Loved by God, we serve and share Christ’s love with others.

That’s the new mission statement we are weaving into every aspect of our life as Trinity Lutheran Church. It will serve as a guide, reminder, and measure for everything we do: planning, existing programs, worship, serving others, budget planning, relationships with other churches and organizations, committees, and those things not yet imagined or realized.

It’s new, but it’s not; in fact, it’s probably pretty familiar if you think about it. After all, we are people of the gospel, and these words and message are born of the gospel and the Spirit at work in us. It is a sign of thoughtful, prayerful change as we continue to ask and discover what God is calling us to do and be as a congregation committed to doing God’s work in a complex, ever-changing world and community.

There’s no getting around it being a sign of change and growth, and that’s not a bad thing in my mind, especially when it comes to the church and following Jesus.

I’m not quite sure how I came to be at peace with, even embrace, continuous change in life. Alongside my faith, I was probably influenced by growing up in the Central Valley of California. I was fascinated with changing seasons, the growth cycles of vegetables and fruits, the ebb and flow of agricultural workers, the influence of the racial/ethnic mix of people living in Lodi. I noticed when almond or cherry trees died or fell over it wasn’t the end of the world—new trees were planted. Sometimes vineyard owners tore out entire vineyards and replanted them with a different variety of grape. They did it with careful thought, research, imagination, an investment of labor and money, risk, and a deep love for growing grapes and making great wine.

I also learned—through personal experience—that change sometimes comes unannounced, is difficult or even painful; that it involves recovering, forgiveness, and learning from stumbles, failures, and experiments.

If we really believe that God is the wise creator of all that is—humanity, nature, and the universe—then it only makes sense that change, transformation, renewal, and rebirth are part of God’s scheme.

Being open to and proactive about change is a good thing when it helps us stay healthy, alive, nimble, and effective; when it moves us to ask questions of ourselves and the world we live in, immerse ourselves in prayer and God’s Word, imagine the future, and let the Spirit renew us as followers and servants of Jesus.

Loved by God, we serve and share Christ’s love with others. Where will God’s Word, love, and nudging lead us? We’re in a great time to wonder just that, and to move forward with hope and a renewed sense of purpose, reenergized as a congregation that looks beyond our habits, pews, building walls, and property lines. I love that...even though it still makes me a bit nervous.

A prayer focus for this month:

Loving and forgiving God, guide us, open our hearts and minds, teach us, humble us, equip us, and send us to do your work in the world—in both familiar and new ways. Amen
LESSONS AND HYMNS
February 2017

Saturday: Contemporary/Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: Holy Communion at 10:30 a.m.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany - February 4-5, 2017
Altar Color: Green
Readings: Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm: 112:1-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-16; Matthew 5:13-20
Hymns: 511, 715, 712, 501

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany - February 11-12, 2017
Altar Color: Green
Readings: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37
Hymns: 662, 615, 612, 544

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany - February 18-19, 2017
Altar Color: Green
Hymns: 707, 402, 766

Transfiguration of Our Lord - February 25-26, 20167
Altar Color: White
Readings: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9
Hymns: 553, 316, 838, 815

Hymns are from Evangelical Lutheran Worship
COUNCIL NEWS  
January 16, 2017

Council reviewed and approved the minutes from the last meeting.

Council reviewed and approved the Treasurer’s Report.

Council deferred Committee Reports until the next meeting.

Council conducted exit interview with Pastor Schelter.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE IS ON THE WEB

A new feature has been added to the Trinity website recently: Replacing paper forms with electronic requests from the website is available now.

If you have noticed a light out in the church, an emergency exit light out, or a loose pew, you can notify the Property Committee through the website. Through the same location on the website, you can request a special table setup for Fellowship Hall. Reservations for Fellowship Hall still have to be approved by the church office, but you may submit the request through the website also.

Use the following link to get to the webpage: www.trinitydesplaines.org/Property-Contact-Form.html

Property Committee
WELCA includes all women who belong to TRINITY LUTERAN CHURCH. Members are involved in activities through Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, and they also support activities of the church and synod. Please JOIN our circle. It is a great way to make new friends. If you have any questions, please call Beverly Johnson: 847-296-5351.

SAVE THE DATES

NAOMI CIRCLE will meet Monday, February 13, at 1:00 p.m. at Church.

WOMEN OF TRINITY BREAKFAST will be Thursday, February 16, at 9:00 a.m. at Mrs. V’s, 1640 River Road in Des Plaines. Call Beverly Johnson: 847-296-5351 if you plan to attend. Come and bring a friend! It’s an opportunity to meet with other women from Trinity for fellowship and chatting.

Spring Lunch – Saturday, May 6, at 11:30 a.m. (Please note date change.) The program will be ENCORE - Brand Gustus is a member of the group.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
1. WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Friday, March 4, at 9:30 a.m. - First Congregational Church; 766 Graceland Avenue in Des Plaines – Theme is: Am I Being Unfair to You? The program was written by the World Day Committee of The Philippines. Following the worship service there will be a potluck lunch. Also, please bring a non-perishable item for the Des Plaines Self-Help Food Pantry.
2. MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY - Friday, May 5 - Christ Church (pending their approval)
3. WORLD COMMUNITY DAY - Friday, November 3 - Trinity Luther Church
TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER!!!

Ten Rounds of Trivia, Games, Prizes and More!

Friday, February 3rd 2017
Doors open at 6:30pm – Games begin at 7pm

Trinity Lutheran Church
675 E. Algonquin Road, Des Plaines, IL

A $200 Prize will be awarded to the team with the most correct answers!

What you need to do...

- Arrange a group of 8 to 10 people – if you don’t have a full table, we will gladly pair you with others who are short a full table. Pre-order a pizza or two. It will be delivered to your table, and/or bring your own food.
- Soft drinks & water will be on sale at the event. Please note that no Liquor will be allowed to be brought in from the outside.
- We will also have a silent auction with cakes the Scouts have made.
- Space is limited, so get your responses in today!

RESPONSE FORM - Responses must be received by Tuesday, January 31st, 2017. Checks should be payable to “TROOP 6”
Please give forms and checks to Mr. Pace.

Yes, I will attend #______@ $20/person    Total __________

No, I cannot attend, but please accept my donation $__________

TEAM NAME: ________________________________

Name: _____________________________________  Pizza: 18” 1-topping @ $20/each
  Email: _____________________________________  ☐ Cheese    Qty ______
  Phone: ________________________________    ☐ Sausage   Qty ______
        _____________________________________  ☐ Pepperoni Qty ______

Please seat me with the following people:

1.  5.  2.  6.  3.  7.  4.  8.

Questions please call Mr. Pace at (847) 824-4708
Troop 6 was originally founded in 1925 (that’s only 15 years after the national Boy Scouts of America inception) and thrived for many years under the sponsorship of the Izaak Walton League. For reasons unknown, the official B.S.A. charter was not renewed in 1940. In 1941, the Troop rechartered just days before the attack on Pearl Harbor, with Trinity Lutheran Church of Des Plaines as a sponsoring organization.

Picture 1: Pastor George Schelter, Scoutmaster Victor Kelly, and Council President Dan Dorman, with picture of the marker placed outside of the church.

Picture 2: Picture of the marker

Picture 3: Boy Scout Troop 6 with Scoutmaster Victor Kelly

Seated are Church Council Members as follows: Council Vice President Jim Hemzacek, Pastor George Schelter, Council President Dan Dorman, and Council Secretary Norene Rolenitus with a picture of the marker.
ORGAN RECITAL

Internationally renowned organist and composer Chelsea Chen will give a recital on Friday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m. on our fabulous Schantz pipe organ at Trinity. This performance is part of the Program Year of Events for the Chicago Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, for which I serve on the Board. The program will feature works by J. S. Bach, Camille Saint-Saëns, Edvard Grieg, and original compositions by Ms. Chen. Please plan to come see and hear this outstanding artist. Don’t forget to invite your friends and neighbors. The performance is free.

With playing described as “stunning” and possessing “lovely lyrical grandeur” (Los Angeles Times), Chelsea Chen has electrified audiences throughout the United States, Europe, Australia, and Asia. An established recitalist and composer, she is the recipient of the 2009 Lili Boulanger Memorial Award and a graduate of Juilliard, as well as a full scholarship recipient at Yale University, where she earned an Artist Diploma.

Brad Whaley, cantor

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CANTOR

You may have noticed that in the service bulletin, and elsewhere in the church, the word that appears next to my name says “Cantor.” Cantor is the historical term used by Lutherans to describe the person that leads the people in song. Coming from the Latin word cantare, which means “to sing”, the cantor is the chief singer; the person who leads the singing of the liturgy and hymns by the congregation, and who directs the choir, as well as other musicians. Much of the suggested descriptions for the church musician today evoke a mentality of music as entertainment, or a generic term that relates to a single aspect of music itself, alone. Some of the titles given to church musicians tend to focus on specific elements, such as Choir Director, or Organist. These terms suggest performance connotations, as does the title Director of Music. Paul Westermeyer suggests, and I would agree, that the term Minister of Music is a clouded description for a church musician, because it blurs the separation of laity and clergy. Westermeyer further states that this description implies that a particular Christian, possibly but not necessarily ordained, is literally responsible for serving up the music, as a pastor administers the Sacraments. The title may imply ministry or ministry through music to others, but it neglects reference to the song of the people; the congregation.

Therefore, the term cantor more succinctly describes a wholly inclusive embodiment of the makings of a church musician, and better reflects the practices and concepts of early Christianity. That is to say that the cantor leads the song for all who are present, both the voices of the congregation and of the choir(s). This responsibility is primary, before organ or other instrumental music for performance’s own sake.

The title of Cantor was given to J. S. Bach, Paul Manz, David Cherwien, and countless others who are a part of the treasured heritage of music in the Lutheran tradition. For this reason, I requested that the Church Council apply that term to describe my official position at Trinity. It is my honor to be your Cantor. May we continue to sing the great song of the whole church, proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God,

Brad Whaley, cantor
Call on Congress to protect healthcare!

Go to the ELCA Action Center!

“We of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America have an enduring commitment to work for and support health care for all people as a shared endeavor. Our commitment comes in grateful response to God’s saving love in Jesus Christ that frees us to love and seek the well-being of our neighbor.”

(ELCA Social Statement, Sharing for Health: Our Shared Endeavor, 2003)

Earlier in January, Congress adopted a budget resolution as a first step toward repealing the Affordable Care Act. At the date of this writing (January 13), the Congress has not offered a plan for a replacement. This leaves up to 30 million Americans in danger of losing health insurance.

From our partner, Lutheran Services in America:

“We know the ACA isn’t perfect, but are concerned this “repeal-and-delay” strategy could have immediate, harmful impacts [on our community members]. In part, repeal without simultaneous replacement could lead to higher premiums and out-of-pocket costs, and leave state governments and providers to cover the cost of care for those who lose coverage.”

People of faith need to take this moment to speak out in favor of responsible action for health care that most actively promotes the well-being of those experiencing poverty or illness in the U.S. The ACA repeal without a replacement would significantly raise taxes on middle and low income families. Act now to urge your Representative not to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) unless there is an equitable and sensible replacement in the same legislation.

(Lutheran Services in America (LSA) is one of the largest health care and human services networks in the country, representing 300 Lutheran nonprofit organizations throughout the United States and the Caribbean. LSA works to connect and empower our member organizations, which serve six million people annually, touching the lives of one in every 50 people in the U.S. every year.)

For the Advocacy Team,
Janet Kittlaus

be an advocate--click here
http://www.capwiz.com/elca/mlm/signup/?ignore_cookie=1
Trinity Talks: Where faith connects our community

Clean-Up Day
Saturday, February 25
9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

If your group needs a room, table or chair set up for your function, please contact Linda at the church office so she can schedule this for you.

“Five Loaves and Two Fish”
Community Luncheon
Saturday, February 11
11:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the mission we all share to help those who may not have the means to have a decent meal. Every little bit helps and hopefully our meals can help them more and more each month.

As always, volunteers are always welcome and meet at 10:00 a.m. on the morning of Five Loaves and Two Fish.

http://www.trinitydesplaines.org/ttmain.html/
or the Trinity Lutheran Church Group on Facebook. If you are not already a member of the Trinity group, ask to join.

Call Rich Brunner: 847-577-0876
2 Kathryn Stoffregen
3 Pamela Khazen, Jan Krevald, Andrew Schelberger, Charlene Schwingbeck, and Craig Wilson
5 Michael Kraft and Gabriel Witkus
6 Christopher Jensen and Donna Upstrom
7 Ryan Lindahl and Jocelyn Murray
8 Liz Fowler, Kelsey Hargesheimer, Samuel Jensen, and Nathan Turner
9 LeRoy Kirchwehm, Haleigh Myszka, Mildred Owen, and Mark Renn
10 Landon Nordentoft
11 Benjamin Mueller and Ryan Panenka
12 Mark Thompson and Neal Wold
13 Tyra Kadlec and Christine Stetkus
14 Emma Cady-Underwood
15 Valerie Hartley, Ron Johnson, and Judy Swanson
16 Jack Brogan, Julie Gustafson, Justin Niebuhr, Kyle Payne, Joanna Stewart, Janet Thompson, and Andrea Tiernan
18 Christine Clausen and Desi Rae Stricker
19 Brian Vanderbilt and Gregory Wordel
20 Damon Rickett and Bryan Weller
21 James Lonski and Katie Spychala
22 Bart Hickman and Rachel Miller
24 Sigi Mueller
25 Jill Goebbert and Quentin Mundorf
27 Maria Volkman
28 Paul Maatta Jr.

14 Christopher & Rhiannon Urso
16 Don & Pat Ehorn
IN SPECIAL CARE:

Alden Des Plaines: Ken and Dorothy Oehlerking
Arden Courts Elk Grove: Jean Friese and Jan Kirchwehm
Lee Manor: Ron Johnson
The Moorings Assisted Living: Blanche Thompson


BETTY ANDERSON
Shirley Bertram
John & Karen Ley
John & Janet Pauls

Trinity’s turn for Meals On Wheels starts February 6 and continues to March 3. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the office. Please sign up as soon as you know your schedule. This only takes about an hour per day. You will be given a map showing you where each home is. Pick up the meals at Oakton Pavilion.

Any questions, please call Shirley Bertram: 847-635-7627.
“We are a community of faith that receives God’s love and responds with thanksgiving by serving our neighbor and welcoming all with Jesus as our example.”

675 East Algonquin Road
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Phone: 847-827-6656
Fax: 847-827-4215
Email: trinityldp@ameritech.net

We’re on the Web!
www.trinitydesplaines.org

STAFF
PASTOR
Dennis H. Kelly

MUSIC MINISTRY
Josh Langhoff
Brad Whaley, Cantor

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY
Cathy Williams

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH
Shirley Luttrell

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Linda Kuska

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES
Becky Henkes

Custodian
Mark Dwiel

Messenger articles for the March issue are due by **February 15.**
Please send all articles to Werner: **stillwerner@hotmail.com**
# February 2017

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<td>4:00-11:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 6 Trivia Night Fundraiser (FH)</td>
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<td>5:00-7:00 p.m. Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner (FH)</td>
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