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# TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN MAR Tidings

It is often said that the month of March, "comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb." It is a month known for its strong winds, and thus a great month for kiting!

Another word that looks and sounds a lot like "kiting" is "kything." But instead of describing the art of sending an object soaring up to the highest heights, "kything" involves the art of being spiritually close to someone on their level.

The Scottish word "kything" is translated "to be made visible." Recently, it has evolved to mean being spiritually present to another person. While nearly everyone knows what it means to be physically present to someone, and many know what it means to be emotionally present to another, fewer are aware of the possibility of the spirit-to-spirit connection that is available through kything.

One aspect of kything involves the practice of opening our hearts, minds, and spirits to the person we are with. It is to experience the present moment with what Rabbi Edwin Friedman called "a non-anxious presence." There is no judging, advice, or agenda for the future – only the "delicate flower of the presence."

In his book, Kything: The Art of Spiritual Presence, Louis Savory explains that kything is "a state of unconditional loving openness that seeks to fully embrace the other." It is revealing or "making visible" our own spirit of care and love to the one we are relating to.

The art of kything is to be comfortable, authentic, and vulnerable, with yourself and with the other person. The gift of kything is a present that involves focusing on the presence of God, the present moment, and the person present with you.

During the month of March, experiment with kything - the practice of being spiritually in communion with someone. As you connect with a family member or someone you know who is in need, consider offering a kything moment. Offer your love, your care, your concern, and your simple, yet sacred desire to be fully present with them.

Let's go "try a kythe"!

## MARK





A close-up photograph of a mossy rock surface, with green moss growing in crevices and on the flat areas of the grey stone.

## note from the associate pastor...

# Wilderness

LENT 2020

Lent is that rare Christian season—rare, at least, for us Reformed believers—that actively encourages us to get off our duffs and *do something*. We Presbyterians have been late arrivals to the active practice of Lenten discipline. And so we at Trinity have tried in recent years to encourage experimentation with “new” spiritual practices: self-examination, *lectio divina*, meditation, fasting and prayer.

When the aim of these practices is to help us grow in faith and in our relationship with God, they are worthy pursuits. I hope we'll all seek and find that spiritual practice that speaks to us in this holy season, even when this holy season has passed.

But as we move through Lent 2020 guided by the theme of *wilderness*, I'd like for us to reflect not so much on the “how” as on the “where.” *Wilderness*, in the time of Jesus, was understood to be a very specific place: it was a barren, dry, mountainous desert. It was a place of danger, of thirst and hunger, of all manner of threats to life and well-being—and it was the place Jesus chose for forty days of preparation for ministry, of communion with God.

For us, *wilderness* has positive as well as negative connotations: Yes, wilderness can be dangerous—but it's also a place of beauty; a place of escape, of sanctuary for harried city-dwellers; a place of respite and freedom from the demands of twenty-first-century life. Those who choose to live in western North Carolina often do so because they love the natural beauty of the surrounding mountain wilderness, and because they care about the health and preservation of the natural world.

But there's yet another kind of *wilderness* that matters deeply and which we often neglect: our inner wilderness, the unexplored territory of our inner selves—our emotional, psychological, spiritual core. Which, yes, brings us back to the “how”—how will you explore your inner wilderness in this Lenten season? How will you encounter the God who loves you to the core?

*With you in the wilderness,*

**- DWIGHT**

# LENT

## FEBRUARY 26 TO APRIL 11

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS FROM *THE PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK* ARE AVAILABLE IN SUNDAY WORSHIP BULLETINS, AT [FACEBOOK.COM/TRINITYPRESNC](https://www.facebook.com/trinitypresnc), AND BY REQUEST FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE (828 692-6114)

# session notes:

The Session held its regular meeting on February 11, 2020. Rev. Dwight Christenbury read an excerpt from the book 'Does God Have a Big Toe?' as our devotional. He then led us in an opening prayer.

We noted with joy that Anne and John Wright joined Trinity on February 9, 2020.

Duane Johnson presented the revised Regulations and Policies for the Memorial Garden and Columbarium, which Session approved. He also shared details of the Memorial Garden and Columbarium committee's work.

Rev. Mark Stanley shared his pastor's report, noting that he will be performing 2 weddings in the coming month. He also shared a letter he received from More Light Presbyterians.

Mark Stanley reported on the Presbytery meeting; Molly Garnett and Sally Beghtol also attended. Mark noted that our Presbytery is in a significant transitional time in our search for a new General Presbyter.

Ed Spencer, on behalf of Enrique Sanchez, reviewed Trinity's participation in developing "Creation Care" activities and affiliations. Enrique has put together a team to review efforts in Creation Care work, and that in the future, he may introduce items requiring Session approval to the Session.

Ed Spencer updated us on the progress with enhancing the Trinity communication capacity contract. A number of telecommunications improvements have been made. The Toshiba contract for maintenance has been renewed. A beta version of the enhanced website will soon be available.

Jim Smelker suggested, and Session approved, having a table for Voter Registration in the Narthex. It was noted that many of our members who have moved may need to re-register. It was clarified that there would be no partisan advocacy of any sort.

Mark Slaughter noted that winter is a quiet season for Building and Grounds. The new dishwasher has arrived, but has not yet been installed. The kitchen does have a few leaks that need to be investigated. He further noted that building security is very poor, and that we need to consider some additional security options. Mark recommended that a security committee be created to examine the alternatives, which Session approved..

The Worship Ministry proposed, and Session approved, having a single service from the first Sunday in June through Labor Day.

Judi Weeter reminded Session that after the following week, the Worship Ministry will not be managing the Narthex screen. Ed Spencer said that Administration would manage the Narthex screen going forward.

Diane Bowers presented, and Session approved, the revised Finance and Stewardship Charter.

Julie Carter noted that Andy Nissen has agreed to be the kitchen manager for Wednesday Night Live, and that Carolyn George has agreed to co-coordinate Trinity 30.

Peace be with you,

**- KATHRYN FORSYTHE**

Clerk of Session



**New Members: John & Anne Wright**





# LENT — PREPARE THE WAY THE LEARNING HOUR

JOIN US FOR THE LEARNING HOUR BEFORE WORSHIP  
- MAKE IT TWO HOURS ON SUNDAYS AT TRINITY!

**sundays @ 9:45**

TRINITY'S SUNDAY MORNING LEARNING HOUR OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR LEARNING AND CHRISTIAN GROWTH FOR ALL AGES

## FOR ADULTS

- Elective "The Distinctiveness of Presbyterianism"  
- Fellowship Hall

A nine-part video-discussion series featuring the teaching of Dr. Isabel Rogers, beloved professor of theology at Presbyterian School of Christian Education and a Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Discussion moderated by Mark Stanley and others.

- Hashing It Out - Lounge

Bible study and community of young adults - A more freeform discussion group of friends in faith who offer support, wisdom, and humor to one another.

## FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Children are invited to a sanctuary gathering at 9:45, led by the Trinity Youth. At 10:00, we dismiss to the following classes:

- Preschool—Room 203 (adjacent to the Nursery)  
(meets 10:15–10:45)
- Elementary (Grades 1–5)—Room 103 (lower level)
- Tweens and Youth (Grades 6 and up)—Room 101  
(lower level)

Dr. Isabel  
**Rogers**

PRESBYTERIAN SCHOOL  
OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



## The Distinctiveness of Presbyterianism

**SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY & MARCH**

**9:45 A.M. (FELLOWSHIP HALL)**

A FILM & DISCUSSION SERIES ON PRESBYTERIAN  
AND REFORMED BELIEFS & PRACTICES

ALL ARE WELCOMED!





## New Library Resources...

Mary Haskins donated the following titles for children:

- *God's Mighty Warrior: Devotional Bible*
- *A Frog Thing (A/DRA)* by Eric Drachman
- *The Young Reader's Bible (A/YOU)*

Doris Klimach donated the title,

- *Ephesus (photos and descriptions of ancient Ephesus)*, (30/CIM) by Huseyin Cimrin

Other donated gift books include:

- *David: Encountering the King (2/BEN)* by Michael Bentley
- *The Moveable Feast: Selected Poems for the Christian Year and Beyond (29/SHE)* by J. Barrie Shepherd

The Library purchased the following titles:

- *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King (32/KIN)* ed. by Carson Clayborne,
- *At the Edge of Life: Conversations: When Death Is Near (9/MOR)* by Richard Morgan
- *Creating a Spiritual Legacy: How to Share Your Stories, Values, and Wisdom* by Daniel Taylor
- *How the Bible Actually Works* ("In which I explain how an ancient, ambiguous, and diverse book leads us to wisdom rather than answers – and why that's great news." (2/ENN) by Peter Enns
- *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again (9/EVA)* by Rachel Held Evans
- *The Love of God and the Age to Come: No Eternal Hell (9/VAU)* by Thomas Ronald Vaughan
- *Uncharted Journey: On the Challenges of Getting Older and Other Transitions (9/TEM)* by Beth Lindsay Templeton
- *Where Do We Go from Here? (25/KIN)* by Martin Luther King, Jr.
- *Who Was Martin Luther King Jr (A/BAD)* by Bonnie Bader (children's book)



- JANE PRESSEAU

**QUICK NOTE:** If you are a regular reader and borrow from both Trinity and Henderson County Public Library - HOORAY! BUT, please remember to check your books when you return them. Henderson County Public Library was kind enough to call and tell us they'd received one of Trinity Library's book returns!

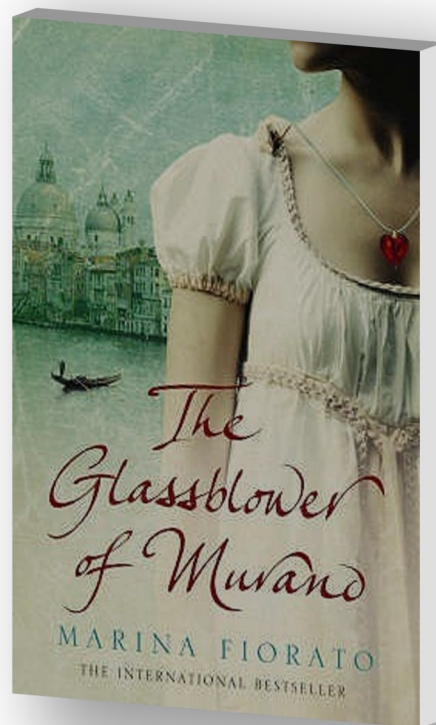
## Trinity Book Group

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2019, AT 1:30PM  
(IN THE TRINITY ROOM)**

The Trinity Book Group will discuss ***The Glassblower of Murano*** by Marina Fiorato. Light refreshments will be served. Linda Dillon will host and Sue Hammer will lead our discussion.

- BILLIE HICKLIN

**Venice 1681. Glass blowing is the lifeblood of the Republic, and Venetian mirrors are more precious than gold. Jealously guarded by the murderous Council of ten, the glassblower zamorano are virtually imprisoned on an island in the lagoon. But the greatest of the artists, Corradino Manin, felt his methods and his soul to Louis XIV of France to protect a secret daughter. In present day, his descendant, Lenora Manin, leaves London for a new life as a glassblower of Venice only to find her fate inextricably linked with her ancestor's dangerous secret.**







# Journey to the Jungles and Swamps of Argentina

## Part I: Nature

Presented by Norie and Enrique Sánchez

**Wednesday Night Live**

March 11, 2020

**Dinner at 5:30\* / Program at 6:30**

\* Please sign up at the church or call the church office  
by 9:30 a.m., Monday, March 9.



# Paradise Lost

## How Climate Change is Devastating Our Communities

*Presented by Community Concerned with the Climate Crisis*

**March 11th, 5:30 - 7:30 PM**

**Kaplan Auditorium**

**Hendersonville Library**

**301 N Washington St**



## Preschool News

Spring is in the air! The staff and students are hoping for warm days with plenty of sun so we can play outside!

We have begun registration for the 2020-2021 school year. Please tell all your friends and neighbors about us! We have found word-of-mouth advertising to be very effective!

Thank you for your continued support! We really appreciate the volunteers who come to read to children on their birthdays. Thank you, also, to those who have linked their Ingles or Harris Teeter cards to TPS, and to those who have helped with our holiday parties. This congregation supports TPS in so many ways, both directly and indirectly, that it would be hard to list them all! Please know that we are deeply appreciative for all that you do and feel blessed to be part of such a wonderful church.

**- BETH ERBER**  
Preschool Director



ABOVE: Friends from Hendersonville Pediatric Dentistry, including Twinkles the Toothy Unicorn come to visit. BELOW: Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby challengers race to the finish line...where there is cake! Mmm...

## Cub Scouts, Pack 620

On Saturday January 25, 2020, Trinity's Cub Scout Pack held its annual Pinewood Derby. Parents and Cubs build a wooden car from a kit and race it down a track in the fellowship hall. Winners were awarded for fastest, best looking, judge's choice, and best looking "non-car".

A great time was had by 20 cubs and over 70 people with pizza and decorated cakes served.



### CHRISTIAN FLAG

On February 9, 2020, the Cub Scouts led the Congregation in the Pledge of Allegiance using the United States of America flag. Have you noticed this flag in the other corner of the Sanctuary?

It has a Pledge of Allegiance also. There are variances in the published text but one reads: "I pledge allegiance to the Christian Flag and to the Savior for whose Kingdom it stands. One Savior, crucified, risen, and coming again with life and liberty to all who believe."

**- GLEN WALKER**





## What are you giving up for Lent?

The question is heard far and wide since Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26, then observes Jesus Christ's withdrawal into the desert for 40 days in preparation for His sacrifice on the cross. Lent 2020 ends on April 9, Holy Thursday, in worship services remembering the Lord's Supper.

Christians around the world observe Lent in many ways. Pope Francis has noted that "Lent is a season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ."

Rather than "giving up" something for Lent, the community is invited to join the Trinity Presbyterian Church family and "give" new blankets, towels, sheets, and other linens much needed by children and adults in Hendersonville.

Those who wish to participate are invited to bring their gifts to Trinity and place them in the tubs labeled New Linens for Lent. The linens will be delivered to IAM, the Interfaith Assistance Ministry, and from there to local children and adults in need in the community.

# LINENS FOR ~~RENT~~ LENT!



*What are you giving up for Lent?  
Give, instead, new linens to  
children and adults in need.*

## 4th Annual Joy of Jazz Festival

As many of you read in the January Tidings article, the Hendersonville Community Music Center will soon be dissolved due to the lack of sufficient funds to hire/pay a director and pay instructors for its many programs. After discussion with members of the HCMC Board, the Tolleson family has decided to use the funds donated in Rob's memory to provide music classes at the Boys and Girls Club through March, and then to focus on continuing the Joy of Jazz Festival in Rob's honor, hopefully for years to come.

Since 2017, the Joy of Jazz Festival has provided a one-day workshop for local high school jazz bands. Robin established this annual event as part of HCMC, creating an environment for high school jazz students to learn from local and nationally-known musicians and teachers. The 2020 Joy of Jazz Festival will take place on Saturday, March 28 at Trinity.

We are very happy to have this opportunity to extend Rob-in's legacy into the future. Thank you again to HCMC board members, everyone who has contributed to the Center and supported Robin's work over the years, and of course thank you to everyone at Trinity. And mark your calendars to attend the performance part of the Festival at 4pm on Saturday, March 28th in the Trinity Sanctuary!

**- JOCELYN, JAMES, & MILLIE TOLLESON**





CENTER FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION PRESENTS

# Appalachian Storytelling Extravaganza

featuring

## Connie Regan Blake

Storytelling and music were the mainstay of the Appalachian diet and Connie Blake-Regan was raised on these mountain staples at the breakfast table, at the dinner table and at family gatherings. Throughout her trailblazing storytelling career, Connie helped to ignite and shape the American storytelling revival.

**Thursday, March 19th - 7:00 PM**

Trinity Presbyterian Church sanctuary

**Tickets: \$15** Order online at "[saveculture.org](http://saveculture.org)"

For more information: [www.saveculture.org](http://www.saveculture.org) or 828-692-8062

*Center for Cultural Preservation works to preserve the living history of the mountains through education and documentary film. See more at "[saveculture.org](http://saveculture.org)".*



## Lenten Quiz! - TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE - ANSWERS ON NEXT PAGE

1. What is the original meaning of Lent?
2. How many days are in lent?
3. What color is traditionally associated with the Lenten season?
4. What is the main reason Christians give up coffee, chocolate or Facebook during Lent?
5. What food is often eaten on Shrove Tuesday?
6. What is traditionally done on Ash Wednesday?
7. Where do ashes for Ash Wednesday come from?
8. Why does Lent last 40 days?
9. Why do we not fast on Sundays during Lent?
10. On Palm Sunday, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on what animal?
11. The Wednesday before Easter is called Holy Wednesday but it also has another name. What is it?
12. What does Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday commemorate?
13. What word is not meant to be said or sung during Lent?
14. What is a Lenten rose?
15. What is a king cake?

**- SALLY BEGHTOL**



## Financial Updates:

### SOLAR UPDATE -

This lousy non-stop rain and clouds are not the friend of our solar arrays. The bad news is we are over budget so far. The good news is the last bill was 31% (\$235) lower than the average of the last two February bills.

### FINANCE & STEWARSHIP -

I usually don't summarize things until we are at least three months into the year but wanted to note that January and February pledge receipts have been strong so that is a good start to the year.

Also, a reminder—if you have any questions about the annual meeting or annual report financial content, please ask!

**- TOM KARVONEN**

## TPS Yard Sale:

Anyone (and there are MANY of us) who has volunteered to help make our annual Trinity Preschool yard sale a success knows how much work goes into the effort. It may take a new volunteer working full time to track the number of hours spent on this large undertaking. Stuff goes into storage during the year starting with leftovers from the prior year's sale and continuing every month beginning in May. Then a full week of hard work is required to successfully pull the event off.

When the Walkers retired after five years of great leadership, we agreed to serve as leaders for 2019 and 2020. We will continue with the same familiar process this coming September 25-26, hoping we will receive the same dedicated volunteer help as in the past. However, we expect 2020 will be the last year of the sale. The amount of work involved is simply becoming overwhelming for our congregation.

Informal discussions on alternatives began prior to our 2019 sale. This decision was not made hastily and we appreciate everyone's understanding. The TPS Board has been part of the discussions and fully supports this decision. The obvious question is how will the preschool replace the lost income from the sale? A different kind of event is already in the beginning planning stages. Since we are talking about 18 months in the future, we have adequate time to plan the new event and communicate it to all members. It will also be important to emphasize in our advertising and communications that this fall will be our last sale. Everyone needs to clear out their stuff and we hope to have the best sale ever!

More information will be shared as future plans evolve.

**- JAN APLIN, PRISCILLA & TOM KARVONEN**  
Yard Sale Coordinators

**& RON HOWARD**  
Chair - TPS Board

## Answers - Lenten Quiz!



1. Spring season
2. 40 days
3. Purple means sorrow and royalty
4. To make time and space to focus on Jesus, or People donate the value of what they forgot all during Lent.
5. Pancakes, to get rid of all the rich food before they begin to fast.
6. A pastor places the ashes of a worshipers forehead in the shape of a cross. It is meant to show that a person belongs to Jesus Christ
7. Traditionally, ashes used on ash Wednesday are gathered up after palms from the previous years Palm Sunday and burned.
8. Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness being tempted by the devil.
9. Sundays are considered a festival day.
10. On Palm Sunday Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey as donkeys which were considered animals of peace, while horses were believed to be animals of war.
11. The Wednesday before Easter is called holy Wednesday but is also sometimes called spy Wednesday because Judas spied on Jesus and his disciples in the garden of Gethsemane.
12. Maunday Thursday or holy Thursday commemorates the last supper.
13. Hallelujah The exclamation of praise was not to be said so it would remain special and used to celebrate and praise God on Easter.
14. Lenten roses are not closely related to the Rose family. The Lenten rose blooms in the spring during the Lenten season.
15. A king cake, a type of cake that is associated with the pre-Lenten celebration of Mardi Gras. Traditionally a small plastic or porcelain baby is hidden in the cake. The baby was placed in the cake to symbolize baby Jesus. Today, the baby also symbolizes good luck and prosperity to whoever finds it in their slice of cake.

**- SALLY BEGHTOL**





# A LETTER NOT WRITTEN TO US

## A study of the Revelation to John

**Thursdays**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Beginning**  
**March 26**

"Revelation obscures. That is not, of course, John's intent. He seems to think he has cleared everything up. In picturing what God has revealed to him, he apparently presumes that he

has clarified how believers are to live their lives. . . .

"But then he ushers us into the heavens and reveals a barrage of otherworldly images. Centuries of interpreters have squinted

through John's dark looking glass in an often futile effort to determine what this apocalypse really reveals about God's expectations."

—Brian K. Blount

# Global Missions

## CAROLE BALL'S GUATEMALA TRIP - A TIME OF CELEBRATION, JOY, AND SADNESS

My January trip to Guatemala was a trip of mixed feelings. A partnership between Presbyterian Churches in Guatemala and Western North Carolina that has lasted 25 years is definitely something to be celebrated and that was how the trip began. This is a partnership that began not as many mission partnerships where there is a giver and a receiver, but as a partnership where those of different cultures and gifts walk side by side giving support and encouragement to each other. In this manner the presbyteries of Sur Occidente, Suchitepequez, and Western North Carolina have walked and grown, each sharing the gifts given to each by God. Representatives of all of the partner churches in the two presbyteries in Guatemala came together to share pictures, banners, memories, music, prayer, the word of God, communion and a meal together. Approximately 250 church members gathered with joyful hearts to celebrate the good works that has occurred through partnership in the areas of education, health, seminary development, spiritual growth, personal and family development through the micro-loan program and importantly the building of relationship.

The Education Committee of which I am a member celebrated the graduation of its first university scholarship recipient that was supported through the Building Hope Endowment Funds of WNC. The committee is also excited to witness the growth of several other recipients of these scholarship funds and the gifts they will share with the greater church community and the country.

After leaving the Seminary in San Filipe where the 25th Anniversary Celebration was held I went with two other members of the Education Committee to lead a workshop for members of six churches that are part of a pilot project called Reading Corners. Through workshops church leaders are gaining an understanding of how to develop a love of reading in the children and youth of their church and communities. This program is supplying training and books, which are also being paid for through Building Hope.



Following the workshop Wilfred Lopez, the new pastor and two elders of Fuente de Vida took my translator, Zoily Chacon Paz, and me to Monterrey where we would spend the next 2½ days with our church partners. Upon our arrival we were met by several women of the church who were preparing dinner for us. As it was late and Guatemalans retire early there was only time for dinner and the happy reunion of friends. The following morning I met with Ruth, one of the members of the Partnership Committee to discuss the scholarship program. In 2019 we sponsored: 19 primary, 13 basico (middle school), 7 diversificado (high school and trade), 3 university (1 student of law, 1 in education, and 1 studying psychology), and 1 seminary student. As I did not recognize many of the student names on the list I asked Ruth how many of the scholarships went to students of church members and how many were community. We discovered that only 1/3 of the students were members of the church. The remaining students were extended family members or members of the community. While we encouraged giving scholarships to needy community members this percentage is much higher than we had anticipated. While we would like to help as many students as need help it was discussed that this number would need to gradually decrease in coming years. Ruth also shared the fact that there was some dissension in the church as to who should receive scholarships.

Following my meeting with Ruth I met with the session. In talking with the session, members expressed dissatisfaction with the previous pastor. The session had expressed a desire to replace the leaking church roof on my previous visit and I asked if they would give a cost estimate I would discuss the possibility of helping with Trinity's committee. They stated that the pastor showed no interest in the project. I explained that all projects would need to be approved by the partnership committee of their presbytery before we could give help.



That afternoon I had the joy of talking with the scholarship students and their parents. There was much thankfulness and gratitude to Trinity for the partnership and the scholarship program. I will try to share individual letters in future Tidings newsletters. Talking with the students and their parents is truly the most enjoyable part of the visit to Fuente de Vida.

Sunday morning I met with the Coordinator of the Presbytery Partnership Committee, the church scholarship committee, and the pastor to review the scholarship receipts. It was agreed that all was in order and the Partnership and Scholarship Covenants were signed between Fuente de Vida and Trinity.

In talking with church members many prayer concerns were expressed;



- Pastor Wilfred Lopez is the new pastor at Fuente de Vida this year. His son was killed in a motorcycle accident 3 days before I went with him to visit Fuente de Vida.
- Samuel Estrada and his wife Eluvia Garcia Estrada: Grandson, Antonio and his baby sister. In late 2018 two of their sons were killed in a motorcycle accident, a third son then committed suicide due to depression. This left them with one married son and the responsibility of raising their grandson, Antonio who had dropped out of school due to depression and the death of his father. Antonio's mother abandoned him and his baby sister. They now live with their grandparents. When I visited the family in Janu-

ary of 2019 Eluvia was sick and frail as was Samuel. Now Eluvia is bedfast and unable to move or feed herself. They do have the help of their son and his wife who live nearby. I gave Samuel 2 prayer shawls (A green one for himself and a blue one with white trim for his wife) that were made by the Prayer Shawl members at Trinity.

- Manuela Bautista was diagnosed with cancer six years ago. She is now in remission; however, her health is poor.
- Loida Echiverria, is a widow. Her husband, his brother and their father were recently killed in an attempt at extortion. Loida is now raising her son Wilder, age 14 in grade 6 with special needs; and, 2 of her brother's children, Axel Chay age 9 and his sister, Area Nieth age 5. Their mother, Magby, is working and the children have a baby sister that is living with another aunt.
- Marie Rodriquez, a widow, is raising a son Anthoni age 11, and a daughter Joseli.
- Mildred Martinez, a widow is raising three children: a daughter Jennifer, in básico, (Jennifer is a good student who needs a scholarship) and her brother Jearen age 8. Jearen is in primary school and has a scholarship. Mildred also has an older son, Anderson.

As you pray for the above members of Fuente de Vida I also ask that you prayer for unity among the church members and that the Holy Spirit may bring love, forgiveness, and unity within the congregation.

**- CAROLE BALL**

## THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION FUND

Once again, through the Global Missions Ministry, Trinity is contributing to PC(USA's) Theological Education Fund. Gifts help support PC(USA) seminaries across the United States.

Life has changed significantly since the first PC(USA) theological seminaries were founded. Over the years, additional theological institutions were established, carrying on the Presbyterian tradition of providing educated leadership for congregations.

Administered through the Presbyterian Foundation, contributions go to:

- Prepare men and women to be pastors, educators and musicians for congregations.
- Provide continuing education and advanced degree programs for ministers of the Word and Sacrament and for lay church leaders.
- Serve as centers for theological discourse, reflection and research for the benefit of the wider church during changing times.

In February of this year, we contributed \$1,000 to the Theological Education Fund.

**- BETTY LOCKWOOD**





## Local Missions

### HENDERSONVILLE SWING BAND

**SAVE THE DATE! - April 4 at 3:00 PM**

Concert tickets at \$15 are available now at the Medical Loan Closet at 1225 7th Avenue East in Hendersonville or at the door at Trinity Presbyterian Church the afternoon of the concert.

The Hendersonville Swing Band invites lovers of the Big Band sound of the '30s, '40s, and '50s to join them in Trinity's Sanctuary.

Directed by trombonist/humorist Jerry Zink, the 17-piece Hendersonville Swing Band is a much-loved part of the Western Carolina music scene. Swing Band members are fun and exceptional musicians hailing from Henderson, Transylvania, Haywood and Buncombe Counties. They play saxophones, trumpets, trombones, clarinets, drums, piano, and string bass and they clearly love being part of the band. Performance dates can be found at [www.hendersonvilleswingband.org](http://www.hendersonvilleswingband.org).

The April 4 concert will feature "Blues in the Night", "It's All Right with Me", "Johnny's Theme" and "Take the 'A' Train" – theme song of the Duke Ellington Orchestra, all songs popular with Big Band music fans. They will also play "A Gentler Touch", an original tune written by a member of the band, trombonist Dave Matlock.

Tom Donnelly, popular Asheville vocalist, will sing several numbers including two associated with Frank Sinatra, "Come Fly with Me" and "In the Wee Small Hours of the Morning".

This concert will benefit the Hendersonville Medical Loan Closet, a non-profit organization that provides hospital beds, patient lifts, wheelchairs, knee rollers, tub chairs, and other medical equipment at minimal cost to area residents for short-term rehabilitation and recovery. Trinity's Local Missions Ministry provides additional financial support to them through your Pledges!

Come and enjoy great music while benefiting the medical equipment needs of local residents.





## Local Missions, continued...

### BEAR CUB CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

**April 16, 6pm - Dinner & Registration**

**April 17, 10am - Shotgun Start**

On Friday, April 17, we'll have a shotgun start at 10 a.m. at the Black Mountain Golf Course. Prizes and silent auction items will be awarded and refreshments served at the Nineteenth Hole following play.

Individuals are \$100 and foursomes are \$400. Hole sponsorships are \$1,000. The event includes a silent auction that will conclude at our 19th Hole Event following play on the 17th.

Call 828.686.3451 to register or for details.



## Environmental Stewardship at Trinity

### WHAT SHOULD WE DO NEXT?!?!?

We have begun discussions as to how to expand and improve our efforts to protect this fragile, beautiful earth. Already, Trinity Presbyterian church members have supported a successful solar project; have committed to participation with Creation Care Alliance; and have been doing many other things together and individually, to fulfill the responsibility God has given us to care for our wonderful natural environment.

The Session has invited an informal group of interested church members to focus these discussions on a practical recommendation; an interim report is projected for May. Seven individuals attended the first meeting, however the committee is still looking for interested members to join this initiative. Information and resources are being collected, and an inventory of existing practices has been compiled (see list). Education is sure to be an important component.

Several events are already planned, both in our church and in Hendersonville at large, between April 19-26, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. Stay tuned for more details to come, and to learn how you can get involved.

Please contact Enrique Sanchez (704) 661-7603 for details.

**- BARB TORNHOLM**



**IAM**  **INTERFAITH**  
ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

## March 2020 Food & Clothing Needs

- Canned fruit
- Canned tuna
- Canned chicken
- Laundry detergent
- Dish detergent

## Current "Earth Care" Activities

- The Solar Program (Enrique, et. al.)
- Cardboard and Paper Recycling (Priscilla)
- Can Collection for Guatemala (Carole Ball)
- Plastic Cup Recycling (Cheryl)
- Books For Good (Harry and Katie Hankla)
- Encourage use of Mugs/Spoons, etc. (Katie C.)
- Compostable Cup Recycling (Priscilla and Erika)
- Thermostat coordinated with Duke Energy (Building and Grounds)
- CFC Lighting throughout the building (Building and Grounds)
- Brittain Creek Clean-Up (Tom K. and Charles K.)
- Annual Yard Sale (Pre-School)
- Communion Cups – Compostable/Intinction (Worship)
- Earth Day Observance (April 22, April 25 is the Sunday Observance) (Worship)
- Sensible Heating/Cooling/Water Use (Building and Grounds)
- Old Electronic Devices Recycling (Tom and Priscilla)
- Save and Compost Coffee Grounds (Ken Sugawara)
- Compost "Feed the Kids" Foods (Priscilla)
- Electric and Hybrid Cars (Congregation)
- Bulletin Recycling (Worship and Congregation and Priscilla)
- Church Library Book Recycling (Jane P.)
- Single Page Bulletins (Worship)
- Optional Offering Envelopes (Finance)
- Double-sided copying whenever possible (Office/Katie C.)
- Digital Newsletters replacing Paper Distribution (Office/Katie C.)
- Digital Annual Reports and other Reports (Office/Katie C.)
- Digital Weekly Calendar Updates (Jock Aplin)
- Grass and Leaf Composting (Building and Grounds)
- Creation Care related Educational Events (Fellowship and Christian Nurture)
- Earth Friendly Burial Practices/ Columbarium and Sacred Circle
- Recycle Medical Equipment (Medical Loan Closet/Local Missions)
- Digital Trinity Directory (Office-Admin.)
- Clerk of Session has established a Google Docs file for Session (Clerk)



# Do we mean what we sing?

**Much of my earliest faith formation came from singing in children's choirs.** Before learning the words and music of our anthems, we always went through a series of vocalizing exercises: singing "lu lu lu lu lu" on a descending scale, or "ma meh mi mo mu" on a single pitch, working to purify vowel sounds (a definite challenge for some of us Southerners).

I think about such exercises occasionally now that I am part of the congregational choir that sits in the nave of the church rather than the choir loft. The nonsense syllables come to mind when I realize with some measure of chagrin that I have just sung through an entire hymn, resumed my seat and not registered a single word of what I have intoned. I might just as well have been vocalizing on "lu." While I doubt I am the only person to have had this experience, I am all the more sheepish about admitting to it, because I should surely know better. After all, I am a professional hymn text writer with a decades-long commitment to studying the genre. So I am prompted to ask, both for myself and for others: Do I – or we – really mean what we sing?

Couched beneath the question are a few presuppositions. First, generally speaking, I assume it would be preferable to mean what we sing (at least, when the songs in question are the hymns of the faith), and hence, it is worth considering why we occasionally do not. Second, I expect there are various ways of "meaning" what we sing, and not all of these may be conscious or cognitive. Third, I believe practices are available to enhance the meaningfulness of our singing, enabling us to take better advantage of this tool for forming our faith.

## Why do we *not* mean what we sing?

Often, when I am not meaning what I sing, the fault lies strictly in myself. I may be mouthing words to a tune, but my mind is miles away. The morning headlines have conveyed some new – or ongoing – horror. A warning light appeared on my dashboard during the drive to church. A child in the pew behind me has been chattering without interruption or correction since the start of the service. A deadline is looming at work, and my busy brain is similarly – if silently – chattering (also, alas, without interruption or correction). Under such circumstances, it is little wonder that I finish the song with no clue as to what I have voiced.

Not just intellectual distraction, but emotional dissonance may also keep me from meaning what I sing. The words may be "joyful, joyful," yet if I am feeling anxious, angry

or just plain tired, my mood may interfere with entering into the spirit of the song. In an ideal world, the lyrics and music would lift me into a reality larger than my present preoccupation, but this ideal state of affairs does not always happen. When it does not, I end up giving mere lip service to the hymn's proclamations.

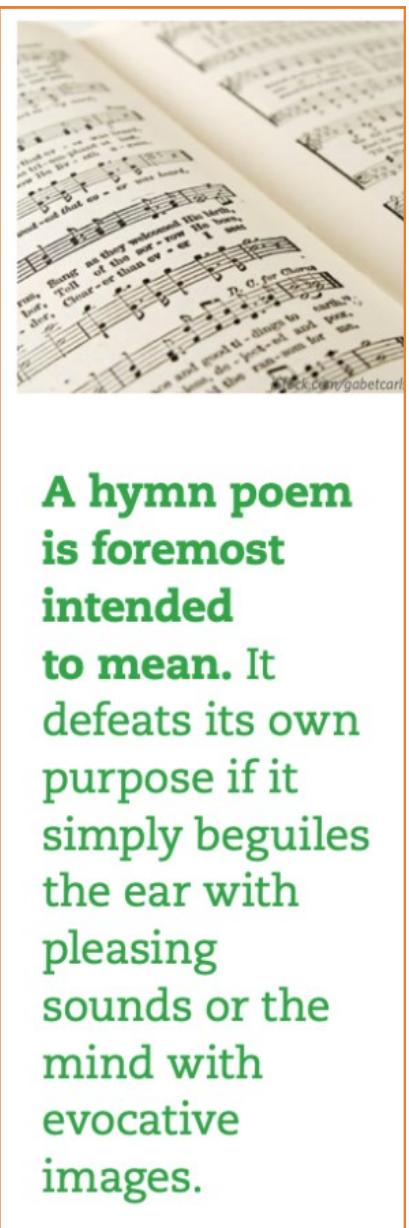
Yet sometimes, the fault lies with some aspect of the song. The music may be the problem. If the tune is unfamiliar, I may apply all my energy to reading the notes,

forgetting to attend to the text. Even with a familiar tune, if I am keen on adding the alto line, I may get distracted by searching for, or reveling in, the harmonies. This is one reason Calvin wanted unison singing in his churches. "We must carefully beware, lest our ears be more intent on the music than our minds on the spiritual meaning of the words," he wrote in the "Institutes." While it is appropriate to delight in music as a gift of God, lush harmonies, upbeat tempos or infectious rhythms can seduce us into thinking we are glorifying God when we are rather more glorying in our own artistry.

In other instances, the words may cause difficulties. I may be blocked from meaning what I sing by ideas conveyed in an unfamiliar vocabulary. Hymnal committees revise older texts to minimize such blockage, replacing words like "vouchsafe" ("O Sacred Head Now Wounded"), which are no longer in common use, or words like "suffer" ("If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee") or "molest" ("Jesus, Priceless Treasure"), whose meanings have shifted over time. Patriarchal language prevents some of us from fully meaning what we sing; for some people, language reinforcing a gender binary is increasingly proving troublesome. Yet, revisions of such language are also tricky: A new word that enhances understanding for some may distract others who are so habituated to an earlier text that any alteration proves jarring.

More serious than outdated language is an outdated worldview. Here as well, hymnal committees work to minimize difficulties. In Cecil Frances Alexander's "All Things Bright and Beautiful," an otherwise charming hymn intended to teach children about God's good creation, hymnals published in the U.S. since 1900 have omitted the unquestioning social hierarchy of the original third stanza ("The rich man in his castle, / the poor man at his gate, / God made them high and lowly, / and ordered their estate"). Likewise, hymns about mission that refer to people of other cultures as "benighted" (in a state of pitiful or contemptible intellectual or moral ignorance) have largely ceased to appear.

What has been done for a few generations with regard





to social worldviews has only just begun to be done for scientific ones. How, for example, do the language and imagery of our hymns now deal with billions of years of evolutionary history, with the vast suffering and death of non-human as well as human creatures as the price exacted for the emergence of new life? How exactly do we understand God to be at work in natural processes? In the aftermath of a hurricane that has taken a devastating toll of life and livelihood, disproportionately among earth's poor (again, both human and non-human), do we really believe, in the words of Isaac Watts, that "clouds arise and tempests blow by order from [God's] throne" ("I Sing the Mighty Power of God")?

### How do we mean what we sing?

Some Christians would not hesitate to answer the previous question in the affirmative. Others, though, may be less confident that God directly orders natural disasters, and may rather attribute an important degree of causality to human activity that has disrupted climate systems, with increasingly catastrophic results. "But we can still sing Watts' hymn," this latter group might add, "because we know we do not mean the words *literally*." This raises an important distinction, but also a larger question. To be sure, much hymn language – like much scriptural language – is poetic, reflecting human attempts to describe realities so far beyond our ken as to be *literally* indescribable. But at what point does our appeal to metaphorical meaning become a dodge to avoid grappling with serious theological questions? It is one thing to say that calling God "potter" is a metaphor; it would be quite different (and problematic) to say we only *metaphorically* believe God made the world.

However, we may also mean what we sing in ways beyond the conscious and cognitive. After all, being a Christian is not simply assenting to doctrines, but also living out a pattern of deep affections: gratitude for God's gifts, love for God and neighbor, sorrow for our own sin and grief over the ills of the world, and earnest desire for redemption. If we profess to be Christian yet act in ways that are predominantly grudging, mean-spirited and despairing, something about our faith-claim rings false. Sacred songs help to train more appropriate religious emotions. They give voice not only to words expressing thankfulness, repentance and hope, but also to melodies, rhythms and memories that variously tug at or lift up our hearts. Even the chemicals released in our brains by the act of singing may play a role in such emotional training. And why not? We are embodied beings and worship is a bodily act.

Because of the emotionally evocative power of music, we may find on occasion that we actually sing our way into meaning. The distractedness or dissonance that initially clouded our convictions clear away as the Spirit moves through music to change our hearts. Perhaps, indeed, this is why the psalmist is so often able to make the turn from lamentation to trust before reaching the end of a psalm.

Three further ways of meaning what we sing emerge from the effective combination of texts set to music. One of these is a kind of "timed-release" meaning. Music, as it

were, softens the soil of our hearts so that lyrical seeds can take deep root. Over time, those seeds can grow into sturdy and life-shaping convictions, even when we were not initially aware of their fullest significance. Related to this emergence over time is a type of *corporate* meaning. When I am grieving, for example, and my throat constricts both literally and metaphorically, preventing me from giving voice to a strong affirmation of God's goodness, the larger body of which I am a member keeps the song going until such time as I can enter into it again. Finally, the texts we sing include a dimension of *aspirational* meaning: I may not at the moment fully believe the affirmations of a given song, but I want to do so, and I keep singing in the hope that the Spirit and the body of the faithful around me will help my unbelief.

### How might we better mean what we sing?

Given the vital role that sung words can play in shaping and expressing our faith, here are four suggestions for enhancing their formative value — suggestions, in roughly this order, for writers, musicians, worship leaders and all the rest of us.

**1. Continue composing, adopting and adapting new texts to address the issues and worldview of our own day,** so as to minimize cognitive dissonance for current generations of singers.

**2. Use the gifts of choirs, soloists and instrumentalists** to teach unfamiliar melodies so that the mental focus of singing new tunes does not interfere with apprehending their words.

**3. Incorporate songs more intentionally into worship.** Explain with bulletin notes or prefatory comments why particular pieces have been selected. Draw attention to key images and themes, offering worshippers an opportunity to encounter the words independent of the music.

**4. Practice, practice, practice:** not just on "lu," but in life! While we do sometimes mean what we sing more aspirationally than actually, if we only aspire and never enact, our sincerity grows suspect. To extol the beauties of God's creation, for example, while continuing to abuse the planet suggests we are "sing-washing" ourselves, substituting lyrical words for deeds.

To paraphrase a prayer for musicians dating to the fourth century Council of Carthage: We must take heed so that whatever we sing with our mouths, we also believe in our hearts; and whatever we believe in our hearts, we show forth in our works. Amen.

**- MEL BRINGLE**

- from "The Presbyterian Outlook", Feb 2020 edition

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**Mary Louise (Mel) Bringle** is professor of philosophy and religious studies at Brevard College and a ruling elder at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville, North Carolina. She is also a hymn text writer and translator who has served as president of The Hymn Society in the U.S. and Canada and chair of the Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song, responsible for the new hymnal "Glory to God."





# March

## BIRTHDAYS

- 1** Sarah Thibodeau
- 2** Kathie Van Itallie
- 4** Jane Presseau
- 5** Sandi Russell
- 7** Alice Cooper
- 8** Waltraud Dalrymple  
Ed Lockwood  
Diane Purnell  
Nancy Yost
- 10** Eleanor Beardsley
- 11** Kristine Caylor  
Mary Culp
- 12** Dean Christenbury
- 13** Enrique Sanchez  
Al Sharke  
Warren Wright
- 14** Mary Louise Forsythe
- 20** Carole Steele  
Molly Garnett
- 21** Pat Welty
- 22** Archer Keefer
- 24** George Oleksa
- 26** Tillie Zigovsky

## A Note of Thanks

Many, many thanks to the Origami Group for the lovely "get well" card I received, and to all who signed it!

Keep up the prayers -  
they are  
powerful!!!

- SUE ELLSASSER



# weekly prayer people

## MARCH 1

- Kim Morgan & Ross Hobson
- Liz Morgan
- Andrew Morgan
- Dave Morrison
- Diane Pearce
- Jan Prichard

## MARCH 8

- Jim & Merrio Morton
- Emma Persigehl
- Jennifer Reibold
- Sandi Russell
- Bob & Cindy Stanfield

## MARCH 15

- Bob & Cynthia Moser
- Harry Peterson
- Eleanor Reim
- Enrique & Norie Sanchez

## MARCH 22

- Barbara Pickwood
- Merritt Roach
- Carl & Sue Schreck
- Evans & Sarah Thibodeau

## MARCH 29

- Clarence & Joan Poole
- Russ Russell & Robin Hodgson
- David & Dianne Purnell

## revised common lectionary march 2020

### First Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2020

- Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
- Psalm 32
- Romans 5:12-19
- Matthew 4:1-11

### Second Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020

- Genesis 12:1-4a
- Psalm 121
- Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
- John 3:1-17

OR

- Matthew 17:1-9

### Third Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020

- Exodus 17:1-7
- Psalm 95
- Romans 5:1-11
- John 4:5-42

### Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020

- 1 Samuel 16:1-13
- Psalm 23
- Ephesians 5:8-14
- John 9:1-41

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### Annunciation of the Lord

March 25, 2020

- Isaiah 7:10-14
- Psalm 45

OR

- Psalm 40:5-10
- Hebrews 10:4-10
- Luke 1:26-38

### Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

- Ezekiel 37:1-14
- Psalm 130
- Romans 8:6-11
- John 11:1-45

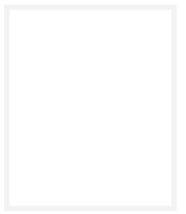
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1 - COMMUNION</b> <b>8:30 Worship</b> 9:45 Learning Hour 10:30 Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 Worship</b> 12:00 Trinity 30 Fellowship 12:30 Out to Lunch Bunch	<b>2</b> 8:30 Finance Team 1:00 PW Coordinating 1:30 Embroiderers' Guild 2:30 PW Bible Study Leaders Meeting 4:00 Tai Chi	<b>3 - TRINITY PRESCHOOL</b> <b>TEACHER WORK DAY</b> 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 Coffee/Issues 10:00 New Members Sub. 4:00 Global Missions	<b>4</b> 10:30 Friends in Christ 4:00 Finance/ Stewardship Ministry 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 9:30 WNC Quilters 9:30 Spanish Class 11:00 New Member Ministry Meeting 1:30 AA - Ladies 4:00 Tai Chi 6:15 Cub Scouts Pack 620	<b>6 - HIGH SCHOOL</b> <b>MISSION RETREAT</b>	<b>7 - HIGH SCHOOL</b> <b>MISSION RETREAT</b>
<b>8 - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS</b> <b>8:30 Worship</b> 9:45 Learning Hour 10:30 Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 Worship</b> 12:00 Trinity 30 Fellowship 12:30 Out to Lunch Bunch 2:00 - Art League	<b>9</b> 8:30 Finance Team 10:00 Tech Committee 1:00 Rebekah Circle 4:00 Worship Ministry 4:00 Tai Chi	<b>10</b> 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 Coffee/Issues 10:00 New Members Sub. 10:00 Preschool Board 3:00 Origami Group 3:30 Deacons Meeting 4:00 Hendersonville Pride 5:30 Local Missions Mtg. 6:30 Session Meeting	<b>11</b> 9:45 Esther Circle 10:30 Friends in Christ 3:00 Christian Nurture 5:30 WNL Dinner 6:30 WNL Program 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 9:30 Spanish Class 1:30 AA - Ladies 4:00 Tai Chi 6:15 Cub Scouts Pack 620	<b>13 - CELTIC SPIRITUALITY</b> <b>(BON CLARKEN)</b> 9:00 American Assoc. of University Women	<b>14 - CELTIC SPIRITUALITY</b> <b>(BON CLARKEN)</b>
<b>15</b> <b>8:30 Worship</b> 9:45 Learning Hour 10:30 Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 Worship</b> 12:00 Trinity 30 Fellowship 12:30 Out to Lunch Bunch	<b>16</b> 8:30 Finance Team 4:00 Tai Chi	<b>17 - ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b> 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 Coffee/Issues 10:00 New Members Sub. 10:00 Naomi Circle 11:00 Preschool Chapel 7:00 Building & Grounds	<b>18</b> 10:30 Friends in Christ 11:00 Preschool Chapel 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 9:30 Spanish Class 1:30 AA - Ladies 4:00 Tai Chi 6:15 Cub Scouts Pack 620 7:00 Story-Telling Show (Center for Cultural Preservation)	<b>20 - TIDINGS DEADLINE</b> 9:00 American Assoc. of University Women 7:00 Rehearsal - Blue Ridge Symphonic Brass	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>8:30 Worship</b> 9:45 Learning Hour 10:30 Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 Worship</b> 12:00 Trinity 30 Fellowship 12:30 Out to Lunch Bunch 4:00 CONCERT - Blue Ride Symphonic Brass	<b>23</b> 8:30 Finance Team 4:00 Tai Chi	<b>24</b> 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 Coffee/Issues 10:00 New Members Sub. 3:00 Origami Group 6:00 Deborah Circle	<b>25</b> 10:30 Friends in Christ 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b> 10:00 NEW! Revelation Bible Study 1:30 AA - Ladies 1:30 Book Group 4:00 Tai Chi 6:15 Cub Scouts Pack 620	<b>27 - PREP - JOY OF JAZZ</b> 9:00 Feed the Kids	<b>28- JOY OF JAZZ FEST</b> <b>&amp; PRESBYTERY MEETING</b> <b>(MONTREAT)</b> 4:00 CONCERT - Joy of Jazz Festival
<b>29 - 5 CENTS A MEAL</b> <b>8:30 Worship</b> 9:45 Learning Hour 10:30 Choir Rehearsal <b>11:00 Worship</b> 12:00 Trinity 30 Fellowship 12:30 Out to Lunch Bunch	<b>30</b> 8:30 Finance Team 1:30 Embroider's Guild 4:00 Tai Chi	<b>31</b> 9:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 Coffee/Issues 10:00 New Members Sub.				

March 2020





900 Blythe Street  
Hendersonville, NC 28791  
828.692.6114



Rev. Dr. Mark Stanley • Senior Pastor  
Rev. Dwight Christenbury • Associate Pastor  
Sally Beghtol CLP • Minister of Visitation  
Beth Erber • Preschool Director  
Stephen Klein • Organist/Adult Choir Director  
Katie Cilluffo • Administrative Assistant/Graphic Designer

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Trinity Presbyterian Church welcomes **you** without regard to race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, education, economic circumstance, your place of origin or any other issue that divides God's Family.

We are Christ's people and this is Christ's place  
with its doors wide open.

Welcome!

tidings

“they captured  
in their ramble  
all the mysteries and magics of a  
**march** evening.”

L.M. Montgomery

