

PastScripts

Volume XIII, Issue 8/September 2015

Beneath the Spire...

CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN AND GOING BACK DOWN



We owned Lookout. We had to make it quick, though. Serving as leadership for a Montreat Youth Conference is not an exercise in abundant leisure time even though the mountains themselves practically beg us to slow down, stop, look and listen and go at a slower pace. Alas, our schedule was slam-packed. Music for this keynote, music for that worship. And meeting after meeting after meeting. Meetings to schedule meetings! So Presbyterian...

Anyway, we had an hour between meetings, and the five of us – Lindsay, Ben, Drew (an associate at Baron Mullis' church) Elizabeth and myself – decided to tackle Lookout. In an hour. Tall order, but we did it. Made it up to the top right at 30 minutes, sucking in air and massaging the screaming muscles in our legs. The sky, as you can see, was crystal clear that day. Montreat beautiful. We soaked in the scene for a solid ten minutes, and then it was time to go.

In a few days of writing this, I'll leave Montreat altogether and head back to Charlotte. Coming back down the mountain is tough, especially when that "mountain" happens to be Montreat. Many of you know what I'm talking about. There is something sacred here. The saying

goes that Montreat is a "thin place," a place where the space that separates earth and heaven is miniscule. So often we go through life not realizing how much our soul longs for this kind of thin place, until we're there; and it's as if our spirit can't soak in enough. All along, we'd been parched, withering; and didn't even know it. Until we were there.

And before we know it, it's time to leave that thin place and come home; and that's not always an easy thing. But we can't stay on the mountain forever. Countless stories in scripture recount trips of the faithful up the mountain – Moses, Elijah, Jesus, the disciples, just to name a few – but they don't stay there. They can't. They're not supposed to. So they come back down, because that's where they're needed the most.

I know that. I've missed Lorie and the boys terribly. I've missed the church I serve and the people I love. I've missed being there for Grace's first sermon, and I've missed the funeral of a dear church member. I love Montreat, I love the view from Lookout, but I can't stay here forever. I belong home. I belong with you.

By the time you read this, I'll be home again. Thanks for letting your pastor go up the mountain for a spell. Thanks be to God for the places we are called to be and the people we are called to serve. Thanks be to God for the mountains we climb and the valleys we live and serve in!

Your pastor and friend,

Steve

Update from the Director of Music Search Committee

After the committee was initially formed in March, one of the first steps we took was to develop a congregational survey to better understand church members' views about Trinity's current music ministry.

The survey was emailed in April to all members and hard copies were made available as it was announced at the 11:00 worship service.

The committee was pleased to receive 112 completed surveys (target was 85-100), and by the Committee's estimation, all age groups across the congregation were fairly represented.

The committee performed a detailed analysis of the results, including an analysis of the responses by age groups.

A summary report was given to the Session at the May 17 meeting and is included below.

The results of our analysis show that overall the congregation likes our music program but is also open to some change.

The results also show that while there are some differences among age groups, they are not what we identify as significant differences.

Below is a ranking of the first twelve survey questions ranked by level of importance to survey responder. Answer of 5 is very important down to answer of 1 is not at all important. Age group information included.

#	Question	Total	Age 12-25	Age 26-45	Age 46-55	Age 56-65	Age 66+	N/A
Q5	Adult Choir	4.71	4.22	4.46	4.56	5.00	4.91	5.00
Q4	Instrumentalists at Easter & Christmas	4.47	4.33	4.38	4.17	4.80	4.53	5.00
Q1	Music talents of church member	4.39	4.22	4.29	4.61	4.33	4.44	4.00
Q2	Centrality of Organ	4.39	3.56	4.21	4.11	4.53	4.69	5.00
Q6	Children's Choir and Music Ministry	4.37	3.38	3.92	4.50	4.71	4.63	4.67
Q9	Children's Summer Arts/Music Program	3.85	3.56	3.58	3.78	4.33	3.86	4.67
Q8	Soloists	3.83	2.88	3.67	3.35	4.00	4.19	4.67
Q7	Middle and High School Choir	3.57	2.33	3.13	3.78	3.87	3.90	3.33
Q12	Cantor Responsorial Psalms	3.43	4.11	3.08	2.78	3.40	3.73	4.00
Q11	Singing new hymns	3.38	4.00	3.33	3.56	3.47	3.29	1.67
Q3	Use of non-traditional instruments	2.90	3.44	2.88	3.11	2.73	2.88	1.33
Q10	Handbell Choir	2.57	2.89	2.63	2.72	2.47	2.49	2.00
		112	9	24	18	15	43	3
	Age Distribution		8.0%	21.4%	16.1%	13.4%	38.4%	2.7%

We asked questions about the openness to change in our worship music style. The results show that:

65% of responders agree or strongly agree with the statement that they hope our current worship music style **does not change** vs. **16%** who disagree or strongly disagree.

79% of responders agree or strongly agree with the statement that they are open to **some change** but hope we preserve our current worship music style vs. **8%** that disagree or strongly disagree.

31% of responders agree or strongly agree with the statement that they are open to **significant change** in our style of music vs. **55%** who disagree or strongly disagree.

15% of responders agree or strongly agree with the statement that they **don't have strong feelings about changing or not changing** what we do musically in church vs. **61%** who disagree or strongly disagree.

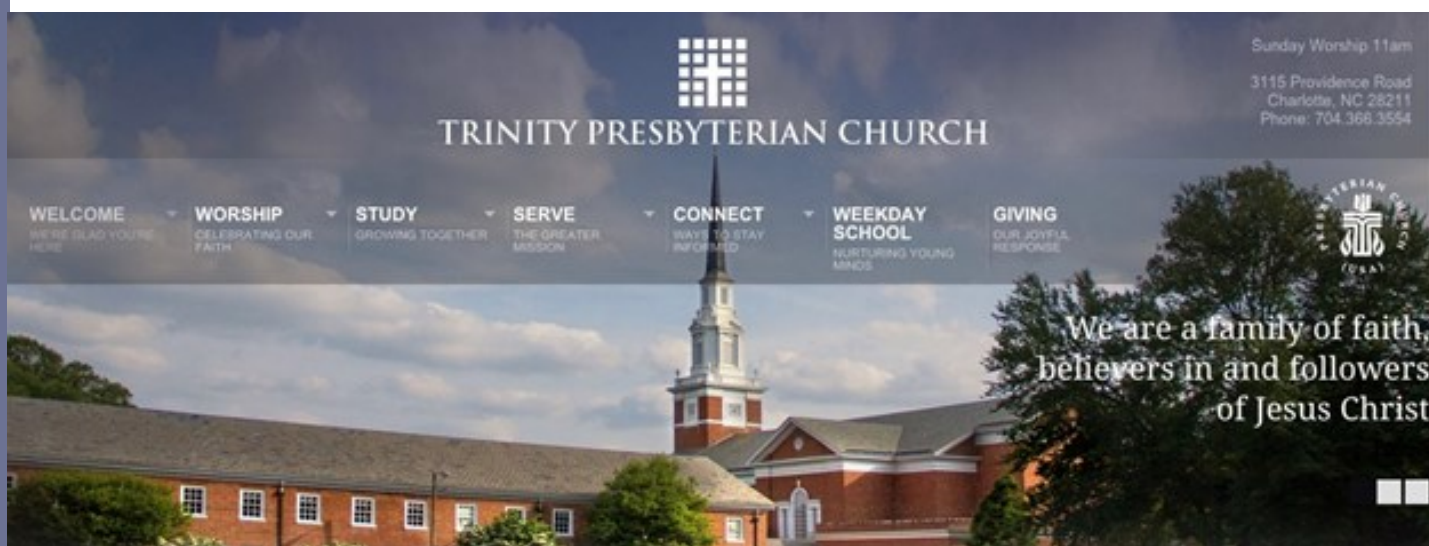
In June, after the Survey Summary Report was shared with Session, the committee developed a job description using information from the survey and input from the Personnel Committee.

After Session approved the job description, the position was posted in mid-July on Trinity's website, Presbytery of Charlotte's website, as well as several national professional music organization websites.

The job will remain posted through August 15; in late August or early September, the committee will review all applicants and hold interviews with selected candidates.

We hope to have good news soon – we will keep you posted!

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.



Trinity church members should be proud of their efforts in promoting the Loaves & Fishes program at our church which enable food products to reach those in need in Charlotte. So far this year, Loaves and Fishes has received 851 pounds of food from our church's two food donation barrels located in the breezeway between the Weekday School and church entrances.



RALLY DAY

September 13, 2015

*Sashay into the new church year
With style and **Grace**...*

Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m.
for a light breakfast
to celebrate the start of Sunday School
and our new
Associate Minister, Rev. Grace Lindvall.

RSVP not required, black tie optional

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 20

All Sunday School classes meet from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School Classes for Children and Youth

2 and 3 Year Olds

Teachers: Tricia Sistrunk, Ali Field, Sherese Smith and Judith Parker
Room 115 - Fellowship Building

4 and 5 Year Olds

Claire Etheridge, Margaret Rowe, and Karen Porter
Room L106 - L Building

Kindergarten and First Grade Class

Teachers: Andrea Anderson, Laura Gutknecht, and Patrice Pickett
Room L113 - L Building
"Make a Joyful Noise" led by Reta Phifer
9:45 a.m.–10:00 a.m. Room L113 - L Building

Second and Third Grade Class

Teachers: Phil Tappy and Katherine Lambert
Room L109 - L Building

Fourth and Fifth Grade Class

Teachers: Jeff O'Keefe and Betty Lynn Lambert
Room L110 - L Building

Middle and High School Class

Teachers: Wendy Smolen, Damon Coley, Amy Shook and
Lauren Brandt
Youth Center

Adult Classes

Parlor Class - *The Power of the Parable* by Dominic Crosson
led by John Parker and George Sawyer. They are
recommending that you purchase the book prior to class
starting.

Young Adult Class - Room 116 - *The Wired Word*, a
downloadable curriculum that uses current events and other
issues that we face daily combined with a biblical background.
The week's topic will be emailed out beforehand so everyone
can take a look at it to prepare for discussion. Leaders are Chip
Carpenter, Josh Durham, Kim Garnett and Matt Smith.

Bible 101 - Room 113 - To be announced later.

Sunday Morning Childcare

9:45 a.m.–12:00 Infants and Toddlers
Room 114 - Education Building

10:45 a.m.–12:00 Twos and Threes
Room 115 - Fellowship Building

10:45 a.m.–12:00 Fours and Fives
Room 213 - Fellowship Building

IMPACT STORY - Gwana Chambers

Congregation members share an "Impact Story" during the worship service at least monthly. On March 15, 2015 we were fortunate to have a Philips Academy parent share their story. Philips Academy is a private, non-profit school for middle and high school students who require functional academics and are housed on the second floor of Trinity. If you would like to learn more about the school contact Amy Firth at 704.365.4533.

My name is Gwana Chambers and I do have a story.

As a mother of ten children, it has always been important for me, just as most parents, to prepare my children by God's guidance for success. Three of my children were in need of a school that was not mainstreamed, but was able to address the learning needs and style of how they learned. My three children had struggled and one of my children in particular no matter what type of class size or the school she was in, found it very hard to keep up. After struggling for several years, one day I found myself in the office of a psychologist asking him based on what you just told me, where is there a school that can help my child and keep her from feeling inferior just because she learns differently?

Dr. Robert Faucette handed me a brochure about Philips Academy. That was the second time I had heard about this school, but the first time I did not think I could do it financially and commuting wise. So, I did not entertain the idea too long the first time. This time however, I knew that I had to do something different for my child. Again, my job as a mom is to nurture and prepare my children for success.

I got the address and found that it was located in Trinity Presbyterian Church. That alone made me feel that God was leading me in seeking out a place of refuge, emotional healing, and an environment that my daughter could thrive in. That is what Trinity Presbyterian Church has offered to my children. Trinity has provided the covering for Philips Academy to exist.

Yes, God could have led the founders of this school in a different direction, but He chose this church in this time of our lives to help Philips Academy help my children realize their academic ability, build up their self-esteem and God given talents. Because Trinity exists, my children have thrived in different areas. Our daughter graduated from Philips in 2012 and my other two children mainstreamed into another school. One graduated in 2014 and the other one graduates in May.

Thank you Trinity Presbyterian Church for allowing the Lord to lead your ministry in the community in providing this church building to help many, many families educate their children. You are part of the reason for my children's success.

Gwana Chambers

Needed:

Graphic Designer

The Communications Ministry Team needs someone with graphic design experience to design flyers, brochures, and handouts for the various ministry teams of the church. This person would be a member of the Communications Ministry Team, but it would not be necessary to attend the meetings. Please contact Cookie Parnell at cfparnell1@gmail.com or at 704.957.7061.

Financials as of July 31, 2015

	July Actuals	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget
Receipts:	\$ 49,483	\$ 339,688	\$ 389,257
Unrestricted Funds Used:	\$ 469	\$ 24,238	\$ 34,175
Endowment Funds Used:	\$ 27,139	\$ 54,277	\$ 31,662
Boltz Funds Used:	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,875
Expenses:	\$ 80,429	\$ 548,282	\$ 594,221
Surplus/Deficit:	\$ (3,338)	\$(130,079)	\$(136,252)

Nations Ford Elementary School Partnership

We are beginning our 11th year as partners with **Nations Ford Elementary School**. Ah, so many memories decodable marathons (some of you must remember those events each September!); gift-wrapping parties near Christmas for children in various grades; spring proctoring for EOG's; volunteering in classrooms; a multitude of interesting field trips (Phil T. and Gary S....remember those Fourth Grade *Tours of Our State Government* trips to Raleigh); book fairs; trips in the sweltering heat to the Riverbanks Zoo with loud, energetic first graders (Debbie T., Louise S., Sarah M., and other brave souls might remember!); helping with beginning-of-school year breakfasts; setting up many luncheon events...sometimes in the middle and always at the end of each school year; and, of course, the spring reception at Trinity the last three years, celebrating the teachers and staff of NFS. All these activities and events were important and valid as we worked to build opportunities for collaboration with our school community.

The last ten years have not always been easy ones. A number of changes impacted our volunteerism and involvement. We have worked with five different principals, a number of vice-principals, numerous literacy and math specialists, and many fine teachers as we sought to strengthen relationships and build trust. Some dear examples of Trinity's generosity over these years: chair-pockets made for all the Pre-K, Kindergarten and First Grade classrooms by our sewing mavens (Ginger Weeks, Barbara Caine and others ably led by Reta Phifer in that mammoth gift of talent and time); several rugs provided for needy classrooms; a ball cage for the PE instructor; books for all Fifth Grade boys one year, a literacy project executed by one principal; field trip scholarships; surprise Valentine donuts for teachers; and tee shirts last fall with the new NFS logo for all teachers and students! The list goes on and on.

The school enrollment for the new term is currently 797 with a total of 94 staff including 60 teachers, serving 41 classrooms. Our school is over 75% Hispanic now. The population of "unaccompanied minors" has been steadily growing at NFS and three other schools in the CMS system. Imagine entering a classroom of first graders as a new child, neither speaking nor understanding one word of English. (He/she entered this country as an unaccompanied minor and came to Charlotte from Texas once a relative had been located here.) The courage and strength of these children is amazing! Indeed NFS is a challenging school where everyone works to provide a safe and rich learning environment for its students

This school year (2015-2016) will begin on August 24 with a light bagel breakfast at school for staff/teachers. (7:00 a.m. set-up!) The school always needs uniforms so if you have any khaki or navy pants and white shirts, gently used, to donate that would be great! Also any jackets. Some of the older children are large so any adult jackets you are ready to discard, NFS can use. Two years ago, we had a socks and underwear collection which was a great success and gratefully received by the school. We plan to do that again in late fall once the year has settled a bit. And with no viable PTA since Trinity entered into this partnership we have many opportunities to support NFS with our time and talents. Call us if you would like to volunteer at NFS. It is a busy place and there are numerous ways to serve. Hopefully we will entice you to join other Trinity volunteers as we seek to discover what God would have us do and be!

Judith Parker (704.366.6254)

Susanne Sawyer (704.375.7857)



The first day of school is Tuesday, September 8 and the Weekday School team is excited and ready to welcome our students and their families back for another great school year! It is not too late for you to join in the fun. We still have openings in some of our classes and registration forms are available in both the Weekday School and Church Volunteer offices. Feel free to contact us to schedule a tour! We look forward to serving you and your family!



TRINITY'S FRIENDSHIP GARDEN takes many hands to make it successful. Would you like to participate but can't commit to an entire season? This year we're asking families and/or individuals to commit to one week of tending the garden (Monday – Sunday). Obviously some weeks will require more “tending” than others but even in the busiest times (during harvesting) you won't have to go every day. What a wonderful way to contribute to this vital ministry while experiencing the miracle of watching seeds and small plants turn into produce. Children have marveled at the realization that potatoes and carrots do NOT come from Harris-Teeter! **So far this year our productive Friendship Garden has yielded a little over 213 pounds of vegetables.** Last year our garden contributed 338 pounds of

fresh produce to Friendship Trays (Charlotte's home meal delivery service). We are indeed a valuable community culinary resource! The gardeners also get to share in the bounty. Please sign-up for a week or share a week with another individual or family at the www.signupgenius.com. For further information contact Carol or Gary Sugg at csrsugg@aol.com or 704.552.2955.

FOOD TRUCKS AND LIVE MUSIC AT TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN

Thursday, September 24, 6-9 p.m.
3115 Providence Road
Front Parking Lot and Lawn

You've come to know and love this event and on September 24 it's back!

Join us for an evening of great food, fellowship, and music as Trinity Presbyterian once again hosts its Food Trucks and Live Music event. We're finalizing the list of trucks and making final arrangements with the band as we speak, so stay tuned for further details!

Be sure to bring a blanket or chairs and stake out the perfect spot on our lawn and bring your family and all your friends to treat them to a night like no other.

Finally, please feel free to bring one or more non-perishable items so that we may donate them to Loaves & Fishes to help fight hunger here in our community.

We hope to see you there.

(in case of rain, come on inside!)

SAVE THE DATE!

**ANNUAL
COLLEGE OF
ELDERS DINNER**

**Sunday, September 20th
6:00pm**

Carson Fellowship Hall

Good food & fellowship
A good word from Steve

Our featured speaker:
Rev. Grace Lindvall,
Our new Associate Pastor for
Missions & Church Growth

\$10 for dinner
Spouses encouraged to attend
RVSP INFO TO COME

"The Mountains are calling and I must go." ~ John Muir



ANNUAL RETREAT TO MONTREAT

October 16-18, 2015

Join our Trinity family for a weekend of great fellowship, study, and fun!
Registration deadline is Wednesday, September 9!

PATRICK SPEAKER

"The Improvising God: A New Theology for an Imperfect World"
Rev. MaryAnn McKibben Dana

Infant & Toddler Care

Care will be provided for the youngest of our group during the scheduled speaker times.

Children K-5th Grade

Elementary age children will meet together during the scheduled speaker times and have their own lesson.

Youth 6th - 12th Grade

Youth will plan and lead Friday night Vespers. They will also participate in a mission project Saturday morning.



Additional Activities

singing ~ hiking ~ square dancing
shopping ~ meals together ~ rest ~
reflection



Assembly Inn Rates — October 16, 17, and 18, 2015

Room with private bath	\$ 96.30 per night includes tax
Connecting rooms with private bath	\$192.60 per night includes tax
Connecting rooms with shared bath	\$171.20 per night includes tax

Registration Fees:

\$10.00 per Trinity member adult \$30.00 per non-member adult \$10.00 per non-member child

Meal Fees:

Adult meals for the weekend are \$54.04 (includes tax) per person and begin with Friday supper and end with Sunday breakfast. All children through high school receive complimentary meals provided by the Thomson Fund. Please note any food allergies on your registration form below as Montreat must have this information in advance of your arrival.

ASSEMBLY INN NON-REFUNDABLE ROOM DEPOSIT

There is a deposit of \$70.00 that must be paid with registration due by September 9 (this deposit is applied to your final balance). The balance of your room and meals will be due in ADVANCE on Friday, October 9 and payable by check to Trinity Presbyterian Church or you may pay online by going to the Trinity website, www.trinitypreschurch.org, using VISA, Mastercard, Discover, debit card, or bank draft.

Please remember that all persons under the age of 18 who are attending without their families must have a designated adult guardian to be responsible for the young person(s) all weekend. The designated guardian must have a signed parental consent form, which provides for emergency medical treatment. These forms are available in the church office.

TRINITY MONTREAT REGISTRATION FORM

3115 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28211

I/We prefer a (check one):

- ☐ Room with a private bath
☐ Connecting rooms with a private bath in each room
☐ Connecting rooms with a shared bath

Please circle preferred accommodations (not guaranteed)

King bed

Queen bed

Twin beds

Most single rooms can accommodate an air mattress or sleeping bag.

☐ Are you a First Time Attendee?

Names of adults attending: (please print) Email address _____

Names of children attending. Please list ages and school grade as of September 2015: (please print)

Food allergies: _____

Signature _____ Phone _____

Please return registration form by Wednesday, September 9, 2015 with your deposit of \$70.00.

What's Happening at Trinity

September 1	PostScripts Deadline, October Issue F3 Nation Fitness & Leadership (weekly) Sew 'N Sews Tuesdays (weekly) Weekday School Team Workshop Trinity Staff Meeting (weekly) Teen Cotillion (weekly) Al-Anon (weekly)	September 14	Prevention Carolinas Cub Scout Pac #211 Girl Scout Troop #1335 Weekday School Ministry Team
September 2	Weekday School CPR/First Aid Training Take Off Pounds Sensibly (weekly) Welcoming Ministry Team Carolina Sampler Guild Adult Choir (weekly)	September 16	Wednesday Class (weekly) Mission & Outreach Ministry Team American Needlepoint Guild
September 3	Alzheimer's Support Groups (weekly) Bridge Girl Scout Troop #1120 Weekday School Parents' Meeting	September 17	Thursday Class (weekly) Girl Scout Troop #1120 Girl Scout Troop #2409
September 4	F3 Nation Fitness & Leadership (weekly) Sons of Timaeus (weekly) Girl Scout Troop #2409	September 18	Girl Scout Troop #2409
September 7	Church Office Closed for Labor Day Sew 'N Sews Mondays (weekly)	September 19	PEO Chapter CW
September 8	Weekday School Begins Stewardship Ministry Team	September 20	Baptism (Mobley) Sunday School Begins at 9:45 a.m. College of Elders Annual Dinner and Meeting
September 9	Soccer Shots (weekly) Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team Finance Ministry Team	September 21	Mecklenburg Historical Association
September 13	Rally Day Worship Begins at 11:00 a.m. Children's Choir (weekly) Youth Group (weekly) Stated Session	September 22	Teen Cotillion Board Meeting
		September 23	Embroiderers' Guild
		September 24	Food Truck/Live Music
		September 27	Personnel Ministry Team

Church Triumphant

Mary Raboteau Council Coppedge (Teau) July 25
Wife of Dr. Thomas Coppedge, Jr.
Mother of John, Tom, Lewis and Anna Coppedge and
Pasty Bradley

Trinity Youth Go to Hollywood

Mission Trip 2015

Back row:

Keeley O'Keefe, Robert
Hutchins, Macaulay
Etheridge, Sophie Brant,
Jamie Blount, Lily
Ghorbani.

Front row:

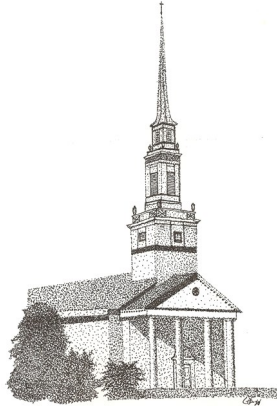
Will Reid, Skylar
Cornwell, Elizabeth
Maynard, Caroline Reid,
Ellie Hair, John Hood.





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>



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 «City», «State» «Zip»

Worship at Trinity

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Publication Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin/Church Notes: Wednesdays 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

TEAM CHAIRMAN

Equip

Buildings and Grounds	Tony Arey, Hayden McMahon
Capital Campaign	Walter Reid
Communications	Cookie Parnell
Finance	Damon Coley
Personnel	Lori O'Keefe, Donnie Bobbitt

Grow

Christian Formation	Laura Gutknecht, Candy Hambacher, Tom Collins
Welcoming	Marty Brownlow
Worship	Betty Lynn Lambert, Liz Countess, Bob Lyons
Youth	Laura Gutknecht

Serve

Congregational Care	Helen Alford
Fellowship	Steve Ball
Mission and Outreach	Warren Henry
Stewardship	Bruce Voorheis
Weekday School	Lynn Davis

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Stephen B. Lindsley, Senior Minister
 The Reverend Grace Lindvall, Associate Minister
 The Reverend Heather Koontz, Parish Associate
 Chris Gilliam, Interim Minister of Music
 Michael Rowland, Interim Organist
 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

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.