



The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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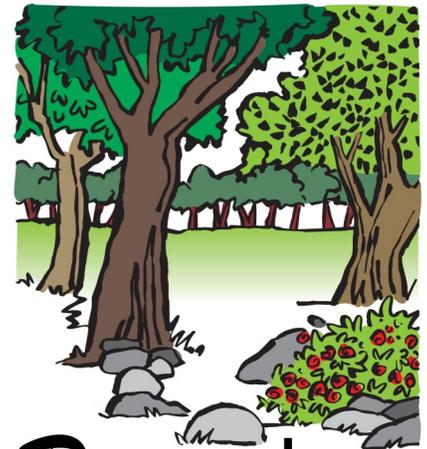
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



Deacon's SABBATICAL

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase. All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

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Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



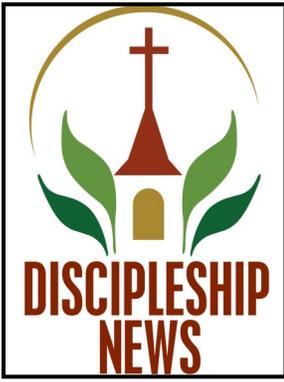
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



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Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

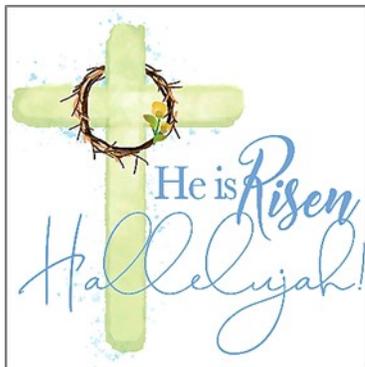
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



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"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

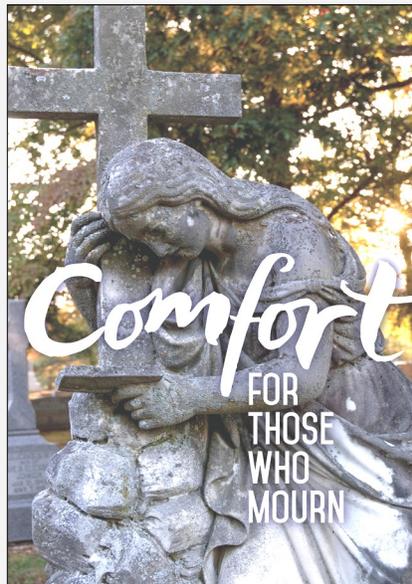
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intensely and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **“Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love.”** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

**FOLLOW US ON OUR
SOCIAL NETWORKS**



**The Church Calendar
keeps you informed!**



**The Church App
keeps you connected!**



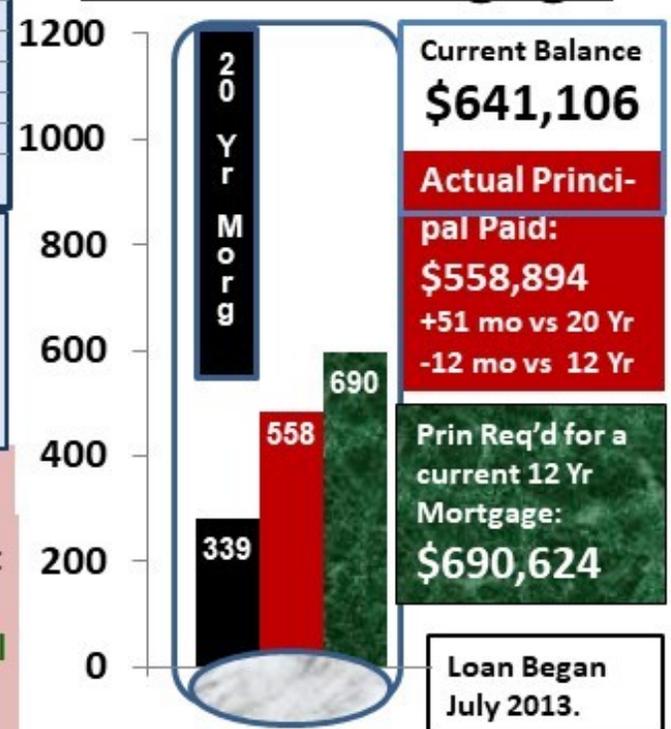
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



21315 Bat Cave Road
San Antonio, TX 78266

In This Issue

Pastor Aaron Richter
pastoraaron@triumphantultheran.org

Deacon Chris St. Clair
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Sharon Hopkins, Administrator
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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

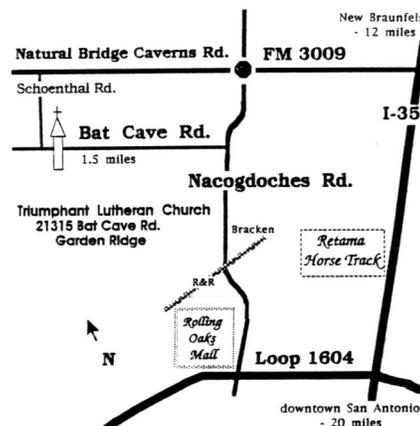
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

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"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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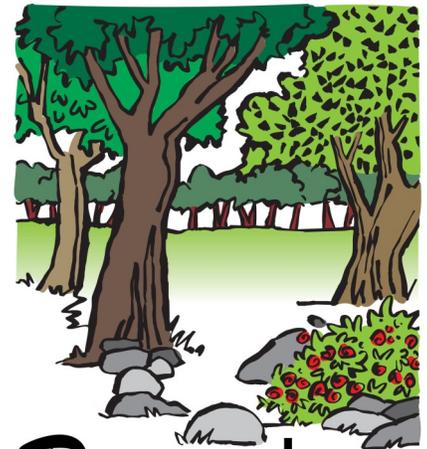
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



Deacon's SABBATICAL

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase.

All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

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Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

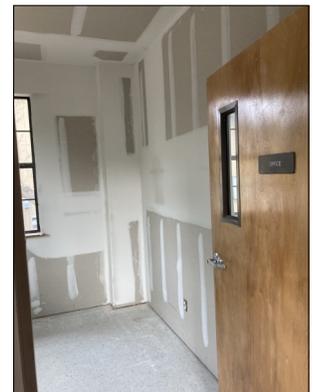
Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



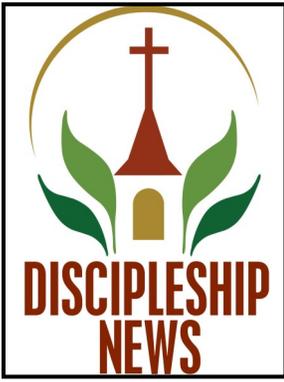
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



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Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfsw.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantultheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

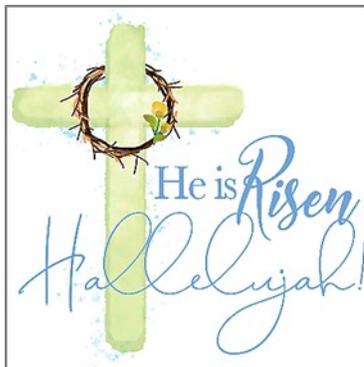
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

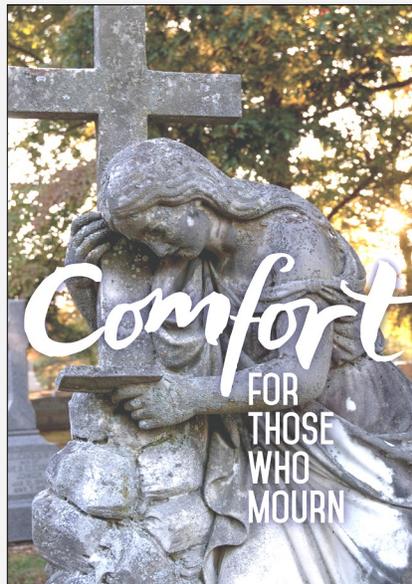
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intently and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **“Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love.”** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

**FOLLOW US ON OUR
SOCIAL NETWORKS**



**The Church Calendar
keeps you informed!**



**The Church App
keeps you connected!**



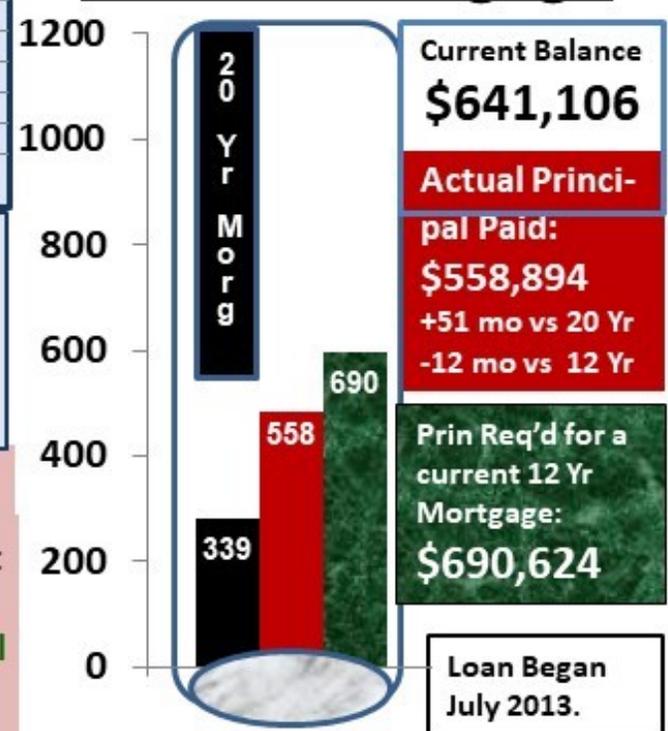
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

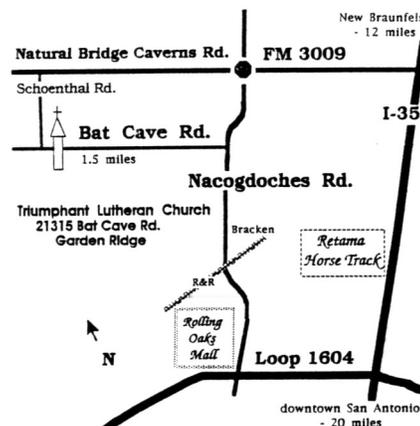
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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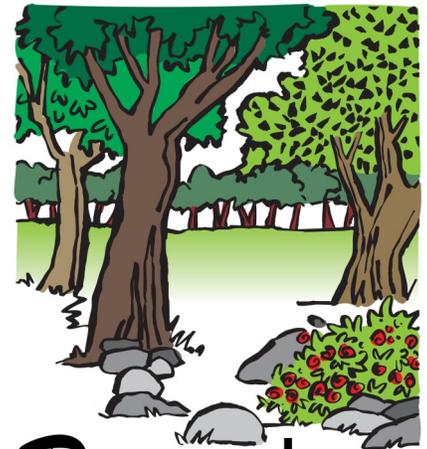
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



Deacon's SABBATICAL

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase. All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



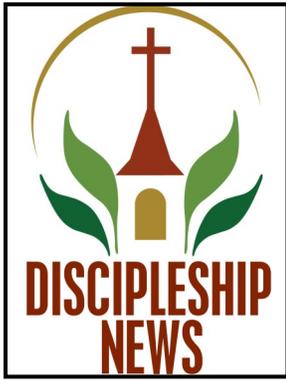
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



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Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

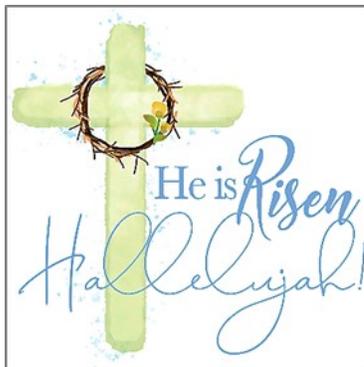
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

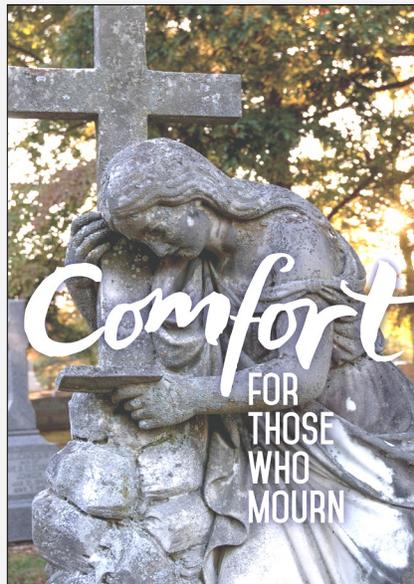
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intently and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **"Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love."** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

FOLLOW US ON OUR SOCIAL NETWORKS



The Church Calendar keeps you informed!



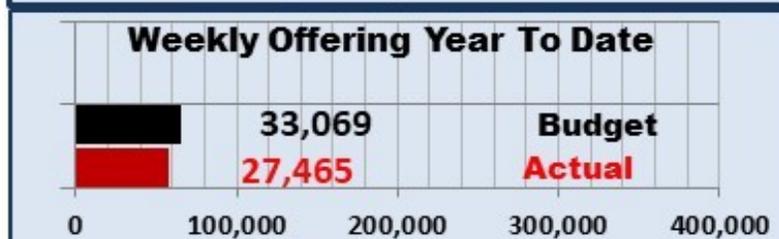
The Church App keeps you connected!



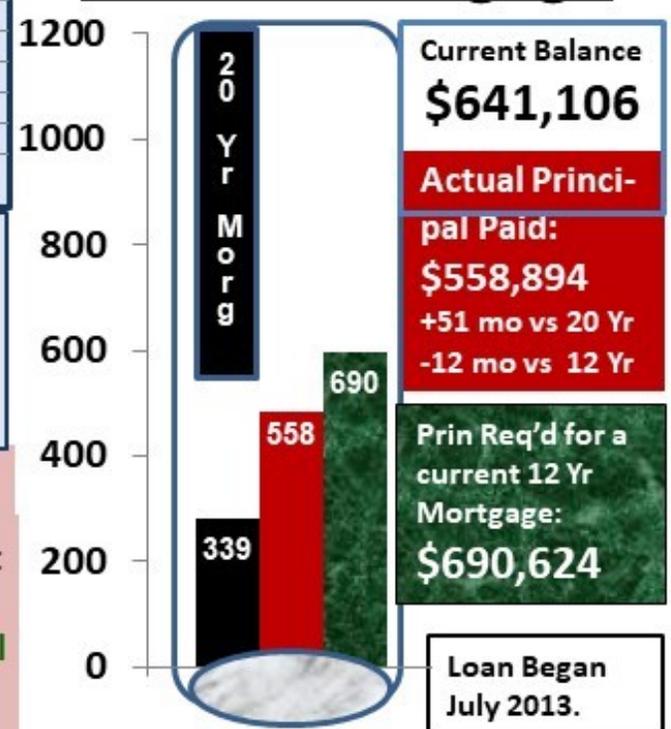
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

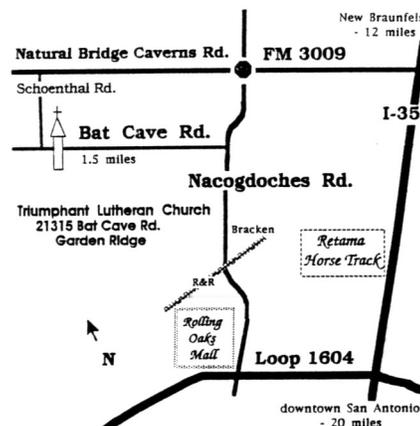
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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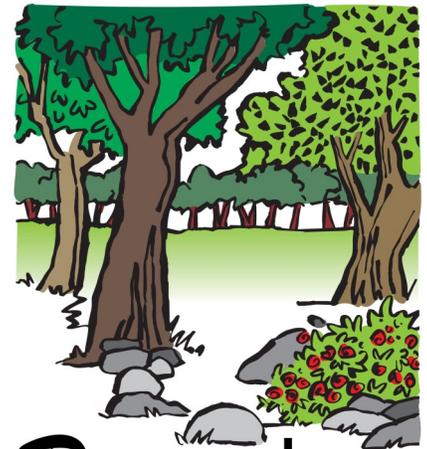
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



*Deacon's
SABBATICAL*

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase. All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



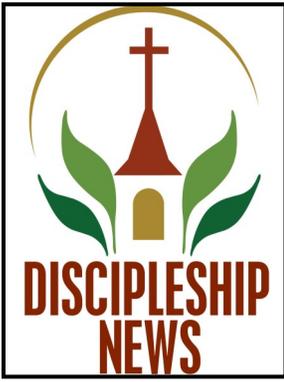
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



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Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

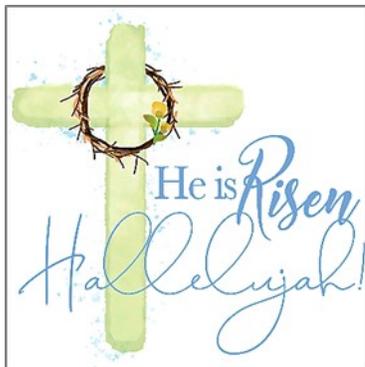
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

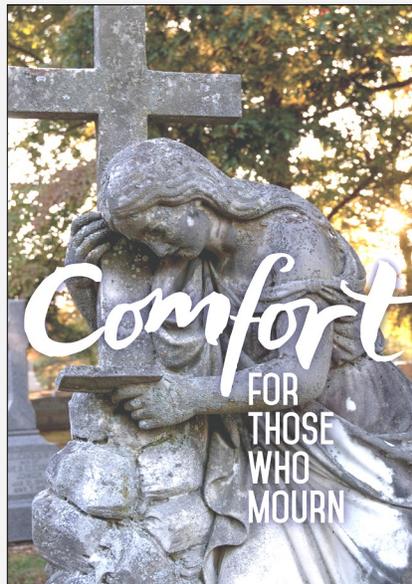
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intensely and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **“Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love.”** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

**FOLLOW US ON OUR
SOCIAL NETWORKS**



**The Church Calendar
keeps you informed!**



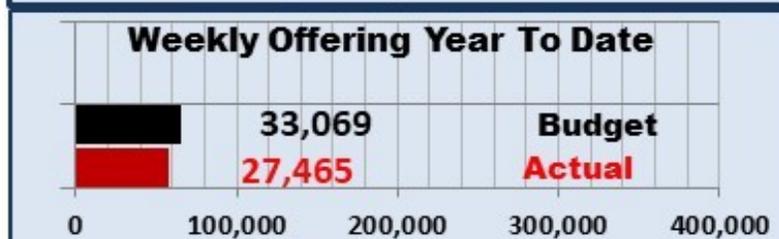
**The Church App
keeps you connected!**



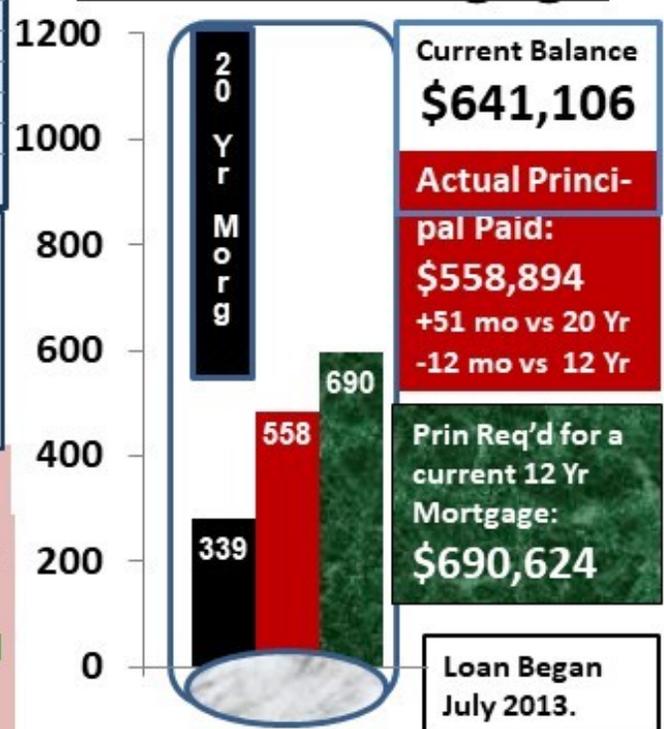
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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San Antonio, TX 78266

In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

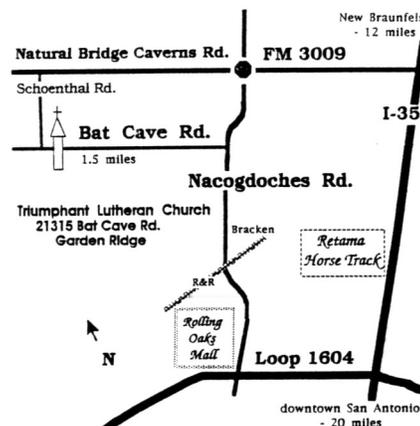
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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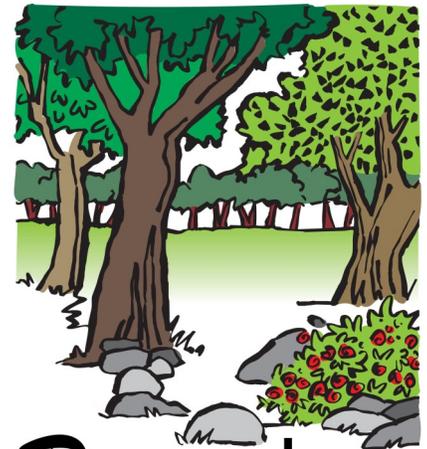
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



Deacon's SABBATICAL

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase. All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



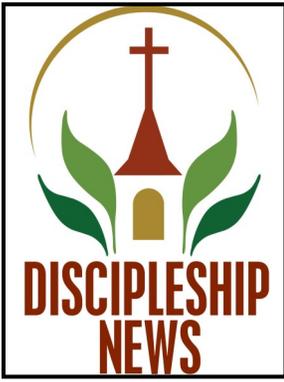
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



6

Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

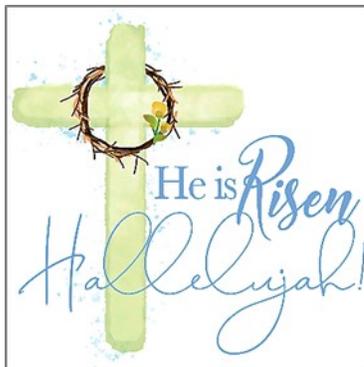
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

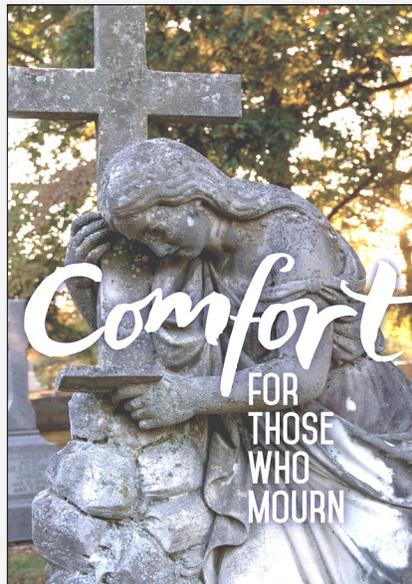
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intensely and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **“Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love.”** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

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The Church App keeps you connected!



Triumphant Lutheran Church

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Learning Videos
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Available for Apple and Android Devices

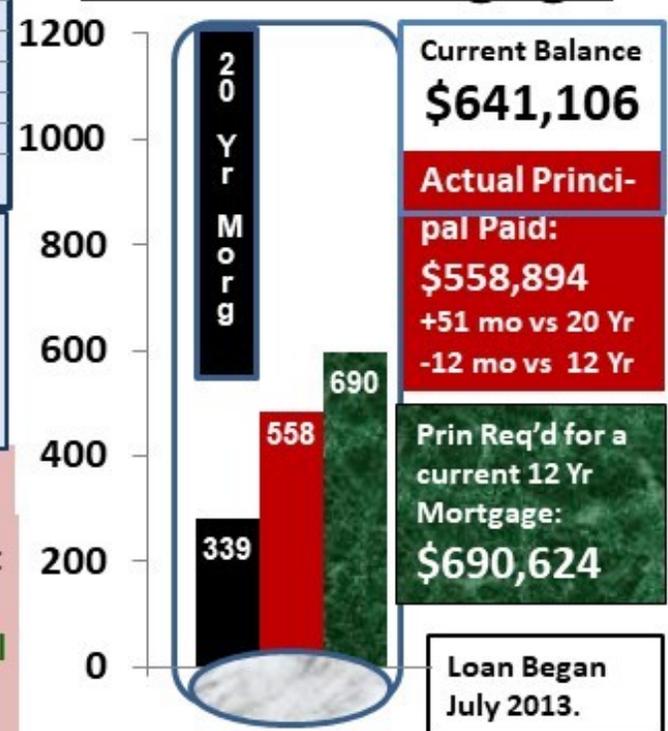
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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San Antonio, TX 78266

In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

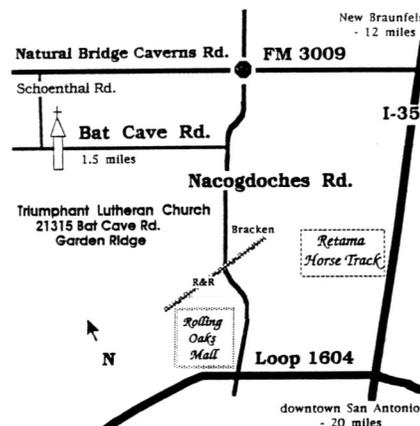
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

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"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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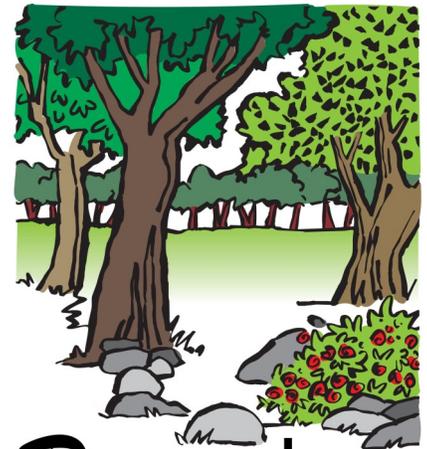
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



*Deacon's
SABBATICAL*

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase.

All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



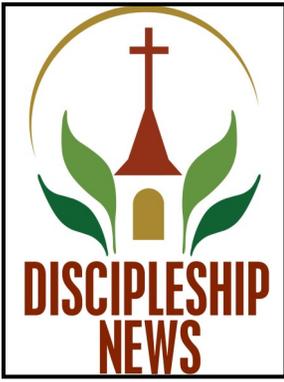
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



6

Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfsw.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

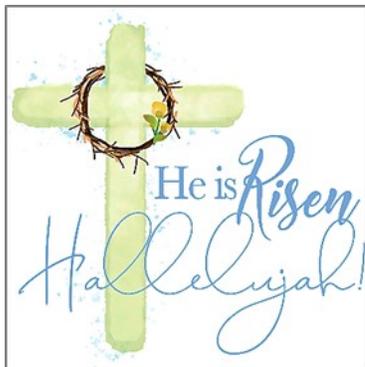
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

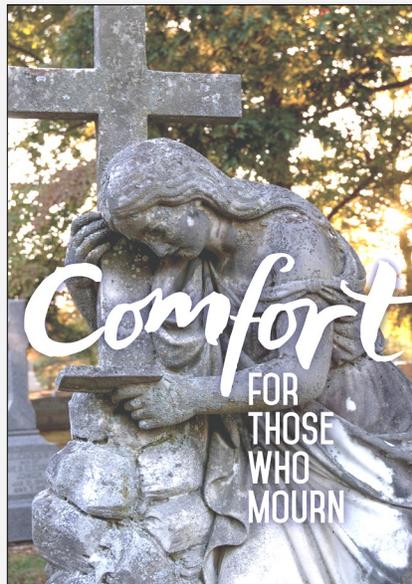
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intensely and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **"Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love."** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

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SOCIAL NETWORKS**



**The Church Calendar
keeps you informed!**



**The Church App
keeps you connected!**



**Sunday’s Bulletin
Learning Videos
Upcoming Events,
and more!**

Available for Apple
and Android Devices

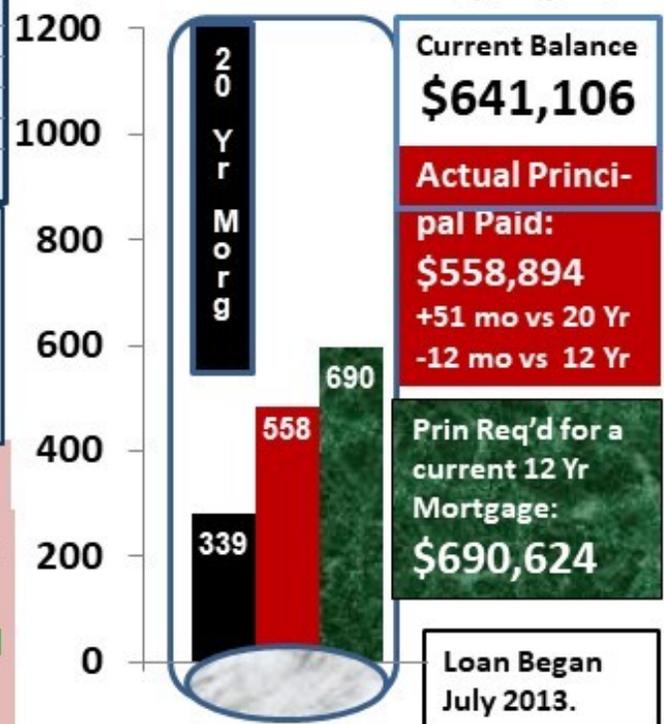
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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San Antonio, TX 78266

In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

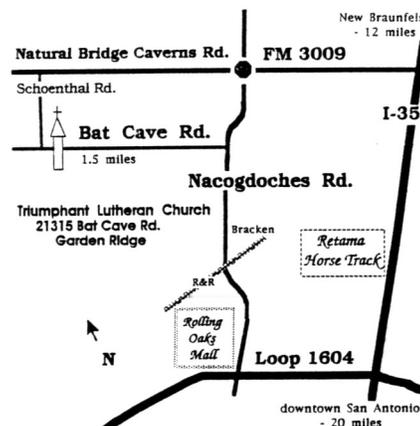
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

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"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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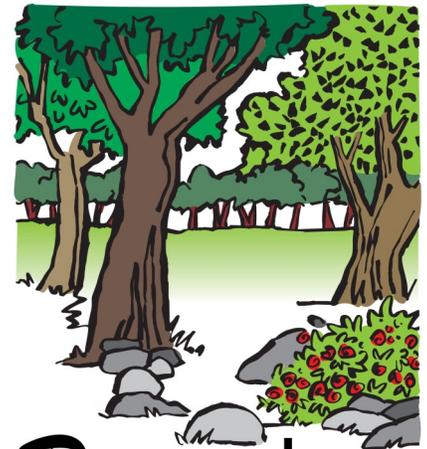
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



Deacon's SABBATICAL

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase.

All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



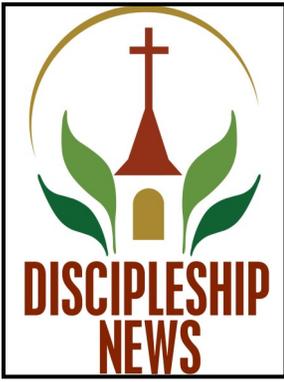
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



6

Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfsw.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

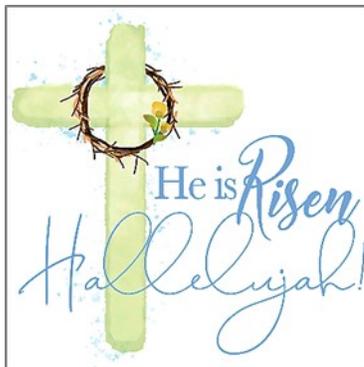
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

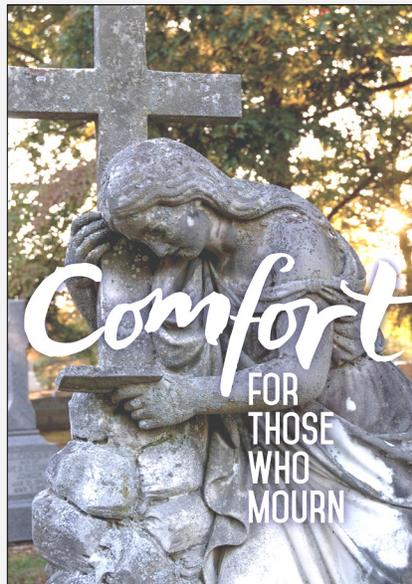
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intently and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **"Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love."** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

FOLLOW US ON OUR SOCIAL NETWORKS



The Church Calendar keeps you informed!



The Church App keeps you connected!



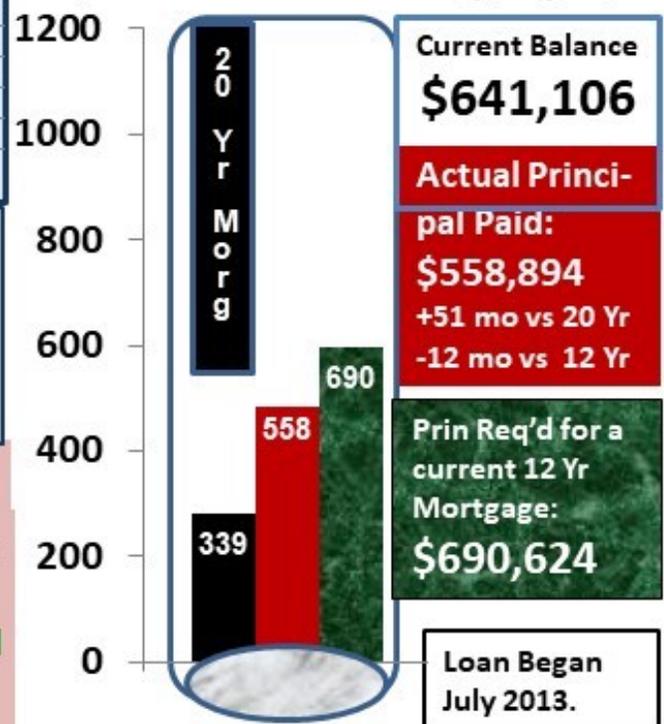
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

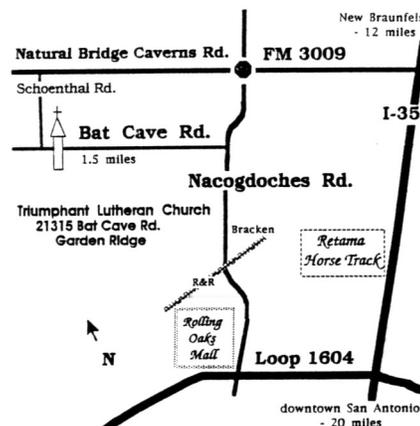
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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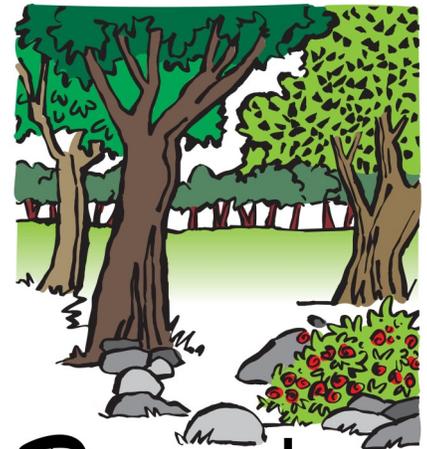
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



*Deacon's
SABBATICAL*

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase.

All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word “trust” has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: “Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord.” — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



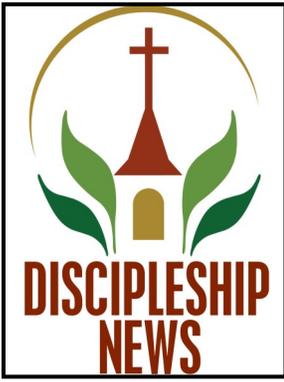
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



6

Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantultheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

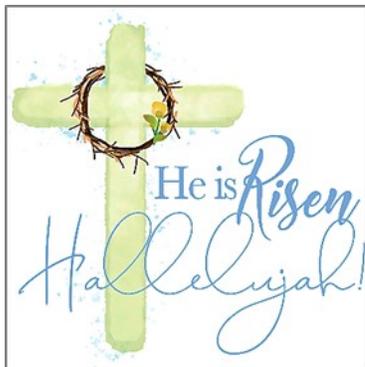
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

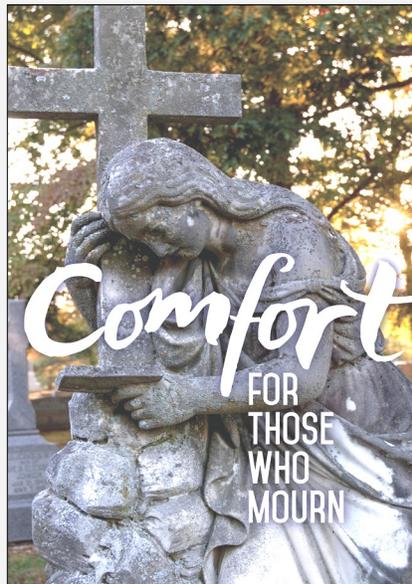
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intently and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **“Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love.”** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

**FOLLOW US ON OUR
SOCIAL NETWORKS**



**The Church Calendar
keeps you informed!**



**The Church App
keeps you connected!**



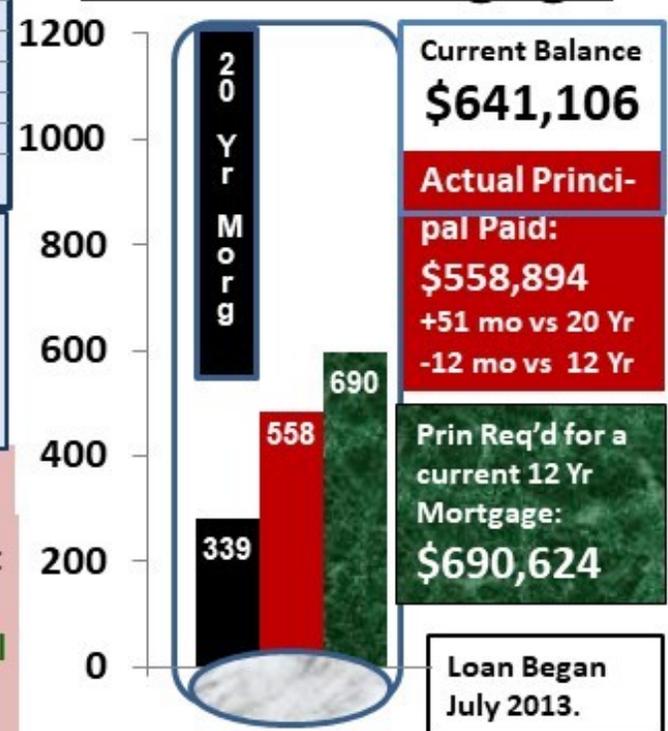
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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San Antonio, TX 78266

In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

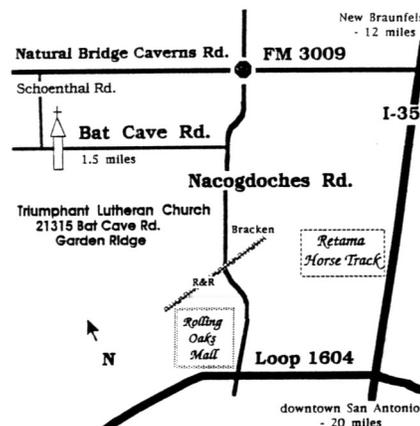
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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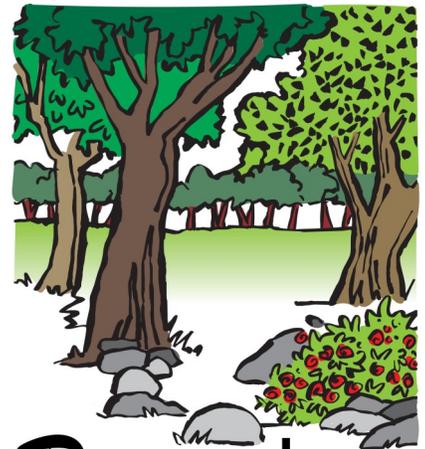
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



Deacon's SABBATICAL

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase.

All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



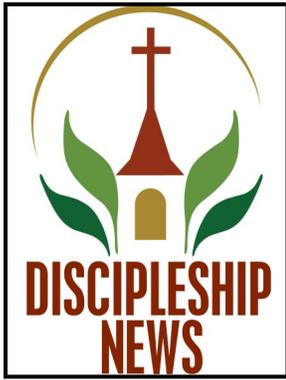
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



6

Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

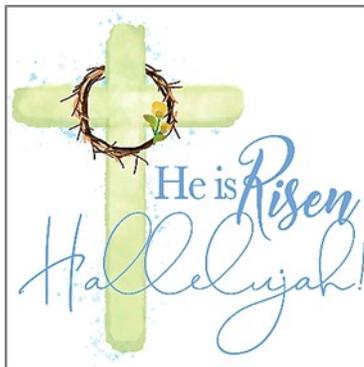
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

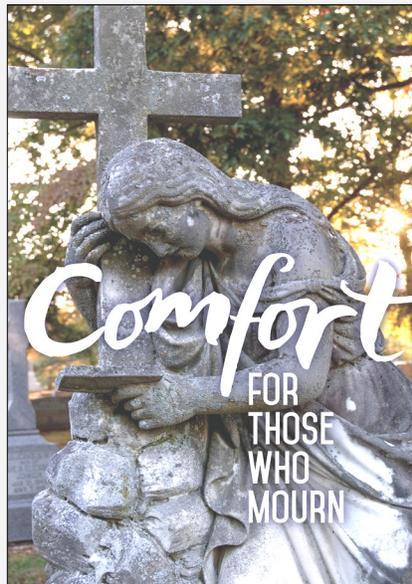
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intently and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **"Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love."** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

**FOLLOW US ON OUR
SOCIAL NETWORKS**



**The Church Calendar
keeps you informed!**



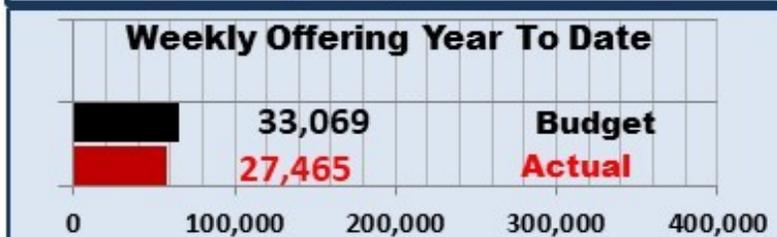
**The Church App
keeps you connected!**



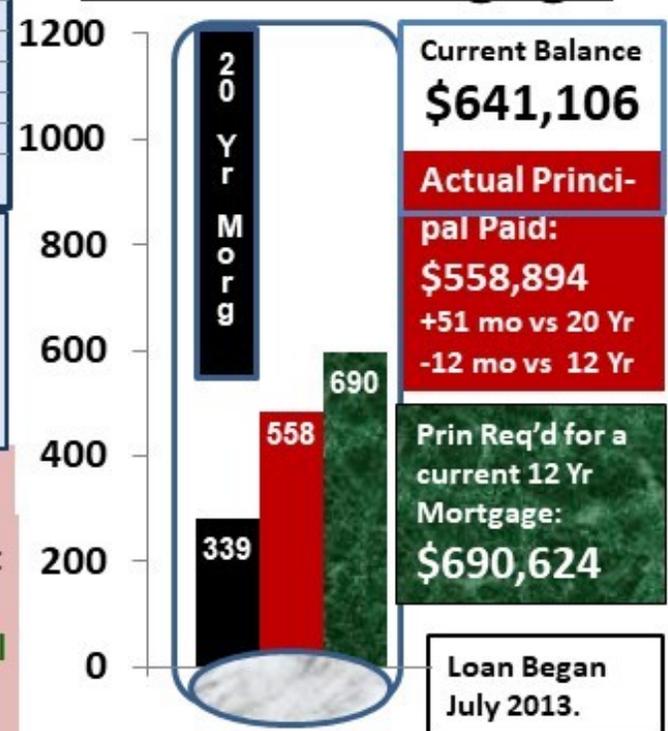
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

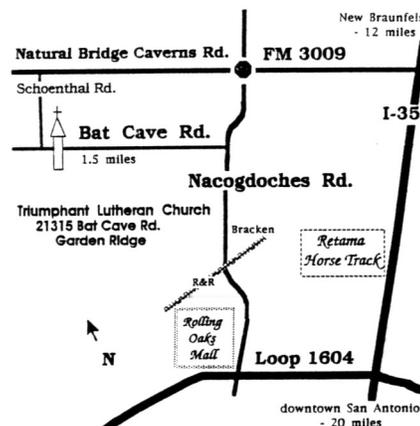
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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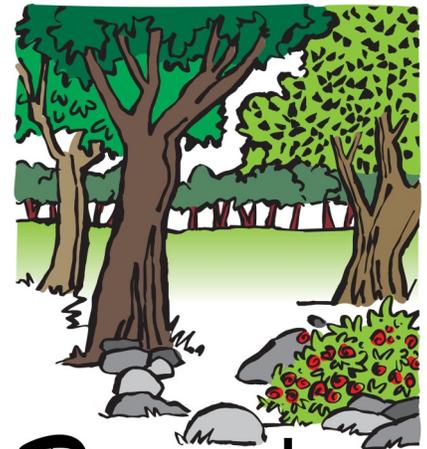
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



*Deacon's
SABBATICAL*

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase.

All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



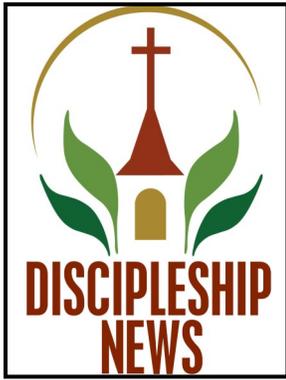
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



6

Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

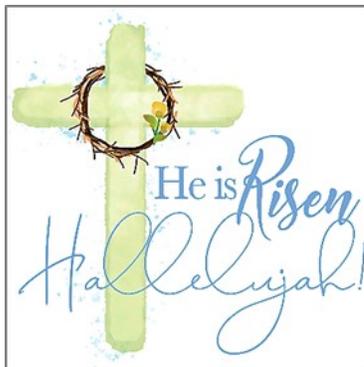
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

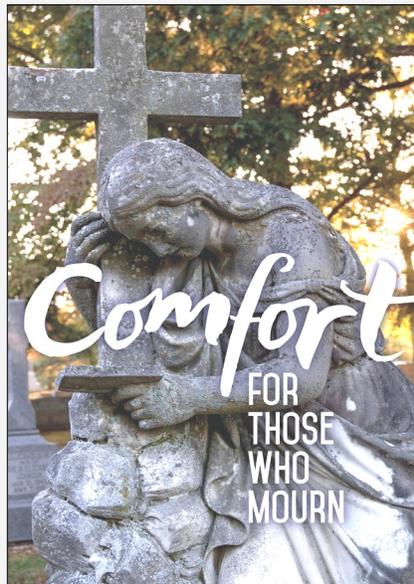
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intently and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **"Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love."** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

**FOLLOW US ON OUR
SOCIAL NETWORKS**



**The Church Calendar
keeps you informed!**



**The Church App
keeps you connected!**



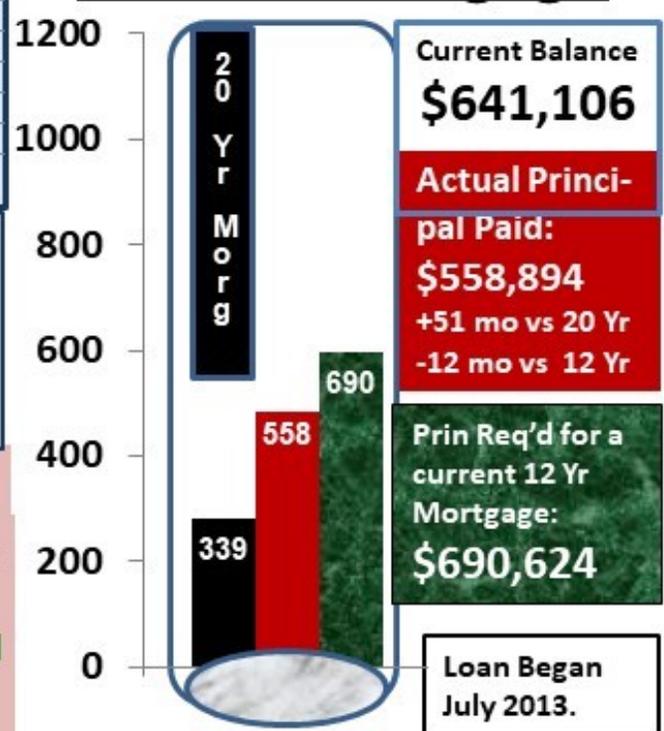
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

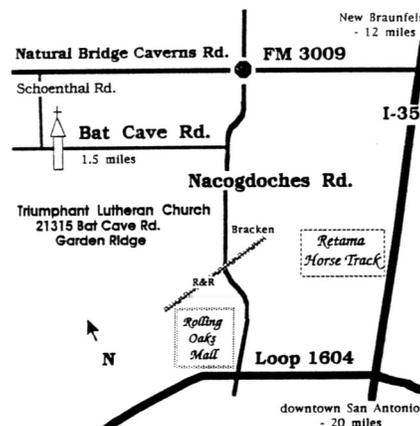
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantlutheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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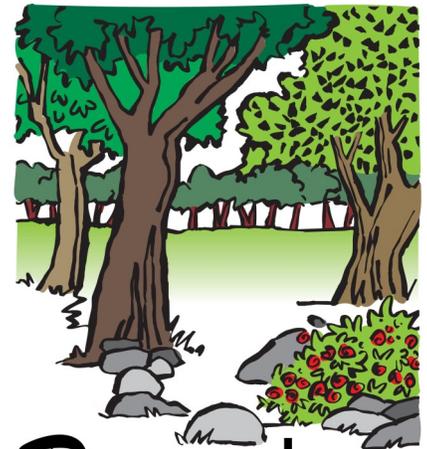
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



Deacon's SABBATICAL

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase. All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



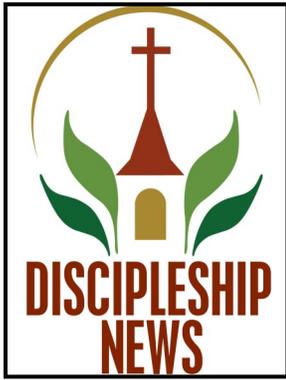
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



6

Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

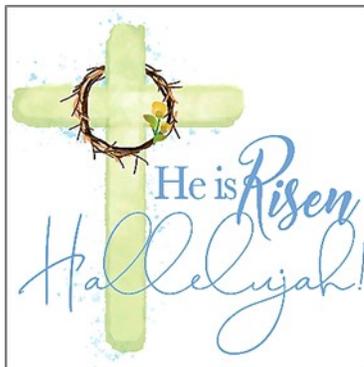
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

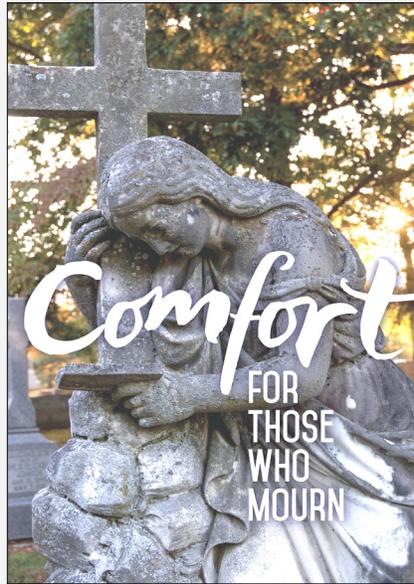
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intently and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **"Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love."** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

**FOLLOW US ON OUR
SOCIAL NETWORKS**



**The Church Calendar
keeps you informed!**



**The Church App
keeps you connected!**



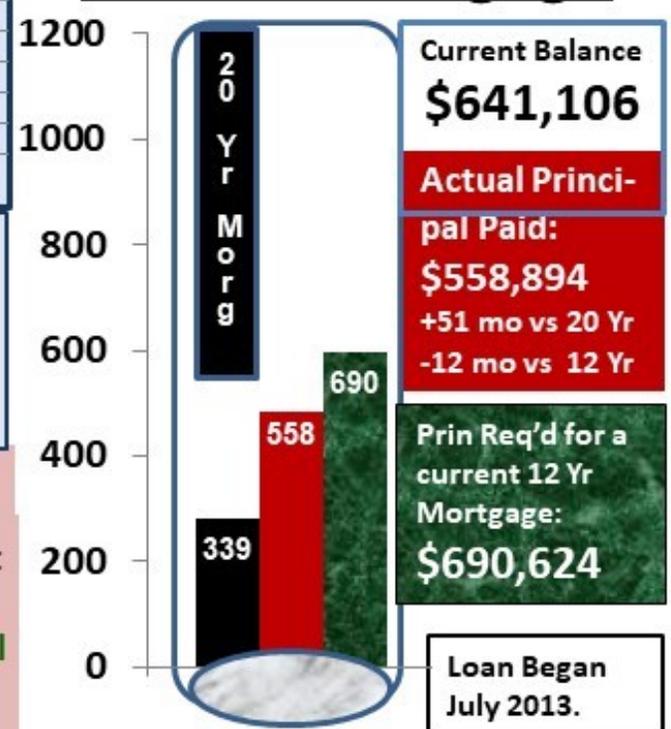
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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San Antonio, TX 78266

In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

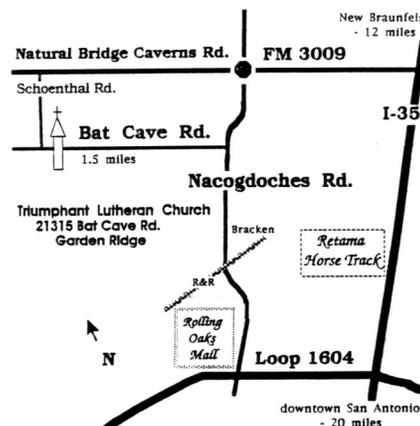
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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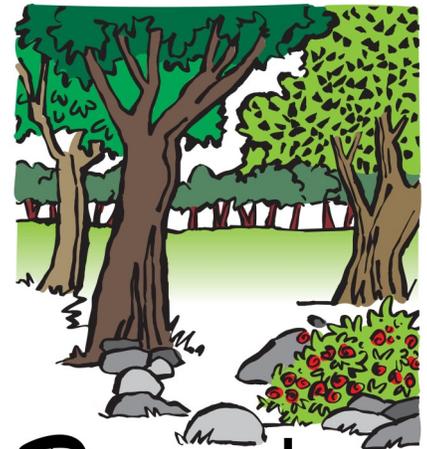
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



*Deacon's
SABBATICAL*

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase. All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



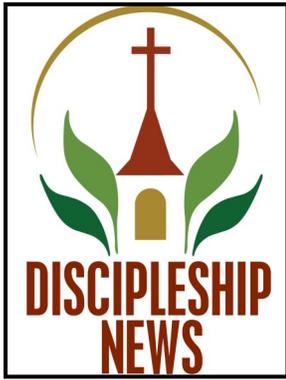
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



6

Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

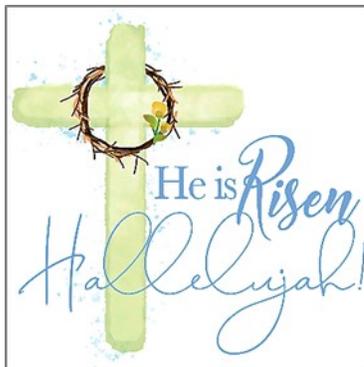
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

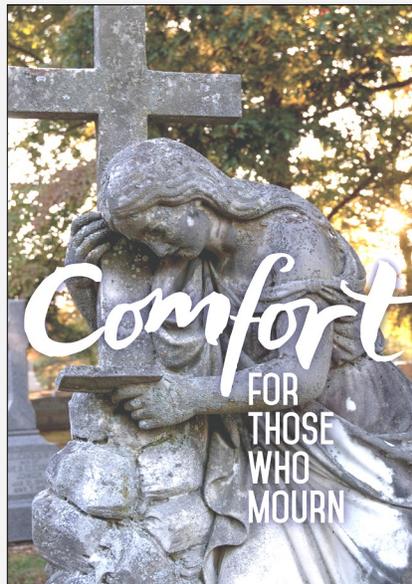
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intently and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **"Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love."** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.



Join me as I walk and appreciate and live in the hope that only the Son of God can give.



Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

**FOLLOW US ON OUR
SOCIAL NETWORKS**



**The Church Calendar
keeps you informed!**



**The Church App
keeps you connected!**



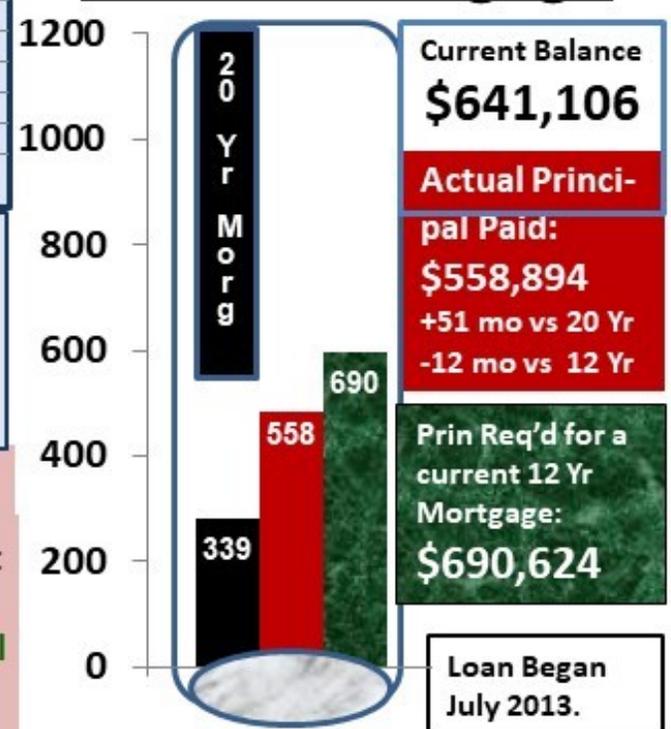
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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San Antonio, TX 78266

In This Issue

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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

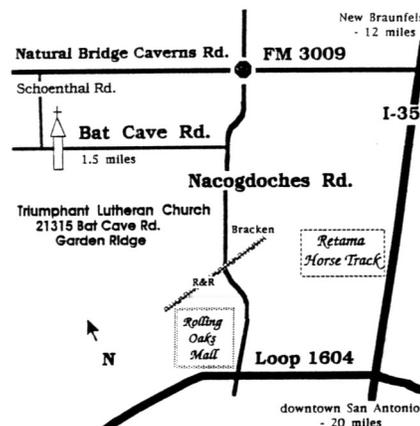
[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

(210) 651-9090





The Trumpet

A publication of Triumphant Lutheran Church, a congregation of the ELCA

Vol. 42, Issue 4

"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"

April 2021

THE HOPE *of* Easter

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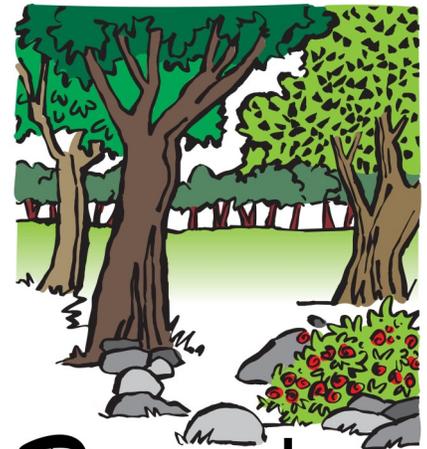
DEACON'S CORNER

Last month, Pastor Aaron wrote a *Trumpet* article about sabbatical. In his article he wrote,

“Sabbatical, which is rooted in the idea of Sabbath, is an opportunity for deacons and pastors to take a step back from their normal routine and engage in deeper study, receive spiritual nourishment, and be re-energized when they return to the congregation. It is an opportunity to not only help the leader to re-energize, but also for the congregation to learn and grow as a result of their rostered leader’s study and development.”

As we have talked more about my upcoming sabbatical, it has been encouraging to hear people’s excitement about this opportunity. In addition to these supportive comments, many have asked what I will be doing on my sabbatical. I wanted to share my plans with you.

First, I will be spending time learning about the history and vocation of diaconal ministry. For those of you who may not know, I graduated from seminary and began working at Triumphant in 2010. I returned to seminary for classes to finish up my candidacy as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in 2014 - 2016. In August 2016, the ELCA consolidated the lay ministries (AIMs, Deacons, and Deaconesses) into one ministry, Deacons. In January 2017, I was ordained into a ministry that I never formally studied. I will be spending my time on sabbatical reading, talking, and studying diaconal ministry from other deacons, especially as it relates to the work in congregations. I have often been asked, “What is a Deacon?” I have always struggled with an answer that encompasses more than my personal story. My hope is that my diaconal study will help me articulate the best answer to this question.



*Deacon's
SABBATICAL*

Secondly, I will be spending some time taking my family on some once-in-a-lifetime trips. Ever since I was a kid, I have always been most refreshed by the outdoors. I spent much of my early teens camping with my family or Boy Scout troop. I plan to spend some time at local state and national parks throughout my sabbatical. Without the planning that camp, VBS, and mission trip involves, I will be able to spend longer periods of time traveling. In June, my family will travel to Idaho and Wyoming on a 2-week RV trip through several national parks – Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Craters of the Moon, and City of Rocks. I look forward to going on hikes and adventures with them. In July, we will road trip to North Carolina to visit family and see that part of the country where we will visit my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Finally, we will be purchasing a house soon. We have been house hunting over the last few months, and hope to move into a house we can call our own. Some of my sabbatical will be spent packing and unpacking, interspersed with about 498 trips to local hardware stores. We have waited a long time for the opportunity to own our own home, and this will afford us an opportunity to move in and make it our home.

I really appreciate the gift of a sabbatical. I look forward to the opportunity to study diaconal ministry, take several trips, and move into a new home. I am also looking forward to the ways that this sabbatical will propel our ministry together for years ahead.

God’s Peace, Deacon Chris

Council News

Property and Resources

OPEN

This important ministry team lead is responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings. If you feel called to help the church in this ministry or just have questions about it, please call John Gallo at (281)435-9794 or [send him an email](#). Thank you!



Ken Smith

Worship and Music



Lori O'Berg

Evangelism



Becky Sonnen

Congregational Life



Amy Coronado

Servant Outreach

Lenten Giving: RACAP

Thank you all so much for your very generous donations to RACAP during Lent. I know that many families will truly appreciate them!

Young Adult Care Packages

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for our young adult care packages. This is a great way to show young adults who are beginning to forge their own ways in the world or who are attending college that we are thinking about them and that they are loved. Beginning on Easter Sunday, please select a tag

with a specific item or items to purchase. All items will be due back to church by Sunday, April 18.

4



Jennifer Feutz

Early Childhood Programs

Spring is the season of rebirth, of hope. That is certainly true for our ECP. God provided a reliable and capable contractor to begin work right away in our Preschool buildings. With the help of volunteers (THANK YOU!), items were moved from the classrooms to the Fellowship Hall so the contractor workers could do their job. The clean up phase is complete and now we have entered the rebuild phase. Taping and floating the sheetrock has begun, and then on to painting. The Preschool has set up temporary classrooms and continues to provide for the enrolled students. With the season of rebirth, registration for next year is underway ([get the details here!](#)) and we continue forward with hope and reassurance that God leads us. Thank you to those who have volunteered when the call has been sent out. Your time and effort is appreciated!



Damage from burst pipes in the Preschool Building B



Drying out the rooms



Tape and float

Council News



Don Kurtti

Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

Stewardship

See page 7.



Aaron Theilengerdes

Discipleship

See page 7.

Council Executive Board



John Gallo

President



Barbara Wade

Vice President



Doug Hammerstrom

Financial Secretary



Jim Moreland

Treasurer



Nicholle Seiler

Secretary

Send Easter Greetings with ELCA Good Gifts



The ELCA is offering a chance for you to give an Easter blessing to others in needy communities around the world. When chicks grow up to become chickens, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals — they can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income. A simple water well or other water point can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

[ELCA Good Gifts Catalog](#)

The items in the ELCA Good Gifts catalog are real examples from projects currently supported through different churchwide ministries. The projects have been planned by our partners — meaning that each community receives exactly the kind of support they need and none of what they don't.

Limited edition Easter cards are available for some of the featured gifts. You may also give in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Your donation will be used where it is needed most within the wider category of each gift you've selected. For example, a gift of vaccinations may be used to support other health care initiatives.

Happy Easter!

President's Perspective

*By John Gallo
Council President*

Greetings, Members of TLC!

It has been another great month at TLC! Many members of our congregation have been working hard to oversee the rebuild of our Preschool building and assist in small projects to get the students and staff moved back into the classrooms. I believe sometime in May we will be able to achieve that goal. Many thanks to Don Kurtti, Ministry Support team leader, who has been spearheading this effort daily and working with our ECP (Early Childhood Programs) team and contractors to keep this project on schedule.

The Church Council continues to monitor our community as it relates to Covid-19. As more people become vaccinated, we can continue to see light at the end of the tunnel. We will continue following our established health and safety protocols for in-person worship and other activities and events our ministry teams have scheduled.

As we move forward into April and Holy Week, the word "trust" has popped into my head. **The trust that Christ had in God as he moved toward the cross can certainly inspire us all to have a trusting heart.** It is in this spirit I see the trust we have in one another — in this congregation and in our larger community — to help and support one another no matter the challenges we face. I hope this Easter season especially allows each of us to have a trusting heart after a year of many, many challenges. It is in that spirit that I end with this Bible verse: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord." — Jeremiah 17:7.

Many blessings to you this month and during this Easter season!

*John Gallo
TLC Council President*



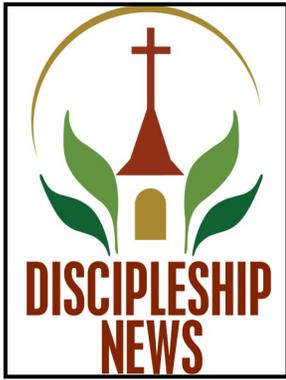
Triumphant Lutheran is now LIVE STREAMING the worship services, and SALT (Sound and Light Team) is looking for youth and adults to help run the broadcasts! Become a TLC Streamer and assist in transmitting our worship services to the internet.

For information, [send an email to Gordon Hengst](#) or call him at (210)651-9090. And feel free to visit the broadcast console in the Sanctuary balcony before or after worship services.



6

Watch the Live Stream service on our website: triumphantulheran.org/live-stream



By Aaron Theilengerdes

The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity

Ministry Team Lead:
Jessica Anderson

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest will offer “The Way Forward to Legacy Generosity,” a webinar on legacy planning for family and ministry. This webinar, open to all congregation members, discusses how to plan legacy gifts for family and ministry that reflect your faith and values. The foundation is a partner ministry of the ELCA in Texas and offers its services at no cost and no obligation.



Please sign up for the Legacy Generosity Webinar time that works best for you:

- Sunday, April 11 at 2pm
- Tuesday, April 13 at 10am
- Thursday, April 15 at Noon
- Sunday, April 18 at 2pm

[Register Here](#)

A congregation member may say, “I like the idea of leaving a gift to my church when I pass away, but I’d like to know more about how to create a plan for family and ministry.” The church has a dedicated ministry for just this kind of support through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. A gift planner is available in each synod that can guide you to clarify your goals and objectives in planning. Any congregation member can establish a robust personal legacy plan with the guidance of the synod gift planner. Those with existing plans should consider reviewing their plans to make sure they continue to meet their goals for family and ministry.

All members of ELCA congregations are invited to participate in these webinars. Those who may have additional questions or need assistance with registration are invited to contact Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod, at (830) 305-2758 or jdellis@lfswo.org.

The Discipleship Team is enthusiastically and energetically approaching the remainder of the year with numerous activities associated and directed toward our elementary kids, confirmation youth, high school teens, and adults. Several activities are going “live” and person-to-person events are beginning to materialize. However, there still are COVID health and safety precautions being taken, and therefore, a wide-ranging effort is continuing to be directed at our online programs. A major priority of the Discipleship Team is to help guide the members of the congregation in their “Faith Formation Activities Outside of the Worship Environment.”

Multiple styles and/or approaches are being explored and developed to aid, encourage, and unite members of our congregation. These include [learning videos](#), [devotional blogs](#) written by several of our very own members, and [podcasts](#) found on the church website, our [YouTube](#) channel, and [Facebook](#). We’ve also been offering Zoom gatherings for prayer and Christian music playlists via Spotify. Additionally, Deacon Chris initiated a program during Lent entitled “FAITH@HOME,” which was a weekly email including thought-provoking written devotions, videos, and music for the season of Lent. Deacon Chris created a comprehensive list of TLC’s Faith Formation options. You can view it [here](#).

To connect and explore any of these online activities, visit www.triumphantlutheran.org. Simply click on the menu bar and choose: Services, Events, Learning, or Ministries to find any of the programs and activities. The passcode is “tlclearning.” If you have any difficulty finding what you are looking for, feel free to contact TLC via [email](#) or simply call the church at (210)651-9090 and ask the staff (Communications Coordinator Sharilyn Krauss or Administrator Sharon Hopkins) for assistance.

Church Life

Holy Week Worship

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 1 at 7pm*

This worship service commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples. During that meal in the upper room, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 2 at Noon and 7pm*

Tenebrae is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The Tenebrae service is a somber service of prayer and reflection on Christ's passion and death.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4*

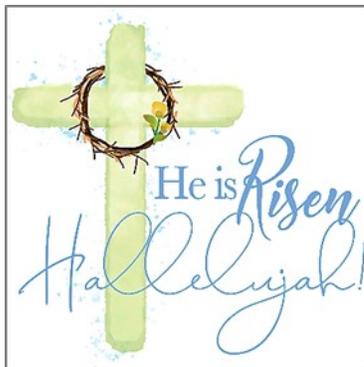
7am Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9am Easter Service in the Courtyard

11am Easter Service in the Sanctuary

On Easter Sunday, we gather for a joyous worship celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have an outdoor Sunrise Service at 7am. The 9am service will also be held outdoors. The 11am service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed.

*Our services are available on [Facebook](#) Premiere and the [TLC YouTube channel](#), and are [livestreamed](#) on our YouTube channel (with the exception of the Easter 7am and 9am services.)



8

"Share the Love"

Quilt Raffle

Win this LOVELY handmade hearts quilt while supporting the youth at Triumphant Lutheran Church at the same time! All proceeds will create camperships so that more youth can attend summer camp.



Raffle tickets can be purchased online only from Sunday, April 4 — Sunday, May 9. Ticket sales end at 8:00am on May 9. The winner will be randomly drawn at 8:15am on May 9 and the winner will be announced at worship services that day.

To purchase raffle tickets: text "hearts2021" to (855)202-2100, use the church app, or click the button below.

[Buy Quilt Raffle Tickets](#)

Share this link to help spread the word!

<https://go.rallyup.com/sharethelove>

Family Retreat

April 30 - May 2 at Slumber Falls

The annual TLC Family Retreat is back by popular demand (and the much-improved outlook regarding the COVID19 pandemic). [Get the details here!](#)

Curbside Communion

You can participate in communion during the online services by picking up communion kits on the following dates:

April 14 & 17

We are distributing 3 weeks worth of communion kits at each Curbside Communion Pickup.

Wednesday pickups are from 5 - 6pm and Saturday pickups are from 10am - 11:30am.

April In-Person Assisting Ministers & Readers

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Assisting Minister	Brian Krauss
Apr 2 Good Friday	Noon	Assisting Minister	Deacon Chris
		First Word	Bobbie White
		Second Word	Sharilyn Krauss
		Third Word	Jim Moreland
		Fourth Word	Allison Moreland
		Fifth Word	Brit St.Clair
		Sixth Word	Ruth Garcia
	7pm	First Word	John Schultz
		Second Word	Brenda Albrecht
		Third Word	Gordon Hengst
		Fourth Word	Becky Sonnen
		Fifth Word	Dan Meyer
		Sixth Word	Carole Meyer
Apr 4 Easter	7:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	Paula Salazar
	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	Amy Beierle
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Debbie Roberts
		Reader	Bobbie White
Apr 11 Holy Humor Sunday	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Rose-Marie Smith
		Reader	Amy Coronado
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Isabella Garcia
		Reader	Dennis Feuge
Apr 18	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Ken Weber
		Reader	John Gallo
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Jackie Mitchell
		Reader	Brenda Albrecht
Apr 25	9:00am	Assisting Minister	Walter Brown
		Reader	John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister	Doug Hammerstrom
		Reader	Lindy Hammerstrom



Christ-like Grief

By Rose-Marie Smith

There is a small statue in my home which belonged to my mother. I can still vividly recall when she bought it, even the outfit I wore. While only 10 or 11, I felt so grown up to go with her to an artist's private showing in Manhattan. The statue of a young woman caught my eye and touched my young heart. Repeatedly, I returned to gaze at it. I was moved as I looked at it – it seemed like the young woman was deeply saddened, as if in mourning the loss of a loved one.

This memory reminded me of a brief article Pastor Aaron shared with me nearly two years ago. It is an excerpt from the book *There's a Woman in the Pulpit*, entitled "Before The Resurrection" by Rev. Joanna Harader.

Basically, it reflects upon the women heading to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. Personally, I have often reflected on the many layers in the article. From a Stephen Ministry perspective, I'd like to explore its aspect of grief. Three days earlier, some of these women stood at the foot of the cross, watching as their beloved Jesus "died an agonizing death" of crucifixion. Except for John, the other disciples and most followers scattered in fear and confusion. This small group that remained didn't desert Him but beheld the cruelty and brutality as His hands and feet were pierced, as He was lifted up and suffered, and even as they observed the sword pierce His side. Surely it felt as though their own hearts were pierced in their grief. It must have been the worst day of their lives, as they cared for His body by lovingly

cleaning His wounds and wrapping it.

There wasn't enough time before the beginning of the Sabbath.

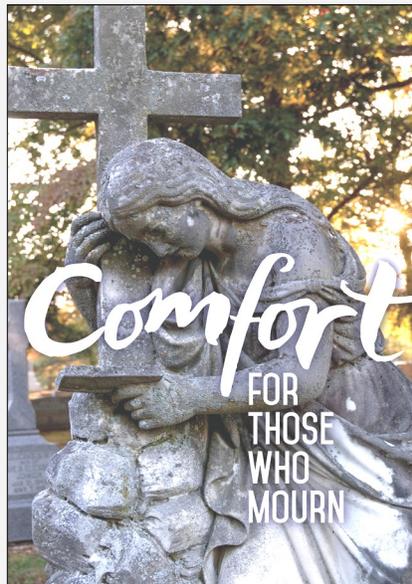
One can imagine their acute pain, deep anguish, and all-encompassing distress that now filled their lives as they huddled together with the disciples and other followers to observe the Sabbath. That particular Saturday, between Friday's crucifixion and Sunday when they could finish their loving task to anoint Jesus' body, was unlike any other.

There was so much to process: understanding the murder of Jesus and the betrayal of Judas, to come to grips with their dashed hopes. This communal grief was probably spent in reflection and sharing memories of the Lord, tears of sorrow, generally dealing with their heavy feelings, and remembering His teachings – while trying to rest as the Law required.

One of these life lessons, which He exemplified, was loving servanthood. The women never ceased serving Him, even in death,

and being grief stricken. In the quiet hours just before dawn, as soon as the Sabbath was over, they hurried off to honor and anoint Jesus' body with spices and oils they carried in their baskets. They must've walked numbly along – most likely silently weeping – en route to the cold grave chamber. In essence, they were "willing to face death; to walk into the tomb, pull back the grave clothes, and gently, with bare hands, rub spices onto the skin of Jesus's slowly rotting flesh." Their "faithful intention to enter into death's space with love, with their willingness to look at death, to touch it, to be present with it."

One of the hardest challenges many of us face is coping with the loss of a loved one. We know this is a natural part of life, but still feel overcome with shock, even confusion. This past year, we've all



Continued from page 10

experienced such grief and other losses of many types, leading to despondency and remorse – perhaps even isolation. Stephen Ministers walk alongside those grieving, being the hands and feet of Christ to the hurting. They respond with compassion, unconditional love, and grace. There is no quick fix to this complex emotional journey, but humans are resilient.

Two of the most important and beneficial skills in helping someone deal with grief are listening intently and being fully present. Listen to them share memories and emotions as they process. Be sure to never judge nor condemn, simply accept however their feelings come out. Concentrate on listening and reflecting what's shared, not composing a response. Perhaps you can listen to the deceased's favorite music while reflecting over photo albums.

Grief is a crisis. Merely being present – simply being there and accepting them may seem like you aren't doing much, but stop for a moment and realize how comforting it is not to be alone at such a painful time. Rest assured that silences really are fine, there's no need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. Holding a hand and passing tissues while tears quietly stream can be a great comfort. Feel like weeping alongside? How Christ-like! Even Jesus wept with those who mourned. You are providing wonderful care and allowing God to enter and provide the needed cure.

Here is a quote that I've always liked: **"Grief is the last act of love we have to give to those we loved. Where there is deep grief, there was great love."** (Unknown)

What a privilege given us by our God to be used by Him to be a conduit for His love, comfort, grace, and healing! Where and with whom are you willing to be a tool in God's toolbox?



Apr 1: Maundy Thursday
Individual Monologues

Apr 2: Good Friday
[Isaiah 53:3 - 12](#) (Prophecy)
[Luke 23:32 - 38](#) (First Word)
[Luke 23:39 - 45](#) (Second Word)
[John 19:23 - 27](#) (Third Word)
[Mark 15:23 - 36](#) (Fourth Word)
[John 19:28 - 29](#) (Fifth Word)
[John 19:30 - 37](#) (Sixth Word)
[Luke 23:44 - 56](#) (Seventh Word)

Apr 4: Easter Sunday
[Acts 10:34 - 43](#)
[Mark 16:1 - 8](#)

Apr 11: Holy Humor Sunday
[Acts 4:32 - 35](#)
[John 20:19 - 31](#)

Apr 18: [Acts 3:12 - 19](#)
[Luke 24:36b - 48](#)

Apr 25: [Acts 4:5 - 12](#)
[John 10:11 - 18](#)

happy
EASTER

The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

Accordingly, in brief, hope is nothing else than the expectation of those things which faith has believed to have been truly promised by God. Hope strengthens faith ... Hope refreshes faith ... it invigorates faith again and again with perseverance. — John Calvin (1509 – 1564)

We hear a lot about hope these days. With all the challenges we have had in the past year, hope is a very bright light for us to focus on. Every night before the lights go out, I read from my devotional *For All the Saints*. I have mentioned this publication before, and I heartily recommend it for those who want a little bit more from their time in the Word. It was during one of those readings that I read the entire piece that the above quote comes from. Hope is a gift — a very real sense that everything will be okay, a partner to our faith, and a way of coping with all that life throws at us.

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.

— Hebrews 6: 19 - 20a NIV

Hope leads us into faith as surely as water makes the grass grow. And faith strengthens our hope when we really take time to understand the life Jesus lived. He left the comfort and confines of life with His Father! That is the sacrifice that God and Jesus made for us in HOPE! God let Jesus go and Jesus came and got us. Sometimes I can't wrap my head around the heart that does the sacrifice necessary for me to say, "I believe." As we approach Easter and all the things that go with the season of Easter, we will talk about the process of Jesus coming to get us. His ministry years for certain, but specifically His commitment to the plans made before He left home. He will feel pain and anguish, joy and fulfillment, death and life. All in the very last week of this season we call Lent.

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1 NIV

The Good Steward lives in the sure and firm grip of hope. We live in the tension of not being able to see it, but at the same time we feel it. Sort of like the breeze in the trees, we see the leaves move because the air is moving. We see the amazing world God has created because it is right in front of us. After the winter storm, the leaves are coming out on trees, lawns are getting greener, people are walking with a little more spring in their step. That is what hope looks like, at least for me it does. Every time I walk down my street, I smile and shake my head at all I see happening around me.





Korrine Ardell Reger

*August 4, 1938 —
February 14, 2021*

TLC Member Korrine Reger was born in Hudson, South Dakota, near her grandfather’s farm where her family lived. After 4 years, the family moved to Sioux Falls, where she lived for more than twenty years. She graduated from Augustana College with a degree in teaching, and taught several years at Bancroft Elementary School in Sioux Falls. She moved to Oxnard, California, where she met and married Jay Reger. They moved to Texas where they raised their two children, Elizabeth and Chris. After retiring from teaching, Korrine and Jay moved south of Dallas, and enjoyed many years traveling around the country, including to Alaska, which they loved. In 2018, Korrine and Jay moved back to San Antonio, where their son, Chris and his family, lived. Jay died in August of last year. Her son Chris and daughter Elizabeth have lovingly cared for her since then.

Family was so important to Korrine. She loved her children dearly and was proud of their accomplishments. She valued the time she was able to spend with her granddaughter, Avery. Her Scandinavian heritage was important to her, and she looked forward to attending family reunions in South Dakota.

Korrine was gifted in the arts. She enjoyed sharing her gifts with family and friends, and also sold a variety of items at craft shows, where she enjoyed visiting with people. She had a great talent for painting realistic animals on rocks and got many custom orders to paint peoples’ pets. They were beautiful! She also did some wonderful embroidery of her own design.

Korrine knew our Lord and was regular in worship, devotions, and prayer. Wherever they lived, she became active in a Lutheran church nearby. She taught Sunday School, sang in church choirs, oversaw a church’s Sunday School Program, and also organized the Christmas programs for many years. After retirement, Korrine started sewing quilt tops for Lutheran World Relief.

Her family and friends are comforted knowing she is healthy and at peace with our Lord.

FOLLOW US ON OUR SOCIAL NETWORKS



The Church Calendar keeps you informed!



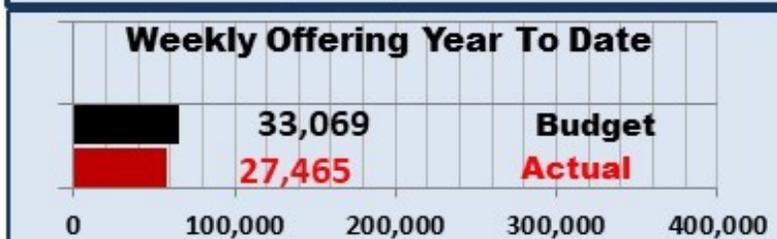
The Church App keeps you connected!



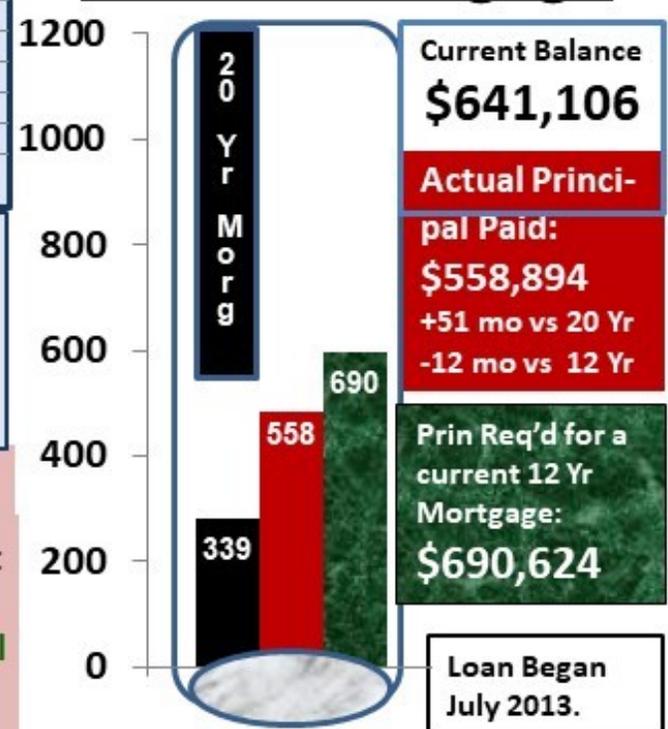
February 2021 Financials

KEY POINTS:

- ✦ **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income for Feb was -\$1,921, an improvement over Jan. Total Net Income YTD is -\$16,860. See the Financial Summary bottom of page for more detail.
- ✦ **General Offering:** Weekly Offering through Feb was \$58,435, net -\$7,704 against programmed. Preschool has resumed and is now helping, but this will likely be a slow rebuild, most of the year. Also, the big freeze damaged the ECP facilities quite a bit.
- ✦ **Building Fund:** Bldg Fund Income through Feb was \$13,083, net -\$2,101 against our required mortgage. Bldg Fund Reserve was used to ensure an on-time and correct payment.
- ✦ **Going Forward:** We have strong reserves. That said, last year ended well because we received PPP loan benefits of \$87,600. **We do not qualify for the Round 2 PPP in 2021.** The ECP will be rebuilding in 2021, but it will take the whole year if not longer. **Bottom line, there will likely be a need to support normal operations with \$50-80K from Reserves in 2021, barring additional revenue from other than PPP.** There is one other potential source, new for this year, that may help us. We will know more at end of 1st QTR. There are also likely to be significant upfront big freeze repair costs until insurance kicks in.



\$1.2M Mortgage



February 2021 Month End Financial Summary

Column1	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	February	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$45,300	\$85,926	Operating Income	\$695,005
Operating Expenses	\$47,816	\$103,639	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	(\$2,516)	(\$17,713)	Other Income	\$4,488
Bldg & Designated Income	\$9,741	\$16,495	TOTAL INCOME	\$790,597
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$9,146	\$15,642	Operating Expenses	\$729,808
Net Designated Income	\$595	\$853	Debt Service	\$91,104
TOTAL NET INCOME	(\$1,921)	(\$16,860)	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$820,912



APRIL

Anniversaries

- 4 Jerome & Wilma Baumann
- 6 Jennifer & Brian Osborne
- 8 Gayle & Charlie Maltby
- 11 Ryan & Angela Etheridge
- 11 Leon & Angie Henk
- 14 Jeff & Robin Koch
- 17 Shane & Caryn Skaggs
- 18 Austin & Mallory Hall
- 23 Kevin & Kim Hinze
- 24 Ted & Sandy Royston
- 25 Dean & Samantha Neuzil



APRIL

Birthdays

- 1 Paolo Villa
- 3 Jacob Gonzales, Alexa Milstein, David Sweet
- 4 Markus Arvidson, Jeff Boyes, Angel Gomez, Stephen Johnson
- 5 Steven DuParc, Clara Skinner, Natalie Weinhardt
- 7 Susan Braden
- 8 Sydney Spreen, Linda Wilson
- 11 Judie Waechter
- 13 Todd Skinner
- 14 Gini Bouzard
- 15 Mark Mattison
- 17 Karen Denton, Patrick McCaffrey
- 19 Sharilyn Krauss
- 21 Jean Craigmile, Mackenzie Miller, Melinda Cruz-Balderas
- 23 Megan Johnston, Rodney Leachman
- 24 Richard Sonnen
- 25 Marilyn Winters, Leslie Roberts
- 26 Michael Beierle, Sandy Crawford, Jennifer Spreen, Mark Weinhardt
- 27 Scott Oberle, Donald Zipp
- 28 Evan Johnson
- 29 Isabella Garcia
- 30 Nadine Schultz



Louisa Groce (Friend of Aaron Richter)
+3-1-2021

Olive Sheckells (Aunt of Chris Crawford)
+3-4-2021

The May Trumpet Deadline
Monday
April 19, 2021

Send Submissions to:
newsletter@triumphantlutheran.org

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



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Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Sundays at 9am & 11am in the Sanctuary

[Click here for online worship on YouTube.](#)

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 8:30am

[Facebook Premiere Worship](#): Sundays at 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday, 9am - 1:45pm

[Mother's Day Out](#): Temporarily Closed

Website: triumphantultheran.org

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