

# TRINITY BEACON

A Newsletter for members of Trinity Lutheran Church  
to promote communication of information in the congregation.

July 2024

This month we celebrate the freedom of the United States on July 4<sup>th</sup>. While not all friends and members of Trinity may be native to the United States, I would feel safe to assume that a majority of our Trinity family does acknowledge and have a certain respect for this holiday. It is one of few holidays where most businesses close in observance, which is a rarity today. On a national level, most would say that they observe the holiday to maintain tradition and also show patriotism. Can the same be said on a spiritual level?



Jesus fought a war on our behalf, but does HE get the same glory from us for the freedom that resulted? We acknowledge his sacrifice and his death and resurrection on Easter, but is that sufficient? Can one truly make a comparison between freedoms (of speech, of religion, etc.) and eternal life? As Christians living in the United States, we are so thankful to know what it feels like to have both of those things. Not the same can be said for Christians living throughout other parts of the world.

Having one day, or even one season, to celebrate the freedom of eternal life that Jesus won for us is not enough. While we remember and celebrate those who fought for the independence of the wonderful country that we live in, it is important to also remember and celebrate the One who fought for our eternal independence as well. Let us remember Jesus and his sacrifice, every day, not only for a season, when showing thanks for what we have and for what we have to look forward to.

Blessings,

Mary



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

**Transition Questions?** Do you have questions about the Call process? The Florida Bahama Synod has an incredibly detailed guide that provides information about every step of the process to finding a new pastor. You can read more at the Florida-

Bahamas Synod's website: <https://fbsynod.com/resources/transitions/>. ***The Call Committee has sent the MSP to Synod!***

# July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Evy's Art Class- 1 pm	4 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Holiday- Office Closed	5	6
7 Worship- 9:30 am	8 Caregiver Support Group- 10:30 am	9	10 Evy's Art Class- 1 pm	11	12	13
14 Worship- 9:30 am	15 Executive Council- 10 am Stewardship Meeting- 6 pm	16	17 Evy's Art Class- 1 pm	18 Elizabeth Circle- 10 am	19	20
21 Worship- 9:30 am	22 HUM Volunteer Event- 8:15 am	23 Council Meeting- 6 pm	24 Evy's Art Class- 1 pm	25	26	27
28 Worship- 9:30 am	29	30	31 Evy's Art Class- 1 pm			

## **Evy's Art News**

Last month I wrote about the art in the Fellowship Hall and the classes that I am teaching there. This month I want to let you know that I write a monthly blog or newsletter called "Evy's Art News". I have a website (evyokerstrom.com), and it can be found there. It is posted on the first of each month. I write about the classes at Trinity and other art projects that I am working on. I try to include pictures of artwork I have recently done in the class or in my studio at home. The July issue will review what we are doing in the Sarah Simon "Workbook #1". This book teaches watercolor techniques, and is good for beginners and those with experience. This month I talk about the Lessons on controlling where your paint goes. This is referred to as paint boundaries: defined, loose and undefined. Students tried each style to find one that fit their painting style. Most felt comfortable with the defined as most of us like, or used to painting in a traditional style, staying within the lines! However, it was fun to try painting outside the box! I will have some images to illustrate the different styles of the paintings. I will also add one new painting that I have done each month. This month I have a watercolor painting that I did of my Aunt's grapevine in her backyard. I was at her home in early June. I was attracted to the grapevine because there were so many birds around it, eating the grapes and nesting there too. If you would like to receive my blog, send your email address to me at eokerstrom22@gmail.com. If the July blog has come out when you receive the July Beacon, I will make sure you receive the August one. You can go directly to my website and read the current blog. The Sketching with Watercolor, Pen & Ink classes are held in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday from 1pm to 4 pm.

Evy Okerstrom

### **Summer Mission of the Month: Chisholm Elementary**

For the months of June and July we will support Chisholm Elementary on back-to-school essential supplies. Over the years, Trinity often referred to this as "Undie Sundays." As time has passed, we have found that the school's supply and clothing needs have changed. Please see the following list of clothing and school supplies that the school counselor has requested:

- \*Bookbags
- \* Colored pencils
- \*3-minute timers (sand or digital)
- \*Markers
- \*Play dough
- \*Large binders
- \*Extra clothes (boys and girls t-shirts, leggings, drawstring shorts, all sizes)
- \*Sneakers (boy sizes 5-7, girl sizes 1-4)
- \*Computer paper
- \*Pencil cases
- \* Headphones (not earbuds)
- \* Expo brand dry erase markers
- \* 3-prong folders with pockets

If you are unable to shop, but would still like to contribute to Chisholm's back to school fund, please feel free to make a financial donation with a memo stating that you wish those funds to go to Chisholm. **All donations are due by Sunday August 4<sup>th</sup>**. Please contact the office with any questions!

## Cantor's Notes

**"We believe that the holy act of singing together shapes faith,  
heals brokenness, transforms lives, and renews peace."**

The guiding stance of *The Center for Congregational Song* of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada.

***What a Friend We Have in Jesus, ELW 742.*** This text was written by Joseph Scriven in 1855, an Irish-born immigrant to Canada, to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.

A member of the Plymouth Brethren, Scriven sought to carry out literally what Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount by giving away his property and doing menial work for those who were handicapped and poor. He was called "the man who sawed wood for widows and sick people who are unable to pay."

This text resonated with many people in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and has continued to do so to the present day. As a hymn of assurance, it has served as an effective reminder of the centrality of prayer in a well-rounded spirituality. Unfortunately, singing it has often been a substitute for the comprehensive prayer life it advocates, and its advice has been cherished but not followed.

*What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.*

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

Cantate Domino! (Sing to the Lord!)  
Brian Larson

## Summer Travels

Summer is a popular time to travel. As our friends and members of Trinity travel, please keep them in your prayers!

## Altar Guild

Do you have a heart for serving, but do not know how to help? The Altar Guild is looking for volunteers to help prepare the altar for worship and clean up after services. This is an essential component to the ministry at Trinity! If you are interested in learning more about altar guild, please contact the office.

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# What makes a Thrivent Action Team possible?

### The idea starts with you

Giving from your heart is your passion. When you see a need in your community, you jump in to help. You've inspired family and friends to join you. Now, all you need is a little kick start to put it into action.

### We work with you to make it happen

Thrivent is a membership-owned fraternal organization, as well as a holistic financial services organization. That means we serve our clients—not shareholders on Wall Street. With Thrivent membership, you become a part of something bigger and have access to generosity programs that help amplify your impact in your community.

### Your idea is one of many

Now imagine all the people out there with ideas for improving the communities in which they live and work—like the more than 2 million clients we serve. Thrivent Action Teams can help bring these ideas to life and help our clients make the most of all they've been given.

Learn more at [thrivent.com/actionteam](https://thrivent.com/actionteam).



“  
O God, our heavenly Father,  
whose glory fills the whole  
creation, and whose presence we  
find wherever we go: preserve  
those who travel; surround them  
with your loving care; protect  
them from every danger; and  
bring them in safety to their  
journey's end; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.”

UNKNOWN

## Who we are

For over 100 years, Thrivent has been helping people build their financial futures and live more generous lives. And through our benefit programs, we give our clients tools and resources to make meaningful change happen in their communities.



**Ranked 351st  
on Fortune 500**  
*Fortune magazine*  
May 2022



**More than  
\$1 billion raised  
through Thrivent  
Action Teams\***

**ETHISPHERE<sup>®</sup>**  
**WORLD'S MOST  
ETHICAL  
COMPANIES<sup>®</sup>**  
**2012 - 2023**



## July Birthdays

4	Linda Soden	23	Nikki Hopkins
6	Pete Peterson	23	Rosalie Kalman
7	Karen Snyder	23	Barbara Kaufmann
10	Marilyn O'Connor	27	Ed Haas
12	Kassandra Rose	27	Larry Snyder
20	Cyrus Tucker	28	Carol Mangiafico

## A NEW BIRTHDAY SONG

Using the tune KREMSER, *We Praise You, O God*

We celebrate with you the life that God gave you.

We thank God for letting us share in your joy.

God bless you and keep you and shine Christ's light upon you.

With love we sing together happy birthday to you.

## TRINITY COLUMBARIUM



### Administrative Information

Office Phone: (386) 428-4307

Office E-mail: [trinitylutheran485@gmail.com](mailto:trinitylutheran485@gmail.com)

Trinity website: [www.trinitylutheransb.org](http://www.trinitylutheransb.org)

Florida-Bahamas Synod [www.fbsynod.org](http://www.fbsynod.org)

ELCA [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

### **COLUMBARIUM NICHE SUBSCRIPTION FEE**

MEMBER: \$2000.00

NON-MEMBER \$3000.00

Includes one niche which will hold two urns, a faceplate (to cover the niche) that is engraved with name of deceased, plus year of birth and death.

### **APPLICATION AVAILABLE**

Contact one of the following:

- Marilyn O'Connor (386-402-4304)
- Jean Haughwout (386-478-9650)
- Church Office (386-428-4307)

**Interim Pastor:** Rev. Mark Winkler

**Cantor:** Brian Larson

**Office Administrator:** Mary Parada

**Custodian:** Laura Jones