



Trinity Lutheran Church
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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

(Ps 116:7)

August will be the second of the two months of sabbatical that the council was generous enough to grant me this year. The Lord has dealt bountifully with me, indeed.

My plans and hopes for the second sabbatical month are the same as the first: lots of time for reading and prayer, and, I hope, the inspiration to do some writing. At present, I'm reading books by African American theologians like Howard Thurman and James Cone. I also plan to read some books on the Holy Trinity.

I will spend most of the month at home, but I'm looking forward to spending a week in New Mexico at a Roman Catholic monastery called "Christ in the Desert." It was founded in 1964 and is located in a wilderness area north of Santa Fe. I've been warned that cell service and Wi-Fi are nonexistent, and

electricity is not to be wasted, as it is supplied by solar panels.



I lived for six years as a monk—but in a very different sort of setting. I'm looking forward to worshiping with the monks and sharing their life; but I can't promise to go to chapel seven times a day. I'm also looking forward to just sitting at staring at views like this!

When I'm not in New Mexico, I'll still be available in the event of emergencies. Pastor Sharon Dorr, who was once the pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, will preach and lead worship on Sunday mornings.

I pray that each one of you will also make time for rest and renewal during these "dog days" of summer. And I look forward to us being together in September!

Your brother in Christ,
Pr. Paul

Living alone?



Seniors Helping Seniors provides in-home services for seniors by seniors; it is a way to give and to receive.

By providing affordable in-home senior care services they empower their clients to continue to live independent lives by taking care of day-to-day tasks that become more challenging as we age.

As health and personal requirements change, they can adapt to assist in the ways you find most helpful.

Seniors Helping Seniors® Pinellas County In-Home Care Services
 13825 Icot Blvd., Suite 604 Clearwater, Florida 33760
<https://pinlasseniorcare.com/> 727-401-4700

Trinity Lutheran Church

Paul Gibson, Pastor
Lynne Tallon, Deacon
Brenden Hall, Organist and
Director of Music
Leah Heinicke, Office Admin
Azur H. Abdić, Facility Admin

Council Members

Lisa Johnson, President
Marty Snapp, Vice President
Helen Mowrer, Treasurer
Toni Durilla, Financial Secretary
Jen Durilla, Recording Secretary
Chris & Danny Burtless
Charlie Hahn
Violet Prepost
Lynne Tallon
Pastor Paul Gibson



Notes from the Organ Bench

Hello Trinity Family, and Happy August! I hope you enjoyed the new contemporary music we've been doing the past month. We will be returning to more traditional music for the month of August, while Pastor Paul is on sabbatical.

Choir and Bell Choir will be resuming their mid-week rehearsals starting the last week in August, so if you're interested in joining either of those, please let me know ASAP! I am available to work with you 1-on-1, as well.

If you'd like to work up or gain any skills with bell playing or singing, just talk to me after service!

- *Brenden Hall*

Organist and Director of Music

COMMUNITY



MEALS

This month, I am pleased to report that the hot lunch program is going very well. While the numbers fluctuate each week, we are serving about 40 of our brothers and sisters. Our support from Metropolitan Ministries has been outstanding!

I want to give a big thank you to all of our volunteers. You have enthusiastically supported this program with your prayers, financial gifts and with your "in person" presence. Wow, what an outpouring of love. Truly you are the hands of Christ in a troubled world. Well done my friends!

Blessings!

- *Gerry Munger*

gmunger1@gmail.com

Living alone?

Snug Safety from PAVE Digital Inc. is a free app for iPhone or Android that can give you and your loved ones peace of mind regarding your well-being. It's a daily check-in for people living alone.

1. Just install the app and set up your account. You'll need your name and email address, then you'll choose your emergency contacts and daily check in deadline.
2. SNUG will remind you before your chosen time every day, asking you to visit the app to "check in." All you have to do is push the big green button!

When you check in, the App will share an inspirational quote and reset the 24 hour clock.

If you don't check in, the App will initiate an alert to make sure you're ok.

- **If you're on the free plan**, a text message will be sent to your emergency contacts saying that you have missed your check-in.
- **If you're on the paid plan**, a Snug dispatcher will call your cell phone to make sure you're ok. If you don't pick up, they will leave a voicemail with a callback number. Then they will call each of your contacts, in order. If you have still not checked in, and the dispatcher does not have confirmation that one of your emergency contacts will check on you, they will request a wellness check to your cell phone's last known location.



*Daily
check-in
partner
for people
who live
alone*



Lectio Divina - A Spiritual Practice to Savor

-by Lisa Miller,
Bookkeeper of LEAD

Right now, in this moment and in this place, God has something to say to us!

If you have not already heard of the practice of *Lectio Divina*, this is a personal prayer experience — a mingling of reading and prayer; the stories and texts of the Bible meet us in our own life stories. This is about a personal encounter with the heart of God!



Karl Rahner, the German Jesuit priest and theologian, claims that Christians must be mystics: “God” must be an experience before “God” can be a word. Unless God is an experience, “whatever words we might use for the Divine will be without content, like road signs pointing nowhere.” If you want to use words for God, make sure that these words are preceded by, or at least coming out of, an experience that is your own.

Lectio Divina, when done well, is a brilliant method for *experiencing* God! It’s a contemplative prayer form that literally means “holy reading.” *Lectio* assumes that God is present and in the present, that God will inspire our attention, and that God is indeed already praying in us and through us. In a group setting, this is how the process starts:

Choose a brief text of the Scriptures or perhaps a hymn you wish to pray. It makes no difference which text is chosen, as long as you have no set goal of “covering” a certain amount of text. The amount of text covered is in God’s hands, not yours.

Reading (*Lectio*)—taking a bite: Turn to the text and read it aloud slowly, gently. Savor each portion of the reading, constantly listening for the “still, small voice” of a word or phrase that somehow says, “I am for you today.” Do not expect lightning or ecstasies. In *Lectio Divina*, God is teaching us to listen, to see God in silence. God does not reach out and grab us but gently invites us ever more

deeply into God’s presence. Listen for a word or phrase that seems to jump out and be noticed. Read the text aloud again a second time and enter into a moment of silence. Afterward, invite others to share the question: *What is the word addressed to me today?*

Reflecting (*Meditatio*)—chewing: Read over the passage — aloud — again, and take that word or phrase into yourself. Slowly repeat it to yourself,

allowing it to interact with your inner world of concerns, memories, and ideas. Do not be afraid of distractions. Memories or thoughts are simply parts of yourself that, when they rise up during *Lectio Divina*, are asking to be given to God along with the rest of your inner self. Allow this inner pondering, this rumination, to invite you into dialogue with God. After a moment of silence, invite sharing on these questions: *How does this passage touch my life today? How does it make me feel?*

Responding (*Oratio*)—savoring: Announce the 3rd question: *Is there an invitation here for me?* Read the passage aloud for a final time. Spend as much time as you need praying and reflecting on God’s invitation to you. Whether you use words, ideas, or images—or all three—is not important. Interact with God as you would with one who you know loves and accepts you. Give to God what you have discovered during your experience of meditation. Give to God what you have found within your heart. After reading the text, enter into a longer silence. Invite sharing. *Is there an invitation here for me? (Is God calling you to be or to do something this week? Is the Spirit nudging a response within you?)*

Finally, go and do likewise! As holy longing takes over, there is simply a pouring out of love and desire. This feeling will be a unique experience for each person. Be patient, and do not be discouraged if it does not happen each time you do *Lectio Divina*. ✠✠✠

Can’t pray? First rest!

Weariness can seriously hamper our attempts to pray, says Bonnie Gray, author of *Whispers of Rest*. “We are a generation who doesn’t know how to express our souls to God, even though we drive ourselves exhausted, doing for Jesus.” The solution, she says, is to stop and rest.

The stressed-out, despairing prophet in 1 Kings 19 is a prime example. “God knew Elijah needed physical rejuvenation first — in order to hear his gentle voice, whispering in a gentle breeze,” Gray notes. Guarding against the depletion of spiritual, physical and emotional resources can improve our ability to hear God’s voice, too. “When you find it’s hard to pray, don’t be afraid,” says Gray. “You’re standing at the very cusp of who God longs to connect with. The real you. Take the time to rest. You’re worth it.”

The TLC Bulletin Board



To have God in our life doesn't mean sailing on a boat with no storms, It means having a boat that no storm can sink.

—Anonymous



Our Weekly Online Gatherings

You can join any of these gatherings by **computer** or by **telephone**.

- By computer, go to <https://zoom.us/join> and enter the meeting ID
- By phone, dial (301) 715-8592 and enter the meeting ID.

You may be put into a "waiting room," but you will then join the meeting.

Bible Study:

Thursdays at 2pm

Meeting ID for all of the above:

402 615 714.



i'm not a procrastinator



i just prefer doing all my work in a deadline-induced panic

invisiblebread.com

There will be no council meeting in August.



Caring Callers

Caring Callers provide a vital role in the life of our church. Members who are homebound, ill, or are just not able to join us regularly on Sunday can often feel cut off from our family.

Maintaining a relationship with these members, whether taking them communion or just taking the time to visit with them can go a long way to helping them feel connected. Trinity Lutheran needs volunteers who have the time and desire to serve in this important role. If you are interested in becoming a caring caller please reach out to Pastor Paul!

Caring Callers



We are grateful for all our caring callers that continue to devote time and make a difference in people's lives and in the community.

TLC Pantry News



We continue to provide bagged lunches on Fridays from 9:30-11:30, when we also provide hygiene and clothing items to those who can use them.

Thank you to everyone who helps in this effort — whether it be by assisting with distribution on Friday mornings, or by donating food or other items for the effort.

God be with you always,
TLC Pantry Volunteers



— Summer — time to stand and stare

What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows.
No time to see, when woods we pass,
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.
No time to see, in broad daylight,
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.
No time to turn at Beauty's glance,
And watch her feet, how they can dance.
No time to wait till her mouth can
Enrich that smile her eyes began.
A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.

—"Leisure," W.H. Davies

Safe and secure

The Resurrection is an exploding flare announcing to all sincere seekers that it is safe to believe. Safe to believe in ultimate justice. Safe to believe in eternal bodies. Safe to believe in heaven as our estate and the earth as its porch. Safe to believe in a time where questions won't keep us awake and pain won't keep us down. Safe to believe in open graves and endless days and genuine praise. ...

Because of the Resurrection, everything changes. Death changes. It used to be the end; now it is the beginning.

—Max Lucado, *When Christ Comes*

SOMETIMES THE MOST
IMPORTANT THING IN A
WHOLE DAY IS THE REST
WE TAKE BETWEEN TWO
DEEP BREATHS.

God's Work. Our Hands.

On **Sunday, Sept. 11**, congregations of the ELCA will join together for "God's work. Our hands." Sunday, our annual day of service.

This is an opportunity for us to celebrate who we are as Lutherans to serve and love our neighbor.

We need someone to take the lead on identifying a service project for our congregation. It can be a project that serves the community, the church, or even just one individual — anything you like — the opportunities are endless. If this is something that interests you, please reach out to a member of the council and let us know, we look forward to hearing from you!

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Sept. 11
2022

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Carol Bertoluzzi



I was born and raised in St. Petersburg. My Parents were married here at Trinity Lutheran Church in 1950 and my brother was baptized here. When I was born we went to Redeemer Lutheran Church as it was just being built and closer to our house. I went to church almost every Sunday of my life with my parents.

After High School I got in the travel business. I was a travel agent for 14 years, then worked in sales for a tour operator for the Caribbean. I always wanted to be a flight attendant and did so for 1 week (that's a long story if anyone wants to ask me). Then I worked 10 years for The Cayman Islands Dept. of Tourism (out of my house). I did sales calls to all the travel agents for most the state of Florida and other states when needed. I wined and dined the travel agents and took them on trips to The Cayman Islands. After 9/11 I lost that job and the travel business was forever changed as I knew it. But I was lucky to have traveled the world.

My parents had an adventure for travel and I know that's where I got mine. Wherever they drove their camper van, I would fly out and meet them, even when they took the summer and drove to Alaska.

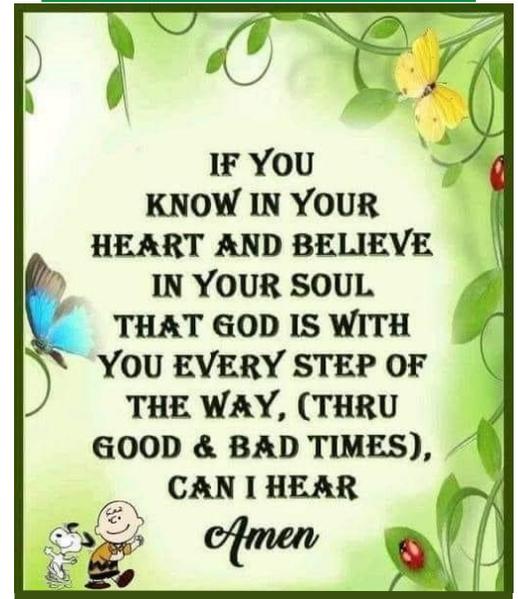
I then got a job with The St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce in sales and marketing. That was a fun job doing all the grand openings and ribbon cuttings. However, I got fired 3 times in my 5 years working for them (that's another story if you want to ask me).

Then it was time for me to start helping out with my parents. My mom moved into a nursing home and my dad and I visited her every day up until the pandemic. I go every day now to help feed her lunch and dinner. On Sundays I go help feed her breakfast before I come to church, then back for lunch and dinner. Dad and I have a plaque on the wall for all the volunteer work we have done there. And as you know my Dad passed in Oct. of 2020.

And here I am at Trinity where it all began with a wedding and a merger of two churches.



Be Like Bert!



Hello Trinity family,
I wanted to let you know that you'll see me in a more active role during the month of August.

Pastor Sharon Dorr will be the supply pastor and I will be assisting her. Pastor Dorr and I have known each other for over 15 years. We were both members of Prince of Peace before she went to seminary. She was Pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church and when our family became members of Redeemer, Sharon Dorr was my first mentor. She directed me to the opportunities available for lay people. Her guidance and encouragement led me to my talk with God on where my path should continue. May the church services she leads will be valuable to your spiritual growth.

Blessings and God's grace to you,

Deacon Lynne

Did you know the first French fries weren't actually cooked in France?

They were cooked in Greece

SERVING THIS MONTH

Volunteers are always welcome!

Please Contact: Ushers/Greeters: Lisa Johnson
 Lectors: Pr. Paul Gibson
 Flower Sponsors: Leah Heinicke

08/07 Ushers/Greeters: Barb, Janet, Lisa, Violet
 Lector: Teresa Zeoli
 Altar Flower Sponsor: Leah Heinicke—IHO the 50th anniversary
 of Pr. Tom's ordination

08/14 Ushers/Greeters: Carol, Lynne, Matthew, Alan
 Lector: Paul McKay
 Altar Flower Sponsor: Trudy Daniels—IHO Greg's birthday

08/21 Ushers/Greeters: Barb, Janet, Lisa, Violet
 Lector: Ruth Kinsey
 Altar Flower Sponsor: (open)

08/28 Ushers/Greeters: Carol, Arlene, Lisa, Alan
 Lector: Daryl Stewart
 Altar Flower Sponsor: (open)



Welcome
 Our *New*
 Members

These folks have been worshipping with us for a while, and have recently become OFFICIAL members. Their contact information has been added to our online church directory — pictures to be added soon!

- Nina All & Mike Scholz
 7757 62nd Way N, Apt A
 Pinellas Park, FL 33781
 Nina: 727-678-1344 tryitfirst05@hotmail.com
 Mike: 216-280-7206 scholzmike605@gmail.com
- Kim Snyder & Teresa Zeoli
 730 31st St N
 St. Petersburg, FL 33713
 Kim: 727-643-9997 ppangel101@aol.com
 Teresa: 727-410-6588 tezeoli@aol.com



Besides being known for his proverbs about wise living, King Solomon was knowledgeable in other fields, including which of the following?

- zoology, including ornithology and ichthyology
- botany
- herpetology
- songwriting
- A and C
- B and D
- All of the above



Answer: G (See 1 Kings 4:29-34.)

AUGUST 2022 Birthdays

- 08/04** Bruce Paige
- 08/05** Doris Bertoluzzi
- 08/07** Shirley Tyler
- 08/12** Greg Daniels
- 08/16** Toni Durilla
- 08/16** Philip Portman
- 08/20** Dominic Stevenson
- 08/21** Matthew Reitz
- 08/27** Barbara Macomb
- 08/28** Kim Forcino
- 08/30** Anne Harman
- 08/31** Tyra Humphrey

Anniversaries

- 08/17** Clark Leips & Barbara
- 08/21** David & Susan Amann
- 08/24** Tom & Marty Snapp



CHANGE OF ADDRESS



Jacque Bishop is moving to the *Peterborough Apartments* on **Aug 15th!** For those of you who use our online directory, the address will be updated there for you on the 15th. For any of you who use some other method of recording addresses, here is the new address:

Jacque Bishop
 440 4th Ave N, Apt 206
 St. Petersburg, FL 33701-2830

She also has a new cell phone number:
 727-272-5537

Bible Quiz

Trinity Lutheran Church Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10a Worship Service 11a Fellowship Hour	Aug 1 10:30a Celebration of Life—Pat Kapfhammer	2	3	4	5 9:30a TLC Pantry	6
7 10a Worship Service 11a Fellowship Hour Celebrating the 50th anniversary of Pr. Tom's Ordination.	8	9	10 9a Bert's Breakfast Buddies 11:30a Community Meal	11	12 9:30a TLC Pantry	13 10a Cong Bkfst at The Frog Pond 890 3rd Ave S
14 10a Worship Service 11a Fellowship Hour	15 6p Council Meeting	16	17 9a Bert's Breakfast Buddies 11:30a Community Meal	18	19 9:30a TLC Pantry	20 Sep Newsletter Deadline
21 10a Worship Service 11a Fellowship Hour 1p Fleet Reserve	22	23	24 9a Bert's Breakfast Buddies 11:30a Community Meal	25	26 9:30a TLC Pantry	27 8am-12pm TLC Rummage Sale (VHFH)
28 10a Worship Service 11a Fellowship Hour	29	30	31 9a Bert's Breakfast Buddies 11:30a Community Meal	Sep 1	2	3

Choir and Bell Choir mid-week practices resume this week. Look for more information via email or text from Brenden!

**Church office hours:
Monday -Thursday
9 am - 3 pm**



Online Worship and Meetings

¹All church meetings now use the same Zoom link.
 To participate by computer, go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/402615714>
 To participate by phone, dial (301)715-8592 and enter meeting ID: 402 615 714.

We are livestreaming our worship services on Facebook:
 They are uploaded to our YouTube channel on the following business day
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVa-kol4fUtz65ttLjxD2Ng>
 Links can also be found on our website: <https://trinitylutheranstpete.org/outreach/worship/>