

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

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

3115 Providence Road Charlotte, NC 28211

trinitypreschurch.org Phone: 704-366-3554

## **Stewardship Corner**

God's grace abounds in Spring and offers us all a chance to reflect on our own gifts, growth and renewal. How do God's gifts in Spring inspire you?



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

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## **Children and Youth at Trinity**



This January Trinity added Morning Watch to our worship service. This is an opportunity for children to have time with Pastor Jodi on Sunday mornings to explore the wonders of worship.

In preparation for Lent, activity bags were distributed to the children. The bags were filled with a Lenten calendar, a devotional booklet, and coloring sheets, as well as candy and stickers just for fun. The bags also included an Easter Bingo card for our Zoom gathering in March. We hope to see all our children's smiling faces as we play bingo and catch up on what they have been doing this winter.

The children will pre-record for the Children's Worship Service on March 14. Their leadership is always amazing, and we are pleased to have so many children participating this year.

Youth Group met twice a month online in January and February. They will resume meeting outside the youth center (socially distanced and masked) in March. Although meeting via Zoom is not the same as in person, the youth have enjoyed playing games, eating dinner and bible study. Mission is still an important part of Youth Fellowship at Trinity. The youth and advisors plan to make sandwiches for Roof Above.

Confirmation began in February. All meetings will be virtual and the Confirmands will be examined May 16.

### **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** 

Jeremy Mobley Eric McGovern Hank Smith Betty Anderson

Patrice Pickett

Andrea Anderson Peter Devlin Mike Wellman

### Class of 2023

Peiffer Brandt Amy Bynum Bev Bradley Caryl Stribling Christie Jameson

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

#### 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 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**

There are two images lifted up by our Gilchrist Sunday speakers that still linger with me. Aisha Brooks-Lytle talks about how she's taken to viewing the pandemic as a cosmic "time out" where she's sitting on the back porch sipping tea with Mother God. Baron Mullis observes that the calling of this church in this season is no different than before the pandemic - we are still to feed the hungry, care for the sick, work for justice; only that the need to be more urgent and

adaptable in how we address them has increased.

I'm so thankful for the wisdom of these two, not just in these particular instances but throughout the conversation (which you can still watch on our website and YouTube). The longer this pandemic lingers, the more important it is to find those "anchors" that ground us, that "North Star" that guides us. We lean on each other and the faith that carries us through both certain and uncertain times. Thanks be to God for providing us space to sit on the back porch with God and just "be," and thanks be to God that the ministry and mission of the church doesn't change no matter what circumstances we find ourselves in.

Blessings to each of you, now and always!

## Session Retreat 2021



On February 21, our Session held its annual retreat via Zoom. Members discussed how to lead in challenging times, adapting, and how part of the leadership response requires empathy and listening. It may have been a different kind of retreat this year, but the insight gained and shared was valuable as always.

## **Celebrating MLK and His Dream**

On Monday, January 18, Trinity gave thanks for a modern prophet, who heard God's voice through the cries of injustice and the stillness of peace.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had a dream. He dreamed of justice and freedom and the belief that all are created equal in the eyes of God. Members of Trinity heard King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech over Zoom, witnessing King's powerful rhetoric and cadence in awe. The discussion following the speech touched on how many of us had never heard the entire speech from beginning to end. The "I have a dream" section occurred at the end and it was likely a moment where the Spirit moved King to express his dream to the entire nation.

We discussed how King's speech is relevant in today's climate of deep division and a white supremacy culture. We carry King's voice and his



dream within us as we face the racial injustices of our day and as we work toward a more equal nation. We have a dream equal to King's dream. May the Spirit be gentle enough to move us to tears and strong enough to provoke the Church in bold directions.

## **Being Church**

# Be Safe. Be Kind. Be Church.

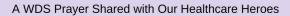
We asked Trinity members to share how they have managed to find, be or do church during the pandemic. Here is what some of you shared (comments are slightly edited):

In addition to connecting through the Internet, I have been able to worship from the choir loft on alternate Sunday mornings. My love for and devotion to Trinity has been multiplied during these frustrating times and I'm so very thankful for the ability to stay connected with my beloved church. - Fran Worthington

I am an old (in every possible way) member of Trinity, and live at Sharon Towers, but my son Ashley phoned me about Trinity's choir at Christmas. My computer is ancient, and I could see, only one speaker was on, and I could not hear. When they let my tech-savvy son come back into my apartment he will set me up with proper visual and auditory reception. I keep up through friendly talks. I know I am not forgotten, and neither is my Church. — Barbara Caine

## Happenings at Trinity Presbyterian WDS





"May rest find you, in the peaceful moments when all is still, in the quiet times when you pause and breathe.

May rest find you in the chaos of the moment in the sorrow you seek to heal. May rest strengthen and bless you. May it fill your spirit and give you unearned joy. May you find rest in the care of others, in the knowledge of your worth, In the value of vour service.

May the One who gives rest bless you and hold you close. And may you, in your very being, be a place of rest for others."

Prayers for Caregivers, Catholic Health Services February 18

This is our 10th year of participating in the Love in Action Project! We sent five big packets (over 250 total) of 'I love you' cards to area hospitals to support the healthcare workers who have given so much to care for COVID patients.

We are also excited because registration for the 2021-2022 school year is underway! From Toddlers to Transition Kindergarten, we have a spot for you!

March/April 2021

### **PostScripts**

## Still Connecting!





## Save the Dates

| March 1      | WDS Summer Camp               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
|              | Registration Begins           |
| March 8 – 19 | WDS Humane Society Pet        |
|              | Treats Drive                  |
| March 23     | WDS Art Show & Silent Auction |
| April 1      | Holy Week Service,            |
|              | 7 p.m., online                |
| April 2 – 9  | WDS Spring Break              |
| April 4      | Easter                        |
|              |                               |

## **Our Church Family**

| <i>Church Triumphant</i><br>February 10 | Marian Sprague Harkness    |
|---|----------------------------|
| Births                                  |                            |
| January 23                              | Naomi Katherine Benham,    |
|   | daughter of Jimmy & Hannah |
|   | Benham                     |

## **Session Highlights**

### December

- Recommendation to approve the 2021 Mentor Team slate; Class of 2021: Casey Field, Tony Arey, Christie Jameson, Class of 2022: Warren Henry, Patrice Pickett, Session clerk: Nancy Williams, was approved.
- Motions to elect Nancy Williams as Clerk of Session for 2021, Bev Bradley as Assistant Clerk of Session for 2021, Peiffer Brandt as President of the Corporation for 2021 and Cookie Parnell as Treasurer for 2021 were approved.

### January

The Finance Ministry team submitted the 2021 Trinity Presbyterian Operating Budget, as approved in their January 14 meeting, for approval by Session. This budget currently does NOT include the Weekday School which will be presented at a later time. Motion was approved.

- The Finance Ministry team submitted a motion to move the \$13,809.30 surplus from the 2020 calendar year to the Session Discretionary Fund. Motion was approved.
- The Finance Ministry team submitted a motion to move \$55,784.06 from the Weekday School Carry Forward Fund to the general operating fund to cover their 2020 operating deficit. Motion was approved.
- Motion to approve Patrice Pickett and Mike Wellman as commissioners for the February 6, 2021 Presbytery Meeting via Zoom was approved.
- Motion to call a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, February 7, 2021 at 12:15 p.m. via Zoom was approved.

### **February Congregational Meeting**

• Motion made to approve Dr. Lindsley's and Rev. Heilman's Terms of Call was approved. (The terms remain materially the same for 2021.)

|   | Financials as of January 31     |           |                  |                   |  |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------|------------------|-------------------|--|
|   |                                 | January   | YTD              | Annual            |  |
|   |                                 | Actuals   | Actuals          | Budget            |  |
|   | Receipts:                       | 56,163.30 | 56,163.30        | 660,470.00        |  |
| ' | Unrest. Funds Used:             | 2,196.79  | 2,196.79         | 40,000.00         |  |
|   | Boltz Funds Used:               | 565.58    | 565.58           | 6,787.00          |  |
|   | Endow. Funds Used:              | 10,479.50 | 10,479.50        | 125,754.00        |  |
|   | Gilchrist Funds Used:           | 0.00      | 0.00             | 0.00              |  |
|   | Sanford Bldg. Maint. Funds Usec | 262.83    | 262.83           | 3,154.00          |  |
|   | Thomson Funds Used:             | 0.00      | 0.00             | 5,000.00          |  |
|   | Expenses:                       | 55,066.68 | <u>55,066.68</u> | <u>871,102.00</u> |  |
|   | Surplus/Deficit:                | 14,601.32 | 14,601.32        | (29,937.00)       |  |

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