Dear Friends in Christ,

At Triumphant Love Lutheran Church we are transforming lives by Forming Faith from Roots to Fruit in each person to whom we minister. Every day, whether you are an infant in the beginning of your life journey or an octogenarian with all the wisdom of your years, we offer you the opportunity to be more deeply rooted in Christ, branch out through new learning, and bear good fruit in the world by planting the seed of faith in others.

We see that fruit in our members as they learn to be Christ’s disciples each day. This year as we ask you to make your commitment to our ministry with your 2021 Pledge, we are sharing the story of three branches in our Triumphant Love Family Tree:

Growing up I was rooted in the Lutheran tradition, interfaith dialogue, and social outreach, but it was when I joined Triumphant Love Lutheran Church in 1991 that I began to branch out in new ways. My faith formed as I taught children’s Sunday School classes. Through the years, I took on more leadership roles, serving on the Outreach Committee and later teaching the adult Faith in Action class. I have been strengthened and nourished by my TLLC family through the years and now the seed of faith that was planted in me as a child is bearing good fruit for others in this congregation, our community, and the world!

I not only grew up in the church, I grew up in this congregation so in the 6th grade, I joined all my peers for three years of Confirmation classes. But I was not planning to be confirmed because I didn’t really believe in God. I’ve been going to church my entire life and had roots in our faith, but as I learned more about the world I started to doubt the possibility of God’s existence. That all changed on November 27, 2019, when I had a hemorrhagic stroke. This intense experience affirmed that God is real and that this community of people’s belief helped save my life. Now I am looking forward to confirming my faith next year!

I have vivid memories of growing up at St. Martin’s Lutheran Church, where my wife, Darlene, and I were later married. We joined Triumphant Love in 2006 at the urging of our daughter and quickly became involved in our ministry. However, it was my wife’s death from cancer just six days shy of our 50th anniversary that led me to grow in an entirely unexpected way. After her loss, I began attending the Grief Share group at TLLC. Each year since, I have helped lead the classes by sharing my experience. I was nourished by helping others who were grieving, and in the process, I branched out in my own faith!

These are just a few of the many stories of how our congregation is changing the world: one branch, one sprout, one fruit at a time. If Triumphant Love’s ministry wasn’t there to be such a strong trunk of support, perhaps these branches wouldn’t be so sturdy and fruitful. Help us keep our Triumphant Love Family Tree thriving and vibrant by sharing your gifts this year, and just watch how God will Form YOUR Faith from Roots to Fruit in the process!

In Christ,

Pastor Danielle