EMBRACING CHANGE, EMBRACING THE GOSPEL

As I sit down and reflect on all that’s happening in the life of our church these days, I am truly amazed. There’s a lot going on! For one thing, I’m noticeably cooler in my office, as our new HVAC system is up and running or at least getting close. Kudos to Bill Jones, our Facilities Manager, Claude Sanford and the Buildings & Grounds Committee, and the Capital Campaign Construction Committee for all their hard work over the spring and summer to make this a reality. I’m looking forward to getting back into our Sanctuary on a regular basis.

I’m elated to welcome Heather Koontz and Rhonda McClain to our leadership team. You’ll find more information about them in this issue of PostScripts. Similarly, at a recent congregational meeting, you elected an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, the first step in our church’s transition from a temporary associate position to a permanent, called one.

Our Weekday School is up and running, with lots of energetic children and caring teachers roaming the halls and bringing much joy and happiness with them. Looking ahead, I’m anticipating our Stewardship season this October, primarily because you’ll finally get to see the incredible 2015 Vision Statement your Session created and adopted last spring. You’ll hear more about this from our Response Chairs, Phil Blount and Lynette Neel, in just a few weeks – but I can tell you that it has me tremendously excited about Trinity’s future.

Wow. That’s a lot to digest! Like the old saying goes, if there's one thing you can count on in life, it's change! Change has always been a given in the life of the church – and in most every instance, its greatest challenge. Humans are creatures of habit, and we naturally gravitate toward what is familiar. Even in the days of Jesus this was true – just read Matthew 5-7. The religious community of Jesus' time had become so stagnant that it no longer fulfilled its mission of working to build God's kingdom on earth. It was not the living body of faith it was created to be. It was an institution.

And then Jesus stood on a mountain and proclaimed: Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish, but to fulfill. And for the rest of his famous sermon, Jesus painted a radical picture of how change would be the hallmark of this new thing – one where enemies are loved, cheeks are turned, and the lilies are considered.

So change is not only inevitable, it’s something we should embrace. The reason? At the root of change lies a constant: Everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like building a house on rock. Change doesn't have to be haphazard. As long as we root ourselves in God, we do not need to fear change. Next time your life is overwhelmed by change, I encourage you to read Matthew 5-7 and be reminded of all that sustains you through whatever life dishes out.

And as our church experiences a wave swell of change, let’s be thankful for the “rocks” in our midst. Let’s be thankful for our staff for partnering with us in ministry, our Session for their spiritual leadership and vision, our Buildings & Grounds and Capital Campaign Committees for working hard to see that we have a facility in which to enact that vision, our Weekday School for their commitment to this important ministry, and our Personnel continued on next page
Committee and APNC for stewarding our staffing transitions. And know I am thankful to each of you, as you prepare to renew your commitment to this church and the good things God desires to carry out here in the coming year.

Change is inevitable in the church and in our lives. May we welcome change as a sign of God's never-ending activity in our midst!

Always your pastor and friend,

[Signature]

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**Session Highlights**

**Stated Session Meeting on August 17, 2014:**

A motion from the Personnel Committee was approved to hire Heather Koontz as the Parish Associate beginning on September 2, 2014.

A motion from the Christian Education Committee was approved as follows:
The CE Committee submits for approval from the Session the following curricula for the 2014-2015 academic Sunday School year:
- 4’s - 5’s - *We Believe for Preschool*
- K - 1st grade - *Building Blocks of Faith*
- 2nd - 3rd grade - *Old Testament Stories*
- 4th - 5th grade - *New Testament Stories*
- 6th - 12th grade - *Great Stories of Salvation.*

Motion was approved to call a congregational meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, September 7, 2014, the purpose of which will be to hear a report from the Officer Nominating Committee and elect a new class of elders, an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, and the 2015 Officer Nominating Committee.

The Acts 16:5 Initiative Vision Team has been formed including Casey Field, Melanie Hood, Judith Parker, Dale Sarjeant, Kim Nims and Marty Brownlow. They will bring a comprehensive report to the Session later in the year.

Jane Arant shared that the Liturgical Arts Camp was very successful. They did lots of hands-on projects, cooked, made stained glass cookies and learned how the middle ages church communicated with people who were illiterate and did not understand Latin.

A motion was passed to re-elect Louise Sanford as treasurer for 2015.

A motion was passed to elect Betty Lynn Lambert and Tom Collins as the Session representatives on the Officer Nominating Committee for 2015-16.

The Capital Campaign Construction Committee reported that everything in Phase I has been funded. They are now shifting into Phase II and approved funding of the remainder of the painting projects which will begin in September and may take as long as six months, depending on the weather conditions.

The Membership Committee reported that at least five new members will be joining Trinity in September.
The Capital Campaign Construction Committee (CCCC) thought it would be helpful to review the intent and scope of the capital campaign and provide an update on the various projects.

The next section is from Dr. Cockrill’s August 2013 letter to the congregation (with a few updates):

**What is the purpose of this campaign?**

Trinity’s ministry is centered in and reaches out from buildings which are now about 60 years old. The main purpose of the campaign was to generate the first significant infusion of capital in many years for repair and updating of the buildings. We also want to re-fund the endowment and re-pay some of the money borrowed for previous repairs.

**What specific repairs and improvements are included?**

The Session has identified certain projects and ranked them in phases. The campaign generated sufficient pledges, over a three year period, to complete most of the requested items. For today we will focus on Phase 1 and Phase 2.

**Phase I:** Rework HVAC/chillers/air handlers, add new coils; replace rotten wood and repaint the front entry columns; exterior painting of Sanctuary & steeple; new electronic HVAC control system; a campaign expense allowance; and endowment fund partial repayment of monies previously borrowed.

**Phase II:** exterior painting of the Administration, Weekday School, Youth Center & Education Buildings; technology upgrades, including Fellowship Hall sound systems and wi-fi; building security upgrades including door hardware and card access system; interior renovations to Administration Building; Youth Center upgrades including interior renovations; additional endowment fund repayment; and endowment loan interest (in the event additional funds are borrowed to cover cash flow during progress of work).

**How were these projects identified?**

The Session obtained input from all of our committees, suggesting items that were needed or would enhance their respective ministries. The Stewardship Committee, augmented with additional members from the Buildings and Grounds and Finance Committees, then made recommendations as to the ranking of these items. Some items were ranked higher because of their importance to the functioning of the church programs; others were also included as they were seen to have significant functional or quality of life benefits.

**Accomplishments**

There has been a lot of activity since we started our efforts in January! Our first action was to make a partial payment to the endowment for the funds borrowed a couple of years ago to repair the air conditioning.

*continued on next page*
We are nearly complete with the air conditioning and heating system replacements. It is important to understand that the capital campaign did not include replacing the heating system. However, when the heating system began requiring repeated expensive repairs to the 60-year-old system to keep it working, the CCCC and Session wanted to ‘do it right’ and with the congregation’s support used a combination of capital funds and financed the difference in replacement costs. We expect this work will be completed in October.

The Fellowship Hall sound system has been replaced and greatly improved the quality of the sound at worship services this summer.

Painting of the Sanctuary, steeple, and other buildings is expected to start in the next 30 days; as soon as the contractor finishes his current projects.

We are in final stages of a decision on repairing and repainting the front entry columns. A final decision will be made once we get the report from the structural engineer.

We have also started working on Phase 2 items.

We consolidated the painting of the Weekday School building into the Sanctuary painting project in order to get the best price.

We accelerated the installation of the building security upgrades. We felt it was important to secure the Weekday School building as soon as possible. The access control system has been selected and new door hardware installation will begin in the next couple of weeks.

We are also gathering quotes to add computer network infrastructure to the Weekday School building in order to support their immediate needs.

Financial update

The congregation responded generously to the capital campaign with pledges of about $1.1M and we have received gifts of about $460,000. We are thankful for your love of Trinity and grateful for your sacrifice. That said, per the Session’s direction we have to ‘pay as we go’. Please consider this a gentle reminder that we need everyone to fulfill their capital campaign pledge so that we can continue this exciting work.

What’s next?

The next “big step” is to work through the details of a technology plan and identify options for the building renovations. The CCCC understands the importance and visibility of these changes. We will continue to work closely with the Session, staff and the committee chairs.

We are honored to be chosen for this invigorating work. We ask for your prayers and support as we move into the next set of projects.

Yours In Christ,
The CCCC
Doug Bradley, Noël Humphreys, Hayden McMahon, Matt Smith, Claude Sanford, and Walter Reid
2014 started with new programs and many opportunities to be involved in church activities and outreach programs into the community. Members took advantage of those opportunities and giving was strong. Out of capital campaign funds several very visible activities were started including some much needed upgrades to church building systems. New members chose to be a part of our family.

Excitement was building for the overall direction we were taking, and a breath of new life filtered throughout the congregation.

Looking forward and as we think about fall (it is still 95 degrees outside at this writing!) and Montreat, it is also time to start thinking about our planned giving to the operational budget for 2015. Plans for the process have been underway for the last couple of months. Co-chairs have been chosen, and we would all like to thank our respected leaders Lynette Neel and Phil Blount for agreeing to serve in the effort. All committees have been poring over their needs and budgets, and the Stewardship and Finance Committees have been diligently working together to assemble the budget and campaign presentation materials. All of this is under the proactive leadership of the Session who, together with us, has a shared vision for our future, and of course, with advice and counsel from our Senior Minister. Much of the operational budget campaign will be the same; however, there will be exciting new components requiring our support. More is to come on the process over the next couple of weeks as we move towards Response Sunday on October 26.

Next year will bring new and refreshed programs, new additions to staff, more opportunity to learn and grow in our faith, more new members to bring into the family, more and broader outreach programs, and a more modern and attractive campus. With all of the excitement going on at Trinity Presbyterian Church, we can all agree that supporting the vision and ministry of our beloved church and our broader community with our full commitment (time, talent and resources) is more important than ever to go forward to serve as the people of God.

**IMPACT STORY - Philip Blount**

One Sunday per month during the worship hour congregation members share an “Impact Story”. Please find below Philip Blount’s story shared July 27.

My name is Philip Blount and I’ve been a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church for about 12 years. This is where I feel I belong and am loved. Trinity has made a huge impact on my life and I need to thank a lot of people for that.

First of all, I want to thank ALL of you for supporting Philips Academy. It’s hard for me to explain just how amazing Philips Academy is—and how much of a difference it’s made in my life and the lives of many other kids and their families! Some of us learn differently, and Philips Academy gets that. So Thank You!

I also want to thank some specific people... especially my Sunday School teachers (I know Mom tells me I should not single anyone out...but I just have to on this—sorry if I leave anyone out though). Thanks to: Mr Tappy— one of my best friends, Dr. Phifer, Miss Smolen, Miss Nardone—I really miss her, Mr Pickett, Miss Stone, Mr. Tom Massey, Mr. Dick Newsome, Baron and Miss Jane Arant, Miss Katherine, Miss Shook, Brent and Peiffer and the entire Bradley family.

Also I got to know Miss Jai Nofziger through Trinity, and now I proudly work at her restaurant—DeeJai...where I see the Trinity ladies book club regularly. Working there has been a real blessing for me!

All of this—my learning about the Bible from Sunday School classes and the wonderful relationships I’ve established with all of you has helped make me a better person and a better Christian, a young man who knows and loves Jesus—all because of Trinity...how GREAT is THAT!!!

Thank you all for your help, for caring and for your ongoing kindness!!! Thank You!

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**A Corporate Stewardship Reflection**

**Looking Ahead to the 2015 Operating Budget and Process**

by Warren Henry

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## Financials as of August 31, 2014

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### Image
- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2014**

![Group of children and a guitar player](image_url)
I believe building relationships of care and support are key to our Christian calling to love one another and are essential to being a healthy, vibrant community of faith.

As your Parish Associate, I look forward to visiting with, listening to, praying with, and supporting the dedicated members of this great church.

I also look forward to our worship and fellowship time together and working with your gifted staff, officers, and leaders who are committed to enhancing the caring ministries here at Trinity.

~ Heather Koontz, Parish Associate

Heather received her Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA. Before coming to Trinity, she served First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, NC as an Associate Pastor, and has served as Interim Pastor and Temporary Pastor to several churches within Charlotte Presbytery. Most recently, Heather has enjoyed being at home with her two boys and supply preaching around the Charlotte area. Heather is married to the Rev. Lee Koontz, Associate Pastor at Philadelphia Presbyterian Church in Mint Hill, and their two children are A.J. (7) and Alex (5). She also enjoys cooking, reading, baseball, biking, and is a proud University of Tennessee Alumna.

Hello Everyone!

My name is Rhonda McClain, and I am so excited about being a part of the Trinity Presbyterian family as a seminary intern this fall! I am a fourth year seminarian at Union Presbyterian Seminary where I am enrolled in the Dual Degree program and scheduled to graduate in April of 2017 with a Master's in Divinity and a Master's in Christian Education.

On the weekends I attend Seminary, but I teach ninth grade English full time during the week. My husband Rodgery and I have a seventeen-year-old daughter named Moria who is a senior in high school this year. (Yes, there is a God.)

To relax, I enjoy Friday "date nights" with my husband, talking, laughing, and listening to Burt Bacharach, Tony Bennett, Wes Montgomery and Nancy Wilson, often into the wee hours of the morning in our backyard. We especially enjoy our Friday nights in our backyard around a fire during the winter season. This is how we stay connected.

Again, I am so excited about this new relationship with you. Thank you, Trinity Pres., for this new learning opportunity!

Blessings and peace,
Rhonda McClain
A Thanksgiving Service
For All God’s Creatures

Trinity Presbyterian Church
3115 Providence Road
Administrative Lawn

October 12 at 4:00 p.m.
(The service will be cancelled in the event of rain.)

All pets are welcome, but please consider the wisdom of bringing aggressive animals. If your pet is nervous or unavailable, it can be represented via photos or drawings.

Please make sure your pet is restrained by appropriate devices, leashes or carriers.
During the first week of August, nine students and three leaders gathered in the Youth Center for the twentieth annual Liturgical Arts Day Camp. Learning and activities this year explored the ways the church in the Middle Ages proclaimed the gospel to people who could neither read nor understand the Latin language of worship. Students learned about the building of magnificent Gothic cathedrals with their stained glass “story book” windows and their floor labyrinths that enabled “pilgrimages,” the acting out of Gospel stories as they were read in worship, and the illustrations within capital letters that conveyed the contents of a chapter of scripture even to those who couldn’t actually read the words that followed.

A field trip to Covenant Presbyterian Church gave participants an up-close look at Gothic architecture as well as stained glass windows. During the week students made not only their own stained glass designs on tracing paper but also stained glass cookies (with crushed candy as the glass). They laid out their own labyrinth on the floor of the Fellowship Hall and made meditative pilgrimages, and they designed their own illuminated manuscript capital letters. Along the way they learned about the messiness of daily life in the Middle Ages, both for serfs and for the nobility. They cooked and ate serfs’ “pottage” (pronounced good! - recipe available upon request) and constructed quite sophisticated trebuchets (siege machines) for attacking cardboard castles.

Margaret Rowe and Julia VanHuss assisted Jane Arant in leading the activities. This year’s participants were Blakely Durham, Jackson Anderson, William Coley, Parker Davis, Edward Durham, David Hood, Duncan Pickett, Henry Pickett, and Hank Smith.
The Weekday School is up and running!

Thank you to those who have helped days and weeks to prepare our school for the first day! Special thanks to the many wonderful hands that have worked so hard:

Wes Bradley; Debbie Fisher with Harper Shook; Judith Parker; Claude Sanford; Susanne Sawyer; Guyla Vardell; Damon Coley; Marshall Coley;

the Weekday School Committee (Lynn Davis, Claire Etheridge, Cookie Parnell, Jai Nofziger, Lauren Ball, Joni Summers);

the Trinity F3 group (Steve Ball - aka Mr. Green, Jeff Ireland - aka Riverdance, Chris Neal - aka Lorenzo, Craig Cox - aka Noonan, Chris Des - aka Chowda;

Myers Park High School IB students: (Nicholas Cox, Kate Dunning, Addie Lose, Harrison Ramsey, John Cho, Gray Silverman);

our beloved teachers who gave extra hours this summer (Jeri Ramsey, Patti McAllister, Danae Robinson, Sandra Nutter, Bernita White).

We have welcomed many new and returning friends to the WDS! We still would love to have any volunteers help us with our newest friends as they transition to school! If you are able to give an hour or two of your time the next few weeks, please contact Kelly Coley at kcoley@trinitypreschurch.org.

SAVE THE DATE!! October 16 will be our Weekday School Fall Open House and Art Show!! Please join us as our students display their paintings on canvas! Artwork will be available for purchase as part of this fundraiser for our Weekday School. We hope you will join us for a night of art and fun!

Collect Campbell soup labels for our Weekday School. Please cut the soup labels and send them to the WDS! We are able to purchase items through our earned points!

Harris Teeter’s Together In Education Program helps Trinity’s Weekday School raise money when you link your VIC card to Trinity (#4936) and purchase select Harris Teeter Brand products. Checks are sent out quarterly to participating schools based on these purchases—but you have to link your card for it to count! You may remember signing up last year (and we thank you!), but remember this sign up process must take place each school year, so remember to link your VIC card every fall. You may link your card the next time you check out at the grocery store or online at www.harristeeter.com. It’s simple and does not take long but is so beneficial to our preschool program!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RE-LINK YOUR HARRIS TEETER VIC CARD

CHANCEL FLOWERS 2015 - As we enter the closing months of 2014, it is time to think about when you would like to reserve a Sunday in 2015 for chancel flowers. You may “save a date” by calling Joyce Poe at 704.366.1673 or emailing juicepoe@gmail.com or by contacting Becky Purnell in the church office.
October 1    PostScripts Deadline, November Issue
Take Off Pounds Sensibly (weekly)
Weekday School PlaySpanish Classes
Wednesday Class (weekly)
Soccer Shots (weekly)
South Park Youth Association Football (weekly)
Membership Committee
Adult Choir (weekly)

October 2    Thursday Class (weekly)
Bridge (weekly)
Girl Scout Troop #1120

October 3    F3 Nation Fitness & Leadership (weekly)
South Park Youth Association Football (weekly)
Girl Scout Troop #2409 and #2415

October 5    World Communion Sunday
APNC Roundtable Discussions
Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (weekly)
Child Protection Training
Children’s Choir (weekly)
Youth Group (weekly)

October 6    Sew ‘N Sews Mondays (weekly)
Weekday School Creative Movement Classes
Soccer Shots (weekly)
South Park Youth Association Football (weekly)
Worship Committee

October 7    F3 Nation Fitness & Leadership (weekly)
Sew ‘N Sews Tuesdays (weekly)
Weekday School Creative Movement Classes
Trinity Staff Meeting (weekly)
Teen Cotillion (weekly)
Charlotte Latin Alumnae
Al-Anon (weekly)

October 8    Weekday School Staff Meeting
Christian Education Committee
Buildings and Grounds Committee

October 9    Weekday School Chapel
Girl Scout Troop #1335

October 10   APNC Roundtable Discussions
Thanksgiving Service for All God’s Creatures

October 11   Montreat Retreat

October 12   Girl Scout Troop #2409 and #2415

October 13   Men’s Breakfast
Soccer Shots (weekly)
Weekday School Committee

October 14   Weekday School Music Classes
Stewardship Committee

October 15   Weekday School PlaySpanish Classes
Mission and Outreach Committee
American Needlepoint Guild

October 16   Weekday School Fall Open House/Art Show
Girl Scout Troop #1120
Women of the Vine

October 17   Montreat Retreat

October 18   Girl Scout Troop #2409 and #2415
Teen Cotillion Dance

October 19   Teen Cotillion Parents’ Meeting
Trinity Book Club

October 20   Weekday School My Gym Classes
Teen Cotillion Parents’ Meeting
Finance Committee
Embroiderers’ Guild

October 21   Weekday School My Gym Classes

October 22   Weekday School My Gym Classes

October 23   Girl Scout Troop #1335

October 24   Reformation Sunday
Response Sunday
Stated Session
Stated Presbytery Meeting
First Monroe Presbyterian Church

Births

Mia Jane Moyer
Daughter of Brett and Shelby Moyer
Granddaughter of Margaret Shackleford

Church Triumphant

Dorothy Ann Boiter
Sister of Jean Boiter

“I’m aware of being a vessel through which the Holy Spirit moves . . . . A devout believer in prayer.”
from How Lucky We Are by Barbara McMahon

As the Apostles were 12 in number, the Prayer Chain Team would like to increase our number by asking for 6 more members to complete our Trinity discipleship strength. You will be called upon to pray confidentially as requests/concerns are received. Please contact Congregational Care Committee Chair Helen Alford regarding your willingness to serve at 704.552.6915.
Worship at Trinity
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service