

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Watch: <u>YouTube</u> or <u>Facebook</u>

Church Office is Open to Visitors: Tue/Thurs: 9 a.m. - noon

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## **Stewardship Corner**

The Stewardship MT hopes you had a good holiday season. Please consider the many new opportunities for your stewardship of time & talent to support God's work at Trinity.



Use the church website or Church Life Mobile App to give anytime.

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# **Behind the Scenes of Online Worship**



For Eric McGovern, most pandemic Sunday mornings started the night before. He made sure computer and camera batteries were charged and ready for outdoor worship.

Those were the early days of livestreaming at Trinity with one camera and microphone. Now with more equipment, the learning curve continues its arc. From camera shot changes to muted microphones, McGovern spins plates behind the scenes so folks at home can connect to worship.

McGovern devotes about four hours to online worship, about 75 minutes of which requires intense focus. He enjoys the work and opportunity to serve. "It is technical in a Radio Shack electronics kind of way," said McGovern. "It allows me to take something off the plate of our worship leaders in a way that allows their portion of worship to be more normal."

He expects the new audio/visual setup to better capture the look and feel of the Sanctuary, especially the live music. And that learning curve? "I am very appreciative of Google, which helps with the technical side of things. And having Steve to lean on," he said.

McGovern appreciates even more now what goes into worship and outreach. "Hopefully, this helps nourish the congregation in a way that allows us to continue to have an outsized impact on the surrounding community."

#### **PostScripts**

#### **The Session**

Dr. Stephen B. Lindsley, Moderator Nancy Williams, Clerk Bev Bradley, Asst. Clerk Peiffer Brandt, Pres. of the Corp. Cookie Parnell, Treasurer

#### Class of 2021

Eric Banks Mike Campbell Fran Worthington

Class of 2022

Eric McGovern Hank Smith

Jeremy Mobley

Andrea Anderson Peter Devlin Mike Wellman

Betty Anderson Patrice Pickett

### Class of 2023

Peiffer Brandt Bev Bradley Christie Jameson

Amy Bynum Caryl Stribling

#### Ministry Team Chairs *Equip*

Personnel: Peiffer Brandt Finance: Jeremy Mobley Buildings & Grounds: Eric McGovern and Eric Banks Stewardship: Mike Wellman **Grow** 

Christian Formation: Patrice Pickett Youth: Sherese Smith Worship: Caryl Stribling and Andrea Anderson

Weekday School: Amy Bynum Serve

Mission & Outreach: Bev Bradley and Peter Devlin Congregational Life: Betty Anderson and Mike Campbell Welcoming: Christie Jameson

#### **Church Staff**

Dr. Stephen B. Lindsley, Senior Minister Rev. Rebecca Heilman, Associate Minister Rev. Jodi Martin, Christian Formation and Youth Director Dr. Chris Gilliam, Director of Music Michael Rowland, Organist Cheryl Jernigan, Church Administrator Caroline Dalton, Admin. Coordinator Sharon Smith, Comm. Coordinator Rick Neil, Facilities Technician Jodi Neal, Sunday Assistant Crystal Gray, Interim WDS Director Jill Billings, Weekday School Asst. Dir. Jane B. Arant, Music Minister Emerita

# On the Journey

It's always interesting to write "On the Journey" because I write it a month ahead to meet our publication deadline. That means I'm actually writing this article the week before Christmas, knowing it will be read by you sometime in the new year. So my challenge is to jump in a time machine and imagine what you all might need to hear a month from now - not an easy task. But when I think about things that will still be true no matter what happens between my now (December) and your now (January), no matter what "change" is marked by the flip of a calendar, that makes it a little simpler.

So here's what "Steve of December 2020" wants to tell "Trinity of 2021:" It's going to be alright.

Jesus is Lord of all. Love is always greater than fear. A vaccine is coming to you soon. Your church family is here for you. Chocolate is always great. Warmer temps are on the way. The days are getting longer. This pandemic will not last forever. Dogs are the best.



We are always better together than apart. We're going to be okay.

I can say these things will full confidence to you, the Trinity of 2021, because they are always true. And that is good news.

Happy New Year (from someone who hasn't celebrated Christmas yet!)

# 2021 Stewardship Campaign Update



During our fall campaign, Trinity received 117 pledges totaling \$504,000 in pledged giving for 2021. While this total was below our goal of \$551,000, it does reflect a tremendous response from our congregation under the extraordinary circumstances of 2020.

Of note, 62 families chose to increase their giving – more than have chosen to do so in any of the past four years – and the average pledge was more than

\$200 higher than last year and higher than any of the past 10 years. We know that this has been a challenging year for many and would like to sincerely thank you for supporting the work of our church, particularly when there is so much need in the year ahead.

As we reflect on 2020, we are grateful for the many ways church members inspired this year's theme of "Called. Connected. Committed." and hope that we continue to connect and grow with the same energy and enthusiasm this year. We also would like to encourage all Trinity members to consider new opportunities for stewardship of their time and talent to support the needs of our community.

# **Trinity's Anti-Racism Task Force**

#### January/February 2021

In 2020, the Session approved an Anti-Racism Task Force, the goal of which is to explore the history and practices of Trinity and its congregation, and what steps we can take to be an anti-racist institution and people in the future. We are already learning so much. For example, did you know that our church stands on Catawba, Waxhaw, and Sugaree land?

The Task Force consists of Casey Field, Anne McGovern, Lynette Neel, Reta Phifer, George Sistrunk, and Whitney Sarjeant, and we invite your prayers as we take on this extremely meaningful work. We also encourage everyone to continue educating themselves on issues of racial injustice. A wonderful starting place is "Doing the Work" under Church Notes at <u>Trinitypreschurch.org/doing-the-work</u>.

# An Alternative to Room in the Inn

As we finish up a season of Advent and Christmas, we're reminded of Mary and Joseph going door to door looking for a room in the inn. Eventually, a kind stranger allowed the new little family to stay in their stable. It was not, per say, a suite at the Holiday Inn but the family adjusted and found rest.

For years, volunteers from Trinity have welcomed folks experiencing homelessness into our Fellowship Hall with arms wide open. Although, this year, we can't give a literal "room in the inn" because of COVID-19, we are adjusting and helping folks find comfort in other ways. The pandemic has certainly taken a toll for those on the streets. Hunger is more prevalent than ever and Roof Above has established a way for churches and organizations to help.

From December through March, we have signed up to provide much needed food donations to Roof Above. Our Operation Sandwich Team continues to deliver sandwiches and other items once a month. Our Room in the Inn Team has signed up to provide lunches and cookies for the Room in the Inn Overflow Shelter. We hope you will consider helping those who are struggling most during this pandemic. This ministry would not be the same without you. Sign up for both of these mission opportunities today: <u>RoomInTheInn2020/21: RoomInTheInnSupport (signupgenius.com)</u>







# Happenings at Trinity Presbyterian WDS





Trinity WDS is still doing outreach, even during the pandemic. Our Diaper Drive for Crisis Assistance Ministry helped us deliver 2,049 diapers, 2,460 wipes and 139 pairs of new children's underwear for families in the Charlotte area. Our Transitional Kindergarten class made "care cards" which were delivered to area nursing homes to spread holiday cheer.

We are excited because our 3-Day Threes program had their first day of class in December! Our goal is to open the 2s program in January.

#### PostScripts

# Still Connecting!







#### **Financials as of December 31** YTD Annual December Actuals Actuals Budget Receipts: 110,194.71 664,536.03 675,510.00 Unrest. Funds Used: 1,461.55 12,495.11 49,672.00 Boltz Funds Used: 543.87 6,526.00 6,526.00 Endow. Funds Used: 0 98,841.00 98,841.00 Gilchrist Funds Used: 575.61 575.61 1,500.00 2,881.00 Sanford Bldg. Maint. Funds Used 240.12 2.881.00 Thomson Funds Used: 0 0 5,000.00 109,968.28 772,045.45 881,648.00 Expenses: Surplus/Deficit: 3,047.58 13,809.30 (41,718.00)

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# Save the Dates

January 21 Alzheimer's Assoc. Seminar, 7-8 p.m. Zoom, given by Congregational Life

# **Our Church Family**

## Church Triumphant

January 2 Jane Rogers Davis Marian Strickland Morton

## Congregational Sympathy

November 11	Ruth Gray Williams, sister of Betty Anderson
<i>Marriage</i>	Ashley R. Cull & John S. Coppedge,
October 31	son of John and Kathy Coppedge
<i>Congratulations</i>	Rev. Rebecca Heilman,
November 1	installed as Associate Pastor of

installed as Associate Pastor of Engagement and Mission

## **Session Highlights**

## October

 The Personnel Committee of Trinity Presbyterian Church moves that the Session of Trinity Presbyterian Church approve a Pastoral and Congregational Sabbatical for Steve Lindsley and Trinity Presbyterian Church beginning June 1, 2021 and running through August 31, 2021 per the sabbatical plan presented by Lindsey Field and Personnel Ministry Team. Motion was approved.

## November

- Motion that Elder Class of 2023: Bev Bradley, Peiffer Brandt, Amy Bynum, Christie Jameson and Caryl Stribling and Hank Smith, as Youth Elder Class of 2021, Statements of Faith Journey be sustained and they be approved for installation and ordination, as appropriate. Motion was seconded and approved.
- Recommendation to approve the letter of transfer for Henry and Ethel Allison to First Presbyterian Church in Uptown was approved.

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