly. The social statements are not perfect yet they are helpful. As a Christian in our tradition, you are not compelled to agree with these statements but they will help you think about our life together and your life.

- Abortion (1991)
- Church in Society (1991) Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective
- Criminal Justice (2013) The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries
- Death Penalty (1991) The Death Penalty
- Economic Life (1999) Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All
- Education / (2007) Our Calling in Education

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# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

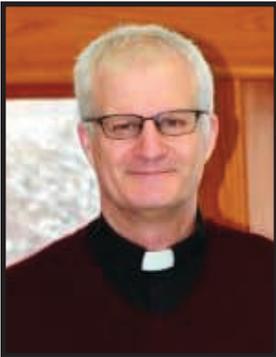
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- Caring for Creation (1993) Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope and Justice
- Genetics (2011) Genetics, Faith and Responsibility.”
- Health and Healthcare (2003) Caring for Health: Our Shared Endeavor
- Human Sexuality (2009) Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust
- Peace (1995) For Peace in God’s World
- Race, Ethnicity and Culture (1993) Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture

There are also thirteen social messages that are created and approved by our ELCA Church Council.

- Gender-based Violence (2016)
- Mental Illness (2012)
- People Living with Disabilities (2010)
- Terrorism (2004)
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation (2001)
- Suicide Prevention (1999)
- Immigration (1998)
- Sexuality (1996)
- Community Violence (1994)
- End of Life Decisions (1992)
- Homelessness (1990)
- Israeli Palestinian Conflict (1989)
- AIDS (1988)

Our faith connects to our public life, discernment, and decisions in our political process. It is eerie to read some of these statements because they speak so powerfully to our present political moment. I have learned in this calling that people of good will and deep faith disagree about political matters. I trust that when we talk to one another and with folks who disagree with us, we are blessed even if our conversations are difficult. I have also learned to trust God to call us toward God’s preferred and promised future. May God guide us in the coming weeks and into God’s future.



In Christ,

Bishop Jon Anderson  
Bishop of ELCA Southwestern Minnesota Synod

*This article original appeared on the ELCA Southwestern Minnesota Synod website in Synod News and Events on September 8, 2016.*

# STEWARDSHIP

A friend of mine told me a story of a time when she was a teen, and borrowed her dad's credit card to buy him a weed-wacker for his birthday. Naturally, being a good father, he thanked her and showed proper appreciation for the gift. But his comment shortly after left an impression, and she quickly realized that using her dad's money to buy him a tool was not really much of a "gift." A thoughtful gesture, but really not what we think of as a gift.

C.S. Lewis, in his book "Mere Christianity," tells a similar story. His conclusion is pretty blunt:

*"Of course, the father [gives the money], and he is pleased with the child's present. It is all very nice and proper, but only an idiot would think that the father is to the good on the transaction. When a man has made this discovery then God can really get to work. It is after this that real life begins. The man is awake now."*

Also from that same Lewis passage:

*"Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense his own already."*

Hymn #686 in the LBW is "We Give Thee But Thine Own." The lyric for the first verses, written in the 1850's, just might have influenced Lewis' thoughts:

*We give Thee but Thine own,  
Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.*

*May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our first-fruits give.*

This is profound, in so many, many ways, and is our theme for Stewardship in 2019. We fret about what to donate to Trinity or to a good cause, as if those funds are ours to begin with. Not unlike my friend who gave her dad a weed-wacker—God has all the tools he needs! God makes tools! He doesn't need another tool! The actual "need" resides with us, but not in a material sense. We "need" to grasp the idea that all that we have is a gift, meant for us to put to good use—to God's use. By using those gifts—by "giving"—we understand that idea, and we receive a gift of gratitude for all the blessings God has given us. Like Abraham in Genesis 12:2, we too are blessed to be a blessing.

Stewardship is a year-round activity, not a once-a-year pledge drive. Stewardship is being grateful and aware of God's blessings in our lives and using those blessings for God's glory, not merely a small donation to a cause.

Dave Luethy, Claudia Pico and Mike Hobgood  
2019 Stewardship Committee

# STEWARDSHIP

## STEWARDSHIP OF OUR MONEY

*And Jesus said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Luke 12:15*

Jesus often uses words of caution when teaching about money. Jesus warns us of money’s power to capture our souls and turn us from loving God first and most, and then our neighbors as ourselves.

Because we North Americans live in a wealthy culture, the temptation to love money more than God and neighbor may be worse than it was for the folks of Jesus’ time. So, we need to take Jesus’ warnings to heart and be sure to keep money in its proper place. Here are some ideas:

**Develop gratitude.** Be happy for (and with) what you have. Dwell on your blessings rather than your wants. Constantly entertaining thoughts of your unfilled desires leads to scarcity thinking and unhappiness.

**Celebrate sufficiency.** Learn to live on what you earn. Excessive debt corrodes our wellbeing by causing us stress and hunger for more. Strive to live without credit cards and make choices to help your income match expenses.

**Embrace generosity.** Our culture tells us that the more we have the happier we will be, but that’s really not so—once we have enough to meet our true needs. Miserly people tend to be miserable no matter how much they have, while generous people tend to be happy even if they have modest means. Giving generously is a spiritual discipline that breaks the power that money has to control us.

Good stewardship of our money helps us avoid the traps that Jesus warns about. Stewardship means managing our wealth rather than letting it manage us. Free from money’s traps and lures and lies, we are free to love God first and then our neighbor as ourselves.

—Rob Blezard

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## WANTED: CANDIDATES FOR CHURCH COUNCIL, NOMINATING COMMITTEE & SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Trinity’s Nominating Committee has been busy brainstorming potential candidates to serve on the 2019 Church Council, the 2020 Nominating Committee, and as a Synod Assembly Delegate. If you would be interested in serving in any of these capacities, or if you have recommendations for the committee, please contact Mike Hope at [thehopesathome@yahoo.com](mailto:thehopesathome@yahoo.com). The deadline for volunteers or suggestions for Church Council, Nominating Committee, or Synod Assembly Delegates is Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you!

# SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MINUTES

**Date:** September 16, 2018

**Attendees:** Ron Jones, Richard Leimgruber, Pastor Paul Bauermeister, Nancy Buffum, Claudia Pico, Mike Sharitz, Kim Stewart, Elisa Thelen, Pastor Chris Naig, Rob Harper, Amy Jones, Morris Larson

Ron called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. He presented the agenda and the list of staff and team reports. Pastor Chris led with an opening prayer.

**Lantern Hill:** Rob Harper updated the Council on the status of Lantern Hill, the mission in Ensenada, Mexico. Lantern Hill is in the process of completing the necessary tax filings as a non-profit organization. They need funds for building repairs. Lantern Hill already has received \$15,000 in donations, but they are seeking an additional \$10,000. They have asked if Trinity can donate toward their need. Council will evaluate this request further, and discuss it at its October 21 meeting.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Chris attended a continuing education class on staffing and supervision that he found useful. There were two funerals the past month. Pastor Chris and other church members continue to make hospital or home visits to those in need. The weekly Bible study classes resumed on Thursday, September 6. Pastor Chris discussed the Narrative Lectionary at the September 16 Adult Forum meeting to provide a better understanding of the upcoming preaching texts. A new member orientation meeting is scheduled on October 7 to be held between services in the Upper Room, and Council members are encouraged to attend. Chris described how the new arrangement of chairs in the Worship Center was intended to place more focus on the communion table. Some modification to the front row of chairs will be made to avoid congestion during the procession and recession of communion.

**Treasurer's Report:** Receipts and expenses in August were slightly below budget, but year-to-date net income less debt payment is \$28,000 favorable to budget.

## **Discussion of reports received from Staff and Teams:**

**Children's Ministries:** Sunday School classes will begin September 23 and Confirmation class will begin October 1. Fall Open Gym will be held Sunday afternoons from 1:00-3:00 PM on September 30, October 21, and November 18. The Ice Cream Sundae held on August 19 was a huge success. The next Sundae will be held October 14 at the Hermann's.

**Music Ministry:** We have hired (for a trial period) a new Children's Music Minister (Graeme Allen) to realize a unified vision of children's (ages three through eleven) worship through music. This vision hopefully will lead to occasional performance of church songs during Sunday worship services, to at least one collaborative concert with the adult choir, and to other music opportunities. The cost of this new program is expected to be within the approved 2018 church budget.

**Preschool:** A total of 156 children are enrolled for Preschool, which began September 4. There are three children on scholarship (reduced or no tuition), and Carol has publicized opportunities for Trinity members to donate toward a scholarship fund for this tuition. The annual Fall Festival will be held Thursday, October 11 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to serve food and help with arrangements. Contact Carol Bentley if you can help.

# SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MINUTES

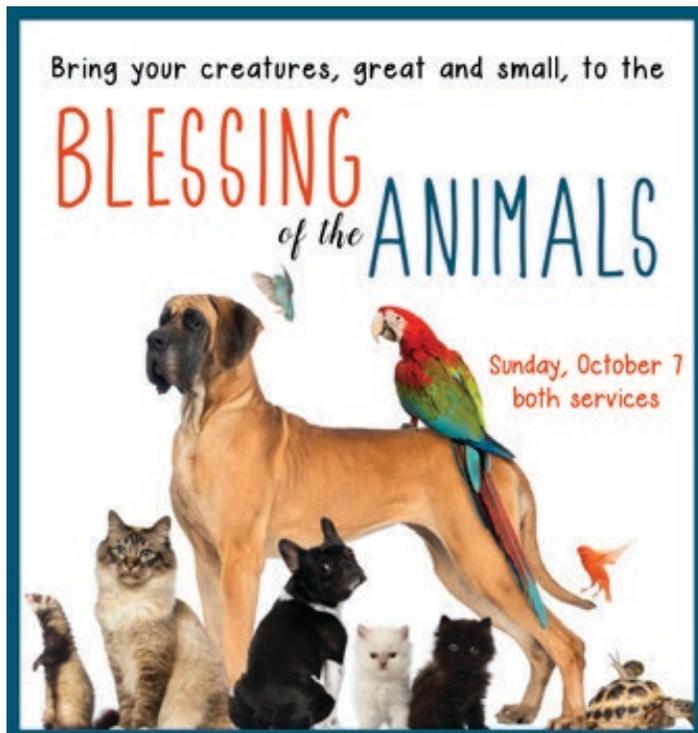
**Operation Services Committee (OSC):** Roof repairs were made last week to address leak or appearance issues. A thermal imaging analysis was received which confirmed the expected problem areas related to the roof. We will consult with additional roofers to determine appropriate next steps related to the eventual resurfacing of the roof within the next 3 to 5 years. Work has been done to the projectors in the Worship Center to improve the appearance of the slides projected on the screens. New carpet or tile is being installed this week in the church office and parts of the Preschool. New windows and frames are being installed this week in parts of the Parish Hall to replace the colored glass and improve the lighting. The existing colored glass will be picked up by a glass company for conservation. All of these costs will be covered by existing dedicated accounts and will not require any charges against the approved 2018 church budget. The audit committee is conducting the “agreed upon procedures” review related to the 2017 Trinity financial statements. Over 1,300 people used Trinity’s facilities the past week at various activities at the church. Two car incidents occurred, which damaged church property, but the repair cost will be covered by the respective driver’s auto insurance policy. The first incident damaged a bollard light near the rear entrance, and the second incident damaged the hand railing by the steps leading to the lower-level parking lot. Repairs will proceed with the insurance claims process.

Other written staff and committee reports were reviewed with no additional discussion.

**Private Session:** The Council again met privately to discuss possible candidates to serve as the three lay leaders and one staff member of the long-range planning committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Trinity will be hosting one of the Central States Synod Fall Conference Gatherings on

**Sunday, November 4  
3:30 PM to 6:30 PM**

The Gathering will include Intergenerational Activities/Mission Projects, Worship, Meal, Synod Updates, and viewing the Reformation 500 DVD.

Volunteers are needed to set up, clean up, welcome guests, and serve the meal. If you would like to help out, please contact the church office at [JoinUs@tlc-stl.org](mailto:JoinUs@tlc-stl.org). Thank you!

# ADULT FORUM

## OCTOBER ADULT FORUM

**October 7, 14, 21: The Book of Ruth—A Story of Faith and Redemption.**

**Speaker: John Kotovsky.** Rev. John Kotovsky, President/CEO Lutheran Senior Services, BA Washington University, M.Div. Lutheran School of Theology-Chicago, formerly Pastor of Administration and Christian Education for Community Church of Joy in Phoenix, Arizona.

The Book of Ruth is one of the best short stories ever written. It is an incredible story of love, loyalty, and selfless devotion between two women that form an unexpected relationship. Ruth, a Moabite, who is a descendant of one of Israel's worst enemies, loves her mother-in-law Naomi, an Israelite, in such a profound way that she leaves her native country and travels to a new homeland to remain at her mother-in-law's side.

Ruth says to Naomi, "Wherever you go I shall go. Your people will be my people, your God will be my God, and wherever you die I will die and I will be buried with you." Ruth pledges never to leave Naomi, no matter what happens. What incredible devotion to have a friend like that? Do you know that God makes the same promise to us? God promises to love us unconditionally, not because we are good, but because God is good!

You are invited to join us for this 3-week Bible Study of the Book of Ruth. You will not only enjoy the story, but it is rich with life lessons.

**October 28: No Adult Forum—Reformation Fest**



## NEW TRINITY T-SHIRTS

On October 28, please wear **RED** for Reformation Sunday. Please wear your new red Trinity t-shirt to church that day. If you still need a new Trinity t-shirt, they are available in the church office during the week or email [news@tlc-stl.org](mailto:news@tlc-stl.org) and we will make arrangements to get you a shirt. If you would like to cover the cost of your shirt, the suggested donation is \$10 per shirt. Please make your check payable to "Trinity" and write "t-shirt" in the memo line. Thank you!

# ENDOWMENT FUND



## QCD (QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION)

Past articles have dealt with present gifts and deferred gifts. In either case, money must be found to make a gift. One of the best ways to use money as a gift to Trinity's Endowment Fund is to use RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) money out of your IRA that you must pay taxes on. Uncle Sam requires you to distribute out of your IRA account a required distribution if you are 70-1/2 years old. This distribution goes up every year.

For example, at age 71, your required distribution is approximately \$3,774 if your IRA account is worth \$100,000 and you pay increased Federal income taxes of 3.8% of your account value that year. Ten years later, at age 81, your RMD increases to \$5,587 or 5.6% of the \$100,000 value. At age 91, you are taxed on \$9,259 and your taxes are increased by 9.2 % of the \$100,000 value. If your IRA is worth \$500,000 at age 91, your Federal RMD taxable income would be increased by approximately \$46,000.

Your State income tax is increased by the RMD as well.

So if you are interested in helping support one or more of Trinity's ministries, an endowment gift from your IRA that qualifies as a QCD distribution can be a terrific way of making Trinity gifts that avoid increased Federal and State income taxes. Secondly, the QCD approach saves on other taxes that would have been paid by just having a standard charitable deduction.

If your faith inspires you to make a gift to one or more of Trinity's ministries, it would seem the best source of that gift would be to use IRA money which results in the government helping you make that gift in two different ways.

WE all have a choice—voluntary philanthropy (charitable gifts) or involuntary philanthropy (taxes).

*If you have any comments or questions, please contact Jeff Haferkamp, [jeff.haferkamp@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.haferkamp@gmail.com) or 314.795.9649, or any Endowment Committee member.*

**Please see your tax advisor for more detailed information.**

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## NEW MEMBER INFORMATIONAL MEETING

**Sunday, October 7  
10:15 AM in the Upper Room**

Are you interested in becoming a Trinity member? We are hosting a New Member Informational Meeting on Sunday, October 7 from 10:15 AM to 11:00 AM in the Upper Room. This will be an opportunity to talk with Pastor Chris and members of the church council and learn more about Trinity. New members will be received the following Sunday on October 14 at both services. Please contact Pastor Chris, [pastor@tlc-stl.org](mailto:pastor@tlc-stl.org) for more information or to RSVP.

# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Amy Jones  
ibamywinter@gmail.com

## WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING THIS PAST MONTH?



Trinity's Youth have been swinging from the trees at "Go Ape" high ropes course. The youth, along with some brave (or perhaps nutty adults) spent a Sunday afternoon out at Creve Couer Park pushing themselves physically, testing their confidence and laughing (or was that screaming) with their friends as they climbed,

pulled and sometimes just hung in the trees (about 30 feet up)! It was an awesome afternoon . . . everyone survived, even Elaine Larson who participated with us!



If the youth were not hanging in a tree, they were at Sweetology for some cupcake decorating! What a yummy creative afternoon! It was amazing to watch and listen to these youth contemplate how to design their cupcakes! Piggy faces, flowers, tie dye and volcanoes were all created and eaten!



**Next on the agenda** . . . Perhaps some Axe Throwing on October 20<sup>th</sup> for those youth 21 years and OLDER. (AKA Adults!) Sign ups happening NOW with ME!

High school youth attended the First Annual Ice Cream Sundae Sunday! Great conversation, many laughs and a time just to hang . . . perhaps we will eventually get the Dominoes game started AGAIN when the Herrmanns host the next High School Sundae Sunday on October 14!

Just a sneak peek into the activities of our youth! And guess what? Just because it's a "YOUth" event doesn't mean you can't participate . . . everyone is ALWAYS welcome including YOUth!

Amy Jones  
Children Youth and Family Ministry Director

# TRINITY PRESCHOOL

Carol Bentley  
cbentley@tlc-stl.org



## PRESCHOOL NEWS

The Preschool is now in full swing for fall. Getting acquainted with school and our new friends was the primary goal in September. The Magic House came to do a program called "Sensational Science." The kids loved it! We also learned about keeping safe at home and school. We had fire drills to prepare us, just in case! You may want to have one at home with your family as well. It never hurts to be prepared.

October is a busy month at Trinity Preschool! We will have our annual Halloween parties which seem to be enjoyed by all!

We are very excited about our mission project this month. We will be collecting items for Evelyn's House, a pediatric hospice house in Creve Coeur. Evelyn's House provides a holistic approach to the emotional, spiritual and physical care of terminally ill children, offering therapies for complex symptoms or respite in a home-like setting. It is a non-profit organization run by BJC Friends of Wings.

## HELP NEEDED FOR OUR FALL FESTIVAL

We are also excited about this year's Fall Festival which will be held on Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Our theme this year is "Enchanted Forest." There will be a Scholastic book fair, crafts and games for the kids, a medieval bounce house and a pancake dinner provided by Chris' Cakes. This event will begin at 5:00 PM and continue through 7:00 PM. Please join in on the fun! If you are interested in helping at the event, please give me a call at 636.227.5720.

## GRANDPARENTS DAY

We will be celebrating our Grandparents on October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. We will be having a special Chapel service and then grandparents will go to the classrooms to participate in special activities.

In our Gospel Light Curriculum this month, the children will learn how God took care of Noah, his family, and the animals. We praise God for taking care of us and we learn to remember to help others. Chapel will be held on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 AM. All are welcome!

Carol Bentley  
Preschool Director



*Pat Irmischer's Small Group provided lunch to the preschool teachers in September.*

# PLUG IN - GET INVOLVED



## GATEWAY ACTION TEAM NEWS

**Be the Hands and Feet of Christ**

**Volunteer at Gateway 180—No Experience Necessary**

We are in need of volunteers to assist with the monthly dinners and activities for the residents at Gateway 180. Gateway 180 is a valuable resource for women, children and families experiencing homelessness. They provide safe, nurturing emergency shelter and offer supportive housing programs that empower adults and families to become independent and permanently housed.

Our next three dinners are scheduled for:

- Saturday, October 20 (**Halloween Party!**)
- Saturday, November 17
- Saturday, December 15

**It's easy to volunteer!** Volunteers typically meet at Trinity at 2:30/3:00 PM to prepare a simple meal. We then carpool to Gateway and serve the meal by 5:00 PM (exact meeting times will be communicated in a follow-up email once the menu is finalized). Following dinner, we participate in a short activity with the residents (playtime/crafts with the children and bingo with the adults). We are usually back at Trinity by 7:30 PM. **No experience is necessary!** Our team will provide all the assistance you will need to contribute and feel comfortable.

If you can give a few hours of your time to this worthwhile mission, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Missions Room next to the atrium area, or better yet, contact Ken Hardebeck at [lhardebeck@aol.com](mailto:lhardebeck@aol.com) or 314.605.4970 for more information. If you sign up, more details will be forthcoming via email. Dinners at Gateway are typically scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month.

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## GATEWAY MISSION TEAM NEWS

The Mission Team would like to thank all who supported and participated in Gods Work. Our Hands. Service Sunday on September 9. A special THANK YOU to Leslie Steinmeyer who planned and organized the event. This missional opportunity was a huge success thanks to her dedication and hard work. Additional information about Gods Work. Our Hands. Service Sunday can be found in the article on page 13.

On behalf of the Trinity family, the Mission Team approved funds to support Trinity Preschool Scholarships. In continuance of support for this ministry, \$1500.00 has been provided to assist families with their tuition.

Support for homeless individuals assisted by New Life Evangelistic Center is again taking place. Denise Jadali has agreed to again lead this missional opportunity. Once a month (last Saturday morning of the month), volunteers distribute prepackaged food and hygiene items to homeless in the NLEC area. If you are interested in assisting with this ministry, please contact Denise at [djadali@yahoo.com](mailto:djadali@yahoo.com) or 314.749.4500. Thank you!

# GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO MADE GOD'S WORK.  
OUR HANDS. SERVICE SUNDAY A SUCCESS!**



**Together, we made 102 Hygiene Bags for the Homeless, 4 picnic tables, 45 pillows, 58 blankets and 165 Soups in a Jar!**

# PLUG IN - GET INVOLVED



**DISASTER  
RESPONSE**

## **DONATIONS NEEDED FOR HURRICANE FLORENCE RECOVERY**

Hurricane Florence has affected more than 1 million of our neighbors in the Carolinas and elsewhere with dangerous winds, storm surge and catastrophic flooding. Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with Lutheran Services Carolinas, Lutheran Family Services of Virginia and the synods in the hurricane's path to respond to this disaster. We invite you to stand by our neighbors in the Carolinas during this time. Your gifts ensure that our church will be able to provide help and hope for those left homeless or otherwise affected by this disaster.

**Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for "Hurricane Response" will be used entirely (100 percent) for this disaster until the response is complete.** Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. Please make your checks payable to "Trinity" and write "Hurricane Response" in the memo line. These gifts will be used to help disaster survivors recover and rebuild. Thank you!

## **REFORMATION FEST**

**Sunday, October 28**

**10:15 AM to Noon**



Join us for Reformation Fest on Sunday, October 28 from 10:15 AM to Noon in the gym. We'll have an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast prepared by Chris Cakes, including sausage, fruit, orange juice and coffee. Everyone is invited for fellowship and food!

### **Volunteers Needed**

We are looking for a few volunteers to help with set up, clean up and fruit salad prep. If you are willing to help out, please contact Ron Jones, [annron@charter.net](mailto:annron@charter.net). Thank you!

**WEAR YOUR NEW RED TRINITY  
T-SHIRT TO WORSHIP ON  
OCTOBER 28!**



# PLUG IN - GET INVOLVED

## WELCOME GRAEME ALLEN TRINITY'S NEW DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MUSIC MINISTRIES



Graeme Allen has taught eight years of elementary music in the Parkway School District and is now serving as the Director of Choirs at Parkway Northeast Middle School. Graeme received his Bachelor of Music degree and a Master of Music Education degree from Truman State University. He is also an active singer and performer in the St. Louis area. Graeme grew up in the Lutheran Church and has a deep passion for children's music in worship. We are thrilled that he will share his many gifts with God's children at Trinity!

– Brian Parrish, Director of Music Ministries

Hi everyone! I'm so thankful to join the Trinity family and I look forward to meeting all of you in the coming weeks. I had a blast working with so many of the children at Trinity's Vacation Bible School and I can't wait to continue to share my favorite songs and games with our youth and the rest of the congregation.

– Graeme Allen, Director of Children's Music Ministries



## WELCOME JULIE HURLEY TRINITY'S NEW BOOKKEEPER

Hi! My name is Julie Hurley and I joined the Trinity staff this summer as the new bookkeeper. I have a soft spot in my heart for Trinity as both my kids (Alex, 12 and Max, 10) attended preschool here. I live in Ballwin with my husband, Mike, and our kids and I'm lucky to have Pastor Chris as one of our neighbors!

– Julie Hurley, Bookkeeper

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP OUT AT THE GATEWAY 180 HALLOWEEN PARTY



Trinity will be throwing a Halloween Party at Gateway 180 on October 20 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM. We are in need of volunteers and small treat bag items. The items have to be appropriate for children ages 3-12. If you would like to donate items or come help out at the Halloween Party, please contact Ken Hardebeck at [lhardebeck@aol.com](mailto:lhardebeck@aol.com). Thank you!

# PLUG IN - GET INVOLVED

## SEPTEMBER TRINITY BOOK GROUP

Monday, October 22 at 11:30 AM

**The President is Missing**  
by Bill Clinton and James Patterson

President Bill Clinton and bestselling novelist James Patterson have written a spellbinding thriller, *The President is Missing*. As the novel opens, a threat looms. Enemies are planning an attack of unprecedented scale on America. Uncertainty and fear grip Washington. There are whispers of cyberterror and espionage and a traitor in the cabinet. The President himself becomes a suspect, and then goes missing... Set in real time, over the course of three days, *The President Is Missing* is one of the most dramatic thrillers in decades. And it could all really happen. *The President Is Missing* is Bill Clinton and James Patterson's totally authentic and spellbinding thriller.

All are welcome to bring their lunch and join our lively discussions.

Reading ahead:

**November 26 at 11:30 AM**  
**Educated: A Memoir**  
by Tara Westover

Questions? Call Karen Johnson at 314.275.9905.



## SIGN UP NOW FOR FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

**Sunday, October 14**  
**1:00 to 3:15 PM.**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**327 Woods Mill Road**

Trinity is once again partnering with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in support of the "FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN Mobilepack."

Last year, Trinity members helped with packing enough food for 2,236 children for a year. This year, the goal is to pack enough food to feed 2,330 children! This year's pack is on October 10-14<sup>th</sup>.

Trinity has reserved 20 openings for people to sign up to join in this lifesaving (and fun!) event. Trinity's time is Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:15 PM. A sign-up poster will be available in the Atrium starting September 2. For more information, contact Peggy Beljan Schaefer at [pbschaefer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pbschaefer@sbcglobal.net).

## TRINITY PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

There are many families who would like to have the opportunity to send their child/children to a Christian preschool like ours but are unable due to financial reasons. Here is an opportunity for us to help those in need right in our community. If you are interested in making a donation (of any amount), please contact Carol Bentley at [cbentley@tlc-stl.org](mailto:cbentley@tlc-stl.org). We will use this money to help offset the cost of preschool for those in need. The average yearly tuition fee is about \$1,500 a year. I have three families currently seeking help. Thank you for your support!

# PLUG IN - GET INVOLVED

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS—AXE THROWING!

Saturday, October 20 at 6:00 PM



Are you over 21? Come join Trinity for a night out Axe Throwing! We will start at 6:00 PM at The Axe House in Valley Park (20 Meramec Valley Plaza) and then go out to dinner together at 8:00 PM. The cost is \$15 per person (not including dinner). RSVP to Amy Jones, [ibamywinter@gmail.com](mailto:ibamywinter@gmail.com), by October 10<sup>th</sup>.



**TRIVIA NIGHT**

Save the Date

SATURDAY February 9

Trinity Lutheran Church Gym  
14088 Clayton Road, Chesterfield, MO 63017  
636-227-5432 [www.youmattertoGod.org](http://www.youmattertoGod.org)

All proceeds benefit Lantern Hill



**MERAMEC BLUFFS**  
A Lutheran Senior Services Community

## GIGANTIC TREASURE SALE

Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> and

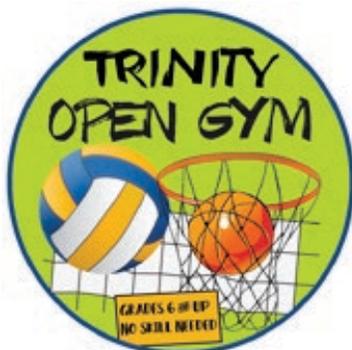
Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>

7:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Meramec Bluffs Retirement Center  
#1 Meramec Bluffs Drive, Ballwin

Over 30,000 items: furniture, adult clothing, household goods, small appliances, books, bedding, linens, purses, shoes, Christmas decorations, picture frames, and more!

VISA and MASTERCARD will be accepted.



## OPEN GYM AT TRINITY

Sundays, September 30, October 21 & November 18

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Trinity's gym will be "open" to Trinity youth and their friends! Come shoot hoops, play volleyball or just hang out in the gym and listen to music. There is NO cost for this—bring your own water bottle and enjoy! All youth 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome! Adult supervision will be present.

# PLUG IN - GET INVOLVED

## Mission of the Month

Trinity is joining forces with the West County Interfaith Alliance to provide Thanksgiving baskets to the Parkway Food Pantry. Trinity has pledged to provide 75 cans of YAMS.

**Donations of YAMS may be placed in the Mission of the Month bin in the Missions Room**



**HELP US  
COLLECT 75  
CANS OF  
YAMS**

**DONATIONS NEEDED  
Halloween Party  
Treat Bag Items for**



## **NEW BREAKFAST MISSION AT NEW LIFE EVANGELISTIC CENTER**

The TOWS Team provides breakfast to the homeless on the last Saturday of each month.

**Our next breakfast is scheduled for  
Saturday, October 27.**

Please meet at Trinity at 7:45 AM and we will carpool to downtown St. Louis. If you are interested in helping with this mission, please contact Denise Jadali at [djadali@yahoo.com](mailto:djadali@yahoo.com) or 314.749.4500. Thank you!



- Stickers
- Pencils
- Spooky Accessories
- Temporary Tattoos
- Bouncy Balls
- Bendables
- Mini Coloring Books
- Crayons
- Vampire Teeth
- Bouncy Balls
- Glow sticks
- Novelty Toys (Oriental Trading)

Trinity will be throwing a Halloween Party at Gateway 180 on October 20. We are in need of small treat bag items to hand out. The items have to be appropriate for children ages 3-12. If you would like to come help out at the Halloween Party, please contact Ken Hardebeck at [lhardebeck@aol.com](mailto:lhardebeck@aol.com). Thank you!

**Donations may be placed in the  
Gateway 180 bin in the Missions Room**

# PLUG IN - GET INVOLVED



Circle of Concern feeds the hungry and provides assistance to low-income families living in west St. Louis County.

## DONATIONS NEEDED

- Dinner Helpers
- Canned Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned Vegetables
- Cereal
- Deodorant
- Lose Dose Aspirin
- Size 5 or 6 Diapers

**Donations may be placed in the Circle of Concern bin in the Missions Room.**

## BREAD DOUGHNATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Want a Heart-warming Adventure? Bring some much-needed bread to those who will appreciate it. We have a new chart in the Atrium where you can sign up to help pick up bread and deliver it on Saturday morning, fulfilling our promise to put this leftover supply to good use. Include your children, and let them experience the joy of helping others. Trinity members serve five separate congregations/facilities with this surplus bread and pastry, and they really look forward to receiving this contribution.

Contact Morris Larson, [mlarson@tlc-stl.org](mailto:mlarson@tlc-stl.org) for more information.



## MEALS DO MATTER

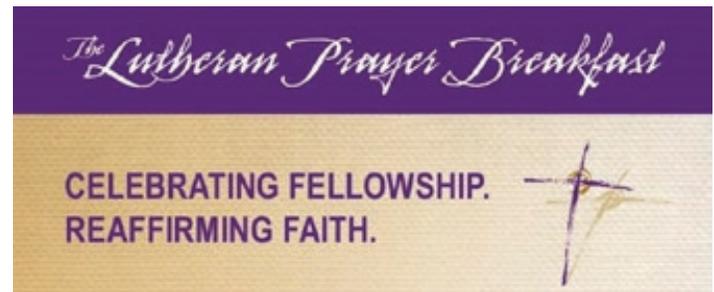
### Volunteer for a Cooking Session

We are looking for someone or a group to do a cook session. Everything you or your small group

needs is on our website, [www.MealsDoMatter.org](http://www.MealsDoMatter.org). Just choose a meal that interests you or contact Christie Tietjen and she can help you choose. Christie can also help you with containers, bags and any questions. Becca Pecher, in the church office, can help with printing labels, prayer and RSVP cards. Just let her know what you need.

### Join Our Team

We are also looking for some more members of the Meals Do Matter team. We are a fun group that does not have a lot of meetings! There are lots of ways new members can help! Contact Christie Tietjen at [Christie.tietjen@Experitec.com](mailto:Christie.tietjen@Experitec.com) or 314.443.8035 if you are interested.



## LUTHERAN PRAYER BREAKFAST

**Celebrating Fellowship. Reaffirming Faith.**

**Wednesday October 31, 2018**

The annual Lutheran Prayer Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, October 31 at the Orlando Events & Conference Center, 2050 Dorsett Village Plaza in Maryland Heights. Registration begins at 7:00 AM, with breakfast and program at 7:30 AM. The featured speaker will be Rev. John Arthur Nunes, president of Concordia College—New York. Tickets may be purchased online at [lcms.regfox.com/2018-lutheran-prayer-breakfast](http://lcms.regfox.com/2018-lutheran-prayer-breakfast). Tickets are \$25/person; \$250/table of 10.

# PLUG IN - GET INVOLVED

## CURRENT SMALL GROUPS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>7 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting</b></p> <p>Location varies 1x per month</p> <p><b>Betty Forde</b> 314.809.2477 bforde9696@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p><b>8:30 AM Gateway Brown Bag Group</b></p> <p>Good Shepherd 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month</p> <p><b>Kathy Gaal</b> 314.540.2690 kgaal@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p><b>10:30 AM 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Irmscher Small Group</b></p> <p><b>Pat Irmscher</b> 636.230.5937 patcatless@aol.com</p>	<p><b>7:00 AM Men's Bible Study</b></p> <p>Room 123 Weekly</p> <p><b>Gene Kerr</b> 636.265.2776 GKerr@aol.com</p>	<p><b>10:00 AM Bible Study led by Pastor Chris</b> Room 123 Weekly</p> <p><b>Pastor Chris</b> 636.227.5432</p>	<p><b>9:00 AM MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)</b></p> <p>2x per month Dates Vary</p> <p><b>Elaina Piccoli</b> 314.496.0119 elaina.piccoli@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>3:00 PM Gateway 180</b></p> <p>Meal &amp; Activity 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month</p> <p><b>Ken Hardebeck @</b> 636.391.7130 lhardebeck@aol.com</p>
	<p><b>11:30 AM Book Group</b></p> <p>Room 123 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the Month</p> <p><b>Karen Johnson</b> 314.275.9905 mrsDRJx5@gmail.com</p>		<p><b>10:00 AM Women's Small Group</b></p> <p>Upper Room 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month Sept. to May</p> <p><b>Kim Stewart</b> 636.391.8807 JGalens@aol.com</p>	<p><b>7:00 AM Men's Bible Study</b></p> <p>Room 123 Weekly Oct. to May</p> <p><b>Larry Lemke</b> 314.307.4363 lalemke@sbcglobal.net</p>		<p><b>7:45 AM TOWS</b></p> <p>Serve Breakfast to the Homeless Last Saturday of the Month</p> <p><b>Denise Jadali</b> at 314.749.4500 or djadali@yahoo.com</p>
	<p><b>7:00 PM Itch to Stitch</b></p> <p>Upper Room 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the Month</p> <p><b>Sandi Thorp</b> 314.322.6009 skipsandi@sbcglobal.net</p>		<p><b>7:00 PM Parish Choir</b></p> <p>Room 261 Weekly Sept. to May</p> <p><b>Brian Parrish</b> 314.707.1043 bparrish0503@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>1:00 PM Christ Care Group</b></p> <p>Room 123 1st &amp; 3rd Thursday of the Month</p> <p><b>Lynn Sapp</b> 314.540.2634 jksapp@charter.net</p>		
<p>If you are interested in joining a small group, please call or email the contact person listed above.</p>				<p><b>6:45 PM Thursday Night Small Group</b></p> <p>Room 123 every other Week</p> <p><b>Sandi Thorp</b> 314.322.6009 skipsandi@sbcglobal.net</p>		

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## PRAYERS FROM SEPTEMBER 2018

**Please pray for...** Amanda, Ameenah S, Andy, Bob, Bob Banas, Breckyn, Cam, Charlie, Daniel, Danny, Dave, Deepthika, Doug, Elena Ubben, Emily, Emma W, Gloria Zimmermann, Irene D, James, Jerry & Marie, Julie, Lucille Niklason, Marian, Mary, Maura, Max, Michelle, Molly, Nick, our country, our president, peace, prayers of healing for all, Rev. Brady Buerkle, Sean Lappin, Sherri Swanson, Shickoh Jadali, Steve Hughes, Sue Bahle, Taylor, those who are travelling, those with mental illness, addictions, homeless, refugees and victims of violence, Tommy Janicik, Tyler

**Those who are hospitalized/undergoing surgery...** John Mecurio, Sue Dandoy, Jan O'Neil

**Those in need of healing...** Amanda, Audrey Melton, Bella A, Bob Tuckett, Clarence Seckel, Dick Johnson, Ed Harrow, Gilda Jones, Glenn Doxsee, Helen, Jerry Spector, Jessica Tietjen, Joy Grace, Linda Lemke, Mindy Heintz Jarvis, Rev. Pamela Dolan, Richard Leimgruber, Susan Colbert, Wilma

**Those undergoing treatment...** Dan D, Drew Aufderheide, Ed Harrow, Eric Colbert, Jim Wilhite, Mary Alice, Samantha Olszewski, Steve Hild

**Those in hospice care...** Charlotte Mykelbust (dear friend of Emily Williams), Dick Eissfeldt, Gladys Larsen (mother of Cindy Anderson)

**For the family and friends of...**

- Dick G who passed away on September 23 (brother-in-law of Dorothy Norland)
- Edward Bussman, beloved father of Fred Bussman, who passed away September 7
- Ken Cooper
- Ron Johnson

**Those serving our country...** Collier Gorman, Seth Allison

**Thanksgiving and praise for...**

- The birth of Amelia Jean Lillian Mueller on August 23, daughter of Justin & Sara Mueller (granddaughter of Harry & Genie Mueller, great granddaughter of Lillian Mueller)!
- The birth of Bryn Margaret Johnson on September 23 (granddaughter of Kathy Gaal, great granddaughter of Dick & Marian Wegner)!
- The Thelen family for their many good blessings!
- The birth of Bob & Cheryl Hick's granddaughter, Josephine Jewel Maggos, on September 12!
- The safe return of Mike, Antel from his deployment (nephew of Gene & Bonnie Kerr)!

**To make a prayer request...**

- Call the church office—636.227.5432
- Email [news@tlc-stl.org](mailto:news@tlc-stl.org) or [bpecher@tlc-stl.org](mailto:bpecher@tlc-stl.org)
- Enter prayer requests on our website: [www.YouMattertoGod.org](http://www.YouMattertoGod.org)
- Prayers remain on the list for two weeks and may be renewed by request.

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## NEW ADDRESS

**Don & Gail Young**  
10 Heathrow Ave.  
Bluffton, SC 29910

## SYMPATHY

**Dick G**  
Dorothy Norland's brother-in-law

**Edward Bussman**  
Fred Bussman's father

*If your email address or cell phone number has changed, or if we don't have your information, please let the church office know, [JoinUs@tlc-stl.org](mailto:JoinUs@tlc-stl.org) or 636.227.5432.*

## THANK YOU!

- Mike Sharitz for fixing the screens in the Worship Center!
- Cindy Gesme for watering the plants and shrubs outside the building!
- Peggy Miller, Elisa Thelen, Mary Hepperly, Elaine Larson, Wendy Anstine, Cindy Gesme, Mary Harper, Vicki Dorhmann, Brenda Liescheidt, Susan Hugery, Bob Garthe, Phil Steinmeyer and Ron Jones for leading the service projects at God's Work. Our Hands. Service Sunday.

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Thank you so much for the generous donation of soup mixes. They are being delivered to residents in our Affordable housing communities. You can tell they were put together with lots of love! LSS appreciates all you do for so many, especially the seniors we serve!

Blessings to you,  
Kristy Bull  
Director of Volunteer and Community Engagement  
Lutheran Senior Services

Thank you for your kind expression of sympathy upon the passing of Hazel Makowski. And thank you to all the ladies who provided altar flowers and helped at her funeral.

The family of Hazel Makowski

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Cindy Gesme 10/1  
Paula Mortenson 10/2  
Ruth Rangel 10/2  
Becky Luethy 10/3  
Nancy Rourke 10/4  
Sam Herrmann 10/5  
Elaine Larson 10/5  
Henry Frank 10/7  
Richard Pinckert 10/7  
Norma Anderson 10/8  
Nick Condon 10/9  
John Beale 10/10  
Rachael Bierschenk 10/11  
Nola Linhardt 10/11

Kaitlyn Beale 10/13  
Laura Belleville 10/14  
Tom Ditchfield 10/15  
Eleanor Klug 10/16  
Ronald Kohlmeier 10/16  
Alexis Masiel 10/16  
Ronin Biangardi 10/17  
Timothy Mortenson 10/17  
Lindsey Anstine 10/19  
Scott Meyland-Smith 10/20  
Claire Luethy 10/21  
Mary Alice Long 10/22  
Ana Maria Cataldo 10/23  
Michael Herrmann 10/24

Anthony King 10/24  
Carolyn Kuo 10/24  
Thomas Dunn 10/25  
Gabby Roseman 10/25  
Stan Sajban 10/25  
Andrew Sobey 10/25  
Carrie Tietjen 10/25  
Jonathan Baumgart 10/27  
Kristy Baumgart 10/27  
Michael Bruening 10/29  
Kellen Hope 10/30  
Jim Anderson 10/31  
Craig Hildreth 10/31  
Brenda Liescheidt 10/31

## UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

Patrick & Amy O'Neil 10/2/2010  
Skipper & Sandi Thorp 10/4/1991  
Andrew & Patsy Sobey 10/9/1979  
Erik & Carol Sall 10/11/1980  
Phil & Leslie Steinmeyer 10/14/1995

Larry & Linda Lemke 10/19/2013  
Matt Charles & Kat Rourke 10/22/2011  
Dan & Nancy Blakeley 10/24/1987  
Thomas & Lindsey Dunn 10/27/2001

*Not seeing your birthday or anniversary? Please let the church office know so that we may update our records, [JoinUs@tlc-stl.org](mailto:JoinUs@tlc-stl.org) or 636.227.5432.*



**STUDENTS FROM  
TRINITY PRESCHOOL  
HELPED CELEBRATE  
PASTOR CHRIS' BIRTHDAY!**

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

**Council President:** Ron Jones  
**Vice-President:** Christie Tietjen  
**Secretary:** Richard Leimgruber  
**Treasurer:** Steve Paquette

**At-Large Members:** Paul Bauermeister  
Nancy Buffum  
Becky Luethy  
Claudia Pico

Mike Sharitz  
Andrew Sobey  
Kim Stewart  
Elisa Thelen

## OFFICE STAFF

**The Rev. Christopher Naig**  
Pastor  
pastor@tlc-stl.org

**Morris Larson**  
Operations  
mlarson@tlc-stl.org

**Becca Pecher**  
Office Manager  
bpecher@tlc-stl.org

**Amy Jones**  
Children & Youth Ministry/  
Nursery Coordinator  
ibamywinter@gmail.com

**Julie Hurley**  
Bookkeeper  
bookkeeper@tlc-stl.org

**Leslie Steinmeyer**  
Communications  
news@tlc-stl.org

**Brian Parrish**  
Director of Music Ministries  
bparrish0503@gmail.com

**Jonathan Owen**  
Organist  
jonathan.owen1965@gmail.com

**Graeme Allen**  
Children's Music Minister  
graemehazenallen@gmail.com

**Norma Anderson**  
Parish Nurse  
norma.anderson@swbell.net

**Carol Bentley**  
Preschool Director:  
cbentley@tlc-stl.org



YouMatterToGod.org

14088 Clayton Road  
Chesterfield, MO 63017