



Caring & Sharing in the Community



Join Us in Celebrating the Season!

December 24th—Advent Worship
8:00 am & 9:30 am

December 24th—Christmas Worship
2:00 pm—Soloists
4:00 pm—Children's Service
6:00 pm—Choir
8:00 pm—Handbells

A Christmas Recital



Micah Ramchandani (violin), Carolyn Snyder (viola),
Wei Shen (cello), and Charles Zoll (piano)

featuring

Christmas carol arrangements and
Gabriel Fauré's

Piano Quartet in c minor

Thursday, December 28 7:00PM

Donations accepted at the door for the musicians and
the refurbishment of the Holy Trinity Handbells
- Reception to Follow -

Council Update

| | Actual | Budget |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| YTD Income | \$395,719 | \$467,500 |
| YTD Expense | \$439,904 | \$467,500 |

2017 YTD Attendance 240
2016 YTD Attendance 270

The Council agenda, minutes and financials are posted on the mobile bulletin board on the patio for review.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The text for the second Sunday after Christmas is this:

I In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome^{ed} it.

As I reflect on 2017, I give thanks for Holy Trinity, and the light that they have shined in this community. You have brought light to Chandler and far beyond. Here are some of the things that we have accomplished:

\$ 828 was raised for books in Sapele

Backpacks, paper, pencils etc were collected for children in Chandler going back to school

The Endowment funded the following projects:

Holy Trinity High School Youth

Matthew's Crossing Food Bank

Wheels 4 Water

Lutheran Disaster Response

HAT provided 48 nights of housing for those experiencing homelessness and many meals.

Food was collected for Chandler Care Center to feed the hungry.

Holy Trinity provided space for many organizations including: Alcoholics Anonymous, Over Eaters Anonymous, Cocaine Anonymous, Al Anon, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCA basketball teams, Chandler Public Housing Youth Program, Domestic Violence Support Group, East Valley PEO, Islamic Center of the East Valley – Youth Group, Arizona Quilter's Assoc., Nimble Thimble Quilters, Lutheran Social Services

You helped to financially support World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response,

You helped to build a Habitat for Humanity House

You provided support for members of this community through Grief Share, Divorce Care and Cancer Care

Held a day of service in March to serve our community

Provided 300 health kits and pancakes to people experiencing homelessness in Phoenix

And the list could go on. I give thanks each day for the generosity of this congregation, and how you see yourselves as part of the community. The call committee at Holy Trinity asked me what excited you about Holy Trinity? One of the things I said was that the church sees themselves as part of the community and the community as part of the church! That is my vision for Holy Trinity.

A pastor friend of mine, used to ask his congregation, "if this congregation disappeared tomorrow, who would care?" He wanted the congregation to understand that they did not exist for themselves, but for the sake of the world.

Each day I am reminded at Holy Trinity, how this congregation understands that we exist for the sake of the world and how you share God's light in the world. If Holy Trinity disappeared tomorrow, the community would know, the community would care because of the good work you do!

God's Peace and Happy New Year,

Pastor Chris

Town Hall Meeting

January 14th

At 10:45 am in the sanctuary

Agenda includes: discussion on 2018 budget; unveiling the new mission statement and logo.

&

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 28th

At 10:45 am in the sanctuary

Agenda includes: adoption of 2018 budget; approve constitution changes; elect 5 council members.

You can pick up a 2017 annual report which includes the 2018 budget proposal in mid January.
Anyone interested in running for church council please contact Steve Loyer.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – 2018

Beginning on Wednesday, **January 10 and continuing to March 21** (end of Lent), Pastor Bernie will offer a Bible Study at **6:30am (IHOP Elliot @ Arizona Ave) and 9:00am (Holy Trinity Campus)** which will focus on a study of the readings which will be shared at worship the following Sunday. Each class session is an independent unit which allows for class participants to be present, if and, when their schedules permits. You are invited to be part of this ongoing learning experience as we engage the Bible as the Word of God.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR DISCUSSION AND STUDY

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| January 10: | I Samuel 3:1-10; John 1:43-51 |
| January 17: | Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Mark 1:14-20 |
| January 24: | Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Mark 1:21-28 |
| January 31: | Isaiah 40:21-31; Mark 1:29-39 |
| February 7: | 2 Kings 2:1-12; Mark 9:2-9 |
| February 14: | Genesis 9:8-17; Mark 1:9-15 |
| February 21: | Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Mark 8:31-38 |
| February 28: | Exodus 20:1-17; John 2:13-22 |
| March 7: | Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-21 |
| March 14: | Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 12:20-33 |
| March 21: | Isaiah 50:4-9a; Mark 15:1-39 |



Habitat
for Humanity®

Holy Trinity & Habitat for Humanity

As you know, Holy Trinity is sponsoring and building a house with our Coalition partners of Desert Cross, Mountain View and Esperanza Lutheran churches. Many of you are willing to work on Saturdays or provide lunch for the workers. Thanks for your continued support of this effort!

All the money to sponsor our Habitat house is raised by contributions from members and friends -- no Holy Trinity funds are used in this ministry. Habitat is a charitable organization; therefore, most contributions qualify as an Arizona income tax credit. The amounts of the credit this year are \$800 for married filing a joint return and \$400 for single tax payers. This tax credit is separate from and in addition to similar tax credits for your contributions to public schools and private school tuition organizations. Ask Mary Larsen if you have any Arizona tax credit questions or check out the Arizona State website at www.azdor.gov/About/FAQs/CharitableTaxCredit.aspx

During November and December, we will be asking you to make your contribution to the house as soon as you can by **writing a check payable to “Habitat For Humanity – Central AZ”** but marking the memo line “Holy Trinity” and providing it to our church office manager, Judi Carle. It is really important to enclose your check in an envelope marked “Habitat for Humanity” and place the envelope in the offering plate or provide it to the church office so it does not go into the general Holy Trinity fund. This way, you will receive letter receipts from both Habitat and the Holy Trinity Habitat committee to use when filing your taxes.

Thanks for all your support for this wonderful ministry. Please contact me with any questions.

Yours in ministry, *Mary Larsen, Coalition Chair*, 602-400-7049 or Chularsen@gmail.com

Endowment Fund Committee News

We are so excited for the New Year as we look forward to introducing ourselves and giving you more information about the Endowment Fund at Holy Trinity’s Annual Meeting; partnering with Pastor Chris for a great seminar you won’t want to miss; and, of course, awarding funds to some very worthy causes.

A total of \$8,000.00 was awarded to seven organizations over the course of our two distributions in 2017! Please refer to the Annual Report to the Congregation for more details about those distributions and about the Endowment Fund in general. Our Spring distribution application deadline is April 1st, so be thinking of the causes near and dear to your heart which embody the mission outreach of Holy Trinity to submit for consideration of funding.

As mentioned above, the Endowment Fund Committee is partnering with Pastor Chris for a gathering this Spring we hope you will all consider attending, whatever your age. We will be providing information on the various end-of-life decisions that should be in place well before what one would consider the end of life. Please be watching for more information in future newsletters and a booth on the patio coming a little closer to the event.

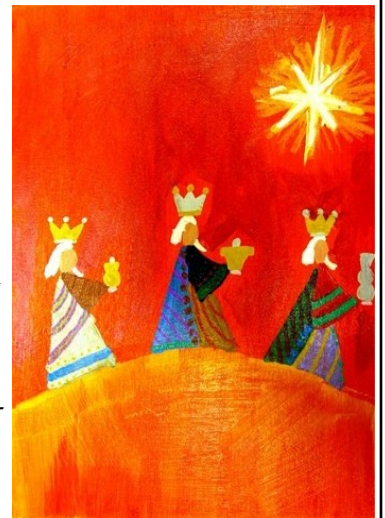
Thank you to those who have given so generously to the Endowment Fund over the years to allow for us to award funds not only to the seven in 2017, but to all those that came before them as well. Your Endowment Fund donations ensure that Holy Trinity’s commitment to local, national, and global communities will continue into the future.

Happiest of New Years to your family!

Barbara Carl, Teri Smithers & Michele Heath

ART FOR EPIPHANY

Do you have a special artistic gift that you would like to use to help enhance our worship? Do you quilt, paint, draw, wood work, sculpt, write, create in some other medium? Use your talent and help illustrate one of the texts from the season of Epiphany, Dec 31 – Feb 11. Pick the text which speaks to you and bring your art in (with a description if you like) the week before, so we can display it during worship! Please email chris@htlutheran.com which week you would like to do, so that we can track what weeks have been picked. I am excited to see how the congregation uses the gifts God has given them!



| Day in the Church year | Date | Text |
|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Epiphany of the Lord | December 31 | Matthew 2:1-12 |
| Baptism of the Lord | January 6 | Mark 1:4-11 |
| Second Sunday after the Epiphany | January 14 | John 1:43 -51 |
| Third Sunday after the Epiphany | January 21 | Mark 1:14-20 |
| Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany | January 28 | Mark 1:21-28 |
| Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany | February 4 | Mark 1:29-39 |
| Transfiguration Sunday | February 11 | Mark 9:2-9 |



January 17th @ 6:30pm

1455 American Grille - (1455 W. Elliot Rd #101-Gilbert)

RSVP NEEDED – Sign Up TODAY!

January 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|------------------|
| 7 Chandler CARE Food Box | 8 Happy New Year! | 9 5:30 pm OA 7:00 pm Council Meeting 7:30 pm CA | 10 6:30 am Bible Study 9:00 am Bible Study 4:00 pm Scouts 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 pm Handbells | 11 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Women's Plan- ning Meeting 7:30 pm AA | 12 6:30 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am AIAnon 6:30 pm Ethnic Dinner | 13 9:00 am AA |
| 14 8:00 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Town Hall 2:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Sr High | 15 5:30 pm OA 7:30 pm AA | 16 9:00 am Martha Circle 5:30 pm OA 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir 7:30 pm CA | 17 6:30 am Bible Study 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Widows Wite 4:00 pm Scouts 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 pm Beer & Hymns | 18 8:30 am Quilters 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm AA | 19 6:30 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am AIAnon | 20 9:00 am AA |
| 21 8:00 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship | 22 5:30 pm OA 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm Handbells 7:30 pm AA | 23 5:30 pm OA 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir 7:30 pm CA | 24 6:30 am Bible Study 9:00 am Bible Study 4:00 pm Scouts 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 pm Handbells | 25 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm AA | 26 6:30 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am AIAnon | 27 9:00 am AA |
| 28 8:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Annual Meet- ing | 29 5:30 pm OA 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm Handbells 7:30 pm AA | 30 5:30 pm OA 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir 7:30 pm CA | 31 6:30 am Bible Study 9:00 am Bible Study 4:00 pm Scouts 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 pm Handbells | | | |

NEW YEAR JOY!!

In the movie, Forrest Gump, Forrest and Lieutenant Dan are in a seedy bar with a couple of women who have reputation for enjoying themselves by indulging in adult beverages. As they watch the ball drop on the bar tv signaling the beginning of a new year, one of the young ladies looks at Forrest and says, "I love New Years, it gives everyone a chance to begin again."

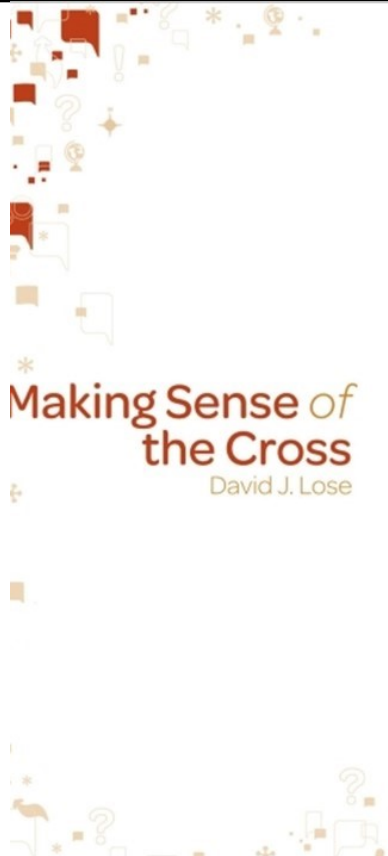
And so, it's just about time, as the calendar goes from 2017 to 2018, for many of God's people to reflect on what the past year has wrought and what the new year will bring. One of the traditions that forms part of this reflection is to make new year's resolutions. What resolutions are going to be part of your plan in 2018? Losing weight, getting to the gym, eating healthier, ending bad habits, are among the most frequent resolutions that many adopt. Unfortunately, many resolutions fall by the wayside a month or two after they are made. LA Fitness parking lots are full in January but are not so full in February.

Those of you who call Holy Trinity your church home are challenged to make a new year's resolution and keep it as it relates to your community of faith. Here are a number of suggestions for your consideration:

- Smile and share joy everyday
- Attend worship more regularly
- Become involved in the "Day of Service"
- Serve coffee fellowship twice a year
- Serve as an usher, communion assistant, or reader
- Join one of the choirs
- Resolve to increase the time, talent, and treasure you share as part of the family of faith called Holy Trinity.

These are but a few of the many resolutions we hope you will promise to adopt this coming year and with prayer and God's help you will fulfill them and bring JOY to your faith community and all those who you meet and serve in 2018.

God's Blessings,
Your Stewardship Ministry Team



Pastor Chris' Bible Study

Beginning Thursday

January 4 at 6:30 PM

6 week study

(pick up a book for \$10, one per family, on the patio and read chapter 1 before the first class)



We need at least two more couples!

Dinner for Six provides you with an opportunity to get to know other people within the church by hosting or attending four dinners between January and April. The host provides the main course and the others in the group contribute the rest of the meal. The meals can be simple or fancy, pot luck or themed. The choice is up to you! You do not need to be able to host to join and singles are welcome so there is no reason not to join!

Contact Judi at 480-963-4127 or judi@htlutheran.com for more info or to sign up.



Year of the Dog 2018

Back, by Popular Demand!

Ring in the Chinese New Year with a 9 Course
Banquet of Chinese Delights



Phoenix Palace

("Authentic and Best Dim Sum in Town")

<http://www.phoenixpalacerestaurant.com/about-phoenix-palace.html>

FRIDAY, January 12, 2018 at 6:30pm

2075 N. Dobson Road, Chandler
(northeast corner of Dobson and Warner Roads)

Special performance by Sabina Fu

(Playing the guzheng, Chinese zither, an ancient stringed instrument that dates back 2500 years)

\$30/person, Includes 9 courses, tax, 18% gratuity,
entertainment and beverages

(Wine and alcohol will be cash and carry)

* Give cash or check to Christine, at the door

RSVP to: Christine Halvorson (cquinn_1@hotmail.com or 480-747-8315)

Angel Tree

Thank you for all of the Angel Tree donations. We took two vans full of food and kids gifts to Chandler CARE Center.

You are so generous!



Thank you to all you helped on our Church work day. The campus looks great!

MISSION TRIP to GALVESTON BAY (HURRICANE RECOVERY) APRIL 8th thru 14th 2018

Cost is \$100 plus airfare.

Most of the work is interior rebuilding, painting, floors, cabinets. No building experience needed. Must be 16 or older.

For more information contact Kim Butler or Pastor Chris.

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS



Do you like to write?

1. Write a 50 to 75 word devotional about the biblical text. (handout in the office)
2. Write a prayer.
3. Return to Pastor Bernie by **SUNDAY, JANUARY 14** by either a typed copy or by emailing a copy to bernardwcarl1@gmail.com
4. If you have questions you can either email Pastor Bernie or call at 480-521-6130.

CHRIST CENTERED CANCER CARE

Monday, January 22, 2018
6:30pm, Classroom A

Guest Speaker: Tricia Young, RD
Nutrition Coordinator, Ironwood
Cancer and Research Centers

Join our CCCC team and Tricia Young as she discusses the role nutrition plays in the prevention of cancer, during therapy and post cancer.

“For those whose lives have been touched by cancer through personal experience, caregiving, or helping family or friends”



Women's Ministries of

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Women of all ages, coming together to connect through fellowship, support and spiritual



Congratulations Women & friends of Holy Trinity.

We raised \$1248.00 dollars in support of "Grace in The City" The Hygiene kits will be delivered on Christmas eve. Thank to the Advent team and for the many donations. Many thanks to Steve Bachtel and Wink Heath for information on Grace Lutheran.

Mark your calendars for our next event our Annual Tea set for March 17th more information to follow.

December - January

Children, Youth & Family News



Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church

Sunday School will resume January 7th at 9:30 a.m. for grades Pre-school through 5th grade.

Preschool through 2nd grade will begin in 1 Kings, as we are studying the Bible through the year.

3rd-5th grade will continue to do the Gospel lessons as well as work on the Apostles Creed.



Sr. High Youth Lunch

Jan. 7th at 11:00 a.m.

Cheddar's Restaurant – 2530 W. Chandler Blvd.



For more info,
See Pastor Chris
or
Andrew
or
Sandy Dusek



Wed. – Dec. 27th – 4:00 p.m.

Rigatony's

1850 E. Warner Road -Chandler

RSVP to Darcy by Dec. 23rd

All Because of Christ

THE ABC'S OF CHRISTMAS

Multi-Generational Christmas Program

Thank you to the READERS of the ABC Christmas

Thank you to Worship & Music Team AND Faith Formation Team for the breakfast

Thank you to all who baked cookies—very delicious

Thank you to all SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Thank you EVERYONE—Merry Christmas!

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
739 West Erie Street
Chandler, AZ 85225

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THE TRINITY TRUMPET

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Grand Canyon Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Among us ——Those who have been in our prayers this past month.



Please pray for: **Illness: Leroy Rohrbach; The Snyder's friend, Phyllis Tygret; Jo Mellage; Tracy Lemons' friends, Tyson Bredsguard & Rachel Burnett; Marlys Dierks; Dani Young; Carolyn Gloe's brother, Duane Zautke; The Snyder's friend, Karron Cole; Chip Piehl; Cheryl Jones dad, Louis Smith; Melinda Tarver's sister, Markita; ***Surgery:*** Teri Smithers; Tom Shields; Becky Leitner's brother, Warren White; ***Grief:*** Harriet Johnson & family following the death of her brother, Donald Paulson; Linae Stoner & family following the death of her mother, Leanna Myers; Family & friends of Carolyn Meitzler following her death;**