



# Trinity Topics

www.sancarloshtlc.org

June 2016

## Sitting in the Pews *by Pr. Erica Schemper*



Ten years ago exactly, I was in the interview process and about to accept a call as the Associate Pastor for Children and Youth at a large Presbyterian church outside of Chicago. I was also quite pregnant with my first baby. (A side note to HTLC's pastor search committee, as you move further into your process: calling a pregnant pastor often means you get a two-fer; Zora was born the following August, and as you all know, that child was born to be a church kid!)



My first years as a pastoring-mama were relatively easy. Zora was an easy-going kiddo, and I had great childcare and a congregation that adored my kid. Most of all, I had the world's best pastor's husband, Erik, who took over completely on Sundays, during evening meetings, and weeklong youth group trips.

Ten years later, Erik and I find ourselves juggling three kids through church every Sunday. We take up a whole row, a pew full of stuffed animals and crayons and Cheerios. There's always a kid hanging onto our arms or trying to dive off the edge of the pew. We're trying to keep everyone engaged in their own way: by waving "hi" to a loving face in the row behind us, or helping someone keep their hands busy with blocks, or encouraging another to follow along as we sing from the hymnal. We even manage to help with a few other things on Sundays while doing all of this. It's the most wonderful thing, and honestly one of the hardest things Erik and I do. And I'd be dishonest not to mention how hard it can be to raise children in the faith, beyond just getting everyone through church on Sunday.

When I was a new Mom, I was also a full time pastor with a good 10 hours of responsibilities each Sunday, and so, to be honest, I had a pretty limited picture of what it took to parent a kid during church. I've not had a regular, long term, full time church position for about 5 years now, and I tell clergy colleagues that one of the greatest benefits to me of this time as a "pew-sitter" has been learning how much work it really is to parent a bunch of kids on a Sunday morning. Good work, but hard work.

But Erik and I are not on our own: the whole congregation at HTLC partners with us in this work, and we could tell this was a congregation committed to doing so when we walked through its doors almost 4 years ago.

As I transition from being your Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, I am grateful that my family gets to continue to grow up in this place, and to be blessed by the ministry that you do to children and youth. And I am confident that you all will continue to build on that strength.

And, I can't wait to return for many more Sundays of being a "pew-sitter."



## Interim Ministry Update

It's exciting that the Holy Trinity Ministry Site Profile has been submitted! Congratulations, and many thanks to the call committee for their meticulous work on the profile. You are moving ever closer to calling your new pastor!

Here are two notes as we look ahead to summer and even autumn:

First, I need to remind you that I may not be able to stay all the way until your new pastor is called. Because the Sierra Pacific Synod usually has around 30 congregations in transition at any given time – and a limited number of trained intentional interim pastors – it is possible that I may be asked to serve another congregation. Our contract states that I will stay at least until the MSP is submitted. Besides serving as your temporary pastor, my work with you is to advise you in your self-study process, which has included looking at your history and planning the short-term goals reflected in the MSP. You have completed that work well.

Second, let me assure you that with Pr. Erica's resignation, I will work with the confirmation students and parents to ensure that the confirmation program is cohesive with what was begun last year.

Finally, the plans underway for God's Work Our Hands day (Saturday, Sept. 10), hosting the Home and Hope families in Beilstein Hall starting the next day (Sunday, Sept. 11), and looking toward the Sunday school year shows that Holy Trinity is not and never has been in a "holding pattern" during this transitional time, but has continued its ministries, which truly reveal Christ's heart on the Peninsula.

It is a pleasure to serve with all of you here at Holy Trinity, and I'm blessed to be with you! May the Holy Spirit guide this final phase of your transitional ministry, and continue to inspire and surprise us all.

### May Council Meeting



◆ Pastor Lori highlighted:

- Upcoming confirmation of **Cameron Martin** and **Stefan Reimann** and baptism of **Lucas Ding**
- **Pr. Erica** and **Pr. Kemp** will preside during her vacation
- Homebound communion lay ministers will be trained this summer. Contact **Pr. Lori** if interested.

◆ Treasurer's Report:

- April report was received
- Through April receipts are approximately **\$17,000 below yearly expenditures – giving has dropped significantly.**
- Loan balance is \$164,245

◆ Call Committee congratulated on completing and sending Ministry Site Profile to the Synod.

◆ Children, Youth and Family Ministry report:

- Expanding Sunday School classes in September – need teachers
- Rally Sunday will be August 21
- Christmas pageant will be December 18

◆ Discussion was held regarding God's Work Our Hands options; date set for Saturday, September 10 rather than Sunday.

◆ Work to ready parsonage for pastor was reviewed; volunteers will be recruited and workdays will be scheduled late June/early July.

◆ **Peter Meier** was thanked for his many years leading Congregation Life; **Pamela Bohlmann** will now lead this ministry team.

### Help Needed – Readying Parsonage

For the last six months the parsonage has been home to three Home and Hope families as they worked to transition into their own independent housing. We at Holy Trinity are grateful for the opportunity to partner with Home and Hope on this project. With the last family vacating the end of May, it's time to prepare the parsonage for a new pastor.

Professionally contract to:

- Refinishing hardwood flooring
- Replace carpet in master bedroom, adjoining bedroom and hallway



Identify volunteers to:

- Install master bedroom ceiling fan
- Install new master bathroom light fixture
- Replace garbage disposal
- Touch-up painting
- Thorough cleaning
- Backyard clean-up and landscaping

Work will commence the end of June and during July. Specific dates to be determined. **PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE NARTHEX BULLETIN BOARD FOR WAYS YOU CAN HELP.** While summer is a time for many of us to relax and take vacations, please find a date when you can be part of "many hands making light work".

## Call Committee News

The Call Committee has been listening to congregation members as we define our identity and core values and also determine the gifts of ministry our new pastor will need to fulfill our mission at Holy Trinity. In January, members participated in small group meetings to discuss what we are excited about and the many resources we have been blessed with. In March, an on-line congregational survey was undertaken to prioritize the most important gifts of ministry for a new pastor at Holy Trinity. This input culminated in drafting Holy Trinity's Ministry Site Profile (MSP). In May, the Council approved our MSP and shortly thereafter it was entered into the online ELCA Call system. The MSP is a document which describes who we are and the gifts of ministry we are seeking. It is used by the Bishop's office to identify potential candidates for us and by candidates to learn about Holy Trinity.

Our MSP summary description:

- "HTLC, a small, active and enthusiastic congregation of all ages, strives to make a difference in our community and the world. We seek a leader to help us grow in faith, inspire us with God's Word, enrich our understanding of Christ's love, build an intergenerational community, support social concerns and provide inclusive welcoming. We're nestled in a hilly San Carlos neighborhood minutes from the San Francisco Bay and the Santa Cruz Mountains/Pacific Ocean."

We have plenty to be excited about at Holy Trinity. We describe our excitement in this paragraph from the MSP:

- "We are excited about our Youth and Family ministry and the energy and joy that the young people bring us. Our children and youth are engaged and vibrant. The congregation is family friendly and accepting of children. We are also excited about our recent facility upgrades, especially the increased access for members and guests with disabilities. Overall, the congregation has vibrancy and lots of momentum with a positive outlook for the future. In a 2013 Church Assessment Tool survey by Holy Cow! Consulting, Holy Trinity rated both high energy and high satisfaction on the Energy-Satisfaction map."

In the MSP, our congregation commits to support and encourage our new pastor in five ways during the first year to help him or her be successful in our mission:

- Invite the pastor to at least nine informal, small group gatherings in the first three months, such as meals at members' homes, to facilitate getting to know members.
- Give pastor own space and down time, establish good boundaries. For example, we will honor the declared day(s) off each week. This also includes respect for the privacy of the parsonage space.
- Open communication and sharing in the joy of God's mission here. We will establish mutual ministry support team with members selected by pastor within first six months.
- The Congregation is committed to participating in the ELCA Healthy Start program and/or alternative mentoring program. The Council has budgeted funding for that purpose, as needed.
- Be open minded to changes the pastor may propose or suggest.

The Call Committee has estimated an approximate timeline for the call process in 2016:

- January: six small group meetings held with congregation to clarify core values
- February: Pastor Lori conducted HTLC timeline exercise to understand our heritage
- March: on-line survey with congregation to prioritize gifts for ministry
- March 15: joint Call Committee/Council review of draft Ministry Site Profile (MSP)
- April: reviewed draft Ministry Site Profile with Bishop's office
- May: Council approved MSP and Call Committee submitted completed MSP to ELCA
- Mid-summer: Bishop's office screens candidates and provides 3-5 names to Call Committee
- Summer: Call Committee interviews candidates.



Please keep the Call Committee in your prayers as we work through the process of calling a new pastor.

Call Committee members: Greg Bohlmann, Bobby Rodgers, Mary Webb, Anna Friedman, Gaby Knauth, Lisa Antonino, Doug Southard, and Barbara Padilla.

## Let's Make HTLC Youth Events Happen!

Here's a great new way to support HTLC's youth. The Children and Youth Ministry Team is looking for people who would be willing to plan or host a gathering. It's a great way to get to know the wonderful junior high and high school students who are part of our congregation. You could do this one time, or get hooked and help more often! HTLC is a can-do church that has a great history of members pitching in make ministry happen!

We'd like to come up with an event once every two months. If you're the planning-sort, you'd make a great **Event Planner**. Your responsibilities would be:

- to come up with idea and plans for event; to work with the Event Host to coordinate advanced details for event (for instance, transportation if it's needed; food; reservations for an event, etc.)
- to clear time with church office if church facility is to be used
- to ask the church office to publicize event in Trinity Topics and in weekly bulletins leading up to event
- to serve as contact person if there's a need for youth to RSVP
- to ensure that there will be a minimum of two adults at event, and that one of those adults have current church safe training (the church office has a list of those who have fulfilled this training)
- your attendance at the event is optional.



Another person can work with the Event Planner as the **Event Host**. The Event Host would:

- work with Event Planner to come up with idea and plans for event
- work with Event Host to coordinate advanced details for event (for instance, transportation if it's needed; food; reservations for an event, etc.)
- attend the event
- be the person who leads the event
- ensure that the day-of details of event (Set up; clean up; etc) are taken care of

**If you think you might be called to try this, contact Gaby Knauth ([gaby.knauth@yahoo.com](mailto:gaby.knauth@yahoo.com)) for more information!**



Confirmation for **Stefan & Cameron**. Congratulations!



HTLC kids at the Mt. Cross Jr. High Retreat.

**Widening Our Welcome** continues through property enhancements. The long awaited sign was installed in May thanks to **Webb Builders'** workers **Nieves** and **Jose**. Landscaping enhancement made by **Doug Southard, Leroy Padilla, Diane** and **Bob Beuthel**.



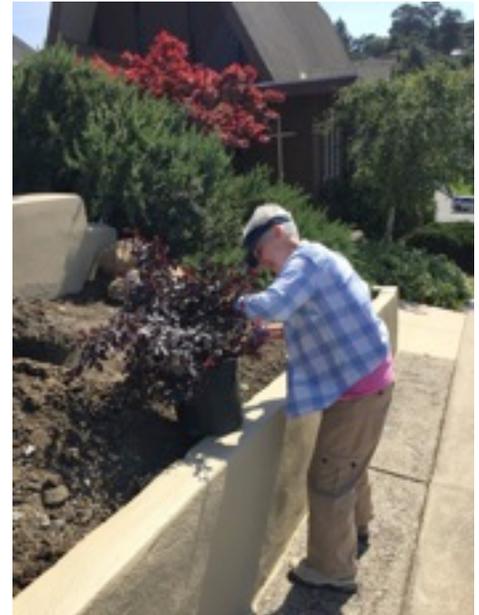
Jose smoothing the concrete base and Nieves applying a masonry finish coat prior to painting.



Doug paints



Bob digs



Diane trims



Leroy assembles



New walkway landscaping



**& Book Study**  
**Saturday, June 11**  
**8:00 am | Beilstein Hall**



Join us for some food, fellowship, and good conversation!

**Lydia Circle (WELCA)**

**Tuesday, June 21 | 12:30 pm | San Carlos Elms**



We will meet in Harriet Platt's suite. Thank you, Harriet. Our summer Bible study has begun with session one, the title being "Treasure in Clay Pots". It can be found on page 28 in the June issue of Gather. Theme verse, 2nd Corinthians 4:7. Please bring your Bible, Gather and a light lunch. As *always, all women of Holy Trinity are most welcome!* Questions? call me. Lynn 650-591-5151.

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 6/3 Hillary Wiessinger
- 6/6 Margit Hansen
- 6/8 Sven Knauth
- 6/9 Bob Young
- 6/12 Barbara Padilla
- 6/13 Kirk Henne
- 6/14 Jacob Rodgers
- 6/15 Maria Rodenberg
- 6/22 Lance Webb
- 6/24 Erik Kersten
- 6/27 Sue Davis
- 6/28 Eloiza Meier
- 6/29 Petra Gilmore

**ANNIVERSARY WISHES!**

- Pat & Fred Holle  
6/1/1954 (62 years)
- Francie & John Kuehner  
6/6/1999 (17 years)
- Rick & Petra Gilmore  
6/9/1979 (37 years)
- Doug & Vivian Southard  
6/26/2005 (11 years)
- Chris & Kristin Fox  
6/29/2002 (14 years)



**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

# J U N E C A L E N D A R S

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 10:15 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 11:30 AM Choir Practice 5:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>30</b> MEMORIAL DAY - OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>31</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Beilstein Hall	<b>1</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>2</b> 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>3</b> <b>2016 Synod Assembly</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room 7:30 PM Russian Gospel Temple--Beilstein Hall	<b>4</b> <b>2016 Synod Assembly</b> 5:00 PM AA Mtg (women's group)--Conf Room
<b>5</b> <b>2016 Synod Assembly</b> 10:15 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 11:30 AM Choir Practice 12:00 PM Call Committee Meeting 5:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>6</b> 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>7</b> Election Day Polling - All day Beilstein Hall <b>6:30 PM W &amp; M Team Mtg</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Rm	<b>8</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>9</b> 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>10</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room 7:30 PM Russian Gospel Temple--Beilstein Hall	<b>11</b> <b>8:00 AM Men's Breakfast - Beilstein Hall</b> 5:00 PM AA Mtg (women's group)--Conf Room
<b>12</b> 10:15 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 11:30 AM Choir Practice 5:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>13</b> 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Beilstein Hall	<b>15</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>16</b> 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>17</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room 7:30 PM Russian Gospel Temple--Beilstein Hall	<b>18</b> 5:00 PM AA Mtg (women's group)--Conf Room
<b>19</b> 10:15 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 11:30 AM Choir Practice 5:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>20</b> 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>21</b> 12:15 PM <b>Lydia Circle</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Beilstein Hall 7:00 PM <b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>22</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>23</b> 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>24</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room 7:30 PM Russian Gospel Temple--Beilstein Hall	<b>25</b> 5:00 PM AA Mtg (women's group)--Conf Room
<b>26</b> 10:15 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 11:30 AM Choir Practice 5:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>27</b> 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>28</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Beilstein Hall	<b>29</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room	<b>30</b> 6:00 PM Jazzercise--Beilstein Hall	<b>1</b> 7:00 PM AA Meeting--Conf Room 7:30 PM Russian Gospel Temple--Beilstein Hall	<b>2</b> 5:00 PM AA Mtg (women's group)--Conf Room

	6/5	6/12	6/19	6/26
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Cathy Bready	Lori Friedman	Anita Reimann	Erik Vorhes
<b>Lector</b>	John McDowell	open	Doug Southard	Lynn Garbe-Recknagel
<b>Acolyte</b>	Cameron Martin	Anna Friedman	Zora Vorhes	Eva Schmuckal
<b>Sound System Operator</b>	Bob Beuthel	John Schornstein	John McDowell	Dave Pitts
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Barbara Richards	Pamela Bohlmann	Vivian Southard	Karen Schornstein
<b>Greeter(s)</b>	Anni Wunderlich	Peter Meier	Julianne Fredericks	The Wiessingers
<b>Ushers</b>	Dave Pitts Richard Wunderlich	Greg Bohlmann	Leroy Padilla John Schornstein	Dick Rescho John McDowell
<b>Nursery Assistant</b>	Parent to Stay	Parent to Stay	Parent to Stay	Parent to Stay
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Reimann	Fischer	Wiessinger	Kersten
<b>Counters</b>	Lisa Telfer Mary Webb	Mary Webb	Greg Bohlmann Andrea Reiser	Lisa Kersten Chris Kidwell

## Worship Leaders

If a conflict prevents you from serving as scheduled, arrange a trade or substitute and notify the office at 650.593.0325 or [office@sancarloshtlc.org](mailto:office@sancarloshtlc.org).

**STAFF**

Interim Pastor ..... The Rev. Lori Eickmann  
*eickmann@sancarloshtlc.org*  
 Dir, Child & Family Ministries.....The Rev. Erica Schemper  
*schemper@sancarloshtlc.org*  
 Interim Organist/Pianist ..... Heather Paisar

Office Administrator .....Monica Cryan  
*cryan@sancarloshtlc.org*  
 Nursery Care.....Jo O'Brien  
*obrien@sancarloshtlc.org*  
 Bookkeeper.....Allen Erickson

**2016 COUNCIL OFFICERS & MINISTRY TEAM CHAIRS**

President ..... Anita Reimann  
*reimann@sancarloshtlc.org*  
 Vice President .....Lori Friedman  
 Secretary .....Bob Beuthel  
 Buildings & Grounds .....Bob Beuthel, Leroy Padilla  
 Congregation Life .....Peter Meier  
 Endowment. ....Cathy Bready, John McDowell  
 Education/Sunday School .....Erica Schemper

Worship & Music .....Erik Vorhes  
 Evangelism & Outreach .....Gary Wiessinger  
 Stewardship.....Peter Meier, Barbara Padilla  
 Social Concerns.....Barbara Padilla, Hillary Wiessinger  
 Youth .....Lori Friedman  
 Financial Secretary .....Mary Webb  
 Treasurer .....Petra Gilmore  
*treasurer@sancarloshtlc.org*

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

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

