

**WE ARE JOYFULLY GATHERED TOGETHER BY GOD'S GRACIOUS LOVE IN JESUS CHRIST TO WORSHIP HIM, TO GROW IN FAITH AND TO PROCLAIM JESUS BY WORD AND SERVICE.**

## Faith First

*"The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in... Then Simon Peter came ... saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed." - John 20:4-8*

The Beloved Disciple in John's Gospel almost always appears in scenes with Peter, yet in contrast with him. According to the other gospel traditions in Scripture Peter is seen as "the first" to see the resurrected Jesus. As Robert Smith has said, "The image of Peter in the Fourth Gospel suffers in comparison to the Beloved Disciple."

It is not surprising then that the Beloved Disciple outruns Peter to the tomb and arrives there first. And we may be a little surprised that Peter gets into the tomb first, but when the Beloved Disciple finally enters the tomb he gets to be the one that goes *faith first*. He saw and he believed.

In great detail we are told what both saw in the tomb. They see the linen grave cloths and also the one that covered Jesus' face, rolled up and set aside in its own place. The surprising thing in John's Gospel is how the Beloved Disciple comes to faith. Not by angel announcement or touch or hearing a word. "The Beloved Disciple sees the empty cloths on an empty shelf in an empty tomb and comes to faith."

The story of Lazarus is only found in John's Gospel (John 11). Remember the scene where Lazarus comes out from the tomb and is still bound by his grave clothes. Lazarus would still need those grave clothes for he was still subject to death. But Jesus in his rising laid aside his grave cloths and has left behind the tomb forever. He has triumphed over death.

The details of this imagery of grave clothes in an empty tomb seems to suggest that Jesus is unbound, risen, conquering Son of God over death. He is the death of death itself. In the sight of grave clothes neatly tucked away on a dusty shelf in an empty tomb the Beloved Disciple came out of that tomb faith first.

As you celebrate what God has done on Easter morning may God tuck away the old grave clothes to the side in a neat stack and make known his unbound truth that our Lord Jesus is risen from the dead. And in that good news of what God has done for us let faith be first in all our going out in mission and coming in for fellowship and sweet communion.



Race ya! Pastor Gary

## Trinity Kids' Club! Check it out!



The Local Mission Task Force has put into motion our congregation's sense of call to offer an after school program for children in our neighborhood. Trinity Kids' Club will run three times before the end of the school year, on the Early Release dates of April 13, April 27 and May 11, from 2:30 until 4:30. This is for the ages of Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, and is free to all.

We will have snacks, games, crafts, Bible Story and more. Certainly we would like our Trinity kids to participate —as many as possible—to make the welcome strong for those who are not used to entering church doors. Reaching the unreached for Christ is our motivation for offering this program as well as to serve the needs of our neighboring families with young children.



For those of you who feel the call to help with this program, please speak with one of us on the Local Mission Task force. (Pastor Ruth, Kellie Gordon, Sue Hoeffner, Sue Pershall, Sue Peckacek, Laurie Mudge, Craig Huff, Peggy Winston)

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## SPRUCING UP FOR EASTER (AND BEYOND)



Take a moment as you enter Trinity through the arches to look at the newly landscaped area on each side. The original trees and shrubs, having outlived their usefulness, were removed—thanks to a major effort by Mark Ellertson using his excavator and assisted by Ted Driver and Doug Munson. Next, in came Craig and Nick Johnson of Heritage Landscape Design (son and grandson of Don and Fern Johnson). They designed the new landscape areas, and then donated and installed the plants.

What a safe, beautiful and inviting main entrance to Trinity! We thank all those who played a part in this

long overdue improvement to our premises.

Other members faithfully continue their behind-the-scenes efforts to maintain and upgrade our facility/equipment/supplies not just for Easter but year-round. Those regulars include the Tuesday/Thursday morning men who gather to carry out many tasks (Bob Ellingwood, Chuck Prochnow, Arlen Wogen, Duane Lansverk and others on occasion), the men who maintain our lawn (Jim Spence, Jim Charlston, Mike Baylous), and Sharon and Del Swanson who oversee our altar and work sacristy

areas. Of course, we would be amiss if we didn't recognize the excellent maintenance of custodian David Miller. As Dave recovers from heart surgery, members are stepping up to carry out his duties; if you'd like to help, contact Bob Ellingwood.



## Love thy neighbor.

*Peace. Harmony. Friendship.*



Meet the neighbors the morning of the **Saturday, April 4**. The day is devoted to providing fun for the kids of Trinity and its neighborhood. The annual Eggstravaganza is a two-parter beginning at 10 a.m. first, an egg hunt for

younger children; second, an unusual hunt for middle- and high-schoolers. At 11:30 a.m., free food and a Latte Da coffee cart in the narthex is followed at noon by an informal concert by Three Together, comprised of Doug and Judy Smith and Don Mitchell. **Trinity mem-**

**bers are urged to be in attendance at 11:30 to greet and meet visitors while also having a good time. See you there!**



## WOMEN OF TRINITY



You are invited to a brunch **Saturday morning April 25** registration will begin at **9:00 am** and brunch will start at **9:30 am** in **Stolee Hall**. Women from all the Lutheran Churches are coming to Trinity for this "Cluster" event. Please help us welcome our many guests. The brunch food will be great (part prepared by us and part brought by all the visiting churches.) After our meal we will move to the Sanctuary for music and a program helping folks get acquainted with our Pastor Ruth. She will help answer the question **Are Missionaries Important Anymore?** Please bring an in-kind donation of health or beauty products for women in the Abused Women Shelter run by the YWCA. Our offering will be sent to the Bangladesh Pastor who is starting several Christian schools for children.

## How to Make Visitors Feel Welcomed at Church?

1. The most important person for a visitor to talk to in order to feel at home in a new church is **you**. It is not the pastor, or the greeter, but a regular attender. Eshleman says "One of the most impressive gestures we can extend to first time visitors is for people with no official position to take the initiative and welcome them."
2. Look people **in the eye and smile**.
3. Learn people's **names** and remember them.
4. **Listening** is a very effective way to show love.
5. Greet children at **their level**.
6. Take the **initiative**, don't wait for visitors to initiate conversation with you
7. Invite visitors to join you at **something, anything!** Invite them to today's fellowship meal, next Sunday's Christian Education hour, or to a restaurant for some one on one time.
8. Ask **questions** and learn about your guests. It is better to express interest in them than it is to try to "sell" your church.
9. Tell people you're **glad** they are **here**.
10. **Pray** for them throughout your week.



Hospitality is not a given among Christians, its a calling which requires a specific skill set. **Be yourself!** You are loving! You have a good thing going! You have the capacity to love more people, and to love more deeply. "Practice making people feel special, and what you give to others will be returned to you."

**Consider yourself called!**

Sorce: <http://blog.chron.com/thepeacepastor/2013/08/20-ways-how-to-make-someone-feel-welcome-in-church/>

## Happy Lunch Bunch

Our **April 21** HLB potluck will feature stories of Missionaries. Trinity was started in 1940 by Pastor Stavaas a Missionary temporarily in the states from Madagascar. Our current Pastors just returned from the Mission field in Bangladesh will share stories of their work there for the past 8 years. And Pastor Rod Ellertson and his wife Donna will share some stories of their work several years ago in Africa. And Tim Gammell with his wife Elaine will share stories of their 4 years of lay missionary work in Africa. **Are Missionaries still important?** Come hear their stories. And share the ham we provide while you bring the remainder of the meal.

**Men's Breakfast**

**Saturday, April 18**

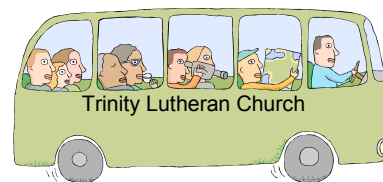
**8:00 am**

**Join the Men's Fellowship**



## Trip for Fun

We will take the church van on **Saturday April 11** out to Woodland Washington for "A Taste of Spring." Meet at 10:30. We will enjoy their **Tulip Festival** with acres of U-pick and Show Fields, booths with food and crafts for sale, and a general good Spring time. The only cost is \$5 for the van trip and whatever you choose to eat or buy. Come and have fun!!





## Stamp Ministry

The stamps that are donated and sent to the "Stamp Ministry" all proceeds goes to support preparation, publishing and distribution of a Spanish language curriculum for Sunday Schools. More than 50 lesson series have been published and are being used in churches of 40 different denominations in 19 different Spanish speaking countries in South America, Central America and even the USA.

In 2013, Alliance Stamp Ministry sent \$37,000.00 to the Sunday School project and in 2014, \$41,000.00 was sent. Thank you so much for your support of this vital ministry. Every penny and every stamp, means more money for the printing of the Spanish Christian literature.

**Please note, that it is a federal offense to remove stamps from an envelope and attach them to a new envelope, even when the stamps have not been cancelled.**

Here at Trinity all used stamps are collected in the hall leading to the Narthex. God bless you and this Ministry.

## Caring for Your Loved One at Home Workshop

Are you taking care of a loved one at home? Need a little help figuring it all out? Join us and learn about day to day care, lifting and moving your loved one, home safety, managing medications, nutrition, challenging behaviors, legal & financial issues, community resources, and the importance of caring for you.

This class is open to spouses, partners, adult children and friends caring for a loved one at home. There is no cost to attend, but due to limited space, registration is required.

**When:** Thursdays, April 9 through May 14, 2015, 9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

**Where:** Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 12513 SE Mill Plain Blvd., Vancouver, WA

**How to Register:** Call 360-694-8144, Agency on Aging & Disabilities of SW Washington



The Lincoln Elementary School Parent Staff Group will hold a rummage sale at Lincoln, 4200 Daniels Street, on **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.** Funds raised will benefit Lincoln students in many ways! Got stuff you want to get rid of? The LPSG is looking for donations of gently-used items of furniture, household goods, clothing, etc. And, once you've made room for new acquisitions, come see what the Lincoln Rummage Sale has to offer! Call Nina Kerr-Bryant at 360-903-4374 or Amanda Wong at 360-909-1482 with questions or to donate.

## Lincoln Elementary Volunteer Opportunities



### Classroom Work

Assist teachers in the classroom by working with students and/or doing clerical work (grading papers, making copies, bulletin boards, etc.) Provide one-on-one assistance to students in reading or math readiness activities. Assist the school media specialist with checking in/out books and shelving media materials.

### After School Activities

Volunteers can assist with our extended day activities- homework club, after school sports, the school newspaper or an activity you would like to lead. Tutor students in various subject areas or provide childcare for parent education workshops.

### Special Events

Chaperone field trips, help with family night activities, or assist with screen clinics for vision and hearing. Support our parent group, LPSG, with fundraising.

### Lunch Buddies

Come to Lincoln Elementary once a week for lunch with a student who has been identified as needing extra support by their teacher, principal or school counselor. After eating lunch together, there is time to play board games, read, make a craft/hobby, or just talk.

**By giving your time and your care, you can make an important difference in the life of a child. The need for volunteers is great; the rewards are event greater.**

**Please contact Jessica Blatt, Lincoln Family-Community Resource Coordinator, with any questions about the volunteer opportunities at Lincoln 313-2314 or email**

**[Jessica.blatt@vansd.org](mailto:Jessica.blatt@vansd.org)**



## WELLNESS CORNER

By Sue Hoeffner



parishnurse@trinityvancouver.org  
360-695-1221 Ext# 28

### ***Living Well with Chronic Conditions Workshop*** **April 13--May 18**

If you or someone you care for has a chronic health condition (i.e. heart disease, arthritis, diabetes, depression, asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, and/or other physical and mental health conditions), this class series may be for you! The *Living Well* workshops, developed by Stanford University, can help you take charge of your life by giving you the tools needed to self-manage your health and wellness. This **FREE** workshop will be meeting weekly for 2 ½ hours each week for 6 weeks **beginning on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** Each participant will also receive a FREE handbook. The classes will be facilitated by Marilyn Johnson, RN and Sue Hoeffner, RN, both trained Living Well facilitators.

In this class, you will learn to:

- Control your pain
- Deal with fatigue
- Start an activity program
- Handle stress and relax
- Use medications effectively
- Solve problems and meet personal goals
- Make choices about your treatment
- Eat well to live well

For I know the  
*Plans*  
I have for you,  
declares the *Lord*  
Plans to *Prosper* you  
and not to harm you  
Plans to give you  
*Hope* and a *Future*  
-Jeremiah 29:11

If you are interested in participating in this workshop or have a question regarding it, please leave a message for Sue in the Parish Nurse office at 695-1221, ext. 28. Community members are also welcome to participate.

### ***Christian Women's Cancer Support Group at TLC***

Is cancer a part of your life story? If you desire Christian sister fellowship and support with those who understand your journey, please plan to join us for this monthly gathering. **We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each**



**month in Trinity's conference room, 9:30-11:00 a.m. for brunch, fellowship, and education.** This group is open to any women, TLC members or not, who wish to share and receive support and encouragement. Our April meet-

ing will be on **Saturday, April 18th.** Please contact either Sue Hoeffner or Tammy Eshom for more information.

Tammy:  
eshomtm@gmail.com

Trinity Lutheran Church

## TLC YOUTH NEWSLETTER

April 2015—More info and pics @  
[www.trinityvancouver.org](http://www.trinityvancouver.org)

## High School Lock-in!

Get ready for a great night of fun and fellowship! On **Friday, April 17th at 8 PM.** We will be attending a special event at the Marshall Center as part of our evening from 8—11 PM. The lock-in itself will be at Messiah Lutheran Church with several other churches! It will **end at 7 AM** Saturday morning. We will do lots of games, a service project, devotions, and more! Don't miss out! Watch your email for more info.



### Easter Egg Hunt and Psycho Easter Bunny!

**Saturday, April 4th at 10 AM** will be our annual Easter Eggstravaganza! This year after the little ones hunt for eggs it will be the **MS/HS** turn (with a twist). Can you find the eggs before the **Psycho Easter Bunny** finds you!? Watch for more details soon!

## Confirmation Camp

It's time to register for Confirmation Camp! Please let me know if you are planning to attend Confirmation Camp this year. Camp is always a favorite event and vital to the Confirmation experience. I hope everyone can and will attend. Open to all youth **currently in 5th - 8th grade.** (6th - 9th) next Fall. The church will be covering \$180 of the cost this year. We will be attending: **Confirmation #2 - July 26th - July 31st.** Please talk with Brian before **registering.**

## HS National Gathering

We are registered! It will be July 14th—20th. You can still register to attend this incredible once every 3 years event! Just talk to Brian for more details ASAP!

### Weekly Activities:

- **Confirmation**  
Wednesdays  
6:30—7:45 PM.
- **HS Youth Group**  
Youth Nights  
Sundays  
6:00—7:30 PM
- **Worship**  
Sundays  
10:30 AM
- **Sunday School**  
**All Ages** 9:30 AM

### Upcoming Events!

- HS Lock-in with Messiah (April 17th)
- Confirmation Celebration (A Sunday in May TBD)
- VBS!  
July 6-9
- HS National Gathering  
July 14—20
- Confirmation Camp  
July 26—31 (Get registered now!)



# Children's News

## By Kellie Gordon

Children@trinityvancouver.org

360-695-1221 Ext# 13



### Spring Has Sprung!

#### Lots happening in Children's Ministry!

**Saturday, April 4:** Easter Eggstravaganza. Come sing, listen to the Easter Story, create Easter crafts, decorate cookies and find Easter Eggs at our annual Easter Eggstravanza! It's going to be bigger and more extravagant than ever before, as we invite our neighbors, the children from Lincoln Elementary, and celebrate Trinity's 75th birthday as well.

Plus! There will be coffee house type coffee, music by Doug and Judy Smith and their group, Three Together, and brunch

following the egg hunt!



Teens! You can help with the Egg Hunt for the younger kids, but then take part in your own game of Psycho Bunny. You're hunting eggs, but Psycho Bunny is hunting YOU!!

**Time:**

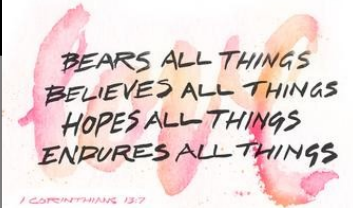
**10:00 a.m. for Easter Egg Hunt, Crafts, and Story time.**

**11:30 a.m. Brunch and music, plus prize drawings.**

**Wanted:** Decorating help! Cookie bakers! Creative types to lead crafts! Youth to help hide eggs! Set up and tear down volunteers! Please see Kellie for more details.

Thank you!

**Easter Sunday – April 5th** – Crafts and Flannel Board Story Time will take place for children in Memorial Chapel during Easter Breakfast. Please join us!



### Children's Ministry: Mission Project

The Children from Sunday School would like to donate pajamas, stuffed animals, slippers, and/or cozy blankets to children who are entering the foster care system. These

items are given, along with hygiene items, in a box to children before they go to their first foster home. It's a traumatic and scary time for a child, and the hope of the gift box or-

ganization is to take a bit of the sting out of that. Money is also welcome.



### VBS Planning Meeting

Sunday, April 12th at 12:00, in Activities Room . Please plan to come if you have a child who will be attending VBS, or if you are able to volunteer. 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room after worship.



# Children's News

By Kellie Gordon

Children@trinityvancouver.org

360-695-1221 Ext# 13



## Spring Parenting Class

April 16 to May 21

Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Have you ever wished there were a manual for raising kids? Well, there actually is. It's the **Parenting with Love and Logic** program, and Trinity will be offering this 6-week course to parents. Please sign up if you are interested. There is a list at the bulletin board for Children's Ministry in the Narthex. You can also call Kellie at 695.1221 ext. 13. Sign up available at [www.trinityvancouver.org](http://www.trinityvancouver.org)

The fee is \$20, with an additional \$12 for the workbook.

### Love and Logic :

- uses humor, hope, and empathy to build up the adult-child relationship.
- emphasizes respect and dignity both for children and adults
- provides respect and dignity both for children and adults
- provides real limit in a loving way
- teaches consequences and healthy decision making.



The Children's Choir will sing on Easter Sunday. Please join them if you've been singing "He's Alive Again" during the Sunday School Open. Services are at 8:30 and 11:00. Children will gather in Family Room behind Sanctuary before services. See you there!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**July 6-9**

**Vacation Bible School at Trinity Lutheran Church!**

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

**5**

830a

Worship

Easter Breakfast

1100a

Worship

High School

Youth Night

**6****OFFICE  
CLOSED****7**

930a

Women's Bible  
Study/CR

AA/AR

**8**

10a

Staff Meeting/CR

EnhanceFitness/SH

LCS/Cit/NW

AA/AR

The Grace Notes/S

Adult Choir/Loft

**9**

10a

Lydia Circle/MC

**10**

1p

EnhanceFitness/SH

AA/AR

**11**

1030a

Trip for Fun

**12**

930a

Education Hour

1030a

Worship

VBS MTG/AR

12p

High School

Youth Night

**13**

10a

Living Well/MC

EnhanceFitness/SH

AA/AR

Ruth Circle/CR

Alz Support/MC,L,TH

Kids' Club/SH

Sal Creek Study/HM

**14**

930a

Women's Bible  
Study/CR

AA/AR

Lincoln School MTG

Foundation/CR

Esther/Eliz Circle/HM

**15**

10a

Staff Meeting/CR

EnhanceFitness/SH

LCS/Cit/NW

AA/AR

The Grace Notes/S

Confirmation

Adult Choir/Loft

**16**

9a

Mission Sowers/TH

6p

Boy Scouts/MC,SH

Love&amp;Logic/AR

**17**

1p

EnhanceFitness/SH

AA/AR

**18**

8a

Men's Breakfast /TH  
Women's Cancer  
Support Group/CR**19**

930a

Education Hour

1030a

Worship

High School

Youth Night

**20**

10a

Living Well/MC

EnhanceFitness/SH

AA/AR

Sal Creek Study/HM

**21**

930a

Women's Bible  
Study/CR

AA/AR

Happy Lunch

Bunch/SH

**22**

10a

Staff Meeting/CR

EnhanceFitness/SH

LCS/Cit/NW

AA/AR

The Grace Notes/S

Confirmation

Adult Choir/Loft

**23**

9a

Faith-Based Coffee/SH

6p

Love&amp;Logic/AR

**24**

1p

EnhanceFitness/SH

AA/AR

**25**

9a-1p

Cluster Meeting/SH,S

**26**

930a

Education Hour

1030a

Worship

High School

Youth Night

**27**

10a

Living Well/MC

EnhanceFitness/SH

AA/AR

Kids' Club/SH

Sal Creek Study/HM

**28**

930a

Women's Bible  
Study/CR

AA/AR

Spinning Wheels/SH

TLC Book Club / CR

**29**

10a

Staff Meeting/CR

EnhanceFitness/SH

LCS/Cit/NW

AA/AR

The Grace Notes/S

Confirmation

Adult Choir/Loft

**30**

6p

Love&amp;Logic/AR



# Happy Birthday



Debra Niedner	04/02	Hazel Hunter	04/20
Rod Ellertson	04/03	Dale Osborn	04/20
Georgia Larson	04/06	Craig Huff	04/22
James Doney	04/07	Audrey McGuinness	04/22
Hannah Hantho	04/07	Marcia Hobbs	04/23
Joyce Christensen	04/08	Shirley Zitt	04/23
Jill Holm	04/08	Kellie Gordon	04/24
Myia Johnson	04/08	Joel Burke	04/25
James Stevenson	04/08	Jon Day	04/25
Mike Tjensvold	04/10	Todd Hamilton	04/25
Peggy Lansverk	04/11	Becky Graybill	04/26
Landon Selfridge	04/11	Anna James	04/29
Joann Shapira	04/12	Ruth Stone-Scheer	04/29
Dean Stenehjelm	04/13	Mildred Asplin	04/30
Jenny Stevenin	04/13	Mike Haas	04/30
Debbie Huff	04/14	Erin Lambley	04/30
Ron Rushford	04/14		

## KEY TO ROOM ABBREVIATIONS:

TH: Trinity Hall	S: Sanctuary	L: Library
SH: Stolee Hall	NW: North Wing	NX: Narthex
CR: Conference Room	MC: Memorial Chapel	YR: Youth Room
AR: Activities Room	HM: Home of Member	



**Trinity Lutheran Church.** . . building bridges to our community. . . providing opportunities for growth.

### Community Groups Meeting at TLC:

AA 55+: M,W,F 1:30 pm / AR & T 10 am / AR

Alzheimer's: 2nd Monday, 2:00 pm / TH, AR, MC

EnhanceFitness: Every M, W, F / SH 1-2pm

Faith-Based Coffee: Every 4th Thursday 9am / SH

Lutheran Community Services, Wed. 1 pm, / NW

Spinning Wheels, 4th Tues., 6 pm / SH

### Van Driver Schedule:

05...John Mudge	695-7582
12...Sean McGill	571-4120
19...Tim Gammell	509-205-2795
26...Bud Ferderer	576-0127
...Brigham Lambley	314-4355

### Church office: 695-1221

Pastors: ext. 15

Kellie (Children): ext. 13

Sue (Parish Nurse): ext. 28

Janet (Finance): ext. 11

Brian (Youth): ext. 14

TRUST  
in the  
*Lord*  
with  
**ALL**  
your  
**Heart**  
Proverbs 3:5



**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**APRIL 2015 VOLUME 55 NUMBER 4**

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And as you wish that others  
would do to you, do so to them.  
Luke 6:31

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*Return Service Requested*  
Vancover WA 98660-1959  
309 W 39th Street  
Trinity Lutheran Church

**TIDINGS**