



# The Trumpet

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

**Vol. 41, Issue 2**

***"We Grow in Christ to Serve Others"***

**February 2020**

**Almighty God, the Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
"does not desire the  
death of sinners,  
but rather that they  
may turn from their  
wickedness and live."  
— Ezekiel 33:11 NIV**

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**February 26**

**Services at Noon & 7:00pm**



# FROM PASTOR AARON



*And every day in the temple and at home they did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.*

— Acts 5:42

Dear Family of God,

I remember the first time someone asked me to talk about my faith. The exact question was, “Who do you think Jesus is?” It was asked at my first candidacy interview, step one in the process to become a pastor, and I was nervous and unsure if God really was calling me to this. My mind went blank, which really moved my uncertainty to sheer panic. I eventually stammered out something about Jesus as the one who saves us, loves us, and is with us. As I drove home after the interview, it occurred to me that no one had ever before asked me that question. I had never spoken out loud who God is or what I believed God was doing in the world and in my life.

Since then, I’ve shared what I believe often, and I’ve also heard others share the basis of their faith with me. But I also know that talking about God, Jesus, or our faith can make us uncomfortable and scared. I have heard amazing and powerful stories of how people have experienced the loving and saving presence of God, but they’ve also been afraid to share them with others. These stories can make a difference in the lives of others, helping others to learn and share their faith stories.



This month, we will begin the season of Lent, the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter, which has also traditionally been a time that Christians think about how to learn and grow in their faith. I would like to invite you to this year’s **Lenten Challenge, a study called “Life Shared.”** This is a 3-session small group video study where we will gather with others, watch a video to guide discussion, read Scripture, pray, and begin to think about how we can talk about our faith. This study offers a supportive and loving space for you to practice and share with others, and to speak about how God has been active and present in your life. (See page 11 for more information.)

The season of Lent gives us a chance to fulfill the mission statement of our congregation, “We Grow in Christ to Serve Others,” by growing more deeply in our relationship with God, and helping to care for others and their faith. May God be richly at work in you!

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*Peace, Pastor Aaron Richter*

# Worship Schedule for February

<b>Feb 1</b>	5:00pm	Communion Asst Reader	Mary Gandolfo Mary Gandolfo
<b>Feb 2</b>	8:30am	Assisting Minister Reader	Walter Brown Linda Braun
	11:00am	Assisting Minister Reader	Rod Lleverino Aaron Theilengerdes
<b>Feb 8</b>	5:00pm	Communion Asst Reader	Robin Koch Bobbie White
<b>Feb 9</b>	8:30am	Assisting Minister Reader	Rose-Marie Smith Becky Sonnen
	11:00am	Assisting Minister Reader	James Fuller Cody Whitaker
<b>Feb 15</b>	5:00pm	Communion Asst Reader	Marshall Gomez Kathy Beierle
<b>Feb 16</b>	8:30am	Assisting Minister Reader	Gordon Hengst Mary Langenes
	11:00am	Assisting Minister Reader	Debbie Roberts Lois Glazener
<b>Feb 22</b>	5:00pm	Communion Asst Reader	Mickey Sanders Gayle Maltby
<b>Feb 23</b>	8:30am	Assisting Minister Reader	Ken Weber John Schultz
	11:00am	Assisting Minister Reader	Doug Hammerstrom Becky Sonnen
<b>Feb 26</b>	Noon	Assisting Minister Reader	Jackie Mitchell Mary Gandolfo
	7pm	Assisting Minister Reader	Brian Krauss Britany St.Clair
<b>Feb 29</b>	5:00pm	Communion Asst Reader	Mary Langenes Barbara Abbott
<b>Mar 1</b>	8:30am	Assisting Minister Reader	Emilie Gray Gordon Hengst
	11:00am	Assisting Minister Reader	Rod Lleverino Arnette Scharf

Click the Audio Icon  
to listen to the  
latest sermon.



## This Month's Scripture Lessons

- Feb 2:** Micah 6:1-8  
Psalm 15  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
Matthew 5:1-12
- Feb 9:** Isaiah 58:1-12  
Psalm 112:1-10  
1 Corinthians 2:1-16  
Matthew 5:13-20
- Feb 16:** Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
Psalm 119:1-8  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
Matthew 5:21-37
- Feb 23:** Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 2  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9
- Feb 26:** Joel 2:1-2, 12-17  
Psalm 51:1-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
- Mar 1:** Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Psalm 32  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

## Altar Guild

Nancy Hendricks  
Sharon St. Clair

# Council News



Ken Smith

## Worship and Music

As you begin this new year and reflect on the days past, think about your Christian walk, and consider the direction God may want to lead you in the coming months. Take the time to pause and assess your spiritual condition. Listen to His calling. Make your new year's resolutions with His guidance. Serve Him with your time and talents. Here is a beautiful poem to help you consider your commitment to God:

### *Just One Request*

Dear Master for this coming year  
Just one request I bring:  
I do not pray for happiness,  
Or any earthly thing —  
I do not ask to understand  
The way Thou leadest me,  
But this I ask: Teach me to do  
The thing that pleaseth Thee.  
I want to know Thy guiding voice,  
To walk with Thee each day.  
Dear Master make me swift to hear  
And ready to obey.  
And thus the year I now begin  
A happy year will be—  
If I am seeking just to do  
The thing that pleaseth Thee.  
--Unknown Author



Marilyn Winters

## Early Childhood Programs

We are celebrating Valentine's Day this month and want to take this time to tell you what we love about our ECP ministry. We love Preschool Director Kristin Miller and her staff of teachers who make learning a fun and exciting experience for our young students. We love MDO Director Vernell Theilengerdes and her staff of caregivers who provide safe and loving care to the children who attend this program. Our children love the songs, stories, crafts, and play time that is a part of their day at

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Triumphant, and all of our employees are wonderful caregivers who nurture and love the children entrusted to their care.

We love Chapel days when Pastor Aaron and Deacon Chris spend time sharing the word of God with our children. We love special days when we celebrate, like our PJ Day last month, our Valentine parties this month, and our Christmas programs. We love the parents who entrust their children to our care. We value the trust they place in us, and strive to live up to that trust every day. We love the members of Triumphant who started this ministry many years ago and all of you who continue to support it.

If you are interested in more information about our programs, we would love to talk to you. You can call our directors at (210) 651-9090, Preschool: ext. 2 and MDO: ext. 3, or visit the [church website](#) for more information.



Amy Coronado

## Servant Outreach

See page 10.



Nancy Molter

## Evangelism

*You are the body of Christ and each one of you is a part of it. — 1 Corinthians 12:27 NIV*

In January, I spoke at each worship service about the role of the Evangelism team at TLC. We are about communicating how we "grow in Christ to serve others" in a way that is inviting to prospective new members and helps all members find their "why" for attending TLC.

The first step is to be sure the wider community hears about TLC and our activities. We produce print and digital media ads, and post banners for our special events. This helps get new people in the door, but most of our members visited after hearing about TLC from a church member who spoke about the activities at church in an



# Council News

inviting way. Members have told me that they stay at TLC because it is “like family” and a safe place to grow in Christ to serve. **Because most new people hear about our church through a connection with a TLC member, all of you are part of the Evangelism Team!**

There currently are three specific activities that you can help with that take little time, but can be very inviting to prospective new members:

**1. We would like to have a roster of people from each of the 3 services who would be willing to give a call and/or email to people who visited their service, to tell them how glad we are that they came, and to see if they have any questions. This would be a once-a-month or once-a-quarter activity, depending on the number who sign up.**

**2. Join a team that puts up our special event banners.** Dennis and Mary Feuge have been putting up our special events banners on FM2252 and on campus for many years. They would like to “retire” from this activity. If we had 4 teams of 2 people each, each team would be responsible for displaying the signs once per year.

**3. Share TLC messages on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.** When you see a TLC message or ad, please share it with your friends. This creates the potential to reach many more people in the area. If you are excited about the post, someone else may be interested too!

If you can help with either #1 or #2 of these activities, please let me know. All can easily participate in #3. Thank you! We are all part of the body of Christ and thus can grow in serving others and communicating that TLC is an inviting and caring community.



Jerry Guebard

## Ministry Support



Jessica Anderson

## Stewardship



Aaron Theilengerdes

## Discipleship



Cody Whitaker

## Property and Resources

Your Property and Resources Team is currently working on several hopefully inexpensive and easy-to-accomplish upgrades in around the church property:

1. Upgrading the existing parking lot lighting to LED bulbs and repairing or replacing defective outside light fixtures.
2. Finding an economical contractor to repaint the parking lot lines.
3. Organizing grounds mowing and cleanup in a manner that can accommodate volunteer schedules.
4. Replacing emergency exit lighting batteries.
5. Identifying and repairing roof leaks.

If you have any concerns about the condition of our buildings and grounds, please feel free to contact me.



Becky Sonnen

## Congregational Life

I am looking forward to helping facilitate the many planned events, activities, and gatherings at Triumphant Lutheran Church in the coming months of 2020. TLC has several existing groups that create numerous opportunities for fellowship. It is the hope of our leaders that each TLC member can find one or several groups in which he or she feels at home.

I invite you to look at the Congregational Life section in our [Narrative Budget](#) (pages 22-23) and the Congregational Life page of the [church website](#) to see what sparks your interest. Of course, along with many fellowship opportunities, there are also service opportunities. If you wish to become part of my team to help with TLC events and activities, please text me at the above number.

We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



# President's Perspective

By Dennis Feuge, President

[dmfeuge47@gmail.com](mailto:dmfeuge47@gmail.com)

## 2019 Year-End Overview

Your Council is quite pleased with how Triumphant ended the year financially and attendance-wise. This month, there will be a 4-page addendum to the Narrative Budget describing our Year-End Financial and Attendance status that will provide just about all the detail data anybody could want. This will come out in mid-February. Meanwhile, here is the “CliffsNotes” version:

First, the major financial and attendance indicators we track regularly have all increased for the year. This is really important because it shows that the momentum we have been building the last 2-3 years is continuing. It's sort of a big deal.

Secondly, Weekly Offering is up by \$30K. The total General Operating Income is up \$46K. The Building Fund came in at a net +\$7K for the year, so we continue toward paying off the 20-year mortgage ahead of schedule. Finally, you may know that we previously set aside some reserves to be sure we can pay salaries and bills on time. We anticipated possibly needing to use as much as half of the \$81K in this reserve in 2019, but wound up needing only \$16.5K. That's major, and if we continue to grow our financial giving, we can easily break even without using reserves for general operations in less than two years. This is also major, and you, the people of Triumphant, have done this!

Our attendance is also up and we continue to grow on a net basis. We've had some members move away, either for retirement or for jobs,

but more folks are coming in. Feedback indicates that our visitors get a feeling of family here and they want to be part of that. It seems sort of cliché to say let's keep doing that, but — let's keep doing that!

## Telling Our Story in 2020

Your Council, Pastor Aaron, and Deacon Chris have embarked on a fairly substantial change in how we are “telling our story” and telling folks who we are and

what God is doing through us.

See page 4 for a very informative article by Nancy Molter, Evangelism Ministry leader. It is from the work of the E-Team that we know folks join because of the sense of family they feel here. Over half the folks joining us heard about us from a member. That's huge, and we ask that you continue to tell those

you meet about our church here in Garden Ridge that is both family-friendly and strives to “Grow in Christ and Serve Others.”

Last fall, the Council developed a new tool called the Narrative Budget. With two pages of summarized budget, this 28-page document tells the story of each of our ministries, how they are serving others, and the differences they are making in our community. It illustrates how we spend our budget and what God is doing through Triumphant, bringing the numbers of the budget to life. The Council would like everyone to be familiar with this document, and use it when you have the chance to talk about Triumphant and share our story. Feel free to give a copy away if you wish, and come get another. We'll be happy to print more if there is a need.



# Cowboy Sunday



## COWBOY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2020



Worship at 8:30am and 11am

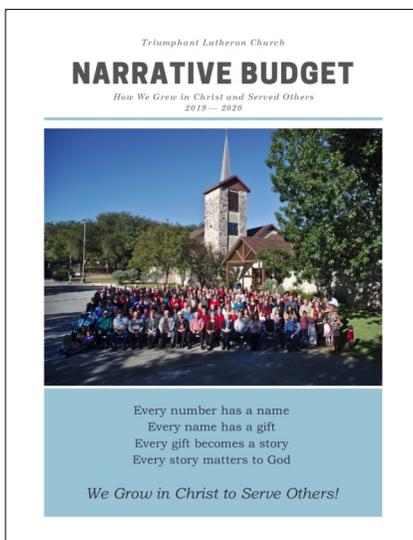
Cowboy Breakfast at 9:45am

Pony Rides, Petting Zoo,  
Trick Roper, and a  
Longhorn Steer

Put on your western gear and join  
us as we gather to praise  
the Lord to a western beat!



# Triumphant's Narrative Budget



In November, our Council published the Narrative Budget, which highlights what God has been doing in and through TLC in 2019. It also shows how this relates to the resources entrusted to us (and given by you). It is our TLC story! If you missed reading through it, we encourage you to get a copy and read it. Are you encouraging someone to visit Triumphant? Grab a copy to share it with them. Copies are available on the kiosk in the Narthex and in the front office. It is also available on [triumphantlutheran.org](http://triumphantlutheran.org).

# Upcoming Events

## Council Retreat

Saturday, February 8

The new 2020 Church Council will meet to plan for the upcoming year at Triumphant. Please keep our church leadership in your prayers for a productive weekend of team building and planning.

## Cowboy Sunday

Sunday, February 9

Do you enjoy biscuits-n-gravy, petting zoos, longhorn steers, and cowboy hats? Be sure to join us for western-themed worship at 8:30am or 11am, with Cowboy Sunday events happening in between. See page 7.

## Primetimers' Luncheon

Monday, February 10 at Noon

In the Fellowship Hall

Join us as we celebrate Mardi Gras with delicious Cajun and Creole dishes. See you there!

## TLC Offices Closed

Monday, February 17

The church office will be closed in observance of Presidents' Day.



## Senior High Gathering

February 21 - 23

The Senior High youth will retreat to Camp Chrysalis for a weekend of Bible study, outdoor adventure, fellowship, and games.

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## Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 26

Services at Noon and 7pm

Join us at a special worship service for this first day of the season of Lent. Ashes are applied to the forehead as a witness that all people are sinners in need of repentance AND that all sins are forgiven through faith in Jesus Christ. Wednesday Nite Live (WNL) will not be held this week.

## iDentity: Care and Support Forum

Sunday, March 1 in the Fellowship Hall

5pm - 8pm



What is it like to have cancer? How can I support and care for someone with cancer? Join us for the next installment of our iDentity series. We will spend time listening to and talking with people who have dealt with these questions. Tickets will be available soon through the Tithe.ly app for \$5 in advance and \$10 at the door.

## Preschool Registration for the 2019 - 2020 School Year

Begins Monday, March 2

9:00am — Noon in the Fellowship Hall

The Preschool serves children ages 3—5 years and provides many class options. Proof of current immunization, enrollment paperwork, and a \$100 non-refundable registration fee are needed to enroll. Registration continues until classes are full.

Please visit the [church website](#) or the Preschool office for the forms and more information. Or feel free to call Kristin Miller, Preschool Director, at (210) 651-9090 ext. 2.



# Stephen Ministry - Why I Do This!

By Ken Smith

I've never considered myself overly empathetic to the needs of others. Sure, I felt sorry for people who were sad or injured or sick. I would pray for them. I would be sad for them. I would even thank God that their issues weren't happening to me. Frankly, I didn't think I could do anything more than a momentary expression of compassion. I didn't believe I had the ability and faith to do more. Boy, was I wrong! Enter — Stephen Ministry.

Saint Stephen, often referred to as the first Christian martyr, was one of the seven deacons appointed by the Apostles to distribute food and charitable aid to poorer members of the community in the early church. His story as written in Acts 6 - 7 says he was, "a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit." He was, "... full of God's grace and power, [and] performed great wonders and signs among the people."

You could say that he had a lot going for him. He was a believer. The original disciples, the "twelve," laid their hands on him. With that endorsement, it must have been easy for him to spread the importance of Christ to those hard-headed Jews. He was part of the "in crowd." But his mission was getting bad press. Act 6:9 states, "Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called) — Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia — began to argue with Stephen."



Stephen was brought before the Sanhedrin, the highest court of justice, and the supreme council. The accounting of his trial in Acts 7 is fascinating. Stephen eloquently proves Christ as the chosen one using the history of Judaism. Stephen appealed to the Jewish scriptures to prove how the laws of Moses were not subverted by Jesus, but, instead, were being fulfilled. Acts 6:10 says, "But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke." The Sanhedrin had to bring in false witnesses to prove his blasphemy, and subsequently condemned Stephen to death by stoning. It was during his execution that we see Stephen's faith and, yes, his compassion. At the close of Act 7:59 - 60, it reads, "While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he fell on his knees and cried out, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he fell asleep."

I am moved by Stephen's faith and conviction, but more so by his humility and unpretentiousness, and yes, his compassion. **How could I ever possess this genuine faith?**

Compassion is not a new Christian virtue. It is cited many times in scripture, both in the Old and New Testaments. St. Augustine, in his Confessions, written in the early 5th century, discussed the fraternal compassion we owe to others. St. Bernard, in the 12th century, said that Christ is our primary teacher of compassion, believing Christ's passion is willed to us so that we can learn compassion. St. Thomas Aquinas, in the 13th century, wrote about how our compassion can mitigate the suffering of a friend.

It was during my training as a Stephen Minister that I realized that I, too, have the ability to show true, Christian compassion. I did not need to have the hands of the "twelve" laid upon me. I had already received the Holy Spirit when I was baptized. **All I needed was confidence and a willingness to explore and grow in this service. Stephen Ministry training gave this to me.** What a fantastic program. I encourage you to tap into your faith and increase your ability to help your fellow Christians during their time of hurt. Talk to a Stephen Minister. Discover what you can do!

# Serving “Furry” Others

By Maegan Lleverino

## Youth are Growing in Christ to Serve Others — Even Furry Others — with Two-Part Project

Our Senior High youth are leading a two-part service project in February and March. The first phase will be a fundraising project to help support the [Humane Society of the Delta](#) in Helena, Arkansas, from February 22 - March 8. The second phase will be to serve locally at the [SARA Sanctuary \(Society for Animal Rescue and Adoption\)](#) in Seguin on Saturday, February 29, from 8am-Noon.

This past summer, the hearts of the Senior High youth were moved while volunteering at the Humane Society of the Delta on their mission trip to Marvell, Arkansas. The youth met animals facing starvation, attention deprivation, and lack of personal space. There is such an obscene number of dogs (nearly 300), that there isn't enough room to house them all. No federal funding is available for housing, food, or any resources for the humane society. Dogs, cats, and even little pets such as ferrets have been abandoned, abused, and even hung or whipped by their previous owners. The staff at the humane society have personally taken in these animals and rescued them from the homes of their abusive owners. Also, the staff has a terrible work environment because of daily threats and acts of violence. The owner's mobile home is protected by a van to act as a barrier from shootings directed towards her and her family. The police are called during each incident, yet they fail to show up to defend the shelter and its staff.



Stress consumes the people that care for the ill and diseased animals. One staff member devoted all her time and effort to care for a dog with a deadly disease. When she failed, she was so distraught that she attempted to end her own life.

Thankfully, she is alive and recovering. The Humane Society of the Delta is home to many who face a plethora of hardships, but who also have hopeful hearts.

Because the Senior High youth have a connection to the Humane Society of the Delta, they've created a fundraising goal of \$2500 to directly assist this facility in Arkansas for the first part of their project. To help support this project, look for donation envelopes taped to the windows in the Narthex. We invite everyone in the congregation to choose an envelope, donate that amount (or more), and drop it in the dog house found at the display in the Narthex. We wish for everyone to get involved! When the fundraiser is done, the youth will divide the total in two: 50% of the donations will pay for veterinarian care (spaying/neutering, surgeries, or medicines), and the other 50% will purchase needed supplies from the Delta's Amazon wishlist (dog food, heaters, trash bags, etc). The youth have set a goal of \$2500, but would love to exceed it!

Having servant hearts, and realizing there are animals everywhere that need extra love, the Senior High youth group is also leading a work project at the SARA Sanctuary in Seguin for the second part of their service project. The youth chose to work at the SARA Sanctuary because it has the same beliefs and standards as the humane society. They are both no-kill shelters with the single goal of creating a happy life for the livestock and domestic animals in their care. The youth invite the church and anyone over 12 years of age to volunteer at the shelter on Saturday, February 29. We will meet at the sanctuary (1050 Rawhide Road, Seguin) at 8am and will work until noon. Everyone is invited to bring a "cruelty (animal) free" lunch to eat together. This will be a time of fellowship! To sign up to help, watch your email for a SignUp Genius link by mid - February.

The Senior High youth believe this is a wonderful way to spread God's love through caring for others, and would like to put happiness in people's hearts through this act of kindness. "Whoever is righteous has regard for the life of his beast, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel." (Proverbs 12:10)

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Let's create some wagging tails for our Seguin and Arkansas neighbors! Thank you!

# Around the Church



## Greeters

	8:30 Service	11:00 Service
Feb 2	The Schultzes	The Whitakers
Feb 9	The Sonnens & Jennifer Maun	The Feuges
Feb 16	The Mattisons	N Molter, N Teply, and N Patchin
Feb 23	Marty Dumpys	A Craig & Y Brinkman

## Children's Chapel

	8:30 Service	11:00 Service
Feb 2	Brit St.Clair	Christie Bazaldua
Feb 9	Nancy Hendricks	Caryn Skaggs
Feb 16	Kim Hinze	Melanie Lleverino
Feb 23	Nancy Hendricks	Christie Bazaldua

## Acolyte Schedule

	8:30 Service	11:00 Service
Feb 2	Ty B & Addy B	Luke F & Nate F
Feb 9	Charlotte R & Blaine T	Sebastian L & Mica L
Feb 16	Ciarra H & Kendra H	Trey G & Sterling H
Feb 23	Kaitlyn C & Michael B	Max G & Andrew H

## Lutheran Campus Ministry

Members of Lutheran Campus Ministry in San Antonio serve as spiritual mentors and advisors for college students in the San Antonio area. The group meets at St. John's Lutheran Church (502 E Nueva) at 6pm every Wednesday. If you'd like to help engage young adults in ministry, please contact Tia Mathre-Adams, Director of Lutheran Campus Ministry, at (210) 489-0231 or [tad-ams@zionsa.org](mailto:tad-ams@zionsa.org) for details or more information.

## Lenten Challenge:

### "Life Shared" Small Group Study

Have you ever wondered how to talk about your faith or share it with someone? During Lent, we will be having a small group study called *Life Shared*, that explores what it means to fulfill God's call to share our lives and invite people into an honest conversation around the Christian faith. Each small group will gather for three sessions, and enjoy a supportive, loving space to learn and share more about our faith. If you are interested, watch for sign up forms coming soon!

## TLC Art Group

The Art Group meets at 9:30am on Thursdays in Heimer Hall. Bring your individual projects and enjoy terrific company while you work and create. Feel free to bring a sack lunch.



## Word of the Month

Triumphant's video devotion series is called "[Word of the Month](#)." Each week, we delve into one word that makes up the vocabulary of our faith so that we can grow in our relationship and understanding of God. This month's word is "Sin." Check our [facebook page](#), or [click here](#) for the links to the videos. To get on the email list, [click here](#).

## Altar Flowers Needed

Altar flowers are a lovely way to honor God or a loved one during worship services. To contribute altar flowers, simply visit the front desk in the church office to find the Altar Flower book or [send an email to Sharilyn Krauss](#). Print your name and who you are honoring or remembering in the appropriate space. Side arrangements are still just \$20 and center arrangements are \$30. You may place a check in the offering plate. For added convenience, pay for flowers through text giving at **(833) 563-0421**, the Tithe.ly app on your phone, or the [church website](#). Be sure to indicate that your donation is for "Altar Flowers."

# The Good Steward

By Mary Gandolfo

*...but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the LORD in your hearts. — Ephesians 5:18b – 19 NRSV*

**W**hat is your favorite hymn? I know that as I have learned more hymns over the years, my favorites have shifted. So, maybe I don't have one favorite, but many favorites. For example, I tear up every time I hear "Borning Cry." It evokes something very deep in my soul. I know tunes and remember singing with my Triumphant family as well as my other faith communities. And I will admit to you as I write this that I can hear the tunes, but I can't come up with the names or writers of the hymns! Even in all that, I still can hear the music and feel a comfort and peace come over my soul. When was the last time that happened to you?



As I reflect about the verse above, it is very comforting to know that God doesn't need me to know the name of the hymn! He just wants me to hear the message and feel the melody take my heart to Him.

*He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our GOD. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD. — Psalm 40:3 NRSV*

I have been reading the Psalms this past year — so many familiar phrases! And as I read the phrases, I hear the melodies that have been put to them over the years. It is amazing how well we learn and remember passages, especially when they are put to music. I can still see people singing the psalms and remember the special feeling of community as we sang with each other. We probably didn't hit each note as it was written, but we made a joyful noise to the LORD!

I think that is what it is all about — making a joyful noise, just being in the presence of our LORD, being in community with HIM. Next time you sing with the congregation, or hear a cantata, or enjoy the choir, remember that joyful noise and, if you hum along, know that you are part of the joyful noise. Even if you just sit and listen, you are in the presence of a joyful noise that is meant for all of us to come closer to our GOD.

*Be still, and know that I am GOD! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth. — Psalm 46:10 NRSV*

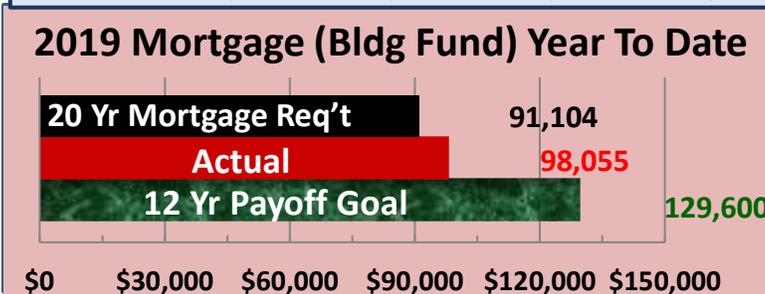
Sometimes it is in our still moments that the noise begins to make sense. The Good Steward is always part of the choir, but is also part of the stillness. It is in the stillness that GOD speaks to us the loudest, because His is the only voice in the stillness. When we sit and listen, the music of creation sings to us about our God and His promise to be with us always. The Good Steward — the one who sits and listens, joins and sings, hums and delights in the music — is every one of us.

Join me this year as I listen to the music and let it fill my soul with His presence.

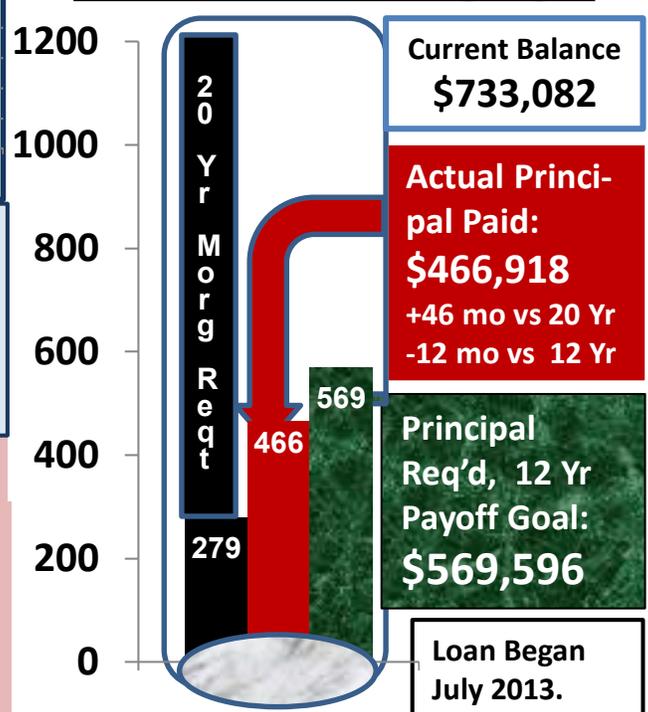
# December 2019 Financials

## KEY POINTS:

- † **Bottom Line:** Total Net Income end of **December** and Year End 2019 was +\$9,466. December was our 2nd best month of the year. Thanks also to yet more and wonderful one-time gifts and also thanks to close spending by our ministry teams, we ended 2019 on a positive note.
- † **General Offering:** Thanks to several large gifts this year and greater giving by the average family in the congregation, Weekly Offering finished 2019 over \$20K ahead of programmed. Congratulations, and Thank You!
- † **Building Fund:** Total Net Bldg Fund Income end of **December** and Year End 2019 is almost +\$7K, a great finish to the year. Counting our reserve, we are 46 months ahead on our 20-Yr Mortgage. That's \$162K interest saved if we just pay our remaining mortgage payments on time. FYI, our 12-Yr Payoff Goal would save \$266K interest. See the larger mortgage chart.
- † **Going Forward:** We encourage all members to adopt an annual growth plan in giving for both General Operating and Bldg Fund. We suggest as a minimum using the Slow Growth method of increasing annual giving by \$2 per week, or approximately \$100 per year. Let us continue to grow Triumphant's ministry as we all work together to "Grow in Christ to Serve Others."



## \$1.2M Mortgage



## December 2019 Month End Financial Summary

	NET INCOME		ANNUAL BUDGET	
	December	Year To Date		
Operating Income	\$70,950	\$702,428	Operating Income	\$756,025
Operating Expenses	\$58,108	\$703,827	Bldg Fund Income	\$91,104
Net Operating Income	\$12,842	(\$1,399)	Other Income	\$9,150
Bldg & Designated Income	\$21,266	\$145,967	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$856,279</b>
Bldg & Designated Expenses	\$20,510	\$135,102	Operating Expenses	\$765,175
Net Designated Income	\$756	\$10,865	Debt Service	\$91,104
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$13,598</b>	<b>\$9,466</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$856,279</b>

# Anniversaries & Birthdays

## February anniversaries

- 3 Robert & Rose Carlson
- 9 Bill & Janet Weeper
- 16 Brian & Sharilyn Krauss
- 20 Jan & Carla Wagner
- 24 Rodney & Elizabeth Lee
- 27 Andrew & Debbie Still



- 1 Ainsley DuParc, Briley Fudge, Abelardo Salazar, Silke Williams
- 2 Allie Farris
- 3 Kelli Haug
- 5 Jacob Mattison, Kristin Miller
- 7 Nancy DuParc, Nicolas Etheridge, Brad Tellander
- 11 Mary Feuge, Ella Jean Holland
- 15 Cadence Clara Cantwell
- 16 Marisol Whitaker
- 17 Theresa Fuller, James Heineke, Josef Leachman
- 18 Nancy Patchin-Deason, Maegan Lleverino
- 19 Adelyn Bazaldua, Brian Schlameus
- 20 Danny Coronado
- 21 Don Braun, Ted Royston
- 23 Linda Shuler
- 24 Michael Fernandez
- 26 Shellie Garman, Molly Richter
- 28 Ron Pratt
- 29 Tom Potter



**James Clanahan** (Brother-in-law of Nancy Patchin-Deason) **+12-23-2019**

**Harold Flickinger** (Uncle of Carole Meyer) **+12-27-2019**

**Tom Florey** (Brother of Chris Crawford and Cindy Carlile) **+1-10-2020**



**Note the Deadline for the  
March 2020 Trumpet**

**Tuesday  
February 18, 2020**

Send Submissions to:  
[newsletter@triumphantultheran.org](mailto:newsletter@triumphantultheran.org)

# FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>January 2020</b>            Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa            1 2 3 4            5 6 7 8 9 10 11            12 13 14 15 16 17 18            19 20 21 22 23 24 25            26 27 28 29 30 31         </p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>March 2020</b>            Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa            1 2 3 4 5 6 7            8 9 10 11 12 13 14            15 16 17 18 19 20 21            22 23 24 25 26 27 28            29 30 31         </p>					1 5:00 PM - Saturday Service
2 8:30 AM - Traditional Service 9:45 AM - Sunday School 9:45 AM - Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM - Contemporary Svc 1:00 PM - Deacon MM Team	3 9:00 AM - Mother's Day Out 6:00 PM - Finance Committee	4 9:30 AM - Staff Meeting 1:00 PM - Evangelism Team 7:00 PM - Creative Blessings 7:00 PM - Stephen Ministry Training	5 9:00 AM - Mother's Day Out 5:00 PM - Prayer Team 5:45 PM - Wednesday Nite Live 6:30 PM - Choir	6 9:30 AM - Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM - Art Class 6:30 PM - Praise Band 7:00 PM - Stephen Ministry	7 6:00 AM - Men's Bible Study	8 5:00 PM - Saturday Service
<b>Cowboy Sunday</b>	10 9:00 AM - Mother's Day Out 12:00 PM - Primetiners' Lunch 6:00 PM - ECP Board 7:00 PM - Council Meeting	11 9:30 AM - Staff Meeting 9:30 AM - Quilting Bees 2:00 PM - Autumn Winds 7:00 PM - Creative Blessings 7:00 PM - Stephen Ministry Training	12 9:00 AM - Mother's Day Out 5:00 PM - Prayer Team 5:45 PM - Wednesday Nite Live 6:30 PM - Choir	13 9:30 AM - Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM - Art Class 6:00 PM - Discipleship Team 6:30 PM - Praise Band	 14 6:00 AM - Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM - Blended Spirits	15 8:00 AM - Stephen Ministry Training 5:00 PM - Saturday Service <b>Council Retreat</b>
16 8:30 AM - Traditional Service 9:45 AM - Sunday School 9:45 AM - Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM - Contemporary Svc	<b>17 President's Day</b> 9:00 AM - Mother's Day Out 	18 9:30 AM - Staff Meeting 7:00 PM - Creative Blessings 7:00 PM - Stephen Ministry Training	19 9:00 AM - Mother's Day Out 5:00 PM - Prayer Team 5:45 PM - Wednesday Nite Live 6:30 PM - Choir	20 9:30 AM - Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM - Art Class 6:30 PM - Praise Band 7:00 PM - Stephen Ministry		
23 8:30 AM - Traditional Service 9:45 AM - Sunday School 9:45 AM - Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM - Contemporary Svc	<b>TLC Office Closed</b>	25 9:30 AM - Staff Meeting 9:30 AM - Quilting Bees 7:00 PM - Creative Blessings 7:00 PM - Stephen Ministry Training	26 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 9:00 AM - Mother's Day Out 12:00 PM - Ash Wed. Service 5:00 PM - Prayer Team 7:00 PM - Ash Wed. Service 8:00 PM - Choir	27 9:30 AM - Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM - Art Class 6:30 PM - Praise Band	<b>Sr High Gathering</b>	29 5:00 PM - Saturday Service
<b>Sr High Gathering</b>						<b>Healing Service</b>

# We Grow in Christ to Serve Others.



21315 Bat Cave Road  
San Antonio, TX 78266

## Church Emails

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Britny Rodriguez, Youth Ministry CSS  
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## Triumphant Lutheran Worship Services

Holy Communion at every service.

Saturday: [Casual Worship](#) 5:00pm

Sunday: [Traditional Worship](#) 8:30am

[Contemporary Worship](#) 11:00am

[Preschool](#): Monday - Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm

[MDO](#): Monday & Wednesday 9:00am - 2:00pm

Website: [triumphantlutheran.org](http://triumphantlutheran.org)

(210) 651-9090

