



ISSUE 5 - JANUARY 2025

TRINITY TRUMPET

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Journey in Ministry Like No Other

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." (Prov. 3:5-6)

Where do I even begin? Six years ago, I embarked on a journey to become a pastor. I moved to Arizona with my family, uncertain about what awaited us. I quickly discovered that the Holy Trinity family welcomed us with open arms, providing a true sense of home. Our family also grew with the arrival of a new baby, further enriching our lives.

Most importantly, I met staff (Pastor Chris, Pastor Bernie, Shelli, Charles, Judi, and Steve), who became not just colleagues, but cherished friends and family.

My journey to the pastorate was

not always smooth or enjoyable. However, thanks to my mentor, Pastor Chris, her "boot camp" approach introduced me to

she steered me in the right direction, teaching me how to navigate and excel in various aspects of church life.

This journey was possible not only because of the love and support I received at every turn, but also because of the opportunity to learn from my mistakes and spread my wings in ways that would have been impossible elsewhere.

I am forever grateful for this community and hope that as I transition to First Evangelical I continue to be the pastor that you all helped me become.

-Pastor Luis E. Ochoa



►Clockwise from top left: with youth at Men on the Mountain, graduating seminary, ordination, Christmas Eve at First Lutheran, presiding at the communion table.

a more effective way of ministering. Through her guidance, honest feedback, and unwavering support,

HT Hero of the Month



►Kismet Weiss.

Despite the unspoken Arizona rule of secluding oneself indoors during the heat, the first thing Kismet Weiss did after relocating her family from Georgia in summer 2009 was to find a church community.

HTLC stood out with a summer program called "Wacky Wednesdays" where folks attended sessions on a range of topics.

"It could be a music session, or one about crafting or needlework," she said. "We decided to show up to one, and that's where we met Pastor

Scott Thompson. He was teaching a class on changing tires."

It turned out to be a fun experience, and one that was engaging enough to keep her and her family showing up for more church functions. "I've always been heavily involved in every church I've been a part of," Kismet says.

She currently serves on council, coordinates Christmas and Easter programs, co-manages the Borderlands Produce Rescue events, sings in the choir and praise band, plays handbells, and more.

"My mom is a musician, so we could sing since we could talk," Kismet recounts. "She would rope us into church stuff all the time, including singing and playing in nursing homes around town."

Family, music, and traditions make Kismet excited, especially her weekly tradition of hosting family dinners at her house on Sunday nights.

-C.Z.

BY THE NUMBERS

We collected...

404 pairs of socks for Azura Veterans Coalition in Mesa.

Borderlands saved...

16,000 lbs of produce from the landfill.

We distributed...

\$1,509 worth of meals to veterans as part of our Meals for Veterans ministry.

Do you know an HT Hero?

Scan the QR code to the right to nominate the next HT Hero!

www.htlutheran.com/heroes



WHAT'S NEW?

Congregational Forum

Sunday, Jan. 19 @ 9:30am & 11am

MLK Day Celebration

Sunday, Jan. 19 @ 3pm

Annual Meeting

Sunday, Jan. 26 @ 11am

►Youth and families serving breakfast to the homeless at Grace in the City.

Volunteers needed!

Get involved at

www.htlutheran.com/events

