

Trinity Tidings

NEWSLETTER

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

By Josh Nix, Minister of Youth & Young Adults

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How is it that a couple you've known for years, who've always seemed so happy, suddenly announce that they're separated? Explain to me how your sister, who lights up Facebook with updates about how great life is out of nowhere, sends you a message saying she's at the end of her rope? These are elephants in the room.

Surely, these are deeply complex situations, but here are some stats for you: a majority of self-described happily married women contemplates divorce on a regular basis. Roughly 10% of people starting at the age of twelve are messing with an illegal substance and abusing others. 47% of Christians admit that pornography is an issue in their home. Major depression is a concern for 8% of the population and someone tries to end their life every forty seconds. The average American home is struggling with paying the rent, student loans, and carrying an average of \$15,799 of credit card debt. If even half of those statistics hold up, what it means is that there are a lot of us dealing with some big elephants in our lives. Elephants in our living rooms, our bedrooms, on our computers, in our workplaces, in our marriages; there are elephants all over the place and yet, you wouldn't know it by looking. We all look so buttoned up. We don't look like we're trying to tame an elephant in our house. And when people ask us, "how are you doing?" which is a great opportunity to say there is this big issue in my life, we all say the same things: "good...busy, but good." Which means there is an epidemic of elephants that we are ignoring.

And I would dare to say that Christians are the most guilty. We get this idea that we need to go out in the world with our tie tightened and our very best presented to the world because we think God wants this from us. We dress up for the world, while letting our elephants stampede all over us. There are three ways we approach our elephants: >>



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>> 1) we try to hide the elephant 2) we try to control the problem or 3) we try to convince ourselves that this big, difficult thing is a good thing. And I can tell you all three of these ways don't work. They will either blow up in our faces or create a divide between the people we say we love. However, God wants us to expose and deal with our struggles, rather than painting over our struggles and feeling like we have to hide behind them. Because of the forgiveness of Jesus, we have this freedom to be honest about who we are rather than hiding what we're dealing with. The work of Jesus compels us not to live as elephant ignorers, but as elephant hunters.

When you confront your issue and bring it out into the open, the truth of Jesus given to you in His Word and His people allows you to see your struggles for what they really are; as dangerous, damnable, and difficult things. So evil sometimes and so broken sometimes they demanded a sacrifice in the form of the Son of God to cover over the evil in your life and my life. That's how broken these things are, that they needed someone to pay for them. The love of Jesus tells you that there is no guilt or fear or shame for you. There should be no fear of judgment because you have elephants in your life, however, Jesus Christ lived a perfect life and went to the cross to pay for your elephants and struggles in your life.

How do we handle our elephants practically? I think it looks like this: in some relationship or some setting to be bold enough to stand up and say, "I'm not okay." To be able to say that to me and know that I will never judge you for it. To say it to the people of God and know they will help you walk through it. To say it in your prayers and let God's Word comfort you with a message of total mercy and absolute grace. To say it to a counselor that God has called to help people. It all begins with saying, "I'm not okay." And when you do, the freedom of Jesus Christ comes flooding to you in the form of His Word, His people, and His workers to care for you as God's own hands and feet. But that doesn't start until you, convicted of it, stand up and say, "I'm not okay."

If something big, and powerful, and potentially dangerous in your life shows up where it doesn't belong, don't hide it or rationalize it. Refuse to live with it, invite Jesus into it so that through His Word, you can see it rightly, through His grace, you can fear it not, and through the strength of the Holy Spirit, you can deal with it and find it on the other side of the cross, knowing that Christ's cross was enough for you.

TRINITY FINANCIALS

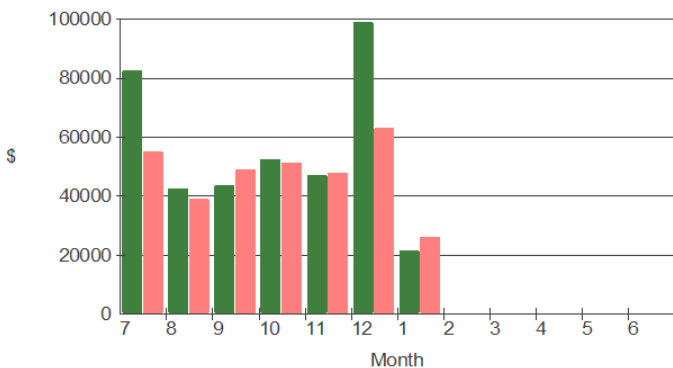
By the Numbers - Year to Date

July 1 thru Dec 31 - Year to Date Budget.....	\$328,886
July 1 thru Dec 31 - Year to Date Giving to General Fund.....	\$315,603
July 1 thru Dec 31 - Year to Date Expenses.....	\$301,868
July 1 thru Dec 31 - Year to Date Restricted/Designated Gifts.....	\$49,455

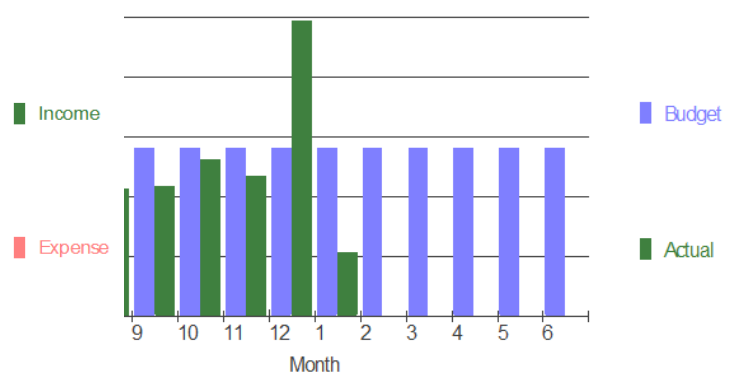
SAVE THE DATE!

**Retirement Celebration
in honor of Pastor Bruce
Sunday, April 22, 2018
at 3:00pm
Mark your calendar now**

Income vs. Expenses - Year to Date



Offerings Income - Actual vs. Budget Year to date



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THY WILL BE DONE By Pastor Bruce Rumsch

Thy Will Be Done is the theme for this year's Lenten Season. It is based on Jesus' prayer in the garden of Gethsemane when He prayed: "... nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." (Matthew 26:39) This year we will focus on God's will for us in certain situations: God's will and God's promise; God's will and my inadequacy; God's will and my dreams; God's will and God's identity; God's will and my worldview; God's will and my response. Each week during the mid-week Lenten Services a new character from the Scriptures will help us wrestle with these topics. This timely look at God's will also carries over into our Holy Week Services.

I cannot remember a more unique Lenten Season, with Ash Wednesday falling on February 14th (Valentine's Day), and Easter falling on April 1st (April Fools day). Mid-week Services will again be held on Wednesdays at 10:00a.m. in the Chapel beginning with Ash Wednesday (Communion and imposition of ashes); and at 7:00 p.m. in the Celebration Center. The evening Services will be preceded by a lite supper at 5:30 p.m.

Have you ever wondered how God's will impacts all areas of your life? Come and find out this Lenten Season.



BETHESDA AUXILIARY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Show your love of Christ to developmentally disabled adults by contributing \$10.00 to Bethesda Lutheran Communities Auxiliary. Over 90% of families who have a developmentally disabled member are not part of a Christian congregation; a field ripe for harvest! Please consider a donation, new or renewed membership as an effective way to reach out to these people who are so often over-looked and under-served in our community. Be part of Bethesda's Mission to assist these wonderful people who are an essential part of the Body of Christ. We'll be collecting funds March 4th - 11th.



ELDERS

Elders are working with Pastor Bruce and staff to learn how we can transition and support the staff as our congregation calls a new pastor to serve and minister to us. Our next reading is Greg Finke's "Joining Jesus Show Me How" "How to Disciple Everyday Missionaries"

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 6th at 6:30 PM in the church library.

The Elders, Ushers, and Trustees are invited to a meeting on February 17th at 9:00 AM in the church library to discuss and implement a plan for safety and security of our congregation and property. The Hillsboro Police Department's crime prevention unit will do a walk through on January 25th at 9:00 AM to aid in this project.

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GOD IS TRULY WORKING By Josh Nix

Student Ministries have been cruising this year. Everything we are doing just seems to be clicking and operating at a higher level than they have in the past since I've been here. It is incredibly encouraging to see so many young people just excited and looking forward to all the things we are doing! Again, I cannot stress how awesome our Monday night Coffee Shop Bible Study is going. We have found a new home at Insomnia in downtown Hillsboro and there is so much space and it's quieter and it has been awesome. We finished our in-depth look at Exodus where we got to discuss everything from Moses' call, to the plagues that led to some big questions on the problem of evil, to freedom, commands, manna, and the face of God. It was enlightening and challenging. Now, we're changing gears and looking at other religions in the world. Mainly, how does our faith and all that truth we have, how does that fit into a context of other beliefs. How is my faith shaped, influenced, and contradicted by other beliefs. Do they challenge my faith, do they support my faith? These are the questions we are asking and discussing at our study. If you are a high schooler, have a high schooler or know a high schooler, please invite them to join. Mondays from 6-7:30p at Insomnia (3rd & Main).

Youth group on Wednesday nights continues to just have a bunch of fun, eat a bunch of snacks, and bring in a bunch of youth! With Lent approaching we will be shifting a bit. Lent services will be starting at 7p (our usual start time) However, instead of the youth leaving, I say we just stay there and finish out the time doing our usual youth group fun! So, you are invited to attend the Lenten services, but have your junior high and high school youth stick around and play games, and eat more snacks!

Amazing things are happening in our student ministries here at Trinity. God is working through our leaders and young people!

Talk to Josh to get plugged in and start helping! >> 253.882.9541 or family@trinityhillsboro.com



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FAMILY MINISTRY By René Barringer

Partnering with parents to guide children towards a HEART for God.

Sunday School News

As we step into the second month of 2018, I want to take a minute to thank the countless volunteers I have been blessed to work with at Trinity. It takes many hands to provide a safe, fun learning environment for our children and youth. A place where they can learn more about Jesus and connect with kids and adults with similar values.

I am always looking for more people to work alongside me. If you are interested in being a part of the Children's Ministry team or volunteer for upcoming events please contact René Barringer 971-235-9568 or children@trinityhillsboro.org

Family Fun Night

Join us on Friday, February 9th at 6:00pm in Trinity's Celebration Center. Cost is \$5 per family for a fun evening of food, family activities and BINGO. Questions? contact Rene Barringer at 971-235-9568 or children@trinityhillsboro.com

Upcoming Events/ Announcements:

Feb. 1 & 15: JAM 6:30-8pm

Feb. 9: Family Game Night

**Mar 31: Pancake Breakfast
& Easter Egg Hunt**

**FAMILY
GAME
NIGHT**

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT
OF BINGO!

02.09.18 | 6PM

PASTA DINNER PROVIDED!
\$5 PER FAMILY
RSVP ARE APPRECIATED TO RENE AT
CHILDREN@TRINITYHILLSBORO.COM



**If you are interested in being a part of
the Children's Ministry team
please contact René Barringer at
971-235-9568 or
children@trinityhillsboro.org**

**Jesus and Me (JAM) is held on the 1st and 3rd
Thursday from 6:30-8pm in Trinity's Celebra-
tion Center. This fun evening is open to youth
3rd thru 6th grade. Our time together will
consist of Bible based discussions, games and
friendship building. Question, contact Rene
Barringer or Josh Nix**

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Trinity Lutheran Preschool



A Happy New Year was had by all in Mrs. Sady's 3's Preschool class! We are excited to all be back from our Holidays, the children had many stories to share with Mrs. Sady and Mrs. Wolf about all the fun things they experienced during the Christmas season. We are starting a new unit on the 5 senses and have been having fun experiencing our world in relation to our 5 senses, while giving thanks to God for giving us these amazing senses. The children got to experience making ice cream by mixing the ingredients into a ball, putting the cream and sugar on one side and the ice and rock salt on the other. The students took turns playing with the ball for about 15 minutes until the ingredients mixed and gave them all a taste of soft serve ice cream! We agreed that our sense of taste has to be one of our favorites! As we move into February we will get excited for Valentine's Day and also our grocery store unit. This unit helps us discuss different fruits and vegetables and what healthy choices at the grocery store look like. We will round up that until with a field trip to New Seasons market, where we explore the back or "behind the scenes" of the store... a favorite being the bakery! "Yum!"

"Building a strong foundation by sharing the faith, hope, and love of Jesus that touches the lives of children and families forever."

What an incredible gift it is to teach and love these precious children. Mrs. Wolf and I love our jobs very much!



Enrollment for the 2018-19 school year is in full swing. Registration forms and brochures are available in the church office, at the information center and on the preschool page at trinityhillsboro.com. If you know families with preschool aged children, please tell them about our wonderful preschool or have them call Rene Barringer at 503-846-1319. Thank you!

The preschool children will be singing at the 10:30 service on Sunday, February 25th. Please help us extend a warm Trinity welcome to our preschool families.

Trinity Preschool is hiring a 3's teacher for the 2018-19 school year. If you want to learn more about this position, please contact Rene Barringer at preschool@trinityhillsboro.com.

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FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1- Paula Fowles | 18- Rora Scavo |
| 2- Grayson Bell | 19- Michael Freudenthal |
| 3- John Duvall | 20- McKenzie Brennan |
| Bob Ward | Brian Gerig |
| 4- George Kirkwood | Beth Gustafson |
| Benjamin Langbehn | 22- Shirley Bentson |
| Mackenzie Langbehn | John Everingham |
| Marcus Speros | 24- Diane Langbehn |
| 5- Caden Arneson | 25- Pat Brennan |
| Reija Stephens | Dave Holscher |
| 7- Joash Farlow | Laura Reese |
| Noel Haga | Susan Speros |
| Rebekah McClain | 26- Sarah Schauer |
| 8- Kristi DeShazo | 27- Brina Anderson |
| John Korynasz | Tucker Walker |
| 9- Emily James | Kelly West |
| Nicole Watson | 28- Josie Ashford |
| 10- Stacey Buck | Kirbie Hoyt |
| David Flint | Elijah Scavo |
| Russell Walker | |
| 11- Chad Gustafson | |
| Edward Stowe | |
| 12- Morgan Braze | |
| 13- Luke Brust | |
| Lillie Ott | |
| 14- Willie Williams III | |
| 15- Benjamin Manny | |
| 16- Thomas Huffman | |
| Wayne Warren | |
| 17- Reagan Gerig | |
| Caitlyn McClain | |

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- | |
|----------------------------------|
| 1- Timothy and Anne-Marie Duvall |
| 3- Michael and Marie Hix |
| 8- Michael and Linda Chaffee |
| 12- Richard and Karen Pies |
| Chad and Becky Williamson |
| 14- Dwayne and Janine Heikes |



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SERVICE ROSTER FOR FEBRUARY 2018

	February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25
Altar Guild	Tressa Everingham Tina Goldhammer Carol Rumsch		Tressa Everingham Tina Goldhammer Carol Rumsch	
Chair Team	Gene Landreville George Waldron Gary and Sue Gallino	David Buck Brian Meyer Josh Nix	Ben Manny Rodney Langbehn Paul Burkhart Evan, Victor and Martin Johnson	Harold Baesler Matt Merten Ev Pies Darrell Tanke Dave Holscher John Tysor
Children's Message	Stan Nichols	Elizabeth Hofrichter	Josh Nix	Polly Merten
Counters	Astri Bragstad Harold Baesler Roger Langbehn George Waldron	Bette Holscher Jane Rosato Jeryl Whipple	Carol Flemmer Helen Infausto Crystal Nunnenkamp Doug Nunnenkamp	John Duvall Todd Humphrey Annette Michelsen
Elders Assisting 8AM	John Goldhammer Ben Manny	Ben Manny	John Goldhammer Paul Andersen	Paul Andersen
Elders Assisting 1030AM	Don Suhrbier Dave Buck Dave Holscher Joash Farlow Zach Anderson Rodney Langbehn	Rodney Langbehn	Karen Kenyon Dave Holscher Joe Noffsinger Don Suhrbier Zach Anderson Dave Buck	Zach Anderson
Flowers		Warren's for Willie's 21st Birthday		
Lector	Tressa Everingham	Dave Mock	Ben Manny	Norma Tucker
Organist	Carol Freudenthal	Carol Freudenthal	Diane Gatke	Diane Gatke
Ushers 8AM	Paul Andersen John Everingham John Goldhammer George Waldron	Paul Andersen Victor Johnson Ken Bellamy Nick VanDyke	Paul Andersen John Everingham John Goldhammer George Waldron	Paul Andersen Victor Johnson Ken Bellamy Nick VanDyke
Head Usher 10:30AM	Greg Young	Greg Young	Greg Young	Greg Young

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9AM Exercise/CC 10AM Pastor's Study/206 4PM Basketball/CC 6:30PM JAM/CC	2	3 8AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast
4 Blood Pressure Screening Prayer Teams 8AM Traditional Worship 9:10AM Education Hour 10:30AM Contemporary Wor- ship	5 Staff Ministers Family Day 9AM Exercise/CC 11:15AM Soccer Shots/CC 3:15PM Basketball/CC 6PM Cub Scouts/210 6PM High School Bible Study 6:30PM Music Ministry Team	6 9:30AM Staff Meeting 11:15AM Soccer Shots/CC 6:30PM Elders Meeting 7PM Scouts/CC	7 9AM Prayer Chapel Open 9AM WM Quilters/212 10AM Library Ministry 6:30PM Youth Group/CC 7PM BSA committee/206 7PM Youth Group/CC 7PM Choir Rehearsal	8 9:30AM Exercise/CC 10AM Pastor's Study/206 4PM Basketball/CC 6:30PM Bee Keeper's Mtg/210	9 6PM Family Game Night/CC	10 9AM Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshop/CC
11 8AM Traditional Worship 9:10AM Education Hour 10:30AM Contemporary Wor- ship 12:30PM Confirmation	12 Staff Ministers Family Day 9AM Exercise/CC 11:15AM Soccer Shots/CC 3:15PM Basketball/CC 6PM Girl Scouts/210 6PM High School Bible Study 6:30PM Music Ministry Team	13 9:30AM Staff Meeting 11AM Sr. Lunch & Games/Nar. 4PM Basketball/CC 7PM Joy Circle/212 7PM BSA/CC	14 Ash Wednesday 9AM Prayer Chapel Open 9AM WM Quilters 10AM Lenten Devotional/Chap 5:30PM Lent Supper 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM Lenten Service 7:30PM Youth Group/CC	15 Tidings Articles due 9AM Exercise/CC 10AM Pastor's Study/206 4PM Basketball/CC 6:30PM JAM/CC	16 7PM Dancing with Ivan/CC	17 9AM Elders, Trustees, Ushers Safety Workshop
18 8AM Traditional Worship 9:10AM Education Hour 10:30AM Contemporary Wor- ship 12:30PM Confirmation 1PM Quilters	19 Staff Ministers Family Day 9AM Exercise/CC 9AM Quilters 10AM Agape Circle/104 11:15AM Soccer Shots/CC 6PM Cub Scouts/210 6PM High School Bible Study 6:30PM Music Ministry Team 7PM Monday Eves	20 9:30AM Staff Meeting 11:15AM Soccer Shots/CC 2PM Prayer Shawl/Lib 4PM Basketball/CC 7PM BSA/CC	21 9AM Prayer Chapel Open 9AM WM Quilters 10AM Lenten Devotional/Chap 5:30PM Lent Supper 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM Lenten Service 7:30PM Youth Group/CC	22 9AM Exercise/CC 10AM Pastor's Study/206 4PM Basketball/CC 3PM Home Plate/Kit 6PM Stephen Leaders/Lib 7PM Stephen Ministers/Lib	23	24 4PM Private Event/CC
25 8AM Traditional Worship 9:10AM Education Hour 10:30AM Contemporary Wor- ship 12:30PM Confirmation	26 Staff Ministers Family Day 9AM Exercise/CC 11:15AM Soccer Shots/CC 3:15PM Basketball/CC 6PM Cub Scouts/210 6PM High School Bible Study 6:30PM Music Ministry Team	27 9AM Tidings Assembly 9:30AM Staff Meeting 11AM Sr. Lunch & Games/Nar. 11:15AM Soccer Shots/CC 2PM Prayer Shawl/Lib 4PM Basketball/CC 7PM BSA/CC	28 9AM Prayer Chapel Open 9AM WM Quilters 10AM Lenten Devotional/Chap 5:30PM Lent Supper 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM Lenten Service 7:30PM Youth Group/CC			

STAFF TO SERVE YOU

Pastor Bruce Rumsch, Minister of Worship & Spiritual Care

Clint Souigny, Minister of Outreach & Congregational Life

Josh Nix, Minister of Youth & Young Adults

Rene Barringer, Preschool Director & Children's Minister

Kelly Dobbin, Minister of Music

Sandy Noffsinger, Bookkeeper

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