



Trinity Topics

www.sancarloshtlc.org

January 2021

Phew! I'm glad that is over! 2020 was a year that we will not soon forget. I saw recently a Christmas ornament that hung from a tree that I thought described the year pretty well. The ornament was a dumpster fire with the year 2020 on it. I laughed hard when I saw it. It's been a rough year. We have lost almost a whole year to this crisis. Many have lost family members, health, jobs, and businesses.



I believe that new life and hope can come out of the greatest tragedies and pain. My prayers this last month have been, "Lord show me where new life is." What new life awaits us in 2021? As we mediate on the good news of Jesus, we are given hope beyond measure. It's the hope that out of death comes resurrection.

How do you make meaning out of this last year? What is it that you are going to take away from it? There is so much potential to let this year be transformed into something beautiful. I don't yet know yet what that will look like, but I'm hopeful!

Peace, The Rev. Joshua Serrano



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President's Letter

The birth of a baby brings joy and hope and visions of a better future. Our recent celebration of Christmas reminds that God is with us in the baby Jesus, as his name is Emmanuel or "God is with us." (Matthew 1:22-23). When God is with us our hope is strengthened and our vision of a better future becomes real. Living in hope allows us to push past the troubles we face today to live in a brighter tomorrow.

The New Year allows us to take stock and hope for a brighter tomorrow as well. Off with the old and on with the new! The past year has brought many of us pain, trouble, and dislocation. But a baby is born, God is with us, and a New Year dawns!

In 2021 we have the chance to seize the opportunities before us. The birth of Jesus means that with Emmanuel we can live in hope. Lutheran pastor Mitri Raheb of "the little town of Bethlehem" teaches us that that living in Christian hope is not something we feel or think, but rather it is what we do. It's the actions we take now to bring about the Kingdom of God on earth. It is "to plant trees under whose shade we do not expect to sit, and to dig wells from which we will not drink."

In 2021 what does that mean for us a family of God at Holy Trinity? What can we do now to plant the trees under which others will sit and dig the wells from which others will drink? What new foundations can we build that will sustain our congregation and its ministry for years to come? The effects of the pandemic mean that the answers to these questions will not be like the answers we gave in the past. Our future will look different than our past.

But while our future will be different, our hope remains the same. God is with us. It's time to start doing.

John McDowell



Sandwiches for Street Life Ministries: John, Pam and Greg Bohlmann, Sandy Frojelin.



NEW DATES FOR PREPARING SANDWICHES

JANUARY 5 Barbara and Leroy Padilla

JANUARY 19 Volunteer Needed

JANUARY 26 Volunteer Needed

Thank You!



Special delivery to Debra at Samaritan House from Holy Trinity by Barbara Padilla on Friday, December 18. This represents our year long General Benevolence Fund donation(\$3500)and designated Family to Family collections of funds(\$805+\$1080 in Target gift cards)for 2020.

A total of 43 Target gift card funds were donated(\$1080)..well past our goal of 30!, Thank you everyone for blessings these families,❤️!

Debra from Samaritan House received our General Fund Benevolence checks with our 43 Target gift cards for a total of \$5380.00 on Friday 12/18/20. This will help families with food, clothing, and gifts as needed during the holidays. Thank you to all our members throughout the year, and to those who donated to our gift card drive. What a joyful delivery it was!
Barbara Padilla



We now follow with the Three Kings (Epiphany January 6) as they remind us to focus our lives on the Light of Christ.



Christmas Pageant : We extend much gratitude to all of the Schmuckal family members for their contributions to make our Christmas Pageant a reality, and such a wonderful production!! From creative script writing to musical performances, to all the technical work that was involved for hours and hours of personal time, we are truly blessed. Many thanks also to Cathy Bready for costuming and support! It was a treat as well to have entire families sing hymns which is a joyous part of each pageant we hold.

Many thanks to all that made this new form of the Christmas story of Christ's birth come to life. We are "Always Being Made New!"



MLK JR
DAY OF SERVICE
REIMAGINED
Monday,
January 18, 2021

Bringing together our diverse community to build bridges of understanding and respect.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

REGISTER BY SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

PMCMLK2021.EVENTBRITE.COM

Opening Ceremony Celebrating Dr. King (On Zoom)
Congresswoman Jackie Speier
Rev. Lorrie Owens, President of San Mateo NAACP

Due to COVID-19, this year's Day of Service is being thoughtfully reimagined to be meaningful for all.

Projects have been developed that participants can prepare at home, in addition to those that can be safely done in person.

Participating Faith Houses

- Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Silicon Valley
- Baha'i Faith of the Mid-Peninsula
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Congregation Beth Jacob
- Congregational Church of Belmont
- Congregational Church of San Mateo
- Episcopal Church of St. Matthew
- Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
- First Church of Redwood City, UCC
- First Presbyterian Church of Burlingame
- Holy Trinity Lutheran Church of San Carlos
- Island United Church of Foster City
- Jewish Community Relations Council
- Pacifica Institute
- Peninsula Sinai Congregation
- Peninsula Temple Beth El
- Peninsula Temple Shalom
- St. Andrew's Lutheran Church of San Mateo
- St. James A.M.E Zion Church
- St. Matthias Catholic Church of Redwood City
- Saint Bartholomew Parish
- Saint Paul's Episcopal Church
- Sanatan Mandir
- Shinnyo-en USA
- Sikh Gurdwara SSF
- Sisters of Mercy, Burlingame
- Trinity Baptist Church
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City

www.peninsulamultifaith.org

Peninsula Multifaith Coalition
MLK Day of Service!

The PMC annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service will be **Monday, January 18th**. If you have volunteered in the past, you have or will receive an email from the PMC about this year's event. If you have not previously volunteered, you are encouraged to do so. Please go to the PMC website, www.peninsulamultifaith.org for details.

One of the MLK Day of Service projects will be delivering magazines to senior living facilities, including the San Carlos Elms. If you can donate any used magazines, or if you have any questions, please contact PMC liaison Dick Rescho at (510)326-5962

Sunday: Adult Forum @ 9:30am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95096649914?pwd=QXN3WFRKNFJPaFZNYm1TaUx5TXdjdz09>

Meeting ID: 950 9664 9914

Password: 051908

Call in 1(669)900-6833

January

BIRTHDAYS

A birthday is God's reminder to enjoy life. May your birthday be a day of celebration!

- 01/01 Eli Haas
- 01/02 Ian Schornstein
- 01/13 Ann Haritatos
- 01/14 Leah Meier
- 01/16 Cameron Martin
- 01/16 Ann Wunderlich
- 01/19 Sydney Martin
- 01/19 Kemp Segerhammar
- 01/20 Julia Henne
- 01/21 Lisa Kersten
- 01/30 Brinley Emken

Sunday: Zoom Coffee Hour 11:15am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98572335433?pwd=N2I0VXJlbVYyeW4xVEM0eGFCSmtWQT09>

Meeting ID: 985 7233 5433

Password: 020345

Call In +1(669)900-6833

Find us on Social Media!

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/holytrinitysancarlos>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HTLCSanCarlos>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/holytrinitysancarlos>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDjq64tPizNwz9-Q4kvXWSQ-Q4kvXWSQ5>

Pastoral Office Hour: Thursdays @ 11:00am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95145893636?pwd=L0dMc1JjOE1qbJbxdFp3NUE1eTFiUT09>

Meeting ID: 951 4589 3636

Password: 002499

Call In 1(669)900-6833

Morning Prayer on HTLC Facebook Live @7am

Wednesday and Friday

We have worship online through our website at sancarloshtlc.org that begins at 10:30am on Sundays. If you are having trouble accessing our worship services online, please contact Pastor Josh and he'll do his best to help you out!



Executive Committee Meeting: Sometimes you just need some silliness.

Save the Dates!

Mark your calendars for these meeting dates to take place following our regular worship services:

Budget Review Meeting

January 24, 2021

Annual Meeting

January 31, 2021

Both of these meetings need your participation to plan for our mission and finances for Holy Trinity in the coming year. Additional information will be sent with links so that as many people can join in as possible!

December Council Highlights

- Received the Treasurer’s report showing that contributions were \$15,105 (updated) of the \$18,709 we need monthly to sustain our ministries.
- Repurposed \$805 in benevolence funds earmarked for the Family-to-Family program at Samaritan House to their new program of pandemic survival family Christmas gift cards.
- Approved benevolence distribution recommendation from the Social Concern Ministry Team of:
 - ★ \$250 in support of New Creation Home Ministry of East Palo Alto. These are faith-based homes providing essential services to new and expectant mothers in need of shelter.
 - ★\$500 to Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley. Several of our pastors and interns, including Pastor Josh, attended PLTS.
 - ★\$3,500 in support the Second Harvest Food Bank of Silicon Valley. They have a significant increase in client need due to the pandemic.
 - ★\$3,500 in support of Samaritan House in San Mateo. They have a significant increase in client need due to the pandemic.
- Approved the proposed 2021 budget to be sent to the congregation for approval at the January 31 annual meeting.



STAFF and COUNCIL OFFICERS/MINISTRY TEAM CHAIRS

Pastor	The Rev. Joshua Serrano
Office Administrator.....	Claudia Cortez
Organist/Pianist	Kai Lin
Nursery Care	Jo O'Brien
President	John McDowell
Worship & Music.....	Erik Vorhes
Evangelism & Outreach.....	Gary Wiessinger
Vice President.....	Erin Fischer
Stewardship	
Secretary	Gail Blomstrom
Social Concerns.....	Barbara Padilla
Buildings & Grounds.....	G. Ray Martin, Leroy Padilla
Youth	Lori Friedman
Financial Secretary	Mary Webb
Endowment	John McDowell
Treasurer	Petra Gilmore
Education/Sunday School.....	

All are Welcome!

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in San Carlos celebrates and shares God's gifts by worshipping together, caring for each other, and doing God's work in the community and beyond.

We believe that Christ has made us one body with many members, sharing in God's grace and unconditional love.

We joyfully welcome ALL people, without exception — of every age, sex, race, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, or anything else that divides us — to join with us in worship, learning, fellowship, prayer and service.

"For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith...there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:26, 28

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

149 Manzanita Avenue
 San Carlos, CA 94070
 Phone 650.593.0325
 Sunday Worship 10:15 am



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.