



**MAY
2016**



VIEW FROM THE PULPIT



John, Chapter 14

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth . . . (who) abides with you, and will be in you.

John, Chapter 20

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Acts, Chapter 2

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

These three texts from *The Gospel of John* and *The Book of Acts* are the chief texts telling the story of Pentecost. As you can see, John's gospel tells it differently than Acts. But all of these texts boil down to the same thing: the Spirit of Christ dwells within and among us. There are different names used: the Spirit of truth, the Advocate, a "rush like a violent wind," the Holy Spirit and even breath-the breath that Jesus breathes on the disciples.

When I look at the story of Jesus and the stories that follow from Jesus, I can't help but notice a striking point: the whole story moves towards the coming of the Spirit of Christ within and among us. Now we like to stop at certain points in the story. We love Christmas and the nativity, the birth stories of Jesus. Later in the year, during Lent and Holy Week, we dwell a long time thinking about the death of Jesus and the cross, though this is not as popular as Christmas! We come out in droves for Easter, the day of resurrection. But if we stop the story in any of these places, we are missing the direction the story is taking. Where it is going if you follow the story of Jesus is to the indwelling of his Spirit in us. It is like a relay race, sort of, where the baton is passed from one runner to the next. Jesus passes the baton to us and we continue the race. His Spirit is passed on to us, who continue the race he began.

Continued on page 2

**All are welcome.
Please join us!**



**SUNDAY
WORSHIP
9:00 am**

**Fellowship Hour
Following Worship**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30 AM**

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30 AM**



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

VIEW FROM THE PULPIT	1
FELLOWSHIP NEWS	2
ANNOUNCEMENTS	3
NOAH'S ARK	4
CALLED FORWARD TOGETHER IN CHRIST	5
BORDER SERVANT CORPS	6
RUMMAGE SALE	7
CELEBRATIONS	8

This is a faith of action and movement. Even the word translated as spirit could be thought of today in terms of divine energy. The same spirit that moved and motivated Jesus now moves and motivates us. Instead of Holy Spirit we might think of Holy Energy! That is why of all the stopping points along the path of the Jesus story, Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, is the most significant. This is when the story really starts to pick up!

It is ironic that Pentecost arrives at just the moment we are getting ready for summer, when we start thinking about pulling back a bit, taking vacations or ending the semester if we are in school. Instead of gearing up we are gearing down. Pentecost is often overlooked or played down because of that. But I recall a church that geared UP for Pentecost. The church brought in a dixieland band, put up banners and marched from the outside of the church to the inside of the church. It was a big celebration. The music was lively and wonderful colors were everywhere. I like that a lot.

I don't realistically expect us to change the way we typically approach Pentecost very soon. But I do want us to consider the importance of the energy of God, the Holy Spirit, lifting us out of our familiar ways of doing and understanding things. The Spirit emboldened the disciples and filled them with a new sense of power and creativity and purpose. As we move forward with our transition process at Trinity that is what we need to be tuned in to. When the Spirit starts moving, things change and new life happens. The thing is, it isn't that the Holy Spirit isn't around. It's that we become immune to the Spirit's presence among us. So this Pentecost we can reconsider our lives and our attitudes. What if we opened a window or two and let the Spirit in? What if the "rush like a violent wind" came over us? What would that look like? New ministries? New people? New kinds of people? A church building busy every day of the week? More opportunities for learning and growing in our faith? More opportunities to serve our community? New and unexpected connections with our community in Las Cruces? Is there a limit to what might happen? Is the Holy Spirit moving within one or more of you to help us get there? That all sounds interesting and even fun to me.

Speaking of new things, Rosalyn Solee, who has been helping us at the piano for quite some time, is enjoying some time in Germany. The Worship Committee is working on finding a permanent musician to be with us every Sunday. But in the meantime, during the month of May, I want to thank Kris Hansen for playing for us.

She is with us on May 15, 22 and 29. Thank you, Kris! And also thanks to Krissy Lerdal for singing on Pentecost. We love to have special music, so if you would like to offer some special music, please let us know. Summer is a great time to do it!

Happy Pentecost! ~Pr Paul



MIXING WORK WITH FUN ON THE TLC CLEAN-UP DAY!

Saturday, April 9th TLC held a cleanup day. Donuts, rolls and cookies were served along with coffee and water. About a dozen members showed up including Pastor Paul.

The day was absolutely beautiful, Sunny and not too warm (yet). A number of trash bags were filled with trash and the weeds in the drain ditch that always fills up with weeds near Elks Road were cut down. The rose bushes were trimmed as well. Thanks to all who volunteered their time to help! ~Richard Rakoff



Fellowship Committee News

There is a sign-up sheet by the coffee pot for Sunday treats. Please help us out by buying or baking something for our Fellowship time after Sunday Worship.

We are looking forward to the new ovens and microwave that will be installed in the near future. They will give our kitchen a new look and be more convenient.

The **LADIES SPRING TEA** will be on Saturday, May 7th at 2 pm. Tickets are still available, cost of a ticket will be \$7.00. The program this year will be Sheri Gaines, a vintage hat collector who will talk about the history of hats. There will also be lots of door prizes and prizes for the "**OLDEST (vintage) HAT**" the "**MOST OUTRAGEOUS HAT**" and the "**MOST BEAUTIFUL HAT**".

"Jan's Lending Library" is getting full-Don't forget to check out the good books and magazines on the cart. There is a good selection and I am sure you will find something you would enjoy reading.

We meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10 am.

Tama Garski, 405-1018, rtg1965@yahoo.com



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Starting May 1st, communion at the rail will be held on the first Sunday of each month.



The **Helping Hands** group plans to meet at their regular times (2nd and 4th Tues. at 9:00 am) through the summer. We'd love to have you join us!

The **Fellowship Committee** will meet at their regular time (2nd Thu. at 10:00 am) through the summer as we have lots of activities in the works. We'd love to have you join us!

The **Ladies of Luther** will not meet again until after summer. We will let you know when we start up again.

Better Hurry and get your Ladies Spring Tea tickets! The Tea is on **Saturday, May 7th at 2:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Get your tickets before they are gone! There will also be door prizes - cost is \$7. For information, contact Tama.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Our numbers are up helping our friends. We were serving around 100 families each Tuesday (that we are open) for the last few months and all of a sudden the numbers jumped to 128 and 124 during the month of April. Fortunately we have ample food and paper products for all that come for help.



We also received a grant from Thrivent for \$560 and an anonymous donation from a gentleman who came to our door who gave me an envelope with \$60 thanking us for what we are doing with the Food Pantry.

Its amazing what this ministry is doing for our community and the help we have from our members is outstanding. We have a core group of people who have been around for many years, new volunteers that have joined our team and standbys who can be called at a moments notice when we need additional help. THANK YOU!!! ~Ken

"A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor" (Proverbs 22:9, NIV)

Ladies of Luther and God's Work. Our Hands.

Invites the Congregation
to Participate
with Donations in
May and June



"We Became Informed"
The Ladies of Luther's April
guest speaker was Julie K. Corrales
PREA Coordinator from



**La Piñon
Sexual Assault
Recovery
Services**

La Piñon

*Sexual Assault Recovery Services
of Southern New Mexico*

Now – *"We Serve Others"*

In May & June, the Ladies of Luther, working with Trinity's God's Work. Our Hands. ministry, encourages all of you to donate **small stuffed animal toys and small blankets**

To give to children who have experienced sexual assault trauma and are being served at the La Piñon Children's Advocacy Center, which is dedicated to providing forensically sound interviews for children and adolescents when there is suspected abuse.

For blankets:

fleece fabric (1 1/3 yd children prints)
OR

a monetary donation for fabric
(when on sale!)

A receipt will be provided for cash donations.

--See Jackie B, Carol M, or Donna K



Noah's Ark

Everything I need to know,
I learned from Noah's Ark.



ONE: Don't miss the boat.

TWO: Remember that we are all in the same boat!

THREE: Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

FOUR: Stay fit. When you're 65 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

FIVE: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

SIX: Build your future on high ground.

SEVEN: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

EIGHT: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

NINE: When you're stressed, float awhile.

TEN: Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

ELEVEN: No matter the storm, there's always a rainbow waiting.



Chad Brekke, one of the pastors of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Brooklyn Park, Minn., was attending a Mumford & Sons concert last Thursday when musician Prince died. When the band did one of Prince's songs as a tribute, Brekke had the idea to put this lyric up on the church's main sign. He texted one of the congregation's tech guys, who put the message up immediately. After putting the picture on their Facebook page, it was shared hundreds of times and seen by more than 100,000. "People were seen pulling off the road to take pictures of the sign," Brekke said. "We're certainly aware that not all of Prince's lyrics or behavior over the years were worthy of celebrating. At the time of his death however, we chose to recognize a gifted artist from our home state by using his own words as a 'sign,' pointing us toward God's grace and mercy to be found in this welcoming Christian community."

www.livinglutheran.org/2016/04/honoring-prince-words



**2015-2016 Year of
Service Celebration!**

"Service & Social Justice"

Friday, May 13, 2016 ■ Doors Open at 6:00pm
Grapevine Plaza (3900 W. Picacho, Las Cruces, NM 88005)

Speakers ■ Live & Silent Auction ■ Dinner ■ Drinks

Border Servant Corps hosts full-time volunteers that live in intentional community, learn about living simply, work for social justice, and explore spirituality on the U.S./México border.

2015-2016 Service Sites

El Paso, Texas

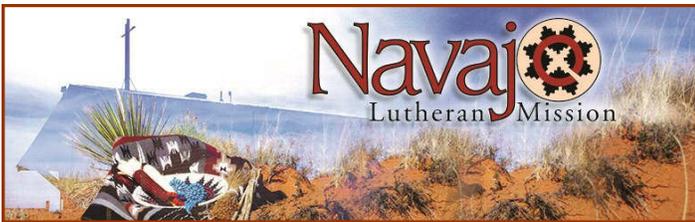
- Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services
- Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey
- Kelly Memorial Food Pantry
- Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center
- Paso del Norte Civil Rights Project
- Reynolds Home
- YWCA Transitional Living Center

Las Cruces, New Mexico

- ACLU-NM Regional Center for Border Rights
- La Casa, Inc.
- New Mexico Legal Aid
- St. Luke's Health Care Clinic

**Help us celebrate this year of service
and look forward to the next!**

Tickets: \$45 (\$30 tax-deductible) ■ Available by contacting
(575) 522-7119 Ext. 16 or info@borderservantcorps.org.



NAVAHO EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MISSION AND SCHOOL

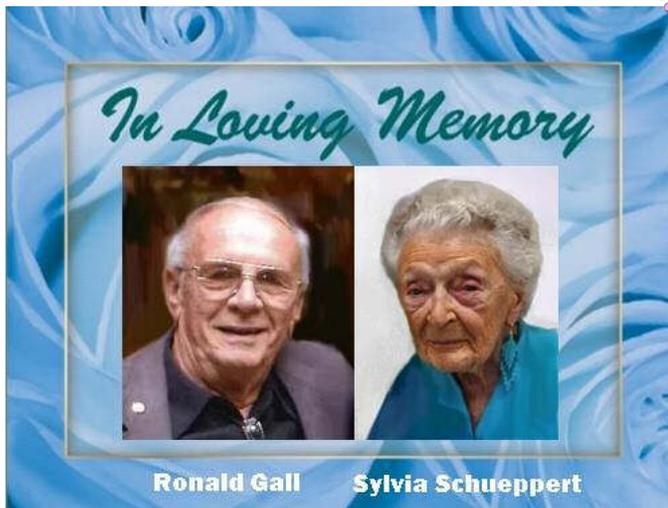
Campbell Soup Labels

The Campbell Soup Label program will be discontinued on July 31, 2016. The Mission receives labels from all over the country, and many more are mailed directly to the program headquarters earmarked for the Mission's benefit. Over the years the piles of carefully clipped labels have added up to at least 8 new vehicles, along with tables, chairs, school supplies, and much, much more.

Labels received and recorded prior to July 31 can still count toward valuable resources for the Mission and School. Please advise your label collectors so that everything can be sent in by July 1st, 2016. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Edward Busch @ 626-799-0961.

The Campbell Soup Label program has been a God-send to Navajo Lutheran Mission. The benefits to the Navajo people are more than can be numbered. Please accept our sincere gratitude for the many dedicated individuals and congregations who have participated.

P.S. You can still send the "box tops for education" from General Mills to Solheim Lutheran Home or the Mission.



Prayer for Appreciating What We Have in Common

Lord, we ask you to open our eyes
 that we may value and appreciate all people,
 recognizing what we have in common
 rather than focusing on
 what our differences might be.
 Inspire us to distinguish between
 what is important
 and what is not,
 and open our minds and hearts
 that we may always be people of good will
 who bring life and joy to others. Amen



<http://www.prayingeachday.org>

Called Forward  Together in Christ

The ELCA is a young church at only 28 years old. It is a good time to take a look at where we are as God's people and try to understand what God has in store for us. And we think it is an exciting time to be looking forward together as we approach the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

We want to create a vision for the future ELCA - as a church with solid foundations sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ and making a difference in the world locally and globally. And as a church that we can be proud to pass on to our children.

We want to discover how we can continue to faithfully serve God's mission in the years ahead and reach a shared understanding among church leaders about the ministries that are most important.

And we want to assess whether the structures that were set up for this church are right for the future, and as part of this consider how we use our resources in the best possible way. There are many challenges.

www.elca.org/future



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

Learn more about Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey!

BSC volunteers host one Community Night at/about their service sites throughout the service year on the first Monday of each month. Includes a potluck meal, educational/experiential learning, and reflection!



Everyone is invited to attend to learn more about organizations in the region!

Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey Open House

Date: Monday, May 2nd

Time: 6:30-8:30pm

Service Site: Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey (1010 E Yandell Dr, El Paso, TX 79902)

Hosts: Lianette Pappaterra (BSC volunteer) & Cristo Rey staff

Dinner: Potluck style! Please bring a dish to share!

RSVP: Please RSVP by Friday, April 29th to info@borderservantcorps.org in order for BSC to have enough materials for everyone!

Border Servant Corps seeks to provide an opportunity for volunteers to work for justice, serve their neighbor, and walk humbly with their God. This month, BSC is proud to share a reflection from Lianette Pappaterra, BSC volunteer at Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey...



What does service look like? For many people, service consists of a tangible 'doing', a project completed, a one-way giving of one's time and talents to those who are less fortunate. However, my time on the US/ Mexico border as a Border Servant Corps volunteer has allowed me to embrace to a richer, more profound understanding of service, one based on accompaniment and ministry of presence.

As the After-School Program and Border Immersion Program Coordinator at Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey, a Lutheran Latino congregation in El Paso, I have come to know a community of humble, hardworking people who are often pushed to the margins of society based on their immigration status. I accompany groups that come to the border to learn about the social justice issues surrounding immigration policy, and am constantly surrounded by the suffering that these policies cause. However, there is no easy way to fix the system, no amount of 'doing' on my part that can permanently alleviate the suffering of separated families, of detainees awaiting a court date, of those immigrants experiencing wage theft and discrimination. I do not have the answers. Instead, I can only offer what I do have: my desire to walk alongside people on their journey in a genuine relationship of accompaniment and solidarity, and my invitation for them to walk alongside me in my journey. In this journeying together, service no longer becomes unidirectional. Service becomes relational, a reciprocal sharing of gifts and talents that allows each of us to learn from each other as equals, reap the blessings of friendship, and grow in love.

We thank you for all of the ways you support Border Servant Corps! If you have any questions or would like to become more involved with BSC, please contact us at 575) 522-7119 Ext. 16 or info@borderservantcorps.org



Do justice.

Love kindness.

Walk humbly.



Thank You!

Many thanks to everyone that joined in the recent property clean-up. It was partnered with the Great American Cleanup by

Donna Kuehn. The Great American

Cleanup is sponsored by Keep Las Cruces Beautiful (KLCB) in partnership with Keep America Beautiful, New Mexico Clean & Beautiful and national, state and local sponsors. Several bags of trash were collected from around the property. Free T-shirts and gloves were provided by the city. The weather was absolutely beautiful! A big thank you to those that donated food and drinks for the event!

I missed it last month. So here it is now: Another big "Thank You" to the large amount of people that turned out to move the organ back into the Sanctuary. With all of the help (and Richard Rakoff's rollers) it was accomplished in a short amount of time. The speakers in the back of the Sanctuary were re-connected, and the organ had a full check out from top to bottom by a Professional Organ Technician with no problem found except some dry pad stops on the lower pedals that were quickly replaced. Many members have reported on what a joy it is to hear the sounds of that wonderful instrument fill the Sanctuary again.

Finally, as a reminder, please report all personal property that is stored/used at the church. As of today, only one person has reported personal property at the church. During the inventory, your items may be assumed to be church property if not reported. Please let myself or Rebecca Sletten know of your items. Thank you!

Eric Sletten



It's Coming! It's Coming!

The Annual TLC Rummage sale will be here very soon! Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 21 starting at 7:30am and closing about 12:30pm. The snack bar will be open and there will be plenty of free coffee.

We will need a lot of donations in order for the sale to be a success. Proceeds from the sale this year will go towards the cost of a new roof.

Starting Sunday, May 15, you may start taking items directly to the Fellowship Hall. Place them in the corner where we used to stack all of the chairs. You may call either Rebecca (639-2014) or Mary (639-1046) to meet you there if the office closed. If you need a bigger item picked up and hauled, let Mary know.

Volunteers are also needed both before, during, and after the sale. Before the sale needs include help in setting up, sorting, prepping the items for sale and pricing plus getting the snack bar ready on Friday. We will need donations of baked good and hot dogs for the snack bar. On the day of the sale, we need volunteers, in their yellow TLC shirts if possible, to come down and help customers with questions and to prevent theft. It is a wonderful time to interact with a segment of our community.

Update from the Worship Committee



The Worship Committee now has a new chair - Richard Rakoff. Please congratulate him. The search continues for a replacement pianist/organist; thanks so much to Rosalyn for sharing her gift of music with us over the past several months! Maintenance checks were performed on the organ and pianos; they were all declared to be in excellent shape. It was decided to move the monthly communion service at the rail to the first Sunday instead of the last Sunday in the month. It was also discussed about using baked bread instead of the purchased wafers for all communion services. Mary Sletten and Ann Steinhoff will research this and bake some trial rounds. Congregational members are highly encouraged to attend the monthly meetings of the Worship Committee and provide input on topics discussed and decisions made.



Trinity Lutheran Church

2900 Elks Drive
Las Cruces, NM 88005
575-523-4232
tlcsec@trinitylutheranlc.org
www.trinitylutheranlc.org

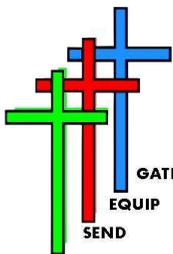
2016 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ken Truax, Council Pres.
Eric Sletten, Vice Pres.
Richard Rakoff, Secretary
Ann Steinhoff, Treasurer
Ellen Fox
Carl Hagle
Tre Hooks
Bill Lohr
Marlin Schmidt
George Timmerman

Rev. Paul Carlson, Interim Pastor
Pam Crume, Office Manager
Jonathan Crume, Sexton

Trinity Lutheran Church is an ELCA Congregation. We are a community given life by God to:

- † **GATHER** people to faith in the forgiving and transforming "Presence of God"
- † **EQUIP** people for a dynamic role in the "Body of Christ"
- † **SEND** people into the world, driven by the Spirit, to "Share the Grace" of our living God



SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:00 am
SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30 am
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:30 am

How To Find Us:

We are located at 2900 Elks Drive, just north of the intersection at North Main St. (US 70) and Elks Drive. From I-25 take the US 70/Main St. exit, turn west to first stop light, turn north one block.

Web Site: www.trinitylutheranlc.org
Email: tlcsec@trinitylutheranlc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranlc

PRAYER REQUESTS



Please remember these family and friends in our prayers for wholeness and healing: Brandon Allen, Cynthia Griffee Antone, June Bauer, Lupe Bernal, Lynn Brandt, Landon Chavez, Russell Clayshulte, Karen Dahmer, Al Davis, Michael Deliberto, Wilba Duggan, Jorge & Irene Esaynder, Jim Fahrbach, Debbie Fisher, Delores Fleming, Glenn Helmstetter family, Yolanda Hernandez, Christy Hileman, Ted & Stella Jones, Jann K., Juanita Kiss, Krissy Lerdal, Hannalore Maddox, Kerri MacPherson, Anne Miller, Maria Nassari, Adeline Nowodvorski, Sandra Ogonowski, Andy & Shelley Patterson, Richard & Kelly Penc, Ruth Powell, Sheila Riedel, Betty Schnoeker, Rick Shreffler, Janet Smith, Karen Smith and family, Jim Szablinski, Gary Williams, Kathy Worden, Cindy Zediker. Military: Chris Brown-RAF Mildenhall, UK, Edward Fongeallaz, Colin & Jason Purvis. Recently passed away: Else McClure, Sylvia Schueppert & Ron Gall.

Please let the office know if there are changes/additions needed to prayer requests.

CELEBRATIONS

Members celebrating an anniversary:



Members celebrating a birthday:



Ken Truax	5/01	Donna Bullington	5/23
Elden Heiden	5/05	Erin Reynolds	5/24
Ashley Beck	5/12	Sarah Truax	5/25
Casey Reynolds	5/12	Zia Chan	5/25
April Taylor	5/14	Ronald Garski	5/26
Shelby Quillen	5/19	Carl Hagle	5/26
Charles Clements	5/20	Jackie Barnett	5/28
Gerald Sims	5/21		

Please let us know if we inadvertently missed your birthday or anniversary!

The editor of the Crossbeams newsletter is Pamela Crume, TLC Office Manager. The Crossbeams is a monthly publication of Trinity Lutheran Church, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

If you would like to submit information for the newsletter, please e-mail it to the office by the 22nd of the month at tlcsec@trinitylutheranlc.org. Information for the Sunday bulletin must be submitted no later than Wednesday of each week.

Please notify the office manager if you have any changes to your address, email, etc.

