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

The Lord will fulfill his purpose for [us]; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. (Psalm 138:8)

On August 4 of last year, the Merger Task Force presented a report and recommendations to the Congregation Councils of Trinity and Hope. The Task Force had been asked by the members of the congregations to determine if a blending of their members and resources was feasible and, if so, to make a recommendation of how that blending might take place.

As a result of surveys and meetings with the members, a review of documents, and inspections of both properties, the Task Force determined that such a blending should take place in what is described as a congregational merger. Hope would cease to exist as a congregation of our denomination; Trinity would absorb their members and their financial assets.

Because both congregations had rapidly diminishing financial resources, the recommendation of the Task Force was that Trinity's older property should be sold, and the merged congregation make Hope's property on 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North their new home. This idea had poetic symmetry—both congregations were making sacrifices for the sake of a future together. The members of Trinity would sacrifice a beautiful and historic sanctuary; the members of Hope would sacrifice their identity and their independence.

Hope's Congregation Council received the report and recommendations of the Task Force with a mix of sadness and relief; their biggest fear about the possibility of a merger had been the loss of the memorial garden on their property, in which many of their members and loved ones were interred.

I described the reaction of Trinity's Council in a newsletter article I wrote last November: "For a few members of the council, it was a pleasant surprise; they expressed either an excitement about the possibilities proposed or a resignation to what seemed a necessary sacrifice for the long-term future of the congregations. The majority of the council was not able to entertain the recommendations of the task force. Some could not imagine losing the only physical congregational home that they had ever known; others sincerely

*believed that a downtown location was the best option for Trinity's future. Even though they would not support the recommendations of the task force, they recognized that the decision lay with the congregation."*

The report and recommendations were shared with the voting members of both congregations; they received them in much the same way as the councils. A resolution was drafted. Congregational meetings were called, then rescheduled. The resolution didn't receive enough votes in both congregations for adoption.

On November 17, 2024, special congregational meetings were held at both churches to vote on a modified resolution to merge without making any decisions about selling or retaining properties: "Be it resolved that the members of Trinity Lutheran Church and Hope Lutheran Church will merge to become one congregation that retains the name of Trinity." This resolution received enough votes in both congregations, so that we could begin the legal process of merging two Florida not-for-profit corporations into one and the ELCA's process of merging two congregations into one.

This vote brought the responsibilities of the merger task force to an end, but their report and recommendations are still available for study. In my opinion, their plan continues to be the only viable path forward that anyone has presented.

Both congregations held their annual congregational meeting at the end of January; at those meetings, I said the following, which was also printed in a newsletter article: "I do not regret how the recommendations of the task force were presented to the congregations. I know it caused some distress, but I believe we are at a point in our congregational life when some distress is actually necessary. There is nothing wrong with conflict when it is held in a context of Christian patience and humility. A lack of agreement about a vision of the future is constructive, as long as we can hold onto our unity of purpose and our bonds of friendship and love. My goal has always been to preserve the legacies of two faith communities for decades to come. These legacies are not trapped within buildings; they live in the decades of ministry and

(Pr. Paul—Continued on page 5)

**TRINITY COURIER**  
*Come As You Are, Grow to Serve!*

## 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  
Gretchen Frederick, Events Planner

### Council Members

Trudy Daniels, President  
Alan Due, Vice President  
Helen Mowrer, Treasurer  
Karen Potts, Recording Secretary  
Joe Haynsworth  
Violet Prepost  
Lynne Tallon  
Pastor Paul Gibson

## Hope Lutheran Church

Paul Gibson, Pastor  
Ross Kimura, Organist and  
Director of Music  
Angie Pryor, Parish Secretary

### Council Members

Tom Herzhauser, President  
Gary Bartelt, Vice President  
Roma Heystek, Treasurer  
Betty Herzhauser, Education  
Kathy Bartelt, Music, Worship, Arts  
Terri Craig, Thrift Store  
Pat Shipley, Women of Hope  
Ross Kimura  
Angie Pryor, Recording Secretary



## Notes from the Organ Bench(es)

We, the choir and music ministry at Hope Lutheran Church, are preparing for the merger of Trinity and Hope. Hope Music Ministry is a group of talented, passionate, and dedicated people who desire to minister to all who want a place to worship God in Spirit and Truth. We believe in Celebrating in Worship and Praise of our Lord Jesus Christ and giving Him the glory from our hearts and minds. We ask for your continued prayers and thoughts as we unite as a Church.

In His Love,  
*Ross Kimura*

Fall is almost upon us, and it's time for the music program to kick into high gear! Choir will begin meeting at 9:30 on Sunday mornings to work on anthems in addition to our weekly service music. Most importantly (and excitingly), the choirs of Hope and Trinity will soon begin the process of merging! We have lots of details to work out, but the work is worth it. Those of you who have heard the merged choirs sing together know how fantastic of a change this will be. We truly are "more than the sum of our parts". On September 28th at 2:00 P.M. we will have a fundraising concert for the Trinity food pantry! I will be playing piano music from a variety of sources, including:

- Classical
- Jazz
- Film
- Video Games
- Hymns

I'm very excited to share this music with you, and raise money for the fantastic work that the TLC pantry does. The concert is free, with a \$20 suggested donation. Tell ALL your friends!

- *Brenden Hall*

## Notes from The Events Desk...

Last week I noticed an almost imperceptible breeze after one of our torrential rains. It didn't last long, but it was enough. "Ah," I said. "Autumn is coming!"

As we finish up these dog days of summer, let's celebrate last month's awesome in-gathering of school supplies! Can you imagine what school supplies and clothing are for a family witnessing \$9.00 for a dozen eggs??!! Well, because of your generosity, at least some of those families will be able to breathe a little easier. Thanks to both congregations for their godly hearts and generous giving. Such a simple way to do good!

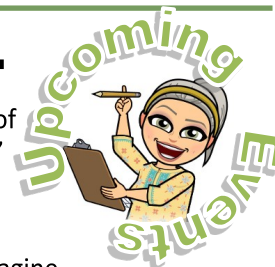
For the month of **September**, our designated outreach will be items for the Trinity Food Programs. Our support is necessary as the number of patrons for Friday's sack lunch continues to increase. At present, average attendance for the Friday sack lunch is 125 people, (500 per month!).

Needed items include:

- creamy peanut butter --grape jelly
- fruit cups --applesauce cups
- peanut butter sandwich crackers (such as Lance brand 6 to a pack)

For our Wednesday hot meal, the food is provided by Metropolitan Ministries, but

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# Amazing Grace

"Amazing Grace" is a Christian hymn written in 1772 and published in 1779 by English Anglican clergyman and poet John Newton (1725–1807). It is possibly the most sung and most recorded hymn in the world.

Newton wrote the words from personal experience; he grew up without any particular religious conviction, but his life's path was formed by a variety of twists and coincidences that were often put into motion by others' reactions to what they took as his recalcitrant insubordination. He was pressed into service with the Royal Navy, and after leaving the service, he became involved in the Atlantic slave trade. In 1748, a violent storm battered his vessel off the coast of County Donegal, Ireland, so severely that he called out to God for mercy. While this moment marked his spiritual conversion, he continued slave trading until 1754 or 1755, when he ended his seafaring altogether. Newton began studying Christian theology and later became an abolitionist.

Ordained in the Church of England in 1764, Newton became the curate of Olney, Buckinghamshire, where he began to write hymns with poet William Cowper. "Amazing Grace" was written to illustrate a sermon on New Year's Day of 1773. It is unknown if there was any music accompanying the verses; it may have been chanted by the congregation.

It debuted in print in 1779 in Newton's and Cowper's Olney Hymns, but settled into relative obscurity in England. In the United States, "Amazing Grace" became a popular song especially in the American South, during the Second Great Awakening of the early 19th century. It has been associated with more than 20 melodies. In 1835, American composer William Walker set it to the tune known as "New Britain" in a shape note format; this is the version most frequently sung today.

With the message that forgiveness and redemption are possible regardless of sins committed and that the soul can be delivered from despair through the mercy of God, "Amazing Grace" is one of the most recognizable songs in the English-speaking world.

It has had particular influence in folk music, and has become an emblematic black spiritual. Its universal message has been a significant factor in its crossover into secular music. "Amazing Grace" became newly popular during the 1960s revival of American folk music, and it has been recorded thousands of times during and since the 20th century.



The New Testament served as the basis for many of the lyrics of "Amazing Grace". The first verse, for example, can be traced to the story of the Prodigal Son. In the Gospel of Luke the father says, "For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost, and is found". The story of Jesus healing a blind man who tells the Pharisees that he can now see is told

in the Gospel of John. Newton used the words "I was blind but now I see" and declared "Oh to grace how great a debtor!" in his letters and diary entries as early as 1752. The effect of the lyrical arrangement, according to Bruce Hindmarsh, allows an instant release of energy in the exclamation "Amazing grace!", to be followed by a qualifying reply in "how sweet the sound". In An Annotated Anthology of Hymns, Newton's use of an exclamation at the beginning of his verse is called "crude but effective" in an overall composition that "suggest(s) a forceful, if simple, statement of faith". Grace is recalled three times in the following verse, culminating in Newton's most personal story of his conversion, underscoring the use of his personal testimony with his parishioners.

1. Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch; like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found  
Was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!
3. The Lord hath promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.
4. When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun.



## Trinity Council Highlights

### Notes from Council Meeting on 07/22/25

Property Team: Revenues received from our parking lot so far: \$2554.72

Application for Historic Landmark status: has been approved by the CPPC and will be forwarded to St. Petersburg City Council for action at their meeting on 08/21/25. There was a request to have the application placed on hold, due to some interest from a potential buyer who sees the "landmark" status as a complication. This request was refused.

11To Save Grant — We were not awarded this grant. We can apply again next year.

Merger Team: Drafts of the Plan of Merger and proposed Constitution for merged congregation have been completed and were presented to council on 07/22/25 — they will be shared with the congregation for review. Some council members expressed the concern that the documents need careful review before moving forward. Discussion sessions will be held on Sundays at 12:45 at Trinity and Mondays at 4:00pm at Hope so that this careful review can be accommodated.

Stewardship Team: "Online Giving" cards have been placed in pew pockets and are currently being used.

Congregational Life Team: Members of the team are calling individuals who have been out for 2 or more weeks and are bringing communion to members on request.

Outreach Team: The call for school supplies went well. Our next outreach goal will be to support the food pantry. There has been a suggestion of creating an online "wish list" for pantry needs (i.e. amazon).

Vacant Council Seats: There is currently a vacant council seat (open since the resignation of Paul/Jan Frakes). There was some discussion about whether this seat should be filled by recruitment/appointment at this time, or if it would be more appropriate to allow the seat to remain vacant (with the anticipated merger, the size of the council will need to be reduced, anyway.)

Next meeting: 08/18/25 (was postponed... has not yet taken place)

## Hope Council Highlights

Highlights from the July 8 Council Meeting

**Opening Devotion:** Betty Herzhauser opened the meeting with a quick devotion inspired by her yoga teacher.

### Worship, Music, Arts – K Bartelt & R Kimura

Let's use up the communion wafers we have in stock before we merge.

Choir is off for the summer—back 3rd week in August. Sound system is mostly working well; monitors & keyboard still have issues

### Treasurer's Report – Roma Heystek:

Tom shared the insurance declaration page from Brown & Brown. We have not yet received the bill. Roma shared we are up to date with the bills and she would like to put the solar monies we have received into the bank to earn interest. General Accounting has requested access to our QuickBooks data. No action taken at this time.

### Food Pantry – Kathy Bartelt

Donations to the pantry were shared with St. Vincent de Paul this past week because the pantry was closed on July 4th. Mary has been picking up food from Wawa to help out Terri — this past weekend she picked up 180 pounds of food.

### Facilities and Maintenance – Gary Bartelt

The AC motor (roof) for the Narthex was replaced. The preschool AC was fixed for about \$150 (float valve). Their roof was repaired for \$900. The sanctuary roof was fixed under warranty. Kitchen is being spot treated for termites (no recent activity noted). Water fountain replacement is currently on hold. Parking lot has drainage issues to be addressed.

Bee removal process takes about 3 wks.

### Pastor's Report – Pastor Paul Gibson

Applied for V2A grant for Dinner Church; \$10k grant to give community church around the dinner table.

Constitution review completed, now set to work on bylaws and merger plan. When constitution is ratified, we are considered merged. We should plan meetings for congregational review.

Continue passing the plate in the services. We will create "I give online/prayer request" cards for people to place in the plate.

### Congregational Life & Thrift Store – Pat Shipley

The brunches for father's day and after worship with Trinity went well. Thrift store is now \$3013 for the year—now accepting credit cards through Vanco! Christmas in July sale scheduled for 7/26, fast approaching!

Angie will research getting banners for the Christmas in July sale and possibly double-sided to include Trunk or Treat.

### Additional Items of Interest:

- Trinity's landmark status request is in the works, hearing today (Jul 8th). If approved the sanctuary building could be sold, but not torn down nor the exterior altered.
- The owner of the Hollander wants to build a high rise and tear down all the buildings on the north side of the block. Hearing on this is Thursday.

- CommUNITY Room: Friday (07/11) is our monthly dinner; Next Friday (07/18) is movie night.
- New Spectrum modem installed. Angie will pursue options for lowering the bill.
- Angie will be off the week of 8/28 (moving)
- Celebration of Life service for Joanne Johnston is being planned.

### Next Council Meetings:

- Aug 12, 2025 @ 10:00 AM  
(This meeting took place, but notes are not yet available)
- Sep 9, 2025 @ 10:00 AM



(Pr. Paul—Continued from page 1)

outreach that both congregations have offered and can continue to offer to the city of Saint Petersburg.”

Earlier this year, both councils appointed people to serve on a task force charged with drafting a constitution for the merged congregation. Tom and Betty Herzhauser, Leah Heinicke, Lynne Tallon, and I have been meeting regularly with Matthew Brockmeier, a former secretary of the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the ELCA who has experience understanding and drafting constitutions for congregations and is a member of St Paul’s Lutheran Church, Clearwater.

The office of the synod’s lawyer, George Rahdert, sent us the first draft of a “Plan of Merger.” It states that, while Hope will cease to be an independent ELCA congregation, as it might be the named the beneficiary of money in the future, it will need to continue as a not-for-profit corporation in the State of Florida. The Plan states how this will be accomplished and how the two church councils and the financial assets and liabilities of both congregations will be blended into one.

The Constitution Task Force completed their draft of a proposed constitution and their revisions to the “Plan of Merger” document. Both documents have been sent to synod staff for review, and both have been shared with the members of the congregations. I’ve spent the past month holding “Constitution Conversations” to address questions and concerns about the documents and to draft a new mission statement for the merged congregation.

It is my belief that we will soon be ready to call Special Congregational Meetings, at which these documents will be ratified and the blending of our two congregations accomplished.

Your brother in Christ,  
- Pr. Paul

(Events—Continued from page 2)

the paper goods and drinks are not. They are currently serving 80+ people each week (that’s at least 320 people a month!). As it is easier for their staff to do their own purchasing, if you’d like to contribute financially to them, just use our QR code for online giving or pop a donation into one of the pew envelopes and mark it “Wednesday hot meal”.

To wrap up our September ingathering, please mark your calendars for Sunday, September 28, for a benefit concert, “MERCY MATTERS”, to be held in the Trinity sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. The concert is being presented by Brenden’s non-profit organization, Music Makes It Happen. The suggested donation is \$20.00, with proceeds going to the food pantries of Trinity and Hope.

Our **October** outreach will be “Undies Sunday”, to be held on Sunday, October 26. The greatest need is men’s underwear, all sizes. It is no secret that underwear can be rather expensive, but remember, you can buddy-up with a friend to share the expense. It’s so much more affordable that way. If a financial donation works better for you, you can make a donation online, or put a check in the collection plate and just mark it for the pantry. Any amount you give will be put to the very best use by our pantry volunteers. If you haven’t been down to the pantry in a while, do stop by and see the remarkable work that has been done. It is awe-inspiring to see what our dedicated volunteers do every week to care, comfort, and feed God’s people. Not only is the pantry looking spiffy, but Kathy and Julie have searched out new partnerships and alliances to improve and expand services the pantry can provide. Please, consider being a volunteer yourself. It really is remarkable work and they can sure use you.

**November** and **December** already have activities on the calendar, and as we look forward to the merger with Hope, some of our events may merge as well. This holiday season I hope we can quiet our minds, heal our hurts, put earthly opinions aside, and welcome our growing family. Let’s re-focus for a while...after all, Mary had a baby boy! We’ve got a lot of celebrating to do!

Be  
Like  
Bert



?? ?

### Bible Quiz

? ??

For years, King David showed special kindness to the son of King Saul’s son Jonathan, because David and Jonathan had been dear friends. Which of the following statements is not accurate?

- A. The name of King Saul’s grandson was Mephibosheth.
- B. He was lame in both feet.
- C. His feet had been injured when he was 5.
- D. He was injured while playing with his brothers.



Answer: D (See 2 Samuel 4:4; 9:1-7; 21:7.)

## Christian Symbol:



**ALTAR** — This central furnishing in a Christian worship space is usually large, with a solid front

that may be decorated with symbols or words. The flat surface, often covered with a cloth, is where the Communion elements are prepared and placed, reminding us of Jesus’ sacrifice as the Lamb of God. In some churches, the altar looks more like a table, with open legwork. We remember that Jesus invites us into fellowship with God now and to the heavenly banquet for eternity. We place offerings on the altar to symbolize our sacrificial response to God’s redeeming love.



Bob Skidmore has been a member of Trinity since 1950 when his mother Kaethe Skidmore moved the family from NJ to Florida due to Bob's health issues. The late James Skidmore was his older brother. Bob was an acolyte and was confirmed at Trinity by pastor Henry Kahlenberg. In 1961 Bob graduated from St. Petersburg High School. He attended SPJC. In 1964 Bob graduated at "top of class" from the RCA Institutes Broadcasting Studio School in NYC and was immediately employed by RKO General – WOR broadcasting. Prior to leaving WOR he set up the White House News Bureau for RKO General Broadcasting. In 1974 Bob returned to St. Pete to co-found Media Concepts, Inc., the first video production & video products distributor in the Tampa Bay area. Upon his return he joined Trinity's church council under the leadership of Rev. Priit Rebane. During these years and to the present Bob publishes a monthly syndicated column known as "THE GADGETEER", available in various publications including Trinity's, and the Web. He has been a freelance writer for the ST. PETERSBURG TIMES, nka TAMPA BAY TIMES, where he was also employed prior to his broadcasting career. Bob was married at Trinity to Vickie Skidmore in 2000. In 2008 he retired from Media Concepts, but continues to write his column and act has a business consultant.

## Honoring the Gift of Work



The Bible affirms both the value and dignity of work. From the beginning, God placed Adam in the garden "to work it and keep it" (Genesis 2:15, ESV). In the fourth commandment, we are reminded not only to observe the Sabbath, but also to labor diligently throughout the week: "Six days you shall labor, and do all your work" (Exodus 20:9, ESV).

Work is more than a routine obligation; it is an opportunity to engage our God-given abilities in meaningful ways. Whether using our hands, minds, or hearts, we reflect the image of our Creator—bringing order, care, and creativity into the world.

Our labor allows us to contribute to the common good, find personal fulfillment, and practice faithful stewardship of the talents and strengths God has entrusted to us. As Paul writes, "We are God's fellow workers" (1 Corinthians 3:9, ESV).

On this Labor Day, may we take time to recognize the blessing of work and celebrate those who serve, build, teach, lead, and labor with purpose and care.

—Author unknown

## Why the Bible?



Starting in September, our Wednesday evening class will be called "Why the Bible?"

This four- to six-week class will explore all of the "whys" of the Bible. Why we read it. Why we don't

read it. Why we prefer some parts of it to others. Why we disagree about it. Why it was written in the first place. Why some ancient writings are included and others aren't. Why it is and is not read literally. Why it is so important to Lutherans.

## God's Left Hand

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. "Look at the gorgeous leaves!" Grandma exclaimed. "Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!"

"Yep," said her grandson, "and he did it left-handed."

Perplexed, Grandma asked, "Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?"

"Because," said the boy matter-of-factly, "we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's right one."

## The Gift of Music



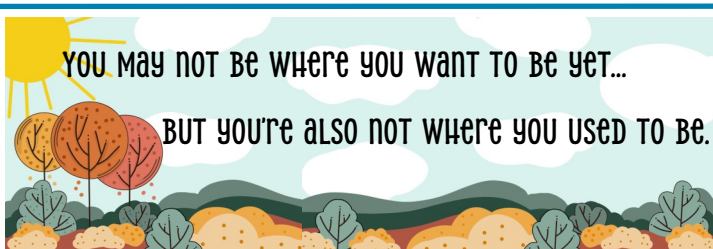
I wish to see all arts, principally music, in the service of Him who gave and created them.

Music is a fair and glorious gift from God. I would not forego my

humble share of music. Singers are never sorrowful, but are merry, and they smile through their troubles in song.

Music makes people kinder, gentler, more staid and reasonable. I am persuaded that after theology, music is the only art capable of affording peace and joy of heart ... the devil flees before the sound of music almost as much as before the Word of God.

—Martin Luther





## Notable Happenings

9:30am services are held at 1801 62nd Ave N; 11am services are held at 401 5th St N

Service	Lectors	Communion Assistants	Altar Flower Sponsors
09/07	9:30 Gary Bartelt		(open for sponsorship)
	11:00	Combined service at Hope — No 11am service	
09/14	9:30 Lou Carter		The people of Hope—to the glory of God
	11:00 Marty Snapp	Alan Due	(open for sponsorship)
09/21	9:30 Terri Craig		Donna Watson—IHO mother's bday (21st), John's bday (24th)
	11:00 Lynne Tallon	Paul Frakes, Ruth Kinsey	(open for sponsorship)
09/28	9:30 (not yet assigned)		(open for sponsorship)
	11:00 Stephen Hewitt	Violet Prepost, Phil Rearick	(open for sponsorship)



### Birthdays



08/01 Ernie Graetz  
08/06 Jackie Gusdal  
08/08 Adam Scott  
08/11 Joe Melancon  
08/11 Anxley Miles  
08/12 Alex Bradford  
08/12 Greg Daniels  
08/14 Avery Jones  
08/16 Toni Durilla  
08/16 Philip Portman  
08/18 Kathryn Gill  
08/21 Matthew Reitz  
08/21 Ann Yodjas  
08/27 Barb Macomb  
08/28 Mary Bairam  
08/28 Kimberly Forcino  
08/31 Tyra Humphrey

09/01 Kaylin McAlexander  
09/01 Ava Jones  
09/04 Joann Hagberg  
09/06 Griffin Klema  
09/08 Amari Hamilton  
09/08 Amy Reedy  
09/08 Shirley Taylor  
09/09 William Bartelt  
09/10 Violet Prepost  
09/14 Cindy Mueller  
09/14 Nicholas Ryan Shipley  
09/15 Serenity Kabotsky  
09/16 Adair Hamilton  
09/18 David McNeilly  
09/19 Andrea Chambers  
09/19 Bob Sockrider  
09/20 Charlotte Nolan  
09/21 Lisa Johnson  
09/23 Sheila Johnson  
09/25 Isabella Laureano  
09/25 Helen Mowrer  
09/26 Trudy Daniels  
09/26 Justin Fitzpatrick  
09/27 Donna Watson  
09/28 Paul Frakes  
09/28 Robert Hamilton  
09/30 Ross Kimura  
09/30 Nicole Reedy

### Other Observances

09/01 Labor Day  
09/07 Nat'l Grandparents Day  
09/11 Patriots Day  
9/15—10/15 Hispanic Heritage Month  
09/22 First Day of Autumn

### Bible Quiz

Timothy was a young man who became a trusted companion and co-worker of the apostle Paul. Which of the following statements is *not* accurate?

- A. Timothy's mother and grandmother taught him the Scriptures.
- B. Paul considered Timothy his spiritual son.
- C. Timothy was born in Rome and raised as a Roman citizen.
- D. Paul wrote two New Testament letters addressed to Timothy.



Answer: C (See Acts 16:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:5; 1 Timothy 1:2)

### Anniversaries



08/01 Pauline & Joe Melanco  
08/11 Jan & Paul Frakes  
08/24 Marty & Tom Snapp  
08/31 Christina & Jeremy Kilburn  
09/04 Cheri & Bill Heath  
09/05 Karen & Frank Denniston  
09/25 Kristie & Jivany Laureano

### Christian Symbol:



**BURNING BUSH** — In Exodus 3, God speaks to Moses from a bush that is burning but not consumed. When Moses asks what he should say if the Egyptians questions who sent him to lead the Israelites out

of slavery, God states, "I AM WHO I AM." Centuries later, when people wonder who Jesus is, his answers hint at his divinity: "I AM the light of the world; I AM the good shepherd; I AM the bread of life" and, perhaps most profoundly, "Before Abraham was, I AM" (John 8:58). On Pentecost, God's Holy Spirit comes upon the apostles as fire. Thus the burning bush is a powerful symbol of God's presence echoed through time.





# SEPTEMBER



# Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>31</div> <div>+</div> <div>May Grant Appli</div> <div>8:50am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Service</div> <div>11am Worship S</div> <div>12pm Fellowship</div>	<div>Sep 1</div> <div>Church Offices C</div> <div>Labor Day</div>	<div>2</div> <div>JL planning retreat</div>	<div>3</div> <div>11:30am Hot Lui</div> <div>6pm Faith 2 Life</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div> <div>9:30am TLC Par</div> <div>9:30am Food Pa</div> <div>6pm First Friday</div>	<div>6</div> <div>9am Thrift Store</div>
<div>7</div> <div>Gods work. Our I</div> <div>Gods work. Our I</div> <div>8:50am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Service</div> <div>11am Worship S</div> <div>12pm Fellowship</div>	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div>10am Council</div>	<div>10</div> <div>11:30am Hot Lui</div> <div>6pm Faith 2 Life</div>	<div>11</div> <div>6pm Grace Fam</div> <div>7pm Choir</div>	<div>12</div> <div>9:30am TLC Par</div> <div>9:30am Food Pa</div>	<div>13</div> <div>9am Thrift Store</div> <div>10am Congrega</div>
<div>14</div> <div>8:50am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Service</div> <div>11am Worship S</div> <div>12pm Fellowship</div> <div>12:15pm Band o</div>	<div>15</div> <div>5:30pm Council</div>	<div>16</div>	<div>17</div> <div>9am Quilting</div> <div>11:30am Hot Lui</div> <div>6pm Bible 2 Life</div> <div>6pm Faith 2 Life</div>	<div>18</div> <div>7pm Choir</div>	<div>19</div> <div>9:30am TLC Par</div> <div>9:30am Food Pa</div> <div>6pm Film &amp; Fait</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Newsletter dead</div> <div>9am Thrift Store</div>
<div>21</div> <div>8:50am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Service</div> <div>11am Worship S</div> <div>12pm Fellowship</div> <div>1:30pm Fleet Re</div>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div> <div>10:30am ShipBt</div> <div>7pm Meadowlwa</div>	<div>24</div> <div>10am WoH Bible</div> <div>11:30am Hot Lui</div> <div>6pm Faith 2 Life</div>	<div>25</div> <div>6pm Grace Fam</div> <div>7pm Choir</div>	<div>26</div> <div>9:30am TLC Par</div> <div>9:30am Food Pa</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Valerie Tentative</div> <div>9am Thrift Store</div>
<div>28</div> <div>8:50am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Choir W</div> <div>9:30am Service</div> <div>11am Worship S</div> <div>12pm Fellowship</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Conference on Ministry</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>Oct 1</div> <div>Pr. Paul - Vacation</div> <div>11:30am Hot Lui</div> <div>6pm Faith 2 Life</div>	<div>2</div> <div>7pm Choir</div>	<div>3</div> <div>9:30am TLC Par</div> <div>9:30am Food Pa</div>	<div>4</div> <div>9am Thrift Store</div>

Color Codes for events:

- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Hope Lutheran Church
- Other (online, etc.)

Trinity's Online Calendar: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=dHJpbml0eXN0cGV0ZUBnbWFpbC5jb20>

Hope's Online Calendar: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=aG9wZXN0cGV0ZUBnbWFpbC5jb20>