

THE BRIDGE

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"Diverse in Backgrounds, United in Faith"

Dear Friends,

Lent begins this year on March 6, Ash Wednesday. Lent is the 40 days before Easter during which we prepare our hearts for the resurrection of Christ and the promise of freedom from sin. Lent began in the Medieval church as a way to prepare for the feast day of Easter – Christians would go to confession more regularly as well as fast. Even now, we traditionally spend this time repenting of our own sins. We will follow this tradition this year, but in a very untraditional way.

Our theme for Lent this year is “A Joyful Feast: Fasting from Fear, Feasting on Joy.” For those of us used to the fasting and repentance of Lent, this will feel like an odd focus. Lent is ordinarily serious and introspective – we certainly never wish each other a “Happy Lent” as we do on other occasions. But, my friends, Christ died and rose from the grave not to give us a guilt complex, but to give us hope. When talking about his death with his disciples, Jesus said “I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete” (John 14:11).

I’ve noticed in the last couple of years that our world is increasingly delighted by fear and negativity. Misery has always loved company, of course, but I’ve observed an uptick in bleak outlooks. We enthusiastically shake our heads about tragedies, eat up articles about economic doom, and eagerly jump on public figures for any mistake (real or imagined). Even in our own congregation, I often hear members bemoaning the state of the world (and I have gleefully groused right along with you). To be fair, these concerns are often legitimate. The world is far from perfect. But there is a difference between intentional awareness and all-consuming gloom. We can become so focused on imperfections that we fail to live into the faith, hope, and love that should characterize the Christian life.

So, this Lent, I’m inviting us all to fast from fear and sadness. We’re not going to pretend that everything is grand, but we also aren’t going to pretend that beating ourselves up for our own sins will make Jesus love us anymore than he already does. Instead, we are going to explore what the Bible has to say about being insistently hopeful and joyful even in the hardest times. We are going to learn how to draw on the joy of the Lord in order to stand up to what’s wrong in the world. We are going to practice focusing on the goodness of God instead of letting negativity take us captive. We are even going to spend some time playing with toys as a spiritual discipline (not kidding).

Together, I pray that we will have a joyful Lent. I hope that we will let go of the sin of constant fear and embrace the freeing resurrection of Christ. I long for our hearts to be more prepared for the joy of Easter. Most of all, I anticipate that the Spirit will continue to shape us into more faithful disciples.

Happy Lent!
Elizabeth



-
- Mar.** 5 Gale Boydston
Mary Zoe Shelley
15 Xavier Thieme
16 Mari Shineman
18 Jewel Lawson
Karol Palmer
19 Evelyn Richards
21 David Berry
George Scott
24 Alyssa Morris
30 Erica Matthews
-



Congratulations to Jenna Zakrajsek and Kyle Palmer on the birth of their son Ravi Jack Palmer on February 19th. He is the little brother of Dev, as well as the grandson of Barbara Zakrajsek and Jack & Karol Palmer. Welcome to our world!



Dear Friends,

I would like to thank you very much for the oven/stove you gave to me. It will be a welcome addition to my life.

Thank you too, to the wonderful guys, Richard and Steven Shineman for delivering it.

I pry that your congregation feels blessed for their donation.

Pam Coulter



-
- Mar.** 2 Steve & Sally Burns
22 Tim & Kim Miller
-

SEW 'N SO'S

Thank you Trinity, for saving the Best Choice Bar Codes for us. We have received 1,727 bar codes far this year. Please keep saving!



I appreciate so much all of the prayers, notes, and cards before and after my recent heart ablation procedure. It is wonderful to be a part of such a caring community. Thank you all.

Ruth Murray



WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

This list of members at Trinity has been organized for the purpose of being lifted up in prayer during the week. We look forward to God's richest blessings as we pray for one another. During the month please pray for these:

- Mar. 3:** Madeliene Lyons
Keith, Stacia, Michaela,
& Johnathan Martin
Brian, Rachel, Lincoln, &
Celestine Matthews
- Mar. 10:** Erica Matthews, & Bryan
& Emmett Rice
Scott & Susan Matthews
Jeanie McCoy
- Mar. 17:** Beth McPike
Betty Miller
Diana Miller
- Mar. 24:** Tim, Kim, & Charlie
Miller
Dr. & Mrs. Ralph
Mitchell
Gary & Ruth Murray
- Mar. 31:** Ron & Janice Nodwell
Rick & Diane Norman
Jack & Karol Palmer



March 10, 2019

*On the first Day of the Week
"The people came together..."*

Feb.	3.....	76
Feb..	10.....	Unavailable
Feb.	17.....	Unavailable
Feb .	24.....	Unavailable

"and the people gave . . . "

Feb.	3.....	\$3,527.42
Feb.	10.....	Unavailable
Feb .	17.....	Unavailable
Feb	24.....	<u>4,136.88</u>
Total	\$7,664.30

A heartfelt thank you to those who have so lovingly and generously contributed to Trinity's memorial funds:

- Marilyn Burkett*
- Claire Ann Sprick*
- Jack & Jess Layman*

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL



CHALICE & CROSS

– the chalice with a cross rising from it symbolizes Christ's obedient suffering, even unto death. The cross is called a "passion cross," with pointed ends that represent suffering. We remember that in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus begged His Father that the "cup" of suffering be taken from Him. But ultimately, He prayed, "Not as I will, but as You will" (Matthew 26:39, NIV).



2018 PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT

Trinity will again be paying our assigned per capita assessment in 2019 by asking members of the congregation to donate their own \$49.07 per active member. This will help to ease our budget.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

March 6, 2019

6:30 p.m.

In Founders Hall



Transfiguration
SUNDAY

March 3



ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCH

March 17, 2019 Serving at 11:30 am
Fellowship Hall (downstairs)

Corned Beef, cabbage, baked potato bar,
bread, and drinks provided.

The Congregation is asked to bring a
dessert.

**Wear green/orange or get pinched!!

The Fellowship committee will meet
Saturday, March 16 at 9:30 am to set up
for the lunch. Please come if you can.

-Beverly Thieme



When the weather is bad do you wonder if Trinity is opened? Now you can turn to your local television stations to find out. We will be listed on WDAF Channel 4, KMBC Channel 9 and KSHB Channel 41. We will NOT be listed on KCTV Channel 5.



*“Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these”
Matthew 6:28*

We will decorate the sanctuary for Easter Sunday, April 21st, with white lilies. If you would like to provide a lily in honor of someone special, in memory of someone, or in celebration of an event, we would like for you to do so by completing the form below and placing it in the offering plate or sending it to the church office with your check for \$8.00 by April 14th. Please make your check payable to Trinity Presbyterian Church. A list of donors, as well as the person(s) in whose honor/memory/celebration the gift is given will be printed in the News Sheet.

In Honor/Memory/Celebration of:

Given

by _____

I will pick up my flower(s) following worship Easter Sunday.

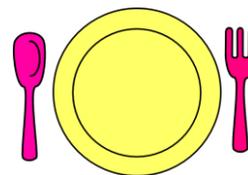
I wish for my flower(s) to be delivered to a shut-in. Please name the shut-in, if possible.

If you have any questions call the church office, 252-5893 or Karol Palmer at 769-1930.

A DOSE of HUMOR

Who knew St. Peter had fact checkers?

From a church bulletin:
Old Testament reading
Listen to the statutes and just decrees ...
Deuteronomy 4:1
God's commands must be quite concrete!



Trinity Table is a monthly effort to provide a hot meal to anyone who needs or wants it. The next Trinity Table is scheduled for Saturday, March 9th. If you would like to donate monetary support or your time as a volunteer, please see Kyle Palmer.



Sanctuary Work Days

March 3 – 11:30 a.m.

March 9 – 9:00 a.m.

Our sanctuary renovations are almost complete – and we need your help to finish!

We need folks from the congregation who have skills in lifting and teamwork to move our major furniture back into the sanctuary on Sunday, March 3, right after church. This will include the pulpit, communion table, choir chairs, etc. Please see John Chapman if you have any questions.

Then we'll need our friends who are good at details to help us with all of the little things on Saturday, March 9, at 9:00am. This will include stocking the pews (hymnals, cards, pencils, etc.), arranging flowers and candles, vacuuming, dusting, and more!



RENOVATION UPDATE

God willing, our first Sunday back in our newly renovated Sanctuary will be March 10th. Please be sure to join us for this special day.



In the narthex, Trinity has collection spots open every week for:

- canned and dry goods
- elementary school supplies
- gently used eyeglasses
- aluminum can tabs
- keys

Don't Miss the



The deadline for items submitted for the February Bridge is Friday, January 25th.

Information for the weekly News Sheet is due each week on Wednesday by 1:00 p.m.