

Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

June 2023			١	/olume 75, Number 6
421 North Main St.	Greenville, SC 29601-2000	864.242.5702	FAX 864.242.6442	www.trinitylutheran.ws
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home. hymn text from ELW #632				
The ache for home lives in all of us, the safe place where we can go as we are and not be questioned. Maya Angelou				
				

DINGS

Dear Members of the Trinity Family,

Home is a central theme in the word's great religions: Jews seek a homeland with God; Christians proclaim that God dwells within our hearts; Muslims face home to pray; Buddhists find a true home in enlightenment; Druids and Wiccans worship gods who make their home in nature. The overarching narrative of the Bible is that of searching for home...a home with God and a home with family.

I have always loved words having to do with home: dwelling, abode, habitation, lodging, shelter. I love the place of shelter and safety that Mark and I have created together. Our little home is a sanctuary for us...the place we raised our daughter, the place that we gather at table for meals, the place where we feel the most comfortable, the most at peace. It's the place that God uses to strengthen and encourage us during the challenging and difficult times of life. It's the place that beckons us at the end of the day, at the conclusion of a trip. In our home, God is active and present. It is our safe, happy haven.

As I prepare for the coming weeks of sabbatical, two months of intentional time away from the daily demands of ministry, I am feeling nostalgic about the home we have all created together at Trinity...a place of love, of belonging, of connection...a place where all are welcomed and celebrated. As I spend time at home and as I travel to places near and far, I will hold our life together as a family of faith close to my heart. As I enjoy the time away, I will also be eager for the time of reunion and homecoming with all of you.

Throughout the coming weeks I pray that God will bless you and keep you, protect you from all harm, guide your work and your play, grant you times of sabbath rest, bless your travel, and, as summer ends, bring us all back together in community, to our home at Trinity eager and excited for the future that God has lovingly prepared for us.

Peace, love, and joy,

Aura)

Pastor Susan Crowell

COUNCIL NOTES

At the May meeting of the Congregation Council, the council...

---heard a report from Donna Potts, chair of the Stewardship Committee, that the Stewardship Committee is making plans to participate in the New Consecration Sunday model for Trinity's stewardship program in the fall of 2023 (additional information about this program can be found in this publication);

---adopted a motion to approve the recommendation from the 429 Task Group that includes listing the entire 429 parcel for sale, calling a meeting of the congregation to act on this motion, and empowering the 429 Task Group to continue addressing details related to the proposed sale of the property;

---learned about a new prayer ministry entitled *Praying for Possibilities* that will be launched in late summer/early fall and will include an intentional effort to pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance in all aspects of mission and ministry and an opportunity for a number of participants to be involved;

---learned that arrangements for Pastor Crowell's sabbatical in June and July have been finalized;

---adopted a resolution that allows the congregation's current practice with regard to baptism to evolve and change over time as the mission and ministry of the congregation evolves and changes; and

---agreed not to meet in June or July unless a need arises requiring a meeting.

GIVING TO TRINITY



Trinity is grateful for all the prayers, contributions, and displays of support from members, friends, and guests. Financial contributions can be placed in the offering plates during worship, mailed to the church, or given electronically by going to trinitylutheran.ws, by scanning the QR code, or texting TLCGIVE to 73256.



NURSERY FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

A nursery is available during the 10:00 am worship service on Sunday morning, whether the congregation is worshipping in the Sanctuary or the Gym. Practices and protocols follow all DHEC recommendations for daycare centers. All staff and volunteers must be fully vaccinated and are trained and approved in Trinity's Child Protection Policy. A copy of the updated guidelines can be obtained through the Church Office. The age requirements for children in the nursery are flexible and fluid during this time of transition.



Sunday, June 4 Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary Refreshments and Fellowship to follow on the front lawn

Sunday, June 11 Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym Refreshments and Fellowship to follow in the back corner of the Gym

Sunday, June 18 Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym Refreshments and Fellowship to follow in the back corner of the Gym

Sunday, June 25 Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary Refreshments and Fellowship to follow on the front lawn

SABBATICAL TIME AWAY FOR PASTOR CROWELL

Pastor Crowell and her family will be away from Trinity during June and July for sabbatical. Sunday morning worship leadership will be provided by Trinity staff, members, as well as special guests. Please hold Pastor Crowell in your thoughts and prayers as she steps away from the daily demands of ministry and enjoys these weeks of rest and healing.

South Carolina Synod Assembly

The South Carolina Synod of the ELCA will gather for assembly in Columbia, SC on Thursday through Saturday, June 8 - 10, 2023 at the Marriott under the theme *I See Jesus*. Lutherans across the state will gather for worship, plenary sessions, discussion, and learning using as a guide and focus the words of Luke 24:32 that say *Were not our hearts burning within us*? Voting members from Trinity for this year's assembly include Melissa Kolb, Richard Moose, Lani Wise, Deacon Amy Brown, Pastor Jim Parham, Patrick Preacher, and Angie McCormack.



Summer Faith Formation

This summer the entire congregation is invited to come together for fellowship, learning, and faith formation each Sunday morning before worship. *Journey Together*, an intergenerational series for folks of all ages, will be held each Sunday at 9:00 am. Everyone is invited to the Multipurpose Room in the Activities Building for coffee, juice, a pick up breakfast, and fellowship time as the day begins.

Planned by the Education Committee, this will be a great chance for everyone to reconnect and meet new people. All ages, young and old, are needed to learn from each other and form bonds to grow in faith in this place. Please join this group each Sunday to learn, grow, and worship together with the Trinity Family.

MUSIC MINISTRY

With the Adult Choir and Handbell Choir on break, summertime worship offers weekly opportunities for individuals and small groups to support worship with music.

If interested in singing or sharing instrumental skills in worship this summer, please contact Pastor Parham via e-mail at <u>jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws</u> or at 242-5702.

NEW MEMBER CLASS AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS



Become In September, Pastor Crowell will be teaching a new member class via Zoom for anyone interested in exploring the possibility of joining Trinity. These classes will take place from 6:30 to 7:30 pm on Wednesdays, September 6 and 13. Please call the Church Office if you would like to attend these classes that will be taught remotely this fall. New members will be received on Sunday, September 17 at the 10:00 am worship service in the Gym.

PRAYER GROUP

The Trinity Prayer Group will be praying from home during the month of June. If you have a prayer request please complete a prayer card during Sunday worship or email a request to Terry Morgan at <u>tfmorgan101@gmail.com</u> or Merry Mulcahy at <u>marmulcahy@icloud.com</u>.

The group is currently reviewing Trinity's prayer ministry with hopes to increase its support of all the ministries of Trinity as well as individual prayer requests from our congregation. Please check for updates on the prayer ministry here in the *Tidings*.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is set for Sunday evening, June 25 through Thursday evening, June 29, 2023. This year Vacation Bible School will be held in the evenings and will begin with a child-friendly meal. The program begins at 5:30 pm with dinner and concludes between 8:00 and 8:30 pm. The theme is *Operation Restoration: Mending God's World*. Participants will explore the themes of feed, heal, forgive, pray, and rest.

Families with children can sign up together! Dinner will be available from 5:30 to 6:05 pm in the Multipurpose Room. Parents can choose to stay and help with children, or leave their children and return for pick up, or stay and participate in an adult class. Adults can sign up to attend and can enjoy dinner and then participate in an adult class on the *Restoration* themes.

Watch for e-mail blasts and sign up links to register online. Registration will include a suggested donation of \$5 per person for meals for the week.



YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Sunday, June 18 - Youth and children of all ages are invited to gather at Unity Park, 320 South Hudson Street, Greenville immediately following worship on this day. The group will enjoy a picnic lunch and the beautiful outdoors. Lunch will be provided but please bring a quilt to sit on, if needed. Children in Grades 5 and younger should be accompanied by a parent or significant adult. Youth can be dropped off at the park with the group and picked up at 1:30 pm. Friends are welcome to join! Please confirm if you are attending by calling the Church Office or Angie McCormack at 864-630-4026. Drop off spots and more details will be provided.

Sunday, June 25 - Youth are invited to stay after church for a light lunch and some activities to kick off Vacation Bible School. All youth are encouraged to sign up with Amy Brown to help with VBS.

Wednesday, June 28 - The youth of Trinity will welcome First Baptist Youth as they host Nourishing Neighbors together followed by a light lunch and a time for fellowship.

Mark your calendar for the group's annual retreat at LUTHERIDGE on August 19-20. More information to come!

PRIDE MONTH OPPORTUNITIES

Pridefest: Saturday, June 10 First Baptist Greenville 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Upstate Pride's Black Pride Festival: Saturday, June 24 on South Main St. 11:00 am - 5:00 pm Trinity will be at both events giving away swag and sharing the good news of God's inclusive love. Please email Patrick Preacher to volunteer. pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws





Thursday, June 24 6:15 pm Trinity Lutheran Church In the Gym

An official event of Upstate Pride's Black Pride Festival



Fall Stewardship Plans

The Stewardship Committee is excited to announce that the fall stewardship campaign has been reimagined and will feature the New Consecration Sunday model. This program shifts attention away from the business model of being church and toward a more spiritual model of being church. One of the goals is to help the Trinity family better understand the joy and blessing of giving by asking the question *What is God calling me to do?* instead of *What does Trinity need in order to pay for ministry expenses?* The campaign begins on Sunday, August 13.

Important Dates to Remember:

Thursday, September 21 - Leadership Dinner and Program that includes members of Congregation Council, Standing Committee Chairs, Stewardship Committee, Staff, and the New Consecration Sunday Leadership Team as well as partners and spouses. Time and location will be announced at a later date.

Sunday, October 8 - Celebration Sunday that will involve the entire Trinity family and will include worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary followed by a catered lunch in the Gym. Estimate of Giving Cards will be collected during this worship service.

Guest Leader/Preacher:

Andrew Steele, Chief Development and Mobilization Officer at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services in Baltimore, Maryland, will be leading the program and serving as guest preacher on October 8 at the Celebration Sunday. Andrew has long been a friend to Trinity. In addition to being a dynamic speaker with a heart for stewardship and the Church, Andrew is also passionate about Trinity's mission and ministry to be an inclusive, affirming congregation that is engaged in social justice ministries.

New Consecration Leadership Team:

Team Members include Mike Boliek, Debbie Brune, Amanda Cook, Lindsay Hawkins, Caroline Otten, Donna Potts (chair), Philip Wessinger, and Pastor Susan Crowell.

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Because children are so very honored and valued in the life we share together at Trinity and because it is important that children have the opportunity to engage with scripture and worship in a way that is fun and age-appropriate for them, Trinity is trying something new! During the months of June and July Trinity is continuing to experiment with a new practice of providing time during Sunday morning worship -- beginning after the children's sermon and extending through the Sharing of the Peace -- for children to leave the worship space with adult leaders (who have been Child Protection Policy trained) to participate in interactive activities, stories, games, and crafts related to the scripture texts for the day. Children may choose to participate in these special activities or remain in the worship space with their families during this time. This experiment will be evaluated over the coming months. Congregational comments are encouraged and may be shared with Deacon Amy Brown at <u>arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws</u> or with Pastor Susan Crowell at <u>sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws</u>.

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday
THE HOLY TRINITY 9:00 SUMMER FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW	4	5	6 10:30 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP
SECOND SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:00 SUMMER FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW	11	12	13
THIRD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:00 SUMMER FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW 12:00 OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH	18	19	20
FOURTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:00 SUMMER FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW	25	26	27
5:30 - 8:00 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL		5:30 - 8:00 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	5:30 - 8:00 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

2023

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Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3
	6:30 QUEER-LED WORSHIP IN THE GYM		
7	8 SYNOD ASSEMBLY	9 SYNOD ASSEMBLY	10 SYNOD ASSEMBLY 11:00 PRIDEFEST FIRST BAPTIST GREENVILLE
	6:00 LOVE WINS FELLOWSHIP GROUP		
14	15	16	17
	7:00 BOOK GROUP		
21	22	23	24 11:00 PRIDE'S BLACK PRIDE FESTIVAL
	6:15 PRIDE WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE GYM		
28 12:30 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS	29	30	
5:30 - 8:00 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	5:30 - 8:00 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL		

Second Sunday Food Drive

Thanks to all who continue to contribute to the Food Pantry. Summer months always play a toll on the pantry though, so please consider, additional donations as able. In addition to regular items, the pantry is in special need of canned meats, toilet paper, and canned vegetables that aren't green beans or corn. All are encouraged to bring donations to worship. A volunteer will be stationed at the Red Canopy Door from 9:30-10:00 am on the second Sunday of each month to assist in unloading donations. Upcoming dates are June 11, July 9, and August 13. The



following items are most needed: dried beans (16 oz), peanut butter (16 oz), cereal, canned fruit, rice (2 lb bag), pasta, pasta sauce, canned meat, canned vegetables, individually packaged snack items, and toilet paper. If you are interested in volunteering to collect items during the Sunday Food Drives, please contact Patrick Preacher at pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws

BOOK GROUP

The Trinity Book Group is open to all readers and meets on the third Thursday evening in the Church Parlor every other month to discuss books of all genres. The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 15, at 7:00 pm when the group will discuss *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn Other upcoming selections include;

> August 17, 7:00 pm - Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus October 19, 7:00 pm - The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict December 21, 7:00 pm - These Precious Days by Ann Patchett

This is a very casual group, and new participants are welcome at any time. Email Deacon Amy Brown at <u>arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws</u> for more information.



TLC4TLC



TLC4TLC is for anyone who would like to write notes and cards for members who are ill, grieving, or unable to attend worship, as well as for those who are celebrating joys. If you would like to participate in this group please contact Debbie Farstad at <u>debfars@att.net</u>.

June Birthdays

In an effort to stay connected, please consider extending birthday greetings to the following members. If you would like the church to know your birthdate please contact the Church Office to submit this information through Realm.

Hunter Balck - June 29 Barbara Beckford - June 1 Wil Bryant - June 23 Naomi Campbell - June 21 Vicki Charlotte - June 12 Suzanne Delap - June 12 Madelyn Fagala - June 29 Megan Finnern - June 2 Walker Fletcher - June 14 Layton Glymph - June 2 Mark Godfrey - June 5 Thomas Harmon - June 14 Will Harmon - June 2 Melanie Helling - June 22 Deirdre Hixson - June 19 Ali Landreth - June 16 Amanda Mast - June 7 Chris Mast - June 7 Michael McArver - June 15 Megan McDuffee - June 2 Natalie McElhinny - June 4 Richard Moose - June 5 Cathy O'Neill - June 11 Nell Orscheln - June 15 Mary Beth Ridenhour - June 9 Jake Sawyer - June 14 Abby Sease - June 4 Mary Valenti - June 30 Cathy Westbrook - June 11 Lance Wilcox - June 23



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Women's Bible Study



The Women's Bible Study Group meets monthly for fellowship and Bible study. The group usually meets on the first Tuesday of each month. All women of the church are invited to attend on June 6 at 10:30 am in Rooms 12 and 13. The group is discussing chapter two of the book *Falling Upward: Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr. If you need a copy of the book or have any other questions, please contact Terry Morgan at <u>tfmorgan101@gmail.com</u> for additional information.

and Fellowship Group

Men's Reflection and Fellowship Group



A Reflection and Fellowship Group for men is meeting on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30 am to 7:30 am in the Church Parlor. The group will not meet in June, July, and August. The next meeting will be September 14.

GREENVILLE ORGANIZED FOR ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP

Please consider investing \$200 in GOAL Justice by mailing a check to Goal Justice, P.O. Box 757, Greenville, SC or by visiting GOALJustice.com and click on the DONATE button to pay by credit card or PayPal.

Why do we call this investing? Because there is a real, measurable return on your investing. In year one of GOAL Justice's operation in Greenville, through grass roots people power organizing in over 20 congregations, voices were heard. State Funding is now in place to make sure every 988 call in South Carolina receives an in-state response and legislation has passed allowing cities and counties to use accommodations tax dollars for housing!

At the local level a majority of city council is committed to working towards a goal of providing \$10,000,000 of funding to the housing fund, with the Mayor specifically identifying funding sources. The County Council has proposed investing \$5,000,000 over the next two years towards affordable housing. More work is needed to measurably impact the affordable housing crisis but these are positive changes that are happening because so many showed up (170+ from Trinity) at the Nehemiah Action.

On behalf of all those seeking social justice and equity in our community, thank you!

NOURISHING NEIGHBORS

Trinity will host neighbors at Towers East for Nourishing Neighbors, a monthly event held on the front lawn that includes a bagged lunch, fresh produce, pantry staples, and fellowship on Wednesday, June 28 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. Other upcoming dates are July 19 and August 16. This is an opportunity to build relationships with neighbors, make friends, and get to know each other in a relaxed and fun environment. Volunteers pack produce bags, prepare lunches, or serve on the front lawn. Questions may be directed to Anne Harmon at <u>annerharmon1956@gmail.com</u> or Patrick Preacher at pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws.

Trinity is looking forward to partnering with the youth of First Baptist Greenville for Nourishing Neighbors on Wednesday, June 28. The youth of Trinity and First Baptist will come together for a day of service providing produce, lunch, and pantry items while fellowshipping with our neighbors. A light lunch will be served to the youth following Nourishing Neighbors to allow time for relationship building. Trinity is proud to partner with another progressive congregation within the Greenville community!

Out to Lunch Bunch

Out to Lunch Bunch is open to all Trinity adults who want to enjoy fellowship and eat lunch together after worship once a month. On Sunday, June 18, the group will meet at noon at Smoke on the Water, 1 Augusta Street #202, in downtown Greenville. Contact Deacon Amy Brown at arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws to receive email reminders for this group.



LOVE WINS FELLOWSHIP GROUP

June is PRIDE month and our Love Wins group is invited to participate in the events. The annual Pride Service is scheduled for June 22. The group will also be participating in events on June 10 and June 24. Reach out to Patrick Preacher or Angie McCormack to volunteer and get involved.

The group will meet on Thursday June 29 at 6:30 pm to meet and discuss the podcast, A Tiny Revolution - #175: The God Who Riots. The group will meet at the home of Reid Tidwell, 15104 Canter Trail, Greenville at 6:30 pm.



Love wins!

For more information or to be added to the group, contact Angie McCormack at 864-630-4016 or <u>ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws</u>

QUEER AND JUSTICE MINISTRY



Queer-led Worship is excited to celebrate Pride! Please join Trinity for June's worship service on Thursday, June 1 at 6:30 pm in the Gym. Following worship, the group will gather on the Front Lawn for an unveiling and blessing of Trinity's Pride Display and a celebratory hotdog supper. This will be a joyous evening to kickoff Pride Month that should not be missed!



Pridefest. Pridefest 2023 is June 10 at First Baptist Church, Greenville.

Many may remember Trinity hosting this event last Summer in the Activities Building. Trinity is planning to host again next summer, but in the meantime Trinity is eager to support this year's event at First Baptist. This event is unique in that it is geared specifically toward LGBTQIA+ youth and allies in the upstate. Trinity is looking forward to meeting so many of God's beloved LGBTQIA+ youth and families at this event. If interested in volunteering at Trinity's table for Pridefest, please contact Patrick Preacher.

June Pride Worship Service. For the second year, Trinity's Pride Month Worship will be a featured event for Upstate Black Pride Festival Week. Worship will take place on Thursday, June 22 at 6:15 pm in the Gym. Trinity is working with Upstate Pride and other local congregations to make this service an ecumenical evening of worship alongside Greenville's other affirming congregations and organizations.

Upstate Pride's Black Pride Festival and March. Trinity is looking forward to being part of Upstate Pride's Black Pride Festival and March again! This year's main event is Saturday, June 24 on South Main Street in Greenville. Trinity will have a table set up and has been done in the past giving away fun and affirming swag. This has always been an extraordinary event which gives Trinity a unique opportunity to share God's message of love for the queer community to a very large number of people in one day. Without fail, tears of joy are expressed from people surprised to see a church at Pride. Trinity is blessed to be that church! If interested in volunteering at Trinity's table for the festival, please contact Patrick Preacher.

WITHIN THE TRINITY FAMILY . . .

Deaths

Suzy Hybl on May 10

HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Terry Batts - Discharged Marilyn Boeker - Discharged Caroline Massey - 907, Saint Francis Downtown Bob Schirmer - Discharged Lani Wise - Discharged

	ATTENDANCE FOR MAY			
Sundays	5/7	5/14	5/21	5/28
Online devices	437	183	201	164
In Person	<u>97</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>149</u>
	534	358	325	313

Queer-Led 5/4

36 in person, 194 online devices

OFFERING SUMMARY FOR MAY

	MAY	<u>YTD</u>
Needed for Budget Given to Budget Difference	\$ 95,378 <u>\$ 50,148</u> \$ (45,230)	\$ 476,889 <u>\$ 526,277</u> \$ 49,388
Given to World Hunger	\$ 285	\$ 13,330

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 421 North Main Street Greenville, SC 29601-2090

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CHURCH STAFF

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