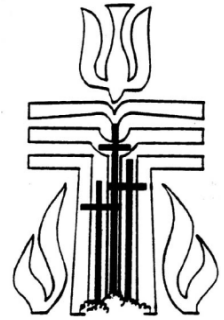


Trinity Presbyterian Church

Tidings



December 2018

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PASTOR'S CORNER

"Season of Joy!"

The ever insightful writer/theologian Frederick Buechner says the following about "JOY":

"In the Gospel of John, Jesus sums up pretty much everything by saying, 'These things I have spoken to you that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.' (John 15:11) He said it at the supper that he knew was the last one he'd have a mouth to eat.

Happiness turns up more or less where you'd expect it to- a good marriage, a rewarding job, a pleasant vacation. Joy, on the other hand is as notoriously unpredictable as the one who bequeathes it." (*Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC*, 1973)

I relate these thoughts as we enter the, "season of joy." I suspect that when (and if) we experience joy it will sneak up on us unannounced, probably catching us off guard. The season of Advent is a time of "watching and waiting." As you are engaged in this process, be on the lookout for JOY!

Grace and Peace, Mark

Solar Energy for Trinity!

The Trinity Solar Team is excited and so grateful to share with you the news that members and friends have pledged enough money to cover three Trinity roofs with solar panels. Pledges ranged from \$20 up.

Following authorization of the Session and an exhaustive exploration of competing bids, a solar contractor has been selected. Installation of the solar panels is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2019. These panels will convert the sun's energy into electricity to help power Trinity, reduce our carbon footprint, and protect God's beautiful Earth.

Thank you for being part of Trinity's solar energy exploration and success!

Note from the Associate Pastor



Happy New Year! The beginning of the season of Advent (Dec. 2 this year) marks the beginning of the Christian year, and for this new season Trinity is offering a variety of new ways for you to mark and celebrate this special time of year (and beyond):

- **Beginning Dec. 2 at 10:15: Preschool Learning (Half) Hour Class.** The Christian Nurture Ministry is excited to announce that we'll be offering a Sunday School class for our littlest members and friends. The Preschool class will meet for a half hour, from 10:15 to 10:45, in room 203 (adjacent to the church nursery)
 - **Fireside with Charles Dickens: Sun., Dec. 16, 3:00 p.m., at Trinity's campfire circle.** You are cordially invited to an outdoor reading of *A Christmas Carol*. We'll have hot cider, cocoa, and a blazing fire to keep you warm, but bundle up—bring a blanket or a sleeping bag and your favorite lawn chair—because the weather will have to be pretty miserable before we decide to head indoors!
- Blue Christmas Service: Wed., Dec. 19, 4:00 p.m.** The "Blue Christmas" service is a new tradition for Trinity. Some of us, for a variety of reasons, find the incessant merriment of Christmas to be more burden than celebration. Blue Christmas will be a service of lament, longing, and hope—an acknowledgment that sometimes all is not joy and light, but that God is nevertheless always with us. Everyone is welcomed at the Blue Christmas Service, but it is especially for those for whom the joy of the season is hard to find.

Peace,

Dwight

70½ or Beyond? Have an IRA? Here is a Giving Opportunity Unique to You

Federal government action has made IRA Charitable Rollovers a permanent part of the tax code. As such, individuals who are ages 70½ or older may make donations from their IRAs (by their IRA trustee) *directly* to Trinity Presbyterian Church *without having to count the distribution as taxable income*. This donation would be classified as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

A part, or all, of this donation can count toward your IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). There are specific legal requirements that must be met.

One of the significant changes in the tax code beginning this year makes it more difficult to itemize deductions. This will make the QCDs more popular by not having to include them in taxable income.

For assistance in giving, please contact either Glenn Walker (g_lwalker@bellsouth.net; 891-2486), or Tom Karvonen (karvonens@bellsouth.net; 890-5091).

Always consult your own financial and tax advisors before making any gift that has tax implications. State law, particularly in North Carolina, does not always treat Qualified Charitable Distributions in the way the Federal Government does.



SESSION NOTES

The Session held its regular meeting on November 13, 2018. The Session rejoiced in the coming of Andy and Leslie Nissen as affiliate members. Their full time membership remains with the Isle of Hope UMC, Savannah GA. The Session also noted the passing of Bill Garrison on October 17, 2018.

Dwight provided a written report of his primary activities for the past month. Much of his time was focused on planning the Advent services and other related activities at the church. Dwight also reported on his involvement in the Community Organizing and Congregational Leadership Training Program. This involved attendance at the initial session, and will include ongoing video meetings, and reading and writing assignments. Dwight described how he plans to use this training in developing future programs at Trinity.

Mark also provided a written report on his activities. He noted that the HCCU cooperative organization is no longer meeting. Therefore, there is no planned joint Thanksgiving service in which TPC has participated in the past. Mark also announced that Taqunia Collins, Habitat coordinator, was killed in an accident near Traveler's Rest, SC on Route 25. As a result the Dedication Ceremony for this year's Faith Build will be postponed.

Tom Karvonen made a presentation on the status of the solar panel project. So far we have 68 donations and pledges. As a result, the committee is moving forward with negotiations with contractors. It is expected that a contract will be awarded in the near future, and work can commence.

Tom also provided the Session with the status of the 2019 Budget preparation. There are a few more details to be worked out, and a final proposal should be presented to Session in December. Jim Smelker provided an update of the Stewardship Program for 2019. It is hoped that some additional pledges will be received in the near future, and that we will have sufficient funds to meet our 2019 needs.

Fitz Sthreshley, Treasurer, reported that through October we are operating favorably relative to the 2018 Budget. With the usual December giving pattern, we should end the year in a positive situation.

Duane Johnson
Clerk of Session

December Birthdays

- 2 Jim Luzadder
- 5 Alice McCullough
- 7 Leah Epps
Bob Luebke
- 8 Bob Baker
Carol Gillespie
- 11 Jan Prichard
- 12 Linda Walker
- 15 Mary Robinson
Patty Deich
- 19 Scott Garrison
- 20 Peggy Hunnicutt
Merritt Roach
- 21 Alex Zarnowski
Duane Johnson
- 25 JESUS
- 26 Mark Stanley
Nancy Sheffield
- 29 Fitzhugh III
- 30 Juliette Blakely



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
ANDY AND LESLIE NISSEN



TRINITY PRESCHOOL NEWS

Our enrollment continues to grow and we now have 20 students. The staff is so grateful for the continued support of the church and its members. Our Birthday Book program is up and running thanks to Cathy O'Neil and Sarah Thibodeau. If you would like to come read to one of our children on their birthday, please contact one of these ladies or Beth Erber. We love our volunteers!



Book Group

December 6



Trinity Book Group has selected The Mountain School for Dogs: And Other Second Chances by Ellen Cooney. This is the heart-warming story of two women and a whole pack of rescue dogs at a training school and radical rescue center called the Sanctuary. Not just a place where humans save dogs, but where dogs save humans. We will not meet in November. Please join us for light refreshments and lively conversation on Thursday, December 6 at 1:30 pm.

THE MITTEN TREE

The mitten tree is up in the Atrium and looking for mittens and gloves, wool hats and stocking caps, and socks and other small clothing items to help children keep warm this winter. The gifts you hang on this special sharing tree will be taken to IAM and given to children in the community who need them so much. Thanks for sharing the warmth of your heart and decorating **The Mitten Tree** with your gifts for children this Advent Season!



Presbytery of WNC Delegation to Malawi

Two Possible Dates

May 17-May 31, 2019

June 14-28, 2019

Trinity and the Presbytery of WNC are happy to be a part of and support the work in Malawi. **Would you like to be part of this years delegation** that plans to visit Malawi, Ebenezer Hospital and other areas of work being supported by the Presbyterian Church USA?

A typical trip is a two-week *service opportunity* as we work alongside our friends at Nkhoma Hospital, Ebenezer School, and the Nkoma Synod. While we do engage in service projects, our main focus is forming and maintaining relationships with our partners in Malawi.

What will we do?

- Broaden our understanding of our brothers and sisters in another part of the world and bring us closer to each other;
- Take Christ's love there and bring it back;
- Provide opportunity for the Malawians and us to learn from the strengths of our faith in each culture, and to help us come more into balance, moving closer to the abundant life;
- Raise support for the ministries related to our denomination in Malawi.
For new members, experience a Malawian wildlife safari.
Many more activities will be participated in.

What is the cost?

The cost will be \$3,000, excluding personal preparation expenses (passport, immunizations, medicines, etc.). There may be scholarship help.

How many can go?

Teams are generally 10-12 people

How can I sign up?

Complete the application and return the application, along with the deposit of \$1,500 and a letter of endorsement from your Pastor (or Clerk of Session, if there is no Pastor) to the Presbytery Office no later than December 31, 2018.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact Carole Ball: caroleball@gmail.com or 828-692-8774. Applications must be received by the presbytery office by December 31st.



Recycle Aluminum

Proceeds to Guatemala Children's Scholarships

December 2nd and first Sunday of each month

Please bring your aluminum rinsed cans and place them in the gold Toyota truck in front of the church between 9:30 and 12:30. Please do not bring glass, pie pans, or cans of steel. Basically only drink cans. Thanks much for your support to the Scholarship Program and to God's earth.

Waiting and Watching: Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany at Trinity **Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Learning Hour: 9:45 a.m.**

December 2 Advent Begins

Wed., Dec. 5 (1:00–5:00) Decorating Day

Sat., Dec. 8 (4:30 p.m.) Christmas Caroling

*Meet at Trinity at 4:30 to carpool to nearby
nursing and care facilities*

Wed., Dec. 12 (6:30 p.m.) Jazz Vespers: *Holy Night* (Dinner, 5:30)

Music by the Michael Jefry Stevens Jazz Ensemble

Thur., Dec. 13 (2:00 p.m.) Presbyterian Women's Christmas Tea

Make your reservations on the preceding Sunday mornings

Sun., Dec. 16 (3:00 p.m.) Fireside with Dickens

*Bundle up with hot chocolate or cider for a reading of
A Christmas Carol at Trinity's Campfire Circle*

Wed., Dec. 19 (4:00 p.m.) Blue Christmas Service

*A service of lament, longing, and hope for when the
joy of the season is hard to find*

December 23 Children's Christmas Pageant (11:00 service)

We'll hold our traditional service at 8:30

Sun., Dec. 23 (1:00 p.m.) Socks, Soups & Sweets

*Annual Christmas celebration for children, youth,
and families*

Mon., Dec. 24 (7:00 p.m.) Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

*A worship service for all ages (please note that child care
will not be provided, though parents and caregivers are
welcomed to make use of the nursery and its facilities as
needed)*

January 6 Epiphany of the Lord

We hope you'll take advantage of these many and varied opportunities to observe and celebrate the holy seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. And don't forget to pick up your copy of Trinity's seasonal devotional guide, *Waiting and Watching*.

Wednesday Night Live: December

All are invited to join us for the fall 2018 season of Wednesday Night Live! Dinners are served at 5:30, followed by a program at 6:30. We have a great and varied lineup of musicians and guest speakers; here's a look at what's happening this month:

December 5 "The Hendersonville Community Music Center Presents . . ."

December 12 Jazz Vespers: *Holy Night*, featuring the Michael Jefry Stevens Ensemble

Best wishes for a peaceful and happy Christmas!

Trinity's Learning Hour—December 2018

Sunday mornings, 9:45–10:45

Trinity's Sunday Morning Learning Hour offers opportunities for learning and Christian growth for all ages.

FOR ADULTS

Issues & Concerns. Contemporary topics in church and society—Fellowship Hall

Lectionary Class. Lectionary-based Bible study—Trinity Room

Hashing It Out. Bible study and community for young adults—Lounge

COMING IN JANUARY

Beginning on January 6 and running through March 3, Jack Presseau and his team will lead an adult elective: "Biblical Wisdom: From Psalms to Jesus" (from *The Great Courses*). Each session will include a 30-minute DVD lecture, followed by analysis and discussion.

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NEW **Preschool**—Room 203 (adjacent to the Nursery) (meets 10:15–10:45)

Primary (Grades K–4)—Room 103 (lower level)

Tweens and Youth (Grades 5 and up)—Room 101 (lower level)

Special Note: Children and Youth classes will not meet on Dec. 23, in preparation for the annual Christmas Pageant (11:00 a.m. worship service)

Join us for the Learning Hour before or after worship—make it two hours on Sundays at Trinity!



Christmas Poinsettias



If you would like to contribute to the fund for the church's holiday decorations (poinsettias), please place your check (marked "poinsettias") and this form in the offering plate or bring it to the church office.

Name _____ Amount _____

In memory/honor of _____

I shall take my poinsettia(s) (red only) at \$6.00 each, after the Christmas Eve service

Yes _____ No _____

Please give my poinsettia to someone . Yes _____ No _____

WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?

What is your passion for Trinity Presbyterian Church? What would you like to see grow— Local or Global Missions; Fellowship, which includes the Wednesday night dinners and entertainment; Christian Nurture ministry that supports the annual Lecture series, the library, nursery and Sunday's Learning Hour for adults and youth; the Pre-School; Building and Grounds, currently researching a Solar system for our building; is Music your passion? Take a look at Trinity's recently updated website, www.trinitypresnc.org to review all the opportunities for church involvement and financial support.

Please join so many Trinity members and friends, past and present, who loved Trinity and made a financial contribution in the form of an endowment to support their Trinity passion. You can establish a new endowment, add to an existing one with your contribution; or you may pool your resources with some Trinity members and friends to do this. An endowment can be created with friends, or establishing an endowment yourself. Others left the church strong for us; let's leave it strong for those who follow.

How do you want to Trinity to remember you? To paraphrase a statement from one of the greatest inaugurations *ever*, delivered by John Kennedy: "*Ask not what your church can do for you, but ask what you can do for your church.*"

Please prayerfully consider what you can do, and if you can help with endowments, contact a member of the Endowment Committee, chaired by Glenn Walker.

New Library Resources to Interest You



New purchased books include the following titles:

Buried Secrets: Truth and Human Rights in Guatemala (31/SAN) by Victoria Sanford

The Color of Law (25/ROT) by Richard Rothstein

The Fall of Freddie, the Leaf (A/BUS) by Leo Buscaglia (for children and adults)

The Next Person You Meet in Heaven (33/ALB) by Mitch Albom

Neena Haskins has donated the title: *Small Great Things: a Novel* (33/PIC) by Jodi Picoult.

Other gift books include the following titles:

Faith from the Back Side (7/KAL) by J. Ellsworth Kalas

Parables from the Back Side (2/KAL) by J. Ellsworth Kalas

31 Days with God: for Fathers (8/THI)

24 Hours that Changed the World (5/HAM) by Adam Hamilton

Jane Presseau

**All Trinity Members and Friends Are Invited to
Trinity Presbyterian Women's
Annual Christmas Gathering
Thursday, December 13th at 2:00 P.M.**



**A menu of
Sandwiches
Fruits and Cheeses
Christmas Cookies
Sweet Breads
Beverages**

**Help the 372 Homeless
Children in Henderson Co.
Schools
*Donate to our mission
offering to HELP
*Donate sample size
toiletries**



**Reservations are \$6.00 and can be made in the Narthex
After Worship Services—November 25, December 2 and December 9**

Lectionary Readings

First Sunday of Advent
Jer. 33:14-16; Ps. 25:1-10;
1 Thess. 3:9-13; Luke 21:35-36

Second Sunday of Advent
Mal. 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79;
Phil. 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Third Sunday of Advent
Zeph. 3:14-20; Isa. 12:2-6; Phil. 4:4-7;
Luke 3:7-18

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:47-55 or
Ps. 80:1-7; Heb. 10:5-10;
Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

First Sunday after Christmas
1 Sam. 2:18-20, 26; Ps. 148;
Col. 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

Weekly Prayer People

Each week we will include the names of four to six church members in the bulletin and in the monthly *Tidings*. We ask that you include these people in your prayers.

December 2 Tim Kuykendall and Shannon Slater
 Susan Mangrum, Betsy Mixner,
 Jennifer Reibold

December 23 Marian Lowry, Barbara Nichols, Emma
 Persigehl, Dolly Owens

December 9 Ed and Betty Lockwood, Frank Maston
 Ben and Connie Moore, Joan Osborn

December 30 Bob and Sandra Luebke, Chuck and
 Sarah Noegel, Barbara Pickwood,
 Bryson and Carolyn Ozier

December 16 Harold Nicholls, Pat and Bruce Penn,
 Don and Sue Osterberg

Preaching Schedule for December 2018


December 2—Mark Stanley
 December 9—Mark Stanley
 December 16—Mark Stanley
 December 23—8:30, Dwight Christenbury; 11:00 Children's Pageant
 December 30—Mark Stanley

Other Worship Services

Wednesday, December 12, 6:30 p.m.—Jazz Vespers
 Wednesday, December 19, 4:00 p.m.—Blue Christmas
 Monday, December 24, 7:00 p.m.—Christmas Eve Candlelight



December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Communion 8:30 Worship Service 9:45 Learning Hour 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Trinity 30	3 1:00 PW Coordinating Team 4:00 Tai Chi	4 9:00 Staff Mtg. 10:00 New Member Subcommittee 10:00 Coffee/Issues 4:00 Global Missions	5 10:30 Friends in Christ 4:00 Finance/Stewardship 5:30 WNL Meal 6:30 WNL Program 7:30 Choir	6 9:30 Spanish Class 10:00 Study of Luke 1:30 Book Group 4:00 Tai Chi	7	8 4:30 Christmas Caroling
9 8:30 Worship Service 9:45 Learning Hour 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Trinity 30	10 12:30 Rebekah Circle 4:00 Tai Chi	11 9:00 Staff Mtg. 10:00 New Member Subcommittee 10:00 Coffee/Issues 10:00 TPS Board 5:30 Deacons Mtg. 5:30 Local Missions 6:30 Session Mtg.	12 9:45 Esther Circle 10:30 Friends in Christ 5:30 WNL Meal 6:30 WNL Program Jazz Vespers 7:30 Choir	13 9:30 Spanish Class 10:00 Study of Luke 2:00 PW Gathering 4:00 Tai Chi	14	15
16 8:30 Worship 9:45 Learning Hour 11:00 Worship 12:00 Trinity 30 3:00 Fireside with Dickens	17 1:00 Christian Nurture 4:00 Tai Chi	18 9:00 Staff Mtg. 10:00 New Member Subcommittee 10:00 Coffee/Issues 10:00 Naomi Circle 7:00 Bldg/Grnds	19 10:30 Friends in Christ 4:00 Blue Christmas 6:00 Deborah Circle 7:30 Choir	20 9:30 Spanish Class 10:00 Study of Luke 4:00 Tai Chi	21	22
23 8:30 Worship 9:45 Learning Hour 11:00 Worship 12:00 Trinity 30 1:00 Socks, Soups and Sweets	24 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 Christmas Eve Service	25 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 	26 10:30 Friends in Christ 7:30 Choir	27 9:30 Spanish Class 4:00 Tai Chi	28	29
30  8:30 Worship Service 9:45 Learning Hour 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Trinity 30	31 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED					

***The TIDINGS of
Trinity Presbyterian Church
900 Blythe Street
Hendersonville, NC 28791***

Rev. Dr. Mark Stanley
Senior Pastor
Dwight Christenbury
Associate Pastor
Sally Beghtol
Parish Visitor
Stephen Klein
Organist/Adult Choir Director
Bettye Young
Executive Secretary
Beth Erber
Preschool Director
Dr. Fred Van Itallie
Web Master

Phone: (828) 692-6114
Fax: (828) 696-4110
Tidings: newsletter@trinitypresnc.org
Website: www.trinitypresnc.org

To:



**December
2018**



Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people; to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord

— Luke 8:10-11

TRINITY MISSION STATEMENT

Trinity is a family of faith called to make the Word known to all ages, to grow in faith together, to minister to those in need, and to do all these things with joy, love, and compassion in the name of Christ the Lord.