

PastScripts

Volume XIII, Issue 9/October/November 2015

Beneath the Spire...

PRACTICING GRATITUDE

A few weeks ago, Grace and I were strolling the campus, having what I like to call a “moving meeting.” If the weather’s right, it’s a lot better than sitting cooped up in the office! Anyway, we wound around the back corner to the Weekday School entrance and saw some school kids on the playground with their teachers, so we went over to say hi.

As we got closer, we noticed an older lady outside the playground fence with a dog. The kids were waving and smiling at the dog as she bounced up and down in excitement. Grace and I began a conversation with this woman. Turns out she has lived in the neighborhood for two decades. When she learned we were the pastors, she excitedly began telling us about her enthusiasm for Trinity, how she’s noticed a new energy and vitality in recent years, how wonderfully friendly its people are. Grace and I were quite impressed that she shared this.

But not as impressed as what she shared next.

I can’t remember exactly how she got on the subject, but at some point she told us that she had included Trinity in her will. This woman who had no affiliation with our church, other than the fact that she lived in the same neighborhood. “I’ve walked these grounds for years and years,” she told us. “I’ve talked to your people. These are gifts you’ve given me, whether you realize it or not. I just want to give something back. I want to be part of Trinity’s mission for the future.”

Grace and I talked with this woman for a while longer, and then she and her dog headed home. But what she told us would not leave my mind – that a Trinity neighbor would include us in her will, for no other reason than simple gratitude.

Merriam-Webster defines gratitude as: *the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness*. It is the opposite of obligation, where we’re coerced to respond. Gratitude is an act from somewhere deep within us; from the heart. And because of that, it makes us feel good. That’s not why we do it, but it’s a pleasant side effect.

What things in your life inspire you to respond with gratitude? And in what ways? How have you shared your gratitude with family, with friends, with your church, with other things in your life that bear special meaning for you?

We are, of course, right in the thick of our Stewardship season – a perfect time to reflect on our gratitude for our great church and how we might respond come October 25. But beyond that, I want to invite you to carve out time in your busy lives to experience gratitude. Reach out to at least two people this week and share words of affection and graciousness. Tell someone how special they are to you. Don’t wait for a reason – let the Spirit move you.

My hunch? Like that neighbor Grace and I ran into at the playground, gratitude becomes contagious!

Your pastor and friend,

Steve

Response Sunday is Coming!

Sunday, October 25

Don't forget to bring your pledge card to church on October 25 as we make our commitment to live into God's vision for this great church! Below is a copy of the letter included in the **Commit** brochure.

To access a full copy of the Stewardship brochure, go to: www.bitly.com/commit-tpc.

If you have not received your response package, please call the Finance Office at 704.366.3554.



Every year, you know it's coming. It's late September, after all. A large package arrives in the mail addressed to you from the church. You open it and inside some assortment of the following: a letter, a pledge card, and something about the church's anticipated budget. You know the drill. It's Stewardship time. Response Sunday is coming soon. The church needs your pledge.

And oftentimes, we give. Maybe we give what we gave last year, and the year before that, and the year before that, because we know we can give at least that much. Maybe we give because we love our church and know they need money to pay salaries, bills and such. Maybe we give because we feel obligated to. Maybe it's for all of these reasons.

This year, we want to ask you to join us as we pray about giving for a totally different reason.

We want you to be compelled to give not just for the church as an "institution," but for you and your relationship with God and your brothers and sisters in Christ. We want you to give because

giving is a spiritual discipline. In fact, the most powerful kind. It's about setting priorities and what matters in our life as individuals, families, and a community of faith. It's about making a commitment to the mission and the vision of God's church.

Our Stewardship focus this year is **COMMIT**, and we ask you to commit next year's giving on three levels:

- Commit to Fearless Generosity (not letting fear dictate our level of giving)**
- Commit to Growing Spiritually (giving as a spiritual way of life)**
- Commit to a Now Vision (living God's purpose in the present)**

We hope with all our hearts that you'll come to see that Stewardship season is not like previous Stewardship seasons. We are fully and passionately convinced that Trinity Presbyterian Church is on the cusp of doing some great and wonderful things. Together, our **commitment** will help us do just that!

Blessings From the Stewardship Ministry Team
Bruce Voorheis, Barbara Caine, Brent Mullis, Tom Collins, and Phil Blount

IMPACT STORY - Rhonda McClain

Congregation members share an “Impact Story” during the worship service at least monthly. On April 19, 2015 we were fortunate to have Rhonda McClain who served faithfully as our church's seminary intern from September 2014 through April 2015. We miss her greatly, but celebrate her graduation from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte and hope her summer internship in Clinical Pastoral Education at CMC Main has been a great experience!

It Feels Like Home

On a road named Providence is a place of worship and praise of the Triune God. The place, this place, is called Trinity. God enters into people here His Spirit and for them to have a deep concern for people's needs.

For the needy family of Rod and Rhonda and Moria, here we will be given people who will add to our developmental process opportunity, and as we receive these people whom God has given us, we are thankful for and to the people whom God has given us. Here in this dwelling place we are to become things, and here is where we are to be approved. On becoming things, there is an orderly arrangement before servitude, and it is “...seek first the kingdom of God...” Next is thankfulness, and with people born of God, collectively we say, “Thanks be to God.”

Thanks be to God is vocal here. It is a formal way of praise and worship, thankfulness is, and for the people whom God has given us, thankfulness is the mark of His Spirit. Courtesy of the Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, thanks be to God is to become our banner at home and away from home. Home. “There is no place like home,” and Trinity feels like home. Here at this place with these people of

instruction and service, born of God, we listen and watch and witness attentively to the preacher man preach, the leaders lead, the faithful follow, and as the choir brings forth a joyful noise, confessions are made and we witness prayer and offering to and for the risen Christ.

Home. It feels like home here. Like home. It feels like home. It feels great to be here. Trinity is a place where family members gather for custom and habit and relationship. At Trinity I am impacted by beliefs, tradition and celebration. You know what I feel like being at Trinity? I feel like I've done something right, something good, something... something holy. That's what it feels like to be here. It feels like home to me, to us. Trinity is us. “Us” has present and future overtones, and “us” is indeed collective. Home. That's what it feels like here. It feels like home, and here I feel like I'm serving the Lord with gladness.

Thankfulness. In our developmental process, being given people, this most precious commodity, a place, this dwelling place, and thankfulness, this orderly arrangement, today, this day, we will go in peace and carry with us this message... “the Lord has done great things for us, wherefore we are glad.”

Financials as of August 31, 2015

	August Actuals	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget
Receipts:	\$ 37,196	\$ 376,883	\$ 441,867
Unrestricted Funds Used:	\$ 2,750	\$ 26,988	\$ 38,675
Endowment Funds Used:	\$ 0	\$ 54,277	\$ 36,185
Boltz Funds Used:	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,285
Expenses:	<u>\$ 73,294</u>	<u>\$ 621,575</u>	<u>\$ 665,484</u>
Surplus/Deficit:	\$ (33,348)	\$(163,427)	\$(145,473)

News on our Parish Associate

Hellos and goodbyes are a natural part of life. As we approach the end of September, there's a "hello" and a "goodbye" we'll be saying as a congregation.

First, the "hello." When you came to church on Sunday, October 4, you were greeted by a new worship bulletin. This design was created by the pastoral/program/office staff of Trinity and shared with the Session. The rationale for the new design is: to save paper in our church's quest for greater sustainability, to save money and office staff preparation time, and to achieve a more streamlined look while still incorporating some of the important traditional elements of our current bulletin. After three months we'll reassess the new design and make any needed adjustments. Grace, Chris, Heather and I welcome your feedback along the way. We are excited about this new look and trust you will be too.

As for the goodbye - I need to let you know that Heather Koontz has recently shared with Session that her tenure as our wonderful Parish Associate will be coming to an end effective November 22, as her husband has accepted a call out-of-state and her family will be moving. Since coming to us in September 2014, Heather has been a tremendous member of our staff leadership team and a cherished colleague and friend. And while we will certainly miss her, we are excited for her and her family as they begin their new adventure.

The Personnel Ministry Team and I will soon begin conversations about next steps. The plan is to proceed through the rest of this year with Grace and myself working with the Congregational Care Ministry Team to tend to the care needs of our church. Come January, we'll look anew at this position. As always, we'll update you along the way.

As we prepare to enter our season of Stewardship, we give thanks to the God who, as the prophet proclaimed, is always "doing a new thing" in our midst (Isaiah 43:19). Indeed, we trust God's leading in the midst of change!

Your pastor and friend,

Steve

Jane Bostian Arant was honored on Sunday, September 27, for serving thirty years as Trinity's Minister of Music Director. Along with the new naming of the choir room as pictured below, the Thursday Group, a weekly study group, will now be known as the Jane B. Arant Discussion Group. Thank you Jane for your many years of service.



Update from the Director of Music Search Committee

Trinity's Director of Music Search Committee was formed this past March and we have been meeting regularly since then. You may recall one of our first tasks was creating a congregational survey in April to assess our current music ministry and get your feedback and suggestions. In May and June, we researched job descriptions from other churches, and talked with those who had recently conducted a Director of Music search. In July, we posted the position on our own website, Charlotte Presbytery's website, and the websites of the American Guild of Organists, the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, and the American Choral Directors Association.

Our committee feels we conducted a very thorough search that allowed us to learn about the music ministries of other churches and the range of talent looking to fill Director of Music positions. Over the thirty days the listing was posted, we received twenty-seven applications and fielded another half-dozen phone calls. We had applicants from Rhode Island to Arkansas, and even one from Rome - Rome, Italy! (not Georgia). We ultimately selected four highly qualified applicants to interview and gave each one thoughtful and prayerful consideration.

Throughout the past seven months, we also began to realize just how fortunate Trinity has been to have Chris Gilliam as our Interim Director of Music and Michael Rowland as our Interim oOrganist. This dynamic duo has not only led us through a smooth transition, they have enriched our worship service with quality music and new ideas, not to mention their rapport and congeniality with church staff and choir members alike. Both have qualifications and experience second to none of all twenty-seven candidates we reviewed.

So we are thrilled to announce that the Session has approved our first choice and recommendation to hire Chris Gilliam as Trinity's permanent Director of Music and Michael Rowland as Trinity's permanent organist. We hope you are as pleased and excited about our decision as we are! We also hope you will join us at a reception in the Parlor after church on Sunday, November 1 to celebrate with Chris and Michael and welcome them - this time, permanently - to Trinity!

Director of Music Search Committee

Donnie Bobbitt, David Hood, May Johnston, George Lampe, Reta Phifer, Carol Sugg
Steve Lindsley, ex officio

All Saints' Day

Celebrating the Communion of Saints

On Sunday, November 1, we will celebrate All Saints' Day. As is the custom in our congregation, we will lift in prayer the names of those members who have died since the last All Saints' Day, as well as the names of others dear to our members who have died. A letter will convey an invitation to families of members whose names will be read aloud to be present for the service.

This day of giving thanks for those who have lived and died in the faith is a modern-day celebration of a festival that originated in the 8th century. In its origin, the festival included 2 days: November 1 was a time of celebration of the known "heroes" of the faith (martyrs and those canonized as saints by the medieval church); November 2, called "All Souls' Day," was a day to commemorate all others, known and unknown, who have kept the faith in their time and place. Because in the Reformed tradition all those who live by faith are designated as saints, there is only one day of celebration. It is called All Saints' Day and occurs yearly on November 1.

In England, All Saints' Day was also known as All Hallows' Day (from the Old English word for saint: *haelou*). Preparations for the celebration to honor the deceased were made on the evening before (All Hallows' Eve). A secularized version of that evening of preparation is the basis for modern observances of Halloween.

In our congregation, All Saints' Day is remembered with the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Session Highlights

Stated Session Meeting on August 16, 2015:

A motion passed from the Officer Nominating Committee to call a Congregational Meeting on September 13, 2015 to receive the proposed slate of Elders for the Class of 2017 ONC and 2018 Session.

A motion passed from the Worship Ministry Team to schedule the baptism of Molly and Mason Mobley on September 20, 2015.

A motion passed from Christian Formation as listed below:

The Christian Formation Ministry Team seeks approval from the Session for the following curriculums for the 2015-2016 Sunday School year:

4's-5's - "Growing in Grace and Gratitude", which replaces "Wee Believe"

K-1st grade - "Building Blocks of Faith" and "Make a Joyful Noise", led by Reta Phiher

2nd-3rd grade - "Old Testament Faith Stories"

4th-5th grade - "New Testament Faith Stories"

6th-12th grade - "Great Stories of Salvation" and "The Wired Word"

Parlor Class - "The Power of the Parable", by Dominic Crosson

Young' Adult Class - "The Wired Word", a downloadable curriculum that uses current events and other issues we face daily with a biblical background.

Bible 101 - CF is still actively searching for a curriculum for this class. Will update when we have it nailed down. "The Present Word" will be used and facilitators are in place.

Stated Session Meeting on September 13, 2015:

A request from Allen and Katherine Scardo (Katie) Reid to transfer their membership from Trinity Presbyterian to Westminster Presbyterian, Greenville, SC, was approved.

A request from Marion (Patsy) Coppedge Bradley to transfer her membership from Pama Ceia Presbyterian Church, Tampa, FL, to Trinity Presbyterian Church was approved.

Candy Hambacher was elected as commissioner for the stated Presbytery meeting on Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at First Presbyterian Church in Albemarle, NC.

HANGING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath will be assembled in the Sanctuary on Saturday, November 28 at 10:00 a.m. The Flower Committee welcomes volunteers. You may participate by helping with the assembly of the wreath on the 28th or by contributing fresh greenery for the wreath.

If you would like to help with the assembly of the wreath, please contact Joyce Poe at 704.366.1673 or juicepoe@gmail.com so that we might know to expect you. If you would like to donate fresh greens for use in the wreath (nandina berries, little gem magnolia leaves, holly, etc.), please soak them overnight. You may bring them to Trinity on November 27 and leave them on the back patio. The Flower Committee appreciates all contributions.

TRINITY GOES GREEN BECAUSE IT MATTERS

The Earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it. . . .
Psalms 24:1



We all know the environmental challenges our world is facing these days:

- One-fifth of our tropical rainforests – crucial to the overall world climate – have been cleared since 1960 and are disappearing at 1% each year.
- We're currently operating at 100 to 1000 times the normal extinction rate – which means that today, one in four mammal species, one in ten bird species, one in four amphibian species, and half of all primate species are threatened with extinction.
- Fisheries in our lakes, rivers and oceans are being depleted at twice their replacement rate.
- And speaking of water, by 2020 one in three people will suffer from fresh water shortages. In third-world countries this has already reached epidemic proportions.

I imagine we've all heard statistics like these before. Now, here's the interesting thing: these were not compiled by some scientist or environmental activist. These statistics came from Christian writer Brian McLaren in his book *Everything Must Change*. Brian is part of a new movement – or more appropriately a new-old movement – to reclaim, among other things, the environmental mission of the Christian faith. He is making the case that “going green,” as the current lingo goes, is not simply a nice thing for people of faith to do, but a Biblical mandate and duty for every follower of Christ.

So I want you to know some changes that we at Trinity are making this fall to do our part as a faithful congregation of followers to “go green:”

- We are phasing out our Styrofoam cups/plates/bowls and plastic cutlery, switching to compostable options such as paper coffee cups with sleeves, heavy fibered plates and bowls, and corn-based plastic cups and cutlery.
- We have added recycling bins throughout the church facility – primarily in the Fellowship Hall, the kitchen, and next to our two drink vending machines. Thanks in advance for putting all recyclables in there instead of using trash cans.
- We are switching to a fair-trade, shade-grown coffee for general church use. It also tastes better and actually costs less than what we were using before.

Is there more we can do? You bet! If you have ideas, please share them with Grace or Steve. Going forward, we want to be good stewards of both God's creation and our financial resources. Thank you for doing your part – here at Trinity, at home and in the workplace – for caring for God's wonderful creation!

The Times, or, at least, Church Communications, They Are A-Changing

A message from Trinity's Communications Ministry Team

Cookie Parnell (Chair), Amy Shook, Kathleen Schneider, Peggy Harding, Grace Lindvall, Shane Nofziger, and Josh Durham

We know from the gospels that, before his ascension, Jesus Christ commanded his disciples to spread the good news to the ends of the earth. What we don't know, however, is whether Jesus included instructions for how best to spread that news and the most effective media for doing so. That's unfortunate, because in today's fast-paced world, spreading our message can be challenging. Consider the many, many options that are available, including: websites; social media sites and apps such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram; church e-mail blasts and updates; television; newspapers; and traditional U.S. mail.

Luckily, Trinity's Communications Ministry Team, now in its second year, exists to help answer these questions. Our team's ultimate goal is to tell the world about the many great things occurring at Trinity Presbyterian Church. As we do so, we regularly evaluate the many communications options that are available, we try to select the most effective (and cost-efficient) ones, and we look to ensure that Trinity's message is consistent throughout. You might have seen some of our many efforts to date, including:

The new church website, trinitypreschurch.org. This website contains great information about Trinity, including the details of upcoming events, lots of great pictures of our congregation and missions, information about the Weekday School, a fully-secured giving page, and a member log-in section where members can access an up-to-date church directory. The website also contains the latest sermons for listening at home or on-the-go. Each month, the site receives thousands of views, and the majority of views come from first-time visitors to the site!

The new Constant Contact weekly email from Becky. Constant Contact, which is part of Trinity's 2015 Vision, offers church staff a more efficient way to create and send e-mails to the congregation, and it also offers non-members an easy way to subscribe to church updates. We've heard great feedback about the look of these new emails, and our team is extremely appreciative of Becky's help in getting this launched.

Trinity's Facebook account. This is another great way to share news about Trinity, and it's full of great photos from recent church events. Facebook also offers a great way to promote upcoming events. For example, more than ten thousand people saw the news about the September food truck event!

Trinity's Twitter account. It's not possible to tell Trinity's story in just 140 characters, but we try. Posting photos to Twitter helps, and we're also using hashtags for people to find us a little more easily. If you are on Twitter, look for #TPCintheQC and #SeeTrinityPres. Feel free to use these in your tweets, too!

The new Publicity Request Form and Publicity Guidelines. Of course, it is hard for our team to get the word out about events if we don't know about them, and this is where all of you can help! Be sure to look for the new Publicity Request Form and the new Publicity Guidelines that will be available in the church office. If you are planning an upcoming event and would like to publicize it through one or more of the various options available, the form and guidelines will help ensure that we get the right information to use.

It is indeed our honor to serve Trinity in these regards and to help tell our church's continuing story.

Get Connected



At Trinity's website you can:

Log in to your member account (under the Connect Menu) and have the most up to date directory information, access to any groups you are involved with and make contributions securely.

Connect with our Facebook and Twitter presence.

Check weekly announcements.

Listen to and read sermons.

Read the latest church notes/impact stories/*PostScripts* letters.

TAKE THE SERMON WITH YOU!

Did you happen to miss a sermon that you wish you hadn't? Or do you just want to read or listen to that sermon again? Now you can subscribe via email and our iTunes podcast and never miss a sermon:

To subscribe to our weekly sermon email - go to trinitypreschurch.org/sermons and enter your email in the box on the far right, then click "subscribe." You'll receive Sunday's sermon that evening every week.

To subscribe via iTunes podcast - go to bitly.com/tpc-itunes-podcast or search "Sermons Trinity Presbyterian Charlotte" in your iTunes app.

TRINITY ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Facebook - <http://facebook.trinitypreschurch.org>

Twitter - <http://twitter.trinitypreschurch.org>



What's Happening

October 1	Alzheimer's Support Groups (weekly) Jane B. Arant Discussion Group (weekly) Bridge (weekly) Girl Scout Troop #1120	October 15	Flower Committee Weekday School Open House and Art Show Girl Scout Troop #1120
October 2	F3 Nation Fitness & Leadership (weekly) Sons of Timaeus (weekly) Girl Scout Troop #2409	October 16	Girl Scout Troop #2409
October 4	World Communion Sunday Children's Choir (weekly) Youth Group (weekly)	October 16-18	Montreat Retreat
October 5	Sew 'N Sews Mondays (weekly) Weekday School Creative Movement Girl Scout Troop #1335 (weekly) Soccer Shots (weekly) Worship Ministry Team Cub Scout Pack 211 (weekly) Carolina Sampler Guild	October 18	No Sunday School
October 6	F3 Nation Fitness & Leadership (weekly) Sew 'N Sews Tuesdays (weekly) Weekday School Team Workshop Weekday School Creative Movement ACS User Group Staff Meeting (weekly) Weekday School Little Scholars (weekly) Teen Cotillion (weekly) Cub Scout Committee Meeting Al-Anon (weekly)	October 20	Charlotte Latin Alumnae Trinity Book Club
October 7	Take Off Pounds Sensibly (weekly) Weekday School Hello Spanish (weekly) Wednesday Class (weekly) Soccer Shots (weekly) Welcoming Ministry Team Pub Theology Adult Choir (weekly)	October 21	In-Home Communion American Needlepoint Guild
October 8	Weekday School Chapel Weekday School Hello Spanish (weekly) Shepherd's Center Meeting	October 22	In-Home Communion
October 9	Girl Scout Troop #2415	October 23	Chandler/Hutaff Wedding Rehearsal Girl Scout Troop #2415
October 11	Christian Formation Ministry Team Thanksgiving for All God's Creatures	October 24	Chandler/Hutaff Wedding
October 12	Men's Breakfast Weekday School Music Class Weekday School Ministry Team	October 25	Response Sunday Sunday School Gathering Personnel Ministry Team Stated Session
October 13	Weekday School Music Class	October 26	Weekday School My Gym Neighborhood Group—Eric Banks
October 14	Weekday School Staff Meeting Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team Finance Ministry Team	October 27	Weekday School My Gym Stated Presbytery First Presbyterian Church Albemarle
		October 28	Weekday School Photos Charlotte Presbytery Retired Ministers' Luncheon Embroiderers' Guild
		October 29	Weekday School Photos Stewardship Ministry Team
		October 30	Girl Scout Troop #2409
		November 1	All Saints' Day, Communion Visitor's Gathering Children's Choir (weekly) Youth Group (weekly) Daylight Saving Time Ends PostScripts Deadline, December/January Issue
		November 2	Sew 'N Sews Mondays (weekly) Soccer Shots (weekly) Girl Scout Troop #1335 (weekly) Cub Scout Pack 211 (weekly) Carolina Sampler Guild

at Trinity

November 3	F3 Nation Fitness & Leadership (weekly) Sew 'N Sews Tuesdays (weekly) Weekday School Creative Movement Staff Meeting (weekly) Weekday School Little Scholars (weekly) Cub Scout Committee Meeting Al-Anon (weekly)	November 20	Philips Academy Thanksgiving Feast and Turkey Trot Girl Scout Troop #2409
November 4	Take Off Pounds Sensibly (weekly) Weekday School Hello Spanish (weekly) Wednesday Class (weekly) Soccer Shots (weekly) Welcoming Ministry Team Adult Choir (weekly) Welcoming Ministry Team Mission and Outreach Ministry Team Adult Choir (weekly)	November 22	Christ the King Sunday, Communion Personnel Ministry Team
November 5	Jane B. Arant Discussion Group (weekly) Weekday School Hello Spanish (weekly) Bridge (weekly) Girl Scout Troop #1120	November 25	Embroiderers' Guild
November 6	F3 Nation Fitness & Leadership (weekly) Sons of Timaeus (weekly) Weekday School Kids Speak Girl Scout Troop #2409	November 25-27	Weekday School and Philips Academy Closed for Thanksgiving
November 9	Men's Breakfast Weekday School Music Worship Ministry Team Weekday School Ministry Team	November 26-27	Church Office Closed
November 10	Weekday School Music Stewardship Ministry Team	November 29	First Sunday of Advent
November 11	Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team Finance Ministry Team	Births	
November 12	Weekday School Chapel	Liam Max Anderson	August 18
November 13	Girl Scout Troop #2415	Son of Michael and Molly Anderson	
November 15	New Member Sunday Associate Minister Support Team Stated Session	Grandson of Mike and Sandra Nutter	
November 16	Mecklenburg Historical Association	Nephew of Eli Nutter	
November 17	Trinity Book Club Philips Academy Parent Connect	Taylor Elizabeth Shanks	September 8
November 18	Weekday School Staff Meeting Mission and Outreach Ministry Team American Needlepoint Guild	Daughter of Eric and Amanda Shanks	
November 19	Girl Scout Troop #1120	Granddaughter of Stuart and Cheryl Jernigan	
		Emery Grace Devlin	September 14
		Daughter of Brian and Kaitlin Devlin	
		Granddaughter of Peter and Elise Devlin	
		Baptisms	
		Molly Clair and Mason Parks Mobley	September 20
		Children of Jeremy and Lydia Mobley	
		Grandchildren of John and Kim Nims	
		Marriages	
		William John Arant and Regina Kuhl	August 15
		Son of John and Jane Arant	
		Church Triumphant	
		Thomas Eugene Heuerman	October 8
		Wife of Carolyn Heuerman	

OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

A **Congregational Meeting** was held on Sunday, September 13, 2015, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service to elect the 2017 Officer Nominating Committee and the 2018 Session Class.

Kelly Coley, Brent Mullis and Louise Sanford have been elected to serve as representatives of the congregation and Liz Countess and Donnie Bobbitt as representatives from Session on the 2017 Officer Nominating Committee.

Elder Class of 2018

nominees share a little about themselves, fond Trinity memories and hopes for Trinity's future



Casey Field

Casey and his wife, Lindsey, live in Charlotte with their two beagles. They just celebrated their 7th wedding anniversary. Although Casey works in Gastonia, he is a native Charlottean and was baptized as a baby here at Trinity. In recent years, he has served as an usher, a RITI volunteer, and is a member of the Acts 16:5 Vision Team. Since graduating from The University of the South (Sewanee) in 2000, Casey has been employed by independent schools in the Charlotte area. He is entering his 9th year at Gaston Day School where he has served as Athletic Director for the past five years. His favorite old memories from growing up at Trinity are relationships formed in Sunday School and Youth Group. In his own words, "I feel very fortunate to have had such incredible mentors caring for me and teaching me." Casey's favorite new endeavor at Trinity is volunteering with Room in the Inn. His hope for Trinity is that we continue to be a strong family of faith that shares God's love and Christ's hospitality with each other and our surrounding community. In doing so, we are embracing the concept of being the church rather than just going to church.



David Hood

David and Melanie Hood were married here at Trinity almost 20 years ago. They have three children.... John (15), David (13), and Caroline (7). David is the owner of a specialty niche recruiting firm, Corporate Tax Recruiters. Through the years, David has either chaired or served on many committees here at Trinity, including Finance and Personnel. In the 90's, David and Melanie served as youth leaders and he recalls the fun they had taking them to the beach and leading them at Montreat. David says it has been rewarding to see members of that youth group grow through the years and become a part of Trinity's leadership. His favorite "new thing" is Grace Lindvall. It is David's hope that Trinity will continue to grow into a large church, full of energy, reaching out to all areas in our community.



Sean Kirby

Sean and Anne Mar Kirby are one of our most recent families to join here at Trinity. They have 2 children, Elaine (5) and Hank (3). Sean works in the Corporate Real Estate group at Bank of America. Since Sean and Anne Mar joined in January of 2014, his “old Trinity memory” dates all the way back to early 2013 when they first visited...and it is a great one! “My family and I were immediately struck by the sense of community, love and faith present everywhere at Trinity. We knew right away that this was a truly special place.” Sean feels connected to comments made by Steve that there is something special that God has going on at Trinity and he is thankful to be a part of it. A hope for the future is for Trinity to continue to grow and be an important part of the Charlotte community where we serve. Sean says that he and his family “look forward to being a part of this wonderful church.”



Kim Nims

Kim and her husband of 34 years, John, have four children - Katherine, Lydia and Jeremy, and Clay. You have probably seen their two grandchildren here at Trinity....Molly, age two and Mason, born last May. Magellan the seven year old dog and Charlie Gibson the nine year old cat round out the household. Kim currently serves as a teaching leader for an interdenominational organization, Bible Study Fellowship International. At Trinity, Kim serves on the Acts 16:5 Vision Team and the Christian Formation Ministry Team. Most recently, she was a co-leader of Vacation Bible Adventure. An “old memory” at Trinity is a relative term for Kim and family. Her first visit to Trinity just over a year ago is a very special memory.... seeing Steve and his family again.... and, meeting so many wonderful and welcoming people in our congregation who received them as family! Kim's favorite “new thing” is definitely VBA! She had so much fun planning and participating in this exciting, intergenerational event. She especially enjoyed the opportunity to work closely with new

friends here at Trinity, as well as becoming better acquainted with children and youth. Kim's overall vision for Trinity is her hope, as well, to continue to grow in faith, and also continue to love each other as we welcome and embrace all people. In the future, as in the past, Kim hopes we will realize what it means to be the hands, feet, and heart of our Lord. “It will be exciting to learn how God wants us to live out this vision in practical new ways in the days to come.”



Dale Sarjeant

Dale and wife, Janet Vass Sarjeant, have been longtime members of Trinity. Their sons, Daniel and Christopher were raised here and now their extended family has grown to include many others. Daniel's wife, Katie, and their children Ryane and Cameron along with Christopher's wife, Whitney, are all a part of the Sarjeant clan on Sunday mornings. Dale was in dental equipment sales with A-dec for 39 years. Recently, he retired for 1 year ... and is now back to work for Roanoke College in Resource/Development. Roanoke College is the alma mater of Dale and Janet and they chair the "Campaign for Roanoke Rising" here in Charlotte, along with a very strong alumni group. Dale's favorite "old memory" is from March 26, 1964 when he took his first communion here at Trinity along with a confirmation class of 38 young people at the Maundy Thursday service. His favorite "new thing" is the wave of new people and new initiatives here at Trinity. It seems that most everyone wants to and is willing to get involved. Dale's hope for the future is to reestablish Trinity as a vibrant and welcoming church that attracts all and nourishes all.

Class of 2016

nominated for a one year replacement term



Jim Calder

Jim and Ruth Ann Calder are long-time active members of Trinity. Their three children were baptized and married in the Sanctuary. Daughter Gayle and her husband, Rick, live in Burlington. They have two sons, Scott and Daniel. Their son, Rob, and his wife live in Charlotte and are both active at Covenant. Daughter, Laura, and husband, Bill, live in Albany, GA with their daughter, Darby, and son, Will. Jim is a retired homebuilder. Through the years, Jim has served on many committees here at Trinity. Presently he is on Buildings and Grounds. Other volunteer activities include Habitat for Humanity, Shepherd's Center, and Rotary Club. Jim has so many favorite "old memories" that one is hard to choose, but square dancing at Montreat is at or near the top. A favorite "new thing" here is Steve Lindsley. Jim's hope is that, in the future, Trinity will grow to fill our beautiful campus and stay true to our mission.



The Weekday School is off to a great start! Our new students and their families are settling in nicely and we are happy to see our returning families as well. The Weekday School is blessed to have the support of so many people who worked together to make the start of the 2015-16 school year such a great success!

A BIG Thank You to ...

The WDS Ministry Team (Lynn Davis, Claire Etheridge, Judith Parker, Joni Summers, Kelly Coley, Ammie Jordan, Lydia Mobley, Cookie Parnell, Michelle Hendrix and B White) for their continued support as well as the Grab-n-Go goodies and luncheon for staff during Teacher Work Week.

Bill Jones, Facilities Manager, Tony Arey and Hayden McMahon (Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team) for taking care of our "long list of demands."

High School volunteers (Liz Sigfried, Brad Duniec, Lilly Gray, Reed Schacht, Harrison Ramsey, Grey Silverman, Jennifer Reif, Addie Renner, Grant Renner, Carley Beck and Patrick Beck) for helping to prepare the "L" building for our little ones. WDS staff members, Ms. B and Ms. Jeri did a wonderful job organizing the projects for the volunteers and also helping to organize our supplies and shared areas for the rest of the WDS team!

The wonderful WDS Team (Karen Berg, Jill Billings, Jan Federal, Laura Gutknecht, Michelle Henry, Julie Jenkins, Lorie Lindsley, Jeri Ramsey, Danae Robinson, Anna Ruth, Lisa Shenton, Holly Shinder, Mary Catherine Snyder, Pat Thompson and B White) for their enthusiasm and hard work in preparing for the school year.

We are excited to welcome two new members to the team, Dianne O'Sullivan and Karla Lizano. They have joined our 3s and TK teams!

It is not too late to join in the fun! There are still openings in some of our programs. For more information, please contact the WDS office at 704.366.3556 or via email at spalmer@trinitypreschurch.org or jbillings@trinitypreschurch.org.



Collect Campbell's 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!



FREEDOM SCHOOL PARTNERS

This summer Trinity Presbyterian Church hosted another successful Freedom School Partner program. The Freedom School Partners program is a six week summer educational and enrichment program for children in Kindergarten through 8th grade which gives children the opportunity to develop and increase their literary skills, their social and emotional development, as well as their intellectual and listening skills within a learning environment which encourages and inspires them to believe in themselves in order to help them attain and set higher educational goals. The program also provides a framework and opportunity for children to increase their individual character development and leadership skills.

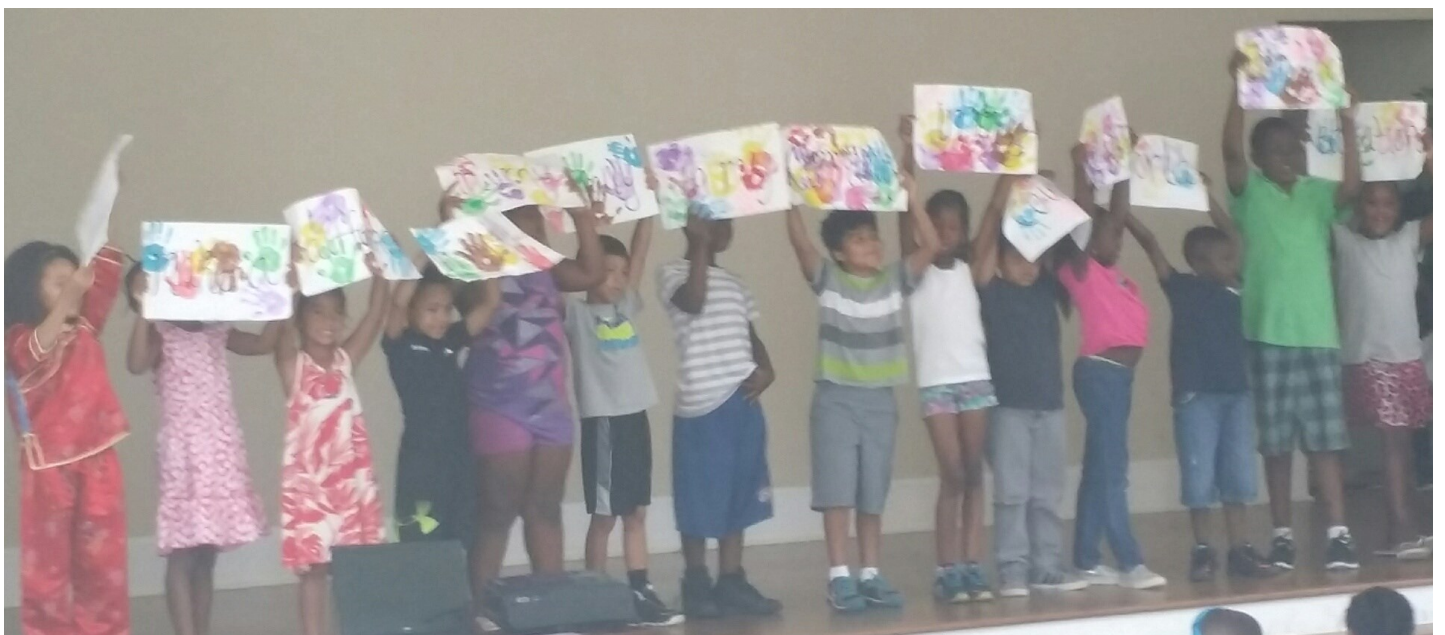
Daily educational and enrichment programs at nineteen sites in Charlotte included: pep rallies; guest speakers; reading sessions; field trips to various cultural, educational, museums, parks, and other community sites; sporting events; field days; picnics; and a final jubilee celebration day.

Trinity Presbyterian supports the program primarily through the use of our large facilities – buildings and land. We also support the overall program with supplies. According to Kenya Smith, a Freedom School Partners Coordinator, Trinity Presbyterian Church members who contributed their time and talents in various capacities for this year's program included Rev. DC Horne, Carolyn Voorheis, Sarah Henry and Fran Worthington. We want to thank them and the church staff who had to deal with the day to day support. This is a key program that we want to support, and we will look to grow the church volunteer effort in future years.

As we have read in recent news material, Charlotte trails all other fifty large US cities in upward mobility. By supporting this program we help instill in these children some measure of success for them to build on.

Carolyn Voorheis
Mission and Outreach Ministry Team

See next page for photos of the Freedom School Grand Finale where staff and children performed for parents, volunteers and Trinity staff members.





Friendship Trays - Drivers Needed

People know Friendship Trays as the local meals-on-wheels program, but care extends to checking in on people in the community with fragile health who might not see anyone but a Friendship Trays volunteer every day.

There are people living all around us that due to age, poverty or illness cannot get out to buy, or prepare healthy meals for themselves or loved ones. Special dietary needs (ordered by doctors) are met by the wonderful kitchen staff at Friendship Trays.

Trinity Presbyterian has been delivering meals on route #20 for between 30 and 40 years to areas around our church, some to our own church members. We have a team of up to 25 drivers so that each time commitment is a little less than two hours, once a month. We back each other up for changes in schedule or emergencies.

This is a very satisfying and personal connection to share with your community and the time commitment is very small. We are looking for additional drivers at this time and would love to show you how we do what we do. I encourage you to contact any of our drivers through a readily available list in the church office or call or email me and tell me of your interest.

Linda K. Brown
704.364.6631
lindamkbrown@gmail.com

Room in the Inn

Room in the Inn season (RITI) is upon us and Trinity will once again open its doors and welcome 144 guests. The winter months are some of the hardest for Charlotte's growing homeless population. Through the help of many volunteers, we at Trinity are able to provide our guests three meals (dinner, breakfast, and a bag lunch), a hot shower, clean socks, hats, gloves, t-shirts and underwear, fellowship and a warm and safe place to rest for the night.

We have volunteer opportunities in the following areas: **transportation, overnight hosts, breakfast, lunches, and laundry pick up and drop off.** In addition to our usual volunteer opportunities, please contact Tricia Sistrunk if you or your family or group (youth group, girl scouts, choir, bible study...) would like to join us for dinner on RITI Wednesdays. This is a great opportunity to learn more about and help support this important ministry at Trinity.

Our nights to host are: **December 2, 9, and 16, January 6, 20, and 27, February 3, 10, and 24, March 2, 16, and 30.** Please consider your interests and contact one of the team leaders listed below:

Site Coordinator:

Tricia Sistrunk: 704.965.7797 or sistrunkt@icloud.com

Team Leaders:

Richard Williams: 704.542.6150 or rdwilliams4@gmail.com - transportation

Lynette Neel: 704.554.1575 or neeldurham@mindspring.com - overnight hosts

Guyla Vardell: 704.364.8449 or gmvinc@bellsouth.net - laundry

Susanne Reid: 704.844.2885 or susanne.reid@providenceday.org - lunches

Nancy Williams 704.542.6150 or omomx3@gmail.com - breakfasts

Also, be on the lookout for our Alternative Gift cards, which can be found along with the RITI display boards in the Cloister. This is a great gift idea during the holidays and your financial support helps purchase the supplies needed to keep the RITI program running at Trinity.



“GIFTS TO THE MANGER”

family will share in the joy of bringing “Gifts to the Manger”. Please place your new and **unwrapped** gifts in the designated display boxes in the Cloister.



Alexander Youth Network -

Each year, Alexander serves over 5,700 children with, or at high risk of, serious emotional and behavioral problems often induced by neglect or abuse. A majority of the “kids of Alexander” come from low-income homes, some are separated from their natural families, and many live in the care of therapeutic foster parents. Alexander’s Angel Network provides Trinity with a way to make these children’s holiday special. **All items should be new, unwrapped and delivered to collection boxes** in the Cloister, with card attached. Deadline for donations **TBA**.

Needs: Look in the Cloister for a small tree with card ornaments carrying a specific request from a child. General donations are also welcome.



Thompson Child & Family Focus – Wish List –

Thompson provides dormitories and group housing for children that are displaced from home due to abuse and mental problems within their families. Trinity’s congregation brings love and joy to these children by donating one gift for each child. Please bring your gift to the office by **December 9**. **Please note: do not wrap gift and tape the card to the package.**

Needs: There will be a board in the Cloister with display cards describing specific items/gifts.



Emergency Winter Shelter - provides winter shelter, food, and referrals to various social services in the Charlotte area.

Needs: Men's underwear, socks, warm coats, sweaters, gloves, blankets, pillows, towels, and washcloths.



“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”
Colossians 3:12

Room in the Inn – Trinity is one of many churches that provide on-site shelter for the homeless during the winter months. Provisions for food, shelter, simple toiletries and basic clothing such as socks, underwear, hats and gloves are given to approximately 100 men and women (our neighbors) each season.

Needs: Alternative Christmas Gift Cards will be available at the Room in the Inn display in the Cloister. Make a donation in someone’s honor or memory to this important ministry at Trinity and give them a gift they won’t forget!

Christmas Joy Offering



– A Presbyterian tradition for almost seventy years, providing congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those in need. Fifty percent (50%) of the Christmas Joy Offering is distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide support to retired and active church workers, their spouses and families. The other 50% supports Presbyterian-related racial ethnic education through the National Ministries Division of the General Assembly Council.

Needs: Joy Offering envelopes will be available in the pew racks and in the Cloister.

*Thank you in advance
for your generosity and
supporting this Trinity
ministry year after year.*



TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

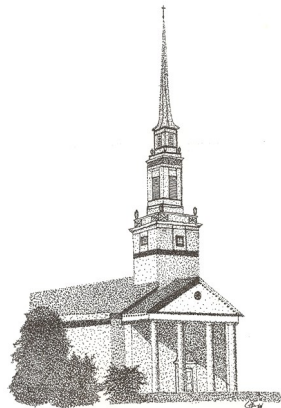
Address Service Requested
Trinity Presbyterian Church
3115 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28211-2742
Phone: 704.366.3554 Fax: 704.366.9460
www.trinitypreschurch.org
<http://facebook.trinitypreschurch.org>
<http://twitter.trinitypreschurch.org>

Non-Profit Organization

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Worship at Trinity

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Publication Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin/Church Notes: Tuesdays at Noon

Newsletter - *PostScripts* and Website: 1st day of each month

THE SESSION

Dr. Stephen B. Lindsley, Moderator

Fran Worthington, Clerk

Damon Coley, President of the Corporation

Class of 2015

Helen Alford
Damon Coley
Lynn Davis
Laura Gutknecht
Candy Hambacher
Bob Lyons
Shane Nofziger
Bruce Voorheis

Class of 2016

Steve Ball
Marty Brownlow
Tom Collins
Betty Lynn Lambert

Class of 2017

Tony Arey
Donnie Bobbitt
Liz Countess
Warren Henry
Lori O'Keefe

ADMINISTRATIVE ROSTER FOR 2015

CLERK

Fran Worthington

MINISTRY TEAMS

Equip

Buildings and Grounds
Capital Campaign
Communications
Finance
Personnel

Grow

Christian Formation
Welcoming
Worship
Youth

Serve

Congregational Care
Fellowship
Mission and Outreach
Stewardship
Weekday School

TEAM CHAIRMAN

Tony Arey, Hayden McMahon
Walter Reid
Cookie Parnell
Damon Coley
Lori O'Keefe, Donnie Bobbitt

Laura Gutknecht, Candy Hambacher, Tom Collins
Marty Brownlow
Betty Lynn Lambert, Liz Countess, Bob Lyons
Laura Gutknecht

Helen Alford
Steve Ball
Warren Henry
Bruce Voorheis
Lynn Davis

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Stephen B. Lindsley, Senior Minister
The Reverend Grace Lindvall, Associate Minister
The Reverend Heather Koontz, Parish Associate
Chris Gilliam, Director of Music
Michael Rowland, Organist
Reta Phifer, Interim Children's Choir Director
Becky Purnell, Office Manager
Cheryl Jernigan, Financial Administrator
Bill Jones, Facilities Manager
Stephanie Palmer, Weekday School Director
Jill Billings, Weekday School Assistant Director
Mark Grube, Part-time Event Assistant