

# The Desert Voice

Trinity Lutheran Church

November 2017

Dear family & friends:

As Thanksgiving Day approaches, I wonder, "What will motivate us to be thankful this year and beyond?"

God's Word instructs us to be thankful all the time. "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him" (Colossians 3:17).

What would make us thankful in all circumstances? Colossian 3:1 gives insight: "If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God" (Colossians 3:1). Thankfulness emanates from our Baptism where we were endowed with new life and a perspective that overcomes the emotional confusion of our struggle in this world. Living in Christ's victory over sin, death and the devil, we are made "more than conquerors through Him (Christ) who loved us" (Romans 8:37).

Christ's victory directs us to rely on God's plan for us. "Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:2-3).

By faith we focus on the fact

we have been purchased by the life-blood of Jesus on the cross. His resurrection is the proof that God is at peace with us. That's a real cause for thankful celebration.

God's peace sets us free and enables us to be truly thankful in all circumstances. Colossians 3:15 declares, "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."

In this fallen world of pain and sorrow we are encouraged by God's Word to celebrate thankfulness with real loving action toward others. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God" (Colossians 3:16).

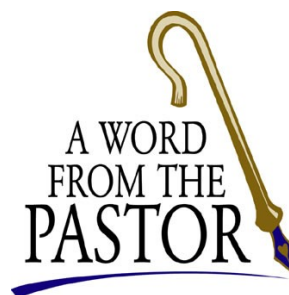
May God direct and bless our thankfulness on this Thanksgiving Day and beyond!

Pastor Smith



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## MEN'S M.A.S.S. MEETING

November 14, 6:00 pm



### Men Assisting Seminary Students

M.A.S.S. meets on the second Tuesday, November 14th, at 6:00 pm, at Sloan's Restaurant in Indio, corner of

Highway 111 and Clinton Streets.

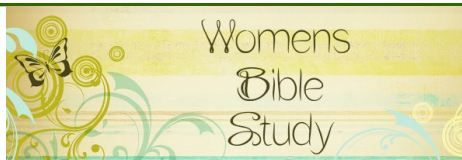
We are a dedicated group of men helping our younger cohorts continue through their Seminary years; doing the work of our Lord Jesus spreading the Word of God through helping them become ministers in the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. We support them with our prayers, encouragement, communication and dollars. One meeting and you will be hooked. It is such a worthy cause. You can also donate on Sunday mornings by placing a check in the offering plate noted for MASS. Anyone, any age, can help. God bless you and God bless our work for MASS here at Trinity.

Last month's answer is Malta & Publius.

This Month's Puzzle:

Can you answer this Question??

What was the weather report Jesus gave the Pharisees Matt. 16. First one to call wins . Call Ruthy Farquhar 760-574-3787, Ruth Farquhar.



Women's Bible Study  
Thursdays at 5pm !  
Please join us ladies.  
Mary Helen Kelly, Instructor.

## TLC QUILTERS IN OCTOBER



Trinity Quilters will meet in November on Nov.. 4th, 18th & 25th unless you hear from Chairman Marilyn Mohr



Had a wonderful time at last month's dinner. Always great conversation and fun getting to know everyone better.

This month we will gather at Mario's in Indio on Hwy 111 @ 6:30, Thursday, November 19, 2017.

Please RSVP to the church office: 347-3971 or email: [Trinity81500@verizon.net](mailto:Trinity81500@verizon.net). See you there!

## BOOKS !!

Land of Silence  
By Tessa Afshar



Elianna is a young girl crushed by guilt. After her only brother is killed while in her care, Elianna tries to earn forgiveness by working for her father's textile trade and caring for her family. Another tragedy puts her in charge of the business. She breaks off her betrothal and then illness strikes her. No physician can cure her. Then she hears the whisper of a man whose mere touch can heal. Is it possible that one man could redeem the wounds of body, heart, and soul? An excellent read.

## COMING SOON! "THE QUILT TEAM" A SERVICE PROJECT

SPONSORED BY THRIVENT

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church  
When: 11:00 a.m. This Wednesday  
November 1st  
LUNCH PROVIDED



Just 9 Wednesday. meetings to complete the service project of assembling Quilts to send to

**FLOOD and FIRE VICTIMS. PLEASE JOIN THE TEAM** by calling  
Marilyn Mohr @ 760 310-3242



# TLC Sunday School/ TLC Bible Fellowship



## THANK YOU EVERYONE!!!

Yep! Thank you so much to everyone that had a part in our month of Sundays Vacation Bible School this year! You all are such a blessing to the Trinity Family and the time spent spreading the Word of God has been amazing. It was great watching everyone as they led the children in song, games and crafts. Thank you kitchen staff and VBS photographer! Too many to mention but you all know who you are!

You are loved and appreciated!

Thank you, Bobbi Smith

TLC VBS Director



## TLC Christmas Program & Practices



This year's Sunday School and Youth Christmas program will show the true gifts we receive at Christmastime.

Three large, gift-wrapped presents symbolizing God's gift to us, Jesus' gift to us, and our gifts through Jesus that we can give to others.

Practices will be during the Sunday morning Sunday School and Youth worship openings at 9:45am, starting November 5, 2017. The program will be held in the 11am worship service, December 19, 2017.

Please keep the TLC Children and Youth Ministries in your prayers!

## Sr. High District Youth Gathering November 3-5, 2017



Please pray for our three youth attending the district youth gathering in Payson, AZ this month and the volunteer adult counselor, David Frese. This is such an amazing opportunity for our youth to gather with fellow Lutheran youth and experience the incredible wisdom of God's Word through worship, outrageous games (like paintball, zip line and giant bubble balls), a servant event, and challenging talks from local Arizona church leaders. God is Good!





# TLC Family Ministry

“Your faithfulness continues through all generations” Psalm 119:90  
November 2017

**Breakfast Study**



**MEN**

Men & Young Men's Breakfast Bible Study

**8:00AM—9:30AM**

**2nd Saturday Monthly**

This is a time for new beginnings and new ventures as we look forward to the “season” here at Trinity. One of these items is a men and young men’s monthly Bible fellowship. To kick it off there will be a pancake breakfast and Bible study lead by Pastor Smith. Make plans now to come and join this new opportunity at TLC, Saturday, November 11 @ 8:00am.



**Annual Food Drive to Benefit**  
**East Valley Friends In Service to Humanity**

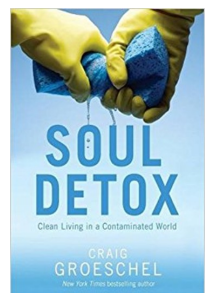

It's that time again to help stock the shelves at the east valley food bank, F.I.S.H. Every Sunday of November we will be gathering for F.I.S.H. Pick up a bag with the food items list and return to Trinity full. Let's make a difference!



**NEW Adult Bible Fellowship**  
**Thursdays @ 7:00pm**  
**Begins November 30, 2017**

NEW!!!! Come join us for an evening of fellowship and Bible study once a week at TLC on Thursday evenings beginning, November 30 @ 7pm. We will begin with a study by Craig Groeschel entitled, “Soul Detox: Clean Living in a Contaminated World”.

Our culture unknowingly ingests regular doses of spiritual toxins that assault our relationship with God. This five-session video-based study with participant's guide, shines light on the dark influences, emotions, and behaviors to empower Christians to live pure lives and grow closer to God. Through concise teaching and honest humor, *Soul Detox* provides a source of inspiration and encouragement for a faith-filled lifestyle that will keep you free from spiritual toxins.

**TLC Movie Night**  
**“The Case for Christ”**  
**Friday, November 17 @ 6:30pm**



# FREE FREE!!!



## LWML News

Wow! November is upon us already. Mark your calendar for 11:30 A.M on Wednesday, Nov. 8th so you don't miss our LWML luncheon and meeting. A special treat will be Marilyn Weerheim from Peace Lutheran Church who will be sharing devotions. Then keeping with our theme for the year, our own Sheila McCafferty will be presenting the program "Jesus Name Above All Names." All this and potluck luncheon and great fellowship! Don't miss out, everyone is invited, sign-up right outside the church.

### Pastor Appreciation Month



As our November project, the LWML Board has designated this month to be Pastor Appreciation Month. Our Pastor shepherds his flock all year long, and we, his sheep, often take for granted all he does. The LWML ladies encourage each of you to make a conscious effort this month especially, with words and actions to show your appreciation to Pastor Smith. Keep him daily in your prayers and take time to personally thank him for what he does and let him know what you appreciate about his character and/or ministry.



### Silent Auction

#### LWML Silent Auction – Saturday, December 2nd – 1:30 P.M. and CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP



Our Silent Auction this year will be a Christmas Boutique Auction. We will be accepting only new items that you wish to donate. We would also like home crafted items, sewn, crocheted, knitted items, paintings, wood crafts, as well as baked goods, home-made jams, jellies, salsas, etc. – an old fashioned "Christmas Boutique" with all proceeds going to Lutheran World Relief. The **deadline** for accepting items for the auction (except for baked goods) is **Tuesday, November 28. Only baked goods will be accepted after that date.** Please bring items to the church office.

Following the Silent Auction will be a time for special Christmas fellowship – carol singing, revealing prayer pals and drawing new ones, packing goodies for shut-ins, and this year a twist on an old favorite – gift exchange. Everyone who comes is asked to bring a wrapped "white elephant" gift. You know – something you have in your house that you no longer need or want but is still useable. How we distribute these precious gifts is a surprise! Come and see!

It's all happening on Saturday, December 2, starting at 1:30 P.M.



## Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Lutheran Church, Indio



### November Luncheon Meeting

*Wednesday, November 8th, 2017 11:30 A.M.*

**THEME:** Jesus Name Above All Names

“Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven, on earth, and under the earth.” Philippians 2:9-10

**PROGRAM:** Sheila McCafferty sharing:  
“ Jesus Name Above All Names “

**MISSION GRANT:** POBLO

A Christian organization working to transform the way missions are approached in the U.S.

**SERVICE PROJECT:** Pastor Appreciation Month

**LUNCHEON:** Pot luck  
P.S. Don't forget your Mite Box







# TLC VBS 2017





### November 2017 Birthdays

- 1 Carol Schuessler
- 4 Loretta Eide
- 4 Robby Smith
- 6 Pauline Matuska
- 14 Loretta Piunti
- 14 Courtney Anne Taylor
- 16 Pastor Robert Smith
- 17 Margee Harai
- 20 Dave Bergum
- 20 Cheryle Kortman
- 25 Trudi Intemann
- 26 Larry Piunti
- 27 Jim Ducatte
- 27 Cheryl Harmon
- 28 Roy Culley
- 28 Derek Lorimer
- 30 Marlys Waggoner



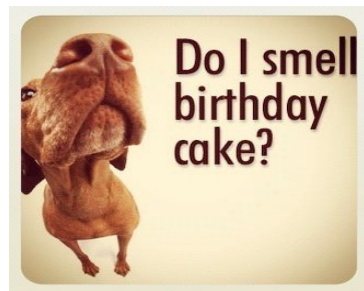
### November Anniversaries

- November 6 Larry & Loretta Piunti
- November 7 Dave & Ramona Haugen
- November 22 Jim & Beverly Ducatte



### December 2017 Birthdays

- 6 Sylvia Kendall
- 8 Annemarie Sonntag
- 9 Frank Fratto
- 9 Bea Main
- 12 Nicole Maler
- 19 Elsa Smith
- 20 Tom Spay
- 24 Marlene Langenwalter
- 27 Alex Negron
- 30 Kathy Hunter
- 31 Henry Bonette



### December Anniversaries

- December 23 George & Trudi Intemann
- December 27 Pastor Robert & Bobbi Smith





## STEWARDSHIP

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, by the His death for our sins and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water combined with His Word, promise, and name, the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure and wealth is that we belong to the most holy Trinity and everything that is His belongs also to us: righteousness, peace, eternal life. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as (good stewards of His varied grace,) (1 Peter 4:10) we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's holy Word, as an offering. Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also offerings to Him, from which we eat to nourish our bodies, share with our family, neighbors, and fellow Christians, with the poor and even our enemies, as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and bring blessing upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom and the souls that receive them.

Thus we place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us and pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all — even for us. "For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance" (Matthew 13:12).

Your Stewardship Committee



## November MASS News!

Mr. Russ Campbell  
77697 Barons Circle  
Palm Desert, CA 92211



Dear Mr. Campbell,

Thank you for taking the time to contact each one of your previous seminarians. I am both proud and happy to speak on behalf of MASS at any time; you are welcome to use this letter at any time in the future for such purposes.

In the Spring of 2007, I was one of the first applicants to be denied admission to the seminary due to the amount of debt I was going to carry in with me. While it was understandably responsible of them to begin to make those decisions, it certainly came as a shock. I had taken the financial step of faith of large student loans in order to attend Concordia University, Irvine, for the express purpose of preparing myself for seminary. In bitter irony, I was then denied the opportunity to attend seminary because of those very loans.

At that point, my future father-in-law at the time, Rev. Dennis Stueve, spearheaded a significant campaign on my behalf. He contacted countless family, friends, and other connections, requesting monetary pledges for each of the three years of study. During that time, another previous seminarian of yours, and my brother-in-law, Rev. Aaron Smith, referred my name to MASS for support. That began a relationship I will always be grateful for.

As a result of the pledges and gifts given, I was granted admission to the seminary. During those four years of pastoral formation, my fiancé and then wife, Kari, and I worked our tails off. In addition to my full-time studies during the week and fieldwork responsibilities at a nearby congregation, I also worked Friday and Saturday evenings as a valet, parking cars at fancy restaurants, dependent on tips. Though we had received enough commitments to cover the entire cost of my seminary education, the Recession hit hard in the midst of that, and Kari and I became *cautiously* hopeful that all those pledges would come in. We made an intentional effort to live on as little support as possible, squirrelling away whatever we could just in case the 'well' dried up. Praise God! It never did.

In the Spring of 2011, I graduated from seminary and received my first Call as Associate Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church & School in Bend, Oregon. Not only were Kari and I able to carry less loan debt than we had four years prior, but we had also stored away enough of what we had been earning to afford a down payment on a foreclosed house while the market was still near the bottom.

Please understand how critical that has been for us: the cost of living in this tourist town has made it to where the monthly rent of a 1-bedroom apartment is comparable to the mortgage payment of a 3-bedroom house. Your support allowed us to afford the latter, which gave us the opportunity to truly be at home here, building a 'nest' for ourselves and eventually a family. We now have two boys: John is 4½, and Samuel turns 2 the day I write this.

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In the Spring of last year (2016), we realized we had been blessed with another opportunity for our family. In those five years, the housing market had recovered, and the demand for housing in Bend began to bustle again as families and businesses choose to relocate here, often to be near God's beautiful Creation that surrounds us. With the amount our home had appreciated, not only were we able to afford a new house in an incredibly family-friendly neighborhood (there are over 20 kids on our cul-de-sac alone!), we were also able to use a chunk of the proceeds to pay off my remaining balance of student loan debt. Praise God! MASS's goal – debt free.

I know my story is long, but I love sharing it with whoever I can. And, quite simply and powerfully, the bottom line is this: Kari, John, Samuel, and I would NOT be in the position we are today without the support of the men and congregations in your desert communities who have dedicated themselves to supporting pastoral formation. From the bottom of our hearts, we are so thankful for what God has done and continues to do through all of you.

Always your seminarian,

In Christ,



Rev. Patrick Rooney

John has woken up from bedtime? lkmbhbt

↳ He really wanted to be a part of this.  
I thought you wouldn't mind. 😊  
Typed it himself! With just a little help. 😊

Say "Hello" to John.  
He contributed to  
Dad's letter above and  
as you can see he's a  
**BIG DODGER FAN!**  
**"GO DODGERS"**



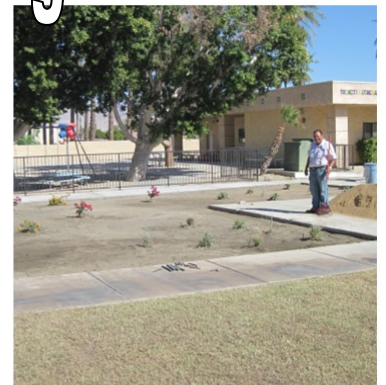




# LWML



# Repairs and New Landscaping







## Those Who Serve in November 2017



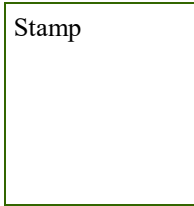
<u>Duties</u> ⌄	<u>Nov. 5</u> 8:30 am Communion	<u>Nov. 12</u> 11:00 am Communion	<u>Nov. 19</u> 8:30 am Communion	<u>Nov. 26</u> 11:00 am Communion
<u>Duty Elder</u> 8:30am  11am	Webb Sprague  Woody Kastner	Roy Culley  Woody Kastner	Gary Wiedle  Gary Wiedle	Webb Sprague  Gary Wiedle
<u>Readers</u> 8:30am  11am	Webb Sprague  Woody Kastner	Roy Culley  Woody Kastner	Gary Wiedle  Gary Wiedle	Webb Sprague  Gary Wiedle
<u>Ushers</u> 8:30am  11am	Russ Campbell & Terry Lahn  Bob Wirtenberger & Richard Robinson	Terry Lahn & Larry Piunti  Jim Ducatte & Andy Schlange	Terry Lahn & Russ Campbell  Jim Ducatte & Bob Wirtenberger	Larry Piunti & Denny York  Richard Robinson & Jim Ducatte
<u>Acolytes</u> 8:30 am  11:00 am	Emma Ashbaugh &AnnaMarie Frese  Lily Tobin	Anna & Ethan Frese  J.J. White	Samantha Schuessler  Lily Tobin	Logan Ashbaugh  Baron Chamberlain
<u>Greeters</u> 8:30am  11am	Raejean & Bruce Kuhnau  Bob & Irene Wirtenberger	Raejean & Bruce Kuhnau  Bob & Irene Wirtenberger	Raejean & Bruce Kuhnau  Bob & Irene Wirtenberger	Raejean & Bruce Kuhnau  Bob & Irene Wirtenberger
Flowers	Bruce & Raejean Kuhnau		Roseann Swanson	Roseann Swanson



# November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
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**Lutheran Church Missouri Synod  
Pacific Southwest District**

Robert E. Smith, Pastor  
Cell Phone: 760-485-5171  
Emily Bonette, Church Secretary  
Church Office Phone: 760-347-3971  
Eloise Freeman, Preschool Director  
Preschool Phone: 760-347-3838

*Trinity Lutheran Church*



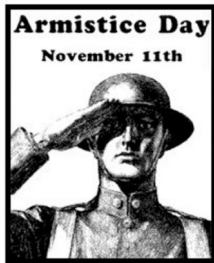
*Indio, California*

Holy Communion  
8:30am—1st & 3rd Sundays  
11am—2nd & 4th Sundays

Sunday Worship  
8:30am & 11am  
Sunday School/  
Bible Class  
10:00am

**To All Veterans**

**Whether At Home Or Abroad**  
Active Duty ~ Reserves ~ Retired  
**All Americans Say:**  
**THANK YOU!**



An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.