



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1415 McDuff Avenue, South
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trinity4jax.org

VOICE OF TRINITY

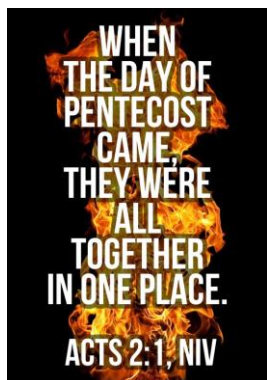
Proclaiming Jesus Christ to the World

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*"I will pour out my Spirit
on all people."*

Joel 2:28, NIV



From Our Deacon, Joanne Martin

This month, Deacon Joanne Martin is the guest writer for the “Pastor’s Article” of the Voice of Trinity. She is exploring the offerings or sacrifices in worship by the people of Israel, the religious leaders, and this connection to Jesus being the sacrificial lamb for our lives and the sake of the world.

Thank you, Deacon Joanne, for your sharing this month.

-Pastor Robert

This year in my Bible Study we have been traveling with Moses and the Israelites away from their bondage in Egypt and toward the Promised Land of Canaan. It has not been an easy trip, but God has been faithful to them despite their frequent forgetfulness and even open rebellion a couple of times. God was very clear that as part of their worship, they were expected to provide daily, weekly, and monthly offerings by fire to Him. Let’s take a look at what those offerings were comprised of. You can also read about them in the book of Numbers.

Each day, morning and evening, the priests were supposed to sacrifice an unblemished one-year-old lamb at their portable Tabernacle. Accompanying the lamb was to be a grain offering of approximately 2 quarts of fine flour mixed with about 1 quart of beaten oil, and a drink offering of a “strong drink.” God said that these daily offerings would produce “a pleasing aroma” to Him. They were not given because He was hungry, or He lacked anything. They were a form of worship that was to be carefully observed. And once each week, a Sabbath offering was called for: two extra lambs, an

Each new month called for its own sacrifices as well. On the first day of the month Israel was to offer two bulls, one ram, and seven yearling lambs that were male and without blemish. Each animal had its own grain and drink offering, and to top it all off, a male goat also would be offered at the beginning of each month as a sin offering to the LORD. Bear in mind that these monthly offerings were in addition to the daily ones. So, if the first day of a month happened to fall on a Sunday, the total offering would have been 11 lambs, 2 bulls, 1 ram and a goat.

During the course of a year, a total of more than 900 lambs would have been sacrificed, just to cover the daily, Sabbath, and monthly offerings. And all for the sheer worship of God. They were offered because God is God and He is worthy. The number of animals seems as though it would be painfully costly to a traveling group of people working hard to make a living, but God’s holiness required such sacrifice. In addition to the daily, Sabbath, and monthly offerings to the LORD, the Israelites were also to commemorate special events throughout the year. In the next few months we will take a closer look at the how and the why of these special Festival Offerings.

Bear in mind that Jesus made the costliest sacrifice of all, and because He gave His life for us, we are no longer required to offer animals to atone for our sins. Still, you can say that our worship has a cost. Romans 12:1 commands us to present our own bodies – our entire lives to God as living sacrifices. Paul said that would be our spiritual worship. How is your spiritual worship coming along?

Spaghetti Dinner Delights

Trinity was recently the host of TWO Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raisers!

- Riverside Chorus Dinner Concert on March 30th where students showcased their musical talents. Over \$400 was raised for the chorus.
- Children’s Enrichment Workshops (CEW) dinner on April 20th to help provide for the bus transportation costs. Over \$1,100 has been raised!

Thank you to Rae Ettmyer and Gary Hautau for cooking spaghetti for both dinners! And thanks to Karen and Bill Hiers and Berni Tomaszewski from Trinity for helping with the CEW Dinner.

Worship News:

A Worship Team consisting of Pastor Robert, Geri Buchanan, Sandra Bryant and Burney Pfaff have been looking at the various worship practices at each of the services, many of which were instituted in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic. Beginning with the first Sunday in May (May 7th), the following changes will be made to Trinity’s worship practices:

- We will go back to greeting one another with the Sharing of the Peace as we did pre-COVID, with a handshake or hug as people may feel comfortable.
- Communion Distribution:
 - ❖ reSource Service: By Intinction – where one will receive a wafer and proceed to dip it into a chalice of either wine or grape juice
 - ❖ Traditional Service: Communicants will proceed to the Altar Rail where they may kneel or stand. They will receive a wafer and then receive the wine or grape juice in an individual cup. A tray will be made available to deposit empty cups.

We have already resumed receiving our offerings and tithes as a part of the worship, with the ushers distributing the offering plate.

As we move into the summer and beyond COVID, these worship practices and others will continue to be evaluated with the congregation’s feedback.

You are invited to serve at either of the worship services in various capacities such as usher/greeter, lector, worship/communion assistant or in other ways. Please speak to Pastor Robert or a current leader participant. There is a signup list in the Hall of Memories for lectors at either worship service.

The May Love Offering

Trinity’s May LOVE Offering has been designated to support the *Rachel’s Day* offering of Women of the ELCA at Trinity. This offering in past years has been to support women’s programs at Hubbard House.

Choir

The choir needs YOU! Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 10:30 am. Please join us!

Congratulations to Hank Robert

Lind, who received the sacrament of Holy Baptism on April 23, 2023. Hank enjoyed the ceremony very much, grinning and waving to the congregation. He is the son of Sarah Knight and Kyle Lind. Sponsors are Alex and Marie Bogh.

Pentecost Sunday, May 28th

Plans are being made to celebrate Pentecost Sunday with a **Pentecost Party** at Trinity!

On Sunday, May 28th, there will be **one service at 10:00 am** celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit. Afterwards there will be food and fellowship to share and celebrate the day. If you have a favorite light “spirit filled” dish to share, plan on bringing it. Rumor has it Pastor Robert will be providing “flaming hot” chicken wings!

Be sure to wear something red!

More details to follow.

Thank You's:

- To Kim Bloomer and the Choir and to Dean Winter, Taylor Cook and the Praise Band for the wonderful music for Easter Sunday.
- Linda Culverwell for her work with the Altar arrangements for Holy Week and Easter Sunday and also for the video recording of the Holy Week and both Easter Sunday Services.
- Rae Ettmyer and Karen Hiers for arranging all the beautiful flowers that were brought to adorn the Altar area for Easter and for their preparation of the Easter Breakfast.
- Youth who helped serve the Easter Breakfast and help with the Easter Egg Hunt.
- Berni Tomaszewski who coordinated the Easter Egg Hunt for the children. Also thanks to parents who helped with the activities of the Easter Egg Hunt.
- Judy Hassler for decorating the tables for the Easter Breakfast.

From the Finance Team

Offerings:

We have resumed receiving offerings during both Worship services.

Contributions can also be made in the following ways:

- Mail a paper check to the church or bring to the office
- Use on-line banking
- Go to Trinity4jax.org and click on the donate button

From This Foundation, Our Ministry Grows (FTF,OMG) – Debt Reduction:

All donations made to the FTF,OMG Campaign (unless otherwise designated) will be applied to the principal balance of Trinity's mortgage. These donations will go 100% toward Debt Reduction in addition to the monthly mortgage payment.

Trinity Food Pantry Highlights

On April 25th, we kicked off Food Drives on behalf of the Community Food Pantry at Two Partner CEW Schools, Westside Riverside Elementary and Fishweir Elementary School.

Here's a recap of activity for April 2023:

Date	Patrons	Family Members	Zip Codes
April 13	69	158	13
April 14	63	163	16

15 Different Volunteers Served at the Community Food Panty during April 2023.

Schedule for May 2023:

May 11th – 4PM-6PM
 May 12th – 10AM-12 noon
 May 25th – 4PM-6PM
 May 26th – 10AM-12 noon

All donations of food or money are greatly appreciated! If you are interested in volunteering, contact Mark Baker: 847-525-7419 or mark.foodpantry@gmail.com

JOIN US for the TRINITY LUNCH BUNCH! MAY'S DESTINATION:

**Okinawa Japanese Restaurant
 4403 Roosevelt Blvd
 Jacksonville, FL 32210**

Sign up in the Hall of Memories

The **Word-In- Season**
 for Quarter 2
 - April-May-June -
 is available. Pick yours up in
 the narthex at the back of the
 church.

We are looking forward to
 - *Trinity's Garage Sale* -
 It will be on June 2nd & 3rd.
 Items may be brought to the
 church to be placed NEATLY on
 the stage.

Let Your Light Shine!

Women's Spring Gathering
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
3976 Hendricks Ave

May 13, 2023
 8:30 am – 1:00 pm
\$10.00 Registration Includes Lunch

Fun, Fellowship and Food awaits you as you
 enjoy a day with other women of similar
 interests from our North Florida Lutheran
 Churches.

Join Us!

Treasurer's Report
March 2023

1/1/2023 to 3/31/2023

Receipts

Actual	\$62,166
Budgeted	\$62,259
Actual-Budget	(\$93)

Expenses

Actual	\$53,796
Budgeted	\$60,680
Actual-Budget	(\$6,884)

Year-To-Date

Total Income	\$62,166
Total Expense	\$53,796

Bold City Brass music group
 of over two dozen talented
 musicians performed a delightful
 and wonderful concert on
 Saturday evening April 1st at
 Trinity. Thank you to Lainey Witt
 for arranging the concert. We hope
 to have them perform again at
 Trinity and to have a greater
 number in attendance!

FROM THIS FOUNDATION, OUR MINISTRY GROWS

Through March 2023, \$452,326 has been given and earned toward the campaign. The campaign formally ended at the end of 2022. However, a number of families and individuals are continuing to contribute to the campaign. Contributions are accepted toward additional principal reduction.

- The interior renovations and painting of the Gathering Room and upstairs Sunday School area are 99% complete.
- As of March 31, the Mission Investment Loan balance is \$355,058.
- Plans to purchase and install audio/visual equipment for recording and live streaming worship services are being revived.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed and helped to make this project and campaign a success!

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 CHURCH, E.L.C.A.**
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Our mission:
*To Proclaim Jesus Christ to the
 World!*

We're on the Web!
trinity4jax.org

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor:	Reverend Robert Kinley
Office Administrator:	Lise York
Organist/Choir Director:	Kim Bloomer
Director of reSource Ministry:	Dean Winter
Hostess:	Rae Ettmyer
Custodian:	Scott Piersall

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS:

President:	Rusty White
Vice President:	Karen Kuebler
Secretary:	Judy Hassler
Treasurer:	Burney Pfaff

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Pam Piersall	Judy Hassler	Don Howard
Geri Buchanan	Rusty White	Burney Pfaff
Gene Harvey	Karen Kuebler	Kyle Lind